



**SWEET SUCCESS** — Members of John Cardinal O'Hara Council Knights of Columbus banded together offering Tootsie Rolls for donations to the Special Olympics. Donations received from Nativity's Men's Group, customers of the Clarence Farm Market, and Pixley's ShurFine Foodmart in Akron, totaled \$511. Handing out the candy for donations at the Clarence Farmer's Market on Sept. 9 were Thomas Friedman, front row, left, Ralph Handley, and Thomas Hint, back row Charles Lukowski, Williamsville and Anthony Russo.

Millersport

# Re-vote on rezoning criticized

by JESSICA L. FINCH  
Associate Editor

The majority of the Amherst Town Board stood strong against their decision to down zone sections of Millersport Highway.

Two weeks following the 3-hour long public hearing and vote on 30 parcels on Sept. 5 Council Member William A. O'Loughlin Jr. sponsored a resolution to re-vote on two parcels, 4225 and 4245 Millersport Highway on Sept. 18. The resolution did not receive a second.

The properties are owned by the Lillis family, and O'Loughlin said they had not been given information needed to file a petition, which would have required

a super majority vote of six votes to deny the resolution. The vote was 4-3 to down zone.

"This is not so much a zoning issue but about treating people fairly. We must inform them that they have the right to file a protest petition," he said.

His resolution requested that the family be allowed to maintain their GB-General Business zoning status. During the Sept. 5 vote the parcels were rezoned to SA-Suburban Agriculture.

Because the family didn't currently have any structures operating under the GB zoning they are now not allowed to develop. A structure on a re-zoned parcel will be considered nonconforming and allowed to remain.

Many residents responded to O'Loughlin's resolution with letters to the Amherst Bee and also spoke at the meeting. They said they were upset with the council member's decision to favor one family and that Millersport Highway should remain downzoned.

Residents were also upset that O'Loughlin stated that flooding was not a problem in that section because they said they knew for a fact that flooding did occur.

With no second from a board member who voted in favor of the re-zoning the motion failed. Although the Lillis family filed a petition after the fact the parcel will remain SA zoning.

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## State Senators, Assembly members to attend meeting

The Independent Insurance Agents' Association of WNY, Inc. will hold a meeting to meet legislative members.

The meeting scheduled for 8:15 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 5 at Fanny's Restaurant, 3500 Sheridan Drive, will feature guest speaker Michael Barrett, lobbyist.

Reservation deadline is Oct. 2 and registration will take place at 8:15 the day of the meeting. Cost is \$15 per person. Call Barbara Duke at 634-1212 ext. 217 to make a reservation.

For more information: e-mail [iaawny@chioceonemail.com](mailto:iaawny@chioceonemail.com)

## Sweeney looks to add signs at village crosswalks

by JILL SCHMELZER  
Reporter

The crosswalks at School and Academy streets and Glen and Howard avenues do not have stop signs at the crosswalks, which could be hazardous to pedestrians.

Trustee Richard Sweeney addressed the two crosswalks during the Village of Williamsville Board work session held Monday.

He sought to have crosswalk signs installed at the locations for approximately \$80 - \$100 each. The signs would be used to alert drivers of pedestrians. As the board investigated the issues, it was noticed that the crosswalk at School and Academy streets had a stop sign at the north end, but lacked one from the other way.

Instead of purchasing an advisory sign for the crosswalk, Sweeney will address the issue during the Traffic and Safety Committee meeting. The committee may then recommend the village board purchase and install a stop sign at the site.

In other news: according to Department of Public Works Crew Chief Michael Parker, the Town of Amherst opened the bid for garbage totes Sept. 20 and Rehrig Pacific Company currently has the lowest bid. However, the Village of Williamsville board is looking to wait until the garbage contracts are awarded for the new year. Negotiations began yesterday.

A public hearing will be held to address the newspaper and periodical boxes in the right of way along Main Street at 7:35 p.m. Monday, Oct. 23 at Village Hall, 5565 Main St. in Williamsville.

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## People Inc. receives grant for housing project

Rep. Thomas Reynolds, R-Amherst, has secured funding that he says will help People Inc. provide comfortable and affordable living for more Western New York seniors.

Based in Amherst, People Inc. will receive \$399,251 to help the agency develop a rental housing project for elderly residents. The federal funding was secured through the Section 202 Demonstration Planning Grant Program, a program run by the Department of Housing

and Urban Development .

"Providing quality and affordable living opportunities for the elderly must be a top priority in Western New York," Reynolds said. "This funding will help People Inc. in its important efforts to do just that and assist the elderly in our community who are most in need."

The funding will allow People Inc. to defray the startup costs in getting the senior complexes to the construction phase and allow for completion of various

predevelopment activities such as architectural and engineering work, site control, and other expenses. Without the grant funding, such costs would not be reimbursable until closing. Construction is expected to begin in spring 2007.

"These funds will allow People Inc. to move forward quickly with its housing initiative and avoid the funding complications that so often go along with the early stages of these projects," Reynolds said.

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## Junior Achievement given Platinum Summit Award

Junior Achievement of Western New York, Inc. was recently awarded a Platinum Summit Award from Junior Achievement's Worldwide Headquarters.

This award is designated to recognize the staff and board of JA in area offices who have achieved success in financial solvency, program quality, program impact and overall management effectiveness. Since 1988 the local JA office has been a receiver of 11 awards. All Summit award offices receive a personalized plaque designating the level of Summit attainment.

JA teaches students the economics of life through free enterprise education. The non-profit organization, has been in existence locally since 1958. The programs continue to serve more than 12,000 students in WNY each year. Currently JA serves eight

counties of WNY and are in more than 100 schools and community sites.

For more information call

Kathy Romanowski at 853-1381 ext. 12 or e-mail her at [kromanowski@jawnny.org](mailto:kromanowski@jawnny.org) or visit [www.wny.ja.org](http://www.wny.ja.org).

## O'Loughlin appointed as commissioner of insurance fund



O'Loughlin

William A. O'Loughlin Jr., an investment advisor with O'Loughlin Financial Group — Brookstreet Securities and an Amherst Town Board Member, has been appointed by Gov. George E. Pataki and confirmed by the New York State Senate to be a commissioner of the New York State Insurance Fund.

"I will put my more than 40 years of financial experience to work for both the business community and employee workforce throughout New York State," O'Loughlin said.

The State Insurance Fund is New York's largest worker's compensation and disability benefits carrier with offices located in 11 cities throughout New York State. O'Loughlin made the announcement on Sept. 18.