



# DANBY AREA NEWS

## DCC CONCERT: OBOE RECITAL

Submitted by Bob Strichartz

Emily DiAngelo, oboe, and Andrew Zhou, piano, will present a free recital on Sunday, June 12, 3pm, in Danby's Town Hall. They will perform music by Poulenc, Britten, Persichetti and others; music you probably have not heard before, but delightful nevertheless. It's all part of the Danby Community Council's Concert Series.

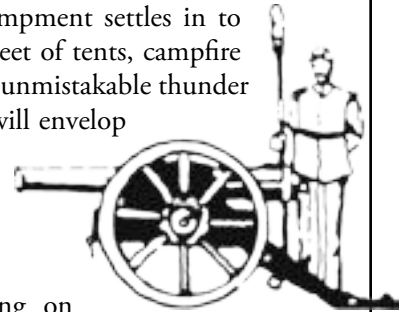
Emily performs locally with the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra, Rochester Chamber Orchestra, and Tri-Cities opera. She teaches oboe at both Cornell University and Ithaca College. She is a candidate for the Doctor of Musical Arts at Manhattan School of Music. She has also performed with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the West Point Army Band, and other groups.

This concert is made possible with grant support by New York State Council on the Arts, administered by the **COMMUNITY ARTS PARTNERSHIP**, and by the Town of Danby.

## CIVIL WAR IN DANBY

Submitted by Alison Christie, Community Council

Step back in time on Saturday and Sunday, June 25 and 26, when a Civil War Encampment settles in to Dotson Park. A company street of tents, campfire smoke, period attire, and the unmistakable thunder of musket and cannon fire, will envelop you in the sights, the sounds, and the smells of the America's Civil War. It will transport you back 150 years.



The soldiers will be sleeping on straw in their tents and cooking Civil War fare over campfires. Musket tripods will adorn the fields. The clamor of black powder fired from musket and cannon will mark the hours.

Danby resident and Danby Community Council member Danny Wheeler is the maestro of this amazing living history event, giving our community a first-hand look at the daily life of the soldiers during the Civil War.

## WEST DANBY YARD SALE

Submitted by Peter Fraissinet, West Danby Community Association

West Danby is coordinating with Spencer and Van Etten for a community-wide yard sale day on June 11.

We took a breather last year to let the "stuff" accumulate, and promised to resume the sale day event in 2016. Well, here we are, with (hopefully) piles of treasures that need new homes, and a long stream of shoppers who might want it. It's a beautiful thing.

—cont'd on page 9 ➔

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Danny has been involved with Civil War organizations since 1984. His mother and grandmother were members of the Women's Relief Corps and Danny follows the footsteps of his great great grandfather, Jerome B. Kelley, a private in the 45<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

Danny first joined the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) in 1984. In 1988 he organized Sydney Camp #41 in Ithaca and has been a member of Company E, 148<sup>th</sup> New York, Sons of Veterans Reserve (SVR), the oldest SVR in New York since 1981. In 1999-2000 he served as the Commander in Chief of the SUVCW; currently he is its National Quartermaster.

The aims of these organizations are preservation and education, and Danny has been very involved in both. From the repair and

—continued on page 7 ➔

**June 2016**

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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 for photos, GIF for line graphics. PNG also works. Check with editor before sending hard-copy graphics.

Deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Materials may be accepted later if time allows. Submissions should generally 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:** Before submitting an item for the Danby News, please have a look at the *Submission Guidelines*. You can request them by Email from the editor at [danbynews@tedcrane.com] or find them at [danbyny.org/DanbyNews]. 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* at the same web location.

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 layout easier.

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

## TOWN CLERK'S DESKTOP

Submitted by Pamela Goddard, Town Clerk

### Speed Limit Changing on Comfort Road

A speed limit change for Comfort Road has been approved by the NYS Department of Transportation. Northern Comfort—from the silo at Lieb Road to the intersection with NYS Rt.96B, about 3.9 miles—is now 35MPH. Southern Comfort—the dirt end of the road, from Lieb Road to Bald Hill Road, about 1.7 miles—is now 25MPH.

New signs, posting the new speed limits, should be installed by early June. As of mid-May, the Highway Department had already acquired the signs and was started marking the sign locations. This is a good time to get into the practice of driving more slowly on Comfort Road.

Over the past six years, Danby has worked to lower speed limits on several roads. Each road is a separate effort. Most often, the process begins when a citizen circulates a petition to the residents along the road. Successful petitions

have simple wording—including solid reasons for the request—and are signed by residents representing as many of the homes and properties along the road as possible.

