

January-February 2013

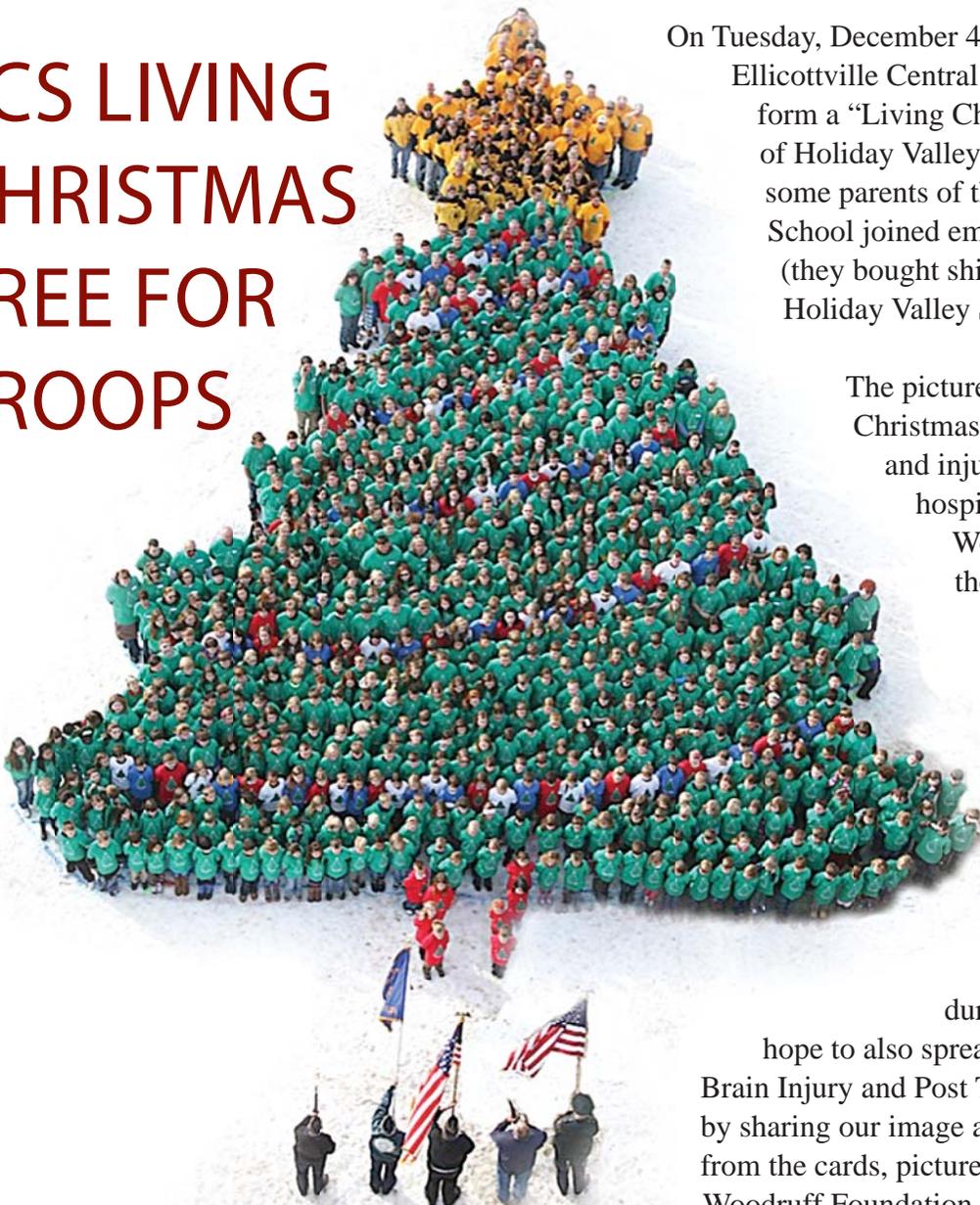
# ELLICOTTVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL

Volume 43 Issue 4



## Effort in Contention for a Possible World Record

### ECS LIVING CHRISTMAS TREE FOR TROOPS



On Tuesday, December 4th, 2012 the entire Ellicottville Central School came together to form a "Living Christmas Tree" on the slopes of Holiday Valley! The students, staff and some parents of the Ellicottville Central School joined employees from M & T Bank (they bought shirts for everyone) and Holiday Valley Ski Resort.

The picture was shared during the Christmas Season with troops and injured soldiers confined to hospitals. The Guinness Book of World Records is verifying the Tree for Troops photo as a possible **WORLD RECORD** for most people in a Living Christmas Tree!

Since 9/11/01, Patty Watson has been uniting students in patriotic formations to stand together to show support of the troops during the holiday season. We hope to also spread awareness of Traumatic Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome by sharing our image and sending all proceeds from the cards, pictures and magnets to the Bob Woodruff Foundation, [Remind.org](http://Remind.org). To date nearly \$1,400 has been raised!

Capital Project Presentation: **Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m. in the H.S. Library**

Public Vote Slated for Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>

# ECS BOARD APPROVES CAPITAL PROJECT

By Mark J. Ward, Superintendent

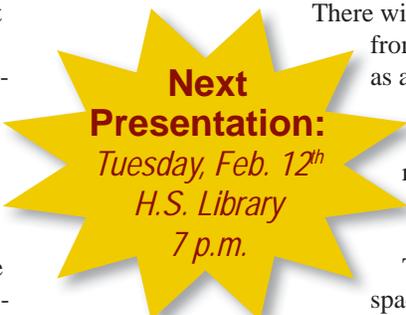
On January 22, 2013, at the regular meeting of the ECS Board of Education, the Board unanimously approved a \$9,845,800 capital project vote to be held on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-8:00 PM.

