



Olean, NY Lat. 42.08 North—Long 78.43 West—Olean, NY

August 2022



AROUND ABOUT OLEAN

SUMMER 2022

Something New
Something Old
Something Brilliant
Something Bold



New and old on North Union Street. In the spring, ground was broken by representatives of the City and Benson Construction for Walkable Olean III. The project adds numerous enhancements to the North Union Street District. A Plaza is under construction in front of the Municipal Building and the American Olean Tile Mosaic, installed in the early 1960's, has been repaired and stabilized. Other items in this project include two fire pits, interpretive and wayfinding signs, decorative and safety lighting and enhanced gardens.

Two things are brilliant and bold. The new digital billboard at the corner of Front and East State Streets, features downtown Olean's new logo and provides updates on community events.

And on the campus of Jamestown Community College, former Olean resident and internationally acclaimed artist, Meg Saligman, has donated her talents to enhance the Library and Liberal Arts Center with a mural—The Heart of Olean. The 6,000 square foot mural wraps completely around the building and features prominent Olean sites and historic events. Many residents and artists have contributed to the mural. Below Meg is working on it in the evening—her favorite time to paint. The project is sponsored by the Tri-County Arts Council.





Looking for
a historical
building?

Interested in Olean's
past? Do you know who
Olean streets are named
after?

New interpretive boards
have been installed
throughout the down-
town district and trails.
The maps help visitors
and locals find a number
of the City's treasures
and cultural institutions.
The photographs and
narratives bring Olean's
past to the forefront.
Olean's streets have a
story too. Olean was
founded shortly after the
Revolutionary War. The
founders were soldiers,
and by naming the
streets, they honored
fellow patriots, who are
described and depicted
on the boards.



The village, for a short
period of time, was
named Hamilton after
Alexander Hamilton. And
the founders, the Hoop
brothers, donated two
parcels to their new vil-
lage, which continue to
serve the community
well. Lincoln Park was the
town square and Oak Hill
Park was a cemetery.
Want to learn more—
follow the signs—Olean
has a fascinating history.



Mayor Aiello and City of Hornell Mayor John Buckley re-
ceived the Leadership Award from the New York Confer-
ence of Mayors on May 5, 2022. They received the award
in recognition of successfully completing Level II of the
NYCOM's Elected Officials Academy. The Academy is vol-
untary and offers elected officials expanded educational
opportunities to help them respond to the challenges that
they face as leaders.

Larry Ordway stopped by the Mayor's office
with his medals in late June. He participated
in the Special Olympic Bowling "Alley-Cats"
Team in the New York State Summer Games in
Ithaca. On their way to the event the Olean
Police Department escorted the team to the
City line. And the team did great—they re-
ceived a total of nine medals: Adam Bennett, bronze
in singles, gold in team; Christopher Case, gold in singles, gold in
team; William Fye, gold in singles, silver in team; Stephen Hornaday, bronze in singles, silver in team; David Jones, gold in
singles, gold in team; Matthew Mitchell, silver in singles, silver in team; Larry Ordway, gold in singles, gold in team, and
Stephanie Vanderhoef, gold in singles, silver in team.



FROM MAYOR BILL AIELLO'S OFFICE

It has been almost two and a
half years since we were told
to close the Municipal Build-
ing's doors to visitors to stop
the spread of Covid-19. We
did what were told. But the
city kept functioning and
adjusting and readjusting.

It's been a long haul, and I
am really proud of Olean
residents and our City em-
ployees. City programs
were readjusted to fit the
restrictions that we faced.
And we pressed on as best
we could.

But now we are back on
track. The pools are opened.
We are getting record partic-

ipation at the Concerts in the
Park. The City hosted the
Easter Egg Hunt. The Chil-
dren's Summer Rec Program
is well attended and the Sen-
ior Center is hosting some
excellent events.

The Oilers were back in the
stadium this year — as were
the 4th of July fireworks,
sponsored by Olean's Profes-
sional Firefighters.

Construction crews are out.
Walkable Olean III, funded in
part by the Downtown Revi-
talization Initiative (DRI), is
in progress, enhancing the
North Union Street Corridor.
In addition Oak Hill Park is

getting a long overdue make-
over, which will include a
dog park, restrooms, an up-
graded timber and steel
stage, improved tennis and
basketball courts and a new
picnic area. It is another DRI
project, and will look great
when it is completed.

A number of streets will be
milled and paved over the
summer—we are very excit-
ed about it. They are streets
that were in desperate need
of rehabilitation. In addition
the potholes will be filled.

Guess that is it for now —
have a great summer.



The Concerts in the Park have been outstanding and very well attended this summer. Great musicians, excellent weather and an outstanding venue have created an excellent atmosphere. The Concerts continue through September 1.

The Summer Recreation Program returned to a full schedule this year and had great attendance throughout the summer. The program hosted daily activities as well as special activities such as a movie night at War Vets Park.

The 46th Annual City Cup Softball Tournament will be held in August 12, 13, and 14 in Forness Park and Bradner Stadium.

Youth and Recreation



Over the past year the City of Olean's IT staff has worked on a new and updated website. The new site includes more information and is easier to navigate. Please visit www.cityofolean.org to see the enhancements.

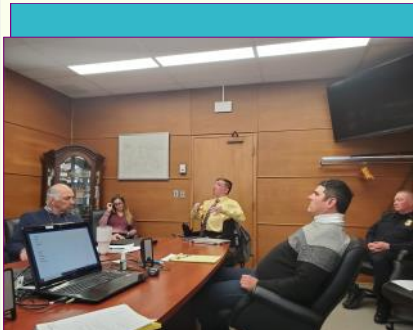


Have you seen the new downtown logo? Check it out — it is on all the new signs.

