



## DANBY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Submitted by Dan Klein, President

The Annual Meeting of the Danby Community Council was held January 12 and resulted in the election of the following members of the Board of Directors: Carol Bushberg and Asher Hockett, who have both already served two years, and newcomers Bob Strichartz and June Pollack. Thanks to these volunteers for their willingness to serve.

Thanks also to Robert Chapman and Kimberly Rice-Narusch for serving this past year on the Community Council. Both have moved out of town.

Finally, thanks to Bill Halton and Andrea Hazard who are both leaving the Community Council after several years of volunteering. A lot gets accomplished in Danby because of these and other community volunteers.

We still have openings for two Danby residents on the Community Council. One of these openings is reserved for a resident of West Danby. No particular skill is necessary to be on the Community Council, just a desire to give something back to the community. For more information, contact Dan Klein, 272.7582, [danbydan@hotmail.com].

On behalf of the Danby Community Council, I would like to thank Jim Houghton for reliably publishing the Danby Area News for six years. Jim raised the bar considerably in terms of making the Danby Area News a consistent, professionally prepared publication. We wish him well in his future endeavors and look forward to continue the productive work with Ted Crane, the new editor.

The Danby Community Council will meet on Thursday, February 2, 7pm, at the Danby Town Hall. All Danby Community Council meetings are open to everyone. ❁

## DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

Thank you to our new volunteers who are giving us the gift of their time. The Danby Community Library has a gift of time to give to the community: We've changed our circulation due dates from 2 weeks to one month.

To accommodate busy lifestyles, if you borrow anything from the Danby Library, you can bring it back any time within a month. We hope this will help decrease overdues and encourage people to enjoy their library materials.

Thank you also to recent contributors to our permanent collections. We use what we can and send the rest to the Friends of the Library Book Sale (who also generously support our collections). We plan to buy some free-standing displays so we can make all of our new items available for borrowers.

New collections due this month: Audio Books, Videos, Paperbacks, Young Adult, and Biographies. Watch for news about the startup of our online book discussion group!

Quote of the month:

*"There are only three real sports: mountain climbing, bull-fighting, and automobile racing."* —Ernest Hemingway  
(from "St. Dale" by Sharyn McCrumb) ❁

## DANBY SENIOR CITIZENS

Come to the monthly dish-to-pass luncheon at Noon on Thursday, February 2, 2006 at the Danby Federated Church, with music provided by Bill Sherwood. Representatives from the Tompkins County Health Care Task Force will do individual consultations for the Medicare Prescription Plan and blood pressure readings will be available before and after the luncheon. ❁

February 2006  
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Deuschle, Colleen Barnes

To contribute:  
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Text submissions:  
Send text in body of Email  
(not as an attachment); or  
mail typewritten copy, double-  
spaced on white paper. Short  
handwritten submissions ac-  
cepted; please write legibly.

Graphics: JPEG preferred.  
TIFF, GIF, or PNG accepted  
but discouraged. Check with  
editor before sending hard-  
copy graphics.

Deadline is the 15th of the  
month. Materials may be  
accepted later if time allows.  
Submissions should gener-  
ally not exceed one page. We  
cannot print political material  
or letters of opinion.

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The "Doggie B & B" • 168 West Miller Road • 273.3251  
[www.highlandfarms.baka.com]  
Retailer for Hill's Science Diet dog and cat food, plus natural pet treats and  
Greenies. Save a trip into town.

**FRIENDS:**

**THE YOGA CORNER**

Community Corners, 903 Hanshaw Road • 257.3677 • [www.theyogacorner.com]  
Offering hatha yoga classes in the Svaroopaa style for beginners, seniors,  
pregnancy and more. Great for back care, migraines, and management of  
middle age aches and pains. Call Ann Kinner Johnson, Danby resident since  
1976.

