



DANBY AREA NEWS

DANBY SPINNER'S GROUP

Submitted by Jean Rowley

We are starting a group that will probably meet monthly through the winter to spin wool. Beginners are welcome... no experience necessary. There is extra wool and even an extra spinning wheel as well as several drop spindles.

We are going to get together on Sunday, December 11, 3pm at my house, 251 Bald Hill Road, to plan a Danby Spinners' group. This will just be a short meeting to decide when and how often we want to meet, etc. If you know anyone else who wants to come, please invite them.

PS: This spinning is not as heavily aerobic as the other kind of "spinning". ❁

CAROLING IN WEST DANBY

Submitted by Joel Gagnon

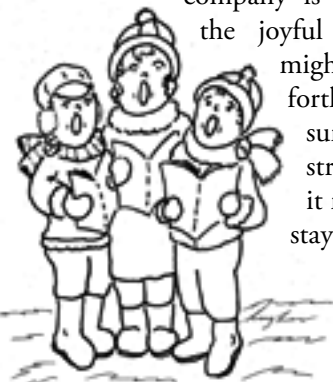
Enjoy a seasonal pleasure: caroling in rural, downtown West Danby! Join Adam Michaelidis and others at the old West Danby Church, 6pm on Sunday, December 18.

If the weather be good and the company is agreeable,

the joyful noise might venture forth onto surrounding streets. Or it might just stay put and make music in that wonderful place.

Hot chocolate and light refreshments to follow the singing.

Both voices and instruments wanted! Bring a friend! ❁



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COMMUNITY COUNCIL SEEKS BOARD MEMBERS

Submitted by Bob Strichartz, DCC President

The Danby Community Council is looking for new members for its Board of Directors. Three directors (out of seven) will be elected to two-year terms during its Annual Meeting in January. Only one of the three seats is held by an incumbent; the other two Directors are rotating off the Board. Any resident of Danby, at least eighteen years old, is eligible.

The Community Council is especially interested in candidates who are involved with, or have an interest in, Youth Services programming: after-school activities, youth employment, and other related efforts.

Serving on the DCC board is an enjoyable way to contribute to your community. There are monthly meetings, and Board members and other community members volunteer to help with specific activities. The DCC supports youth work in the community, supervises the DAN, awards scholarships, and organizes many activities such as concerts and the Halloween Party.

If you're interested, please contact me at [\[str@math.cornell.edu\]](mailto:str@math.cornell.edu) or 607.277.3058. ❁

FIRE DISTRICT ELECTION

Voters: your job never seems to end. Like firefighters, you're always on call.

Tuesday, December 13 is the *other* election in Danby, when you select one of five commissioners for the Danby Fire District. You can vote from 5-9pm at either the Danby or West Danby Fire Halls.

About one-third of your taxes and *all* of your fire protection depends on the choice of good commissioners. So vote. Vote early but, please, only once. ❁

December 2011
Layout: Ted Crane

To contribute:
Danby Area News
PO Box 6886
Ithaca, NY 14851-6886
Phone: 607.273.8678
Email: [danbynews@tedcrane.com]

Text submissions:
Send text in the body of an
Email message (**not** as an at-
tachment); or mail typewritten
copy, double-spaced on white
paper. Short handwritten
submissions accepted; 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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DANBY NEWS NOTES

Submitted by Ted Crane

Submission Guidelines: Visit the
Town of Danby web page, and have
a look at the "Danby News" section,
[town.danby.ny.us/DAN]. If you're
thinking of sending something for
publication in the Danby News, there's
two documents to read: the *Guidelines*
and the *Submission Guidelines*.

The first document describes what is,
and isn't acceptable material for publi-
cation. If it's acceptable, we'll make an
effort to include it; *generally, we print
everything we receive!*

The second document gives some hints
about how to prepare a submission.
Following these guidelines makes the
editing and layout easier.

A very terse version of these guidelines
is presented in the column on the left
side of this page.

**PUBLIC ACCESS COMPUTER
IN TOWN HALL**

The first public access computer has
been installed in Town Hall. You can
cruise the web with it and check your
web-based Email. It has a DVD drive,
so you can use it to view presentations
and other DVD media.

If you're new to computers, a one-on-
one introduction/how-to is available.
Contact me at 607.273.8678.

Thanks go to Scott Stratton for the
donation of the eMac computer.

DANBY WEB SITE

Have you visited [town.danby.ny.us]?

