

# DANBY AREA NEWS

## PITCHING AN ACRE

Submitted by Ted Crane

FOR YEARS, I'VE WONDERED why a square mile contains 640 acres. After all, a square mile is one mile by one mile, and you can't fit a nice round number of acres (each a square, roughly 209 feet by 209 feet) along one side of the square mile.

A radio quiz show question woke me up: It asked for length of a "pitch". No, not a curveball or sinker; this is the pitch that is the bowling area for cricket...and it's one "chain" long. That tweaked my ears because "chain" shows up in property deeds. A chain is 66 feet long.

A chain is ...*the unit of linear measurement for the survey of the public lands as prescribed by law. All returns of measurement in the rectangular system are made in the true horizontal distance in links, chains, and miles.* (Wikipedia)

For what it's worth, there are four rods (16½ feet each) or 100 links (7.92 inches each) in a chain. Once upon a time, surveyors carried real rods and chains (made of links).

Objection, your honor, what's the relevance? Well, moving right along, 10 chains is a furlong, which all racing enthusiasts know is 1/8 mile. So, 80 chains is 1 mile.

An acre is defined as 10 square chains, that is, 1 furlong by 1 chain, or 10 chains by 1 chain. And, wouldn't you know it, a square mile is 8 furlongs by 8 furlongs, or 80 chains by 80 chains. That's 6400 square chains; since 10 square chains is an acre, a square mile is...640 acres.

When your head stops spinning, you might go back to where it says that an acre is 10 square chains, not 10 chains square. An acre wasn't intended to be square (although it could be); it was intended to be measured in units of 66 feet.

In your property deed's musty history...chains!

To bring all this home to Danby, most of Danby's roads are "three rod roads." In many cases, the land under the roads is privately owned (by you and I) but the Town has a right-of-way that allows the use of a space 49.5 feet wide for public transportation purposes. And you don't pay property tax on the land under the road. ❧

## DANBY COMMUNITY DAY PRIMER

Submitted by Russ Nitchman

I'M TOO BUSY—DON'T BOTHER ME! Why should I come out to Danby Community Day on September 15?

When our family moved to Danby about eighteen years ago, our new friend told us, "You've gotta go! Its like paying taxes!" Now, my taxes are way too much, but that's another topic. But our friend was correct. The event supports our local volunteer fire company and our community. Danby is a small town and at this event we can connect with our neighbors and meet new ones. There's plenty to do, great food, and fun for all!

I'm a guy, so I like food. The chicken BBQ is superb! It is ready right around Noon and it always tastes great. There are hotdogs and ice cream as well. The bake sale offers delicious cakes and cookies.

Do you like winning "free" stuff? This is one of my personal highlights: the auction. There are nearly 100 items for adults and a slew of interesting items for children. You buy tickets and bid for items by putting one or more tickets into the container next to each item. You

can win a dinner, a night at a local hotel, one of several free spa treatments, free tickets to a Hangar theater show, a bucket of paint supplies, bag of flour, free auto services and more, more, more from local businesses. At the end of the afternoon a winning ticket is pulled from each container.

I usually buy about \$80 in tickets (I view it as a donation to the fire company; win or lose, it's going to a good cause). Almost every year we take home well

—cont'd on page 6 ➡

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**September 2018**

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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

### Harvest and Hurricane Time

**D**ANBY AND TOMPKINS COUNTY were lucky during mid-August. We were spared the flooding from heavy and constant rain that caused property and damage to the north and south of us. Life can be like that—heavy with worry and care one moment and as clear and broad as the blue sky the next moment. This is a reminder to take care of regular maintenance and to be grateful for what we have.

The heavy rain in August could also be a precursor to the potential of future flash flooding when hurricane season blows through during the Autumn. When the ground is saturated, there can be nowhere for heavy rains to go...except down the roads, under culverts and bridges, and through ditches. If there are blockage along the way, access can be cut off. As we are reminded from emergency alerts—don't drive through flowing water on road ways. The water may be deeper than you think or the road may have been washed away. Go to higher ground, especially if your home is in a flood-prone area. Act swiftly to protect your life and property.