**GRANT'S PLANTS**

97 Michigan Hollow Rd. • 272.7335 • [grantsplants@juno.com]  
Selling annuals, perennials, and some herbs.

**SIEGARD'S DAY CARE**

355 South Danby Road; 1.5 miles off Rt. 96B • 273.2003  
NYS Certified—15 years. Full/Part Time & After School, Located in the  
Spencer-VanEtten school district.

**JESSICA LOVE'S FAMILY DAYCARE**

1560 Danby Rd. • 256.8582  
NYS Certified since 1997. Accepting ages 2 & up  
Full/Part Time & After School • Food Program offered

# FEBRUARY AND VALENTINES DAY

Submitted by Joan Grant, Town Historian

*January is the jet lag of December,  
March wishes it were April,  
but February is its own month.  
Noble in its peaceful whiteness,  
the depth of its snow drifts  
and the thickness of its ice.  
February is unique in its number  
of days.  
February is the only month that can  
be pronounced four different ways.  
It's the birth date of presidents  
and the month of lovers.  
Let us all praise February.*

## VALENTINES DAY

### HISTORY

There are two legends in relation to the origins of Valentines Day. One stems from Greek Mythology and the other an obscure Roman Catholic feast day. Both are steeped in romance.

According to Greek Mythology the middle of February is coupled with love and fertility. February is dedicated to the sacred marriage of Zeus and Hera. Zeus is considered to be the greatest Greek God and the ruler of the Olympian Gods. Hera was considered the Queen of the Gods.

In the Christian culture, there are at least three different St. Valentines. The most popular one dates back to Roman Emperor Claudius II. It was said that Claudius wanted to rule over a vast army. He realized that married men, not wanting to leave their wives and families, were reluctant to join the Roman Army. Claudius decided to enact a law banning marriage. A priest named Valentine found that this decree unacceptable and secretly continued to perform marriages.

When discovered, Valentine was jailed and sentenced to death. Many young people, including a prison guard's daughter, visited him in the jail, throwing flowers and notes. The young woman's father allowed her to sit and talk in Valentine's cell...and Valentine fell in love with her. On the day of his execution, February 14, 269AD, he left her, "a note thanking her for her

friendship and loyalty." It was signed, "Love from your Valentine." This note is believed to be the origin of the custom of exchanging love messages on Valentines Day.



"It is no surprise that by the middle ages, Valentine was one of the most popular saints in England and France." The custom of exchanging cards and love tokens on February 14th developed in England and France during the 14th and 15th centuries. Valentines Day was probably arrived in North America along with settlers from Britain during the 19th century.

## CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS, SYMBOLS

The most recognized custom associated with Valentines Day is the mutual exchange of love notes or valentines. Traditional symbols of Valentines Day are hearts, the colors red and pink, and the winged figure of Cupid (in Roman mythology, Cupid's parents were the Goddess Venus and the God Mars; Eros, Aphrodite, and

Ares are the earlier Greek equivalents). By the 19th Century mass-produced cards became popular and were given—not just to a special loved one—to friends and family. Over the last 50 years in the United States, gifts of chocolate, tiny message candy hearts, roses, and even jewelry have become a common practice.

### Resources:

Encyclopedia of Classical Mythology. Dictionary of Mythology, American Greetings, [[www.Wikipedia.com](http://www.Wikipedia.com)], The History Channel. Illustration of Cupid, courtesy of Beatrice H. Hogben. ❧

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Submitted by Andrew Thurnheer, Highway Superintendent

Wintertime means snow, slush, and snow plows! Help the crews clear the roads! It is important to keep the edges of the road clear of obstructions. To prevent danger to other motorists (and the crew!), snowplow crews are instructed not to cross the center line of the road.

- Local law No. 1 of 1990 prohibits parking on roadways. Please park your vehicles in your driveway.
- Please do not place garbage cans or recycling bins on the road or its shoulder. The snowplow can miss hitting these items if they are kept far enough back from the shoulder of the road. ❧



# TOWN OF DANBY

Submitted by Carol Sczepanski, Town Clerk

## CHANGES TO DOG LICENSING LAW

Effective January 15, 2006

Dog licenses issued on and after January 15, 2006, must not expire after the expiration date of the dog's rabies certificate. In order to receive a full year license, a dog that is due for a rabies vaccination booster within the next license year would need to be immunized prior to license renewal.

