

Community Update

A Bi-weekly Report on the City of Olean
From the Desk of Mayor Linda Witte



Aug 1 - Aug 7 set aside for breastfeeding support

Mayor Linda Witte participated Aug. 2 in the 4th Annual “Walk & Talk” event, issuing the following proclamation for 2013 World Breastfeeding Week in the City, to support of breastfeeding and its health benefits.

“Whereas World Breastfeeding Week in 2013 is themed “Breastfeeding Support : Close to Mothers”; and,

“Whereas, the event will highlight Breastfeeding Peer Counseling; and,

“Whereas, it will focus on providing support for mothers in the weeks and months after delivery to avoid the sharp decline in breastfeeding rates; and,



The Big Latch On brought mothers, grandmothers, fathers and offspring of all ages to the breastfeeding educational rally in Lincoln Park Aug. 2. The large group of participants shared information about the benefits of breastfeeding and then marched around the area, following chalked breastfeeding slogans on the sidewalks.

“Whereas, as societies change due to urbanization support for mothers from a wider circle is needed; and,

“Whereas, support can be provided by trained health workers, lactation consultants, community leaders, or friends and family; and,

“Whereas, the Peer Counseling Program is a cost effective and highly productive way to reach a larger number of mothers more frequently; and,

“Whereas, the Peer Counselors can be anyone from the community who is trained to learn to sup-

port mothers; and,

“Whereas, Peer

Counselors who are

readily available in the community become a life-line for mothers with breastfeeding questions and issues; and,

“Whereas, the key to the best breastfeeding practices is continued day-to-day support for the breastfeeding mother within her home and community.

“Whereas, the Cattaraugus County Health Department WIC Program will observe World Breastfeeding Week in accordance with the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action August 1-7, 2013; and,

“Whereas, the 4th Annual “Walk & Talk” Aug. 2, 2013, will increase attention to the communication dimension in breastfeeding, and will help revitalize activities within health systems, and among healthcare providers and communities to support women to achieve their breastfeeding intentions.

“Now, therefore, I, Linda Witte, Mayor of Olean, NY, USA, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim Thursday, Aug. 1, through Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2013, to be **World Breastfeeding Week** in the City of Olean, NY, USA; and,

“Now, therefore, I urge all citizens to join in the “Walk and Talk” Aug. 2 beginning in Lincoln Park at 10 a.m. and participate in any of the additional activities planned by the Cattaraugus County Health Department WIC Program staff.

“In testimony thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Olean, the 2nd day of August 2013.”

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Milestones along the final 3rd phase of East State St. reconstruction

East State Street is all but completed! At right, cones mark the westbound lane in preparation for striping of the finished road surface early on the week of August 19. The project took about 13 months, start to finish, just in time for some big public events. The new street will be pedestrian-friendly with new sidewalks, and features three driving lanes.(one is a turn lane in the center.)



Sidewalks (left and lower left) and pavement (lower right) were under construction in early August and are to be completed in time for **Rally in the Valley**. Striping will be done early in the week of August 18-24. The Tunnel” (right) remains open throughout the project, but will see additional improvements and will become the main entrance for Stadium visitors.



What's happening around our city in August?



The City of Olean Youth Bureau & Recreation Department summer staff organized some fun for area youth during the Annual Kids Day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Aug. 9 in War Vets Park. A free swim session from 12:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. was sponsored by Reality Check. Inflatable games, health education, entertainment and games were on tap. Proceeds benefit the Youth Memorial Scholarship Funds.



206 S. Eighth St. was one of four homes to see a transformation on July 27th, "Blitz Day", the annual Rebuilding Together event that draws scores of volunteers and donations to assist homeowners through community service. Other Olean homes that were painted during Blitz Day are 509 Second Ave., 110 East Forest Ave., 3850 Rt. 417 also received a sprucing up.



At left, a new sound system has been installed at Bradner Stadium in time for the Rally in the Valley events. Also, some new stadium lights have been installed and new seats have been ordered.

New playgrounds around the city add up to improved quality of life for residents!



Magnano Park received a new playground in early August. Above, construction is underway Aug. 5, and at right on Aug. 13 the playground is completed except for a bit of landscaping.



Franchot Family Park's new playground, shown above, began construction Aug. 13, on a Nautical theme.

Behold the burgeoning beauty of Olean's streetscapes all over the city in 2013!



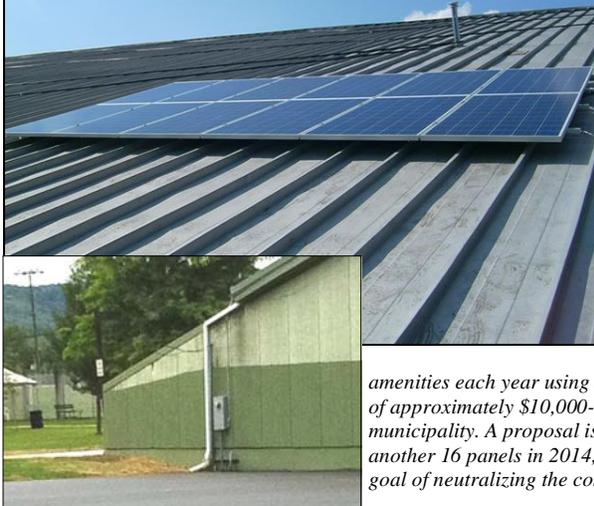
Hometown boys Al Marra (l) and Matt Witte spend some of their their summer vacation from college painting some of North Olean's unique concrete street signs, changing the faded blue to a crisp green.