Over the past months dating back into the 2011-12 school year, the Board has reviewed the District's Building Condition Survey, had discussions with our engineers, sought financial projections from our fiscal advisors, conducted public meetings and thoroughly examined the facilities. While initially the "wish list" was much larger, we felt that it was important to address the most pressing needs with a cost effective project that would bring our facilities up to 2013 standards.

The Board has carefully worked with our planners to design a project that takes our current "building footprint" and reconfigures the space to reflect the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> century learners. What was appropriate and state of the art in 1962 does not meet the standard in 2013.

We recognize that the community cannot afford an auditorium, but we believe we can improve our facilities in a way that will allow us to construct a "mixed-use" facility that can host athletic contests, concerts, assemblies, award banquets, testing, community programs and other special performances. The renovated gym will feature air-conditioning, movable bleachers with seating for 780 on one side and a stage inside the gym (like the 1887 Building). 392 of the seats will have backs that will provide more comfortable seating for all events held in the gym.

The playing surface of the gym will be enlarged to meet the floor standards of today with more area on the sides and behind the baskets for safety. The multi-use facility will have improved seating, better lighting and sound, while providing a place that can showcase our students and programs.



There will be a movable wall that will separate the gym from the stage. The stage area will be also be used as a large group instruction room for distance learning, on-line learning and computer instruction. New and larger band and chorus rooms will be positioned on either side of the stage in a portion of the current gym space.

The project will also include 100' by 50' of new space on the back of the gym that will primarily house modern, updated locker rooms.

## Other Project Highlights:

- Lighting in both parking lots to address safety issues
- Removal of original hall lockers
- Relocate and expand weight room for student and community use
- Asbestos removal
- Handicap accessibility issues will be addressed
- New lighting, fixtures, ceilings and flooring in all 1962 classrooms
- Electrical service upgrades in older portion of building
- Replace some roofing
- Address moisture, ventilation and air flow issues in the elementary wing
- Replace lighting on football/soccer field...originally installed in 1977

The project is designed to meet the 21<sup>st</sup> century needs of our students. The facilities will allow us to provide our students and community with a multi-use facility that will allow us to feature a variety of uses for the reconfigured space. This project will place our District in a strong position for the future by allowing us to modernize our facilities, maintain strong academic programs, offer opportunities for our students and continue providing the "family type atmosphere" that is a signature of the Ellicottville Central School.

## PETITIONS AVAILABLE FOR TWO SEATS ON BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nominating petitions for the Ellicottville Central School District Board of Education are now available. The annual election will be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 to fill the seats currently held by board members Mr. Roger Spell and Mr. Lynn Eddy. Nominating petitions must be filed with the District Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 22, 2013.

Petitions must contain the signatures and legal addresses of at least 25 qualified voters living in the Ellicottville Central School District. A qualified voter must be a United States citizen, be at least 18 years of age, a district resident for 30 days prior to the election, with their current address on the nominating petition. To qualify as a candidate, one must be a qualified voter and a district resident for one year im-

mediately prior to the election.

The candidates receiving the two highest number of votes will serve a five-year term, beginning on July 1, 2013 and expiring on June 30, 2018.

Nominating petitions are available in the District Office, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Monday-Friday) when school is in session.



# ECS Wins Coveted LEGO TEAMWORK TROPHY

The ECS eighth grade FIRST LEGO League Robotics Team, consisting of Jordon Andrews, Jacob Bower, Hannah and Emma Chew, Victor Rieman, Robert Spell and Liam Watt, traveled to the University of Rochester on Sunday, Dec. 9, 2012. This team came home with the coveted Teamwork trophy after wowing the judges with their solution to the core values problem and receiving a perfect evaluation for their innovative design.

In the core values part of the competition, the team was required – in five minutes! – to create a wind-powered vehicle with straws, Life-Savers, a sheet of newspaper, and a piece of tape. They then needed to blow the vehicle as far as possible across a table and the distances were recorded. The judges were amazed when the ECS team banded together and caused their vehicle to fly past the end of the table and onto the floor!

This group of individuals truly does come together to work as a team, and coaches Mr. Edwards and Mr. Wood are extremely proud of their dedication. The goal of FIRST LEGO League (FLL) is to introduce younger



students to real-world engineering challenges by building LEGO-based robots to complete tasks on a thematic playing surface. FLL teams, guided by their imaginations and adult coaches, discover exciting career possibilities and, through the process, learn to make positive contributions to society. For this year's Senior Solutions challenge, the eighth grade team designed

a forklift system that attaches to a walker and allows a senior citizen to lift objects from floor level without needing to bend.

This is the third year that Ellicottville has had a FIRST LEGO League Robotics Team. There are currently two middle school teams. Over 40 seventh and eighth grade students competed in an in-school points event to be part of the robotics teams. The top six point earners from each grade were chosen and went on to compete at the Southern Tier Qualifying Tournament in November at Houghton College, where the eighth graders further qualified to move on to the Rochester Championship by winning the Core Values Trophy.

This year's seventh grade team consisted of Hannah DeChane, Austin Grinols, Kourtney Robinson, Mitchell Sexton, Noah Stuve, and Brett Wilson. Their robot design won an "Engineering Excellence" award at the Southern Tier Tournament. They will continue to hone and expand upon the skills they learned this year in their efforts to bring home some more hardware next year.