This change affects all dogs licensed in New York State, except those licensed in New York City, which has a separate dog licensing law. There are more than 600 dogs registered in the Town of Danby.

Pursuant to the New York Public Health Law, county public health authorities must offer free clinics at least every four months for the rabies vaccination of dogs as well as for cats and domesticated ferrets.

On Monday, January 9, 2006 the Town Board passed a resolution to allow its residents the option of licensing dogs for a period of up to three years (but never beyond the vaccination expiration). The Town Clerk will collect an appropriate annual fee for the license.

For more information regarding the changes to the dog licensing program in Danby, please call the Town Clerk at 607.277.4788.

## TOWN BOARD RESOLUTIONS

The Town Board approved the following resolutions at their Organizational Meeting on January 2, 2006

1. Town Supervisor to Invest Idle Funds.
2. 2006 salaries for Town Officials and staff.
3. Supervisor to pay bills to keep affairs moving on a timely basis.
4. Supervisor to submit to the Town Clerk, by March 1, 2006, a copy of the report submitted to the State Controller.
5. Highway Superintendent may purchase tools, equipment, etc.
6. Ithaca Journal to be Official Newspaper; town funds to be deposited at Tompkins Trust Company.
7. Appoint Richard Stumbar as Town Attorney.
8. Town mileage reimbursement for employees.
9. Highway Improvements Reimbursement (CHIPS).

10. Appoint Nicholas McCabe as a West Danby Water District Water Commissioner (five year term).
11. Acknowledge Town Clerk's appointment of Linda Howe as the Deputy Town Clerk.
12. Acknowledge Town Justice's appointment of Teresa Klinger as Court Clerk.
13. Set the Town Board Monthly Meetings for 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, every month during 2006, 6:30–8:30pm.
14. Reaffirmed the Town of Danby Procurement Policies and Procedures.
15. Approve Town Supervisor's appointment of Councilperson Norbert Nolte as Deputy Town Supervisor.
16. Appoint Robert Roe as Planning Board Chair and to the Tompkins County EMC (Environmental Management Council).
17. Appoint Ted Jones as Board of Zoning Appeals Chair.
18. Reappoint Russell Klinger to BZA (Board of Zoning Appeals) (5 year term).

Other Resolutions Adopted by the Board.

**Resolution No.19 of 2006**—*Request to the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Task Force For Recommendation.* The request is that the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Task Force assist the Town board in revising the Town Board Resolution No. 31 of 2004, *Creating a Comprehensive Plan Task Force.*

**Resolution No.20 of 2006**—*Request to Task Force and Planning Board for Recommendation With Respect to Rescinding May 11, 2005 Revisions to the Zoning Ordinance and the Subdivision Regulations.* ❁

## MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL ALL-HAZARD

### MITIGATION PLAN Submitted by Sue Beeners

The Town Board may consider adoption of this plan at its Regular Meeting on Monday, March 13.

This plan has been developed by seven municipalities and the County over the last three years. It contains a detailed evaluation of hazards, including but not limited to flooding, severe storms, utility failure, epidemic, fire, and major transportation accidents. It identifies strategies for minimizing risk and effects resulting from these hazards. Strategies in the plan, specific to Danby, were developed with input from the Fire and Highway Departments and the West Danby Water District.

Paper and CD copies of the plan are available in the Town Clerk's office. It is also available through the Tompkins County website [[www.tompkins-co.org](http://www.tompkins-co.org)]. ❁

## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TASK FORCE

Submitted by Sue Beeners

(This is a summary of meeting highlights—contact the Town Clerk for minutes.)