Tompkins County is rolling out the *Swift911* emergency alert system. It can give you notice of weather and road emergencies directly via your computer, phone, or mobile device. The information can be targeted to the locations where you live and work. Consider enrolling today; to find out how, Google “Tompkins County Emergency Notification”.

### Hunting Time, Too

September means that hunting license season is upon us. Residents with lifetime licenses have been making the trip to the Clerk's desk to get permits—such as bowhunting tags—that are not mailed directly. Hunters have also been coming in for *Deer Management Permits*, which allows hunters to take additional antlerless deer during the regular hunting season. Hunters may apply for up to two DMPs, which are assigned or awarded by lottery system. Certain people, such as disabled veterans and landowners with 50 or more acres of contiguous land, receive a preference on DMPs. Deer Management Permit applications can be purchased at the Town Clerk's office through Monday October 1.

Alex Pfiefer is quickly learning this part of her way Deputy Clerk duties. Either one of us will be happy to help you with sporting license sales, dog license renewals, and handicap access parking tags. We are also available to answer questions about municipal business, to the best of our ability.

### Office News

Autumn office hours for the Town Clerk go into effect the Saturday after Labor Day. We will be now open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10am-5pm, and Saturday mornings, 10am-Noon. As always, the Town Clerks' office is closed Sunday, and Thursdays. And, thanks to resident generosity, the bowl of chocolate kisses remains full.

You can always reach us by phone, 607.277.4788 and by Email at [[townclerk@townofdanbyny.org](mailto:townclerk@townofdanbyny.org)]. ☘

## GET PUMPED!

Submitted by Tom Seaney, HeatSmart Tompkins

Everyone would agree that being warm in the winter and cool in the summer is a big part of quality of life. HeatSmart, a non-profit community organization, can help show you how to increase your comfort and take advantage of tax credits and incentives available now by changing your home's heating and cooling equipment to a heat pump system.

Would you like to know more about heat pumps and how they can heat, cool, and dehumidify your home with significant energy and cost efficiency? Come to the Danby Gathery (the former Danby Market), 1774 Danby Road, on Saturday, September 15, 10am-Noon, for a presentation by Jonathan Comstock explaining the advantages of ground source and air source heat pumps.

Afterwards, you will have a chance to meet representatives of the three installers vetted by HeatSmart: Halco, NP Environmental, and Standard Insulating Co. If you like what you hear, there will be an opportunity to schedule a free and no-obligation home energy assessment.

This is a great time to update your home's insulation and heating/cooling system—the equipment is super-efficient and the State and Federal incentives are better than ever before. Check out our website, [[solartompkins.org](http://solartompkins.org)] for more information.

We'll have coffee and donuts for you! ☘

## INCOME FROM RURAL PROPERTY

Submitted by Don Schaufler, Conservation Advisory Council

THE DANBY CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL encourages residents to maintain the rural character of the town. One approach is putting property into a Danby conservation easement to help prevent development and possibly reduce taxes.

Since many people are not ready to commit to this, the CAC is presenting a series of talks on ways to generate income from your land while still keeping it rural. These suggestions can be scaled up or down to help offset the carrying costs of owning land here in New York State.

The first presentation will be an overview by Monika Roth, a long-time, experienced agricultural specialist at Tompkins County Cornell Cooperative Extension. It will be offered Thursday, September 13, 7pm, in Danby's Town Hall. Hope to see you there. ❀

## WEST DANBY WATER DISTRICT UPDATE

Submitted by Tod Sukontarak, Water Commissioner

HUNT ENGINEERS PROVIDED the Water District with plans of its grant-funded project to help alleviate the flooding issue that exists on Station Road in West Danby.

The two culverts in the area where Station and Brown Roads intersect are scheduled for enlarging due to West Danby Creek flooding there in recent years. Originally the project was due to be completed this summer before school opened. Now, it looks like only one of the culverts will be replaced this summer. We are awaiting word from Hunt as to its updated schedule.

J.D. Ferro repaired the roof on the pump house so that we can now look at ways to better organize our inventory of supplies. Minter Construction repaired a damaged curb box riser at 2147 West Danby Road.

These were all agenda items during the Commissioner meeting held on August 8 in the conference room of the West Danby Fire Station.

