

Bee Editorial

Place a moratorium on creating committees

Supervisor Satish Mohan said at Monday's work session that he never knew the town had a Citizens Advisory Committee on Privacy. He claims he doesn't know about it yet it was formed on Jan. 16, a meeting that he attended.

Council Member Dan Ward was the first to make an appointment to the committee on Monday — six months later.

According to the Town Clerk's office there are 26 boards and committees on record — although many of which meet once in a blue moon, or haven't in months, maybe years.

And still there are other committees that don't even know what they are doing. Town Clerk Susan Jaros has requested mission statements from committees that lack them in hopes of putting them on the right track.

Could it be that the Town Board's enthusiasm to create committee after committee has got-

ten out of hand when board members don't even know how many there are or what they are supposed to do?

Council Member Shelly Schratz admitted at Monday's work session that, as liaison to the schools, she doesn't know what the Town/School Consolidation & Sharing Citizens Advisory Board is supposed to do.

What is the difficulty in creating a committee complete with a mission statement? Take the idea from which the committee came and complete a thought — on paper.

Currently there are 16 committees listed on the Town Board's agenda as having vacancies — as of Monday there were 72 vacancies.

It appears the board members have no interest in filling these committees in 2007 as the year is half over and most committees adjourn, or reduce, their meeting schedule in the summer.

No one knows what they are doing, but the committees just keep being formed. Since the Town Board was once a fan of land moratoriums maybe it should consider passing a moratorium on the creation of committees until the current ones are functioning.

Council members take a look at the agenda prior to meetings, because sometimes it's hard to tell if you even know what resolutions you will vote on. At the very least open your agenda packet and see how many times your name appears for a vacancy on a committee and make an effort to fill it. Weren't these committees created for a reason? One can only wonder who is at the end of the line when the board members vote to send a resolution to a committee for review. If they don't know there is such a committee or what the committee is supposed to do, are these resolutions going to an empty mailbox?

Spindle items



JESSICA FINCH

Associate Editor

• **BY ANY OTHER NAME** — It has become an office joke that I am called Jennifer almost more than Jessica. Even when I answer my phone with the rehearsed greeting, "Amherst Bee this is Jessica, how can I help?" I am still called

don't know. Faxes and letters also come addressed to Jennifer even after speaking with the person, explaining who to send the information to.

I can see three reasons why someone may mistakenly rename me — both names competed for the top girl's name throughout the 1980s, both start with a "J" and both have double consonants in the middle, but it's not like Ryan and Brian that could sound alike.

• **FAST TALKER** — I'll admit I am a fast talker, especially when I am nervous or excited. But when I am leaving a message I make a conscious effort to speak slowly to clearly relay my information. It's a common problem around the office that we listen to long, detailed messages about an upcoming event, a problem in town or reader requesting a story, only to have them spit out the contact number so fast we can't make out the numbers. In those cases I often find myself having to

listen to the message three or four times to get the seven digits. I request anyone who happens to call when I am not here to speak slowly and clearly so I can be sure to call you back at the correct phone number.

• **OUTDOOR MARKET** — For the third consecutive year, Ciminelli Development Co. will host the outdoor market at Centerpointe Corporate Park, 350 Essjay Road, Amherst. The public market is held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Wednesday, June 13 to Sept. 12. Free parking is available. The sidewalks will be filled with a variety of vendors selling food, fresh produce, jewelry and an assortment of gift items.

• **DO YOU HAVE TALENT?** — Auditions for Aurora Players' production of the Lionel Bart musical "Oliver!" will be held at 7 p.m. June 11-14 at the Historic Roycroft Pavilion in Hamlin Park, South

Grove Street, south of Prospect Avenue, East Aurora. The show will be performed Sept. 14-16, 21-23, and 27-30.

Audition dates will be broken down according to age: Children 13 and younger on June 11; young adults ages 14-18 on June 12, and adults 18 and older on June 13. Callbacks will be on June 14. Complete information is online at www.auroraplayers.org.

Director Erik Oehler will cast 17 boys younger than 18, one female younger than 18, and approximately seven adult males, and six adult females, ranging in age from 18 to 85. Please bring about a minute of music, sheet music if you have it and be dressed to perform a brief dance routine.