There's a lot of information about the
Town of Danby on that site. You'll
find meeting agendas, minutes, and
relevant documents. You can see the
list of happenings in Danby. And,
links to Danby-related web sites! ❁

TOWN CLERK'S DESKTOP

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

Oh, my, what a year it's been. As I look back on my second year as Town Clerk, I feel a sense of accomplishment for the skills I've gained. I am humbled to know that I am just one small part of a vast team of co-workers and community members who have come together in an impressive way this year. We've worked hard. Sometimes the strain has shown but, in the end, we can be proud of all that we've achieved. I look forward to another two years of working together and thank the people of Danby for giving me the opportunity to serve.



Where 2010 was the *Year of the Neighborhood*, 2011 has been the *Year of Passing Protective Laws*. The Danby Town Board has dealt with everything from dogs to road protection. I commend the Town and its Planning Board, Code Office, and the Gas Drilling Task Force (not to mention the Town Attorney) for completing the herculean task: revising our Comprehensive

Plan and drafting changes to our Zoning Ordinance to consider high impact industrial activity.

The Town Clerk's role in these important measures is to ensure that all legal notices are filed at the proper times, that procedures are met, and that the laws are filed correctly with the State Department. Our work is not done. Environmental protections have been important to me all my life and I look forward to working for sensible protection of Danby's aquifers and Critical Environmental Areas.

This was the year when marriage licenses were first issued to same-sex couples. In fact, our Town Clerk's office has issued more marriage licenses—for couples of all kinds—than it has in recent years. Winter, Spring, Summer, or Fall, any couple intending to wed in the State of New York can get a marriage license at the Danby Town Hall during our regular hours. I look forward to doing my small part in helping couples become formally and legally wedded to each other, particularly those who may have waited decades for this moment.

Our Summer intern, Raven, has been able to continue with us through the end of the year. Raven is learning about varied activities in the Town Clerk's office as part of her home schooling. A quiet, yet dedicated

worker, she continues to help with dog license renewal paperwork and is assisting with weeding out duplicate material from our files. Along the way she's receiving a unique education in local history.

One of the busiest times of our year, property tax collection, begins on January 2. The Town passed its budget—remaining within the 2% tax cap—in November. Information from that budget will be directed to the Tompkins County Office of Assessment, who will prepare the tax bills. Typically, they are mailed in time for property owners to have what they need by January 2 (if your taxes are paid via an escrow account, your bill is sent to the bank or service).

The unpleasant task of paying (and collecting) taxes will make the dark days of January speed by. Those of you who have not yet met our Deputy Clerk, Sue McLellan, will enjoy her cheerful efficiency.

As a reminder, office hours for the Danby Town Clerk are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10am-5pm and Saturday mornings, 10am-Noon. Our office is closed Sundays, Thursdays and holidays. As Christmas and New Year's Day both fall on Sundays this year, the Town Hall will be closed the following Mondays, December 26 and January 2. And yes, the chocolate kiss bowl remains full.

Questions? Call 607.277.4788 or send Email to [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us].

TOWN HOURS

TOWN CLERK

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559
Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm; Sat, 10am-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: 277.0095 • Fax: 277.0031
Tue, 7pm

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

SEEKING APPLICANTS

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

The Danby Town Board is seeking applications for several Boards, including five-year terms on the Board of Zoning Appeals and the West Danby Board of Water Commissioners, four open seats on the Conservation Advisory Council, a two-year term representing Danby on the Environmental Management Council, and two seats for one-year terms on a Board of Assessment Review. The Town Board will also review applications for persons interested in serving as Town Historian (one-year term).

Persons interested in serving in these capacities should fill out an application (available at the Town Clerk's office) or write a letter of intent listing professional, educational, or other experience that would assist the applicant in serving and answering the following questions: Why you are interested in this position and what you hope to accomplish in this position. Include mailing address, Email, and telephone contact information. Applications are due by December 19, 2011 and interviews will be held by the Town Board during its January meetings.

More information about each of these appointments is available at the office of the Town Clerk at the Danby Town Hall, 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca NY 14850 or [townclerk@town.danby.ny.us]. ❀

DANBY NEEDS EMC REP

Submitted by Eric Banford

The EMC is Tompkins County's official citizen advisory board on local environmental issues. It advises the County Legislature on matters affecting the preservation, development, and use of the natural features and conditions of the County that have a bearing on environmental quality. The Council also considers other matters referred to the Council by the County Legislature.

The EMC also serves as a link between County government and the public, educating citizens on environmental issues of concern. It develops and conducts public information programs in the County that are designed to increase understanding of the nature of environmental problems and issues and their solutions. The Council conducts studies, surveys, and inventories of natural and scenic features which are of local, County or regional significance.

The EMC meets the second Wednesday of every month, 7-9pm. All meetings are open to the public. If you are interested in serving, please contact the Town Supervisor.

