

Hospital Readout

Ellenville Hospital Progresses

Ellenville Regional Hospital continues its renaissance with new services and plans for an *Emergency Department* construction project this year. "We are committed to breaking ground in 2005," said Steven Kelley, President and CEO. "The *Emergency Department* will be moved back to the general area where it was originally located." An occupancy date of summer 2006 is anticipated.

The construction project is a logical outcome from the ongoing review and implementation of an internal process for better patient flow throughout the hospital. Goals include the reduction of waiting time in the *Emergency Department* and a better use of wireless technology by implementing bedside registration.

It will be the first major change to the hospital "footprint" since the building was erected forty years ago. When the project is complete, the *Emergency Department* will be next to laboratory and radiology services.

A combination of sources will provide funds for the project, beginning with a Health and Human Services Grant procured by Congressman Maurice Hinchey, plus commitments from the Resnick, Gillette, and McDonald families. Total funding is not yet secured, so additional funding is needed and welcomed.

Earlier in 2005, *Ellenville Regional Hospital* initiated transitional care for Ellenville area patients who have been hospitalized for three days or more as an acute admission, require services on a daily basis, as well as supervision by professional or technical personnel.

The *Swing Bed Program* makes it possible for area residents to recover closer to home, regardless of where their acute admission occurred. It is an ideal solution for the patient who isn't quite ready to be at home, especially alone, but wants to be closer to home, family, and friends.

Transitional care services under this new program include skilled nursing care, nutritional therapy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and case management.

Ellenville Regional Hospital's 2004 annual audit shows continued progress in the hospital's financial recovery. In 2003, the hospital operated at a two-million-dollar loss. Thanks to strict management controls and more efficient operation on all levels, *Ellenville Regional Hospital's* 2004 annual audit reports that *ERH* was very close to breaking even, with a loss of only \$20,000. Mathematically, the 2004 loss was only 1% of the 2003 amount. In other words, *ERH* has made a 99% recovery from its financial abyss!

The hospital's reorganization and recovery plans were approved by the US Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of New York, in early May of this year. The Town of Wawarsing and the Village of Ellenville, Ulster County, medical staff, New York State Department of Health, the Kingston Hospital, Mid-Hudson Family Health Institute, hospital staff, volunteers, donors, and board members have been thanked repeatedly for their efforts and the community support which has made possible *ERH's* almost-miraculous return to its role as a major quality healthcare provider in this area.

In announcing the magnificent progress toward financial stability as indicated by the 2004 audit, Steven Kelley, President and CEO, especially recognized the assistance given to *Ellenville Regional Hospital* by the Ulster County Legislature, particularly Chairman Richard Gerentine, and the Special Committee for Ellenville Re-



gional Hospital, which was chaired by Michael Stock, Majority Leader. Other committee members were David Donaldson, Minority Leader, and District 1 Legislators Susan Cummings, Theresa Hyatt, Gerald DePew, and Joseph Stoeckeler, Jr.

Special thanks are extended to Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Senator John Bonacic, and Assemblyman Kevin Cahill for their continued advocacy, and the *Ellenville Regional Hospital Board of Directors*.

For more information about hospital services, or to volunteer, or to donate to the *Emergency Department* project, call 647-6400, ext. 238.

Remember the *Ellenville Regional Hospital Annual Dinner Dance* on **October 22nd**!

Hospital Tag Weekend Success

With the support of the *Ellenville Regional Hospital Auxiliary* and other local volunteers, the *Hospital's* annual Tag Day turned into a weekend event.

On August 5th, the *Auxiliary* members set up in the banks and other local businesses to collect donations on behalf of the *Hospital*. Mildred Resnick and Paul Craft (*photo above, with CEO Steve Kelley*) orchestrated local volunteers to collect funds on **Rte. 209** in front of the *Hospital* on Saturday the 6th, for the second day of the Tag Day Weekend.

Funds collected over the Tag Day Weekend totaled almost \$5,000 for the *Hospital*.

"This was a great weekend for *Ellenville Regional Hospital*", stated President and CEO Steven Kelley. "The support from the Ellenville/Wawarsing community was



exceptional. Without the collaborative efforts of Mildred Resnick, Paul Craft, and the *Auxiliary*, under the presidency of Maggi Heath, (*photo at left*) this event would not have been possible. I extend a heartfelt thank-you to Mrs. Resnick, Mr. Craft, and Ms. Heath for undertaking this project. I also wish to thank all those who volunteered their time to assist with

the Tag Day, to the businesses who allowed our *Auxiliary* access to their premises for the day, and to those who so generously donated funds in the Tag Day canisters. Your support is most appreciated."

For information regarding *Ellenville Regional Hospital*, please call 647-6400.