

Events

"One-Stop Watching" at Special Olympics Games in Ellenville

Ellenville-based competition will feature six sports, including Snowshoeing, in one location.

Can't get enough of your favorite winter sports? Then you should make plans to check out the **2004 Special Olympics New York Winter Games**, which will take place **February 20th and 21st** at Ellenville's *Nevele Grande Resort & Country Club*.

The **2004 Winter Games** will feature nearly 1,000 Special Olympics athletes and coaches competing in six sports: Alpine and Nordic Skiing, Floor Hockey (team and skills), Figure Skating, Snowshoeing, and Speed Skating. Olympic-style rules apply to the events.



"Special Olympics athletes are dedicated, focused competitors, and they love fan support, so being a fan is always a rewarding experience," said Bill Collins, **SONY's** Director of Outreach, left, who was the guest speaker at the January 20th meeting of the *Noonday Club* at *Richard's Restaurant*.

"However, there's an added draw for fans this year: Everything is right at the *Nevele*. From Opening Ceremonies, to the competition, to Closing Ceremonies, it's all within walking distance. So if you spend a few hours at the *Nevele*, you'll be able to see all of our winter sports. And you'll see exactly what Special Olympics athletes are capable of."

One of the sports spectators may be drawn to is Snowshoeing. After a lengthy hiatus, Snowshoeing was reintroduced to Special Olympics athletes at the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Alaska. Now, it's returning to the *Nevele*. "Snowshoeing has enjoyed a resurgence in the general public, so it made perfect sense to bring it back to Special Olympics," said Pete Lawrence, **SONY's** Director of Competition. "It's a lifetime pursuit for many of our athletes."

Opening Ceremonies, which are a festive kick-off to the Games, will be held from **8 to 9 PM, Friday, February 20th**. *Competition* will run from **9 AM to 6 PM, Saturday, February 21st**, and the brief *Closing Ceremonies*, which will include fireworks, are slated for **7 to 7:15 PM, February 21st**. For a detailed schedule, call **800-836-6976** or visit www.specialolympicsNY.org.

Bicentennial Committee Planning Session March 10th

The *Town of Wawarsing Bicentennial Committee* has scheduled an open planning session to be held at the **Community Room** of the *Ellenville Public Library* on **March 10th**. All interested residents are invited to attend, especially those representing community groups.

The *Bicentennial Committee* is asking every township organization, civic & social group, religious body, and governmental agency to plan an event to be held between March 14, 2006 and the fall of that year. It might not be an unusual event, but a group that regularly hosts a supper or special event will be asked to give it the bicentennial theme in 2006.

A published Calendar of Activities is planned, so early decision-making will make inclusion in that calendar possible.

Additional information will be available in the weeks before the meeting, but possible participants should save Wednesday evening, **March 10th**, for this meeting. A snow date of March 17th has already been established in the event of inclement weather or bad roads.

4th of July Committee Spaghetti Supper

The *Town of Wawarsing/Village of Ellenville 4th of July Committee* announces its *Annual Spaghetti Supper* will be held on **February 21st** at the *Elks Lodge* in Napanoch from **5 PM to 7 PM**. Tickets are **\$5** per person.

This is the first *Committee* fundraiser this year. The cost of the parade is over \$16,000; this includes the \$10,000 Fireworks Display at the *Joseph Y. Resnick Airport*.

If you would like to be on the *Committee*, or know of a unit that wants to be in the parade, please call Jane Eck at **647-6560 ext. 105** or, at night, **647-7141**.



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