On January 11, the Task Force responded to January 2 requests from the Town Board for recommendations on the following:

A. The charge to the Task Force, membership, voting, and subcommittees. Chair and Vice Chair, staff and consultant support, and general work plan. The Task Force made the following recommendations for Town Board approval:

- Appointment of Ray Van de Bogart as Chair, and Joel Gagnon as Vice Chair, with appointments to be made annually by the Town Board upon recommendation of the Task Force.
- Appointment of a Secretary, in addition to staff support from the Code Enforcement Officer and such other paid assistance as the Town Board agrees to make available.
- All Danby residents and property owners may vote at the Task Force, provided that they have attended at least one of the previous two meetings. A record of the vote will be made.
- Specific proposals developed by the Task Force will be referred simultaneously to the Town Board and the Planning Board in order to promote creative interaction, with the Town Board retaining authority for final approval.

B. Removal of the 60% Conservation Area requirement in the Low Density Zone, and reinstatement of a Permit Process for Minor Land Divisions:

- The Task Force had previously recommended these revisions to the Town Board, and has authorized its staff support to proceed with drafting specific revisions.
- A set of further revisions and enhancements, which was subject to a Town Board public information meeting in October, will be further refined in the upcoming months.

The next Task Force Meeting is 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 8, at the Town Hall.

As a general note, anyone is welcome to join the Task Force. ❀

## DANBY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Submitted by Beatrice Hogben, Trustee, 272.5294

In December, members of the Danby Volunteer Fire Company responded to 2 fire calls and 5 rescue calls. This brought the total for the year 2005 to 112 calls (36 fire and 76 rescue).

Correction from the January issue: Thomas Schwartz and Tyler Moore (not Ryan Abruzzo) completed the Fire Fighter One Course (not Essentials of Firemanship) held at the CFR building on Warren Road. This represented 78 hours of training for them. My apologies to Thomas. ❀

## WEST DANBY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Submitted by Steve Cortright, Trustee

### TREAT YOUR SWEETHEART TO BREAKFAST

The West Danby Fire Department is hosting a "Treat Your Sweetheart To Breakfast" pancake breakfast on Saturday, February 11, at the West Danby Fire Hall, 7–11am.

Treat your sweetheart to pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, and homefries on Valentines weekend. We will also be having a 50/50 raffle and door prizes. ❀

## WOOD STOVE SAFETY

With this (so far) mild winter, creosote buildup can occur. Please help our Fire Departments out by making sure your chimneys are clean! ❀

## ADOPT/FOSTER INFO MTG

To anyone who may be considering becoming a foster parent or adoptive parent and wants more information, Tompkins County Department of Social Services will hold informational meetings at the Human Services Building, Room 142, 320 W. State Street, Ithaca, NY on Thursday, February 9, 2006, Noon–1pm.

Tompkins County Youth Services is also looking for Host Homes for teenagers for short-term respite.

Please call 274.5266 for more information. ❀

# TOWN OF DANBY FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Submitted by Deanna Bowles

Thanks to all who voted in the recent Town of Danby Fire Commissioner election. We would like to clarify some statements that were circulated prior to the recent election.

The Board of Fire Commissioners is made up of five (5) qualified individuals who are elected and perform as prescribed by New York State laws (primarily Town Laws #174 through 176). Votes in annual commissioner elections are not counted by the commissioners. They are counted by an election committee per Town Law.

Basic responsibility of the board is to oversee the operation of the fire departments within the district as representatives of the taxpayers and assure that all operations are conducted as prescribed by law. This includes developing and managing budgets that insure departments are properly equipped to provide adequate emergency services to the district. The budget for 2006 is \$305,838 compared to the 2005 budget of \$277,689. This results in a 10.1% increase. The increase is primarily due to increased heating and vehicle

fuel costs, vehicle maintenance costs and higher insurance premiums. Insurance premiums are estimated to be 29% higher than the 2005 budget. Due to increased assessed value in the town, the tax rate is not increased from 2005. The board is actively searching for ways to reduce both fuel and insurance costs.