The petitions provide incentive for the Town Board to pass a supporting resolution and for the Highway Department to justify a formal request to the Departments of Transportation in Tompkins County and New York State. The final decision is made by the NYS DoT after a complete study and review.

The process can take a long time—as much as a year. The Comfort Road petition—which addressed only a reduced speed limit on Southern Comfort, the dirt portion of Comfort Road—was circulated in early July and presented to the Town Board on July 13, 2015. The information was reviewed, and received support from Danby's Highway Department (reduced speeds will help minimize deterioration of the dirt road). A resolution was passed by the Town Board the following week.

All of this information was then sent to the Departments of Transportation in Tompkins County and New York State. The County forwarded an approval to the State, and the Town received notice—in September—

that the DoT would consider the request. And then we waited. The NYS DoT has a months-long backlog of such requests.

In March, 2016, the Town received a Notice of Decision regarding the speed limit reduction. This notice allows the Town to begin preparations, but it cannot actually take action—installing signs—until a formal Notice of Order is received. The Notice of Order was finally delivered in May.

When the NYS DoT studied Comfort Road, it went beyond the Town's request. Based on the road and traffic conditions—safety concerns—it extended a speed limit to the entire road.

Sometimes, the Town's requests are not granted. Several years ago, the Town forwarded a request based on a neighborhood petition by residents of Yapple Road and nearby Comfort Road. At that time, the NYS DoT reviewed road usage and determined that Yapple needed a lower limit, but the nearby section of Comfort Road did not.

Just a few years later, the NYS Department of Transportation opted to re-study the usage of Comfort Road. This time around, the State DoT chose to add the entire length of Comfort into its study and determined that a lower limit was appropriate. Lesson learned: if a speed limit reduction is denied, a subsequent request may be approved if conditions have changed (additional traffic loads due to any kind of development, schools, or even pedestrian use).

Please be aware of, and considerate of, walkers, joggers, cyclists, and other pedestrian traffic on all roads in the Town of Danby. If you're passing a farm, watch out for the occasional roaming animal.

In order to be as accessible as possible, the Town Clerk's office is open 10am-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Saturday hours are dropped for the summer. If there is a need outside of office hours, Sue McLellan or I can be available by appointment. As always, we are closed on Sundays and Thursdays. And yes, there's still chocolate in the bowl on the counter.

Questions? You can contact me at 607.277.4788 or [[townclerk@townofdanbyny.org](mailto:townclerk@townofdanbyny.org)].



## COUNTY LEGISLATURE UPDATE

Submitted by Dan Klein, County Legislator

Recent polls show that large numbers of Americans have lost confidence in government. However, a closer look at these polls shows that Americans have far more confidence in their local governments than they do in their state or national government. I am glad to see that result because I find our Town and County governments filled mostly with smart, dedicated people who are responsive to citizens' concerns. You can call them on the phone. They usually don't mind if you ask them a question when you see them in the supermarket.

I think one of the reasons people have lost confidence in government at the state and national levels is corruption. It is well reported how 30 members of the NY State Legislature have been convicted or have had to resign for ethics violations during the past fifteen years.



In contrast, as far as I am aware, no elected official in Tompkins County has ever been convicted of a crime related to their office. I know two people who have been involved in local politics for more than 50 years, and neither of them could come up with a single instance of a corrupt elected official in Tompkins County. Maybe that is related to why people still have confidence in their local government.

The Tompkins County Legislature passed a resolution in May, calling on Albany to enact comprehensive ethics reform for the NY State Legislature. Basically, we are calling on Albany to establish an independent redistricting process, to limit outside income of state legislators, to mandate the disclosure of donors, etc.

There are at least eleven specific reforms we are calling for. I don't necessarily agree 100 percent with every single detail, but I voted for this resolution because I think ethics reform is a major ingredient necessary for restoring confidence in government. We can disagree with our elected officials about policies but, without honesty, integrity, transparency, ethical behavior, and accountability, we are not being truly represented by an authentic government.

You can find a copy of our resolution on the Tompkins County web site or by contacting me, [danbydan@hotmail.com] or 607.272.7582. ❀

## DANBY FUN DAY 2016

### SAVE THE DATE—SATURDAY JULY 9

Submitted by George Jakubson

Once again, the Danby Volunteer Fire Company is hosting Danby Fun Day. Food, games, music, vendors, and much, much, more. We will start with a parade in the morning and then the event moves to the Danby Fire Station at 1780 Danby Road.

