

Around & About Olean

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



Summer



in



Olean's



Parks





In 1915, as an activist in the Women's Suffrage Movement, Harriot Stanton Blatch led the Liberty Torch Rally through New York State. Her group toured for 10 days and held 7 rallies per day accompanied by a big wooden torch. Mrs. Blatch has an interesting pedigree—Elizabeth Cady Stanton, a pioneer in Women's rights—was her mother. On July 23, 1915 she visited Lincoln Park.

The Olean Chapter of the DAR received a grant from the William Pomeroy Foundation to memorialize this event.



At the dedication, Mayor Aiello said, "The Olean Chapter of the DAR has taken the effort to remind us of the residents and events that made that our local history. The DAR came to this park in 1904 and dedicated a memorial stone to Olean's founder, Major Adam Hoops.

"And today, 113 years later, they are back in the park dedicating this sign which marks the place where Harriot Stanton Blatch held a Liberty Torch Rally in 1915.

"On behalf of the city of Olean, I would like to thank the members of the DAR for the work that you have done for our community for the past 120 years."

On another note, City Forester Sue Copper is related to Susan B. Anthony, another early Suffragist.



Mayor Aiello and Shannon Scott, Executive Director of Winning Olean Back, were honored with a Certificate of Recognition by the Christian Community of Olean on Sunday July 2, 2017 in Lincoln Park.

Mayor Aiello's certificate recognizes his dedication to the City of Olean and his relentless pursuit to take back the City which the Unified Church of Olean represents.

"I am pleased to be recognized, but it is the hard work of the pastors and other individuals in the religious community that will stop the devastation caused by addiction," Mayor Aiello said.

"They are working day and night to stop the influx of opioids in our community. They are working with our city's youth in an effort to prevent drug abuse. And they are ministering to the families who lives have been turned upside down by substance abuse. I am humbled by their unwavering dedication to our community and their support and I commend them for working so diligently to stop this crisis."

"It is also a privilege to be honored with Shannon Scott. She took the anger and sadness that she experienced after losing a friend to addiction and turned it into Winning Olean Back. She works nonstop to put an end to drug abuse in our community. I praise her for the passion and persistence as her group tackles a problem that confronts a number of our residents," Mayor Aiello added.

From the Office of Mayor Bill Aiello

Lots of activity in Olean this past month. The Olean Professional Fire Fighters Association once again put on an excellent display of fireworks on 4th of July. Thank you to all involved for giving our community a brilliant way to celebrate our Independence.

The Olean Oilers and Southern Tier Diesel are thrilling their fans at Bradner Stadium.

Across the street, renovation work continues at the William O. Smith Recreation Center.

They are on schedule which is great news to our hockey leagues.

New businesses continue to open on North Union Street. And long forgotten buildings continue to be renovated.

Our rain gardens are in bloom and look great. Thank you to the DPW for weeding and thinning them out.

Have you driven down North Union Street at night—our median is now lit up—take a drive and check it out. We do have

the most interesting business district in the state and we should be very proud of it.

The City's Summer Recreation Program is in full swing. I have a great excuse to attend a couple of the events—my grandchildren. It is an excellent program and I would like to thank John Anastasia, Olean's Youth and Recreation Director, his department has once again done an excellent job organizing the summer program.

Have a great August!



Fire Chief Robert Bell, Mayor Aiello and Police Chief Jeff Rowley attend the Inaugural Mass of St. Mary of the Angels Basilica on June 29, 2017. A special proclamation was made in honor of the Basilica.

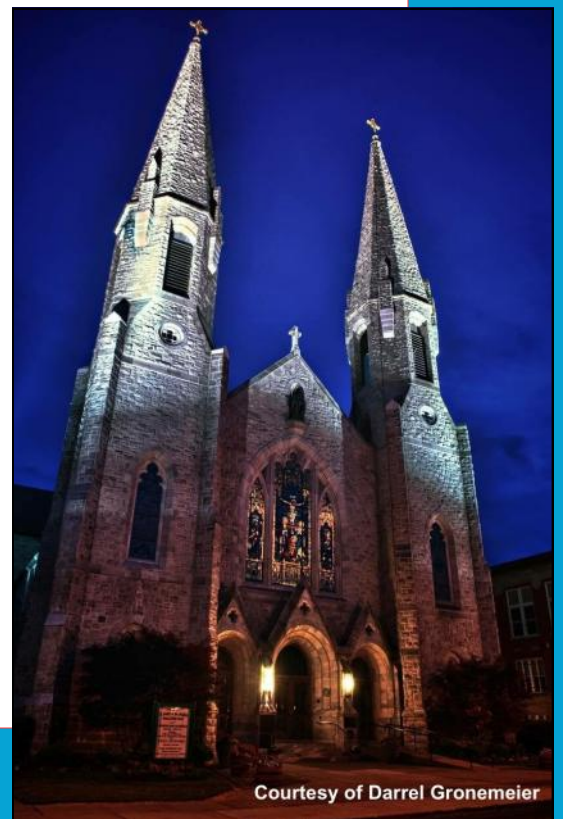
**SPECIAL PROCLAMATION
HONORING
THE BASILICA OF
SAINT MARY OF THE ANGELS**

WHEREAS, Pope Francis bestowed the title Minor Basilica to St. Mary of the Angels Church on February 14, 2017; a designation that intensifies the bond with the Church of Rome and with the Holy Father and promotes it as an exemplar of liturgical and pastoral action within the Diocese;

WHEREAS, St. Mary of the Angels has been ministering to the Catholic community of Olean since 1852; and the architecture and artistry of this magnificent structure has been a focal point in Olean for over 100 years;

THEREFORE, I, William J. Aiello, Mayor of the City of Olean, do hereby proclaim June 29, 2017 as a day of tribute to the Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels;

AND FURTHERMORE, the City of Olean congratulates The Very Reverend Gregory Dobson and the parishioners and thanks them for their steadfast dedication and commitment to our community.