Our next meeting will be October 10, 2018, 5:30pm, in the station. ❀



## UNEARTHED STUFF

Submitted by M.A. Barr, Town Historian

A FEW YEARS AGO a theater "broadside" was unearthed in Town Hall. Not the broad side of a ship or the simultaneous firing of a line of guns; it was a printed broadside, a poster announcing the performance of a play. The somewhat tattered poster was glued to a several sections of wood backing. However, it was in good enough condition to read, and it was fun to discover that it adverted a performance of the play *Little Sunshine* right here in Danby.

The cast of the play is listed on the broadside and there are recognizable names in the cast. It would be fascinating to learn the story of this theater group that performed in our town. Anyone with information is welcome to let me know.

The actual artifact is on display in Ithaca's History Center along with other historic "treasures" from Danby. The History Center's Ksenia Ionova (Community Outreach and Visitor Services) was instrumental in setting up the display and it is worth checking out. And if you have additions or corrections to the presentation, I am interested in feedback.

Danby has other historic treasures that aren't exactly display items—they are in the ground. One such treasure is the foundation and iron items found on a property off Durfee Hill Road. I wrote about it in the July issue of Danby Area News. Research has been done and, hopefully, an archaeologist will be checking out the site. It will be interesting to see what Danby history may be unearthed. Stay tuned. ❀

## Town Office Info

**Town Clerk** • [townclerk@townofdanby.ny.org]

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Mon-Tue-Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm, Saturday, 10am-Noon

**Highway Department** • [highway@townofdanby.ny.org]

93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169

Mon-Thu, 6am-4:30pm

**Code Enforcement Office** • [code@townofdanby.ny.org]

Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559

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

**Town Court** • [courtclerk@townofdanby.ny.org]

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

All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

## SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Submitted by Ric Dietrich, Town of Danby Supervisor

AS I WRITE, IT SEEMS LIKE RAIN today, rain yesterday, and rain the day before and tomorrow, too. It's wet. The roads, so far, are in good shape and we have dodged the bullet that some communities are grappling with this third week in August.

The question of whether we should put the question—converting the Highway Superintendent's position from an elected one to an appointment by the Town Board—on the ballot for a permissive referendum this Fall came up during the August 20 meeting of the Town Board. The Board believes that the pool of qualified applicants will be larger if it is not restricted to residents of the Town. Ultimately, while the Board must pass a Law to make the change, Danby's residents will be asked to make the decision on this issue.

In other news we are installing a charging station for EV-enabled vehicles and a park and ride bus station across from Town Hall. At the Highway Department, we're adding a new wash bay (enclosed in a new building) plus heat pumps and new insulated garage doors.

The budget process is being moved up a month for staff and board chairs to have more time to address issues in their own budgets. Our finances are good with solid reserves, so some of our new projects will be funded with cash.

In addition to the items mentioned above, the Town Hall renovations are back on the drawing board. Phase 1 of this project will be finished this fall with installation of the charging station. Phase 2, the redesign of front entrance, planters, and a code approved handi-capped ramp, will come later.

You have all seen the issue of the York State lifting the license for Spectrum to operate in New York, an ongoing process that will get resolved somewhere. Danby, with large parts of the Town unserved by Spectrum, could well be a poster child for the problems the State is trying to address. We're not sure what the next moves will be in this game, but we are still engaged in the process.

The Town is also reviewing its forest management laws, regulations, and best practices. This review covers both Highway and land use changes. We're still waiting for the Gunderman Road engineering report in order to make a decision on repairs or committing to a new bridge. Much of our bridge and culvert work is being driven by grants to cover costs.

Enjoy what's left of summer! If you have any questions or concerns, contact me at [\[supervisor@townofdanbyny.org\]](mailto:supervisor@townofdanbyny.org). ☘

## 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

*Mushroom Walk:* weekend of October 6/7. See October Danby News.

*6<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Festival:* Sunday, October 14 in Dotson Park. Music, walks, Pumpkin Chunkin', Spud Launcher, things for kids to do, rides, the Pumpkin Contest, and more. A rapidly growing Community celebration!

### White Hawk EcoVillage

*5<sup>th</sup> Annual Equinox Celebration:* Saturday, September 22, 5-9pm, in the White Hawk Center Circle. Potluck,

live music, food cider pressing, kids activities, and the fire!