We need you to help us make this the best Fun Day ever. Lots of hands make for light work. If you are interested in helping out, here are the people to contact:

Parade	Virginia Freedman	vmf1950@aol.com
Vendors	Linda Hansen	hansenzoo1@aol.com
Auction	Sharon Gaden	sgaden@danbyfiredistrict.org
General Help	George Jakubson	george.jakubson@cornell.edu

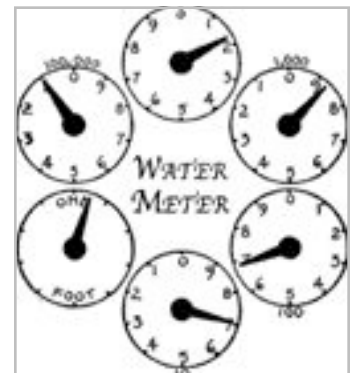
Do you have (or can you donate) items for the auction? New? Gently Used? Gift Cards? Do you have surplus glass/plasticware for the dime toss? Watch for next month's Danby News for all the exciting details! ❀

## WEST DANBY WATER DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Tod Sukontarak, Water Commissioner

We did not complete flushing of the entire water system distribution lines on May 11. It took too long to flush the hydrant at the south end of the highway, so the Hillview and Patchen Court sections were not completed.

I will communicate with those residents individually to coordinate a time for flushing that end of the system. ❀



## SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town of Danby Supervisor

The toads and peepers are making beautiful noise, I think the bullfrogs got eaten by the Heron.

I will have to say that I do enjoy my new place in the calendar of spring. Every toad in the area seems to be slipping into my pond and annoying my koi with their spring-like behavior and song. The peepers are adding their own buzz in the background.

And the doves, I do like the doves, and the robins with their territorial spats, the blackbirds with their signature sounds. It's really a wonderful evening in this second week of May. My first sighting of the hummingbirds has topped it off.

All while I have stopped and listened in my garden. Pushing the boundaries of what to plant when, this year ahead of the deadline on the 15th. I tend to try and watch the oak buds for what has been, historically, mostly, a reliable indicator of frosts. I'm so enjoying the gift of comforting times that can bless this region in the spring, and I'm thankful of the time and opportunity to enjoy it.

As I go to sleep tonight it is snowing to beat the band.

Many of you who will receive this will probably be too busy to read it, what with end-of-year school agendas, summertime schedules being finalized, social and sports events, and busy time for families.

So what is new in Town business, and what's happening in June, July, and August? The Town Highway Department is now officially on summer hours, and is planning its summer repair and maintenance schedules.

The Town Board is reviewing our proposed groundwater protection laws. We've already declared ourselves as the lead agency for SEQR on this matter. Discussions will be on our agenda in June, with a public hearing to follow.

We have awarded preferred provider status to Renovus for our Solar Power Purchase Agreement, and we've had legal review of a change to our Real Property Maintenance Law, with respect to an increase in fines.

Broadband issues and the negotiations for a county-wide Time-Warner contract are a background to the other projects we are engaged with.

We have already been working with individual homeowners about broadband installation issues, and knowing who else is having difficulties would be helpful to solve the problem, townwide.

If you would like broadband, but do not have it as yet, please contact me. We will then attempt to map unserved areas and meet with the service provider to see if there are answers and solutions.

Which brings me to the other, more traditional broadband provider in our area. Presently, I sit on a team—with the City of Ithaca and the Towns of Ithaca, Dryden—trying to negotiate a contract with cable-TV providers to enhance line extensions to places like...new areas of Danby. These efforts have been thwarted by Time-Warner being bought out, and until we get access to the new owners, or force T-W to respond to our currently outstanding, unsigned contracts, well, perhaps we should begin talking to other cable service providers. I should have more info as we get into summer.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact me at [[supervisor@townofdanbyny.org](mailto:supervisor@townofdanbyny.org)]. ❄

## BOOK CLUB READS AGAIN!

Submitted by Janice Beal

The Danby Book Club invites you to join us on Sunday, June 26, 4pm, in 1011 Fisher Settlement Road.

We will be discussing "Blink" by Malcolm Gladwell.

