

# Good Works

## Reading Awards Come to Ellenville

by Stephanie Beaver, Director, Ellenville School's Out

New York State Assemblyman Kevin Cahill and the **Ellenville YMCA School's Out Program** "Celebrate Reading!... A 'Lights On' After School Event," held the first annual NYS Assembly Summer Reading Challenge Awards Ceremony in Ellenville on October 14<sup>th</sup> in the newly-reseated **Ellenville Elementary Music Assembly Room**.

The YMCA School's Out Program also awarded one student with a Homework Achievement Award for outstanding homework achievement and completion as part of a new homework incentive program.

This summer, the **Ellenville YMCA Summer Program** participated in the NYS Assembly Summer Reading Challenge for the second year. This program is designed to promote casual, fun reading and continuing summer education. As part of this program, YMCA Summer participants were asked to read at least 15 minutes per day. All participants complied.

Over 100 books were read at the YMCA Summer Program this year with over 40 children participating.

When Assemblyman Cahill realized the difficulty in getting Ellenville children to Kingston to attend the awards ceremony, he graciously volunteered to come to Ellenville so that we could have our own ceremony.

The event is a celebration rewarding these children for all of their hard work. It is also a celebration of the joining of community organizations, government officials, educators, parents, and children to promote reading and keeping those "Lights On!" after the school day has ended.

At the awards ceremony (*photo, below*) were most of those students listed below, and state, town, and village

officials, and school administrators, including Assemblyman Cahill (*left*) Councilwoman Ruth Ann Gunter, Mayor Jeff Kaplan, Trustee Steven Krulick, ECS Superintendent Lisa Wiles, EES Principal Holly Eiksza (*back row*):

Zachary Alexander, Shelby Ardizzzone, Brandon Avery, John Barbiani, Sabrina Bauer, Frank Bauer, Dylan Beaver, Tyler Berger, Zachary Bilyeu, Susan Brearley, Erika Cenedo, Casey Coulter, Kimberly DiMilia, Justin Farrenkopf, Ramon Felix, Thaddeus Fotos, Devin Francois, Steven Gutierrez, Briana Haight, Ajuan Hearn, Dylan Hubler, Nora Levine, Kyle Li, Belinda Ligotino, Davian Lopez, Alexis Miranda, Sammy Morales, Elena Morales, Scollin Moreno, Caitlyn Moreno, Alexis Palega, Octavius Payne, Geneva Payne, Adrianna Ratajaska, Charles Reid, Andrew Reid, Lori Reider, Oscar Rodriguez, Quinn Rose, Alec Sauers, Zachary Sauers, Tyrique Wooten.



The MS student receiving the YMCA "Outstanding Homework Completion and Achievement" (a school-year-long homework incentive program with awards given monthly to a student in the before and/or after school program) award was Ramon

Felix, 5<sup>th</sup> grade (above, left, with Ms. Beaver). Ramon not only completes his homework, but does it well without prodding or reminders, and also helps others!

Congratulations to all the winners! We hope to have even more participants and winners next year! 

