September 2012

FREE TO RESIDENTS NBY AREA N

BIG TREES

Submitted by Tom Gavin, Conservation Advisory Council

Do you have a big tree that could be the largest in Danby?

Beginning immediately, Danby's Conservation Advisory Council (CAC) is sponsoring a Big Tree Register for Danby. We are looking for the largest individual tree of every species that is native or naturalized in New York. The register is modeled exactly after the Big Tree Register program for New York State, which is maintained by the Department of Environmental Conservation. Google "NYS DEC big tree" for more information and the measurement rules, or visit [dec.ny.us/animals/5248.html].

So, here is what you do. If you have a living tree that you think could be a winner, do the best you can to take the following measurements: the circumference of the tree trunk in inches measured 4.5 feet above the ground, the height of the tree in feet, and the average crown spread in feet. Add together the circumference, height, and 1/4 of the average crown spread. This is the tree's Total Point Score (TPS).

Contact Don Schaufler, [schauflerforestry@gmail.com]. Don is qualified to verify forestry measurements. He will examine the tree to verify the species and the official score for that tree. The tree with the highest TPS for a given species goes into the Danby Big Tree Register as the current champion, along with the names of the owner of the land on which the tree exists and of the person who nominated the tree.

The Register will be maintained by the Danby CAC. If you have addi-

—cont'd on page 7 €

This Month Inside the Danby News:

Town Clerk's Desktop 3 Town Department Directory . . ③ What is Broadband Internet? . . ④ Fracking Rumors 6 Wind Towers 6 Fun Day Figures, Thanks 8 W.D. Craft Fair / At the DFC. . (9) DCC Youth Scholarships 10

HI-SPEED INTERNET IN DANBY Submitted by Ric Dietrich

This year, a cooperative including most of the Tompkins County municipalities is negotiating new franchise agreements with Time-Warner. This is a change from past years, when each municipality has negotiated independently. One question keeps cropping up in discussion: how does Time-Warner fit into the county-wide picture of telecommunications?

The short answer is that the "big" service providers currently extend service only to areas where population density makes the effort profitable...immediately. Wirebased services end where the houses are farther apart, and wireless communication is spotty due to insufficient tower coverage. There are many anecdotes about exorbitant fees to extend coverage a few hundred feet.

The Tompkins County Legislature's Broadband Committee is preparing to present reports to local communities, and to begin a dialog to determine "next steps". Over the past 18 months, Ted Crane and I have been attending the Committee meetings. A great deal of time and energy

> has been put into describing the problem, enumerating areas where lack of broadband leads to hardships (today or in the future), and researching methods to provide broadband to unserved and underserved regions. In short:

- thousands of households in Tompkins County have no access to broadband internet; most of these are in the southern part of the county, including Danby
- broadband is needed for access to research tools for students, day-to-day communication with family, medical professionals and others, requirements and/or opportunities for work-related activity, E-commerce, access to government service, news and entertainment, and more
- service can be provided by a number of technologies (Danby's topography suggest that fixed wireless communication will be most effective in most neighborhoods)

—continued on page 4 C

• DANBY AREA NEWS

- September 2012 •
- Lavout: Ted Crane ٠
- **Count-n-Label Crew:** •
- Bob and Faith Chase. Jim •
- Reagan, Mary Ann Barr, •
- ٠ Pamela Goddard, •
- among others. •

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- **Post Office Crew:** •
 - Julie Clougherty

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 attachment); 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 hardcopy graphics.

• Deadline is the 15th of the • • month. Materials may be accepted later if time allows. • Submissions should gener-٠

- 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: Have a look at the "Danby News" section of the Town of Danby web site, [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.

You'll learn what is, and isn't acceptable material for publication. If it's acceptable, we'll make an effort to include it; generally, we print everything we receive! You'll find hints about how to prepare a submission. Following these guidelines makes the editing and lavout easier.

A terse version of these guidelines is in the left-hand column of this page.

