

Clarence officials respond to 'overdue sewer bill' claims

by **KIMBERLY M. KARCHER**
Clarence Editor

The Town of Clarence has released a statement indicating that progress is being made toward resolution of outstanding sewage treatment bill payments.

Supervisor Kathy Hallock said that town officials were prompted to release the statement following an article that was published in The Buffalo News on Tuesday, April 24 that may lead some to believe that Clarence is not working to settle the payments.

"The town would like nothing more than to finalize payment and is hopeful that will happen soon," Hallock said.

The article in question was in reference to a proposed new sewer line which would be built next to an existing line, commonly referred to as the Peanut Line. The article stated that "Council members William L. Kindel and Shelly C. Schratz expressed doubts (about the proposed project), saying the new line will stimulate suburban sprawl and noting that Amherst officials continue to believe Clarence and Erie County owe Amherst for overdue sewage treatment bills."

As a response to "overdue bills," Clarence town officials stated that a subcommittee of the towns of Clarence and Amherst Engineering, Finance and Legal departments have taken steps to

define a mutually agreeable billing formula.

"The Town of Clarence is awaiting a 'mock-billing' from the Amherst side of the subcommittee which will then be discussed at the next meeting to be scheduled after Clarence has received the 'mock-billing,'" Hallock said.

Clarence has paid \$1.2 million of what it believes to be the outstanding balance due and owing, according to town officials.

"The Town of Clarence is committed to paying any sum owing Amherst after the findings and recommendations of the subcommittee," Hallock said.

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RECOGNITION — Michael Altieri of Amherst receives a medal in recognition of past military service during a "In the Company of Heroes" ceremony held April 29 at VFW Post 7545 in the City of Tonawanda. Commendations were presented to veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War and Iraq by the State of New York in recognition of bravery and service to the United States.

Photo by John Rusac
Purchase color photos at www.BeeNews.com

Funding secured for Maple East playground

Pupils at Maple East Elementary School are one step closer to having a playground.

"With childhood obesity rates on the rise, a new playground is a perfect way to get children outside and active," said Sen. Mary Lou Rath, R-Amherst, in announcing the \$50,000 grant for the Williamsville Central School District.

The playground will include swings, slides, a rock wall, a fitness component, and equipment that will help pupils with sensory issues. Construction is set to begin in September 2007.

"After 15 years, our old playground is reaching the end of its useful life," said Mary Mallon, principal of Maple East. "Not only will the new playground be fun, it will provide an incentive to get children moving in fun and challenging ways. Our entire community will benefit from having this playground, which be available to all children, not just those who attend Maple East."

Community News

Anthony Lister of Amherst was awarded a \$500 scholarship from the University at Buffalo School of Management's inaugural Steve C. Verney MBA Case Competition. He had to read and analyze a Harvard business case and write a report recommending solutions for the company to study. Each first-year master's in business administration student at UB took part in the competition. Lister was one of four winners.

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* APR is accurate as of 4/23/07 and assumes automatic payment. Add 0.25% without automatic payment. Monthly payment example is based on a \$10,000 mortgage loan, with a loan to value less than 80%, for 60 month term with an Annual Percentage Rate (APR) of 6.74%. Property insurance is required. Interest paid may be tax deductible. Consult a tax advisor regarding deductibility of interest. Applies to new loans only. Other restrictions apply. Rates and terms may change without notice.