

Landfill gets new owner

The merger between Progressive Waste Solutions, the owners of the Seneca Meadows landfill and Texas-based Waste Connections, has been completed, creating a new \$4.1 billion company. It will maintain the Waste Connections name and will be the third largest waste and recycling company in America.

Ronald Mittelstaedt, chairman and CEO of Waste Connections, in a statement said, "We are excited to welcome the Progressive Waste team to the Waste Connections family, and we look forward to instilling into the combined company the corporate culture, safety focus, operational excellence, capital discipline and accountability that have served us so well and which we believe are necessary for long-term success."

CCE, STEPS partner for composting workshop

Composting comes in all shapes and sizes, can take intensive management or can be as simple as you want it to be. Sometimes, composting gets a bad rap – "It smells ... attracts critters ... looks messy."

If that describes your compost or composting experience, this workshop is for you. Looking to start composting at home? Already doing it, but want to learn more effective ways to manage it?

Join Mary Schwarz, Extension support

Around the county

specialist at Cornell Waste Management Institute, Cornell University, as she uncovers the science of composting to turn unwanted spoils into nutritious soil. The workshop will take place tonight (June 9) from 6:30-8 p.m. at Edith B. Ford Memorial Library, Ovid. There is no charge.

Formoreinformation, call (315) 539-9251, e-mail seneca@cornell.edu or visit https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Composting101_245.

"With the spring and everyone starting their gardens, as well as interest in community gardens in the south end of the county, we thought it was a good time to remind everyone how easy composting is," said Seneca Towns Engaging People for Solutions (STEPS) Volunteer Jean Currie. "Seneca County CCE was happy to arrange for Mary to come and we hope that people will turn out to find out the information for the first time or get a refresher."

STEPS is a resident-driven neighborhood health improvement project for southern Seneca County. It works in collaboration with residents and community partners to implement ideas to improve the social determinants of community health. As such, the STEPS project focuses on the social, economic and environmental state of the neighborhood and how that affects individual and community health. It strives to provide residents with a variety of opportunities to engage in activities that lead to a healthier living environment and lifestyle.

Seneca Falls Canal Fest offers plenty of opportunities

The Seneca Falls Business Association (SFBA) is offering opportunities for organizations, groups, food vendors, arts and craft vendors, boaters and individual businesses to participate at this year's Canal Fest. The three day celebration will be held July 8-10 along both sides of the Cayuga-Seneca Canal and in People's Park on

New visitor guide promotes Seneca County, tourism

The Seneca County Chamber of Commerce recently unveiled its annual visitor guide to the public during a special viewing party at the Waterloo/Seneca Falls Holiday Inn. The publication is among the top marketing tools used to promote Seneca County as the Northern Gateway to the Finger Lakes.

The 48-page magazine, *Faces & Stories of the Finger Lakes*, was completely redesigned for 2016 and uses a unique combination of story-telling and imagery to market the local travel destination to visitors from around the world.

"This guide is the most comprehensive and compelling travel resource for visitors and residents looking to experience Seneca County and the Finger Lakes Region," said Jeff Shipley, president of the Seneca County Chamber of Commerce. "We are extremely proud of this publication and grateful for the help of many local tourism personalities who shared their 'stories' and insights about what makes Seneca County a great place to live, work and play."

To help illustrate Seneca County's diverse tourism industry, the Chamber identified local professionals who were representative of 10 top visitor categories: agritourism, wine and craft beverages, events, history, water activities, recreation, shopping, wildlife, dining and lodging. Each professional was then profiled in a feature article, along with an accompanying photograph, to help familiarize guests with each subject and encourage greater interaction during their visit.

In addition to the featured stories and other information, the guide also integrates with the Chamber's new travel website, www.fingerlakesgateway.com and social media. Readers are directed to the website for exclusive video content and individual property site listings, as well as the organization's Facebook and Twitter pages for a special hash tag promotion – (#FLXFaces&Stories) – where users are asked to share their own experiences.