TOWN HALL: COMPUTERS FOR PUBLIC ACCESS

Three computers for use by the public three been installed in Town Hall. You can cruise the web with them and check your web-based Email. There are DVD drives to view presentations and other DVD media.

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

DANBY WEB SITE

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

Meeting agendas, minutes, and relevant documents. Happenings in Danby. Everything in a nutshell. \$

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TOWN CLERK'S DESKTOP

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

Summer Intern

At the end of August we must bid farewell to our summer intern, Anna. A dedicated worker, Anna has done important work preparing an inventory of long-term records in the archives vault. Her efforts will help speed and simplify searches for information including employment records and accounting. Thanks to Anna, as we undertake new building maintenance projects, the old records of Town Hall renovations are now acces-



sible and useful. We will miss Anna's focused energy and wish her the best as she returns to school.

Hunting Season and Deer Management Focus Area

August 13 was the first day for license sales for local hunters and for those applying for the usual Doe Management Permits. Many hunters choose to purchase their hunting and fishing licenses from the Town Clerk's office. Sales will continue through the end of business on Monday, October 1.

This hunting season, the NYS DEC has created a *Deer Management Focus Area* (DMFA) covering a sizable portion of Tompkins County. According to the DEC web site, its purpose is, "To enable intensive management of overabundant deer populations in defined areas." Little information has been released about the Tompkins County DMFA and some of that is unclear. We don't know what role (if any) local licensing agencies (such as Town Clerk's offices) have in the issuing of Focus Area permits and carcass tags.

After searching the DEC web site we learned that:

- Any person currently licensed to hunt deer may obtain a free DMFA permit and carcass tag(s) from the DEC.
- Both the DMFA permit and carcass tag(s) must be carried while hunting in the focus area.
- A hunter may take two antlerless deer per day using DMFA carcass tags during any DMFA open season.
- In addition to the regular deer hunting seasons, the DMFA season will also be open, for taking of antlerless deer only, from the second Saturday in January through January 31.

The Focus Area Zone includes the northernmost sections of Danby; roughly, the area north of East Miller Road, Nelson Road, Comfort Road, and Jersey Hill, King, and West Jersey Hill Roads. Some of the most heavily populated sections of Danby are within this area. As a Town Clerk, and as someone living in the Focus Area Zone, I have questions about the impact of this extended and expanded hunting activity (a hunter could harvest more than 100 deer). The DEC says that more information will be made available in September.

Donate Venison to Help the Hungry

With the possibility of so many deer being taken, we are once again encouraging Danby hunters to make donations to the New York State Venison Donation Coalition. It's easy to support this effort providing high protein food to the hungry. Simply tell the clerk to click the donation option and the small fee of \$1 will be added to the license fee. Donations can also be accepted through its secure web site, [venisondonation.org], or send a check payable to: Venison Donation Coalition, Inc., 415 West Morris Street, Bath, NY 14810. For info, call 866.862.DEER.

The Venison Donation coalition is a non-profit organization that coordinates efforts of hunters, deer processors, food banks, and other individuals to add locally sourced food to New York State food banks. In these tough economic times, more and more families are feeling the crunch and being left hungry. The donation of venison can help feed families, children, single parents, and the elderly. One deer can provide approximately 160 servings of highly nutritious ground venison to those in need.

Autumn Hours

Autumn office hours for the Danby Town Clerk, starting September 8, are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10am-5pm, as well as Saturday, 10am-Noon. As always we are closed on Sundays and Thursdays. And yes, the chocolate kiss inventory is...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.

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WHAT IS BROADBAND INTERNET? Submitted by Ted Crane

There's been a lot of talk lately about something called,

"Broadband Internet." What, exactly, is it, and what are households without it missing out on? Why the fuss?

In short, "Broadband" is another way to say, "High Speed". The big difference, for those who have it, is an end to long delays suffered while web pages load. The technical definition of "Broadband", sadly, has become a marketing term and political football.

