

Welcome!

I hoped you all had a chance to get a look at front page of the Buffalo News from January 26<sup>th</sup>. Our Navy SEALs were victorious again, giving the rebels in Somalia a real thrashing. I quote, "People sleep peacefully in their beds at night only because rough men stand ready to do violence on their behalf." God Bless the families of those Navy Seals and God Bless America.

After three weeks as Supervisor of the Town of Clarence, I can honestly say that I LOVE MY JOB. Now I understand why grown men fight like cats and dogs to get here.

A special note of thanks to councilmen Pat Casilio, Peter Diconstanzo and Bob Geiger. All three of you have taken the time to make me feel welcome in my new position, and I truly appreciate it.

Clarence is on the move! As one of the fastest growing towns in Western New York, our job will be to see that it continues to retain its unique characteristics as the expansion continues.

The Town is currently considering a new multifamily apartment complex on Transit Rd. This project will generate over \$150,000 in tax revenue and will provide additional apartments for our senior citizens so they don't have to make a beeline for Florida as soon as they retire.

We are also working with partners to provide additional sewer capacity to the town. The ultimate goal is to sewer the Harris Hill area, and that goal is closer now than it has been in many years.

One of my pet peeves is sidewalks. I have four children, and I feel that every new subdivision should have sidewalks for the kids to walk on. Many of the new housing developments in 2012 will have sidewalks, and I will continue to push for sidewalks on all new residential construction in the Town of Clarence.

We went to Akron last week to look at their outdoor ice rink. The Town of Akron has the largest outdoor ice rink east of the Mississippi river! It's actually not much of a rink, it really is a shallow indentation in the ground, filled with clay and fed from a local stream. I would love to have an outdoor ice skating rink in Clarence provided we can do it cheaply and locate it in an area that is walkable for adults and kids. Meadowlakes seems to be the best choice at this point, and we will continue to study our options with a 2012-2103 planned start.

We are working with the Chamber of Commerce on an electronic drop off date in March or April at Eastern Hills Mall for workable, but out-of-date computers and monitors that will be delivered into Buffalo and given to Computers for Kids. I talked to Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown last Saturday, and he was immediately enthusiastic about our program.

The Clarence Industrial Development agency is in the planning process of hiring a new economic development officer. This EDO, combined with a local advertising agency, will help attract new business to Clarence. In turn, these businesses will create additional jobs and revenue for the town of Clarence.

Thank you all for coming today! This Town of Clarence is an amazing place to live, and every day that I came to work I am more and more enthusiastic. I urge you to take the time to get involved and to make this town a better place to live. My door is always open, and I urge you to come by and chat. After all, all public officials work for you, not the other way around. Good luck in 2012, and may God continue to bless you and your families in the coming year.