

Open for Business

Creative Stages Day Care Center

by Jane Wood

Creative Stages Day Care Center is now open at 3 Irish Cape Road & Rte. 209, in the old *Napanoch Elementary School* building. Darlene Beiling, the owner and director, is a graduate of Sullivan County Community College with a degree in Early Childhood Education. She is currently working on a BA in Daycare Management with Empire State College. Ms. Beiling worked at the Center for Discovery in Sullivan County for ten years, and then ran a daycare center in her home.

Creative Stages takes children from six-weeks to 12 years old. There are four classrooms in the renovated building: for infants, toddlers, pre-school, and school age. The rooms are bright and cheerful, and furnished with top-line equipment, including computers, toys, and books. The *Ellenville School* donated 40 sleeping mats, and *Ellenville's Children's Annex* gave two large cubbies. There is a bathroom for every classroom, and an attractive staff room with kitchen and bathroom.

Because *Creative Stages* is for-profit, it is not eligible



to receive any money from grants for a year. Any contributions from the community would be very welcome. *The Center* has slots for 44 children; currently, 14 are enrolled. Eventually, Ms. Beiling plans to have ten on staff. In addition, there are plans for further renovation of the building, and for programs for school-age children and children with special needs.

The Center provides half-day and full-day care, before- and after-school care, and full-time care in the summer. It has a new playground, built with donations from *Schrade* and *Hydro*. Rates are competitive, in fact slightly lower than at other local daycare centers. The Center plans to involve the community in events such as holiday shows and volunteer programs.

The Center opens at 6:30 AM and closes at 5:30 PM. You can visit the facility, or call for more information at 647-4664. 



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