

# Around & About Olean

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



## Why It's Cold Outside



What about the snow that piles up in the middle of State and Union Streets—ever wonder where that goes? According to Tom Windus, the Director of Public Works, it is dumped on a number of the City's properties. This year Franchot Park is the recipient of much of the snow. Glenda Jester in the Auditor's office has very fond memories of playing in the snow mountains that grew in Franchot during her childhood winters.

It's not only an essential element in our diet, but salt is also a key ingredient in snow removal. During each snow event, the City uses about 100 tons of salt. Whew! A fact from Wikipedia—of the salt manufactured world wide—6 percent goes to food and 8 percent go to de-icing highways.



Anyway hopefully in two months time the plows will be long gone and the City's crews will be tackling other problems that the four seasons tend to drag into Olean.

### **Put on your gloves and pull down that hat; Old Man winter is showing his wrath.**

But the City of Olean is always prepared—for whatever those clouds and winds have in store for our little city that is tucked into the hills and sliced by the river.

The men who crew the plows work through the night and into the day to keep our streets as snow free as possible. And—it is quite a chore.

There are 172 lane miles of roads in Olean that have to be attended to—plowed and salted. One man is on duty from 11:00 pm until 7:00 am. He does his best—but if the storm is relentless and snow is piling up, more men are called in and more trucks are deployed.

Olean has seven trucks that plow

through the city; if necessary they are supplemented with four smaller trucks. If the snow doesn't stop and the crew is maxed-out, the City's mechanics step into the plowing function. It is a very well run operation and Olean's residents certainly benefit from it.



There are also the City-owned sidewalks. They really have never been measured—but a ball park figure would be 20-25 miles

of sidewalks have to be cleared by the Parks Crew. They are out very early—to make the sidewalks passable for the residents and students who walk to work or school during those cold morning hours.





North Union Street looks pretty bleak in February—but in it's hay day—oh—what a place it was for entertainment, sights, and intrigue....

Enrico Caruso, possibly the very first global superstar, was a famous operatic tenor at the turn of the century. He was booked and sang at the Palace Theatre in Olean on North Union Street. Caruso died in 1921.



Harry Houdini, another global superstar, but more of a magician and illusionist spent sometime in Olean as well. As a vaudeville star, he was here to entertain, but he didn't pass up on a wager: someone bet him he couldn't climb the Exchange National Bank. Houdini met the bet and succeeded in his challenge.

Finally, Al Capone, notorious gangster and all round bad guy, was arrested only three times in his life. Once was in Olean, NY at the Pennsylvania Railroad Station for disorderly conduct.

Oh what a great town we live in !



Mechanics at the City Garage took delivery of the new Zamboni to be used at the Ice Rink. They checked the machine before it was deployed to the Rec. Center.

Monica Moses and Ally Rakus , seniors at Olean High School join Mayor Aiello, Assessor Nancy Champlin, City Clerk Alex Utecht and Glenda Jester from the Auditor's Office as they pick-up items for the Souper Bowl of Caring sponsored by the students at OHS.



*From the Mayor's Office:*

Another winter and loads of snow—Olean is a definitely a four season town. I'd like to thank the City's staff for persevering the cold front. The streets and parks departments, have worked very hard to keep our roadways and city-owned sidewalks clear. The City's water department has been out thawing pipes and fixing water main breaks. The fire department has fought fires, been on emergency calls and following-up on codes violations. And the police department has been patrolling the streets . The City's depart-

ments work very hard during the winter months.

The OLDC decided to celebrate our winter weather with the first annual Squirrel City Frigid Fest. Who knew that soft ball and kick ball could be so much fun in the snow? The Frigid Fest was a new use for the City's stadium and proceeds from the event will be targeted for the restoration of Forness Park. Thank you to everyone who worked on that event.

When I campaigned, residents were concerned about the deterioration of their neighborhoods.

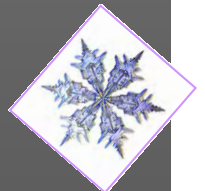
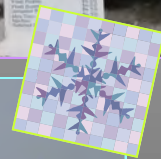
I have established a blight task force that is taking on that problem—head-on

The committee consists of Adam Jester, the Council President, the City's Department Heads, and representatives from the code enforcement office and IT department. During February a phone hotline was set-up (376-5628) and the committee met with the commissioner of the Department of Social Services in Cattaraugus County. More to come on the fight against blight soon.





