

Viewpoints

Volume II, Issue II

2nd Quarter, 2000

Middleport CAP Members

- Greg Bass
- Lesley Bewley
- Thurston Dale, DVM
- Darrell Gilbert
- Mary Grabowski
- John Grabowski
- Ron Houseman
- Dr. Herb Koenig
- Megan Logan
- Julie Maedl
- Denny McAvoy
- Kevin McDonald
- Ryan Pierson
- Pastor Andy Pollock
- Butch Rhinehart
- Sharon Smith
- John Swick
- Marshall Wilson

THIS NEWSLETTER IS COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY THE MIDDLEPORT COMMUNITY ADVISORY PANEL. IT IS THE EXPRESS INTENT OF THE CAP TO PROVIDE RESIDENTS OF MIDDLEPORT CREDIBLE INFORMATION REGARDING COMMUNITY ISSUES, FMC PLANT ACTIVITIES, AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS.

Community survey sent to Roy-Hart residents

By Middleport CAP members Mary Grabowski and Sharon Smith

How did FMC Middleport handle the recent schoolyard environmental project?

How safe do you think FMC Middleport's operations are for the environment and health?

These are just two questions from the FMC Middleport Community Survey, which was prepared by Carr Marketing Communications Inc. for FMC Middleport.

In its continuing efforts to be a good neighbor, FMC asked over 1,000 randomly chosen near-neighbors and Royaltown-Hartland residents their opinions on the recent remediation project and other issues related to the Middleport plant.

Your Community Advisory Panel, whose members are listed in green to the left of this article,

co-sponsored the survey.

A prize incentive was offered to those who were sent a survey to complete and return. Three local residents were randomly chosen by Carr Marketing and were each

awarded a 13-inch color combination TV/VCR. Ultimately, it is the Middleport community that is the winner because the survey information provided will be used to guide the plant's community outreach efforts.

Results of the survey are being

tabulated and

items will be shared with you in issues of the FMC "Community Connection" newsletter. We look forward to learning what our community has to say about FMC Middleport by way of the survey.



Private Well Sampling Program

By Bob Wojcik, Environmental Manager, FMC Middleport

Last year, as part of on-going evaluations of groundwater conditions, FMC conducted an inventory of private wells located within a three-mile radius of the FMC plant. This survey was done in cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The well inventory included information from property owners on the construction and use of all private wells. The Agencies and FMC then agreed that specific wells would be sampled to provide additional data characterizing any possible water quality effects from historic practices at the FMC Middleport plant.

Certain wells were selected for sampling with the technical collaboration of the Agencies using information such as the direction and rate of movement of the groundwater.

FMC then contacted the property owners whose wells were chosen, and requested permission to take samples. This sampling took place in July and August 2000.

The water samples will be analyzed for certain metals and organic compounds related to past operations at the Middleport plant. In addition, as a courtesy, FMC will have the samples analyzed for bacteria and lead, even though these conditions are not associated with plant operations.

FMC will provide each well owner with results for his/her well after they are analyzed and validated. There will be an explanation of the analytical results for each of the well owners, and the published NYSDEC groundwater standards as a reference, even though few of these wells are used for

drinking water or other domestic uses. The Niagara County or Orleans County Health Departments will evaluate and report directly to the well owners on any elevated bacteria levels.

This program accomplishes three purposes:

1. it updated the existing private well inventory in the vicinity of the FMC Middleport plant;
2. it will provide data on the possible effect of historic operations and practices at the FMC Middleport plant;
3. it will give landowners important information about the quality of his/her well water.



This summer, selected wells around Middleport were sampled. Each well was inspected to verify its depth and diameter, its water capacity was pumped out and then sampled. The samples were sent to private labs for analysis. Reports of the results will be sent to each well owner.

Are you interested in the Middleport Community Advisory Panel?

What is the Middleport Community Advisory Panel, or CAP?

What do they do?

If you would like to learn more ---

Call Patt Fagan at
735-3761
Ext. 289.



CAP members share information



Roy-Hart residents were greeted by Middleport CAP members at the Grand Opening of the School District's Sports Complex. Denny McAvoy, John Shuttleworth, Julie Maedl, and Lesley Bewley passed out information about the Community Advisory Panel along with Roy-Hart Rams pens.



helped make the day fun for all. Three of the Smith clan made it on the front page of the Sunday edition of the Lockport Union Sun and Journal.

The Grand Opening of the Roy-Hart Sports Complex

Sept. 2, 2000

Sharon Smith and her children Allison, Davey and Kyle hosted the CAP's duck pond at the Grand Opening. Everyone was a winner at the duck pond and Sharon and the kids

Complex.

"One lap" tour brochures were also handed out along with purple and white pom poms for the Rams first game of the season later that evening.

Over 2,000 people attended the Grand Opening celebration which provided district residents their first look at the new Sports

Sharon Smith and family make a splash!



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Inside Viewpoints

Community survey goes out
Water sampling program begun
CAP members at the Grand Opening
CAN emergency notification system

POSTAL CUSTOMER

CAN system gets word out fast

Niagara County Sheriff's Technical Sgt. Doug Webber presented information about the Community Alert Network, or CAN, to the Middleport CAP at their June meeting.

Technical Sgt. Webber explained that the CAN network is an automated system designed to deliver emergency messages the fastest way possible - by phone. Up to 250 phone calls per minute can be delivered with information specific to any particular emergency situation.

Another advantage the CAN alert network has is being able to get an emergency message to targeted areas. Locations in Niagara County have been mapped out in a grid, according to Sgt. Webber. Only those areas affected would be called and given emergency information.

"Using the media to get an emergency message out to the community takes too much time," says Sgt. Webber. "In addition, an all clear phone call is delivered to residents homes after the crisis



Technical Sgt. Douglas A. Webber from the Niagara County Sheriff's Department talks to Middleport CAP members about the Community Alert Network, North America's fastest and most secure emergency notification system. The CAN system has been used locally since 1984.

situation has passed."

"Removing the siren on the FMC plant site was probably the best move you could do," adds Webber. "Not many people paid attention to it. There is no better way that we are aware of to notify the public than the CAN system."