



STORM STORIES — Maple West Elementary School fourth grade pupils, JP Rehak, left, Laura Piazza and Sydney Wile, are "Reading Up a Storm" in the school hallway during a program on Friday. The pupils, originally scheduled to be on spring break from April 11-13, had to make up days because of the October storm. The school marked the six-month anniversary of the storm with reading activities and guest speakers. A collection was also held for used books to be delivered to two Buffalo elementary schools.

Photo by Jim Smerecak
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Local law changed to accompany totes; board to review resident's suggestions

by JESSICA L. FINCH
Associate Editor

As the Town of Amherst prepares for the arrival date of its long-awaited totes, the Town Board has begun discussions on changes to the local solid waste law.

On Monday the board approved a minor change to the law that would include the word "totes," Council Member Bill Kindel said.

Residents will be required to store their waste materials in the totes and follow existing laws in regard to when the totes can be placed at the curb and what can be placed in the totes for pickup.

Kindel encouraged the board to consider the recommendations of Eggertsville resident Charles Eisenmann, who offered the board ideas he had gathered from Cheektowaga, Kenmore and Buffalo, which use a tote program.

"He had good recommendations," Kindel said, citing one that would require totes to be stored behind residences.

Kindel said that Eisenmann had done a great deal of research that deserved Town Board attention and consideration.

The board was given a copy of Eisenmann's suggestions for review.

The town ordered 33,000 totes, some 95-gallon and some 65-gallon. On Monday, Supervisor Satish Mohan said the 95-gallon totes would be distributed first; then residents who want to switch could contact the town.

Distribution delayed

Charles Moses, the interim senior refuse officer, said the totes purchased by the town will begin arriving on April 25.

According to Moses, Rehrig Pacific, the company from which the totes were purchased, is the reason for the delay.

A representative for Rehrig Pacific said there were delays in the delivering process which set the date back.

Moses anticipates that once the totes arrive, 1,000 will be assembled and delivered per day. He expects the project to be completed in a month.

Because the Village of Williamsville used the same company it has also experienced a delay.

According to village officials, the totes will be distributed beginning Monday, April 23.

Williamsville planning workshop set at South High School

The Village of Williamsville and the Williamsville Community Plan Committee are hosting the second in a series of public workshops on developing the Williamsville Community Plan.

The purpose of the workshop is to present concepts to the public for review and comment. It will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 24 at Williamsville South High School

The following topics will be covered:

- Ideas to make Main Street more attractive and safer for pedestrians and more business friendly.
- Ideas for rehabilitating the mill and the role it could play in revitalizing the village core.
- Opportunities for improving Long Street Park and the surrounding area.
- Village-wide land use concepts.

Smaller groups of participants will be organized to study each topic and residents will be able to discuss the topics with the planning consultants and members of the village Community Plan Committee.

Afterwards, the meeting will reconvene and representatives of each group will summarize their ideas for all workshop participants.

Behan Planning Associates, LLC of Rochester and Saratoga Springs is the workshop facilitator. It is working closely with Environmental Design and Research on the project's design elements.

Doug Brackett, EDR's principal on the project, was raised in Williamsville.

"It is important to understand that we will be presenting concepts and opportunities that can serve to guide future decision-making and actions," said

Lawrence Bice, Behan's project manager. "This plan is a community plan, and it will take community support and enthusiasm to translate ideas and concepts into reality."

Steve Ferranti from SRF Associates will discuss Main Street traffic management and street design. Also on hand will be David Versel of Devonomics, who has been working with the village Community Plan Committee and the business community to craft a strategic development plan for the Main Street business district.

"I hope we have a positive turnout for this meeting," said Walter Pacer Jr., chairman of the Community Plan Committee. "We've been working for many months getting the concepts and ideas developed. We are pleased with what we have developed so far, and we are looking for feed-

back from our neighbors. We all feel strongly that we need to work together to continue to make our village a special place," he said.

Amherst GOP endorses Anderson for second term

Seeking his second term as Amherst highway superintendent, Bob Anderson will once again run with the endorsement of the Amherst Republican Committee.

The GOP unanimously supported Anderson at its April 12 meeting. He was the only person being considered for the endorsement.

"I think we have built the department up to a point where we are again a respected department in the community, and I will continue to work hard to maintain that," Anderson said.

He will also continue to focus on his three main goals, the same as in his first campaign in 2003 — accountability and respectability, managing the qualified work force and infrastructure planning.

Anderson will join the slate of Republican-endorsed candidates, including Amherst Town Clerk Sue Jaros and Guy Marlette, Barry Weinstein and Roy Wixson for the Amherst Town Board.

North student remains in trauma unit at ECMC; school responds with support

by JESSICA L. FINCH
Associate Editor

An investigation continues into an accident that sent two Williamsville North High School students to the hospital last week.

Amherst Fire Control reported that the accident occurred just before 8 p.m. Thursday at 895 N. Forest Road. Snyder firefighters extricated two persons from the vehicle, which struck a pole.

The first victim was freed from the wreck within 15 minutes and rushed to the Erie County Medical Center. The injured were identified as Patrick Black and Adwait Athale, both 16.

At press time, Black remained in ECMC's trauma unit suffering from head injuries. No further information was released. Athale was treated in the emergency room and released Thursday.

Athale was the driver of the vehicle, which was headed north on North Forest

Road, north of Sheridan Drive. Amherst Police Capt. Patrick McKenna said the boys were going to a friend's house.

McKenna said the investigation continues into the accident. No charges have been pressed.

North High School Principal Robert B. Tubbs said himself, as well as several staff members, have visited Black at the hospital.

On Tuesday, school representatives were delivering cards to the 11th grade

student to show their support as he continues to heal.

"Teachers have worked on cards to have different people sign them in support for him and his family," Tubbs said. "The teachers that have spoken on behalf of (Black) say he is a great student and we are really pulling for him."

Tubbs added the school also continues to support Athale. Comments were not made on whether he had returned to class.

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- SPCA Whisker Wag'n
- Happy Tails Dog Training - Puppy Training Demo
- Canine Academy - Agility and Obedience Demos
- Messenger Woods - Wildlife Rehabilitation

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All proceeds from food sales will be donated to The Buffalo Zoo.

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