The board is not planning a \$1,000,000 building addition to the Danby Fire Station. There is a committee made up of Fire Department and Board of Commissioner members studying a possible addition to the building. This addition is needed as the building currently houses four vehicles in a building designed for three. Due to increased requirements for record keeping and reporting, additional office space would also be desirable. Design and costs have not yet been established. Funding for this will hopefully be partially provided through grants with the remainder via bonding with approval of the Town of Danby voters.

Board of Fire Commissioner Meetings are open to the public. Meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the third Tuesday of each month; at the West Danby Station during even-numbered months and at the Danby Station during odd-numbered months.

Town of Danby Board of Fire Commissioners  
Ralph F. Bowles, Chairman  
L. Patrick Caveney      Monique Fairchild  
Wayne Holden Jr.      Richard Oltz

# AMERICAN LEGION NEWS

Submitted by Bill Brown, Post Adjutant

Commander Jon Mosher of the Ithaca American Legion Post 221, located on Danby Road has announced its scheduled of events for the remainder of the winter season.

- Feb 03 **Fish Fry** (by the Auxiliary).
- Feb 11 **Sock Hop**, 8pm-til (by the Auxiliary).
- Feb 18 **Steak Dinner**, 5:30-7pm (by the Auxiliary).
- Feb 26 **Chicken Barbecue** (by SAL, the Sons of the American Legion).

All events are open to the public and functions such as these help the Legion promote its charitable causes throughout the year. The annual block party held in Aug. 2005 raised over \$4,000, which was donated to Hospicare on East King Road. The block party is a community event and hosted by the Post, Auxiliary and SAL. ❀

## TOWN HOURS

- TOWN CLERK**  
Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559  
Tue-Fri, 9am-4pm; Sat, 9am-Noon
- HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**  
93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169  
Mon-Fri, 6am-2:30pm
- CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE**  
Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559  
Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm or by appointment
- TOWN COURT:**  
Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559  
Tue, 7pm
- DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY**  
Tue & Thu 3:30-5:30pm, Sat 9:30am-2:30pm  
All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

# Danby Youth Flyer

## Community Council Youth Programs February–March 2006

Programs are for youth from the town of Danby; the age range is listed for each program. Look for brochures and registration forms in the Danby Store, at the Town Hall, and on the web: [<http://www.cce.cornell.edu/tompkins/rys/local.htm>] To have a brochure mailed or faxed to you, please contact Tom Archibald, 607.272.2292 x222, or [[tga4@cornell.edu](mailto:tga4@cornell.edu)]. Remember, these programs fill up, so register early. Feel free to sign up even if a program is already underway.

### Family Games & Movie Night—all ages

West Danby Fire Hall

Saturday, February 11, 2:30–5:30pm

Please join us for a fun-filled afternoon of games, snacks, and a movie suitable for children of all ages. This will be a good opportunity for West Danby youth and their families to meet Tom and to start getting involved our programs! Sign up so we know you're coming or just drop in if you'd prefer. Either way, we'd love to see you there!!

### Funky Furniture—Grades 4–8

Danby Federated Church

Thursdays, Jan 19–Mar 2 (except Feb 23), 3:30–5:30pm

People say that one person's trash is another person's treasure. We'll put that to the test as we paint and decorate old furniture and the like in cool and creative ways. Whether it's an old chair, a little table, or a lamp shade, I'm sure you can make it funky. We'll use different painting techniques, glitter, and much more to make something that you'll be proud to take home.

### Super 'Sitters—Grades 5–9

Danby Town Hall

Fridays, Jan 20–Mar 3 (except Feb 24), 3:30–5:30pm

Need extra cash? How about baby sitting?! Join us to perfect your 'sitting skills and to earn a certificate you

can use to impress parents and show them you really know what you're doing while they're out. You will also get a Tool Kit Bag filled with things like children's books you can read to kids, that will help you even more to become the world's greatest baby sitter!!