Refreshments will be served. We'd love to have some new members, so come on over! If you have questions, please call me at 607.589.6924. ❄

## Town Office Info

**Town Clerk** • [[townclerk@townofdanbyny.org](mailto:townclerk@townofdanbyny.org)]

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm; *Saturdays by appointment*

**Highway Department** • [[highway@townofdanbyny.org](mailto:highway@townofdanbyny.org)]

93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169

Mon-Thu, 6am-4:30pm

**Code Enforcement Office** • [[code@townofdanbyny.org](mailto:code@townofdanbyny.org)]

Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Wed, 9am-5pm; Thu, 12:30-5:30pm

**Town Court** • [[courtclerk@townofdanbyny.org](mailto:courtclerk@townofdanbyny.org)]

Phone: 277.0095 • Fax: 277.0031 • Tue, 7pm

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

## FIRE CHEFS, PART 1

Submitted by Ed Kokkelenberg, Fire Commissioner

Under State law, the Chief has exclusive control of the members of the fire department at all fires, inspections, reviews, and other occasions when the fire department is on duty. The Chief also has responsibility for all of the apparatus (engines, etc.), other equipment, and communications gear. The Chief reports to the Fire Commissioners.

The Danby Fire District has two fire Companies, one in Danby and the other in West Danby. Both have volunteer Chiefs elected by the firefighters. This story covers West Danby's Chief, Scott Wendt.

Scott Wendt is the Fire Chief in West Danby. He has been a member of the West Danby Fire and Rescue Company [[facebook.com/westdanbyfire](https://www.facebook.com/westdanbyfire)] for 21 years and has been the Fire Chief for approximately 12 years.

Scott trained as a firefighter by taking three programs: the essentials of firefighting, intermediate firefighter, and advanced firefighter. In addition, he has taken other relevant firefighter courses. Each course covers a number of things. For example, the 'essentials' program covers basic rescue, command systems, Wildland fires, structure inspection, first aid, CPR and a physical ability test.

To qualify for Fire Chief, Scott continued with two levels of fire officer courses as well as hazmat command training. He takes at least one further class each year, all related to what our departments do.

Leadership ability is an essential skill in a fire chief. Building an experienced and loyal team of volunteers that includes all the skills a fire company needs is a challenge. A chief needs to be involved or join in on many activities including training and work on the fire ground—especially in a small all volunteer fire company. He or she also needs to see the big picture, and the nuances of the work he or she is asking of the de-

partment. Understanding logistics and resource management is important, but a good fire chief must also know how to lay hose and handle an axe.

Scott is in command of 15 people, including several assistant chiefs, who respond to 70-80 calls a year. Many of those are mutual aid to Danby as well as neighboring departments like Newfield and Spencer.

In 2015, West Danby had 50 fire calls, more than half of them for mutual aid to Danby, and 23 Rescue / EMT calls. They calculated they worked on these calls for a total of 353.7 man hours—a relatively light load compared to 1236 man hours in 2014.

Scott joined the volunteer fire service because he had an interest in the department and had several friends who already belonged. His most rewarding moment was when someone who was involved in an ATV accident returned to say thank you for Scott's and the department's help. She remembered the ride in the back of his truck to the helicopter. After breaking her femur she healed well and had no real scar or no lasting complications from her injuries. We are glad she has recovered so well.

Chief Scott Wendt is always looking for firefighters. Finding and training more Emergency Medical Technicians is currently the most important need. However, anyone is welcome to help, at breakfast, bringing refreshments to calls, or just driving trucks.

If someone is thinking about joining, Scott tells them that he can find something for them depending on what they want to do. While there is some work involved, especially at first, the reward of helping someone in their time of need and having a good outcome is a huge satisfaction and a reason for the pride in what they do!

Scott's son Shawn isn't officially a member yet but volunteers a lot of his time. He is planning on joining the department as a junior member next year when he turns 16.

### Typical Responsibilities Of Fire Chiefs Include...

- Plan, direct, and supervise the activities of the fire company as specified by law.
- Recruit new members.
- Establish and implement Operational Guidelines based on government regulations.
- Have training programs developed and implemented to improve the skill of all in fire fighting and rescue procedures.
- Ensure adequate records are kept of all maintenance and training.
- Prepare and submit an annual budget request.
- Ensure that all government policies are followed.
- Maintain an effective working relationship with other Town and County departments.
- Deal with inquiries and complaints regarding fire department activities or responsibilities.
- Liaise with representatives of neighboring fire departments to ensure adequate mutual aid agreements.
- Participate in the local and regional emergency planning process.
- Participate in Fire Chiefs' meetings at the county level.



➔ **Civil War in Danby, cont'd from front page—**

restoration of Danby's own Civil War Memorial—in front of our Town Hall—to DeWitt Park and memorials all over the county, Danny is the unofficial steward of these important historical relics, harnessing his network of community-minded brethren to quietly, inexpensively, and professionally ensure these memorials endure.