When I read...  
**nonfiction**

**Before**

- ~predict learning
- ~ask questions
- ~anticipate the text

**During**

- ~determine new learning
- ~ask questions
- ~connect information
- ~identify important information

**After**

- ~ask questions
- ~Share new learning
- ~Identify main idea
- ~Summarize information

Non-Fiction Text Features

- title
- labels
- table of contents
- cross sections
- time line
- close ups

- captions
- maps
- photographs
- glossary
- index
- comparison
- types of print

Non-fiction Text Feature	How This Text Feature Helps Us As Readers
•Types of Print	Helps make new and/or important words stand out in the text
•Glossary	A list of words and their definitions located at the end of a text
•Headings	A short phrase, sentence, or question that highlights a key point or topic
•Insets and Sidebars	Additional information found in boxes or at the side of a page.

# Common Core: FOCUS ON NON-FICTION

Research indicates that more than 80 percent of what people read and write is nonfiction text. Newspapers, magazines, directions on new products, application forms, and how-to manuals are just some types of nonfiction reading material we encounter on a daily basis. As students move through the grades, an increasing amount of time is spent reading informational text for subjects such as science and social studies. Many reading comprehension sections on state and national tests are nonfiction.

Learning how to compare fiction and nonfiction is a skill that develops over a child's school career. Often, children, learn this skill early in their school years, but it reappears more and more often when children begin to write more in later grades. The saying "truth is stranger than fiction" sometimes applies to literary works. Determining if a book is fiction or nonfiction can sometimes prove difficult. When books are not clearly labeled as either fiction or nonfiction, evaluating the content becomes a necessary skill. Teaching children the difference between fiction and nonfiction is important so children will be able to intelligently analyze a piece of work. Evaluating the two literary genres takes a combination of research and common sense.

Past saying simply fiction is not real and nonfiction is, there are a few more specific distinctions between the fiction and nonfiction writing styles. For instance, while fiction is largely set within the realm of the imagination, the setting, characters and details of fiction writing can sometimes be entirely based in fact. For instance, historical fiction is a genre which sets fictional accounts of events within a historically accurate setting. No universal classification system exists for nonfiction writing. Essays, news articles, biographies,



journals, historical nonfiction and letter writing are all types of nonfiction. Fiction and nonfiction reading are the two cores of most people's early education. The basic differences should be evident to most adults, but children and those not familiar with literature may need an explanation to justify and understand the inherent variations in style, presentation, function and approach of each piece. As the line between the two different genres becomes blurred in some contemporary writing even adults and especially children may struggle with a clear identification.

We can guide students with some strategies.

Have a fair idea of the topic of your nonfiction text and research key ideas either in an encyclopedia or online.

Look up unfamiliar words in the dictionary. Highlight or underline key ideas or passages as you read.

Take notes in the margins of the text or on notepaper about things you find important or want to research later. Post-it notes are also helpful to mark specific pages or sections you wish to revisit.

Reread difficult passages or, if necessary, the entire piece. Your notes will be

helpful.

Consider possible parallels to other reading materials and questions if there are flaws in the author's reasoning or even your own.

Finally, review your understanding of the text and take some additional steps. Can you explain the main ideas of the nonfiction text that was just read? What was the author's purpose in writing the piece? What did you learn from your reading? If you looked up unfamiliar words, do you remember that they mean? Whatever you are reading with your child, enjoy the time, the learning and the adventure!

It is important for us to keep in mind that students can find it difficult to grasp the difference between fiction and nonfiction. This is because they may be just learning to read more and more fluently in the first place and students often find it difficult to distinguish the nuances between what is true and what is untrue. With patience and guidance students can confidently grasp the difference between the two, gaining one more step in their quest to read to learn rather than learn to read.



# WHAT IS BENCHMARK TESTING AT ECS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL?

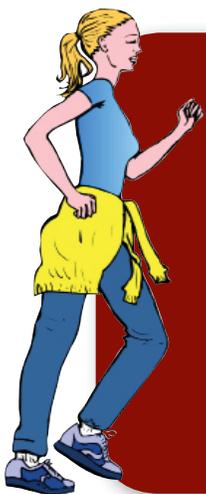
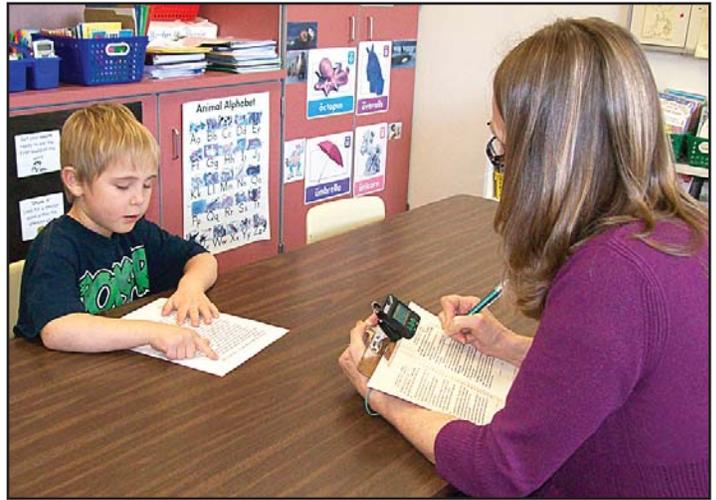
Every fall, winter and spring, each student at ECS Elementary is given individual reading assessments to measure progress. The practice of “benchmarking” has a long history at ECS.

