

April 2012

# ELLICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

Volume 42 Issue 6



## *Students Lend a Hand at* WINTER CARNIVAL

On March 6<sup>th</sup>, 20 of our ECS high school students had the opportunity to assist special education students from throughout the county at the annual BOCES winter carnival.

The day consisted of snow tubing, broom hockey, hayrides, soccer, & cart races. This was a great opportunity for our students to help students with disabilities enjoy the wonderful day that BOCES puts on for them at Holiday Valley Tubing Park.

Many would not be able to fully enjoy all of the events offered if our students were not there to assist them. This was a positive experience for our students, as well as those they were able to help. Thank you to the following students for donating your time: Ashley Golley, Connor Hellwig, Colin Lapi, Don Prentice, Becca Golley, Julia Schwartz, Mary Bohn, Michaela Pierce, Chantel Perez, Hailey Musall, Daneth Musall, Alexis Woodin, Hannah Doro, Alessia Filutze, Emily Uhrinek, Sam Uhrinek, Courtney Wilson, Paige Wyatt, Nick Oliverio, and Amy Borowiak.

Thank you to Debbie Golley for allowing us to be a part of such a unique and educational experience!



## SAVE THE DATE: ECS ALUMNI REUNION AUGUST 3<sup>rd</sup>

Friday evening, August 3, 2012 beginning at 5 p.m., the ECS Alumni Banquet and All-Class Reunion will take place at the Tannenbaum Lodge at Holiday Valley. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. All ECS former students and graduates (and their guest) are invited to attend.

Details and a reservation form can be found on the ECS website, [ellicottvillecentral.com](http://ellicottvillecentral.com). Please send reservations to Ellicottville Alumni Asso-

ciation, PO Box 1033, Ellicottville, NY 14731.

One of the highlights of the evening will be the presentation of a Commemorative Plaque to the ECS Senior boy and girl chosen to receive at graduation the annual Alumni Award of \$300 each. The award recipients, along with their parents will be special guests of the Alumni Association.

Special recognition will also be given to members of the 5-year Honor Classes in attendance. A photographer will be

present to record those classes, as well as candid shots to be included on the Alumni web-page for next year. There will be displays of Class memorabilia, pictures and yearbooks to browse through before dinner.

This year's gathering is again a 2-day affair with brunch Saturday August 4, at the United Church of Ellicottville from 9-11a.m. Another great chance to renew friendships and trade memories.



# Funding Education In NYS... Making Up Lost Aid

**LAST OF A 3-PART SERIES**

**By Mark J. Ward,  
Superintendent**

This article is designed to provide you with some additional information that we hope will help you to better understand how education is funded.

We have talked about the increasing cost of operating the school and, like our own personal budgets, there are not many places where things are going down. In order to keep pace we have to either cut, reduce, combine, share services or find other means or sources of revenues to make up for the loss of State Aid.

The state established “**Foundation Aid**” as a way to standardize funding and make it more predictable. In 2012-13 we will be entering the fourth year that we have been frozen at the same number. There was a plan to make adjustments to these aid figures but the economy and the State’s financial crisis put all of that on hold. On top of that, former Governor Patterson implemented a “Gap Elimination” adjustment to our aid which is basically a reduction. ECS lost \$424,825 in 2010-11, \$462,531 this year and we are projected to lose \$422,837 in 2012-13. These reductions have further complicated our ability to deal with rising costs.

**What is meant by “expense driven aid?”** There are primarily three areas of the budget that a District receives aid based on what they spend. Thus, if you spend more your aid will increase the following year but if you reduce then district revenues will be lower the following year. The areas covered include transportation, special education and BOCES services.

All school districts in our area are able to benefit greatly by buying or sharing services through BOCES due to the high level of aid they receive back. Most area districts receive 80-90% of their expenditures back the following year...ECS receives 36.6% of aid back on expenditures. This lower aid ratio is generally based on several factors that determine district wealth; the number of families that receive Free and Reduced Price Meals (22%), income of district residents and our property wealth.

ECS transportation aid is rather straight forward with a reimbursement rate of 40% (most area schools are 80-90%). Special education is much more complicated, based on the type of services, state and federal regulations and the individual needs of the students.

**Will the 2012-13  
ECS budget be  
at or below the  
tax levy limit?**

*Yes, and therefore  
a simple majority (50%)  
is needed to approve  
the budget.*

If a budget is defeated twice by voters, the district must adopt a contingent budget. This means that the 2012-13 tax levy cannot be increased by any amount ... so in effect, it would be a zero percent tax cap.