During the infancy of the Internet, web pages contained little more than text. A dial-up connection was sufficient to deliver information. Today's Internet, with media-rich content (every web page has pictures, many of them have animations, and a growing number include video), cannot operate effectively using slower connections.

Communication speed—bandwidth—is described in bits per second (BPS). A traditional rule of thumb is that 10 bits make up one byte and one byte holds one character of text. Think of it this way: the Bible contains about 5,000,000 bytes of text, or 50,000,000 bits. An average issue of the Danby News is about 550,000 bytes—including pictures that have been "fuzzed" to reduce download time.

In 2010, the Federal Communications Commission defined "Basic Broadband" as an aggregate speed of 5Mbps; that is, four million BPS downstream (from the Internet to the user's computer) and one additional million BPS upstream (from the computer to the Internet). That's almost one Bible per second, or about eight Danby Newses with fuzzy pictures—or four with sharp pictures. The Tompkins County Legislature's Broadband Committee has adopted the FCC speed requirement as necessary for to day-to-day Internet usage.

The trend, over time, is for the numbers in the definition to increase, reflecting the growing availability of data communication capacity. Unfortunately, Internet content—all those fancy web pages—gets more complex every day, and its requirements outpace the official definitions.

The table on page 5 (on the right) compares some good guesses at the speeds of various different ways you can connect to the Internet in Danby.

According to the FCC's National Broadband Coverage Map, there is only one service in Danby—Time-War-

Hi-Speed Internet, cont'd from front page—

We have found out a lot about a lot of things. We are at a point where we know where we want to go, we know what quality and speed of communication is needed, we know what it takes to get that connection to your house, and we have a very good idea of the cost.

We have a great product and we need to know how to sell it at the local level. The need is so great, the solution practically sells itself to potential users. We also feel that the implementation process could proceed more quickly—much more quickly—if it is pushed along at a local level, rather than from the top by the County.

One of the reasons for this, is that there is no single solution for the whole county. Geographic features require solutions on a neighborhood-by-neighborhood basis.

To this end, Danby would like to together a group of interested residents, present the research, the maps, the survey results, and find a way to move things along locally. Similar groups will meet in surrounding Towns and it's possible that we will support each other's efforts: geography doesn't follow the Town boundaries, and services provided for one Town will inevitably benefit residents "across the valley".

This is a unique moment to enhance business opportunities, connect our kids to school and the world, and work from home, to name but a few of the many doors that Broadband Internet can open for all of our residents...and especially those who currently don't have the option to use this this life-altering tool.

ner—that provides Broadband. Three others—Verizon, AT&T, and Sprint—provide varying levels of sub-Broadband speeds. However, *the FCC's map is wildly inaccurate*: according to the FCC, Danby's cable provider offers 50-100Mbps, while actual measurements show it to be more like 5Mbps, and then only when the cable is not shared by other users.

Mobile wireless access in Danby is described at 1.5-3Mbps from two providers (less from the third), but this is far greater than actual speed and the coverage is far from universal...or uniform.

The Legislature's Broadband Committee determined that thousands of households in Tompkins County have no Broadband options. Danby is in the center of the greatest concentration of unserved areas, with little coverage of any kind south of Town Hall.

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SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town Supervisor

By the time you read this, August will have come and gone. Those weekends of perfect weather have passed and perhaps some new weather system will be challenging us. Now, right now, though, the sounds of the crickets are so intense. The hummingbirds so feisty during the day and, at night, the moths so numerous.

The garden presents me with the problem of, "Now what?" So much needs to be brought in and prepared for the winter. I could probably spend the next week processing...and would have to face the need for yet another week and yet perhaps another to get a handle on it all.

My fruit trees did not produce this year. That's a blessing in disguise as I do not know where I would find the time to process the fruit, but I am filling time in the woods doing wood.

Life is good. If these are my major problems, right now, at least they all give me a real sense of pleasure.

