

Around & About Olean

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



Lots of activity in Olean as winter winds down. The Easter Bunny made an appearance at the Annual Easter Egg hunt. The yearly event drew a large crowd and the City is very thankful to the numerous sponsors that helped make this event a special occasion.

Greater Olean held the Annual Home Show at Olean's newly renovated Rec. Center. The show was a complete success. Mayor Aiello is shown below with the winner of the best use of theme—VanDyke Agency of Great Valley(left) and Best Overall Booth—Countryside Woodworking.





The “bones” for Olean are shown in a map prepared by E. Johnson for the Major Adam Hoops in 1808. The map included a public square, a site for a school, a patriotic memorial in the village square. The central thoroughfares were named Union and State Streets and the East West Streets were named after Revolutionary War Generals: Greene, Putnam, Wayne, Henley, Laurens, and Sullivan. The streets still bear the same names and the patriotic village square still stands. Re-named Lincoln Park, the park has been in the same place, since the days that Olean was a stop over point for pioneers traveling west and since the days of the lumber mills and tanneries.



Olean was a transportation center during the oil boom and the city fathers had great political clout. Frank Wayland Higgins was the 35th governor. Governor Higgins was good friends with Theodore Roosevelt. It is documented that President Roosevelt gave Olean’s Governor Higgins a Red Maple tree. Today there is good reason to believe that that tree is still standing in Lincoln Park



Mayor Aiello recognized members of the “Souper Bowl of Caring” team from Olean High School at the March 27, 2018 Common Council meeting. Pictured to the right of Mayor Aiello are Max Morton, Sophie Melvin and Mrs. Marie Rakus, the faculty adviser of the group.

A new store opened in Olean recently. Christie Brook opened Christie’s Boutique at 119 North Union Street. The new store sells both new and old items in a very well designed and inviting shop. The ribbon cutting took place on March 3, 2018



From the Office of Mayor Bill Aiello

I think winter has finally blown out of Olean. And what a winter it was. The City’s DPW did an excellent job keeping the snow off the streets and sidewalks throughout the winter. I greatly appreciate their hard work. Now they are filling up those pot holes that were left behind by the weather and getting our parks ready for, hopefully, a nice long season of warm weather and sun.

The City’s Summer Rec. program is getting ready for the sunshine too. Lots of great con-

certs planned for Lincoln Park and many activities planned for the City’s youth.

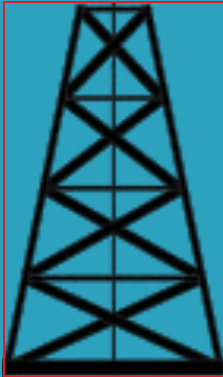
Our Police Department has been working diligently to curb the local production of Meth. I want to commend them for their hard work and diligence in this fight.

Olean has a new neighborhood watch group. It is up and running and if you are interested in forming a group please contact my office. Together we can keep Olean a safe place for our children.

I’ve been watching the step project at Oak Hill Park. They are beautiful. Thank you to Erick and Marianne Laine for sponsoring this renovation. Great news—the Common Council has passed a budget for the City. I have to thank the Department Heads and the Council for working hard to keep our tax increase minimal while providing the services necessary to keep our community. Have a great month. Soon the pools will be open and the concerts in Park will be underway.



Mr. George V. Foreman—Oilman, Banker, Philanthropist and—Farmer



Tucked away in Mount Vew Cemetery rests George V. Foreman. Born in 1841 in New Jersey, he graduated from Princeton in 1861 and was practicing law in Trenton when the oilfields of Pennsylvania garnered his attention. According to J. P. Herrick in Empire Oil, Mr. Foreman was “one of the earliest and brainiest operators in the field.” Mr. Foreman’s oil and pipelines investments, including Vandergrift and Foreman and Company became part of Standard Oil—Today’s Exxon Mobil.

