

# Community Update

A Bi-weekly Report on the City of Olean



**Topics:**

- July 7 Storm.....1
- E. State St. Project. .... 2
- Announcements. ....2
- Meet & Greet Olean Oilers .....3
- How can the city help?.....4
- 5/K Corporate Challenge .....4

## *Winds snap trees, down power lines across Olean in surprise storm July 7*



At least 80 trees in the city’s right-of-way, along with areas of the city’s parklands, suffered damage in the July 7 storm, according to estimates by city staffers. The extent of damage to privately-owned trees is unknown and could not be included in that assessment.

City Forester Sue Cooper described it as a “major storm.” Trees that had no defects snapped in half. Wind speeds were estimated at 70 to 80 miles per hour. There were downed wires and ignited vegetation in several locations.

“It was the worst storm damage we have seen in the city for 20 years,” said Mrs. Cooper.

The city’s two contractors went right to work removing the trees from streets and power lines. City Streets and Parks crews put aside routine work to pick up brush that residents piled at the curb. The cleanup went on for a week.

The Towns of Olean and Allegany came to the city’s aid as did National Grid. Bonas Responds and other groups were out helping affected residents.

At least \$30,000 was spent in the cleanup, but that estimate will likely be revised upwards, said Mayor Linda Witte, who applauded everyone who pitched in to get the city up and running again. Some damage remains in spots but most roads were opened by midnight on July 7.

***East State Street as it was ....***



***And One Week Later....***

*Dignitaries break ground (left) after a press conference on July 5 for the first phase of work on East State Street. In the days that followed eastbound traffic was narrowed to one lane and westbound traffic was diverted to Seneca Street. Heavy equipment will continue removing layers of pavement, paver bricks and road base, and the space will be filled with new and recycled materials. Phase II Bids, to be opened July 16, will extend the work eastward to Clark St.*



***Visit the City's website (click on the Department of Public Works button) for periodic updates on the East State Street Reconstruction Project***

A new web page for the East State St. Reconstruction Project can be seen at: <http://eaststate.cityofolean.org/> Also, the Olean Times Herald will publish a weekly update each Saturday.

Mark Cerrone, Inc., of Niagara Falls, won the Phase I contract with a tentative completion date of July 2013. Bids for the Phase II work eastward to Clark St. will be opened on July 16. That portion of the project will begin mid-



*This "wide load" track excavator has an important job to do: bringing two-way traffic back to East State St.*

August through completion Oct. 31. Update meetings during construction will be held the third Thursday of each month at 2 pm in the Olean Recreation Center fitness room. A representative from the construction company will be present July 19. Anyone with questions or concerns may attend or contact Public Works Director Tom Windus (376-5650) or Ward 2 Alderman Ann McLaughlin (560-8407).

**Announcements:**

Storm debris cleanup by Streets crews has ended. Tree branches and storm debris can no longer be placed at the curb for pickup by Streets crews, and the lot on Front Street was set to be locked July 15. The usual yard waste (free) pickup will continue on the last Wednesday of each month through September. The next date is July 25. For more information about yard and lawn waste, street sweeping parking regulations, etc., visit the Public Works page at [www.cityofolean.org](http://www.cityofolean.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

On Saturday, Sept. 8. Mayor Witte will judge the Rib Cook-Off contest in the Swine Wine & Craft Festival. The event is an annual United Way fundraiser in War Vets Park. Home brewers, wine makers, and rib cook-off teams will compete for prizes. Register at [www.uwcatctco.org](http://www.uwcatctco.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

Pay tickets, water, sewer bills on-line! The Online Bill Pay & Customer Service option is up and running on the city's website for a \$3 fee. Go to [www.cityofolean.org](http://www.cityofolean.org) and click on "The Online Bill Pay & Customer Service" button from the menu on the right side of the home page. At the online payments home page, choose between water/sewer bill payment and parking ticket payment options.

Water and Sewer bill payers register and set up a password, then view transaction history and chart water consumption through by billing date. Parking ticket payers simply search for the citation number or vehicle info. (This destination can also be reached by typing this into your browser: <https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/oleanny/utilities>.)

*Meet & Greet the Oilers*  
*July 12, 2012*



### **Page One Photo Feature:**

A great crowd of Oilers fans and autograph-seekers came out to meet and support the Olean Oilers at War Vets Park on the evening of July 12.



*Downed power lines ignited and burned into this lawn on North Clark Street during the July 7 storm. There were some outages but all power was restored by Thursday, July 9.*

### **How can the city help?**

**By Mayor Linda Witte**



As your Mayor I continue to have an Open Door Policy. You can contact my office at 376-5615 with questions and complaints. Please stop in and pick up a 2012 City Directory for phone numbers of the Department Heads and Alderman. Information is also available on the city's website, [www.cityofolean.org](http://www.cityofolean.org).

### **Adopt-a-Planter 2012**

The redwood planters on North Union Street are blooming to welcome you, you and you for a stroll on N. Union St. Which ones do you think are most colorful or unique, in the best condition and overall design?

Why not take a stroll through the business district and pick your favorite arrangement?

### **Neighborhood Cleanup Needs You!**

The Neighborhood Preservation Committee's recruitment efforts have been quite successful. Volunteers are always needed. If you have some time to volunteer, call Casey Jones at 372-3772.

### **Robert W. ("Bobby") Ring wins Fastest Man in Corporate Challenge!**

The City of Olean was represented by 21 employees in the Southern Tier Corporate Challenge Run/Walk, hosted June 27 by the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce and the Olean High School Sports Boosters.

Unofficially 611 people participated, representing 35 companies. The 3.1 mile race/walk event is open to both corporate and community groups, challenging employers to create internal wellness programs for health, wellness and fitness. The challenge concluded with "Olean's Largest Office Party" with music by NY Standard Time, a musical group of Les Sabina, Steve Swanson and Mark Howden.

These awards were presented: Fastest Man, Bobby Ring, City of Olean; Fastest Woman, Hannah Hughes, Olean Family YMCA; Fastest CEO, Chris Napoleon from Napoleon Engineering Services; Fastest Male Team, Corporate Division, Caya's Canopies; Fastest Co-ed Team, Corporate Division, Dresser-Rand Co.; Fastest Female Team, Corporate Division, Olean Medical Group; Fastest Male Team, Community Division, Olean YMCA; Fastest Co-ed Team, Community Division, Olean YMCA; Fastest



*For team member names and more pics, see the **Mayor's Community** at [www.cityofolean.org](http://www.cityofolean.org).*

Female Team, Community Division, Olean YMCA; Most Spirited Team, Community Bank, NA ; Most Walkers, CUTCO Corporation; and Logo Design Contest Winner, Olean Family YMCA. Complete race results for individuals and teams are posted online at [www.oleanny.com](http://www.oleanny.com).