The life and times of the ordinary soldier is his passion. Danny has toured the county's schools offering programs that share the wealth of knowledge he has acquired over decades of passionate participation in encampments and in the study of the Civil War. Just this spring, Danny has been a featured guest for a 3-month long program presented by Danby's Youth Program, *Back to the Future*. Led by Program Manager Travis Judd, local youth have visited Harriet Tubman House and the county's memorials. The program will culminate with the living history encampment in June.

The encampment will be open to the public. You'll have the opportunity to observe the period dress of soldiers, cooks, chaplains, cavalrymen, and women. You can examine a variety of muskets and medals and learn what a gum blanket is—and which well-known company got its start making them. You'll get to sample a simple bean soup, provided by Betty Wheeler, Danny's wife and a member of the Auxiliary to the SUVCW. Bite down on some hard tack if you dare.

Danny's extensive Civil War library includes a gem titled *Hard Tack and Coffee* from which he shared that the original 2x2-inch squares were baked in the basement of the White House during the War and shipped to soldiers in the field.

Danny's call has mustered up a marvelous crew of participants including members of the 148<sup>th</sup> Company E Volunteer Infantry, Sydney Camp 41 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry (unmounted), and the Auxiliary to the SUVCW. The newly formed Finger Lakes Drum Corps will be on hand and *Uncle Joe and the Rosebud Ramblers* will play their extended repertoire of Civil War time favorites.

The event is a well-supported community affair. The Danby Community Park Association has graciously al-

lowed the use of Dotson Park for this two-day extravaganza. Pastor Ed Edstine and the Danby Community Church will host a breakfast Saturday morning and a service Sunday morning. Saturday's breakfast will fea-



ture eggs, pancakes, sausages, bacon, and grits—all available for a free will donation. Look for a contribution from Danby youth as well. The event is free and open to the public. It is organized by the Danby Community Council and supported by funds from the Town of Danby and United Way of Tompkins County.

If you haven't participated in an encampment before you may wonder what you are in for. Living history events incorporate historical tools, activities and dress into an interactive presentation that seeks to give observers and participants a sense of stepping back in time. As Danny puts it, "If a plane passes overhead, we don't see it or hear it." So, make sure to silence those cell phones as you step onto the field and into 1860 America. ❁

## DANBY CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT EVENTS IN DOTSON PARK

*Cannon and Musket fire and drills will be performed throughout each day. Talks by the Daughters of the Civil War and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War are ongoing as well.*

### Saturday

- 7:30-10am Breakfast at Danby Community Church  
Eggs, sausage, bacon, pancakes, coffee, juice, grits. Freewill donation.
- 10am Encampment opens
- 1pm Service at Grand Army of the Republic Memorial (Danby Town Hall)  
Taps and Gun Salute  
Finger Lakes Fife & Drum
- 3pm Talk: Life & Times of the Civil War Soldier
- 4pm Music: Uncle Joe & the Rosebud Ramblers
- 10am Encampment closes

### Sunday

- 10am Encampment opens
  - 10am Church Service (Danby Community Church)
  - 1pm Talk: Life & Times of the Civil War Soldier
  - 6pm Encampment closes
- Free and open to the public.**

## DANBY'S SUSTAINABILITY LEADERS

Submitted by Ted Crane

Every year, the Sustainable Tompkins presents "Signs of Sustainability" awards for sustainability leadership by organizations, businesses, individuals, and youth. In recent years, we've seen one such award come to the Danby area for the "Green Homes Tour" in 2012.

This year, Danby-ites received two of these awards!

The *Danby Community Council* received an award for sustainability leadership by an organization. The Community Council has an active and growing program of concerts, informative talks and activities, and community-building activities. It also manages Danby's Youth Development program and publishes the Danby News.

Upcoming activities include an oboe recital on June 12, a Breeding Bird Count during the week leading up to June 18, a Civil War Encampment with Living History on June 25-26, and a series of Naturalist events during the summer. It's looking forward to the 4th Annual Harvest Festival next October!

If you'd like to get involved with the DCC or if you have a great idea for a program or activity, come to one of its meetings (typically, first Thursday, 7pm, in Town Hall) or contact [[president@danbycc.org](mailto:president@danbycc.org)].

*Tompkins County Country Dances* was another award winner. TCCD presents dance and concert events in the Great Room of Slow Lane, on Southern Comfort Road in Danby. There's an almost-weekly contra dance (which includes squares and couple dancing), an occasional Scandinavian dance event, and even the rare Franco-Bal dance afternoon.