Around the year 2000, with the gentle, persistent urging of our school psychologist, Dr. Kevin Eagan, we began exploring the use of reading fluency curriculum-based measurement as a means of assessing the reading progress and ability of our Elementary students. Before many schools had begun to think about the use of individual reading assessment, ECS purchased a set of graded reading probes from the Edformation Company.

With a tremendous amount of time and effort, Dr. Eagan’s school psychology intern, listened to every single ECS student from grade 1 to grade 6 read two grade level passages in the fall, again in the winter and a third time in the spring. The collected data at that time was compiled and used to establish local ECS norms for each of the testing periods. This allowed us to compare any student’s reading, in any grade level, to their ECS peers.

We also discovered overtime, as we compared ECS data to national norms, that our students at ECS elementary tended to have higher reading fluency than the national norms. Four years ago, when we started using the AIMSweb computer based program to collect and measure not only oral reading fluency rates but also math skills, we found that the testing probes used in their reading fluency testing were the identical probes we have been using since the 2000-01 school year.

The information that is shared with parents helps to inform them about how their child is progressing in comparison to both same-aged peers across the country and here at ECS. Teachers have also repeatedly stated “this tells me what I need to know about each student in terms of their reading ability and progress and therefore helps me tailor lessons to individual needs.”

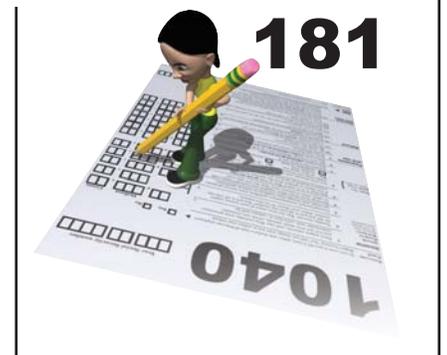


## WALKERS WELCOME IN THE HALLS OF ECS

Ellicottville Central School will host a Walking Program for community members through April 25<sup>th</sup>. The building will be open Monday-Thursday from 6-9 pm (when school is in session).

Community members are asked to check-in each time they walk at the High School back parking lot entrance.

## Ellicottville Central School Income Tax Code:





## *Holiday Valley Enlists Help of* **PROJECT LEAD THE WAY STUDENTS**

The new “Terrain Garden Outpost” near the Creekside Lodge at Holiday Valley is a Log construction by artist Jerry Cobado. It was created with the help of student interns from the Career and Technical Education Center at Ellicottville. This building will serve as a training facility for families with small children interested in skiing and snowboarding.

Students from Project Lead the Way/Computer Aided Design program collaborated with the artist to render technical drawings and used their state of the art 3-D computer printer to fabricate a scale model of the structure. The Welding class programmed the CNC plasma cutter to scale down and reproduce historic angle braces salvaged from the old main chalet on the grounds at Holiday Valley. Natural Resource and Building Tech students contributed to the log work, roofing, and cutting dimensional lumber from harvested logs with the Center’s sawmill.

This unique internship opportunity for Career and Technical Education students is one more example of the added value of CTE programs and the collaborative vision voiced by Holiday Valley administration for community and school involvement.



**Pictured (l-r) are ECS students Thomas Good, Taylor Grinols, Charles Scott and Jake Stoll, who attend the Career Tech Center and worked on the outpost project.**



# Get Involved: HELP SUPPORT OUR PTO

## Family Fun Night

Thank you again to all the volunteers who helped make this big event such a success!

## Get involved!

Come find out what the PTO is doing and get involved. PTO continues to help K-12 students and the surrounding community. These activities can't be done without all of the volunteers! If you would like more information please feel free to attend any of our meetings or email Diana Olson at [dolson@eville.wnyric.org](mailto:dolson@eville.wnyric.org). Our meetings are Tuesdays at 4:15 in the Elementary Art Room. Remaining meetings for the year are listed below:

- February 26<sup>th</sup>
- March 5<sup>th</sup>
- April 9<sup>th</sup>
- May 7<sup>th</sup>
- June 17<sup>th</sup>

## TOPS in Education

The new TOPS in Education Program is helping to raise money for the PTO. A flyer was sent home back in September but there was some confusion on how to enroll with the program. If you follow these steps you can now enroll in the program.

1. Go to [www.Topsmarkets.com/Education](http://www.Topsmarkets.com/Education)
2. In the lower right corner click on "Supporting Our Schools."
3. The next page is "TOPS Supports Schools." Click on "TOPS in Education"
4. Click on "Parents and Shoppers."
5. Click on "Here to Begin."
6. Here you will enter your TOPS Bonus Card number, your

email, and your name. For the school choice you will find it as "Ellicottville Middle School High School." Ellicottville is the city and 14731 is the zip code.

## 2013 Dime Carnival

The Dime Carnival is back! This year's Dime Carnival is being held on Friday, March 1st from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Come to the High School Gymnasium to join in on all the fun. We will be using tickets for the games again this year and they will be sold 10 tickets for \$1. We will also have tickets for our themed baskets for sale at \$1 each or 12 for \$10. If you would like to help the PTO out by volunteering your time or donating desserts for the cake walk, please contact Diana Olson at 378-6698 or [dolson@eville.wnyric.org](mailto:dolson@eville.wnyric.org). We look forward to seeing you at the Dime Carnival!

