The night of February 12th may have been one of the coldest nights in the city of Olean—ever. Thermometers had given up and could not register the twenty degrees below zero. It was an unpredicted low, but the citizens of Olean seem to take the unprecedented temperatures of this winter in stride.

In the early morning hours of that night, Patrolman Brian Cross was on routine patrol, conducting building checks. He noticed smoke in the air and went to investigate.

He quickly located the source at a residence at 431 North Ninth Street. Patrolman Cross immediately reported his findings to Police Dispatch and requested that the Olean Fire Department respond to a fire at the residence.

Patrolman Cross went to the door and attempted to awaken any residents in the home. When there was no response, Patrolman Cross bravely and with great risk to himself, made entry into the residence. He found that the kitchen ceiling was on fire.

Patrolman Cross moved quickly and located an elderly female occupant in her bedroom. He escorted her safely out of the burning residence and placed her into his patrol vehicle to keep her warm in the sub zero weather.

Patrolman Cross then awoke the occupants of the adjacent homes and evacuated them to safety.

In commending Patrolman Cross, Police Chief Terry Schnell said, “Your actions of February 12, 2014 reflect highly upon yourself and the entire Olean Police Department. You are an asset to the police department and to the citizens of the Olean community.”

At the Common Council meeting on February 24, 2014, Mayor Aiello recognized and commended Patrolman Brian Cross for an act of bravery. In the Special Proclamation which he presented, the Mayor said, “Patrolman Cross placed the safety of our citizens above his own well being. His quick and decisive action saved one life and saved the adjacent structures from serious damage.”
Outdoor & Recreational Sports Show

It was Olean’s mountains, vast forests and waterways that brought the original settlers in the early 1800’s. It is the mountains, vast forests and waterways that bring the outdoor sports enthusiasts here now. The Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce sponsored the Fifth Annual Outdoor and Recreational Sport Show in late January. The temperatures plummeted and snow fell on the city, but that didn’t stop the true sportsmen. The event, held at the City’s newest recreational spot, Good Times of Olean Events Center, was a complete success with forty vendors and over 2,200 attendees. The latest lines in ATV’s, snow-mobiles, kayaks, bikes, snow-shoes, cross country skis, hiking supplies, and hunting and fishing accessories tempted the outdoorsman. Hunting and fishing trip schedulers were also on hand to help customers plan excursions to use all that new equipment.

The next big event for the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce is the Home Show scheduled for April 11-13 at the William O. Smith Recreation Center in Olean.

So you think there is nothing to do in Olean during the winter?

Think about skating…

Hours at the W.O. Smith Rec. Center: M-F: 11:30am - 2:00pm
Tues & Thurs: 3:30pm-5:00pm
Sat & Sun: 1:30pm-3:00pm
Fri-Sun: 6:00pm-8:00pm

Fees:
Child/Senior $  2.00
Adult  $  4.00
College Student w/ID $  3.00
Family  $10.00
Skate Rental $  2.00
Sharpening  $  5.00

The City of Olean took part in the Olean City School District’s Souper Bowl of Caring. Mayor Aiello is standing with Max Morton who came to pickup the city employee’s contributions to the cause.

From the Mayor’s Office

Mayor Aiello meets with New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo at a reception at the Governor’s mansion during a New York Conference of Mayors Program in Albany on February 10, 2014.

FACT: On Nov. 23, 1875 the pump station received its first oil. Two days later the oil was in Olean. The Pennsylvania RR feeder line was ready for that oil at the intersection of Third and Wayne Streets.
A Retirement — James S. Scanlon

After almost forty years of service to the City of Olean, James S. Scanlon called it a day on February 22, 2014. In his five decades working for the city he worked in many different areas.

In the 1980’s he moved into the Streets Division as a Street and Sewer Mechanic.

In 2002 he transferred into the Water Distribution Division as a Water Maintainer/Heavy Equipment Operator.

Edward R. Husted an Olean Mayor

Edward R. Husted, former Ward 11 Alderman and Olean Mayor from 1964 until 1966, passed away on February 5, 2014 at ninety years old.