### The Great Room at Slow Lane

*Contra Dancing:* Most Fridays, 8pm. Beginners welcome, no partner needed, dances taught. Info: 607.273.8678.

### Danby Community Church

*Tai Chi Classes:* Continue on Mondays and Wednesdays, 11am. Check it out, if you've never heard of it.

*Red Cross Blood Drive:* Friday, September 21, 1-6pm.

### Moon Gatherings

Community potluck, nature connection, meditation, songs, story sharing at each New and Full Moon for all ages. For dates and directions, contact [\[honeysharmony@gmail.com\]](mailto:honeysharmony@gmail.com). ☘

## ENERGY NAVIGATORS

Submitted by Jim Holahan

**H**IGH ENERGY BILLS? Did you know home energy assessments are available to most New York State residents—renters and owners—at no cost? The assessments help you identify which improvements make sense for your home. Having an energy assessment qualifies you for incentives, rebates, and low-interest loans that can be applied to your energy-efficiency improvements.

Have an Energy Navigator help you find the information you need. Energy Navigators are concerned and capable residents who help their friends, neighbors, and other community members learn about ways they can reduce their energy use and energy bills and use renewable forms of energy to heat and power their homes.

Energy Navigators are volunteers who can help you navigate through the programs available. There is no cost to you for their help. This year I have joined the other Energy Navigators to help my community in Danby. To find out more about the program visit [[getyourgreenbacktompkins.org](http://getyourgreenbacktompkins.org)]. ❁

### ➤ *Comm. Day Primer, cont'd from front page—*

more than that in winnings—economically it is a huge gain. How awesome it is to watch the kids' faces light up when they win that item that they really wanted!

There will be a kid-friendly obstacle course this year. There will also be a “wake up, get up and get out” fire safety learning game. Last year parents were participating with their children in this timed game and it was lots of fun while learning safety too. Growing up, our kids enjoyed Bob the Letterman (the sign guy) for years and the games that are there for them. The bands that play allow folks to sit around outdoors and enjoy some music. For those who love books, there is a book sale. The Danby History Group is there with interesting tidbits about our Town. Usually we have community servants like the Tompkins County Sheriff's office demonstrating car safety, or our Tompkins Health Department. Local issues are well represented as the need arises; like a few years back when natural gas fracking was a possible threat to our drinking water.

This year the archery booth, done by Flashing Feathers Bow Club, will return. The kids love shooting a straight bow at the balloon targets and popping the balloon if

## 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EQUINOX CELEBRATION AT WHITE HAWK

Submitted by Mark Silver

**P**LEASE JOIN US FOR OUR FIFTH annual celebration of the beautiful autumnal transition! We love welcoming friends, new and old, to our humble but beautiful ecovillage on White Hawk Lane here in Danby. We'll have live music, food, cider pressing, kids activities, fire and all-around merriment.

We'll gather on Saturday, September 22 (rain date, September 29), 5-9pm, in our center circle above the White Hawk parking area. Bring a dish to pass and your own place settings and join our potluck dinner. Enjoy the evening with community and friends! ❁

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## SOUTHERN TOMPKINS TOWN TALK

Submitted by Gay Huddle, Ithaca Journal Columnist

**P**LEASE REMEMBER TO SEND your stories to me for the Southern Tompkins Town Talk column that appears every other week in the Ithaca Journal.

I cover the neighborhoods of Danby, West Danby, Brooktondale, Newfield, and Upper South Hill. Pictures (in JPEG format) are always welcome.

Please contact me at [[gayhuddle@hotmail.com](mailto:gayhuddle@hotmail.com)] or 607.273.6530. ❁

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the arrow is true. Kids learn about bow safety from local folks who love the sport of archery.

Vendors turn out to sell interesting items from jewelry to display beautiful pictures, from colorful metal fabricated artwork to clothes. Others have home baked goodies that they are selling.