"Everything about this guide is unique and different, right down to the format," explained Rick Newman, the Chamber's destination marketing manager who coordinated the project. He noted the guide's horizontal layout is different from most other publications, although its careful design also allows it to be placed vertically in a brochure rack. "We knew we wanted to do something unique to make us stand out from the rest of the publications that promote the Region," Newman added.

The publication also includes a special, pull-out map of Seneca County and the Finger Lakes Region – which also gives visitors pertinent information on neighboring Finger Lakes counties such as driving distances, top communities and special assets.

Water Street in Seneca Falls.

The SFBA, which is serving as the organizer of the Canal Fest, has already included amusement rides, live music, petting zoo, fireworks, a beer garden, a Civil War encampment, live demonstrations and performances and other special events.

All registration forms and additional



Library gets new collection

A ribbon cutting ceremony was recently held for the Seneca Falls Library grand opening of the Business Collection. The new, special collection at the library is a collaborative effort between Seneca County Chamber of Commerce, Seneca Meadows and the library. It focuses on entrepreneurship and small businesses and consists of print books, audio books, magazines and tech devices. Materials cover information on book keeping, taxes, business plans, creativity, how to do business online, skill development, marketing, publishing and more. For more information please visit <https://senecafallslibrary.org/>. Pictured are (left to right) Ken McConnell of the Chamber Board of Directors; Mark Benjamin, representing the Chamber Board of Directors and Seneca Meadows; Meghan Molloy, library director; Seneca Falls Town Supervisor Greg Lazzaro; Diane Janes of the Chamber membership committee; and Jeff Shipley, Chamber president/CEO.

The publication is available free of charge at any of the Chamber's information centers and can be found in more than two dozen outlets throughout New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and other mid-Atlantic states. It can also be ordered by calling the Chamber at (315) 568-2906 and is available for electronic download at www.fingerlakesgateway.com.

BTL Players theatre camp registration set

The Between The Lakes (BTL) Community Service Players have announced its summer theatre camp – *Aspects of the Stage* – is officially open for registration.

Due to the continued generosity and support of the Delavan Foundation, the BTL Players are able to offer this wonderful, week long day camp to the children of Seneca County and the Finger Lakes area.

Aspects of the Stage Summer Day Camp is an exploration of the many aspects of the theatre including acting, singing, dancing and auditioning, as well as hands on backstage theatre technical skills in set production, lighting, make-up and costumes. It will be held Aug. 1-5 at South Seneca Middle/High School, Ovid, daily from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. with a culminating Showcase Performance Aug. 5 at 7 p.m.

Open registration is for Seneca County and Finger Lakes area children going into grades 5-12. A \$75 registration fee will

cover workshop supplies, breakfast, lunch and a camp T-shirt.

Registration forms and additional information are available by calling (315) 651-0044. Deadline for registering is July 1.

Health grant expands abuse care to county

The Greater Rochester Health Foundation has announced the 19 organizations selected to receive a combined \$200,000 in funding for the first 2016 cycle of Community Health Grants. These funds are awarded to smaller organizations that help meet important community needs related to health and well-being.

One grant of special interest in this round is The Partnership for Ontario County, which will use the funding to create a satellite office to improve access for families in southern Ontario and Seneca County to the Child Advocacy Center's multi-disciplinary team model of investigating and treating child sex abuse and physical abuse.

SF school board changes meeting time

Next Thursday's (June 16) Seneca Falls Central School District Board of Education meeting will begin at 6:15 p.m., not 7 p.m. as scheduled, in the Seneca Falls Middle School Library.

information can be found posted on Canal Fest's Face Book page at www.facebook.com/sfcanalfest. Interested parties may also contact SFBA directly.

Ann Sandroni, SFBA president, said, "We are still organizing and actively pursuing the community's as well as the surrounding area's participation. We are

excited about bringing Canal Fest back to the community and are pleased with the growing enthusiasm and support"

THIS NEWLY REVIVED Canal Fest traces its roots back to the Aqua Festival held in the 1960s then resurrected into the Canal Fest which came to an end in the early 2000s.