Town stuff moves along. I will be inviting you all to see our biomass boiler. Work on the containment building to house the fuel—wood chips—progressing and we hope to have that ready for our open house. It will probably happen in October. Watch for that date in next Danby News.

Town Hall work is progressing. We're trying to tighten up the building and adding blown-in insulation to make us less energy dependent.

Final agreements for our leased Solar PV (electric) arrays are being signed and the work should commence soon. Once again we are trying to cut our energy costs. Did you know that New York State has just approved additional tax credits for Solar PV installations?

On the Broadband Internet front (see separate article), we will be holding a meeting in the near future to present findings and ask for community support. A lot of effort has gone into the whys, hows, and what fors of this project and now is the time for us to take the talk to the next level: action. It will be up to residents to understand and advocate for this project.

Our Broadband effort has been based on assumption that high-speed Internet connections are going to be an increasingly important necessity for rural communities to stay in touch with the world, for work, for school, and for everyday living. I believe it will be a significant factor in keeping rural Danby a viable place to work and live for our future.

Prior to our community meeting, a steering group of representatives from Caroline, Newfield, Enfield, Lansing, Ulysses, and Groton will discuss whether communities want to work together on the effort, or proceed on their own.

It has been a wonderful summer, I hope the Fall is planning more of this wonderful weather...and just a little more rain would be OK, too.

As always, if there is an issue the Town should address, please contact me, [supervisor@town.danby.ny.us]. \$

BALD HILL PIE CONTEST & PICNIC

Submitted by Jean Rowley

Save the date! Our neighborhood picnic will be at Jennings Pond on Sunday, September 2, 4-7pm (rain location: 251 Bald Hill Road).

Mark calendars, tell your neighbors, plan your pies! 💲

Comparing Speeds of Communication Media

Connection	Max Speed (BPS) vs Typical Danby Speed	Caveats (especially in Danby)	Danby News Download (seconds)		
Dial-up	56K / 33K	noise, broken connections	170		
Mobile Wireless	1M / 100K	spotty coverage	55		
Satellite	1M / 500K	interference: trees, weather	11		
DSL	2M / 1M	generally not available; speed depends on dis- tance to "central office"	5.5		
Cable	5M / 5M	speed depends on how many other users are active, not avail- able in southern Danby	1.1		
Fiber	100M / 100M	not available!	0.055		
See accompanying article on Page 4 of Danby News					

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• DANBY AREA NEWS

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Rumor Has It

Submitted by Anne Klingensmith and Kelly Morris

Rumor has it that, by the time this month's Danby Area News is out and you are reading it, Governor Cuomo will have decided whether fracking will be allowed in NYS and whether it will be allowed everywhere or will start in only a few counties. Regardless of his decision, people all over the state will continue to act to oppose this heavily industrialized

process.

This summer Danbyites have attended street demonstrations-locally and in Washington, DC. On July 28, several of us took a bus to Washington, where we marched with 5000 other activists from all over the country. I hope we wore a groove in the very hot pavement, but have we yet captured the attention of our Congress while Oil and Gas are throwing gobs of dollar bills at it? I don't know the answer to that question.

On July 27, and again on August 11, Shaleshock organized small but energetic demonstrations against Talisman Energy and the Schlumberger industrial facility in Elmira. The Schlumberger facility was blockaded for six hours by 150 demonstrators, keeping trucks from exiting or entering. On August 17, more than 200 people walked in Watkins Glen to protest the proposed Inergy gas storage facility in a salt cavern under Seneca Lake. By the time you read this, some of us will have travelled to the State Fair for Governor's Day, and will have joined a large rally on August 27 in Albany.

Many of us in Danby have worked hard for the last few years: sending substantive comments to the DEC on the several versions of the SGEIS, writing to the Governor to tell him that we don't want to be fracked, working on the Danby petition to ban and on the ban law itself, and on our Road Use Law. While we continue to look at legislative ways to protect our families and community from fracking, we hope that getting out in the streets also demonstrates our resolve to be allowed to continue to live peacefully and safely in our town.