As he entered the office of Mayor in 1964, Olean was experiencing changes—both positive and negative. A high unemployment rate plagued the city, the Olean airport celebrated it five year anniversary and cable television was making inroads into the homes of Olean residents.

Mr. Husted worked with the Chamber of Commerce to bring new businesses into the city and succeeded with Felmont Agway. Mr. Husted also used the office of the Mayor to negotiate with the cable companies to provide better service and a higher franchise fee to the city. In addition he worked to keep Mohawk Airlines as a service provider to the airport.

He was the first Mayor to walk down the middle of the proposed Route 17 Southern Tier Expressway (now Route I-86) with Department of Transportation officials in the early planning stages of the highway.

During his term Olean was approached to host the Miss New York State pageant. It was a great opportunity, however funding was a problem. Mayor Husted and the local Jaycees established a closed circuit telethon on a local cable channel to raise funds for the event. The telethon was held at the American Legion building with local musicians and talent providing the entertainment. A battery of phones was installed to take donations. The telethon raised $6,000 to seed the New York State Miss America pageant which was held in Olean for many years.

Edward Husted was re-elected in November 1965. He resigned on October 10, 1966 to take on a position in Bradford, PA as Redevelopment Director, a post he held for twenty years.

Mayor Aiello and the Common Council held a moment of silence in honor of former Mayor Husted at the Common Council Meeting on February 11, 2014.

Common Council Corner

Contact information for the seven council members:

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

Gerard LeFeber (Ward 1)
716-378-7877
jlefeber@cityofolean.org

Steve Barnard (Ward 4)
716-307-1862
sbarnard@cityofolean.org

Nate Smith (Ward 6)
716-307-8199
nsmith@cityofolean.org

Paul Gonzalez (Ward 3)
716-790-1121
pgonzalez@cityofolean.org

Jim Finch (Ward 5)
716-373-0163
jfinch@cityofolean.org

Adam Jester (Ward 7)
716-790-8226
ajester@cityofolean.org
The Mayor’s First Proclamation

Whereas, National Catholic Schools Week was initiated forty years ago in 1974 and is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States;

Whereas, Catholic schools are communities—small families in their own right, but also members of the larger community of home, church, city and nation;

Whereas, the City of Olean has had a tradition of Catholic Elementary Schools since the 1923 founding of St. Mary’s Academy adjacent to St. Mary’s of the Angels Church;

Whereas, the City of Olean has had a tradition of a Catholic High School since the founding of Archbishop Walsh High School in 1959;

Whereas, our region has had a tradition of Catholic higher learning since the founding of St. Bonaventure University in 1858;

Whereas, the students of Olean’s Catholic schools are inspired to achieve their full potential in spiritual, academic and athletic growth;

Whereas, the alumni of Olean’s Catholic Schools have labored in many professions including science, the arts, government, business and the world of technology. The alumni have become parents, priests, religious, and people dedicated to God and country. They live in many countries as well as here in Olean and provide service and dedication to the community.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Aiello, Mayor of Olean, NY, USA, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim Sunday, January 26, through Saturday, February 1, 2014, to be Catholic Schools Week in the City of Olean, NY, USA, Olean, the 28th day of January 2014.

Kids Are Never Bored in Olean

Visit the Fall/Winter Program sponsored by the City’s Youth Bureau and Recreation Department at St. John’s Recreational Facility at 921 North Union Street. Supervised recreation is provided—with foosball, bumper pool, air hockey, ping pong, board games, computer corner, homework help, game cube, arts & crafts, all gymnasium games and basketball.

It’s all free of charge — and no pre-registration is required.

Days: M-F
Time: 3:00PM-5:30PM
Age Group: Grades K-8

Friday Evening Recreation
Time: 6:00PM-9:00PM
Age Group: Grades 4-8

Saturday Afternoon Recreation
Time: 12:30pm-3:30PM
Age Group: Grades K-8

Need more information?
Call 376-5698

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 into 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.

“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