## What revenue sources does the District depend on to fund the educational programs that we offer?

- State Aid (23%)
  - Foundation Aid (\$2,601,950)
  - Special Education, textbook
- Other State Aid (10%) (Expense driven)
  - Building Aid, Transportation, BOCES
- Real property taxes (56%)
  - STAR/Enhanced STAR (State reimburses District)
  - Lottery Aid
- Special education- excess cost
- IDEA (Individuals Disability Education Act) (Federal funds)
- Title I (Federal funds)
- Non-resident student tuition
- Interest and tax penalties
- Appropriated Fund Balance (District reserves)

## LAST OF A 3-PART SERIES, CONTINUED

# School District Tax Rate Comparison With Common Towns

## ... *Ellicottville continues to benefit from growth*

The chart below provides you with a comparison of true value tax rates with neighboring school districts that have common towns with the Ellicottville School District. The table demonstrates how our District taxpayers are actually benefiting from the large tax base that has developed as a result of the growth of the ski industry and recreational interest in the Ellicottville area. The vast number of new homes, condos, business growth and overall property improvements has seen our tax base increase from \$303,090,477 in 2002-03 to \$788,228,948 (2011-12). This change represents a 260 % increase in the last nine years! While that growth has now settled down, the resulting tax base provides our district with one of the lowest tax rates in this part of New York State!

If you look at the true value tax rates from 2004-12, you will see that, with the exception of one year, the tax rates have steadily decreased from \$13.36 per \$1,000 of assessed property in 2004 to \$7.39 in 2012. This represents a 44% decrease!

The comparison chart shows what school taxes would be like in a neighboring school district. For purposes of comparison we are using a home assessed at \$100,000. The rates are based on \$1,000 of assessed property so if you multiply the true value tax rate x 100 you will see how school taxes differ in the various school districts.



### SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX RATE (PER \$1,000) COMPARISON WITH COMMON TOWNS

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Taxes for Home Valued at \$100,000
<b>ELLICOTTVILLE</b>									
Mansfield	13.36	9.63	8.52	7.63	7.55	7.31	7.45	7.39	\$739
Ellicottville	13.36	9.15	8.52	7.63	7.55	7.31	7.45	7.39	\$739
Humphrey	15	12.19	11.67	13.39	16.07	15.55	7.45	7.39	\$739
Great Valley*	369.51	304.84	284	317.97	325.5	315.1	341.55	7.39	\$739
Franklinville	11.09	9.63	9.47	8.98	9.32	9.49	9.93	9.98	\$998
<b>ALLEGANY-LIMESTONE</b>									
Humphrey	14.62	15.98	16.52	16.67	16.38	16.62	17.82	18.38	\$1,838
<b>WEST VALLEY</b>									
Ellicottville	26.7	20.28	21.18	20.83	20.68	21.15	21.96	22.93	\$2,293
<b>SALAMANCA</b>									
Great Valley*	490.33	533.49	522.89	628.67	667.56	691.72	759.52	16.98	\$1,698
<b>CATTARAUGUS-LITTLE VALLEY</b>									
Mansfield	17.84	18.43	17.13	17.01	16.57	16.13	14.88	15.32	\$1,532
<b>FRANKLINVILLE</b>									
Humphrey	26.91	25.78	25.5	32.62	39.59	39.55	18.15	18.54	\$1,854
Franklinville	19.88	20.35	20.69	21.87	22.97	24.14	24.2	25.06	\$2,506

\* The Great Valley tax rates differ because the town went through a re-evaluation process in 2011 to assess property at 100%.

# Five Teams Participate In ODYSSEY OF THE MIND CONTESTS

At the regional Odyssey of the Mind competition on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Allegany/Limestone Central School, one of our five teams placed first. Mrs. Jane Chew's Middle school team competed in the Classics problem entitled "To Be or Not To Be." This team will advance to the state level competition at SUNY Binghamton on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

The team consisted of 6<sup>th</sup> graders: Walter Woodarek, Hannah DeChane, Mitchell Sexton, Jonah Rust and 7<sup>th</sup> graders: Hannah Chew and Emma Chew.

The other four teams all placed second. They included: A high school team coached by Mrs. Bower and included sophomores: Emily Timkey, McKenzie Robinson, Isabella Brown, Gwen Brown, Ashley Charlesworth and Jordan Curtis. They also competed in the "To Be or Not To Be" Classics problem.

The following teams chose the problem called Odyssey Angels:

An elementary team coached by Mrs. Donoghue consisted of 4<sup>th</sup> graders: Abaigeal Donoghue, Abbey DeChane, Julianna Giannicchi, and Samantha VanWicklin and 5<sup>th</sup> graders: Meganne Chapman, Malorie Chamberlain and Zackary Krotz.

