



# Around & About Olean

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



## LINCOLN PARK: ROCKS & TREES



Olean's Lincoln Park can trace its roots-back to a map of Olean commissioned in 1808 by Major Adam Hoops. The map was charted by E. Johnson. At the intersection of the two main thoroughfares stood the public square. Hoops saved it to be developed as a patriotic memorial.

As Olean grew, the square, later named after Abraham Lincoln, became a city park. Trees were planted, monuments were dedicated and a gazebo was built.

Today Lincoln Park boasts a variety of trees, many of which are one of a kind in the city's park system. In addition there are many monuments: the Daughters of the American Revolution honored Major Hoops in 1896; the Daughters of the Union Veterans honored the G.A.R. in 1938; in 1950 the Gold Star Mothers honored all those who fought for our freedom; Acme Markets honored Governor Higgins in 1966; and the Bicentennial Committee honored Olean's past in 2004. In 1934 the Coast and Geodetic Survey placed a monument marker in the park.

On June 25, 2015 a new tree was memorialized. Christine Scott of the Western NY Perinatal Bereavement Network was in Olean to dedicate a tulip tree in honor of the beloved babies who have gone too soon.

Lincoln Park has many treasures—some of them overlooked.





Make overs are not new to North Union Street. In 1976 the street became a dirt road as it was re-vamped in a beautification project. The project started in May and ended in September. The “eyebrows” were created at the crosswalks and benches were added. Block 8, which housed the former Bradners and other buildings to the North towards Laurens Street was vacant. There was talk that what is now Blue Bird Square would house a motel. The vacant lot was successfully used for a carnival site in downtown Olean for a summer or so.



Uptown (or north) a bit ground was broken for the Olean Center Mall. Industrial buildings had fronted North Union Street in the past.

Downtown Olean was re-shaping itself for the future. Great pictures of Olean's past are available at the [Gabriel Vintage Olean website](#).



Mercy Flight open house.



Spectators at Bradner Stadium.



The Southern Tier Diesel at Bradner Stadium at dusk.



Worker's Memorial Day at Forness Park.



Celebrating Children's Day in the Garden's at Franchot Park

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

Wow! June has been a busy month in Olean.

Progress has continued on North Union Street. National Fuel replaced the gas lines on the south end of the street. And Catco has been busy at the north end of the street. The project has been tough on the businesses located on the north end of the street, please be sure to continue to support them. The street is torn-up but there is still plenty of parking in the neighborhood.

Zoladz returned to Olean to finish the Prospect Avenue and York Street projects.

Olean's parks are in great shape and look fantastic. The crew has worked diligently to get them ready for the summer. The City's Youth and Recreation Program is up and running. Once again this year there is no cost for participation. Please see the website for more information.

You don't have to look hard for entertainment in Olean, there is

plenty to do. Bradner Stadium offers exciting baseball and football games. If you haven't been to one, check it out. You'll be pleasantly surprised.

Thank you to Olean's Fire Department who will once again sponsor the Fourth of July Fireworks display. We're hoping for plenty of good weather and sunshine to celebrate our nation's independence. Have a safe and happy 4th of July



Students and staff members from the Olean Intermediate Middle School made some lovely gardens along the concrete jungle of West State Street. This year's event wasn't stopped by a torrential downpour—it just made it more interesting. Mayor Aiello stopped by to thank the students and had his picture taken with his neighbor Corrine Simon.



# A ROCKY START TO SUMMER IN A CONCRETE JUNGLE



Plenty of changes on North Union Street as progress on Walkable Olean continues. Detours around the project were established. New gas lines on the 100 and 200 Blocks were installed. And interesting remnants of Olean's past were dug up, including a 22 ton traffic light anchor (mid-page in front of Tim Horton's).



# CELEBRATING RETIREMENTS



Summertime and the living is easy....especially when you decide to retire. The Olean Municipal Building has had a rash of retirements in the past month, and the amount of collective knowledge leaving the building is staggering—just staggering.

First to leave is Debbie Teachman. She vacated her post as supervisor of the Department of Public Works Office. For the past thirty-eight years, Debbie has proudly served the city in a number of capacities. However she will be best remembered for her calm, professional and kind demeanor.

Independence day will have a double meaning for Police Matron Cheryl LaRue and Assessor Nancy Champlin both will be celebrating their retirement weekend.

Cheryl LaRue has been with the City since August of 1997. She started as the Record's Clerk and later became Police Matron. When she leaves her post, she will miss the people the most. She has not made any plans for her retirement—but looks forward to taking it easy. Her wonderful smile will definitely be missed.

Nancy Champlin has served the City of Olean since 1986—twenty-nine years. She started in the City Clerk's office and moved into the Assessor's office as the assistant. She became the City Assessor in 2002 and held that office as Olean went through a city-wide property revaluation, a process that had not been done since 1961. Nancy's expert knowledge of the City's properties and her strong work ethic will be missed by both her co-workers and residents of the City.



The Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad hosted the Mayor's Executive Forum at the end of June. The forum started at Jamestown Community College and included a train ride to the railroad's yard and shop on Constitution Avenue. It was a very interesting evening. More on that next month.

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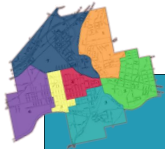
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# Major Patrick Miller Day



Major Miller stands with Mayor Aiello, Police Chief Rowley and Fire Chief Bell.

## **MAYOR AIELLO PROCLAIMED JUNE 15TH AS MAJOR PATRICK MILLER DAY AT A CELEBRATION HONORING HEROES AT WASHINGTON WEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**WHEREAS**, the definition of a hero is a person who is admired for great or brave acts or fine qualities;

**WHEREAS**, heroes are usually ordinary people, who at a specific time are called upon to display courage and strength in the face of extreme danger;

**WHEREAS**, Major Patrick Miller, an Allegany resident who played football and ran track in high school, and graduated from St. Bonaventure University, is one of those heroes;

**WHEREAS**, after he served our nation in two tours of duty in Iraq, Major Miller found himself in the middle of a gunman's rampage at Fort Hood Texas; despite an injury Major Miller had the presence of mind to escort fellow soldiers to safety, dial 911, and apply pressure to his wound;

**WHEREAS**, Major Miller's extraordinary actions under duress, his unyielding fortitude as he recovered, and his gracious demeanor as he joins us today at Washington West Elementary School makes him a true American hero and one who should be commended for his actions.

**THEREFORE, I, William J. Aiello, Mayor of the City of Olean, on behalf of the Common Council and the residents of Olean, do hereby proclaim today, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015 as Major Patrick Miller Day in the City of Olean.**

## 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 hot and humid, 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)