[Eric Banford has served as Danby's EMC rep for the last two years.] ❀

PRESERVING DANBY'S LAND

by Ronda Roaring

I believe in preserving Danby's land so strongly that, this year, I'm going to make a monetary donation to the Town for the purposes of land preservation. That might seem like a strange thing to do, but it's perfectly legal, tax deductible, and will go to a good cause. Here's how it works.

State law allows Towns to act as land trusts. In 2010, the Town of Danby took the necessary steps to do just that. It can now accept gifts of land, solicit and hold conservation easements, and even buy land. But Town funds for land preservation are limited. Consequently, in order to buy land, the Town needs monetary gifts from people like you and me.

- Monetary Donations—It's as simple as writing a check. You pick the amount. Every penny will go into a special account for land preservation.

- Gifts In Memory Of—If you have a friend or relative who has died that you'd like to remembered, consider making a donation in memory of that person to the Town.
- Gifts in Honor Of—If you have a friend or relative who you'd like to honor for some reason—birthday, wedding, anniversary, good deed—consider making a donation to the Town.

The above gifts will be acknowledged in the Danby Area News unless you state otherwise. Checks should be made payable to the Town of Danby—with a note that the funds are for the Land Preservation Account—and sent to the Town's accountant, Laura Shawley, at the Town Hall, 1830 Danby Road, Ithaca, NY 14850.

If you own an IRA and will be older than 70½ before December 31, 2011, the IRS allows you to give up to \$100,000 from your IRA to the Town as a tax-free gift. Be sure to consult with your accountant or tax advisor before donating. Contact Laura Shawley, 607.277.2400, for further details. ❀

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

This month, we are deep into coordinating our responses to the NYS DEC's rdSGEIS document, taking into account comments by local residents, the Danby Gas Drilling Task Force, local boards, and even regional groups. These are big documents and it certainly is impressive how many of Danby residents have stepped up to the plate—yet again—to offer their time and energy.

In all my years, I have not seen the County and the Towns, agencies and boards all working together on an issue as they are doing now. Our community is among the heart and soul of the effort, and is why so many of us are proud to live where we do.

For those of you who are not able to travel out of town to attend the DEC-sponsored hearings around the state, Danby is playing a role in a locally-sponsored, but DEC-recognized presentation of responses to be held at the State Theater public hearing on December 1.

In Danby, we continue our legislative efforts to protect the community from the impact of heavy industry. Following the passage of Road Construction Laws, a ban based on our Comprehensive Plan and our Zoning Ordinance, we have now completed and enacted a Road Use Law.

Our next projects, an Aquifer Protection Law and the definition of Critical Environmental Areas, are receiving information needed to move forward. The U.S. Geological Survey is working on a report outlining the parameters of our aquifer and the fault lines under it.

In mid-November, I met with gas company representatives. After they waltzed into our Town like they owned it, an honest and frank discussion ensued. I believe it was a first at confronting their perspective, we expressed our displeasure.

Meanwhile, we're trying to improve the quality of life in our Town. The Town Board and Planning Board were receptive of a proposal I laid out for them: a small-scale, test buildout of Broadband Internet in the Town. I am looking at possible sites to serve a target of 120 households. My work with the cell tower committee, the County Broadband committee, and franchise discussions with Time Warner were presented to a representative of NYS Public Service Commission, who encouraged our work in this area. Much more to follow.

I am looking to form an advisory board on energy and the Town (see adjacent article).

As our biomass-boiler project gets a firm footing, it is time to look at the next projects the Town should focus on, on our road to energy independence. If you have an interest in this important endeavor, please respond to directly to me.

Due in large part to our work on emergency management, our recent meetings with representatives from of the NYS Emergency Management Department and FEMA (its Federal equivalent) have been successful. We're hoping to be reimbursed for the valiant work our Highway Department has done to control and repair infrastructure damage during and after the recent flooding. I believe we will be able to recoup our losses and not have to burden our taxpayers with the remediation efforts.

Many thanks to our Highway for leading the charge.

As you can see, much is happening in our little part of the world. If not for our residents becoming involved, much of what confronts us would be overwhelming. I would like to close with a big thank-you to all of you who give unselfishly of your time to help the Town solve the complex situations confronting it. As always, if there is an issue the Town should address, please contact me, [supervisor@town.danby.ny.us]. ❁

RENEWABLE ENERGY GROUP

Submitted by Eric Banford

Danby is forming a group to look into renewable energy projects, and would love to have you join us.

Solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, hot air from Board meetings; how will we power our town in the future? The price of solar is coming down 7% each year, wind is getting cheaper and more efficient, and the Danby Land Bank has been looking into biomass to utilize our local land for energy production.