In Tompkins County and nearby, besides the bans already in place in Ithaca, Dryden, Ulysses and Danby, there are groups working towards moratoria or bans in Caroline, Newfield, Enfield, and Spencer.

Do you want to join us as we continue to oppose fracking in Danby or anywhere else? Come to a Gas

> Drilling Task Force meeting or get in touch with me, [aek@twcny.rr.com] to be added to an action Email list.

> Want to do something else? Call the Governor, 518.474.8390 and simply tell him that you oppose fracking in our state. Or, as a landowner opposed to fracking, register your land with REALNYS [realnys.com/]. As of August 20, 2500 landowners

have registered 50,023 acres they don't want fracked. \$

WIND TOWERS IN DANBY Submitted by Dan Klein

There will be a meeting for anyone interested in giving input to Danby's wind tower legislation.

Currently Danby has no wind tower legislation. We will look at other Town's ordinances and see what might be right for Danby. We will be looking to promote wind power in Danby while also protecting the rights of neighbors.

The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 13, at 7pm in the Danby Town Hall. You are welcome to

drop-in but, if you let me know in advance that you are interested, I will make sure you get any relevant material before the meeting; 607.272.7582 or [danbydan@hotmail.com]. \$

DOTSON PARK NEWS

Submitted by the Danby Community Park Association

There has been a lot of activity in Danby's own Arch and Esther Dotson Park this year, and we want to be sure that you are up-to-date on what is happening.

The Danby Community Park Association (DCPA) had

its Annual Meeting on June 23. During the annual meeting, departing board members Steve Barber and Donna Brock were recognized and thanked for their dedication to Dotson Park! The DCPA's Board of Directors currently includes Julie Clougherty, President; Kenny Makosch, Vice President; and Tom Janda, Secretary/Treasurer.

Highlights of the 2011-12 activities in Dotson Park were shared, including:

- Dotson Park consists of a 92-acre parcel of woods, meadows, and wetlands.
- There is a conservation easement in place to protect the park.
- A New York State grant for park development has not gone to contract yet - it is a complex matching grant that requires a substantial volunteer effort to organize and administer.
- A one-mile marked trail loop has been established and is being used.
- A table and benches for picnics have been installed under the hypar-shaped roof of the pavilion in the Park.
- Danby youth programs and Primitive Pursuits utilize the park.
- The 9-hole disc golf course is seeing significant play. Over 300 people from various areas/states have signed the logbook! The course design, installation, and upkeep are all donated, and the baskets are loaners.

Many other new projects that will be the focus for the DCPA in the near future, including:

- Enhancing the trail system.
- Making the Disc Golf course permanent, adding signage, etc.
- Developing a multipurpose ball field.
- Creating a large pavilion for music/farmers' market/ BBQ, etc.
- Building a natural and/or recycled playground.

In order to do all of this, lots of volunteers are needed! If you are interested in supporting this community park, please consider one of the following roles:

- Join the DCPA Board! Meetings are at 7pm on the third Thursday of each month, in the Danby Town Hall. The next meeting is on September 20.
- Be a trailblazer! Monthly work parties to maintain trails and build new ones. Come to the park on the last Saturday of each month, 10am-2pm. with gloves on. Walk the trails until you find the work party!

• Sign up to take the lead on a new project, such as developing the playground or the large pavilion. Have gardening skills? Become the up-keeper of the park entryway.

• Looking for an inside job? DCPA needs a person to help with grant administration and/or grant writing.

• Have an idea for an event? Be the event coordinator. There's room for lots of creativity here!

Dotson Park is currently funded by donations. The costs to maintain the park (insurance, gas to mow the grounds, etc.) are manageable if DCPA receives

just \$100 a month from donors. If the park gets more funding, more great things can be done with the space! If you would like to make a donation to Dotson Park, you can send a check to Danby Community Park Association, c/o LAP, Inc., 309 Third Street, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Now, you can contribute online! At [paypal.com], under "Transfer", click "Send Someone Money...", specify [dotsonpark@gmail.com] and enter the amount you wish to donate as a gift. This site is secure and all donations are tax deductible.