Mrs. Joann Kurtis coached a middle school team including Zachary Kurtis, Emilee Delity, McKenna Stayer, Lisa Krotz, Mickala Michael, Evan Palmatier, and Liam Watt.

A second high school team included seniors: Nick Oliverio, Josh Bordini, Don Prentice and Clare Toner and juniors Rachel McMahon- Eagan, Eric Oliverio and Patrick Synder. They were coached by Ms. Caitlin Riggs.

As always ECS was well represented and were quite successful in the Odyssey of the Mind competition. Thank you coaches, students and parents for your hard work and time commitment to this program. We'd also like to thank the employees at Great Valley Builders for their help and support. Great job everyone!



# Apply Now For **SPRING SCHOLARSHIPS**

Each year several local scholarships and awards are given at graduation ceremonies. Ellicottville Central School is truly fortunate and grateful to have so many families, organizations, and businesses generously offer these funds to graduating students. Many of the scholarship / award recipients are chosen by the family, organization or business through a selection / application process that they have developed. Seniors should watch for information related to these scholarships and awards.

At the same time, some of the families, organizations and businesses that offer scholarships and awards have elected to use an application process through ECS. Below is a list of the scholarships and awards that students need to apply for through the guidance office. Please carefully read the requirements for each award to be sure that you qualify based on the criteria listed.

**Please submit the necessary information to the Guidance Office by May 14<sup>th</sup>.**

**HOLIDAY VALLEY SCHOLARSHIP** - Seniors are asked to submit an essay on community service that they have been involved in and explain why community service is important. Three scholarships will be given: two at \$2,000 each and one for \$1,000.

**HUGHEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** - Seniors who plan to attend college and major in Science or Education are encouraged to apply for this \$1,000 scholarship. Please submit an essay with information about yourself and your future plans.

**DANIEL SIRIANNI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** - Seniors who plan to attend college and major in Business or Education are encouraged to apply for this \$1,000 scholarship. Please submit an essay with information about yourself and your future plans.

**JOSEPH F. WARD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** - Seniors who plan to attend college and major in an Agricultural or Environmental related field are encouraged to apply for this \$1,000 scholarship. Please submit an essay describing yourself, your intended major, and your future career plans.

**ELLICOTTVILLE ROTARY CLUB AWARD** - Seniors who have participated in community service, have a minimum B average, participate in extra-curricular activities, demonstrate leadership skills and plan to attend college are eligible. Please submit an essay on your activities and accomplishments to be considered for this \$500 award.

**ELLICOTTVILLE TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION AWARD** - Seniors who plan to attend college and major in education will be considered for this \$500 award. An application is not required. The ETA will meet to determine the 4 award winners. Additional criteria may also be used in determining the winners.

**LELAND ARTHUR EASTMAN MEMORIAL AWARD** - Seniors who plan to pursue a career in Photography, history or journalism are encouraged to apply for this \$400 award. Please submit an essay with information about yourself and your future plans.

**KRISTEN HINTZ MEMORIAL AWARD** - In a one or two page essay, tell us about yourself. Describe and explain what characteristics and qualities you possess that makes you deserving of this scholarship. You should also include in your essay any situation where you have overcome an obstacle or met a challenge in your life. Please include a time when you made an impact on someone's life. An additional application is required for this scholarship; please stop in the Guidance Office to pick one up.

**ECS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD** - Seniors who are academically motivated and plan to attend college are invited to apply for this \$300 scholarship. Additional criteria are: Demonstrated Leadership, Community and School

involvement and good character. Please submit an essay describing your qualifications for this scholarship. One male and one female will be selected for this award.

**CATTARAUGUS COUNTY BANK AWARD** - Seniors who plan to attend college and major in business are eligible to apply for this \$200 award. Please submit an essay indicating your future plans in relation to business.

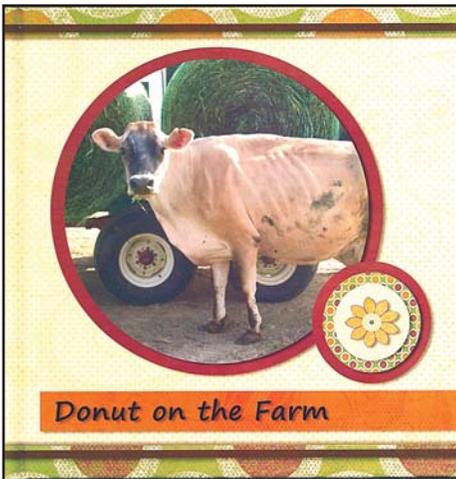
**MARCIA SLATER MEMORIAL AWARD** - Seniors who have a B average or higher and demonstrate the following characteristics; kind to others, positive attitude, generosity, determination to overcome obstacles, and a good personality, are encouraged to apply for this \$200 award. Please submit an essay describing yourself and your future plans as well as any information that you feel makes you a candidate for this award.

