

ROLE Celebrates Nine Years

ROLE (Residents Organized for Lewiston-Porter's Environment) celebrated its ninth year as an activist group at a meeting held January 4.

The organization has grown from a small group of Creek Road residents who would meet in a living room to its present day membership of nearly 200 concerned citizens. Members come from all walks of life, including doctors, lawyers, teachers, students, housewives, farmers and retirees.

The organization has a perfect record in numerous lawsuits brought against various waste facilities in the Lew-Port area.

"We realized early on that our quality of life and our

environmental destiny was in our own hands," said President Timothy Henderson. "Those that have taken a stand with us through the years have a lot to be proud of."

Henderson said a community's first line of defense is local government. "It is much more powerful than they realize, but on the other hand, an environmentally apathetic official can be a burden rather than a blessing to the community's struggle to protect itself," he said. "I guarantee that the environment will be a campaign issue this year, even if we have to field our own candidates. Politicians come and go, but ROLE is here to stay!"