Three new buses have been added to the Olean Area Transportation System (OATS) fleet. The Star Trans Buses are equipped with a Freightliner

Chassis, Cummins Diesel Engine and Allison Transmission. The buses are can accommodate seating of up to 35 passengers and three wheel chairs. They are air conditioned and are equipped with a Sportwork Bike Rack. The busses were fully paid for through grants.

Over the past year OATS has provided transportation services to approximately 48,000 passengers and has become a truly regional transportation service.



This summer Dustyn Green spent time with City of Olean department heads and members of the staff to discuss mobility issues.

The City of Olean frequently gets a shipment of Covid Tests. As the tests are received they are immediately available to Olean residents until the shipment is fully distributed. You can find them in the lobby of the City Building.





Something New

Something Old



The North Union Street Downtown Revitalization Initiative Project includes an overhaul of the plaza in front of the Olean Municipal Building. When completed there will be a stage, outdoor seating and fountains. In addition the 1960's mosaic completed with American Olean Tile will be restored and stabilized.

The project came at a very opportune time. Because the city had a promise to keep:

The City of Olean was incorporated in April 1893 and a committee was formed to honor that milestone in 1993. The group placed a time capsule underground near the Municipal Building mural with the intention of it being exhumed during the City's 125th anniversary in 2018.



With contractors on site it was a great time to unearth the time capsule.

Mayor Aiello invited members of the original committee and community members to the Municipal Building to open the time capsule in April. After he welcomed them he said that several problems had been encountered as the capsule was exhumed. Initially the crew could not find the capsule as it had been buried so well. And once they found it, despite painstaking preparation by the committee to keep the moisture out, water had found its way into the capsule. Finally because of the water damage, the vault opened as it was being pulled out of the ground.



But some of the memorabilia was salvageable. Mayor Aiello thanked the contractors, Benson Development, and City of Olean staff members Keri Kerper, David Crandall and Allyson Bretszin for their diligence in preserving as much as possible.

Items that were preserved included Buffalo Bills and St. Bonaventure collectibles; items from Blue Bird Bus Company and the Old Library; newspapers, city documents and narratives as well as flags and photographs.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



The public gardens in downtown Olean are beautiful this year. The City's staff attend to them to some extent, but a strong volunteer group is necessary to keep the gardens thriving and weed free. Volunteers to pick up litter are also needed.

If you are interested in either of these opportunities. Please call Michiko at 716 376 5615.



Mayor Aiello, Alderman Linda Witte and County Legislator Rick Smith participated in this year's Community Champions Day in March. The three of them paired up with Meals on Wheels volunteers and delivered Meals to Olean residents.



Many events this summer. A large craft fair was held at the William O. Smith Recreation Center—many vendors and consumers attended the fair. (to the right)

Employees of the City of Olean participated in the Olean Corporate Cup sponsored by GOACC in June. (bottom right)

Great attendance at a Mystery Dinner Theater at the John J. Ash Community. The program was *Dealt a Deadly Hand*.





The City of Olean received the 2021 Transportation Project of the Year Award from both the American Public Works Association (APWA) Western New York Branch and the New York State American Public Works Association for the Walkable Olean Phase II Project that connects North Union Street to Olean General Hospital via Main Street.

Mayor Aiello attended the APWA Western Branch Annual Awards dinner on April 7, 2022 in the Admiral Room at the Marin in Buffalo. In accepting the award on behalf of the City, he said, "The City of Olean is honored to accept this award. I would like to thank the City's consultant, CPL, and the contractor D&H Excavating, Inc. They did an excellent job and were able to complete

the project in the middle of the pandemic."

"I would also like to thank Empire State Development, National Grid and the State Transportation Alternative Program for their financial support as well as recognize Olean's Community Development Office which was instrumental in securing funding for the project. Special thanks also goes to City of Olean employees who helped on the project such as former DPW Director Bob Ring, and his staff, including the city electricians," Mayor Aiello added.

The award was established to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works projects by recognizing the partnership between the managing agency and participating consultants and contractors.

Photo ID: Jennifer Michniewicz CPL, Mayor Aiello, David Hastings CPL, Molly Vendura, Molly Vendura Landscape Architect

Making Wedding Plans?



Mayor Aiello is available to perform marriage ceremonies in the City of Olean. Please call his office (376-5615) for more details. There is no set fee, however any donations will be placed in the Mayor's

Scholarship Fund.

New York State law requires you to obtain a marriage license twenty-four hours prior to a marriage ceremony. For more information about marriage licenses please call the Department of Vital Records at 376-5605 or the City Clerk at 376-5604.

Many marriages are performed right in the Mayor's Office. The John Ash Community Center on Barry Street is an excellent spot for a reception as are Olean's various parks facilities. For more information on the city's facilities please call 376-5666.



COVID-19 Tests

During the course of the Pandemic, the City of Olean has received KN-95 masks and Covid-19 tests from Cattaraugus County and our State Assemblyman Joe Giglio's office. As soon as the items are received, they are made available to our residents until our supplies run out.

The supplies generally go quickly. Tests, if available, are at the entrance of Municipal Building on the Times Square Side.

Masks, if available are in the City Clerk's office. Masks are currently unavailable.



The City's **NEW and IMPROVED website:** cityofolean.org. is a great source of up-to-date information. In addition the city has a Face Book page and Twitter feed—all are excellent sources for information.

"I'm open to suggestions and I'd like to hear from people. If we're doing something you think is right, I'd like to know. If we're doing something you think is wrong, I'd like to know. If you have suggestions for me, I beg you pass them along."

—Mayor Aiello, January 2, 2014



You can reach the mayor at his office in the Olean Municipal Building at 101 East State Street in Olean, or by phone at 716 376-5615, or by e-mail at waiello@cityofolean.org

