

# Stuck named to committee

ALBANY — Gov. Mario Cuomo has announced the appointment of a 28-member advisory committee that will assist the state in developing a flood control policy in the Central New York and Finger Lakes Region.

The Central New York-Finger Lakes Flood Control Advisory Committee, to be headed by Secretary of State Gail Shaffer, will also provide a local perspective for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's study of regional flooding problems.

The committee includes local representatives of lake associations, municipalities, regional planning boards, conservation groups, academic experts and scientists, and local residents involved in hydropower, agriculture, navigation and tourism. The panel includes non-voting members from the state Department of Transportation and the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Among the voting members appointed is Carl Stuck of Seneca Falls, Utilities Operations supervisor for the Village of Penn Yan.

"This diverse group of local residents will provide us with the knowledge and expertise needed to devise a fair and effective policy to help control flooding along the lakes, canals and rivers of Central New York and the Finger Lakes, and balance the area's economic, recreational and environmental interests," Gov. Cuomo said.

"Achieving such a comprehensive plan will require the cooperation of both the state and federal governments, as well as local residents and businesses who have had to cope with flooded basements, lawns, docks, and septic systems," he added.

The governor announced plans to appoint the advisory committee earlier this year following repeated flooding problems in the Finger Lakes/Central New York region, particularly in the vicinity of Cross Lake and the Seneca River.

Secretary of State Shaffer, who last spring conducted a public meeting in Auburn on this issue with state and local officials and property owners, said she was looking forward to continuing the cooperative effort.

"Our goal is to balance the economic, recreational and environmental concerns about the management and use of these water resources," said Shaffer. "This committee will serve as the vehicle for local participation in the development of policies that will foster and open a constructive dialogue."

In addition to the appointment

of the advisory committee, the state and Army Corps of Engineers are sponsoring a \$1 million study of flood control problems in the Central New York and Finger Lakes Region. Among the things, the study will analyze the regulation of water levels on the Seneca River and Barge Canal in seeking to develop ways to mitigate flooding.

# Group forms to preserve Seneca Lake

By MIKE MYERS

Special to The Leader

HIMMROD — A new association has formed with plans to teach Seneca Lake residents how to keep it lake clean.

The Seneca Lake Pure Water Association, formed about three weeks ago, plans to look for sources of pollution as well as educating residents on how not to pollute.

"Seneca Lake is one of the cleaner lakes in the Finger Lakes and we want to keep it that way," said Douglas Miles of the association.

Committees will be established to study areas such as water quality, land use, zoning and planning.

"We haven't started our testing yet," Miles said. "We'll probably start in the spring."

plans to use the expertise of Hobart and William Smith College to test the water around sewer plants as well as industrial discharges.

The group plans a series of public meetings in communities around the lake.

Organizers hope a membership drive that will hope-fully enroll 3,000-4,000 members.

The association has named directors from various spots around the lake and varied occupations.

Members of the founding committee are: Ken Carlé, Buzz DeFelleo and Don Woodrow, all of Geneva; Thomas Enroth, Burdett; Bruce Hansen, Penn Yan; Edward Hoffman, Elmira; Howard Kimball, Glenora; Doug Miles, Hiram; Fred Mulford, Lodi; Gene Pletze, Durdee; Guy Sehamel, Hector; and Michael Stang, Warsaw.

## Group sets hearings on Seneca Lake

LAKEMONT — A series of public hearings on Seneca Lake and its watershed are scheduled for January and February.

The meetings will be conducted by the Seneca Lake Pure Waters Association, a non-profit membership organization recently formed to protect the health of the lake and its watershed.

They will serve as an opportunity for citizens to discuss their interests and concerns about water quality, recreational use, lake level, land use or any issue that affects the lake and its watershed.

Each will run 2-4 p.m. as follows:

- Jan. 19 - Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce.
- Jan. 26 - Lodi Town Hall.
- Feb. 2 - Rural Urban Center, Montour Falls.
- Feb. 9 - Seneca Lake Suck Hunters Club, Route 14, Penn Yan.

For more information, write the association at P.O. Box 4, Lakemont 14857.

The association was formed in the fall by a group of concerned citizens who hope to increase public awareness of ways to conserve, improve and protect the natural resources and the environment of Seneca Lake and its watershed.

It hopes to involve all citizens who care about the issues affecting the water resource.

The watershed of Seneca Lake drains 714 square miles, according to an association news release.

The lake itself is 35.1 miles long, 3.2 miles wide, 650 feet deep and holds more than 4 trillion gallons of water. More than 62,000 people draw their drinking water from Seneca Lake and rely on it to be clean and abundant.

Surrounded by thousands of parcels of private property, 15 townships, and four counties, no single group has developed a plan to protect the water resource.