

RRG: DEC hearings on CWM permits to broadcast online

Agnello argues for continued closure of CWM

Residents for Responsible Government announced there will be opportunity for the public to view online the upcoming New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Siting Board hearings consider operations applications by CWM Chemical Services. President Vincent Agnello said RRG created an access link, found at RRG-NY.com, for the public to view the CWM hearings, which start Monday, April 11.

The DEC will review applications filed years ago by CWM to consider the siting of a 6-million-ton hazardous waste landfill operation in the towns of Lewiston and Porter.

"Monday's hearing is specific to the topic of whether a toxic waste landfill operation would deter other more preferable forms of economic development for the towns," Agnello said.

Located on the former World War II-era Lake Ontario Ordnance Works site in Lewiston and Porter, the 700-acre-plus CWM facility ceased operations in 2015 as its residuals management unit 1 hazardous waste landfill reached capacity. The CWM site is located 10 miles north of the Love Canal in Niagara Falls and one mile east of the Lewiston-Porter School District campus.

According to RRG's website, "From 1972-2015, Niagara County, New York hosted one of the largest PCB and toxic waste landfill operations in the U.S. The CWM landfill was forced to close in 2015 due to the support and efforts of the community. CWM has applied for a massive new 6 million-ton PCB-Toxic waste landfill which state and federal agencies conclude is not needed."

"The 710-acre proposed site

is owned by CWM Chemical Services, LLC, a subsidiary of Waste Management, Inc., an \$18 billion corporation. CWM is located in the Towns of Lewiston and Porter, NY; one mile from all public schools, roughly two miles from the Niagara River, and three miles from Lake Ontario. There are 17 commercial hazardous waste landfills in the U.S. which supervising agencies deem adequate to handle the nation's need for decades to come, without CWM.

"The CWM proposal would send more than a half-million PCB and toxic waste laden trucks past the front of all public schools. In 2003, CWM predicted its application would be approved by 2005, however, the application in 2022 is only now entering the final phase of decision-making."

"The first in a series of adjudicatory hearings on issues re-

quested by the State Hazardous Waste Siting Board begin April 11. Participation is limited to designated parties; Niagara County, the Town and Village of Lewiston, the Village of Youngstown, the Lewiston-Porter Central School District, the Niagara County Farm Bureau, RRG, Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, the Tuscarora Nation, and one member of the community."

Agnello said, "Both EPA and New York have determined there is no need to site a new toxic waste landfill (at CWM), because there are 17 other such operations in the U.S., adequate to handle the nation's needs for the next 20 years. And CWM disposal operations here have been closed for seven years. RRG is working to prevent PCB and toxic waste landfill operations from reopening in the community."

RRG said the hearings are expected to get underway starting at 10 a.m. Monday. The public may attend the meeting online via the internet or by phone. To access via the internet, visit www.webex.com and click "join a meeting." Viewers will need to input the following: event number, 2337 445 4352; password: April11-10AM.

Those choosing to join the session via phone may do so by calling 1-518-549-0550; dial in access code 2337 445 4352.

Agnello said RRG is also encouraging DEC and the Siting Board to make the rebroadcasts available immediately following the hearing for a period of two weeks "so that residents unable to view the hearing during normal business hours may do so when they are home."

For more information, visit RRG-NY.com.

'In the Loop': Lew-Port students giving back

BY DANIELLE MULLEN
President, Lewiston-Porter Board of Education

Friday, April 8, marks the end of the third-quarter marking period for secondary students, and spring recess is finally here! The Board of Education wishes everyone an amazing, relaxing and well-deserved spring break. Here are some school highlights from the last month.

- The Primary Education Center is working on expanding student leadership roles as part of its "Leader in Me" goals. Current leadership opportunities include leader greeters, the student lighthouse team, student ambassadors and the design team.

- In other news, the PEC collected donations of cereal boxes for local food pantries. Students were working to reach a goal of 500 boxes collected in order to hold a cereal box domino event throughout the building. A bonnet/hat parade was scheduled for Friday, where all PEC students were asked to showcase their best headwear.