## Box Tops

The PTO continues to send in Box Tops to help raise money for our students so that we can provide them with prizes for the Dime Carnival, Family Fun Night, and Field Day. This year our goal is to raise \$1,000. Every little bit helps so please continue to send in your Box Tops. Lets keep up the great work! Please feel free to send Box Tops in with your students or drop them off in our collection boxes located at TOPS Market in Ellicottville or at the Great Valley Post Office. You can also contribute to Box Tops by using the [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com) website. This allows you to do the following:

- See how much our school is earning with Box Tops
- Enter online promotions for chances to win eBoxTops and other prizes
- Print coupons for your favorite Box Tops brands



## DONATION CREATES HOLIDAY PLATE PROJECT

Due to a generous donation of unfinished plates from an Ellicottville benefactor, 7th and 8th graders in Mrs. Boyles' Art classes were able to create snowflake plates in time for the holidays. Above are pictures of the proud artists with their beautiful creations!





Alana Curtis

# Spelling Bee: WINNER TAKES TOP PRIZE ON HER BIRTHDAY

By Mrs. Elizabeth Weber

What is your most memorable birthday? For sixth grader, Alana Curtis, she will probably always remember her twelfth birthday; for this was the day she won the spelling bee. The audience erupted in applause as her little brother ran up to the stage with a bouquet of flowers.

The Ellicottville Middle School held their annual spelling bee on Tuesday, January 8, 2013. The top thirty students from grades six, seven, and eight (top ten from each grade) competed for the title. All contestants entered hopeful and with positive spirits, especially since the two year reigning champion had moved on to ninth grade.

The contestants all started out strong until two tricky words, vile and squalid, dropped multiple contestants. After squalid, only six contestants remained. The first and second place winners were sixth graders, Alana Curtis and runner-up Jacob Perkins. Lisa Krotz, a seventh grader, came in third.

Next year's spelling bee should be exciting!

The Natural Resources juniors, from the Ellicottville Career and Technical Center, have been learning the science and skills of an Arborist. Students assess trees for risk of hazardous weak trunks and broken limbs and the overall health of the tree. Working from the ground or secured in the tree with a system of ropes and harness, they removed branches that pose a danger to the visitors that may walk under them or to the health of the tree itself.

Natural Resources instructor, David Swaciak, supervises the work and insures that the students use the best practices for pruning and climbing trees safely. Mr. Swaciak is a certified Arborist by the International Society of Arboriculture. "Arborists are in high demand right now," said Mr. Swaciak. "As trees in villages and cities grow older, qualified people are needed to assure the growth and safety of the trees that were planted many decades ago."

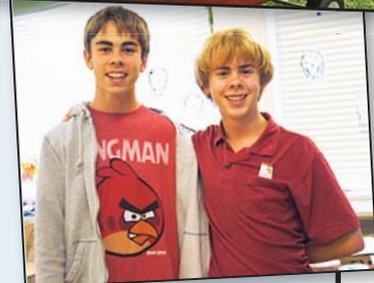


Above is ECS student Ashley Bognar.

## YEARBOOK NEWS

*Are you wondering if these pictures are in the book? Reserve a yearbook and you will get to see.*

- To reserve a yearbook you must put at least \$10 down. Your book must be reserved by May 31<sup>st</sup>. If you don't reserve one you'll only be able to get one a week after they come in, after all reserved ones have had a chance to be claimed.
- You may purchase old yearbooks while supplies last. 2012's book is \$30. Books from previous years are \$10 apiece, while supplies last.
- The fundraiser is complete. If you sold 30 items you have a free yearbook reserved for you. If you sold less than 30 you have a dollar off the cost of the book for each item you sold, automatically reserving you a yearbook.



# Winter Is Here! ENJOY THE SEASON SAFELY

Winter is officially upon us! The cold, snowy weather holds specific health and safety concerns. The following are some safety measures from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services website.

## **Dress for the Season:**

1. Wear loose, lightweight, warm clothing in layers. Trapped air between the layers acts as an insulator. Layers can be removed to avoid perspiration and subsequent chill.
2. Outer garments should be tightly woven, water repellent and hooded.
3. Always wear a hat on your head since half of your body heat could be lost through an uncovered head.
4. Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect lungs from extreme cold.
5. Mittens, snug at the wrist, are better than gloves because fingers maintain more warmth when they touch each other.

**Physical Exertion:** Winter storm conditions and cold waves are the deadliest types of weather. Cold temperatures put an extra strain on your heart. Heavy exertion, such as shoveling snow, clearing debris or pushing a car, increase the risk of a heart attack. To avoid problems, remember these tips:

1. Stay warm, dress warm and **SLOW DOWN** when working outdoors.
2. Take frequent rests to avoid over exertion.
3. If you feel chest pain -- **STOP** and seek help immediately.

**Winter Sports Safety:** New York State offers an abundance of sports activities during the winter season. From skiing and snowboarding to ice climbing, hiking and other outdoor pursuits, parents and children should follow the safety rules of the sport.

1. Most importantly, use the proper equipment and check to make sure everything is in proper working condition. A well-fitting ANSI/SNELL certified helmet will assure a safer, more enjoyable wintertime experience whether you are skiing, sledging, snowboarding or skating.
2. Dress in lightweight layers to stay warm and dry while enjoying the outdoors. Check the weather forecast but be prepared for anything.
3. If you are heading into the backcountry, never travel alone. Let someone know your route and esti-

mated time of return.