Where do we want to be five, ten, or fifty years down the road? Come and help us figure it out! We will have a kickoff meeting on Thursday, January 12, 6-8pm in the Danby Town Hall. If you are interested, contact me at 607.277.0183 or [brew_bird@yahoo.com]. ❁

DANBY NEWS STILL LOOKING...

Been thinking about it? Want to be involved?

Help keep our community informed! The Danby News is still looking for help with its monthly mailings. Typically, a bit over an hour counting and labeling, and a delivery run to the Post Office. How 'bout it? ❁

MAKING OUR VOICES HEARD AND PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Submitted by Jennifer Tiffany and Candace Collmer

Danby Gas Drilling Task Force members are writing comments responding to the revised draft of the SGEIS (Supplemental Generic Environmental Impact Statement) and the corresponding proposed regulations. The comments are due to the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) by December 12.

The draft SGEIS released by the DEC and proposed regulations based on it are online at the DEC web site, and you can also submit online comments about both documents (links to these and other web sites are on the Town web site [[town.danby.ny.us/Gas Drill](http://town.danby.ny.us/Gas_Drill)]). There are a number of web sites that contain suggestions for addressing specific issues and topics. Notably, [tinyurl.com/2011SGEISFlaws] focuses on the SGEIS and [tinyurl.com/FrackingRegulations] focuses on the proposed regulations.

Task Force members are writing about several specific topics. For example, ensuring protection of aquifers and water resources; ensuring local involvement in decisions determining the location of wells and well pads; the need for protection from air pollution resulting from well drilling; and several others. Our comments will be gathered into one overall document to be sent to the DEC from the Gas Drilling Task Force as a whole.

Several events will take place during early December:

- **Public hearing, December 1:** The Tompkins County Council of Governments (TCCOG) will host a public hearing to gather comments on the SGEIS on Thursday evening, December 1, 7-11pm, in Ithaca's

State Theater. People will need to sign up to speak when they get to the State Theater; comments are limited to three minutes. A stenographer will record the testimony so that it can be sent to the DEC. Written comments will also be collected and sent to the DEC by TCCOG.

- **Letter writing, December 2:** If you'd rather write a letter and mail it to the DEC, then join us on Friday evening, December 2 in the Danby Town Hall. The GDTF is holding *Comment With Your Community*, a public letter writing get-together, that evening, 6:30-9:30pm. Task Force members will be there with paper and envelopes, and stamps. We will have information about specific areas of the SGEIS and proposed regulations that need to be strengthened in order to protect Danby from the negative effects of by gas drilling. Everyone is invited to come! There will be refreshments along with lots of support to help anyone who prepare a written comment or two. Contact Nancy Medsker, 607.273.1066, if you'd like to help out with this event.
- **GDTF Planning meeting:** The next meeting of the Gas Drilling Task Force, on Wednesday, December 14, 7pm in the Danby Town Hall, will focus on planning work for 2012 and the relationship of the GDTF's work with energy conservation and local renewable energy. All are welcome to come join us as we look ahead.

For more information please contact Jennifer Tiffany [jst5@cornell.edu], Kathy Halton, 607.273.0533 or [khalton@twcny.rr.com], or Candace Collmer 607.257.5737. ❁

SNOW SHOVELERS NEEDED

It's not too early to think about snow! With winter weather coming, the *Tompkins County Office for the Aging* is updating its listing of snow shovelers.

Deep snow and icy sidewalks are dangerous for everyone but especially for senior citizens. Many seniors are not able to remove the snow without assistance. If you are interested in assisting seniors by shoveling or plowing—paid or volunteer—please call 607.274.5482. You should notify us even if your name was listed last year. ❁

Danby's Dawn Patrol

When the overnight weather has changed the landscape, the Highway Department inspects Danby's roads early in the morning. When it has snowed, plows are dispatched to begin clearing. After last October's freak snowstorm, Carl Seamon and Laura Shawley went looking for trouble spots, poste haste.

Photo by Ronda Roaring



WREATH-MAKING WORKSHOPS

Submitted by Pat Curran

Join the Tompkins County Master Gardener volunteers in an *Evergreen Wreath-Making Workshop*. Create a gorgeous holiday decoration for your home!

This year, we are offering two workshops. The first is designed to help folks with less experience and will include how-to instructions by Master Gardener volunteers. This workshop will be held Thursday, December 8, 6:30-8:30pm. The second workshop, on Friday, December 9, also 6:30-8:30pm, is intended for folks with more experience. If you have not participated before, you should sign up for Thursday's session.