If you would like to keep up with the latest happenings at Dotson Park, please join our group on Facebook. We look forward to hearing from you, or seeing you at the park! Be on the lookout for some delicious surprises in the park soon.... \ddagger

Big Tree, continued from front page C

tional questions, you may also contact Tom Gavin at [tag1@cornel1.edu].

The Danby CAC hopes that this program will stimulate greater interest in the natural habitats of our town, and get residents outside to enjoy it. Please observe all "No Trespassing" signs as you explore our town. And who knows, maybe Danby will have a tree large enough to be the New York State champion.



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FUN DAY FIGURES AND THANKS Submitted by Marrell Cortright

As you may know, funds raised during this year's Danby Fun Day celebration were donated to Fire Chief John Gaden, toward his care and recovery. We were able to give John a total of \$7,677.50!

We couldn't have done it without the help of everyone in the community. There were so many people who donated money, items, volunteered to work, and attended to support the function. This was a really successful community event.

A huge thank-you to Gay Huddle for helping us get the word out that this had become a fund raiser for the Fire

Chief. We also need to thank "Eagle Print" of Trumansburg, where Chief Gaden works. They not only printed all the posters for the event at no cost, they donated the iPad that was raffled off and they came and worked at the event.

There were so many people and businesses that donated items and or money, and so many people that volunteered to work—that ended up being the biggest part of why we were so successful. The members of Danby and West Danby Fire companies worked very hard behind the scenes to make this happen for Danby's Chief. The community came together to help one of its own in a time of need and everyone should be proud of the caring community that we live in.

Photos, starting at top left: The Crowd Awaits the Parade; The Danby Federated Church float; Larry Chace's Electric Tractor pulls the Land Bank float; Ben Hogben leads the Tractor Parade. Photos by Ted Crane





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DANBY SPINNERS MEET AGAIN Submitted by Kathy Halton

The Danby Spinners group took the summer off, but will have a meeting on Sunday, September 16, 4-6pm, at my home, 2505 Danby Road (96B). We can decide at that time when and where we want to meet in the future.

Bring a small dish-to-pass. We also welcome knitters! All are welcome. Contact me for directions, [khalton@twcny.rr.com] or 607.273.0533. \$



DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

The next meeting of the Danby Seniors will be at 6pm on Thursday, September 6 for a dish to share dinner. All seniors, 55 and over, are invited to attend and join.

Our August "mail boat" tour on Skaneateles Lake was great fun and we enjoyed a good lunch afterward at the Sherwood Inn! Thanks to Ted and Connie for planning the day!

A trip to the Merry-Go-Round theater on October 15 to see *Nunsense* with a meal following at the Springside Inn has just been set by Ted. We can sign up at the September meeting.

4TH ANNUAL WEST DANBY FALL CRAFT SHOW Submitted by Marrell Cortright

Live music! The pickers will be playing! Coffee, donuts, cider, and chicken BBQ will be for sale in the kitchen. The show will happen on Saturday, October 13, 10am-2pm, with live music from 11am-1pm.

Vendors and crafters, setup begins at 8am. The fee for one spot is \$10, with a table and 2 chairs provided. And you can buy advance sale tickets (when you arrive) to reserve a chicken BBQ dinner! Table space

is limited and will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. If you have participated before, you can Email me back that you're coming and then just send your payment. Please, no flea market or resale items, hand made items only.

Proceeds benefit the West Danby Fire Company. The Fire Company will be holding its annual chicken barbecue. The kitchen will be open, selling chicken dinners or halves and drinks, throughout the day.

Any questions? Please don't hesitate to contact me, [marrell1@aol.com], [flywestprims@aol.com], or 607.564.0020.