Those auditioning for the role of Oliver, must prepare one minute of a song and sing part of "Where is Love?" Those auditioning for the role of Fagin, must prepare one minute of a song and sing part of "You've Got to Pick a Pocket or Two."

Jennifer by the end of the call. What's worse is the number of e-mails I receive to Jennifer because the culprits respond to my e-mail which clearly states my name as "Jessica L. Finch" at the bottom of the e-mail signature. Why they hit reply and think it's Jennifer I

Out of the Past

125 Years Ago June 8, 1882

"A splendid instrument" is an expression we have heard used by several of our citizens who have purchased pianos of Mr. John M. Shuler, the justly celebrated piano manufacturer of 916 Main Street, Buffalo. Mr. Shuler's prices and terms are such as to offer extra inducements to purchasers.

Repairs on sidewalks continue, but they go pretty slow. Some do not improve things much.

The Macadam Road Company is putting on a fresh layer of broken stone between Buffalo and Williamsville and is endeavoring to keep it in as fine a shape as can be.

C.L. Haupt presented the Village Board a bill for \$6.30 for services as janitor for March.

Next Sabbath, June 11th, will be observed with appropriate exercises as Children's Day.

Two men were recently found dead in Red Eye, Minn. A 15-year-old male is suspected but has disappeared. The suspect was a reader of trashy newspapers and often said he intended to join the cowboys in Montana.

"A fowl in the hen coop is worth two in the base-ball field."

100 Years Ago June 6, 1907

Another fatal automobile accident occurred on the Williamsville road last Monday afternoon when Harry Hamlin, a well-known Buffalo millionaire,

clubman, traveler, horse fancier and auto enthusiast, was instantly killed and two persons were seriously hurt in a collision between a powerful automobile driven by Mr. Hamlin's chauffeur and a light buggy. Residents have long been indignant at the terrific rate of speed automobilists run their machines.

75 Years Ago June 9, 1932

Two men were arrested Saturday on a charge of operating a press on which they printed unauthorized dance admission tickets to Glen Park.

The Glendale Tea Room will move this week from its present location in Main Street opposite the Village Hall to 5629 Main Street opposite Mill Street, formerly Pope's restaurant. English fish and chips will be featured.

Property owners are reminded that this is the time for the cutting of weeds and high grass on all lots within the village. After June 21, the village will perform the task and make a charge against the property owner.

Nelson J. Abt, 8-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob E. Abt, is the champion speller of Sweet Home District No. 15. His reward was a dictionary from the Buffalo Evening News.

The annual picnic to benefit St. Mary's Church, Swormville, will be held Wednesday, July 13. Swormvillites advise you to spend the day.

Mr. and Mrs. George J. Measer, co-editors of The Amherst Bee, celebrated the 25th anniversary of their marriage on June 1, 1932.

50 Years Ago June 6, 1957

Although the Amherst Police warned nursery proprietors about keeping large sums of money on the premises over the Memorial Day weekend, two local nurseries were victimized when their safes were broken into Sunday night. Hit were the Avenue Nursery and Landscape Service, 2201 Kensington Avenue, and the Four Winds Nursery, 4190 Main Street.

The Amherst Planning Board has suggested a traffic underpass arrangement for Sheridan Drive and Eggert Road, a plan they devised in 1953.

The official opening of the Amherst Little League baseball season took place Monday evening, June 3, at the new stadium of the Central Amherst Little League on Wehrle Drive west of the Thruway.

25 Years Ago June 2, 1982

Buffalo Hotel Supply, a 44-year-old firm catering to several types of service-related businesses, has moved to the Audubon Industrial Park.

Daniel Fogel, president of the Amherst Jaycees, has been selected to participate in a Rotary Club-sponsored exchange program in Israel.

Dr. Edmond J. Gicewicz is the new president of the Medical Society of the County of Erie.

Rev. Msgr. John Ryan officiated at the wedding of Laurel Ann Toms and Dino Mario Bianco Saturday, May 29 at St. Benedict's Church.