

September 21, 2009

As reported in the local media, I resigned from my seat as a Sweden Councilman on September 11. My wife Susan and I welcomed our fourth child to the family in July and needed a larger home for our expanded brood. We purchased a residence in the Town of Ogden this month, necessitating my resignation from the Sweden Town Board, but we are pleased that we will remain residents of the Brockport Central School District.

I feel honored to have been elected by Sweden voters to serve as a councilman for the past six years. I hope that I made a meaningful contribution to the myriad issues facing the Town Board. In sync with my fellow board members, my goal was always to make the best decisions for our community. Sometimes those decisions were unpopular. I remain convinced that the Town of Sweden is in a stronger position regarding future growth, opportunities and financial stability because of the Board's leadership and courage.

I'd like to thank the Board members with whom I've served – Buddy Lester, Rob Carges, Danielle Windus-Cook, Pat Connors and Jack Milner. They are a group of individuals whose commitment to this community is unparalleled – they make many personal sacrifices and put up with a fair amount of grief – just to make the Town of Sweden a better place to live and work. Our community is fortunate to have such a capable group as our elected leaders.

Please remember to use all the amenities your town government provides: from the senior center to the community center to the town park to the farmers museum and the recycling center. Attend meetings and special events; let Board members know they're doing a good job. Let them know about things you'd like to see change. Your participation is important.

I now reside just over the border into the neighboring Town, but I remain a proud supporter of the Sweden community.

Thomas F. Ferris