At the DFC...

All of these events are happening at the Danby Federated Church, 1859 Danby Road For more in

Road. For more info, 602 [office@danbyfederatedchurch.org].

607.272.1687 or

Steak Dinner, Friday, September 7, 5:30 & 6:30pm Two seatings at 5:30pm and 6:30pm with carry out available. Menu: Charcoal Grilled NY Strip Steak, Salad, Green Beans, Baked Potato, Beverage, and Brownie Sundae. \$12, reservations appreciated.

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WHO IS BOB THE LETTERMAN? Submitted by Robert Chase

He has been a fixture at Danby Fun Days for a decade. He has probably lettered up 300 "boards" for youngsters when sheltered in the tent alongside other features intended for younger Danbyites.

The multicolored boards are leftover inventory from the Frame Shop, or Mike's Mastercraft endeavor on West State Street. Board colors are mixed among many different shapes and size varieties. Lettering colors are drawn from a Letterbox—felt pens, brush tempuras, colorful pastels, colored and charcoal pencils.

A youngster's introduction involves telling Bob about his/her school, grade, family, age, and spelling of a first name. But once a lad inquired of Bob, "Don't you want all my four names?"

Bob invites a most favored lettering style for application on the board. Generally there are three options, but once a lassie inquired of Bob, "Which font?"

Spelling could be a challenge, but there are often family nearby, observers who know everything, and, once, ethnicity for resolution. Bob informed an eight-year-old young lady that her name was "Sophia." She retorted loudly, "No, our family is Italian!" She went further, explaining to Bob, "Young man, the next time you visit eastern Europe, you

will learn that when travelling westward, it is Sophia. But, when eastward travelling, it is spelled "Sofia!"

Several years ago Josh informed Bob that his name was

"Josh". Bob suggested spelling it "JOSH". The spelling possibilities went around and around several times until Josh told Bob the Letterman that there is a difference betwixt 0 and O. Bob inquired of the difference, and Josh retorted, "An o is fatter!"

Brush lettering has the greatest range of graphic expression. At PreK and K levels students learn all capital and "box" lettering. Lower cases comes into view in 1st or 2^n d grades. Script or cursive may be introduced in 3rd grade. And Bob will show fancy script to various grades. It seems to Bob the 3^{rd} or 4^{th} grade girls select the fancy style while the boys prefer the more formal styles. Then there is "Diploma Style". Bob implores you not see this until your "certificate" at 6^{th} or 12^{th} grade commencement!

DCC OFFERS YOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS

Submitted by Julie Clougherty, Danby Community Council

It's not too late to apply for some help paying for youth programs for your child or children. The Danby Community Council Scholarship program encourages you to apply for up to \$100 per child, per year, to defray costs of many types of youth development activities.

Priority is given to those who qualify for free or reduced school lunches (info available from ICSD Child Nutrition Program, 607.274.2302). For more information or to apply, please contact me at [janderty@yahoo.com], or 272-7189. Thanks!

[see DCC Scolarship applicaton on next page!]

DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY Submitted by Patti Meyers

Since 2002, the Tompkins County Public Library has been hosting a *Community Read* in conjunction with Cornell. This year's selection is Romain Gary's *The Life Before Us*, the story of an illiterate Arab boy and the former prostitute who raises him in the immigrant slums of Paris. We will have copies available at the Danby Community Library by the end of August.

Community Library hours are Wednesdays, 1:30-3:30pm, and Satur- days, 10am-

Noon. Self-checkout is available any time the Town Hall is open. Please fill out cards carefully and accurately according to the directions provided. We can be reached at 607.277.4200 or [library@town.danby.ny.us].



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Bob always collects spare change, an occasional dollar, and, only once, a \$20 bill, for contribution every Fun Day to the Fire Department. He reflects on the learning taught every year by the Danby Fun Day youngsters to an elderly volunteer, Bob the Letterman.



