

AP photo

Hillary Rodham Clinton, center, talks with students at Sunset Park school

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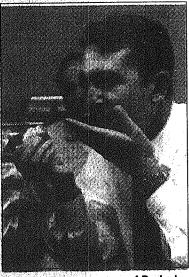
person or by absentee ballot. The first lady moved into the Clintons' \$1.7 million house in Chappaqua in January and her husband and Chelsea recently registered to vote in New York state. Tuesday's vote will be the

first for both the president and his daughter in a New York election. Hillary Clinton has voted already in New York.

The first lady, running against Republican Rep. Rick Lazio, faces a primary challenge from Mark McMahon, a little-known Manhattan orthopedic surgeon. Lazio faces no primary.

A Republican until 1997, McMahon has stressed Clinton's lack of New York roots and his familiarity with health care issues as reasons to vote for him.

Polls say Clinton should easily dispatch McMahon, with predictions that the challenger will hardly be



AP photo

Senate candidate Rep. Rick Lazio, R-Long Island, tastes a cannoli from the Rockland Bakery in Nanuet Friday. noticed unless he gets near the 30 percent mark.

There are almost 5 million enrolled Democrats in the state.

girl on fire ith setting

makes your guts sick, doesn't Rosenberg, who owns an auto nd serves as mayor of the eastn of 6,500.

ver here, crime is usually runailboxes or driving over wet s put it this way — it blows

nd Bodenhofer paid O'Meara a day, carrying a soft drink botasked her pals for a sip.

f soda, the bottle contained drenched allegedly Γhev

O'Meara's eyes with gas and then her back as she bent over in pain. As her clothes and skin burned, authorities say, her best friends fled.

I just remember them coming around the corner of the house, running," Tara's brother, Bret Tallman, 17, said Friday. "My sister screamed something like, 'Oh my God, Amanda O'Meara is on fire.

O'Meara rolled on the ground and extinguished the flames. The girl, who was home alone, then went in her house and called

Please see Friends, Page A5

Cleanup of waste site may begin

By Matthew Winterhalter and Scott Leffler Lockport Journal

LEWISTON — The Lake Ontario Ordinance Works (LOOW) site, only a mile from the Lewiston-Porter Schools complex, may be close

to being cleaned up.
The Army Corps of Engineers has prepared an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis Report providing for "interim removal action," and a public comment period on the report will begin Monday and run through Oct. 10.

The corps announced the comment period

in a press release Friday

A public meeting will be held "upon timely request," the corps said, and written comments on the report can be submitted to the corps, Public Information Center, 1776 Niagara St., Buffalo, NY 14207-3199.

Written comments must be postmarked by Oct. 10.

The LOOW site is the basement of a demolished silo, and it contains a mixture of radioactive wastes from various plants in the United States.

The 7,500-acre site at Pletcher and Harold roads has been an ongoing issue in Lewiston, according to Timothy Henderson, president of ROLE (Residents Organized for Lewiston-Porter's Environment.)

The site contains some of the remnants of the Manhattan Project, including waste from the former Simonds Saw and Steel Co. in Lockport. The radioactive waste was sent to Lewiston in the 1940s and was stored in a silo at the site, according to Henderson.

"Some of it was simply dumped on the ground," he said.

The site is currently managed by the corps, which relieved the Department of Energy of the duties in 1988, according to Arlene K. Kreusch, contact public affairs specialist for the corps in Buffalo.

She said 2,500 acres of the site are occupied by the corps. "The rest is a buffer zone."

Henderson said DOE assured residents of the area and school district that the site was safe, the radioactivity of its contents "low-level" and not harmful.

The silo itself was torn down in 1983, because it was leaking. The substances contained in it were mixed with water, "slurried" through fire hoses and pumped into the silo's basement remains. Now different hazardous and radioactive materials have mixed together, Henderson

The DOE, in doing what it did, unwittingly increased the amount of the hazardous material, he said.