I want to encourage you and, for those who need it, I challenge you, to mark your calendar and make sure that you'll join our community at Danby

Community Day, September 15, 11am-3pm. Come and support our local volunteer fire company, meet neighbors you know and make new friends. Our town is our town, and only as good as what we make it. Let's all make the effort! ❁

## QUICK GUIDE TO THE FUN!

DANBY COMMUNITY DAY

SEPTEMBER 15, 11AM-3PM, FIRE STATION

Submitted by Sharon Gaden and George Jakubsen

**Lucky Draw Auction:** Would you like to donate an item, basket or gift certificate? Are you crafty and would like to make something? We will also have our children's auction. The little ones love to take a chance on winning a great basket too! All donations are greatly appreciated. We can pick up donations or, if you prefer, arrange for a place and time for you to drop them off.

**Cake Wheel:** We would like to thank Gay and Garry Huddle and their entire family for their many years of coordinating and running the Cake Wheel for the benefit of the Danby Volunteer Fire Company. Thank you so much! This year we are planning a huge Bake Sale. If you would like to make a cake, pie, cookies, brownies, any baked good not needing refrigeration, please call us at 607.272.8114 (you may have to leave a message) and we can make arrangements to pick it up or a time for you to drop it off.

**Food:** The firefighters will be cooking up their delicious Chicken BBQ: 1/2 chicken, salt potatoes, baked beans, roll, and a drink, and *new this year* applesauce, *yum!* The Danby Community Church will be making and selling desserts again this year. There will be hot dogs, ice cream, popcorn and cotton candy too. What is a fun Community Day without treats!

**Music:** Community Day is the place to be to hear great music. Come out and hear local musicians entertain the crowd. Feel free to bring a lawn chair and spend the day listening to the bands.

**Book Sale:** Do you have any books you have read that you would like to share with your neighbors? Please contact Leslie Connors, [lconnors@tompkinsco.org], who has organized the book sale for many, many years and we appreciate her hard work! Are you looking for books to read? Stop by the Book Sale!

**Flashing Feathers:** Flashing Feathers, who have been in attendance at just about every Danby Fair, Danby Fun Day, and now Danby Community Day will be back this year to show kids of all ages how to shoot a Bow and Arrow. Thank you, Flashing Feather members! ❁



## DANBY COMMUNITY DAY 2018

Submitted by Sharon Gaden and George Jakubsen

**T**O BE HELD SEPTEMBER 15 at the Danby Fire Station, 11am-3pm. Get your errands done early and plan to relax and enjoy the fun day.

There will be vendors, exhibitors, and demos for all ages. There will be games galore (some old and some new), face painting, large book sale, music, auction, Chicken BBQ, and more!

Do you remember when there was a White Elephant/yard sale at Danby Fun Day? Would you like to see it happen again at Danby Community Day? You fine folks on Bald Hill often hold yard sales that day. Wouldn't it be great to be able to have your yard sale and also see your friends and neighbors at Danby Community Day? You can enjoy the fun and the food and the music and the company and still be able to sell your wares if you bring them down and set up a table! Think of the foot traffic! And you don't have to live on Bald Hill to take advantage of this opportunity. Just contact Sharon or George at 607.272.8114 (you may have to leave a message) for information.

The committee is hard at work organizing demonstrations so please stay tuned for a schedule of events. ❁



## DANBY SENIORS UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

THE NEXT MEETING of the Danby Seniors won't be until Thursday, October 4, Noon, in the Danby Community Church for a dish to share luncheon.

There's no September meeting as we have a bus trip to the *Cortland Repertory Theater* and dinner at the *Sherman House* planned for that date. Contact Pat Phelps, 607.539.6477 for information.

We had a full bus going down to Steamtown in Scranton, PA on July 26. We thank Ann VanDeMark for planning this with the travel committee. The trolley ride was especially fun and the dinner on the way home at Bingham's was delicious! ❄️

## AMERICAN LEGION UPDATE

Submitted by Marvin W. Eastman

WELL, SUMMER'S ALMOST GONE and I hope you are enjoying the dry days as well as the wet ones. Before you know it, old man winter will be rearing his ugly head and our thoughts will turn to warmer things. So as the seasons pass, its time here at the American Legion to start up our Fall Dinners.

We will be starting the Pasta Dinners on September 12 and 26. You can choose from:

- ① Pasta with marinara sauce, \$7
- ② Pasta with meat sauce, \$8
- ③ Pasta with Loaded sauce \$9
- ④ Chicken Parmigiana with pasta \$9

Loaded sauce has ground beef, italian sausage, pepperoni, mushrooms, peppers, and onions. All dinners include our famous salad bar, garlic bread, and meatballs or sausage.



