

Mine project heads to court

Concerned Citizens of Seneca County and homeowner Dixie Lemmon have filed an Article 78 proceeding against the Town of Waterloo and Seneca Meadows Landfill, challenging the town board's 3-2 approval of the landfill's proposed Meadow View Mine in July. The challenge is expected to be amended to include the town planning board, which also signed off on the permit application last week.

Geneva Attorney Rich Reiben filed the petition. It is scheduled to be heard before Acting Supreme Court Judge W. Patrick Falvey in Seneca County Court, Waterloo, Oct. 16 at 11 a.m. The lawsuit is asking Falvey to annul and vacate the approval

was five years in the planning and included changes based on reservations from the community. He said the suit is "baseless" and "regrettable", Seneca Meadows will continue "forward with the project with the environmental integrity that our community has come to expect."

Waterloo Supervisor Gary Westfall welcomed the suit. He said the court's decision will decide the matter "once and for all."

The planning board took less than 10 minutes to approve the landfill's request for a special use permit last week. It passed 5-2 with Keith Beck and Michael Smith opposed. It contained three provisions – working with Seneca County Highway Superintendent Roy Gates on traffic controls across Burgess Road; Burgess Road is to remain open throughout construction and lighting conforms with the exhibit attached to the application.

Fayette funds water district

The Fayette Town Board authorized issuing \$22,000 in serial bonds to help fund the establishment of the town's Water District No. 7. The bonds will be paid off in equal installments of \$4,664.76 for 40 years with an interest rate of 2.96%.

Water District No. 7 will serve 172



Head start for Head Start

Seneca Meadows has been helping prep the playground at Seneca County Headstart, Seneca Falls.

properties in the central part of town. It is bounded by Water District 3 and Cayuga Lake to the east; Fayette-Seneca Falls boundary on the north; Districts 5 and 2 on the west; and District 5 and the Fayette-Varick boundary to the south.

The district was authorized in May to meet a state requirement all properties receiving water must be in a water district.

Tyre may assess review fee

The Town of Tyre is considering adding a fee for residential and commercial developers if the town review of their application requires outside consultants.

A public hearing has been scheduled Sept. 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the Band Hall.

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votes.

The suit maintains the town board failed to comply with the 2005 community benefits agreement with the landfill; the town board's actions were in violation of the town zoning ordinance; was in violation of the state Department of Environmental Conservation mining permit terms; and the agreement fails to properly mitigate damage to landowners. Lemmon's property is landlocked by property owned by the landfill.

Don Gentilcore, regional manager of the landfill, maintained the mine

Romulus Foundation changes trustees, officers

The Romulus Foundation for Educational Opportunities reported changes in their trustees and officers at last week's Romulus Board of Education meeting.

After many years of service to Romulus students, Chairperson Mary McDonald stepped down, although she will remain a trustee. Margaret Wiant is the new chairperson. Tom Karlsen is now the vice president of the foundation, Linda Mastellar secretary and Lynn Rhone treasurer replacing Annie Bachman who is leaving the foundation after many years of service. Trustees Jim Delia and Ray Fox have also stepped down as active members. Hilary Chaya was named trustee in addition to her duties as faculty liaison.

The board thanked all members of the foundation, past and present, for the tremendous opportunities it provides to Romulus students.

Under interschool activities, the board approved funding for Nancy Munn's sports and entertainment marketing class trip in September. The board also accepted donation of a Stradivarius trumpet from Janet Diehl of Interlaken for the band program.

Superintendent Marty Rotz presented an updated district strategic plan. Highlights of the plan include revised academic goals for 3-8 and Regents testing, survey questions for input from various community partners and action steps for continuous improvement. The full plan is available at www.rcs.k12.ny.us.