Both workshops take place at the Tompkins County Cornell Cooperative Extension Education Center, 615 Willow Avenue, Ithaca. Fresh-cut greens, ribbon, wire, and wreath ring are supplied. Please bring pruning shears, gloves, and any special decorating materials you like to personalize your wreath. Wear casual clothes! Fee: \$18 covers the cost of materials. Each class is limited to 15 participants; pre-registration and prepayment required. Please call 607.272.2292. ❧

COMPUTERS: NOT JUST FOR KIDS

Been in Town Hall lately? Or even in the parking lot?

Wireless Internet is available in Town Hall. If you thinking crusin' requires a car, you can usually connect in the parking lot, too.

Is your computer on the blink? Or, maybe, you don't have one? There's a public access computer inside the meeting room for your use. First timer? You can get help, just ask!

Government junkies: use that computer to view lots of Town documents at [town.danby.ny.us]. ❧

LIFE IN DANBY

This month's observations from Danbyites

Submitted by Julie Kulik

I love to collect all of our observations and stories from this beautiful place we call home. At any point during the month, when you see something of interest to you—whether plant, tree, animal or signs thereof (track, scat, etc.)—please pass the observation on to me. There were several sightings of Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) at the end of October, and here are other submissions:

Mammals: Flying Squirrels, Bobcats (three separate sightings), Grey fox.

A small mouse that has been poking its nose out of a hole in a tree to greet a group of young people every Wednesday this Fall...took an apple piece from us...then one week its hole was packed tightly with rabbit fur...we



Glowing Goldenrod—The clear light of a crisp fall day restores the glow, tho' not the vibrant color, to brushy fields.
Photo by Ted Crane

will miss it!

“Early evening four deer are under my apple trees, interacting, grabbing someone's apple and running away. Frolicking under the apple trees, dad shows up, mom leaves with the girls, and leaves spike with dad. Spike goes nuts, rubbing dad's chest his ears, all over him, this goes on for ten-fifteen minuets, nuzzling stuff. Then spike starts pushing on dad's head, I could not believe this adult male deer would allow any interaction with the young, let alone the intimacy. Anyway they sparred for another half hour or so little one trying to push the big guy around, I guess dad was supposed to wear junior out so he would sleep tonight.”

Birds: Several Ring Necked Pheasants, Great Blue Heron, Many Canadian Geese on Jennings Pond, many flocks of Turkeys.

See you in the woods! Contact me with your observations, [jnk54@cornell.edu] or 607.272.2292 x222. ❧

CHRISTMAS TREE STRESS

Submitted by Jim Reagan

Mom was almost always dissatisfied and frustrated with Dad's choice when it came to Christmas trees. They were either too tall or too short, and she would get extremely depressed if there were any 'holes', as she put it, meaning missing branches. Even Dad's assurances that the bad spots could go against the wall could not dissuade her from reaching for the Anacin; pouting and posturing, dramatically. Had we possessed a fainting-couch,

Nearly every Christmas tree that entered our home was found lacking and Mom took it very, very personally.



We kids loved going out in the station wagon to cut down a tree. Dad with the saw and the ax; we all bundled up against a colder and snowier winter back then in the 1950's. Sometimes it would be getting quite dark, making the woods seem mysterious and scary. Dad, oddly enough, was always in good spirits on these expeditions and seemed to enjoy the 'hunt', but the likely prospect of a 'scene' when we got home with the imperfect tree must have been in the back of his mind. It was inevitable and we kids knew it. We had learned to equate Christmas with drama...that's just the way it was.

Back all those years, everyone was concerned with upward mobility and some sort of suburban perfection. Mom fantasized about sliding glass doors that led out to patios with brick barbecue pits. Her idea of an upwardly mobile Christmas tree was one that would be perfectly sculptured, like a topiary, with just the right shade of green. Anacin helped her through the realizations that we were poor, raised our own beef and milk; put up Christmas trees that would have attracted no notice in Scarsdale or Larchmont.

Mom had no use for artificial trees, believing that they were only used by wanton divorcees, the mentally ill or the pathetically lonely. It seems laughable now when I think that Mom's trees were always obscured with that tacky tinsel so popular in the 50s; so why the preoccupation with perfection in form and a 'live' tree?

I think that the imperfect, organic trees are best; with just the lights and none of the lurid, over the top balls, garland and tinsel. If they lean and have some bare spots, so what? Perfection, like suburban split-levels and patios, are not all that they're cracked up to be. Nature does a really good job...Dad...you did a good job too. ❄️

AMERICAN LEGION UPDATE

Submitted by Marvin Eastman

Well, as another year comes to a close, we look forward to 2012 with hope and anticipation for a good year to come. But, we still have a couple of events left in 2011.