This self-watering planter, from Scott's Lawn & Landscape Services in Olean, is made from recyclable materials and is adapted to the downtown business district's dry atmosphere and extreme temperatures. The Earth Planter has replaced the redwood planter that once occupied the corner of South Union and West State Streets adjacent to the U.S. Post Office. Mayor Linda Witte has planted the pot and tending it for the summer season in a trial run before proposing a replacement for the old redwood planters. The Earth Planter cost \$359.99.

Latest William O. Smith Recreation Center improvements benefit everybody!

"It's the city's first attempt at going green," said Public Works Director Tom Windus.



Bimbo Bakeries (Stroehman) in April installed a 12-panel solar array (l) on the William O. Smith Recreation Center and planted trees utilizing a company grant for more than \$12,000. The net meter (offset) can be seen spinning as the panels generate energy to relieve the taxpayer cost of powering the complex. The company provides community amenities each year using an annual allotment of approximately \$10,000- \$12,000 per host municipality. A proposal is being submitted for another 16 panels in 2014, with the long-term goal of neutralizing the cost of electricity

Hoop Dreams Before And After

Mayor Linda Witte supplied photos of the site of a future basketball play area, once the site of a tennis court and later a skate park, where hoop supports have been installed in preparation for a set of hoops.

Health center opens downtown location

Universal Primary Care (UPC) has officially opened its new location at 135 N. Union Street in Bluebird Square. The facility is part of the Southern Tier Community Health Center Network, Inc. which also provides primary care services to clients at offices in Houghton and Cuba.

The Olean office opened without fanfare in May after moving from the Olean General Hospital's complex on Main Street. UPC charts its beginnings to its 2004 separation from Olean General Hospital. In 2012 UPC was awarded a \$1.3 million federal grant after it was designated as a federally-qualified health center.

UPC's new location fills up 10,000 square feet and boasts 18 exam rooms and two treatment rooms. The daily patient load averages 100.



A cadre of officials lined up to cut the ribbon on the new Universal Primary Care (Southern Tier Community Health Center Network, Inc.) on Thursday, Aug. 15. From left to right they are: UPC Medical Director AnnMarie Zimmerman, M.D.; Mayor Linda Witte, UPC Board Vice-Chair Paula Snyder, New York State Senator Catharine Young, UPC Executive Director Gail Speedy, President and CEO of the Upper Allegheny Health System Tim Finan, Park Centre Development President Patricia Magnano, architect David Wylier of Wylier and Associates, and UPC Board Chairman Michael De Rose.



Mayor Linda Witte snapped this photo August 5 of The Children's Garden in full bloom Franchot Family Park. This quiet, idyllic scene of reflection and meditation honors all children everywhere who have passed on. The plantings are a yearly event for several committed groups who work hard to keep the spot looking its best.

Page One Photo Feature: This section of the Allegheny River Trail will eventually link with a segment coming from the area of Franchot Park and the Good Times Family Recreation Center.

Photo by Mayor Linda Witte


**Standing Committees and
Common Council**
 Meet most Tuesdays beginning
 at 6:30 p.m.
 in Council Chambers



Thinking of Getting Married?

Mayor Linda Witte will schedule your wedding in the Olean City Limits. To check on dates she is available call 376-5615. New York State Law says marriage ceremonies cannot be performed for 24 hours after a marriage license was issued.

To obtain a license, call the Department of Vital Records at 376-5605 or the City Clerk (376-5604). The nearby John Ash Community Center on North Barry Street is an excellent spot for the reception! To book that space, call 376-5666.

Can the city help?

As your Mayor I continue to have an Open Door Policy on the first floor of the Municipal Building at 101 East State St. You can call my office at 376-5615 with questions and complaints. Please stop in and pick up a 2013 City Directory for phone numbers of Department Heads and Alderman or check the website, www.cityofolean.org. At that location is a link where you will find this newsletter!



Mayor Linda Witte greeted Sen. Charles Schumer when he visited Olean Aug. 6.

Online Bill Pay Option

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 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://w.municipalonlinepayments.com/oleanny/utilities>.)

How do you contact your 2013 Alderman?

Council President Ann McLaughlin (Ward 2)
716-560-8407 amclaughlin@cityofolean.org.

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|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| Gerard leFeber, Ward 1
716-378-7877
jlefeber@cityofolean.org | Paul Gonzalez, Ward 3
716-790-1121
pgonzalez@cityofolean.org | Matt Keller, Ward 4
585-378-0557
mkeller@cityofolean.org | Jim Finch, Ward 5
716-373-0163
jfinch@cityofolean.org | Nate Smith, Ward 6
716-307-8199
nsmith@cityofolean.org | Tom Morgan, Ward 7
716-373-4860
tmorgan@cityofolean.org |
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