# FRIGID FEST 2015







# Under Pressure

Many city employees volunteered to monitor their blood pressure for a February Health Program. High blood pressure is a serious disease—with no warning signs and if not treated can lead to strokes, heart attacks, kidney problems and eye problems.

Each week volunteers took their blood pressure three times. And while monitoring their blood pressure they received suggestions on how to alter their lifestyle to be more healthy.

Week One: A suggestion on fruits and vegetables portions based on weight and calorie intake.

Week Two: Suggestions on how to control portion sizes.

Week Three: A suggestion to read labels and watch sodium intake.

Week Four: Suggestions on how to increase physical activity.



## OPD on FB

Who gets over eight hundred Facebook followers in less than a month? Answer: celebrities and the Olean Police Department. According to Captain Bob Blovsky, the department's new Facebook page is a way to get information out to the public. An added benefit is that public participation can help the OPD locate a criminal.

"If we have video or a picture, the public sometimes can help the department make an identification," Captain Blovsky said. "Other police departments have been using the internet and they have seen some good results."

The Olean Police Department Facebook presence is new and the department is open to any suggestions to make it a better page. And if you haven't seen the page yet—it's worth the visit—[please follow this link](#).



 Like



The phrases, "I'm bored," and "there's nothing to do in Olean," should never be muttered. If you, a child or a senior are looking for something to do, just click [www.cityofolean.org/youth](http://www.cityofolean.org/youth) and something will turn-up.

Guaranteed. From the City's after school program for students to the activities at the Senior Center. From skating at the ice rink to SlendAreobics in the William O. Smith Rec. Center—Olean has it all.

It's just a click away!



The Olean Senior Center and Mayor Aiello said goodbye to the center's Executive Director. Kathleen Hamed. Kathy is changing her focus a bit; her children are in Missouri and that is where her three, almost four, grandchildren live.

She has been with the Senior Center for twenty years and will be truly missed.



Contact information for council members:

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**Adam Jester (Ward 7)**  
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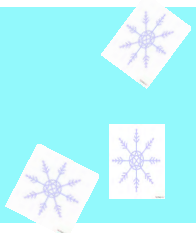
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# American Heart Month

Below Mayor Aiello presents the Proclamation to Garrett Hoover, the COO of the hospital and Dr. Chris Mallavarapu of the Olean General Hospital.



**WHEREAS**, President Lyndon B. Johnson proclaimed the month of February as American Heart Month in 1964;

**WHEREAS**, at that point in time, cardiovascular diseases were responsible for over one-half the deaths occurring annually;

**WHEREAS**, over the past fifty years, expanded research as well as comprehensive educational and community programs have contributed to substantial progress in combating cardiovascular diseases;

**WHEREAS**, currently, according to the CDC, one in four deaths are attributed to heart disease; such results indicate that the programs are working and there is hope that this cause of death may eventually be eliminated;

**WHEREAS**, the City of Olean has been continually well served by the Olean General Hospital;

**WHEREAS**, the Olean General Hospital took on the challenge of the high rates of cardiovascular disease in Cattaraugus County;

**WHEREAS**, the Hospital opened a Chest Pain Center in 2010, which has earned accreditation from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care for its outstanding performance;

**WHEREAS**, understanding that "time is muscle" and early intervention is key to survival, the Hospital in partnership with the Gates Vascular Institute of Kaleida Health opened the Interventional Catheterization Laboratory, and took a significant leap forward in cardiac care for the residents of Cattaraugus County;

**THEREFORE, I, William J. Aiello, as Mayor of Olean, NY, and on behalf of the Common Council, do hereby proclaim, February as American Heart Month in the City of Olean, NY.**



## 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.



## So Many Ways to Pay your Bills

We love to see you in the Municipal Building. But if you can't find parking—or it is too cold and snowy, there are many other ways to pay your bills. Just installed—a drop box right on Times Square. You can't miss it—it's white and has the City Logo proudly displayed. In addition, you can pay on line at this link:

[www.municipalonlinepayments.com/oleanny/](http://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/oleanny/)



The City's website is great source of up-to-date information. Please visit it at [www.cityofolean.org](http://www.cityofolean.org). 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](mailto:waiello@cityofolean.org)