4. Skiers and snowboarders should go on runs that are appropriate for their ability. Stay in control at all times and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects. Obey all posted signs and warnings.
5. No matter what sport you participate in, always focus 100 percent of your attention on the activity and the terrain you are on. Moreover, rest when you are tired.

**Hypothermia:** Prolonged exposure to cold temperatures can cause hypothermia, especially in children and the elderly.

Watch for these symptoms:

1. Inability to concentrate
2. Poor coordination
3. Slurred speech
4. Drowsiness
5. Exhaustion
6. Uncontrollable shivering, followed by a sudden lack of shivering

If the person's body temperature drops below 95 degrees Fahrenheit, get emergency medical assistance immediately! Remove wet clothing, wrap the victim in warm blankets and give warm, non-alcoholic, non-caffeinated liquids until help arrives.

**Frostbite:** People working or playing outdoors during the winter can develop frostbite and not even know it. There is no pain associated with the early stages of frostbite, so learn to watch for these danger signs:

1. First, the skin may feel numb and become flushed. Then it turns white or grayish-yellow. Frostbitten skin feels cold to the touch.
2. If frostbite is suspected, move the victim to a warm area. Cover the affected area with something warm and dry. Never rub it!
3. Then get to a doctor or hospital as quickly as possible.

## *It's Time to Register for* **PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN**

### **PRE-KINDERGARTEN**

If your son or daughter will be turning 4 years old by December 1, 2013, please call the Elementary Office. We will then mail you a planning paperwork packet that will need to be completed and returned to the Elementary Office. Each year New York State reviews the funding structure for the grant supported Pre-K programs. Our Pre-K program is a half day program. If our Pre-K program is again funded, acceptance letters for the program will be mailed this June. The state considers a child Pre-school age if their birth date is between December 1, 2008 and November 30, 2009. Please contact the Elementary Office at 699-2318 as we will be happy to answer any questions that you have at this time. We would appreciate having all planning packets returned to us by May 1, 2013.



### **KINDERGARTEN**

Do you have a child that will be Kindergarten age this fall, but is not currently enrolled in our Pre-K program? Please notify the Elementary Office at 699-2318 so we may include your family in some upcoming activities this spring such as Kindergarten Screening and the annual Pre-K picnic. Our Kindergarten program is a full school day. (The state considers a child Kindergarten age if they turn 5 years old before December 1, 2013.)





## MATH IN SPORTS CLASS TOURS EXHIBIT

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013, the Math in Sports class took a field trip to the Buffalo Museum of Science to participate in the Museum's Science of Sports exhibit. The exhibit was based on Buffalo's three major sports: Hockey, Lacrosse, and Football.

After a quick stop by the Bubble Hockey table, the students had a chance to test the accuracy of their slap shot as well as show off their puck handling ability.

At the lacrosse exhibit, the students had the opportunity to measure the speed of their lacrosse toss. Unfortunately, the radar gun was broken – we were pretty sure we were just too fast for it to record.

At the football exhibit, students found their vertical leap, speed in the 10 yard dash, reaction time to sight and sound, throwing accuracy, and grip strength.

Even with all that, we had a little time to go see the other exhibits. Many of the students reminisced about the last time they were there – in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

# School Safety ... WE MUST ALWAYS BE READY

**By Mark J. Ward, Superintendent**

The horrific loss of 20 beautiful children and 6 outstanding educators at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut has made all of us reflect on our own lives, our family members and those of the children and staff we work with each day. I know our emotions have run the full range from tears to anger to outrage and ultimately why? We may never know the answer to that question, but it is our job to make sure that our school security and our living, working emergency plan is able to meet the challenges that we face in today's world.

As I personally reflect on some of the incidents that have happened across our country, it is hard to imagine even talking about this topic let alone prepare our building to deal with incidents that could threaten the personal safety of everyone in the school. However, with that in mind, we have implemented several immediate changes to some of our procedures, we will continue to review our present plans and plan several more changes in the near future.

### **Effective December 18, 2012 the following actions were reinforced or initiated:**

- Some of the changes are internal and will not be communicated
- Entry to school will be through the front entrances only
- All other doors will be locked throughout the day
- We truly appreciate the additional presence of the New York State Police in and outside our building
- We are reviewing access to the building and placement of additional cameras
- The entrance to the High School Parking Lot will be locked at 8:15 a.m.
- We will be expanding the number of phones capable of making "all call emergency messages"
- Additional locking mechanisms have been installed in the building
- All classrooms have window shades for door windows and blinds for exterior windows
- Lockdown procedures have been reviewed with some adjustments implemented
- We are exploring additional ways to use technology to improve communication
- We will practice a variety of emergency procedures throughout the rest of the year
- Our District Safety Committee will be meeting with members of the New York State Police, Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Dept. and the Cattaraugus County Office of Emergency Services to review all plans and procedures

Providing a safe environment for our students and staff is and always will be the number one priority of the District. We want the public to know that some new procedures may create some inconveniences but they are being implemented to improve safety. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

## FIELD TRIP TO NUTCRACKER BALLET FEATURES THREE ECS STUDENTS

On Friday, December 14, 2012 the High School Band and Chorus members traveled to Jamestown to see a performance of The Nutcracker. This field trip was made possible through The Cassetta Fund. The Chautauqua Regional Youth Ballet Company performed at the Reg Lenna Theatre in Jamestown. This company presents a performance each year, bringing in guest dancers for the main lead roles. This year Daniel Ulbrich and Erica Pereira from New York City joined these young dancers. Included in the dance company are three of our very own ECS students! Second graders Olivia Bacon, Faith Long and third grader Leilani Foster were on stage performing! We are very proud of them and enjoyed the performance!