Courtesy of Darrel Gronemeier



Eight area residents and two staff members have agreed to serve on the Downtown Olean Beautification Committee. The committee was organized to help the City’s Department of Public Works establish and implement a plan that will allow Olean’s Union Street Rain Gardens to both function as a storm water mitigation system and be beautiful at the same time.



“Many of the gardens along the North Union Street Corridor are urban wetland ecosystems,” according to Jennifer Tompkins, Supervisor of DPW Operations for the City. “They remove pollutants from the water and mimic the natural water cycle.” Ms. Tompkins said that the gardens have done an excellent job getting the water off the street after a storm; and that the whole idea is to reduce the amount of water that flows into the City’s storm water system.

Ms. Tompkins pointed out that the drainage units are placed to allow the gardens to function. The drains are only used when there is deluge of rain and the garden is at maximum water capacity. It’s only under those circumstances that rainwater is sent into the storm water system.



Given how they function, Ms. Tomkins added that we are limited to what can be planted in the gardens. She mentioned, for example, a Facebook suggestion that the City establish a community garden with fresh vegetables. Vegetable plants, she explained, would not remove the pollutants.

The committee discussed the variety of plants that are currently in the gardens and noted some of the aesthetic problems that have arisen, such as density and height. Ms. Tompkins said that in the short term she has developed a catalog of the plants and the parks department is working to thin them out, take out some of the taller grasses and remove the plants that did not survive.



“The Committee’s long term goal is to make the Rain Gardens more visually appealing by installing plants that will bloom in sequence throughout the seasons,” Mayor Aiello said after the meeting.

“Our North Union Street corridor is unique in New York State and the Committee plans to capitalize on this investment and make it a showcase that will bring visitors to our downtown.”

“The members of the committee warned me that this will not happen overnight, that beautiful gardens take planning and patience. So I ask the residents to be patient, and in the meantime, please keep the street litter free by using the trash receptacles and please dispose of cigarettes properly.”

Committee members are Sue Cooper, Melissa DeRose, Mary Droney, Joey Enright, Laurie McCarthy, Marcia Nandillon, Alicia Rowley, Father Anthony Salim, Jennifer Tompkins and Kevin Vogel.





Clean Area Special Olympians Receive Honors at a Common Council Meeting



Earning medals in the pool were:

Anna Daniels, 4th place in 50 meter freestyle, 6th place in 50 meter backstroke, silver in 4x25 meter freestyle relay;

Chris Daniels, 4th place in 25 meter freestyle, bronze in 25 meter backstroke, silver in 4x25 meter freestyle relay;

Josh Gagliardo, silver in 50 meter freestyle, 7th place in 50 meter backstroke, silver in 4x25 meter freestyle relay;

Cruise Hastings, gold in 50 meter freestyle, gold in 50 meter backstroke, silver in 4x25 meter freestyle relay;

Rebecca Nagel, 8th place in 50 meter freestyle, 8th place in 50 meter backstroke, silver in 4x25 meter freestyle relay;

Kristin Slaughaupt, 4th place in 25 meter freestyle, silver in 25 meter backstroke, silver in 4x25 meter freestyle relay;

Kyle Slaughaupt, 4th place in 50 meter freestyle,

4th place in 50 meter backstroke, silver in 4x25 meter freestyle relay; and,

Stephanie Vanderoef, silver in 25 meter freestyle, bronze in 25 meter backstroke, silver in 4x25 meter freestyle relay.

The following coaches accompanied the athletes: **Jean Gagliardo** and **Kathleen Woznek**.



Earning medals in bowling were:

Nancy Abbott, 5th place in singles, silver in team;

Bruce Anderson, silver in singles, gold in team;

Christopher Case, gold in singles, gold in team;

Gail Emerson, 4th place in singles, silver in team;

Amber Krotje, silver in singles, silver in team;

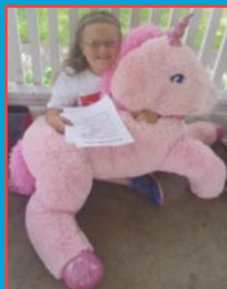
Julie Mendell, gold in singles, silver in team;

Matthew Mitchell, 4th place in singles, silver in team; and

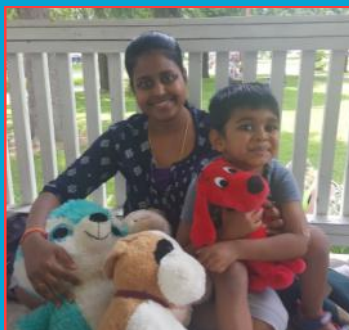
Larry Ordway, 4th place in singles, gold in team.

The following coaches accompanied the athletes: **Dr. Carl Case** and **Marsha Case**.





Scenes from events in June and July—there is so much to do in 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.



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. The monthly calendar is now on the city's website under the [Youth and Recreation Department-Olean Senior Center](#).

For more information please contact: 376-5670 or seniorcenter@cityofolean.org.



The City's website is great source of up-to-date information. Please visit it at 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

