



Around About Olean

Water Department Celebrates A Milestone



Water department employees, City officials, and residents were on hand to celebrate the 100th anniversary of water filtration in Olean. And as part of the celebration, Mayor Aiello proclaimed Saturday, July 21, 2018 as Olean Water Filtration Appreciation Day. His proclamation included a quick history of the City's department.

Water filtration practices started in earnest at the turn of the 20th century: Little Falls, New Jersey installed the first rapid sand filter in 1902 and in 1908 Jersey City, began to chlorinate its water supply. In the early 1900's, the City of Olean's water supply came from a number of wells that were located along the Allegheny River, at the same time the exponential population and industry growth strained the City's water supply and City planners looked at options to increase its capacity.

After extensive research it was determined that the Olean Creek would be the best water source and a filtration plant would be built on the banks of the Creek. To pay for the plant, the City would bond for \$75,000. The plant was completed in 1918 and was considered one of the best in the nation. The new plant siphoned water from the Creek, and utilized state of the art techniques to filter and treat the water before it was pumped into the distribution system. This original water plant served Olean residents and industry well for 84 years, before the new water plant was dedicated in 2002.

One hundred years ago Olean's planners made an investment in the City's future, they made sure that safe, healthy, fresh, clear water was abundant and available for distribution. Their foresight helped to make Olean an excellent place to live and work.

As part of the celebration, the Water Filtration staff gave very interesting and informative tours of the facility. Please see photographs of the tour on page 5.





The City of Olean has won a grant from KaBOOM!, the national non-profit dedicated to play, and the *Built to Play Initiative*, supported by the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation. The grant will help the City bring a new, playful installation to help get more Olean kids playing.

“The City is very lucky to receive this grant,” Mayor Aiello said. “Through the community-driven design competition, we received an award for a Play Everywhere project to be known as Trail-head Parklet, it will be located on Whitney Avenue, right in the heart of downtown Olean and part of the Allegheny River Valley Trail.”

“This grant will allow us to transform a piece of property that has been vacant since the 1950’s into a wonderland, with innovative equipment that will bring out everyone’s inner child,” Mayor Aiello continued.

“I would like to thank KaBOOM! and the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation’s *Built to Play Initiative* for their support of our community. Through their grant, another attraction will be added to Olean’s Downtown District as we continue our revitalization efforts,” Mayor Aiello said.

Construction will begin on the project in June of 2019 and it should be operational by the end of July.

43rd Annual



The 43rd Annual Olean City Cup was held August 10-August 12. There were 18 men’s teams competing and 11 women’s team. The championship games for both were played at Olean’s Bradner Stadium. The tournament committee works hard to put on a quality tournament and once again this year it was a very successful event. Pictured with Mayor Aiello are the winners of the Mike Abdo award: from the right Pete Aloji, Robert Bell and Don Bearfield.

OLEAN
CITY

Cup

8/10/18

to

8/12/18

From the Office of Mayor Bill Aiello

We have had an excellent summer and it is sad to see it coming to a close. The Concerts in the Park were a big hit with our residents and visitors. And the Summer Recreation Program had great attendance. Thank you to all the City Employees who worked hard through the summer to make these programs a success.

The streets crew has been working hard to fill in the pot holes over the summer. Winter always takes it toll on our streets and it takes a few months to fill in all the holes.

The North Union Street extension has been paved. It was badly in need of repairs, and I want to thank New York State for putting the project on a priority list. The State paves the road, but the City maintains it. It would have been very expensive for us to fill in the holes only to have it paved at the end of the summer. I am very pleased that the NY State was able to accommodate the City.

I have been busy throughout the summer celebrating milestones with a number of businesses: Henry H. Hill celebrated

100 years in business, Hedley Brooks celebrated 90 years in business, and Eden Heights celebrated 30 years.

Olean has also hosted a number of guests during the summer. New York Secretary of State, Rossano Rosado, spent a day in Olean and went on a tour of our numerous projects. In addition the Western New York Regional Economic Council conducted their Annual Meeting in Olean at the Old Library Event Center. The group also went on a tour of our projects. Both tours were successful and our revitalization efforts are getting kudos from many.



Olean Services

Father Patrick Melfi of St. John's and St. Mary's is the Chaplain for the Olean Fire Department. He joined the Fire Department during a recent fire on Vine Street as shown in the photographs. Father Melfi has also been appointed as the Chaplain for the Olean Police Department.

Olean Activities

The City's Summer Recreation Program was once again a great success. Thank you to the summer staff, who wore many hats during the season, thank you to the Recreation Program Director Kris Shewairy, thank you to the many sponsors who help to make the program a success, thank you to the parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles who enrolled their children in the program. Residents of the City of Olean should be very proud of the summer recreation program. With numerous weekly activities and special events and contests throughout the summer, the program offers something for all ages and interests.



Olean Gardens

Olean's North Union Street gardens continue to evolve. There were plenty of new colors and plants introduced this past summer and gardens flowered throughout the season.

A number of volunteers also came to the rescue in midseason as the weeds began to encroach. Thank you to all the weed volunteers and the garden committee for a job well done. If you; are interested in the gardens there is a sign on the corner of State and Union on the City Building side that explains many of the flowers and their purpose in the rain gardens.



Olean Revitalization

The City of Olean was pleased to host the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council's Annual Meeting on August 13, 2018. Members of the Council toured a number of Olean projects, with stops at Four Mile Brewing and the William O. Smith Recreation Center. The council also had lunch at the Old Library Events Center prior to their meeting.



Olean Facilities

Olean's facilities were used extensively throughout the summer. The Olean Oilers thrilled fans during their season at Brader Stadium and the Enchanted Mountain Hellbilly Heartbreakers returned to the William O. Smith Recreation Center after a one year hiatus—it was another exciting season of Roller Derby.



Olean

Many milestones this summer in Olean. Eden Heights celebrated its 30th Anniversary with a Luau. Highlight of the evening — Mayor Aiello and other men learned the Maori Haka Dance from the Pacific Rhythm Dancers. He also presented a certificate to Executive Director Joni Hewitt.

BUSINESSES



Henry H. Hill celebrated its 100th year of doing business in Olean. The company was started to supply the oil fields and adjusted to the changing market place throughout its history. A great company in a great city.



1918
to
2018



Clean
Water
Filtration
Plant





Special Citation for Austin Ring



Mayor Aiello commended Austin Ring who obtained the Boy Scouts of America's highest honor, the Eagle Scout Award. In order to achieve this great award he restored the entrance of Theater Workshop at 702 Washington Street in Olean.

Eagle Scout Ring's project included repairing and painting the stairs and railings at the main entrance of the Theater. The landscape was also restored, the garden was weeded, and mulch was spread.

During his years of scouting, Eagle Scout Ring has been an active member of his scout troop and of our community. He started scouting as a Tiger Cub when he was six years old. He received 36 merit badges, has attended summer camp every summer, and was a participant in the Winter Klondike Derby.

Eagle Scout Ring is an excellent example to our community of leadership, values and ideals. Therefore, I, William J. Aiello, Mayor of the City of Olean, do hereby issue this Special Citation in recognition of this fine young man.

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

