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(Deadline for all articles, ads, and calendar items is the 20th of each month for the next month's issue, except for November, which is the 17th. Please confirm 5 days earlier.)

We want to thank the following Distribution Locations for agreeing to carry *Wawarsing.Net* —

- Ellenville:** 1) *Canal Street: Berme Rd. to Ann:* Chamber Office, Thornton Hardware, Canal Lodge Adult Care, Ellenville Lumber, Top Shelf Jewelry, JM Originals, **Time-Warner Cable**, McCarthy Agency, Village Cleaners, Carolion Mane Cut, Curves, The Eye Studio.
- 2) *Canal Street: Ann to Liberty:* Hidden Treasures, Shadowland Theatre, La Bella Pizza, **Dollar World**, Stedner Printing, **Wags**, **Ellenville Post Office**.
- 3) *Canal Street: Liberty to Main:* B&G General Store, Ed & Al's Barber Shop, State Farm, Fort Lox Bagels, Sprague & Killeen, Liquor Store, **Lighthouse Deli**, **Matthews Pharmacy**, Ellenville Florist, Fleet Bank, **Wawarsing Town Hall**.
- 4) *Canal Street: Main to Ulster:* **M&T Bank**, Loucks Funeral, Ellenville Village Hall, **Ellenville National Bank**, Stewart's (Ellenville), **Ellenville Library**, Dr. Paul Lonstein, Wilson's Market.
- 5) *Center Street:* **Getty Mart**, H&R Block, Cohen's Bakery, Napa, Dominick's.
- 6) *South Main Street:* **Ellenville Medical Group**, Johnny's Super Service, **Burger King**, Berger & Solomon, Stoeckeler Realty, Shanghai Red, **Mobil Mart**.
- 7) **Cragsmoor:** Ice Caves, Cragsmoor Library, **Cragsmoor Post Office**.
- 8) **Rte. 209 to Spring Glen:** Callaway Club, **Nevele Grande**, Gold Mountain, Spring Glen Grocery, Spring Glen Post Office, **County Line Restaurant**.
- 9) *North Main: Spring to Village line:* Ellenville Dodge, Euro Deli, **McDonalds**, **RiteAid**, Ellenville Beverage, **Craft Chiropractic**, Hair Encounter, Lucille Hand, Ellenville Ceramic & Tile, **Pizza Hut**, Ace Hardware, **Family Dollar**.
- 10) **Rte. 209 to Napanoch:** Boob Tube, B. Petroleum, B & H Garage, **Route 209 Diner**, Ellenville Auto Parts, **Ellenville Hospital**, Family Practice Center, Spin City, Creative Clippers, **Il Paradiso**.
- 11) **Napanoch:** **Peters Market**, James' General Store, Brother John's, Napanoch PO, Chinese No. 1, Rické Len's.
- 12) **Wawarsing to Kerhonkson:** Wawarsing PO, **Citgo Xtra Mart** (**Wawarsing**), Colonial Motel, Dr. John Lichtenstein, Exxon (44-55), STS Tire, M & M Variety, Stewart's, Swim King, **Mountain View Diner**, **Kerhonkson PO**.
- 13) **Also:** Ellenville School, Ulster County Tourist Information Office (Kingston), Ramada Inn & Roudigans (Kingston), Summitville PO, Mamakating Methodist.
- ***Locations in **bold** are "anchor locations" in the zone; they carry a larger starting number of issues and are more likely checked for needed refills.
(Don't see your location listed here? Call or email to be added to our route!)

From the Editor

On the next page is a re-statement of the *Chamber's* purposes. One purpose is "to promote... an interest in public affairs." In that spirit, *Wawarsing.Net* is again presenting a *Voter Info Section*, this time for Town of Wawarsing and for District 1 County Legislature candidates in the November 2003 election. Please read ALL the candidates' responses, and, indeed, find out as much as you can about them all, and the issues, before you vote. And DO vote!

For a representative democracy to work, citizens must stay informed, get involved, and keep officials' feet to the fire. The true enemy of *government of, by, and for the People* is not from outside, but from complacency, cynicism, and resignation of the People themselves. We may not have the same Town Meeting tradition here, made famous in New England, where *everyone* is expected and encouraged to speak up at least once a year to act directly on local issues. But we do live in an area where most every night one could attend a board, committee, or department meeting affecting *your* village, town, school, fire, planning, zoning, or county policy.

That's why it's so sad and discouraging when an otherwise "responsible" adult says something like, "I haven't voted, and I'm not going to start now!" And to say it with a proud smirk, and chest puffed out, like it was some kind of mighty accomplishment.

But most saddening are indications from a new report that teenagers and young adults are less likely than older adults to value voting or the way government works, and the reason is that the nation is failing to teach the basics for taking part in a democracy. Among the findings: 54% of the under-26 group said it is important to pay attention to government and politics; 78% of the over-26 group felt that way; 47% of the younger group eligible to vote said they cast ballots in all or most elections, compared with 77% of the older group. (*Actual* vote totals suggests lower participation by all.)

The report, produced by the *Representative Democracy in America Project*, a collaboration of legislative, academic, and civics education groups, found that younger people "do not understand the ideals of citizenship, they are disengaged from the political process, they lack the knowledge necessary for effective self-government, and their appreciation and support of American democracy is limited... The baby boomers, the World War II generation, and our schools have failed to teach the ideals of citizenship to young people." Wow.

The report found some good news, however: more of the young people took a significantly more active role in democracy – voting, following the news about government, and believing they were personally responsible for making the world better – if they had taken a civics class. And, fortunately, New York is one of 39 states that requires it to get a diploma, the "Participation in Government" course being the one taught in Ellenville.

But, as in other matters, we can't just leave it to the schools; responsible citizenship begins at home, church, clubs, work, and everywhere the individual interacts with the greater civic society.

Set a good example for the kids: take an active interest in your community, discuss the news and issues that affect us... and vote!



Cover: The Stone Church (*Chapel of the Holy Name*), Cragsmoor, Town of Wawarsing, Ulster County, New York, USA. Cover picture courtesy of the **Ellenville Public Library & Museum**. This 106-year old church is a local landmark; its charm and view make it a favorite for weddings. Nov. 2nd is **Stone Church Day**. Marion Dumond's feature history article starts on page 24.

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