# Joint Trip Allows STUDENTS TO SEE THE WORLD

On November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012, nine ECS students, Mrs. Zelko, and Mr. Finn joined students and teachers from Allegany Limestone Central School (ALCS) in a nine day trip to Spain and France. This trip had begun back in March of 2012 when Mrs. Eileen Finn of ALCS offered to the ECS Board and students a chance to join in on the ALCS trip. The ECS Board of Education saw this as an excellent opportunity for our students “to see the world.”

So off we went, with bags packed, tears in parents’ eyes, and excitement in the ECS crew. We jumped on an airplane in Buffalo that took us to Philadelphia, that was easy enough. Now one more flight and we would be in Spain – how hard can that be? After several movies, songs, tv shows and very little sleep, we reached our destination of Madrid, Spain.

No time for rest. After dropping our bags off at the hotel, we took a walking tour of Madrid. So much to see...so tired! But we marched on and visited the Prado Museum, Plaza de la Villa, and an authentic Spanish Soccer Game – Atletico Madrid vs. Tel Aviv (Atletico won 1-0). After some much needed sleep, the following day included a bus tour of Madrid completed at a tour of Palacio Real just before lunch. We returned to the bus after lunch to go to the City of Toledo where students saw “The Spain that we expected to see.” The buildings were old and majestic. Our last day in Spain was spent walking around and under the aqueducts in Segovia.

After an overnight train – with no cell service, wifi or room to move – we arrived in Paris.

After another quick drop off at the new hotel in Paris, we jumped on the Metro to tour Paris. What a beautiful city! We visited the Notre Dame Cathedral, Latin Quarter, the Louvre Museum, and ended the day by climbing the steps to the top of the Arc de Triomphe. Day Two in Paris took us to the Palace of Versailles – a hunting cabin for King Louis XIV. After Versailles, we went to the famous Lay-



faette stores, then a little boat ride on the Seine River before our elevator trip up the Eiffel Tower. Unfortunately, the last day came too quickly. We broke off into two groups - Museè D ‘Orsay for one group, and the catacombs for the other. But with the catacombs being closed for fumigation, we changed direction and went to Sante Chappelle, the “jewelry box” of cathedrals with its floor to ceiling stained glass windows. We met back up with the art museum group in Monmartre, the art district where Picasso, Van Gogh, Renoir hung out and enjoyed this wonderful city.

During the whole experience, the ECS students made us proud as they consistently represented themselves in a polite and positive fashion.

The students, Mrs. Zelko and Mr. Finn



would like to thank the parents, the teachers, the Board of Education, Mr. Ward, and Mr. Miller for allowing us to go “see the world.” It was truly the experience of a lifetime.



# *Fine Arts Field Trip:* **CORNING MUSEUM OF GLASS**

On October 19<sup>th</sup> the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students took advantage of an opportunity to travel to the Corning Museum of Glass (CMOG) in Corning, NY. This opportunity was made possible through the Cassetta Fund. A fund set up by Tony Cassetta and the community to help expand opportunities for our students in the Fine Arts.

The day began at the CMOG with students taking a tour of the Museum that helped to explain the history of how glass making has evolved. The exhibits focused on several aspects that helped to explain history of processes, coloration, and styles of glass making.

The students then attended a demonstration of glass blowing to form pieces such as vases or bowls. The demonstrations included information on materials and preparation. During the presentation they showed how they heat and form glass into the shapes they want. The final component demonstrated how they color the glass and finalize the shape for their project.

Students then went to the separate classroom building for instruction on how glass can be etched through the use of sand blasting around student created designs. Each student left with a glass they had designed.



Overall, an outstanding opportunity and day. Many thanks to those for their help in planning the day and to Mr. Cassetta for helping to make this a valuable experience for our students.





## *Victory Marks the Return of Eagles Football*

# **Section VI, Class DD Football Champions!**

### **By Coach Bergan**

The Ellicottville Eagles Football team saw redemption happen this season as they ended their Dream Season with a 34-16 victory over Clymer at Ralph Wilson Stadium.

The team played a flawless game at the Ralph while executing some tremendous trick plays. The game began with the Ray Gray Pass, which set the tone and also had a double reverse QB throwback that marveled all that witnessed it. The defense also played their role as they held Clymer in check for a 34-0 halftime lead. Every Eagle that was dressed for the game got a chance to participate in this great victory.

For the game itself the Eagles received the unsung hero in Will Murphy, Channel 2 Player of the Game Cam Wilson, Offensive Player of the Game Phalla Musall and Defensive Player of the Game Greg Knier.

League Honors received were Honorable Mention to Corey Tomblin and Will Murphy, Academic All-Star Will Murphy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team Cam Wilson, Calum Watt, Jesse Pollock and Peter Gabel. 1<sup>st</sup> Team Selections were Phalla Musall,

Greg Knier, Dylan Paprocki, Storm Wilson and Jake Rinko. Phalla Musall was named Offensive Player of the Year and Greg Knier Defensive Player of the Year.

A special thanks goes out to the seniors for their great leadership and dedication to making us champions. Thank you to the Captains Taylor Grinols, Storm Wilson, Jake Rinko and Will Murphy. Also, to seniors Greg Knier, Jake Stoll, Peter Gabel, Thomas Schena and Trevor Kilby.