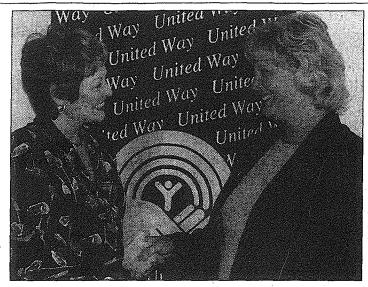
They increased the volume of the material by probably tenfold. ... The stuff in the building is like a radioactive chowder."

In the early 1990s, DOE wanted to install a a clay cap and wash its hands of the site, according to Henderson.

The public was concerned, however, and so Rep. John J. LaFalce, D-Tonawanda, commissioned the National Academy of Sciences for an independent study of the site.

Please see **Cleanup**, Page A5

THOUGHT OF THE DAY



United Way chairmen Deborah Ayers, left, and Diane Steel are leading this year's Eastern Niagara United Way.

to help. "I've lived in different cities in Ohio and Tennessee, and I've always believed that you get involved because you want to make a difference. The first time I stepped foot in Lockport I felt embraced, and the United Way gives me a chance to give back and to make difference."

Both women said their fellow United Way volun-

teers have the commitment to lead the campaign to success, despite recent plant closings in the area and retirements at Delphi.

"It's certainly an honor to represent this community, and in particular to represent Delphi," Ayers said. "We have a strong history of outstanding efforts in support of the United Way."

esponsible for 21 cleanups

"The Department of Conservation was inthe Environmental by, and now we've got as of Engineers. The is that obviously we will be following the ormer Simonds site." the corps' remedial which was initially set former Atomic Energy es federal funds to tive sites.

rogram was given to s still responsible for and recommending ould become part of program.

responsible for the intil 1998, when that properties

prps, and Department of total of 21 sites were vation Friday.

so three new sites, including Simonds, are expected to be added.

The corps has not inspected the site and has no figures on cost or how long the work will last, Walters said. Also, the corps does know know the current radiation level at the site.

The corps already maintains one radioactive waste site in Niagara County, the 7,500-acre Lake Ontario Ordinance Works site in Lewiston. That site contains waste from the Manhattan Project.

Meanwhile, State Sen. George D. Maziarz, R-North Tonawanda, said Friday that he has not been able to get in contact with state officials to determine what they can do at the Simonds site.

Maziarz said Thursday that he wanted talk to officials at the state Department of Environmental Conservation Friday.

Cleanup: Cost analysis, possible means on file

Continued from Page A1

Henderson said, "To (LaFalce's) credit, he held a lot of public meetings and brought in some key people from Washington. He's the one who got the ball rolling as far as the in-depth study."

Gary Luczak, a spokesman for LaFalce, said, "We... were interested in remediating the LOOW site."

Henderson said that after about three years, the National Academy of Sciences came back with a finding that the materials were too hazardous and needed to be moved. "Their recommendation was that for long-term storage, the materials should be taken to a more remote location, like a desert."

Henderson said that during the 1950s, some of the waste from Lewiston was shipped to Fernald, Ohio, where it was processed into something similar to glass marbles and shipped to Nevada because it was considered high-level waste.

"This was the same waste that was in Lewiston, that's still in Lewiston, and that's the problem that people had," he said. "If it was highlevel waste in Ohio, why wasn't it treated as such in Lewiston?"

"It (LOOW) is probably the most studied site in the country. There are volumes of information on what's there and where it came from. There's been enough studies done."

The corps said Friday that its Administrative Record File for the former LOOW site has been established in the Lewiston Public Library, 305 S. Eighth St., Lewiston; the Youngstown Free Library, 240 Lockport St., Youngstown; and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Information Center, 1776 Niagara St., Buffalo. The file includes the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis report and preferred alternative for cleaning the site, which is excavation of "drums, containers and debris from the drum trench and trash pit, and disposal of excavated materials at legally permitted treatment, storage or disposal facilities."

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