On December 3, Noon-3pm, we will be accepting donations of new toys for the Cops, Kids and Toys benefit. Stop by and donate a toy, we will be having snacks for those who attend. Later, 5:30-7pm, we will be having a Steak Dinner for only \$10. You will receive a mouth-watering steak, cooked as ordered, topped with either Sautéed Onions or Mushrooms; Choice of Baked Potato, French Fries, or Onion Rings; Green Beans; a dinner roll, and the ever-impressive Salad Bar. You also get coffee, tea or ice water at no extra charge.

On December 16, 5:30-7pm, we will be having a Fish Fry. You can get your fish either baked or fried, Choice of Baked Potato, French Fries, or Onion Rings, dinner roll, and the Salad Bar as well as dessert, coffee or tea.

Looking for a place to have a Holiday Party, baby shower, or any other special event? Give us a call, 607.272.1129.

As we end the year, may you have a happy and safe Holiday Season and a Happy New Year. On Dec 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, take time to remember all that sacrificed for your freedom. If you see a Veteran this Holiday Season, shake his hand, and say thank you. ❄️

COPS, KIDS, TOYS AT OASIS, TOO

The party begins at the Legion at Noon and then moves across the street to the Oasis at 3pm. Attendees are requested to bring an unwrapped toy to donate. There will be a 50/50 raffle, music by DJ Leif playing oldies rock & roll plus country, and guest bartenders Mary Johannson and Pat McLean. ❄️

MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Submitted by Sheila Enstine

The Military Family Support Group provides emotional and practical support to military families in our area. If you have a loved one currently serving in the military, or if you have served and would like to share your insights and experiences, please join us.

We meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month in the Danby Federated Church, starting with a dish-to-pass meal at 6:30pm. Occasional guest speakers provide information to help us better support our service members. For more info, call me at 607.220.9664. ❄️

GIVING TREE

It's that time of year to get ready for the *Giving Tree* to benefit families with children of the Danby Food Pantry. By the time you read this, there will be a tree—with tags of ideas for items to be donated—at the Danby Federated Church, 1859 Danby Road. These should be brought—unwrapped—to the Church by December 11, for families to choose as presents for their children and parents.

Some ideas are:

- For children to give to parents: (women) kitchen items, lotions, note cards or journals and pens; (men) work gloves, aftershave, shaving cream and razors, flashlights with extra batteries, small tool kits or screw driver sets.
- For parents to give to children: soft dolls and toys for toddlers, activity sets, puzzles, Lego or Duplo sets, drawing or craft or school supplies, small toy trucks, lotions or nail care kits for teen girls, games for all ages, educational activities for all ages.
- There will also be a mitten, scarf, hat, glove collection for the same families.

Contact Bonnie Rathbun at 607.272.1606 for further information. ❀

DANBY FOOD PANTRY BENEFIT DINNER IN JANUARY

Submitted by Peter Fraissinet

Save the date! A sumptuous dinner to benefit the Danby Food Pantry is planned for January 14, 5pm, in the West Danby Fire Hall.

The West Danby Community Association has hosted this benefit the last two years to great acclaim. We've managed to deliver a substantial check and a carload of goods to the Pantry each time.

This January we will have the help of Chef Michael Short of Enfield, who has some great food ideas for us (more on that in the January issue of the *Danby Area News*). A free-will donation will be collected at the door, and non-perishable goods are welcomed as well. Let's help stock the Danby larder for our friends and neighbors!

As ever, we sure could use some help in the kitchen that day, preparing, serving, washing dishes, and what-have-you. Email me, [pf13@cornell.edu], if you can lend a hand. ❀

AT THE DFC...

All of these events are happening at the Danby Federated Church, 1859 Danby Road. For more info, 607.272.1687 or [office@danbyfederatedchurch.org].

Festival of Wreaths

December 5-8, 6:30-8:30pm

Refreshments provided. Every room in the church will be adorned with hand decorated wreaths to purchase. Purchase your wreath and pick it up on December 9.

Proceeds to benefit the Danby Fire Department and the West Danby Fire Department. If you would like to donate decorated wreaths or participate in a wreath decorating session, please contact Virginia Freeman.

They're back!

Meet the birds at the Chicken and Biscuit Dinner!

Friday, December 9, 5-7pm

Chicken and Biscuit, Squash, Green Beans, Corn, Harvard Beets, Apple Sauce, Pies and Assorted Desserts, Beverage. \$8/Adult, \$4/Children.

St. Pauly Clothing Shed at Danby Church

You can donate clothing, purses, backpacks, sheets and towels (no pillows), and shoes/boots at any time of day in the yellow shed on the South side of the Danby Church parking lot.

