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## Harmony to return to Volney Town Board, supervisor says

by Steve Buchiere

With two of Volney's most hotly debated issues seemingly resolved, Town Supervisor Don Kitts predicts that harmony will once again return to the town board.

"We've got a lot of growth in the town. We've got to progress, not digress," the supervisor said Tuesday.

With the decision to allow three Volney Zoning Board members to stay on the board, and the apparent conclusion to the controversy surrounding Robert Reynolds' right to operate his farm in a residentially-zoned area, the supervisor said he's ready to begin a new era with the current town board.

Kitts is also pleased to see that the check-signing policy that has been used in the past in Volney has been reinstated. At a February meeting, the town board voted unanimously to require the "senior board member" to be the co-signer of any checks.

The supervisor asked--and was granted--that the resolution be rescinded because it was illegal. He said the state mandates that only the town clerk can be the co-signer of any town checks. "It wasn't legal," Kitts said. "I'm glad we got it changed around."

Supervisor Kitts said he went to the town's bank (Marine Midland) recently to inform them of the reinstated policy. "They didn't recognize anybody as a senior board member," he said. "They were happy and I'm happy."

One who wasn't happy but grudgingly went along with the rescinding of the check-signing policy was Councilor Marie Austin, who said at the meeting that she couldn't understand why Supervisor Kitts was making such a fuss over the matter.

The supervisor said that in order for the policy to be changed legally, the town would need a local law. He added that he would be criticized by the state's audit and control department if the policy had remained.

It's more convenient for him also. "It helps me because I like to expedite things. I don't like to keep people waiting. Besides, Byron's (Town Clerk Byron Rowlee) here everyday."

Supervisor Kitts predicted that communication and cooperation among town board members would improve in the future. "I think things are starting to level off," he said. "I'd like to see some positive things happen."



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## Fulton honors school bus drivers

Tuesday, May 15, is School Bus Driver/Attendant Recognition Day in central New York.

"School bus drivers are very special people," Fulton School District Director of Administrative Services Wayne Bleau stated last week. "They take a 20-hour training course, attend monthly safety meetings, have their licenses checked each year, have their fingerprints taken and checked, obtain annual physical examinations, and take a written examination every other year."

A certified examiner rides with bus drivers while they have students on the bus to check if

proper safety procedures are being followed. Also, certified examiners follow bus drivers to check their defensive driving techniques.

"Daily, bus drivers wipe noses, stop tears, and return lost items," Bleau added. "Bus drivers act as parents, teachers, chauffeurs, counselors, and friends to the students that they transport to and from school."

"Please take the time Tuesday, May 15, to thank your bus driver for being the special person that he or she is, and for providing a special service which often goes unrecognized," Bleau concluded.

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