



For Immediate Release

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Ribbon Cutting Scheduled for the North Third Street Reconstruction Project

November 22, 2016—Olean—Residents are invited to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the North Third Street Reconstruction Project on Saturday, November 26, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. It will take place in the middle of the 200 block of the street.

William J. Aiello, Mayor of City of Olean, has asked Erick Laine, former President and currently Chairman Emeritus, of CUTCO Corporation to cut the ribbon. Mr. Laine and his wife, Marianne, are residents of North Third Street and have been active patrons in Olean for decades.

“This is another great day for our City,” Mayor Aiello said. “This section of North Third Street is in the heart of the city’s Oak Hill Park Historic District and through this project the City was able to maintain the historic brick street and simultaneously upgrade the water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer lines.”

Development on this block of North Third Street goes back to 1851 when Lambert and Sallie Whitney purchased most of the wooded area between Second and Third Streets for \$600. Over the years many of Olean’s prominent citizens owned homes on the block including, William Irish, superintendent of Acme Oil Company; M. B Fitzpatrick, owner of the Olean Times Herald; Lewis Kinley, owner of Kinley Oil Company; Dr. Joseph Clark, the first physician in Olean to use x-rays; and Frank T. Coughlin, a local contractor. Mr. Coughlin remodeled his house at 230 North Third Street to allow his daughter, who suffered from polio, to look down the street as she recovered. His daughter, Marion Coughlin, became a well-known and prominent local artist.

Mayor Aiello added, “This project was successful because of the many groups that helped it along to completion. The residents were very patient and accommodating; R. Patti Concrete, the contractor, did an excellent job; and staff from the City’s Department of Public Works contributed to many facets of the job. In addition the City was fortunate to receive a Consolidated Funding Grant through the Western New York Regional Development Council to help fund the project.”

“Olean is in the midst of a great transformation—one that is preserving the unique identity of our city while reasserting our downtown and surrounding neighborhoods as the hub for economic activity,” said

Jeff Belt, SolEpoxy President and Western New York Regional Economic Development Council Co-Chair. “This North Third Street restoration project increases the value of historic homes here in the nationally recognized Oak Hill Park Residential Historic District with a durable street design that has stood the test of time. And, this project here in this beautiful neighborhood strengthens the Walkable Olean downtown revitalization efforts just a few blocks east of this project.”

“The Western New York Regional Economic Development Council continues to cultivate and incentivize projects that embody smart growth principles, especially in rural communities,” said Satish K. Tripathi, University at Buffalo President and Western New York Regional Economic Development Council Co-Chair. “As a WNYREDC priority project, the North Third Street reconstruction project embodies the type of projects we are looking for to prevent costly sprawl, retain small town appeal and create a more sustainable region.”

“I have invited the residents of the street, members of the Common Council, the City’s Department Heads and others to attend the event and seeing how the weather has changed—I’ll bring some coffee,” Mayor Aiello added.

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