**VISIONARY AWARD** - Seniors who plan to attend college in the fall are invited to submit a 500-word essay on the topic: "How are you going to make the world a better place." This will be a \$250 award.

## TOMBLIN PRESENTED OMER AWARD

During the Region 19 Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES Odyssey of the Mind competition, our own Mrs. Tomblin was presented with a very special OMER Award. The OMER's Award is given to a team or an individual for showing exceptional Odyssey spirit through their words or actions. The Odyssey of the Mind coaches at ECS wanted to recognize Mrs. Tomblin for her 8 years of being the Ellicottville Odyssey of the Mind coordinator. We thanked her for being such a strong role model and leader of the Odyssey program here at ECS. She works tirelessly each year to help the teams with purchase orders, organizing team work stations, coordinating spontaneous training sessions, and by listening to and helping out with whatever the coaches need. She is a real asset to the program.





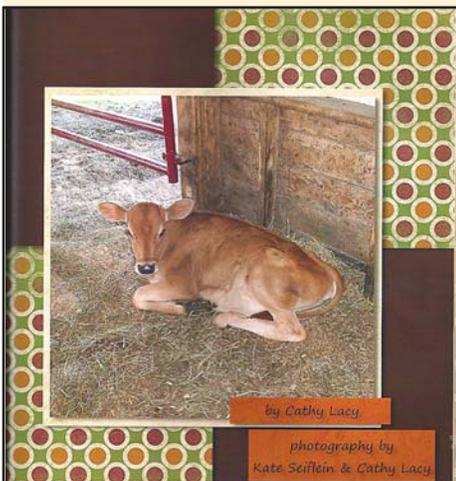
Donut on the Farm

## Book Collaboration 'DONUT ON THE FARM'

Kate Seiflein an 11th grade student at Ellicottville Central School collaborated on a book with Cathy Lacy about her family's farm on Snowbrook Road in Great Valley. The book is titled "Donut on the Farm" and is told from the perspective of Donut the cow.



Congratulations, Kate, on a job well done!!



by Cathy Lacy

photography by  
Kate Seiflein & Cathy Lacy



## SUPPORTING LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY KITCHEN

The Class of 2016 prepared chocolate bags for donors giving to the Lighthouse Community Kitchen in Salamanca. The 8th grade students collected donations and distributed the chocolate bags to all who gave \$1 or more. Students also brought in canned goods to their St. Patrick's Day dance on Friday, March 16th. The canned goods will also be donated to the kitchen to help support local families. 8th grade officers and classmates worked diligently to prepare the bags for distribution on St. Patrick's Day.

### SUPPORT THE BAND!!

**1<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL**

## ELLICOTTVILLE BAND

# Mattress Fundraiser Sale!!!

- All sizes available (Twin-King)!
- Pillowtops, Orthopedics, Latex and Memory Foams!
- All Mattresses are **Brand New** with Factory Warranties!
- All Name Brand Mattresses!
- **Free Layaway Available!**
- Delivery Available!
- Cash, Checks and Credit Cards Accepted!

**Proceeds Go Directly to the BAND!**

**IF YOU NEED A MATTRESS SET,  
NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY!!!**

**SAVE 30%-60% OFF RETAIL!!!**

**When: Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Where: @ Ellicottville High School Gym**

**Time: 10am-5pm**

TAKE AN ADDITIONAL **\$50.00 OFF**  
**ANY MATTRESS PURCHASE**  
WITH THIS COUPON!

Personally Invited By **CRYSTAL WILDER, Band Director**

# CLASS OF 2014 HANGING PLANT SALE

Please help the Class of 2014 raise money by buying a hanging flower plant. What better way to decorate for spring than with hanging plants.

Please mail the following order form with money to: Sophomore Class Advisor, Ellicottville Central School, 5873 Rt. 219, Ellicottville, NY 14731

Please place all orders by Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Make checks payable to Ellicottville Central School.