In personnel matters, the board appointed Caitlin McLaughlin as elementary special education teacher, Francis Straub as full time long term substitute in secondary science, Victoria McCusker as data warehouse coordinator, and Theresa MacCheyne as part time secondary math teacher. Resignations were accepted from Andrea Robertson (long term substitute, secondary science) and Hilary Chaya (instrumental music director, stage and lighting coordinator and Arts in Education

co-coordinator). Additional personnel action included appointment of Clifford Irwin (substitute bus driver), Richard Olson (bus driver), Faith Foulkrod (bus driver) and Sally Roloson (bus driver). Resignations were accepted from Scott Trotter and Clifford Irwin as Bus Drivers. Mary Ann Wingler was appointed substitute bus monitor and bus driver trainee. Rachel Heeres was appointed substitute food service worker.

The board thanked all former staff for their work and dedication to the district.

The next regular meeting of the board will be held Tuesday (Sept. 9) at 7 p.m.

Romulus is expected to open school with 401 pre-k-12 students, stable from 2013.

New teaching staff include Kerilynn Wasney, secondary reading teacher; Kaylee Millerd, elementary teacher; Erika Olsowske, elementary teacher; Caitlin McLaughlin, elementary special education teacher; Francis Straub, secondary science teacher; and Ryan Kline, technology teacher.

South Seneca starts new year

South Seneca welcomes several new staff members to fill positions in elementary education, math, Spanish and special education. They include Amanda Burrell, third grade; Michael Putnam, 9-10 math; Megan Nelsen, middle school Spanish; Julie Smith, middle school special education; and Maia VanBeuren, high school special education.

The district will also be piloting a tablet initiative. All fifth and eighth graders and high school students will be issued a Nexus 7 tablet to access the school network, online resources and other Internet-based applications. This will allow the district to move away from purchasing large quantities of textbooks and student planners, and to take advantage of the

thousands of online resources related to course material, without worrying some of our students are without access.

Enrollment is projected to remain stable over the next five years or so, near 750 students K-12.

This will be the first full year for new Elementary Principal Adam Rundell, who took over for Margarete Couture, who retired in February.

The master schedule this year is now based on the day of the week instead of the letter-day schedule previously used for the last 10 years or so. This means most secondary courses are locked in for at least three classes per week (in an alternate day schedule, some weeks would be three and some two).

Waterloo adds new administrator

A new administrator and six new teachers will be at Waterloo as school opens today (Sept. 4) for about 1,750 students.

Erica Sinicropi will be the director of pupil personnel services.

New teachers include Kristin Biccum (kindergarten), Kristen Donnelly (fourth grade), Laura Worden (middle school math), Jonathan Gurrslin (secondary physical education), Lindsay Halstead (physical education) and Darlene Cieri (high school English).

FLCS has two new teachers

Finger Lakes Christian School, Seneca Falls, opened with seven new students this year, bringing its enrollment to 84.

Two new teachers are on board this year, Peter Ball (high school science) and Amanda Teed (classroom aide).

Seneca Falls plans capital project

The Seneca Falls Central School District

is proposing a minor capital improvement project for summer 2015. The project would include roof replacements for sections of roof at each of the district's buildings, external masonry repair at each of the district's schools and replacement of the staircase at the rear of the Mynderse Academy Performing Arts Center.

The proposed project cost of \$1,420,000 will be funded with \$400,000 from the district's existing general capital reserve fund for construction purposes and the remainder from state aid.

The district is looking to address items that have been identified and need to be addressed to maintain the infrastructure and safety of the school buildings. Certain roof sections have experienced significant "wear and tear" with recent harsh winters.

Use of capital reserve funds requires voter approval. Pending voter approval,

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plans and specifications will be submitted to the New York State Education Department for review and approval. Following approval by the state, renovation and replacement work will be scheduled to take place during summer 2015.

King & King Architects have prepared slides depicting the roof replacements. You can view the slides at the following link, <http://www.sfcs.k12.ny.us/files/file-system/sfcsd%20proposed%202015%20capital%20project.pdf>.

A public hearing has been scheduled for tonight (Sept. 4) at 6 p.m. in the middle school library/media center to inform residents of the proposal. Residents will be asked to vote on the proposal Sept. 16, 2-8 p.m. in the Mynderse Academy lobby.

Community members and residents can visit the school's web site, www.sfcs.k12.ny.us, for additional information about district highlights and events.