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Community Council Youth Programs Fall 2012

We had a great summer, exploring Jennings Pond and the Danby Town Park, painting signs, helping at the Danby Fun Day, playing games, and exploring different



Exploring Jennings Pond, thank you Life Guards! Photo by Julie Kulik

607.272.2292.X222.

parts of Cayuga Lake by boat and van.

The Fall program schedule was not completed in time for this Danby News publication, but will include more in-school Lunch

Bunch gatherings at South Hill Elementary School and Boynton Middle School for Danby Youth, and more outdoor after-school programming! Please check [ccetompkins.org/4h/rural-youth-services/danby] or contact Julie Kulik directly, [jnk54@cornell.edu] or <image><image>

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

Danby Community Council Scholarship Application

The Danby Community Council provides scholarships to youth who are Danby residents and need financial support to attend special camps/programs (sports, computer, art, dance, music, etc.). Funds are limited, so please apply quickly.

Youth's Name		Date of Birth
Parent/Guardian's Name		Telephone
Address		Email
Name of camp/program	Program Dates:	Please send the application, with proof of enrollment in
Address of camp/program		program and (if applicable) payment of deposit, to:
Camp/Program Contact Info:	Total Cost:	— Danby Community Council
Is the youth currently eligible for a free or reduced cost lunch program?		c/o Julie Clougherty — 163 Yaple Road
I verify that the information provided on this application is accurate.		Ithaca, NY 14850
Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date	Questions? Call 272.7189 or Email [janderty@yahoo.com]

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



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Postal Patron

Danby Area News: Event Calendar

Aug 25 • Sat	Aug	25	•	Sat
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10am-2pm 👜 Danby Community Park • Work Day Noon 🗃 Hatch Pavilion, Brown & Short Roads West Danby Picnic, Music by Mutsu

Aug 29 • Wed

6:30pm 🙀 Danby Federated Church Sundaes on Wednesday; Music

Sep 2 • Sun 4-7pm 🙀 Jennings Pond

Bald Hill Pie Contest and Picnic

Sep 5 • Wed

6:30pm 🙀 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting Sep 6 • Thu

6pm 🙀 Danby Federated Church • Seniors Meeting 7pm 🙀 Town Hall • Community Council Meeting

Sep 7 • Fri

Danby Federated Church • Steak Dinner

- Sep 10 Mon
 - 7pm 👜 Town Hall Town Board Meeting 7pm 👜 Danby Fire Hall • Fire Department Meeting
- Sep 11 Tue

7pm 🕰 West Danby Fire Hall • Fire District Meeting Sep 13 • Thu

Noon-9pm 🙀 Danby and West Danby Fire Hall State Senate Republican Primary Elections

- Sep 16 Sun
- 4-6pm 🕰 2505 Danby Road Danby Spinners Meeting Sep 17 • Mon
 - 7pm 🙀 Town Hall Town Board Meeting
- Sep 18 Tue

7pm 🙀 West Danby Fire Hall • Fire District Meeting Sep 20 • Thu

3-7pm Danby Federated Church • Food Pantry 7pm Town Hall • Park Association Meeting

Sep 24 • Mon 1-2pm 🖨 Danby Federated Church • Mobile Food Truck 7:30pm 🖨 Town Hall • Conservation Adv Council Mtg Sep 27 • Thu 7pm 🕰 Town Hall • Planning Board Meeting Sep 29 • Sat 10am-2pm 🔁 Danby Community Park • Work Day Oct 3 • Wed 6:30pm 🙀 Town Hall • Library Volunteers Meeting Oct 4 • Thu 6pm 🙀 Danby Federated Church • Seniors Meeting 7pm 🙀 Town Hall • Community Council Meeting Oct 13 • Sat 10am-2pm 🙀 West Danby Fire Hall 4th Annual West Danby Craft Show and Chicken BBQ Jul 13, 2013 • 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! West Danby Volunteer Fire Company 🕰 WD Fire Hall 2nd Monday, 7pm. 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