Customer Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Hanging Plants (Indicate Quantity and Color):

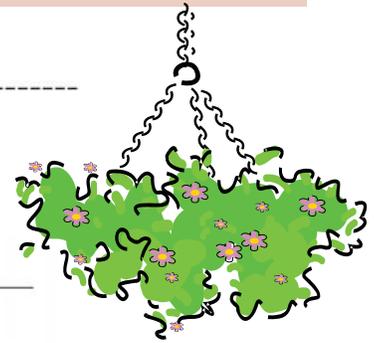
**Portulaca** – \_\_\_\_\_

**New Guinea Impatiens** – Pink \_\_\_\_\_, Orange \_\_\_\_\_, White \_\_\_\_\_, or Purple \_\_\_\_\_

**Petunias** – Pink \_\_\_\_\_ or Purple \_\_\_\_\_

**Ivy Geraniums** – Red \_\_\_\_\_, Pink \_\_\_\_\_, or Purple \_\_\_\_\_

**Fuchsias** – \_\_\_\_\_



Hanging Plants are \$20 each. Orders will be available to pick up at the high school on Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

## YEARBOOK NEWS

*Are these pictures in the book? Just a few short months and you'll get to find out, if you reserve a book now.*

- You need to put at least \$10 down to reserve a yearbook. Make checks payable to ECS yearbook. Yearbooks must be reserved before June 1st. If you don't reserve one you won't be able to purchase one until a week after they come in, if there are any left after reserved ones have had a chance to be claimed. Reserve one with Mrs. Bauer and don't forget to hold on to your receipt.
- You may purchase old yearbooks while supplies last. 2011's book is \$30. Books from previous years are \$10 apiece, while supplies last.
- If you sold items in the fundraiser, you have already reserved a book. You just need to pay the balance before you can retrieve it.



## ECS SENIOR CLASS HOLDING VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT FUNDRAISER

The Class of 2012 would like to inform everyone that they are hosting a volleyball tournament on April 28<sup>th</sup>. This event is a fundraiser for the class for senior year expenses. The tournament will be held in the high school gym at Ellicottville Central School starting at 5:00 p.m.

Each team has to have four players consisting of two boys and two girls. The fee for entering is \$20 per team. The tournament will be a double elimination tournament. This means that even if you lose, you still have a chance at being the overall winners if you can make it to the final round.

If you would like to enter, please email Jaimee Olson at [jolson@eville.wnyric.org](mailto:jolson@eville.wnyric.org). When you send your email, make sure to include your team name and the name of the players. If you want to play, information is needed no later than April 25<sup>th</sup>.

If you are not registered before the tournament, you will be allowed to register at the door. If this is the case, you will need to register by 4:30 p.m. Registration money will be collected at the tournament.

Ellicottville Central School  
5873 Route 219  
Ellicottville, NY 14731  
[www.eville.wnyric.org](http://www.eville.wnyric.org)

NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 88  
Olean, NY 14760

Board Members  
Mr. James Wiley, President  
Mr. Roger Spell, Vice President  
Mr. Carl Calarco  
Mr. Steve Crowley  
Mr. Lynn Eddy  
Mrs. Connie Hellwig

Or *CURRENT RESIDENT*

*POSTAL PATRON*

Administration  
Mr. Mark J. Ward, Superintendent / Business Administrator  
Mr. Robert Miller, 6-12 Principal  
Mrs. Connie Poulin, Pre K-5 Principal / CSE-CPSE Chairperson

*ECRWSS*



**E** - Embracing Change  
**C** - Celebrating Success  
**S** - Surpassing Expectations



## LADY EAGLES CAPTURE LEAGUE TITLE

By Coach Tim Bergan

The Lady Eagles had an outstanding season as they finished 1st in a tough Division III league. Their league record was 10-2 including two victories over Pine Valley. This is the first time in school history that we have beaten Pine Valley. They also had great wins over Maple Grove and Chautauqua Lake. The other wins were over Franklinville, Forestville and Westfield. This is the first league title since 2006. To go along with this honor we placed two on first team all-stars (Janae Hamilton and Madison Szaicher). We also had two young ladies Paige Wyatt and Falcia Elom receive honors as honorable mention. Ashley Golley was named for the team sportsmanship award and finally Janae Hamilton was named the league MVP.

A great big thanks to all the lady Eagles on a special season. Without everyone this never would have been possible. The team consisted of Seniors Falcia Elom, Kaitlyn Riethmiller, Ashley Golley, Shannon Scott and Paige Wyatt. Juniors Ashley Wilson, Madison Szaicher, Janae Hamilton and Cam Musall and finally 7th grader Marissa Hamilton.



**Ellicottville Central School  
Income Tax Code is  
... 181**