Mr. Foreman also had a career in banking. He was an early investor in the Exchange National Bank of Olean and served as the bank’s vice president. But he moved on to Buffalo and, with a few partners, founded The Fidelity Trust and Guarantee Company of Buffalo. After his death the bank merged with Manufacturers and Trades Bank—today’s M&T Bank.



While in Olean Mr. Foreman was instrumental in finding a permanent home for the Olean library. He donated his office building—which was on the land that the Carnegie Library (Olean Library Events) now stands. It was named the Foreman Library and he endowed it with \$1,000—an amount that the directors were able to increase to \$7,000 within a very short period of time.

He also had a farm—gentleman farmer, no doubt. The glossy-coated, fawn-colored Jersey cattle, which numbered over 100, were seen in the fields in the summer, in the winter they lived in cow-luxury. A large barn housed the cattle in separately named stalls that allowed them freedom of movement. The barn was attended by five or six men who kept the barn clean and well lit. And, if the cow was not bred on the farm—it was hand picked by Mr. Forman from the Isle of Jersey.



The Foreman Farm was located between today’s 15th Street to 24th Street. The land became the fairground, before it was developed for housing.

Mr. Foreman and his wife built the Bartlett House in 1881 They sold the property to the Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bartlett for \$15,000 in 1891. The Fannie E. Bartlett House and Olean Point Museum are now located on the property.





Scenes From a Recent Fire on Irving Street





Council Meeting Proclamations



At the April 10, 2018 Common Council meeting, Zachary Nicolas Kruse was commended by Mayor Aiello and received a special citation for obtaining the Boy Scouts of America's highest honor, the Eagle Scout Award. In order to achieve this great award he raised money and built a shed for the SPCA.

Eagle Scout Kruse's project raised \$4,158 and with the help of over 30 volunteers, he was able to build a 14 by 20 foot shed for the SPCA. The 214 hour project that started in May 2017 was completed in September 2017 and significantly increased storage space for the SPCA.

During his years of scouting, Eagle Scout Kruse has been an active member of his scout troop and of our community, He has been a bell ringer for the Salvation Army, has participated in Rebuilding Together, has served at the Warming House, helped with Special Olympics Basketball and volunteered at his church.

Eagle Scout Kruse is an excellent example to our community of leadership, values and ideals.



Mayor Aiello presented Brian Wilcox from Mercy Flight a proclamation that declared Saturday, March 31, 2018 as Stop the Bleed Day in the City of Olean.

The top cause of preventable death in trauma is bleeding and at least twenty percent of people who have died from traumatic injuries could have survived with quick bleeding control.

Stop The Bleed is a national campaign to help prepare citizens to save lives by raising awareness of the basic actions to stop life threatening bleeding following emergencies and disasters.

The Stop the Bleed campaign brings bleeding control instructors and students together for a day of training—free of charge.

The City of Olean was pleased that Mercy Flight WNY and Southern Tier Health Care Systems teamed up to sponsor two Bleed Control Basics classes for local residents on Stop the Bleed Day;

In the proclamation, Mayor Aiello encouraged all residents to register for the classes to be held at the Southern Tier Emergency Medical System Training Center, 150 North Union Street in Olean on March 31st at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 am.



Exciting news! Lincoln Park, or the village square illustrated on E. Johnson's 1808 map of Olean, is going to be renovated in the near future to truly make it a 21st Century village square. A permanent farmer's market structure will be built and will include areas for our local farmers and artisans to sell their goods, as well as rest-rooms and a play area for chil-

ren. The park will also host a bistro that can be used by local restaurants and residents for outdoor dining. The gazebo that so many of us enjoy during the Thursday evening concerts is staying—but Olean's Rotary Club is hoping to restore the structure and make it more accessible to stage events.

It is an exciting time for Olean and the Farmer's Market is just one of the exciting prospects. Thank you to Senator Young, Cattaraugus County and Empire State Development for providing a number of grants for this project.

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