### Winter Wanderers—Grades 4–8

meet at Danby Federated Church

Saturdays, Jan 21, Feb 4 & 18, Mar 4 & 18, 10am–2pm

"Not all who wander are lost." How true that is. If you participated in Primitive Pursuits, or if you like being outdoors in winter and want to practice your outdoor skills, then come wander with us. We'll practice orienteering, tracking, hiking, fire building, and even try our hand at snowshoeing. If you don't like winter, maybe if you get out into it instead of trying to get away from it, you'll see how great it can be.

### Stilts—Grades 4–8

Danby Federated Church

Wednesdays, March 8–April 5, 3:30–5:30pm

Join us for this great program as we make our own stilts (complete with extra long pants) and then learn how to walk with them. Just think of how cool it would be to be walking around, a few feet taller than you are now, on stilts that you made with your own hands! We'll finish in time for you practice in case you want to show them off in the Ithaca and Danby parades.

### Garage Band—Grades 4–8

Danby Federated Church

Thursdays, March 9–30, 3:30–5:30pm

Most great musicians today get their start with beat-up old instruments in their parents' garage. Garage Band is a computer program used to record and add effects (like echo and reverb) to music. Join us to make instruments, make music, record it, and change it into cool songs we'll burn to a CD.

Whether you like rock, rap, jazz or something else, bring your creativity, an instrument (if you have one already) and come make music!!!

## Danby Fun Day Parade and B-B-Q

Submitted by Sue Beeners  
on behalf of joint planning group.

Cabin fever? Let's all plan ahead for a great July 15, 2006. Save the date! Fun Day, Parade, and Barbecue! More details to follow.



Danby Community Council  
Danby Area News  
1830 Danby Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850

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## DANBY EVENTS CALENDAR

Feb 2 • Thu

Noon 🏛️ Federated Church  
**Danby Senior Citizens Dish-to-Pass Lunch**  
7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Danby Community Council**

Feb 6 • Mon

5:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Town Board Interviews for Planning Board Vacancy**  
6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Town Board Agenda Meeting**

Feb 7 • Tue

Noon–9pm  
**Ithaca City School Board Special Election**

Feb 8 • Wed

7pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Comprehensive Plan Task Force**

Feb 11 • Sat

7–11am 🏛️ WD Fire Hall  
**Treat Your Sweetheart to Breakfast**

Feb 13 • Mon

6:30pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Town Board Meeting**

Feb 14 • Tue • Valentine's Day

9:30–11:30pm 🏛️ General Store  
**Meet Your Representatives**—County Rep Frank  
Proto and Town Supervisor Ric Dietrich

Feb 16 • Thu

6:45pm 🏛️ Town Hall  
**Planning Board**—Glanzel subdivision, 6:45pm; Bai-  
ley Homes PDZ, 7pm; followed by regular meeting

## ONGOING

**Seniors Strength Training Group** 🏛️ Federated Church  
Mondays, 9am.

**West Danby Volunteer Fire Company** 🏛️ WD Fire Hall  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7pm.

**Danby Fire Company** 🏛️ Fire Hall  
Mondays, 7pm; monthly mtg 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7:30pm.

**Danby Food Pantry** 🏛️ Federated Church  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 6–8pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 4–6pm.

**Danby Community Library Reading Group** 🏛️ Town Hall  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 7pm.

**Danby Quilters Group** ☎ 273.2950  
Mondays, 6:30pm, Fridays, 9–11am.

## WHERE THINGS HAPPEN

🏛️ **Danby Town Hall** • 1830 Danby Road

🏛️ **Danby Community Library** • 1830 Danby Road

🏛️ **Danby General Store** • 1774 Danby Road

🏛️ **Danby Fire Hall** • 1780 Danby Road

🏛️ **West Danby Fire Hall** • Sylvan Lane, off Rt.34/96

🏛️ **Danby Federated Church** • 1859 Danby Road