In the last few summers, TCCD has offered the Danby Barn Dance specifically for the Danby community. All the dances are taught and beginners are welcome.

Concerts have included traditional and folk performers from John Roberts to Brother Sun. Most recently, TCCD hosted a benefit concert for the Compassion Harp program, featuring Tenzin Chopak and Nicholas Walker.

For more information about TCCD dances and concerts, contact me at 607.273.8678 or [[tccd-danby@tedcrane.com](mailto:tccd-danby@tedcrane.com)]. ❧

## EVENTS 'ROUND TOWN

*This column appears monthly, featuring brief descriptions of events—current and upcoming months—around Danby. If you have a non-profit event that the general public is invited to...send a notice to the Danby News!*

### Community Council Events

*Oboe Recital:* Sunday, June 12, 3pm, Danby Town Hall. Refreshments. Free.

*Breeding Bird Survey:* June 11-18. See article.

*Civil War Encampment:* June 25-26. See article

### At the DFC

**Danby Federated Church, 1858 Danby Road**

*Civil War Breakfast:* Saturday, June 25, 7:30-10am. See article.

*Senior Citizens' Exercise Group:* Mondays and Thursdays at 9am. A little stretching, a little walking, a little work with hand weights, and a lot of friends and laughter.

### The Great Room at Slow Lane

*Contra Dancing:* Fridays, 8pm. Info: 607.273.8678. ❧

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## NEW ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY COORDINATOR IN WEST DANBY

Submitted Peter Fraissinet, outgoing Adopt-a-Highway coordinator

A big thank-you to Cory Baclawski of West Danby! He's taken the helm in the local Adopt-a-Highway effort along NYS Rt.34/96, that two mile stretch from Station Road to Brown Road that looks so pristine right now.

The West Danby Community Association has been gathering volunteers for these cleanups for about 20 years, and we're pleased to have Cory as the new coordinator.

And it shouldn't go without saying (so we'll say it): *Thanks* to all the volunteers, who are literally in the trenches to keep West Danby beautiful! Dedicated folks, you know who you are...

PS: If you want to get on the roster as a future volunteer (and this doesn't commit you to any particular cleanup, by the way), Cory will be happy to add you. Contact him at [[cory.baclawski@gmail.com](mailto:cory.baclawski@gmail.com)] or 607.564.7048 ❧





# DANBY BREEDING BIRD SURVEY

Submitted by Bill Evans, Community Council

According to census estimates, there are currently about 3500 people living in Danby, and a recent (2011) fishing, hunting, and wildlife-associated recreation survey by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service calculated that 20 percent of Americans age 16 and older are bird watchers.

To be counted as a birder in the survey, an individual must have taken a trip one mile or more from home for the primary purpose of observing birds and/or closely observed or tried to identify birds around the home. So, people who happened to notice birds while they were mowing the lawn or walking their dog were not counted as birders. Estimating that roughly 75 percent of the population of Danby is over the age of 16, then according to the FWS statistics there should be about 500 bird watchers living in Danby.

Last year, to serve this robust contingent, a group of us compiled a list of the breeding birds of Danby based on our collective experience. That preliminary list along with estimated species abundance can now be found at [[oldbird.org/DanbyBreedingBirds.html](http://oldbird.org/DanbyBreedingBirds.html)]. It includes 58 common species (est. >100 nesting pairs), 46 uncommon species (est. 10-100 nesting pairs), and 26 rare species (est. <10 nesting pairs), plus a few hypotheticals.

This year we invite the help of all Danby residents to participate in surveying Danby's breeding

birds during the week of June 11-18. Bird walks for all levels of expertise and a compilation brunch will be held on the following dates:



June 11: *Birding along Michigan Hollow Road*. 7:30AM-9:30am. Meet at Town Hall at 7am or find and join the group birding along the road. Easy walking, rain or shine.

June 12: *Breeding Warblers of Danby*. Meet at Town Hall at 8am. A three-hour driving and walking tour with multiple stops and moderate hiking to see and hear 15+ species of Danby's breeding warblers. Rain or shine.



June 18: *Birds of Dotson Park*. Meet at Town Hall at 9am. A 1.5 hour easy bird walk around the Park. Rain or shine.

June 18: *Breeding Bird Compilation Brunch*. The Danby Community Council

is sponsoring a lite brunch with coffee, tea, baked goods, fruit & yogurt at Town Hall, 11am on Saturday, June 18 to compile and discuss the week's birding—all are welcome!

