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Ad & Copy Deadline for March issue is Friday, February 18th! (Short month!)

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

- Ellenville:** 1) *Canal Street: Berme Rd. to Liberty:* Chamber Office, Thornton Hardware, Canal Lodge Adult Care, Family of Ellenville, Ellenville Lumber, Top Shelf Jewelry, JM Originals, NuDesign Furniture, **Time-Warner Cable**, McCarthy Agency, Village Cleaners, Carolion Mane Cut, Curves, Dr. Lancelotti, The Eye Studio, At Home Physical Therapy, Aroma Thyme, Shadowland Theatre, La Bella Pizza, Rosegarten, **Dollar World**, Stedner Printing, **Ellenville Post Office**. 2) *Canal Street: Liberty to Main:* Matthews Tailor, Ed & Al's Barber Shop, Liquor Store, State Farm, Fort Lox Bagels, Sprague & Killeen, **Lighthouse Deli**, Distel's, **Matthews Pharmacy**, Ellenville Florist, **Town Hall**, Bank of America. 3) *Canal Street: Main to Cape:* Provident Bank, **Stewart's** (Ellenville), LadyKathryn's, **Ellenville Library**, Dr. Paul Lonstein, Wilson's Market. 4) *Center Street: Ellenville Medical Group*, Johnny's Super Service, Getty Mart, H&R Block, Lock 31, **Cohen's Bakery**, Napa, Dominick's. 5) *South Main Street: Dollar General, Burger King*, Berger & Solomon, Stoeckeler Realty, Collier's, Lonstein Chiropractic, Shanghai Red, Mobil Mart. 6) *Cragsmoor:* Cragsmoor Library, **Cragsmoor Post Office**. 7) *Rte. 209 to Spring Glen:* Richard's (SCC), **Nevele Grande**, Gold Mtn., **Spring Glen Grocery**, Spring Glen Post Office, County Line Restaurant. 8) *North Main: Canal to Village line:* Ellenville Village Hall, Loucks Funeral, M&T Bank, Euro Deli, RiteAid, Ellenville Dodge, **McDonalds**, Kalter Kaplan & Zeiger, Ellenville Credit Union, Dr. Lukoff, Ellenville Beverage, Dianna's, **Craft Chiropractic**, Hair Encounter, Lucille Hand, Ellenville Ceramic Tile, EllenRidge, Ace Hardware, **Subway**. 9) *Rte. 209 to Napanoch:* B. Petroleum, B & H Garage, **Route 209 Diner**, **Ellenville Hospital**, Family Practice Center, China House, Spin City, Hollywood Cuts, **Il Paradiso**. 10) *Napanoch:* **Peters Market**, **James' General Store**, Brother John's, Napanoch Post Office, Chinese No. 1, VIP Video, **Rické Len's**. 11) *Wawarsing to Kerhonkson:* Wawarsing PO, Citgo Xtra Mart (Wawarsing), Dr. John Lichtenstein, **Exxon (44-55)**, STS Tire, Wide Open, Candlelight, **Stewart's** (Kerhonkson), Swim King, **Mountain View Diner**, Yang's, Sentimental Value, **Kerhonkson PO**. 12) **Also:** Ellenville School, Ulster County Tourist Information Office (Kingston), Ramada Inn (Kingston), Ukrainian American Youth Camp.

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

From the Editor

"Be Prepared" – motto, Boy Scouts of America

This month, we are honoring the *Ellenville First Aid & Rescue Squad* on their 50 years of service to the community. These dedicated and essential volunteers have meant the difference between life and death to so many residents of – and visitors to – our village and town, it is hard to imagine our life here without them. How fortunate we are to have this ever-ready crew, prepared to rush to the aid of neighbors and strangers in sudden and dire need! How fortunate, too, that we have a regional hospital back from the brink of closing, to administer emergency services beyond that which can be done even by trained and equipped EMS personnel.

How fortunate that we have volunteer firefighters willing to stand and wait for the dread and urgent call at any hour! How prudent that our local governments maintain professional police, troopers, sheriffs, street crews, water & sewer department personnel, to handle a variety of emergencies! How comforting to know that the private electric, fuel, telephone, and cable companies have emergency repair teams to quickly restore critical utilities!

Usually, we don't think about the potential crises we could face on any given day; the world normally works, well, normally. Do you give much thought to your roof... until it leaks? Indeed, there are SO many potential things that CAN happen, that it is simply not possible to fully plan and prepare for ALL possible emergencies.

Certainly, there are some emergencies we may never face; the likelihood of a tsunami devastating Wawarsing is quite remote, though routine flooding is always a concern, as is the occasional blizzard. However, we are not in a hurricane zone, tornado alley, earthquake hot spot, or in the path of any known potential lava flow; we can probably put these way down on our list of concerns.

Yet, as Donald Rumsfeld said, "...there are also unknown unknowns – the ones we don't know we don't know." Things will happen that never happened anywhere... until they happen somewhere. There are a vast array of things that seem to always happen elsewhere... until YOUR community is the elsewhere.

And then what? What would we do if a jetliner crashed in our downtown? What if a truck carrying caustic or toxic liquids overturned on Terrace Hill? What if a terrorist or malcontent poisoned the water supply, or held a public audience hostage? What if killer bees, or locusts, or rabid bats suddenly plagued us in sky-darkening hordes? Now, we may not have a ready plan to address *these* or other specific crises, but do we have a structure in place, at the local level, to marshal forces quickly and rationally when something as unexpected as those "unknown unknowns" occur? Or to deal with the physical, emotional, or economic aftermath?

State and federal laws require many public entities to have contingency plans in case of a variety of emergencies; many of these are kept relatively secret, understandably, to prevent tipping-off those who would use that knowledge in planning their evil. But there should be, at least, a simple structure, hierarchy, and logical procedure that ALL citizens are aware of: who to call first; who is in charge of organizing and directing emergency workers; where the public can get reliable information; what to NOT do that would hamper efforts. A good start would be creation of a town/village task force of first responders, public officials, and experts to review what our preparedness level is now, for a variety of crises, and what we'd need to do to make it better.



Cover: Ellenville First Aid & Rescue Squad, Nov. 1964, Village of Ellenville, Town of Wawarsing, Ulster County, New York, USA, Earth. Celebrating 50 years of service to the community this year, the Ellenville First Aid & Rescue Squad is featured this month. See Page 12 for Marion Dumond's historical article, and Page 16 for the Anniversary & Awards Dinner.

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

Ad Rep: Janet McDonnell, Ads@Wawarsing.Net, 845-647-4620

Wawarsing.Net Committee: Mary Sheeley, Bill Tochtermann, Barbara Hoff, Dianne Turner, Steven Krulick, Sylvia Fogarty