

# Around & About Olean

*News and information from the Mayor's Office  
at 101 East State Street .*



Red Cross  
9/11 Memorial Blood Drive  
Thursday, September 11th  
at Good Times of Olean  
10:00am-6:00pm

## SUMMERTIME IN OLEAN



Summer heated-up and Mayor Aiello suited-up and accepted the Ice Bucket Challenge which swept social media.

The bucket filled with ice water was poured over his head by his granddaughters as his other grandchildren watched. The Ice Bucket Challenge supports ALS (aka Lou Gehrig's disease) research. As of September 4th the social media craze raised \$104.8 million dollars. In accepting his challenge the Mayor in turn challenged the DPW Director, the City Attorney and the Fire Chief.



Flowers were abundant in August and in out for show all over Olean. Below is just a tiny portion of the garden on West State Street in front the law offices of Dwyer, Black & Lyle.



United States Senator Charles Schumer visited Dresser Rand in Olean during August. Mayor Aiello attended the event as did Ward One Alderman Jerry leFeber and Ward Seven Alderman Adam Jester.



Congressman Tom Reed spent an hour working at Ward Six Alderman Nate Smith's family business, Worth W. Smith Co. Hardware, on West State Street. The store's player piano and pop corn added to the festivities of the day.



The sound of a basketball steadily pounding against the ground and flying through a net is not new to downtown Olean. In fact basketball has been played in our downtown district for nearly a century. St. Bonaventure had a basketball team and a schedule in 1916—but nowhere to play. On March 11, 1916 the Olean Armory hosted the very first SBU basketball game against UB. Bonas lost 51-18.



Butler Gym was the venue for Bona games for many years after that. But—as the program expanded the team outgrew Butler and headed back to the Armory. In 1961 the Bonnies had a 99 game winning streak at the Olean Armory. Unfortunately Niagara stopped the streak in February.

In 1967 the University (Reilly) Center, with 5000 plus seats surrounding the basketball court, opened. During the Armory years Olean had become a basketball town and the locals were die-hard St. Bonaventure basketball fans.

Research from the Friedsam Memorial Library Archives

The Seventh Annual Gus Macker Three on Three Basketball Tournament took to Olean Streets in August. It was basketball for all ages at the numerous courts that dotted Delaware Avenue and the Olean Center Mall Parking Lot.

Definitely the perfect weekend to watch some great basketball.



### *From the Mayor's Office:*

It may have been cool and a little rainy this summer in Olean. But that did not hinder the events scheduled in our city.

The Gus Macker Basketball Tournament was a success right in our downtown.

The new and improved Bradner Stadium became a multiuse facility in August. A new permanent stage was constructed and in place for Rally in the Valley.

Across the street in War Vets that weekend, the clouds came but passed as the Louis Zamperini Memorial was dedicated and the Streetmasters held their annual car show.

Our Youth and Recreation Department had a banner year, with outstanding participation.

Work on Prospect Avenue is in full swing and the York Street project is starting up, both

should be finished in the fall.

In September we'll see the ground breaking for the North Union Street project. The bulk of the work is not scheduled to be until next summer, but parts of the project will be underway soon.

I've said it before and will say it again—maybe even a little louder—Olean is a great place to live.



## Bradner Stadium Takes Center Stage for Rally in the Valley



Bats, balls, dugouts and the pitchers mound were tucked away as the Olean Oiler's season came to a close. But a permanent stage was constructed and completed just in time for Rally in the Valley. The goal posts are still there—the Southern Tier Diesel season is over, but high school football is just around the corner.

As motorcycles roared into the stadium, vintage cars motored into War Vets Park for the Streetmasters Car Club's Annual Show. Beautiful cars with the amazing designs from years gone by were on display. Glenda Jester from the City's Auditor's Office helps to makes this yearly event a must-see attraction.



## The Lights are Back on the Municipal Building's Historic Mosaic



And it looks spectacular. Check it out when you are waiting for the light to change at the intersection of State and Union.

Dedicated in 1959 when the building was completed the inscription on the monument says:

Where the gentle Allegheny flows between wooded mountains.  
Past the pumping oil wells, past the bustling factories,  
past the scholarly Franciscan Campus, through the valleys,  
where Indians roamed, here is Olean, nestled among the hills,  
Jumping-off point for pioneers, rich in history, home now for thousands.



Bradner's Gallery called it a day with a Going out of Business sale that started in August. Bradner's has been a mainstay in Olean's business community for over 127 years.