- The Intermediate Education Center is continuing its "Community Circles" program in classrooms with Restorative Practices. March was designated as a "Music in Our School Month" and, to celebrate, students voted on 16 songs in a "March Music

Madness" competition. Students learned about different music genres while preparing to vote for their favorite song. The ultimate bracket winner was "I Want It That Way" by the Backstreet Boys.

- The IEC was also busy working to give back to local charities. Students collected metal pull-tabs from cans to donate to Roswell and Oshei Children's Hospital. The money raised after the tabs were weighed benefited the Ronald McDonald House, which is an amazing resource to help families who have children undergoing care at Roswell or Oshei Children's Hospital.

- Mental health has been a focus at the middle school this past month. The guidance office, in cooperation with the Mental Health Association of Niagara County, has recently been working with student physical education and health classes to discuss important topics including social media use, bullying, "mental health 101," anxiety and conflict resolution.

- In other news, students in the seventh grade worked to collect personal hygiene products to donate to The Mental Health Advocates of WNY. The MS and

IEC facilitated a NorthPointe Council presentation for families on kids and social media use. If you were unable to attend the presentation live, the recording link is available for viewing at www.lew-port.com; link to the building's websites.

- At the high school, scheduling for the 2022-23 school year continues to take place. The Student Commons is now open after being closed due to COVID restrictions. Currently, seniors who have earned at least a 90% average are eligible to utilize the Commons. The hope is that this privilege will open up to more and more students after the close of the third-quarter marking period.

- The new Student Commons features lounge areas, study rooms, TVs, the Hut Cafe and the PTSA school store. And the Lancer Learning Center has been a busy space, with up to 100 visits each week. The LLC will continue to be a valuable resource for all students as they approach AP, Regents and local exams.

- In other news, the National Science Honor Society held an induction ceremony in March and the National Honor Society

induction took place on April 6. The high school has also been busy giving back to our local community and abroad. In the month of March, two different fundraisers were held. A fundraiser to benefit the Red Cross Ukrainian relief fund raised \$331 and, in honor of Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day on March 18, the students raised \$355.14.

Important Dates

- ✓ Monday, April 11, to Friday, April 22 – Spring recess, no student/teacher attendance.

- ✓ Tuesday, April 26 – Early release.

- ✓ Wednesday, April 27, and

Thursday, April 28 – NYS math assessments, grades 3-8.

Have a wonderful spring recess!

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Town of Porter Highway Department 2022 Brush Pick Up Schedule

Brush Pick Up will commence on Monday, April 18th & 19th, 2022 under the following schedule below.

TOWN WIDE PICK UP: Monday, April 18th Lutts Rd & West
Tuesday, April 19th Areas East of Lutts Rd

Starting Monday, **May 2nd** regularly scheduled pick up as follows:

- 1st Monday of the month, those areas from Lutts Road West
- 3rd Monday of the month, those areas East of Lutts Road

FINAL TOWN WIDE BRUSH PICKUP: Monday, November 7th to Friday, November 10th

Guidelines for Brush Pick Up

This service is for reasonable and routine homeowners tree trimming only. This does not include trees in wooded areas behind homes. WE DO NOT OR EXTEND LOTS FOR BUILDERS OR PRIVATE OWNERS. **If you utilize the services of a contractor, he is responsible for clean up of the trimmings.**

ALL branches MUST be no larger than 3" in diameter.

ALL BRANCHES MUST be piled as neatly as possible with all cut ends facing the road, piled as close to the road as safety permits, approximately waist high. This enables crews to pick them up quicker and easier.

We do not go on private property. Please do not request us to do so.

BRANCHES MUST BE FREE OF ROOTS AND DIRT. We do not pick up rocks, stumps, leaves, lawn sweepings, twigs, vines, rubbish, etc. Please do not put these items out with your branches. We will not pick them up as they could pose a great danger to the men and equipment.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Highway Department at 791-3831 from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Thursday.

Check out our NEW website townofporter.net

MODERN WILL PICKUP: Large items will be picked up quarterly

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