

Lewiston group takes active **ROLE** in environment

A quick trip through the environmental notebook:

EXTRA, EXTRA: Residents Organized for Lewiston's Environment sent out its second environmental newsletter last week. The purpose: "Mainly we're trying to educate people so they can make their own decisions about their environmental future," said James G. Jackson, a group member.

The March issue features articles on the proposed incinerators at the CWM Chemical Services landfill complex in Porter, a call to reduce truck traffic in the towns and a discussion of whether the Lewiston-Porter schools are endangered by hazardous wastes.

The environmental group distributed about 12,000 copies last month for its inaugural issue, Jackson said. This month, the group has a mailing list of 75 people who contributed money to help print the newsletter. Jackson said **ROLE** hopes to print about 3,000 editions monthly or bi-monthly.

To join the mailing list, write

ROLE, PO Box 44, Lewiston, N.Y. 14092.

TESTING: Medical exams for Forest Glen residents have been set for April 3 and 4 and April 20 and 21 at the Union Occupational Health Clinic at Erie County Medical Center. The first two dates are for families with children, reports Kathryn A. Freiermuth, a former Forest Glen resident.

The state Health Department promised the tests last July after federal agencies declared an imminent health threat existed from cancer-causing chemicals buried at the subdivision.

Doctors from Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City will perform the physical examinations.

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN': May become a reality in New York if a proposal to adopt California's stringent emissions standards for motor vehicles is passed.

State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner

Carolyn
McMeekin



Thomas C. Jorling proposed the standards for all passenger cars, light-duty trucks and medium-duty vehicles beginning with the 1993 model year.

New York is the first northeastern state to propose specific regulations to adopt the standards, although seven other northeastern states have agreed to adopt them.

The regulations would tighten emission limits for hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides and carbon monoxide. The requirements would be phased in over a three-year period.

A public hearing on the regulations is set for 1 p.m. Wednesday in the Mahoney State Office Building, 68 Court St., Buffalo.

NADER IN FALLS? Organizers of a free two-day conference on occupational disease are hoping consumer advocate Ralph Nader will be the keynote speaker at the March 30-31 event.

Jack Davidson, president of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union Local #8-23516 and a conference organizer, said last week that Nader was invited and indicated he might be able to attend.

Other speakers include Anthony Mazzocchi, secretary/treasurer of the OCAW International Union. Mazzocchi spoke here last fall during the first statewide labor and environmental conference in Niagara Falls. At the time, he proposed a Superfund for injured workers.

The purpose of this conference is to recognize and prevent occupational disease, Davidson said. It is being held 20 years after the federal Occu-

pational Safety and Health Act passed.

Conference co-sponsors are the Niagara/Orleans AFL-CIO Council, Buffalo AFL-CIO Council, Western New York Council on Occupational Safety and Health (WNYCOSH), the Ecumenical Task Force environmental group.

The sessions are slated for the Holiday Inn, 401 Buffalo Ave.

UP-AND-COMING: State environmental and health officials will be available to discuss sewer clean-up near the Occidental Chemical Corp. Durez Division plant in North Tonawanda from noon to 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesday. The sessions are held in North Tonawanda City Council Chambers, 216 Payne St. The sewers are contaminated with toxic dioxin and other substances believed to have come from the plant. Occidental has agreed to clean up the plant site and city storm and sanitary sewers.

Carolyn McMeekin covers environment and health for the Gazette.

March 9(?), 1990