

## NAACP Notes

by Maude Bruce, *President*

The Ellenville Branch of the *NAACP* has been alive and serving the community for 33 years.

Our program consists of many events throughout the year. In January, we sponsored the Dr. Martin Luther King Community Program. Churches and their respective choirs were invited to attend. *The Ellenville Central School's* Multi-Cultural Club participated in the event. In addition, the local branch sponsors a Black History Program; once again, the ECS multi-cultural club provided the entertainment.

In May, the branch held its ninth Justice Thurgood Marshall Breakfast, in honor of the Supreme Court Justice and NAACP lawyer who won the Brown vs. Board of Education case.

The branch also participates in the *Ellenville Central School's* scholarship and awards program. The Branch has given, for 25 years or more, a college assistance award to a deserving student who plans to attend college.

The *NAACP* spearheaded a health fair in June; with other organizations as co-sponsors, many people attended.

Our September public meeting was on "Seven Natural Laws of Health," presented by Michelle Cuke and Mrs. Edith Ryan.

At election times, we sponsor "Meet the Candidate" forums. Several of these events have been taped and shown on the community-access cable station. We also sponsor voter registration drives.

On October 26, we sponsored a *NAACP* Town Hall Meeting. The issue of the evening was "The Importance of the Vote." Our speakers were attorneys Michael Sussman and B. Harold Ramsey, and Joseph Reeves, the president of the ECS's multi-cultural club.

The branch is presently seeking a youth advisor so we can reactivate the *NAACP Youth Counsel* so the youth of Ellenville can have a voice in the community. ❄️

## Ellenville Elks

*The Ellenville Elks* of Lodge 1971 at **Route 55, Napanoch** are a community-minded organization. Here are some of our on-going activities:

We hold a Dinner every **Friday at 6:00 pm**, and serve a Breakfast the **first Sunday** of every month from **8:00 am to 10:30 am** at our lodge.

We provide food baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

We have a Flag Day parade, in which old flags are retired.

We are a major contributor to Cerebral Palsy charities.

The *Elks* are very involved with the youth in our community; there are yearly Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot contests, where the winners can advance to the regionals and possibly the state levels. We are a Booster of school sports programs. We have held various dinners and banquets for the Girl Scouts, Little League, school classes, and athletes.

The Ladies of the *Elks* also contribute to Cerebral Palsy charities. Recently, the Ladies held a Bake Sale and a Dinner in which the proceeds were donated to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Ladies also do Friday Dinners every couple of months, and hold Bake Sales in the spring and fall. Of course, we support the men by helping at different functions that are held at the Lodge, such as the Christmas party, and the Easter Egg Hunt, for the children of the Elks. We also hold a beautiful memorial service each year for deceased members and conduct a tree-planting memorial.

Please join us for breakfast or dinner sometime! ❄️

*Please send us brief reports on the news and events from your organization or club... what you've been doing, and what you have planned! Email to [news@Wawarsing.Net](mailto:news@Wawarsing.Net) or call or fax 845-647-2868.*

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