

It's official: Black is new Seneca Meadows manager

By DAVID L. SHAW
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SENECA FALLS — You can remove the word "interim" from Kyle Black's job title at Seneca Meadows Landfill.

It was announced Friday that Black has been named the company's new district manager, succeeding Don Gentileore.

The Seneca Falls native and Junius resident has worked for

the landfill, now owned by Progressive Waste Systems of Canada, since 2000.

Black has more than 25 years of experience in heavy civil construction and waste management construction and operations.

He is a 1985 graduate of Mynderse Academy and has a degree in construction engineering from Canton Technical College in northern New York.

"I am honored to lead the team at



Black

and environmental stewardship," he said.

Black is an active member of a team at the state's largest landfill that has earned the 2014 EPA Partnership & Project of the Year Award and the 2012 Solid Waste Association of North America Award for Excellence in Landfill Management.

"I look forward to continuing the great relationships our company has established with the wonderful organizations and individuals in our community,"

he added.

Black has volunteered as a coach for the Waterloo Community Center's youth basketball and lacrosse programs, served on the Waterloo High School New York State Softball Championship Tournament grounds committee and helped with fundraising during his children's involvement with Waterloo High School sports teams.

Things to Do

Tonight & Tomorrow

TODAY

First Sunday of the Month Brunch, 9 a.m. to noon, Geneva American Legion, Lochland Road, Geneva. \$8 for adults, \$5 for children, free for kids under 4. Public welcome.

Meeting: American Bikers Aided Toward Education of Ontario County, 10 a.m. at Don's Inn, 3853 Routes 5&20, Canandaigua. Anyone interested in motorcycle safety and rights protection is welcome. Info: Shawn, (585) 370-4515, www.abaterontario20m.com.

Cinco de Vino, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Lake Ontario Wine Trail. Visit participating locations along the Trail to sample wines and spirits paired with sangria and salsa. Details: www.lakeontariowinetrail.com/events/2/cinco-de-vino.

Fundraiser, 1 to 4 p.m., Rylee J's, 38 Seneca St., Geneva. Fundraiser to benefit Dave Smith, who was in a motorcycle accident Sept. 25, 2013, and is living as a tetraplegic. He has been accepted in a program to assist him with walking again, but his insurance won't help with the cost. Proceeds will help with medical expenses. Raffles, 50/50, food, music by Naked Wood. Info: 759-6050.

Finger Lakes Bronze Handbell Choir: "We Love Ringing and Dancing in the Rain (Snow, Sun & Wind)", 3 p.m., Macedon Center United Methodist Church 1160 Macedon Center Road. Free.

Finger Lakes Choral Spring

Concert, 3 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, 183 N. Main St., Canandaigua. Soloists and favorite choruses, also Faure's "Requiem." Free, donations requested. Info: (585) 396-0027.

TOMORROW (before 5 p.m.)

"Plays Sandwiched In," noon to 1 p.m. at Wood Library, Canandaigua. Bristol Valley Theater introduces patrons to several of the plays to be offered in its summer season. This week's presentation will focus on "Becky's New Car," a comedy by Steven Dietz which will play at the theater in August. David Shane, who will direct the play, and Karin Bowersock, who will star, will talk about the play's unique origins and how they are preparing to go into rehearsal. A drawing for two tickets to BVT will take place. Info: www.woodlibrary.org or www.bvnaples.org.

Monday Movie, 2 p.m. at the Penn Yan Public Library. 2014 remake of a classic movie musical about a foster kid named Annie. 118 minutes long, rated PG for some mild language and rude humor. Free. Kids under 10 must be accompanied by a caregiver.

Backyard Birdwatching Basics, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Newark Public Library. Learn about unexpected and colorful birds (not the typical bird feeder-birds) that might be stopping over in your backyard as they make their way to north. Sign up at www.newarklibrary.org or 331-4370.



Digital pioneer

The 27th annual Carl & Fanny Fribolin Lecture was held Friday at Norton Chapel on the Keuka College campus. The featured speakers were Steve Sasson (left), a 35-year Kodak veteran and inventor of the digital camera; and Geoffrey Rosenberger, a charter school proponent and investment expert. Prior to the evening's lecture, the pair spoke at a student discussion panel moderated by College President Jorge Diaz-Herrera.

Spencer Tullis / Finger Lakes Times

Reed's rights caucus could backfire



EYE ON GOVERNMENT

BY JIM MILLER

Rep. Tom Reed saw the state's ban on hydraulic fracturing as an assault on private property rights. Now he wants his fellow representatives to spring to their defense.

Reed, R-23 of Corning, last week announced the formation of the House of Representatives' Private Property Rights Caucus, which he said has 14 members from 11 states. Reed said the idea grew out of a roundtable discussion with farmers and officials in

state landowners deprived by the state's ban of the money they might have made from hydraulic fracturing.

If we assume that hydraulic fracturing creates those financial benefits without causing harm to anyone, then all this makes sense.

If we assume, however, that hydraulic fracturing does harm neighbors, the environment — all of us — then Reed's argument falls apart. The state's action becomes a case of the common good superseding the individual's right to financial gain. And in this scenario, Reed's efforts might have some unintended, and darkly humorous, consequences.

If landowners are to be protected from government devaluation of their property, might not those harmed by hydraulic fracturing, or those who believe they were, seek compensation from a government that allowed it to happen? Might they not appeal to a property rights protection caucus for help?

Reed, of course, argues that hydraulic fracturing can be done safely. He presumably does not foresee such claims and appeals being made, or, if he does, sees them as spurious.

Regardless, with hydraulic fracturing banned in New York, he would not

have to contend with them at the local level even if they did arise elsewhere in the nation. Meanwhile, his efforts will play well with his supporters, among whom, it seems safe to say, there are few ardent hydraulic fracturing opponents.

Reed also sounds like he wants to raise broader issues.

"We care about defending the Constitutional rights given to all Americans and future generations," he said. "This is an issue that affects Americans from rural communities to urban centers across the nation. We need fairness and respect for private property. We also need government at all levels to carefully consider the impact that regulatory actions have on property rights and property values."

That's reasonable. Plenty of property issues are relevant and worth discussing, from eminent domain to zoning. But backers of such bills and caucuses may want to watch out, lest they learn that their idea of a defense of private property is another's idea of an attack upon it.

Jim Miller's "Eye on Government" appears each Sunday in the Finger Lakes Times. Contact Miller at 789-3333, ext. 258, or jmill@ftimes.com.

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