## Common Council Corner

Contact information for the seven council members:

**Paul Gonzalez (Ward 3)**  
716-790-1121  
pgonzalez@cityofolean.org

**Nate Smith (Ward 6)**  
716-307-8199  
nsmith@cityofolean.org

**Council President Ann McLaughlin (Ward 2)**  
716-560-8407  
amclaughlin@cityofolean.org

**Steve Barnard (Ward 4)**  
716-307-1862  
sbarnard@cityofolean.org

**Adam Jester (Ward 7)**  
716-790-8226  
ajester@cityofolean.org

**Gerard leFeber (Ward 1)**  
716-378-7877  
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**Jim Finch (Ward 5)**  
716-373-0163  
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The City's Youth & Recreation Department had a banner year. 462 children registered and participated in the 154 various activities, clinics and contests sponsored by the department, The seven week program ran from June 30th until August 15.



Bowling at Good Times!



Golf Clinic at the Bartlett!



Doll and Stuffed Animal Contest at Lincoln Park.



Cheerleading Clinic!



Swimming at the Municipal Pool!



Introduction to Dance!



# The Perfect Summer in Olean's Parks



Track & Field



BASEBALL



Martial Arts



Tennis



Arts & Crafts



Exploring Nature—Along  
the River Trail



Fun time Recreation



Annual Kids Day



In War Vets Park



## OLEAN HONORS A HERO



Olean celebrated and honored a home town hero—Louis Zamperini—on August 23, 2014 as the hard working committee members and the officials gathered to dedicate the monument in his honor in War Veterans Park in Olean.

At the event Mayor said, “Louis Zamperini is an authentic American hero and we are proud to claim him as one of our own. Olean is Louis Zamperini’s birthplace – his Bethlehem. Olean was his first breath, his first sight, his first sound, his first word, his first step.

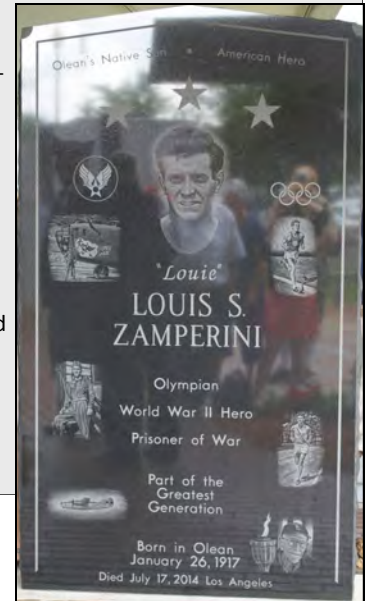
“Olean can be especially proud of Louis Zamperini as a native son because Louis was a true hero but in a unique sort of way. Most heroes are brief and instantaneous reactions to a sudden, frightening

situation. Rushing in to a burning building, rescuing a drowning victim, fighting off an attacker.

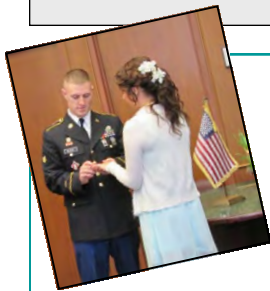
“We celebrate Louis Zamperini this day because his whole life, start to finish, 97 years, was one long heroic saga. His life encompassed juvenile delinquency, athletic fame, singular physical and mental endurance, years of captivity, brutal torture, solid courage, alcoholism, abusive behavior, complete despair, ultimate redemption and true forgiveness.

“And in the end, to round everything off, in the good old American tradition, Louis Zamperini found fame and fortune. We’re proud of the legend this Olean boy became. God bless him and the city that gave him to the world.”

The monument is in the midst of the Veterans Memorial where Olean remembers our veterans who fought so very hard for our freedom.



### 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.



### Seniors are Never Bored in Olean

The Olean Senior Center located at the John Ash Community Center on North Barry Street has many activities and programs for those age 55 and above. September activities include

**Square Dance/Silvertones: Mondays 12:30/1:00pm**

**Walking Program: M-F at 9:00am**

**Movie Day  
Sept. 24 at 12:30pm**

**Coffee Hour: 9:00am Wednesdays**

**Euchre: Sept. 12 & 19 at 1:00pm**

**Computer Class: Tuesday sat 1:00pm**

For more information or for a complete calendar of events please call Kathleen Hamed at 376-5670.



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*“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