In addition to these public bird walks, if Danby residents would like a bird survey of their property during the week, or for any other information, contact me at [[wbevans@danbycc.org](mailto:wbevans@danbycc.org)]. ❀



## ➔ W.D. Yard Sale, continued from front page

All you need to do is let me know that you're doing a sale, and give me the address of the sale and a list of a few bigger items to draw folks in. There is no charge. I'll take that info and create a map that will be available—at the four corners of West Danby and at the Spencer Shur-Save—early on the morning of the sale day.



A general notice of the sale will go in local papers and Craigslist. Signage will be the responsibility of the individual holding a sale.

Any questions, give a call, 607.255.0443 (daytime, message service) or 607.564.0030 (evenings, weekends, but no messages), or Email [[pf13@cornell.edu](mailto:pf13@cornell.edu)]. ❀

## DANBY RURAL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION MEETING

Submitted by Sharon Boda

The Danby Rural Cemetery Association meeting will be held at 9am on Saturday, June 11, 2016, in the Danby Community Church, 1859 Danby Road.

This meeting is open to the public and especially to those interested in the all-volunteer operation of this lovely space. Questions? Call 273-8241. ❀

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## JENNINGS POND NEEDS LIFEGUARDS

Submitted by Mary Ann Kozak, Pond Coordinator

Let's think ahead to summer! Jennings Pond needs lifeguards in June and July!

Our lovely neighborhood pond at the headwaters of Buttermilk Falls is a conservationist's dream. The larger part of Jennings Pond is wild with a beaver dam, Canada geese, Great Blue herons, ducks, and scenic beauty. It's also great for fishing and boating.

The smaller part of the Pond is open for swimming daily during July and August. We need lifeguards! If you're interested, please contact Amy Cusimano, [[myemail607@gmail.com](mailto:myemail607@gmail.com)], or Mary Ann Kozak, [[mkozak1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:mkozak1@twcny.rr.com)]. ❀

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## GIRL SCOUTS TO BBQ CHICKENS

Submitted by Heather Simkin

Girl Scout Troop #40956, which includes my daughter, Torianna, is hosting a Chicken BBQ on Saturday, June 18, Noon 'til sold out, at the Eagles Club behind Wegman's, 161 Cecil Malone Drive.

Dinners will include the BBQ Bird, salt potatoes, baked beans, and bread to mop up the wonderful juices. To top it off, there'll be a bake sale at the same time!

Tickets will be available to sell in advance of the event. You can contact me to purchase tickets in advance, [[hs53@cornell.edu](mailto:hs53@cornell.edu)]. Come support Girl Scout Troop #40956. ❀

## DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

The next meeting of the Danby Seniors will be on Thursday, June 2, 6pm, in the Danby Community Church for a dish to share dinner.

We thank our hosts for May: Rollie & Sharon Boda, Suzanne Walker, Sharon Siegard, and Wilma Becker. We had speakers from Lifelong, who provided much useful information and answered many questions.

Our July Chicken BBQ will be held Thursday, July 7 (our usual meeting day), 1pm, at the American Legion. Contact Margie, 607.273.8046, to sign up or for information. ❀

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## DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Patti Meyers

### What is Large Type Fiction?

It is a group of books printed in a larger typeface with easier spacing for ease in reading. It is the publishing industry's answer to the wide screen TV.

On our shelves, these books are denoted by "LT" on the spine. We have a permanent Danby collection, as well as a rotating Tompkins County Public Library collection chosen for our readers by one of our volunteers. She chooses current novels, favorite authors, and many genres including mysteries, historical fiction, and popular titles.

Large Type Fiction is easier to read in bed, on the treadmill or on the beach. Come in and check out our newest collection! ❀



## Community Council Summer Youth Programs

Hi Danby Youth and Families,

Happy (almost) summer! We have had quite a busy school year and are moving on to our summer programs. To kick things off, we will be working diligently to select, design and build games and activities for Danby Fun Day--one of Danby's biggest events of the year! Come be a part, have fun and give back to our awesome community. Check out the other great summer opportunities for incoming 6th graders below.

If you have any questions about the summer programs or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me, Travis Judd, at [ttj22@cornell.edu] or 607.272.2292.x222 Hope to see many of you this summer!

Additional program/registration information can be found below, in Danby's Town Hall, on the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County web site [[ccetompkins.org/4-h-youth/rural-youth-services](http://ccetompkins.org/4-h-youth/rural-youth-services)] and in flyers given out in schools.