The items are sorted and some are offered to local folks at the monthly Danby Food Pantry (third Thursday, 3-7pm). The remainder is sent for use in worldwide missions. It's a win-win project for all.

Please do not put in anything other than the items listed as it creates a hardship for disposal - thank you for your support! ❀

DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

Our November "Thanksgiving" meal was very well attended. Big thanks to Linda Howe for cooking our turkey, gravy, and dressing and thanks to Bill and Judy Cuyle assisted by Carla Shields, for hosting!

Our December meeting will be held out at the Oasis. It's a special holiday luncheon with musical entertainment. The next regular meeting will be at noon on Thursday, January 5 at the Danby Church, with a dish to pass lunch.

All seniors age 55 and over are invited and encouraged to join us for fellowship! ❀

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY A SEASON OF THANKFULNESS

Submitted by Patti Meyers

As I look out from a window the Danby Community Library at the devastation a fire can create, I find that I am thankful that the families were unhurt.

I am sorry to hear that the three-year-old book lover lost his books. Anyone who would like to donate a picture book (he loves trucks!) can tag it and leave it in the book return at the library; I will make sure it gets to him.

I am thankful for the tireless Danby Community Library volunteers who work to organize, choose, and display all of the items available for borrowing. Stop in and see what's new at the library and thank a volunteer! I am thankful for the Danby community and the Danby Town Board who support our community library.

I am thankful for friends and family, especially during the holidays. I am thankful for the ability to read, the abundance of books, teachers who taught me and a family who cherished reading.

Well, enough of this...thank you for reading it! ❀

JENNINGS POND LOOKING FOR LIFEGUARDS

Submitted by Amy Cusimano

Jennings Pond State Park is looking for life guards for its 2012 swimming season. The season runs from the end of June until Labor Day.

All applicants must be 15 years old and hold several certifications: Lifeguarding/First Aid, CPR-adult-AED, and Waterfront. All of these courses are available—sporadically—through the Tompkins County Red Cross.

Other than Lifeguarding, responsibilities include daily maintenance of the park grounds. Trash, recyclables, bathrooms and cleaning the beach of “goose poop” (not as awful as it sounds).

Lifeguarding at Jennings Pond is a great opportunity for Danby Youth to be part of your community. For further information and or questions please contact me, [amymc@twcny.rr.com], or Mary Anne Kozak, [mkozak1@twcny.rr.com]; include “Jennings Pond Lifeguard” in the subject line. ❀

SUPPORT THE DANBY LIBRARY

This December, you can support the Danby Community Library (a.k.a. the Danby Reading Room) and take home a bit of Danby history as well.

The Danby Bicentennial Committee has donated its remaining “Danby Afghans” to the DCL. A limited number of the forest green and wine red afghans are available, each for the low, low price of \$10.

The afghans were designed to celebrate the anniversary of the founding of Danby in 1795. Samples of the large lap-blankets, featuring images of several notable buildings and locations in Danby, are on display in the Town Hall, in Town Clerk's office and in the Library meeting room.

What a wonderful gift for friends and relatives who have moved from Town! All the proceeds will support new books and DVDs for the library. You may purchase Danby afghans from any of the library volunteers. ❀

HISTORY



booring . . . ' Noooo.

It's not just facts and figures
written in a book or on a computer.



*It's what makes us what we
are today; it made Danby
what it is today.... HOW?*

*Well, someone got land south of Ithaca, built
a house, more people came, built homes
and shezam -- Danby. (Or something like that).*

*Do you know where
the 1st house was built?
Or who lives in that house now?*



THE DANBY HISTORY GROUP SLEUTHS
AROUND DISCOVERING WHAT MAKES DANBY
TICK HISTORY-WISE. IT'S KIND OF FUN.
INTERESTED? CALL ☎ PAMELA GODDARD
AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE - 277-4788
OR MARY ANN BARR AT 272-3634. ☎

Community Council Youth Programs Fall 2011

These programs are funded by the Danby Community Council, and are free to Danby residents. Registration is required.

Program flyers and permission slips are in the Danby Town Hall, or can be found at [ccetompkins.org/4h/rural-youth-services/danby] Questions? Please contact: Julie Kulik, 607.272.2292.x222 or [jnk54@cornell.edu].

Lunch Bunch

Grades 6-8

Tuesdays, lunchtime, September 16-December 2 at Boynton Middle School

In-school program during recess and lunch. Take a break from the cafeteria! Eat exciting snacks, play games and go outside on nice days. Get to know people you usually don't sit near you in the noisy lunch room!