On September 21, we will be kicking off our Fish Dinners. The menu is fish, either fried or baked, choice of french fries, onion rings, or baked potato, salad bar, and—as always—home made desserts. Still only \$13.

If you are in a hurry and want a quick snack, we also sell comfort foods like wings, burgers, and sausage burgers.

It's never too late to start thinking about that special place for a banquet or even the annual holiday party. Stop in and enjoy yourself. ❄️

## 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL DANBY BIG PUMPKIN CONTEST

By Bill Evans, Community Council

THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL IS AGAIN sponsoring a contest for the largest pumpkin grown in Danby. A competing pumpkin must be grown in Danby and cared for by the contestant or their family.

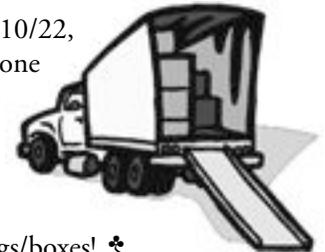
If it looks like a pumpkin, we will call it a pumpkin (no gourds allowed!). Only one pumpkin can be submitted per contestant (multiple contestants per family okay). Weight in pounds and girth in inches will be used to determine the largest pumpkin. The weigh-in & measurements will be made during the Danby Harvest Festival in mid-October.

A limited supply of seedlings from last year's winner (a nearly 100 pounder!) are available, contact Bill Evans at [wevans@danbycc.org]. ❄️

## MOBILE FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Submitted by Margie VanDeMark

UPCOMING DATES: 9/24, 10/22, 11/26. This is for anyone needing food. Noon at the Danby Community Church, from the Food Bank of the Southern Tier.



Be sure to bring your own bags/boxes! ❄️

## NEW DANBY GATHERY

Submitted by Trisha Williams

THE DANBY GATHERY IS AN EVENT SPACE and community classroom, located within the former Danby Market building. The mission of Danby Gathery is to foster connection and enrichment within our local community by offering classes and events as well as a meeting and gathering space.

We are currently seeking instructors for coming classes! If you, or someone you know, has a skill to share, or would like to expand upon their business by offering a class, lecture or workshop, please contact [info@danbygathery.com]. ❄️

## Community Council Youth Programs

August has come to a close and I'm reflecting upon a successful summer of programming for Danby youth. Over the past two months, I've met a lot of new faces, spent time with the old, and learned alongside new and old together. Summer programs are longer and more relaxed; youth aren't coming to me with the stresses of school, and they're more willing to try new things and to learn. Through collaborations with other adults, as well as through a bit of study on my own, I was able to tackle new projects in more depth.

My favorite project of the summer was spent with a friend and teacher, Nikki Nease, who specializes in teaching herbalism to youth. This program took us all over town. We spent time in Dotson Park, in the Danby State Forest, downtown at CCE, and at the Danby Community Church. Youth learned how to create herbal medicines from start to finish, beginning with plant identification, leading into foraging, and ending with cooking, branding, and presenting the products.

On the final day of the program, we made an appearance at Danby's Food Pantry, where the youth shared their knowledge and doled out the products for free. Many people approached us with excitement and disbelief, congratulating the youth for learning about herbal medicines and thanking us for providing often over-priced goodies for free.

I also learned how to fish this summer. We spent a day casting into Jennings Pond. The sunfish bit pretty constantly and the youth learned the ins-and-outs of rigging poles, attaching bait, and reeling in the line. A few of the more experienced youth helped remove the hooks from the fish, and we released all of the fish back into the pond. A group of girls caught a huge bullhead. While they were waiting for me to find a pair of gloves and unhook it, a snapping turtle swam up and ate it right off the line! Thankfully, everyone was excited—and not terrified—by this spontaneous act of nature.

Unfortunately, program listings for the fall are not yet set in stone. However, they will be available at [\[danbycc.org/YouthPrograms\]](http://danbycc.org/YouthPrograms) by the first week of September. As always, feel free to contact me, 585.236.6304 or [\[mas759@cornell.edu\]](mailto:mas759@cornell.edu) if you'd like to learn more or would like to be added to my mailing list.

