

Ellenville All-County Musicians Shine

by Mark Craft

On February 26th, 47 Ellenville Central School students performed in the *All-County Choral/Instrumental Jazz Festival* at SUNY Ulster. The *All-County Instrumental Jazz Ensemble* opened the concert under the direction of Mr. Larry Balestra, a recent retiree from neighboring Rondout Valley Central School. Ellenville Central was well represented by trumpeter George Hammel, as demonstrated by his performance of an ad-lib solo.

The *Elementary Chorus* was conducted by Patricia Cohen, a music teacher from the George Washington Elementary School in the Kingston City School district. Congratulations to Ellenville's Cheyenne Chalarca, Marissa Cohen, Morgan Craft, Tobey Kass, Geneva May, Elizabeth Polkoski, Valeriya Sadchikova, Brittany Washington, Colleen Zimmerman, Steven Bar, Kirissa Durant, Thomas Lamendola, Sabastian Moraga, Rebecca Prado, Alisson Robinson, Michael Yerkes, Brittany Young, and Victoria Zlotnikova.

Roosevelt Andre Credit, Director of Music at the Bronx NY Shakespeare School, led an enthusiastic *All-County Junior High School Chorus*. The audience sensed a true connection between the chorus and its director, not often appreciated in a one-day festival. Congratulations to Marisol Acevedo, Amanda DeJesus, Angela Machicote, Rebecca Avery, Joseph Barrera, Alyssa Ellis, Samantha Rosenstock, Daniel Matthews, Joshua Pearson, Matthew Rogers, and Adam Wenig.

The *All-County Senior High Chorus* was conducted by Dr. Jonathan Babcock, faculty member of Brooklyn College's Conservatory of Music. Under Dr. Babcock's direction, the Chorus performed with a balance and blend rarely achieved in a high school choral festival. Congratulations to Ellenville High vocalists, Katelynn Avery, Celia Barry, Jennifer Gillette, Tanisha Younger, Amanda Zweck, Richelle Blauvelt, Victoria Cohen, Brittney Green, Caitlin Logan, Jessica Myers, Ryan Barerra, Devon Craft, Etienne Dodge, Johnathan Marinaccio, Andrew Rogers, Jordan Torres, and Jose Valdez.

The *All-County Instrumental Festival* was held on March 12th and co-chaired by Ellenville Central High School's Laurie Worden. Ellenville was represented by 15 All-County instrumental musicians.


With what has become a tradition at the *All-County Instrumental Festival*, the concert opened with the combined groups performing The Star Spangled Banner, played by students from the 5th through 12th grades.

The *All-County Elementary Band* was conducted by Maxwell Strain, an elementary music instructor at Highview Elementary School in Nanuet, NY. Congratulations to Ellenville's Elyssa Garcia, Tobey Kass, Steven Bar, and Ben Altshuler.


Andrew LaCoppolo, director of the Knox Junior High School bands in Johnstown, NY, conducted the *All-County Junior High Band*. Comprised of 7th through 9th graders, the *Junior High Band* gave an exceptionally tight and musically diverse program. Ellenville Freshman Devon Craft performed a beautiful alto saxophone solo to open the rather moving song "The Maelstrom" by Robert W. Smith. Congratulations to Ellenville's Ann Reynolds, Devon Craft, Jack Gillette, and Zelina Castillo.

The closing band of the evening was the *All-County High School Band*. Victor Izzo, a retired music teacher from Wallkill Central Schools, conducted the *Senior High Band*. This band played a challenging program with balance and competency appreciated by the audience. Con-

gratulations to Ellenville's Edward Hubbert, Meghan Ballantine, Richelle Blauvelt, Lauren Schuyler, Katrina Kass, George Hammel, and Mara Phelan.

The Music Department of Ellenville Central School District deserves recognition for their preparation of these young musicians. The families, friends, and community are truly proud and grateful to have such talented students representing our school. 

30 Yrs. Exp. Quality Work at Fair Prices

QUALITY MASONRY 

Brick • Block • Stone Work • Tile • Marble
Fireplaces • Veneers • Patios
Kitchens • Baths

Vito Bianca (845) 647-1757

At the Ellenville Public Library

EPLM Budget & Trustee Vote

The *EPLM* annual Budget Vote & Trustee Election will take place **Tuesday, April 19th** from **10 AM to 8 PM** at the **Library**. Absentee ballots can be picked up at the library through April 18th, or requested by phone through April 12th, by calling the library at **647-5530**. Completed ballots must be returned to the library by 8 PM, April 19.

The proposed 2006 operating budget reflects a real property tax of \$635,000, representing an increase of one percent of revenues raised by taxes. Copies of the proposed budget are available at the library.

Two vacancies are on the Board. John Cummings is seeking election to replace Peter Berger, who's completed a five-year term and will not run for re-election. Deborah Stack has completed her one-year appointment and will run for the remaining four years of the term.

TO YOUR HEALTH!

The library will offer a lecture series this month designed to identify common health problems and solutions. The presenter is Dr. Joseph Grable, DC. Born and raised in Ellenville, Dr. Grable has a masters degree in music performance, spent 15 years in management at UPS, and is a graduate of Los Angeles College of Chiropractic. He practices with *Craft Chiropractic* in the Village.

The public is cordially invited to attend these topical discussions on the following Thursday evenings in the **Community Room**.

April 7th, 7 PM – Low Back Pain, Its Causes and Solutions. Why does back pain exist? What pain generators are involved? What treatments are available?

April 14th, 7 PM – Healthy Eating: The Anti Diet Solution. What healthy eating looks like, food-related myths, and why dieting never works.

April 21st, 7 PM – Posture, Posture, Posture: Getting Reacquainted with your Postural Muscles. Stressing the importance of good posture, we will close with an exercise to improve posture once and for all.

Ongoing Programs include: Knitting Group, which meets **Saturday** mornings from **10 to Noon**; Creative Writing group, which meets alternate **Saturdays, 3 PM**; March Movie Madness, flyers available at the library. 