Lunch Bunch

Grades 4-5

Fridays, lunchtime, September 30-December 23 at South Hill Elementary School

In-school program during recess and lunch. Come have lunch with others in your grade from Danby, play games, work on crafts and go outside on nice days. We will also help prepare for Orchard day and work on other service projects for school.

Danby Youth Flyer

Primitive Pursuits (program full)

Grades 3-8

Wednesdays, 2:30-5:30pm, September 21-December 14 (no program on Nov. 23)

at June Pollack's (43 Hornbrook Road)

Learn ancestral living skills such as shelter building, native crafts and nature awareness. Explore the outdoors, go hiking and get moving! Please dress for the "weather of the day" and wear clothes that can get dirty! Bus is available from South Hill Elementary School.

Friday Holiday Crafts

Grades 3-8

Fridays, 2:30-5:30, November 18-December 16 (no program on Nov.25)

at Danby Town Hall

We will get together to create gifts for our friends and family. Some of the projects planned are working with SewGreen (to create with "new to you" fabric and clothing), knitting and crocheting (with the help of some Danby fiber experts), card making, and jewelry making. Come with ideas of your own as well! ✂



Ghouls, goblins, angels, cowgirls, skeletons, cider lovers, and ink drinkers at the Community Council Halloween Party!

Photos by Ted Crane

Postal Patron

DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Dec 1 • Thu
Noon 🏠 Oasis • Seniors Luncheon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Community Council Meeting
- Dec 2 • Fri
6:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • Comment with Your Community
- Dec 3 • Sat
Noon 🏠 American Legion Post 221 • Cops, Toys, Kids
3pm 🏠 Oasis Dance Club • Cops, Toys, Kids
5:30pm 🏠 American Legion Post 221 • Steak Dinner
- Dec 5 • Mon
6:30 🏠 Danby Federated Church • Festival of Wreaths
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Town Board Meeting
- Dec 7 • Wed
7:30pm 🏠 Town Hall • Conservation Adv. Council Mtg
- Dec 9 • Fri
5-7pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church
Chicken and Biscuit Dinner
- Dec 12 • Mon
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Town Board Meeting
7:30pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall
Fire Department Monthly Meeting
- Dec 13 • Tue
5-9pm 🏠 Danby and West Danby Fire Hall
Fire District Commissioner Election
- Dec 14 • Wed
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Gas Drilling Task Force Meeting
- Dec 15 • Thu
3-7pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • Food Pantry
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • Community Park Association Mtg
- Dec 16 • Fri
5:30pm 🏠 American Legion Post 221 • Fish Dinner
- Dec 18 • Sun
6pm 🏠 Old West Danby Church
Seasonal Caroling
- Dec 20 • Tue
7:30pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall
Fire Commissioners Meeting
- Dec 22 • Thu
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • NO Planning Board Meeting

- Dec 26 • Mon
1-2pm 🏠 Danby Federated Church • Mobile Food Truck
Jul 14, 2012 • Sat • Danby Fun Day and Parade

ONGOING EVENTS

- Danby Community Library Open 🏠 Town Hall
Saturdays, 10am–Noon, Wednesdays, 1:30–3:30pm,
and when the Open sign is out!
- Danby Community Library Volunteer Mtg 🏠 Town Hall
1st Wednesday, 6:30pm. Public Welcome.
- West Danby Volunteer Fire Company 🏠 WD Fire Hall
2nd Monday, 7pm.
- Military Family Support Group 🏠 Federated Church
2nd Thursday, 6:30pm.
- Danby Fire Commissioners 🏠 Fire Hall or WD Fire Hall
3rd Tuesday, 7:30pm.
- Seniors Strength Training Group 🏠 Federated Church
Mondays, 9am.
- AA Meeting 🏠 Federated Church
Wednesdays, 7pm.
- Danby Quilters Group 📞 273.2950
Fridays, 9–11am.

WHERE THINGS HAPPEN

- 🏠 Danby Town Hall • 1830 Danby Road
🏠 Danby Fire Hall • 1780 Danby Road
🏠 West Danby Fire Hall • Sylvan Lane, off Rt.34/96
🏠 Danby Federated Church • 1859 Danby Road
🏠 American Legion Post 221 • 1231 Danby Road
Danby Community Council 🏠 Town Hall
1st Thursday, 7pm
Danby Community Park Association 🏠 Town Hall
3rd Thursday, 7pm.
Danby Fire Company 🏠 Fire Hall
Mondays, 7pm; monthly mtg 2nd Monday, 7:30pm.
Danby Food Pantry 🏠 Federated Church
3rd Thursday, 3–7pm.