Thank you to everyone who has attended and supported my programs over the past year—it's been a blast!  
—Melis Schildkraut, Program Manager



## YOUTH GRANTS

Submitted by Susan Franklin, DCC Youth Grant Coordinator

DO YOU HAVE A CHILD going to camp or participating in another 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 lessons, after-school programs, and more. The deadline is September 15 for programs beginning (or with payment deadlines) in October thru December (but funds for summer activities may still be available, please ask).

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.

## DANBY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Submitted by Cindy Parlett

FOR ALL THE STAR WARS FANS out there, newly purchased DVDs include *Star Wars The Last Jedi*, *Star Wars Rogue One*, and *Star Wars The Force Awakens*. Sign out for DVDs is two weeks. Please return the newer popular DVDs in a timely manner so that all may enjoy. If the DVD becomes lost or misplaced we kindly ask that it be replaced. If you like Star wars then the *Percy Jackson* series by Rick Riordan might be worth checking out.

Our books are supplemented by rotating collections from the downtown Tompkins County Public Library (TCPL). The adult books are on a separate, labeled shelf next to the desk. Books owned by the Danby Library have a handwritten bright orange label on the spine while the TCPL books have a typewritten label. Sign out for books is four weeks and can be renewed by phone or Email.

Winter hours will return on Saturday, September 15: Tuesday, 1:30-3:30pm, and Saturday, 10am-Noon.



## DANBY AREA NEWS: EVENT CALENDAR

- Sep 1 • Sat  
9am 🏠 Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**
- Sep 6 • Thu  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
- Sep 10 • 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**
- Sep 11 • Tue  
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
- Sep 12 • Wed  
5pm 🏠 American Legion Post • **Pasta Dinner**
- Sep 13 • Thu  
Noon-9pm 🏠 Fire Stations  
**State and Local Primary Elections**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Income From Rural Properties**
- Sep 15 • Sat  
10am-Noon 🏠 The Gathery • **HeatSmart Presentation**  
11am-3pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Community Day**
- Sep 17 • Mon  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Town Board Meeting**
- Sep 18 • Tue  
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
- Sep 20 • Thu  
3-6pm 🏠 Danby Comm. Church • **Food Pantry**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Planning Board Meeting**
- Sep 21 • Fri  
1-6pm 🏠 Danby Comm. Church • **Red Cross Blood Drive**  
5pm 🏠 American Legion Post • **Fish Dinner**
- Sep 22 • Sat  
5-9pm 🏠 White Hawk Ecovillage • **5<sup>th</sup> Equinox Celebration**
- Sep 24 • Mon  
Noon 🏠 Danby Comm. Church • **Mobile Food Truck**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Conservation Advisory Council Mtg**
- Sep 26 • Wed  
5pm 🏠 American Legion Post • **Pasta Dinner**

- Oct 4 • Thu  
Noon 🏠 Danby Comm. Church • **Seniors**  
7pm 🏠 Town Hall • **Danby Community Council Mtg**
- Oct 6 • Sat  
9am 🏠 Town Hall • **Library Volunteers Meeting**  
??? 🏠 Town Hall • **Mushroom Walk**
- Oct 8 • 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**
- Oct 9 • Tue  
7pm 🏠 Danby Fire Hall • **Fire District Meeting**
- Oct 10 • Wed  
5:30pm 🏠 WDFire Department • **Water District Mtg**
- Oct 14 • Sun  
1-5pm 🏠 Dotson Park  
**6th Annual Harvest Festival**

### ONGOING EVENTS

- Danby Community Library Open** 🏠 Town Hall  
Tuesdays, 1:30-3:30pm, Saturdays, 10am-Noon,  
and when the **Open** sign is out!
- Food Scrap Recycling** 🏠 Town Hall 🗑️👉👈👉👈  
Saturdays, 9am-Noon
- Seniors Strength Training Group** 🏠 Danby Community Church  
Mondays and Thursdays, 9am.
- Tai Chi Classes** 🏠 Danby Community Church  
Mondays and Wednesdays, 11am.
- 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 Drive, off Rt.34/96  
🏠 Danby Community Church • 1859 Danby Road  
🏠 American Legion Post 221 • 1231 Danby Road