Coach Bergan was also named Coach of the Year in the league and small school Coach of the Year for all of Western New York.

The staff of Chris Mendell, Mike Telaak, John Mowery and Jim Pawlowski should be recognized for a job well done.

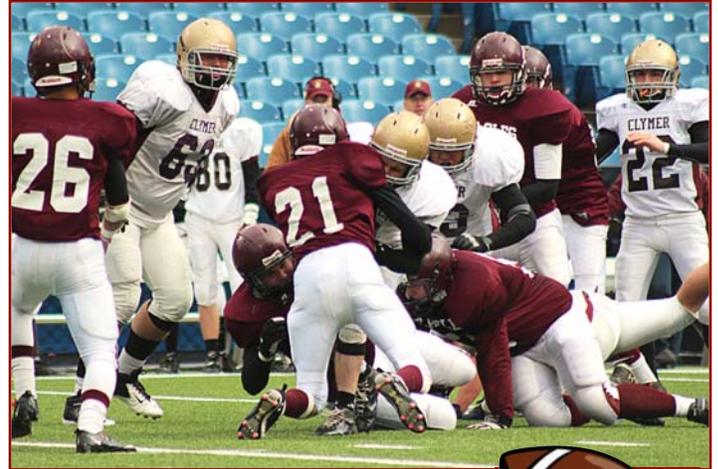
Ms. Baldwin and the cheerleaders did a great job every game.

Finally, a special thanks to all the parents, grandparents and fans that supported us throughout the season.

*(For more title game photos, turn to page 14.)*



# EAGLES TRIUMPH AT 'THE RALPH'!



# CONGRATULATIONS ECS FOOTBALL!





## GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL OFF TO EXCITING START

By Coach Tim Bergan

This year's girls' varsity basketball team consists of Seniors Madison Szpaicher, Janae Hamilton, Ashley Wilson, Cam Musall and Grace Hall. Juniors Michaela Pierce, Becca Golley, Kayla Dunkleman and Liz Wendell. The final player is 8<sup>th</sup> grader Marissa Hamilton. The ladies are off to a 3-3 start as they have wins over Fredonia, Cassadaga Valley and Brocton.

The ladies are looking forward to an exciting season and hope to have a run to the sectional finals.

Janae Hamilton is currently 3<sup>rd</sup> in Western New York in scoring as she is averaging 26 points per game. Janae has reached the 1,000<sup>th</sup> point mark. This is a tremendous accomplishment.

The ladies also defeated Clymer for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in school history at Clymer.

We are very excited this year.

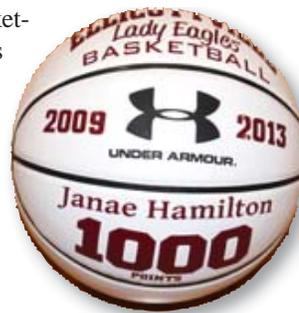
Please come out and watch us!

## HAMILTON SURPASSES 1,000 POINTS

This is Janae Hamilton's 4<sup>th</sup> year on the Varsity Girls Basketball Team and she has reached a milestone. Janae becomes the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lady Eagle to surpass the 1,000 point mark. The last was Kylee Lindell who presented Janae with a game ball and the other was Amy Reed who played in the late 1980's.

Janae scored 174 points as a freshman and 356 points as a sophomore. Last year as a junior Janae recorded 378 points. Currently, this season Janae has 253 points for a current total of 1,142 points.

Great job Janae, keep on scoring!



## BOYS' VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM HITS THE COURT



By Dave McCann

The Boys Varsity Basketball team began their season back in November. Since then, the Boys have come to work every day to improve their skills on the court. The team has enjoyed some success so far this season while starting with a 5-5 record. They will continue to improve and hope to be playing their best basketball in February, when the playoffs begin. There are five seniors on the roster this year: Alex Steinbroner, Storm Wilson, Pat Morton, Tom Schena, and Taylor Grinols. Juniors include Cameron Wilson and Fletcher Macomb. Phalla Musall and Calum Watt are sophomores, while Tom Easton is a freshman. With this mixture of youth and experience on the roster, there are a lot of reasons to be excited about the remainder of the season. Please come out to support these young men as they continue to compete through the second half of the season.



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**S - Surpassing Expectations**



## School Calendar Reminders

**Monday, February 18, 2013**

Presidents' Day – School Closed

**February 19-22, 2013**

Winter Break – School closed

**Wednesday, March 13, 2013**

Parent/Teacher Conferences –  
Noon dismissal, 1/2 day of school  
for Grades K-5 (NO PM PreK)

**March 28-April 5, 2013**

Spring Recess - School Closed



## Squadron Shows Appreciation for ECS HOLIDAY CARDS & LETTERS

Captain Nicholas Brougham and the 73<sup>rd</sup> Special Operations Squadron of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico recently thanked the students of Ellicottville Central School for the “Tree for Troops” Christmas cards and for the letters they received from the PTO Family Fun Night activity. They showed their appreciation by sending a shadow box displaying their squadron patch, squadron coin and a picture of the squadron standing on the wings of their AC-130W aircraft. Captain Brougham is a navigator on the aircraft. Brougham is a native of Erie, Pennsylvania and a graduate of Penn State – Behrend. Captain Brougham is the nephew of Mrs. Hartsell (CAI aide) and the cousin of (*pictured l-r*) Megan (5<sup>th</sup> grade) and Ned (6<sup>th</sup> grade) Hartsell.