Here are the programs that are up and running! These programs are free of charge for Danby Youth ages 8-14.



### Danby Community Creators - Grades 6 and up Tuesday-Friday, July 5-8, 9am-4pm

Danby Fun Day! Join us as we select, design, build and prepare activities and games for the Danby Fun Day community event! Together we can help make this day incredibly fun, put our stamp on the Danby Community and meet other Danby-ites!

### Outdoor Adventure - Grades 6 and up Monday-Wednesday, July 18-21, 9am-4pm The Danby Community Church

Venture into the woods with us! We will be learning and practicing outdoor living skills, shelter construction, fire building, Leave No Trace principals, navigation, resourcefulness skills and more!

### Funky Furniture - Grades 6 and up Monday-Thursday, 8/1-8/4, 9am-4pm The Danby Community Church

Need a new chair, shelf, table or other useful piece of furniture? Come learn how to fix and/or repurpose furniture that was a "lost cause". We will be sanding, painting, gluing, nailing, cutting, reconfiguring, embellishing and finishing our individual projects so you can take it home at the end of program. Who knows, maybe you will be the next Frank Lloyd Wright...

### Can You Canoe? - Grades 6 and up Monday-Thursday, 8/22-8/25, 9am-4pm The Danby Community Church

Come get on the water! We will be learning paddling techniques, portaging, boaters safety rules, how to safely transport and take care of our small vessels. We will have snacks and activities while on the water, all while soaking in the scenery and wildlife we encounter. Our flat water locations include the beautiful Cayuga Lake and Jennings Pond.

## YOUTH GRANTS

Submitted by Susan Franklin, DCC Youth Grant Coordinator

Do you have a child going to summer camp, or participating in another type of program during the next few months? Financial assistance is available for Danby youth up to age 21, in the form of grants of up to \$100 per youth per year.

Grants are awarded quarterly for camps, lessons, after-school programs, and more. The deadline is June 15 for programs beginning (or with payment deadlines) in July through September.

Funding is provided by the United Way and the Town of Danby. Families who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch are especially encouraged to apply.

For more information and applications please contact [[youthgrants@danbycc.org](mailto:youthgrants@danbycc.org)]. You can also find applications on the Town Hall bulletin board. ❄

Postal Patron

## DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Jun 2 • Thu  
6pm 🏠 Danby Community Church • **Seniors**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
- Jun 4 • Sat  
9am 🏠 Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- Jun 11 • Sat  
9am 🏠 Danby Community Church  
**Danby Rural Cemetery Association Meeting**  
All Day 🏠 All Along NYS Rt.34/96  
**West Danby Yard Sale**  
All Week 🏠 Various Locations  
**Danby Breeding Bird Survey**
- Jun 12 • Sun  
2pm 🏠 Town Hall  
**Community Council Concert**  
**Oboe Recital w/ Emily DiAngelo**
- Jun 13 • Mon  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall  
**Town Board Meeting**  
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall  
**Fire Dep't Meeting**  
7pm 🏠 West Danby Fire Hall  
**WD Fire Dep't Meeting**
- Jun 14 • Tue  
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
- Jun 16 • Thu  
3-6pm 🏠 Danby Comm. Church • **Food Pantry**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Planning Board Meeting**
- Jun 20 • Mon  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall  
**Town Board Meeting**
- Jun 21 • Tue  
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
- June 25/26 • Sat/Sun  
10am-6pm 🏠 Dotson Park  
**Civil War Encampment**

- Jun 25 • Sat  
7:30am 🏠 Danby Comm. Church  
**Civil War Breakfast**
- Jun 26 • Sun  
4pm 🏠 1011 Fisher Settlement Road  
**Book Club discusses "Blink"**
- June 27 • Mon  
Noon-1pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall  
**Mobile Food Truck**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall  
**Conservation Advisory Council Mtg**
- Jul 2 • Sat  
9am 🏠 Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- Jul 7 • Thu  
1pm 🏠 American Legion Post • **Seniors BBQ**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
- Jul 9, 2016 • 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!
- Seniors Strength Training Group** 🏠 Danby Community Church  
Mondays and Thursdays, 9am.
- AA Meeting** 🏠 Danby Community Church  
Wednesdays, 7pm.
- Danby Quilters Group** ☎ 607.273.2950  
Call for Info.

### 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 **Community Church** • 1859 Danby Road  
🏠 American Legion **Post 221** • 1231 Danby Road