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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 February, which is the 17th.

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, NuDesign Furniture, **Time-Warner Cable**, McCarthy Agency, Village Cleaners, Carolin Mane Cut, Curves, The Eye Studio, Aroma Thyme Bistro, Boob Tube.
- 2) **Canal Street: Ann to Liberty:** Hidden Treasures, La Bella Pizza, **Dollar World**, Stedner Printing, **Wags**, **Ellenville Post Office**.
- 3) **Canal Street: Liberty to Main:** B&G General Store, Matthews Tailor, Ed & Al's Barber Shop, Liquor Store, State Farm, Fort Lox Bagels, Sprague & Killeen, **Lighthouse Deli**, **Matthews Pharmacy**, Ellenville Florist, **Town Hall**.
- 4) **Canal Street: Main to Ulster:** M&T Bank, Loucks Funeral, Ellenville Village Hall, **Ellenville National Bank**, Fleet 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, **Dollar General**, **Burger King**, Berger & Solomon, Stoeckeler Realty, Collier Motor Car Co., Lonstein Chiropractic, Shanghai Red, **Mobil Mart**.
- 7) **Cragsmoor:** Cragsmoor Library, **Cragsmoor Post Office**.
- 8) **Rte. 209 to Spring Glen:** Richard's (SCC), Nevele Grande, Gold Mtn., **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, Diana's, **Craft Chiropractic**, Hair Encounter, Lucille Hand, Ellenville Ceramic & Tile, **Pizza Hut**, Ace Hardware, Family Dollar.
- 10) **Rte. 209 to Napanoch:** B. Petroleum, B & H Garage, **Route 209 Diner**, Ellenville Auto Parts, **Ellenville Hospital**, Family Practice Center, China House, Spin City, GNC, Creative Clippers, **Il Paradiso**.
- 11) **Napanoch: Peters Market**, **James' General Store**, Guzman's Bakery, Brother John's, Napanoch Post Office, Chinese No. 1, VIP Video, Rické Len's.
- 12) **Wawarsing to Kerhonkson:** Wawarsing PO, Citgo Xtra Mart (Wawarsing), Dr. John Lichtenstein, **Exxon (44-55)**, STS Tire, M & M Variety, **Stewart's** (Kerhonkson), Swim King, **Mountain View Diner**, Kerhonkson PO.
- 13) **Also:** Ellenville School, Ulster County Tourist Information Office (Kingston), Ramada Inn (Kingston), Summitville PO, Mamakating Methodist.

***Locations in bold are "anchor locations" in the zone

Don't see your location listed here? Call or email to be added to our route!

From the Editor

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity..."

Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities.

Wawarsing.Net and the **Chamber of Commerce** prefer to be upbeat and optimistic. As George Bernard Shaw noted, nobody ever built a statue to honor a critic (which was ironically contradicted, of course, when the first statue honoring playwright and critic Shaw was erected). Nonetheless, as much as grouching is non-productive, so is sticking one's head in the sand to ignore harsh realities.

Reading this issue, or any other issue of **Wawarsing.Net**, you will note we live in an area steeped in history, populated by interesting and vibrant residents, and bubbling with vast potential. Old-timers speak of the "Golden Age" of Ellenville and vicinity, though they often differ on just exactly *when* that was. Was it the mid-nineteenth-century boomtown era (when the population more than doubled, and new industries flourished), sparked by the new canal (*page 18*)? Was it the turn-of-the-century period, when the expanding railroad made it easier for city folk to visit, giving birth to the tourist business (the era of the grand hotels, artist colonies, the SunRay Water Company)?

Was it the Twenties? Thirties? Forties? Fifties? Sure, one could point to X number of drug stores, clothing stores, movie theaters, or other "economic indicators" of each era to suggest that our community was bigger, more successful, more active — *then*. Most might even agree, when you speak of the Sixties and onwards, the terms "downhill," "loss," and "fewer" will pepper the conversation.

But is that fair? Aren't there always cycles of growth and contraction, boom and bust, optimism and pessimism? Is our town immune from the economic and financial realities that surround us? When inflation or recession hits the nation, or stinginess in DC affects Albany, which affects Kingston, which affects Wawarsing, don't we feel the pinch? When the bottom line (or Wal-Mart) dictates to a manufacturer that their prices must drop or else, aren't the ordinary line-workers among the first to take the hit?

That our area has been getting one series of combination punches after another, for decades, seems the norm now. Hotels close, then stores fold, then Channel Master moves, buildings come down, local businesses get bought out by regional or national monoliths, bankruptcies threaten, and, most recently, mergers or market forces mean the layoffs of hundreds of our neighbors.

Yet even in what must surely be "the worst of times" to those most directly affected by these blows, we note the power of a community to rally. A Job Fair (*page 11*) brought dozens of employers and agencies to Ellenville, so that hundreds of suddenly-unemployed workers could get immediate assistance, training and, perhaps, new jobs. New business are opening or planned, old businesses are expanding or planning to, new residents are moving in, for-sale properties are snapped up in a wink, and even officials speak with an optimism (*page 6*) that speaks of a *future* "Golden Age" more often than a past one.

Best of times... Worst of times... Maybe, ultimately, it's what *WE*, ourselves, *decide* to make of it!

Cover: Last Boat on Delaware & Hudson Canal in front of the Napanoch Reformatory, 1898, Napanoch, Town of Wawarsing, Ulster County, New York, USA. Based on a colorized postcard, computerized here into an "oil painting." Similar photos exist of the same scene in daylight, suggesting even this card may have been "artistically rendered" back then, making the prison look like a fairy-tale castle on a moonlit Rhine River! See the article on **Page 18!**



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Editor: Steven Krulick, Editor@Wawarsing.Net, 845-647-2868

Ad Rep: Sylvia Fogarty, Ads@Wawarsing.Net, 845-647-3877