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TRICK-OR-TREAT—Tony Vega and Justin Vega hand out treats during the 2005 trick-or-treat weekend held at the Amherst Museum. This year's event will be held for children ages 3-10 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 27 and from 3 to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 28 at the museum, 3755 Tonawanda Creek Road. The event has been rescheduled because of the snow storm. Anyone currently holding tickets should plan to come at the same time on Oct. 27 or 28. Tickets are available by calling 689-1440. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$7 for children. Reservations are required.

Williamsville

Request for curb cut on Spring Street denied

by **JILL SCHMELZER**
Reporter

For the second time, the Center for Plastic Surgery's request to construct a curb cut on Spring Street has been denied.

The Village Board on Monday voted 4 to 1, rejecting Dr. Zvi Sharf's idea to build a one-way driveway exiting onto Spring Street from behind the buildings at 5604 to 5590 Main St.

Sharf requested adding a curb cut in 2005, but the then Village Board suggested conducting a traffic study before readdressing the issue. He hired a company to do so and resubmitted his request this past year.

Sharf wanted to install the exit because his patients have a hard time exiting his parking lot onto Main Street. He cited three accidents that have occurred in the past year alone.

The Village Traffic and Safety Committee reviewed the case and advised the board to deny the request again.

After Monday evening's public hearing, where most residents in attendance also rejected the

idea, the Village Board denied the project.

Trustee Basil Piazza was the only board member to vote in favor of the curb cut, stating he didn't believe the exit would increase safety concerns for customers using Jenny's Ice Cream.

But trustees Brian Geary, Bea Slick and Richard Sweeney agreed that the sloped Spring Street would create a hazard for traffic coming from Main Street.

Sweeney said there was too short of a reaction time to say the curb cut would be safe. Mayor Mary Lowther agreed, stating that the Traffic and Safety Committee looked at the study and found it to be not in favor of Sharf's request.

Lowther noted that she sympathized with Sharf because he was concerned with the safety of his patients. But she added that the project is not in the best interest of the safety and wellness of village residents.

The next Village Board meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 13 at Village Hall, 5565 Main St. in Williamsville.

Judge sides with Amherst Police Club in lawsuit

by **JESSICA L. FINCH**
Associate Editor

The Amherst Police Department appears to be on its way to reaching its current allowance of 154 officers.

Detective Edward Guzdek Jr., president of the Amherst Police Club, said Erie County Court Judge Joseph Glownia has ruled in favor of the Police Club after hearing statements on Oct. 20.

The Police Club had filed a lawsuit in August against the Town of Amherst and Supervisor Satish Mohan stating that Mohan did not have the sole authority in the hiring of police officers.

The town attorney's office represented the Town of Amherst and Mohan.

"Judge Glownia basically agreed with our opinion, that it's the Town Board that determines the staffing level of the police department," Guzdek said.

The Town Board voted in 2004 to add an additional three officers to the force, making the total 154. Those hirings never took place.

Guzdek said the department is currently operating without five officers, partly due to retirements. He said the next police academy begins in January, and the department would hire officers to fill the existing vacancies.

During Monday's work session, Council Member Bill Kindel said that with this decision, the Town Board will have to address the lawsuit and what the next decision on the board's part will be.

A court order from Judge Glownia is expected to be signed within the month.

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