As construction progressed around the corner, students and staff members from the Olean Intermediate Middle School made their annual trek to West State Street to plant gardens around the trees.
Before Olean was incorporated into a city in 1893, James Henry Luther was Mayor. He was also the founder of J.H. Luther and Sons. The company later became the Luther Manufacturing Company Inc. James Luther was born in Rhode Island and moved to Central New York State where he was trained as a machinist.

The oil fields of Western Pennsylvania caught the eye of this early entrepreneur and he made his way to Petroleum Center, Pa to manufacture tools for the oil trade. In 1880 he moved to Olean and started his machine shop and foundry. His sons changed the name of the company following his death.

The Luther family was instrumental in the start of the Olean Fire Department and their products were advertised as the “most efficient and practical method of pumping Oil and Gas Wells.”

Olean is a great place in the summer. And very busy. We celebrated Workers Memorial Day, Mercy Flight’s 35 Anniversary, the St. Mary’s Festival, National Children’s Day, Olean General Hospital’s Strawberry Festival, Olean High School Alumni Reunion, the Relay for Life, Juneteenth, the opening of the African American Center and the first Mile High Race at the Olean Airport. All going on as the Olean Oilers and the Southern Tier Diesel entertained crowds at Bradner Stadium. Now who said that there is nothing to do in Olean?

Work continued on North Union Street. The traffic was diverted to the East side of the street as the month came to a close. On the North end of the street the landscaping is taking hold and flowers are blooming. It does look great.

I toured around the city to look at the properties that Cattaraugus County has given to the City. As we take inventory, the Common Council, the City Attorney, the department heads and I are working together to find the best solution for the disposal of each property.

As of July 5 the City has collected a total of $38,190 of our unpaid parking tickets.

On June 27 we held the Mayor’s Forum at Good Times. It was an excellent event. Kathy Paciorkowski from Revitalizing Olean presented to the group. Her Facebook group continues to do great things for Olean and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Please have a very safe July...
Mercy Flight celebrated their 35th anniversary at their headquarters in Olean, Mayor Aiello read the following proclamation at the event:

WHEREAS, air medical transport plays an important role in pre-hospital and inter-hospital transport of critical patients;

WHEREAS, minutes matter when transporting and providing support services to help those in need in our community;

WHEREAS, Mercy Flight was the pioneer medically-dedicated air transport service in New York State and one of the first of its kind in the country;

WHEREAS, Mercy Flight teams are ready to respond 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from a base in Olean;

WHEREAS, the independent, not-for-profit provider has safely and proudly completed more than 24,500 patient missions and countless safety training and community education missions;

WHEREAS, Mercy Flight of Western New York has been “A Beacon of Hope... When Minutes Matter” for thirty-five years;

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the value, dedication and critical services provided by the men and women of Mercy Flight past, present and future;

THEREFORE, I, William J. Aiello, Mayor of the City of Olean, do hereby proclaim Saturday, June 4, 2016 as Mercy Flight Day in the City of Olean. And I encourage the community to observe this day and to continue to support this vital service.
WHEREAS, the first Children’s Day was established by the Universalist Church of Chelsea, Massachusetts in June 1856, and thereafter, in 1868, the second Sunday of June each year was set aside as National Children’s Day, to allow children to participate in church services, government, and various cultural and recreational activities;

WHEREAS, in following, with this day of recognition for children, the City of Olean in 1995, committed a portion of Franchot Park for a Children’s Memorial Flower Garden and continues to support the Children’s Memorial Flower Garden Committee in their efforts to establish a living memorial to all children, living or deceased, regardless of race, color or creed;

WHEREAS, at a time when communities lose young people through tragic circumstances, it seemed poignant that this wonderful flower garden in Franchot Park amidst the Johnny Appleseed Memorial Tree Grove will be enjoyed by so many of the families of Olean and surrounding communities;

THEREFORE, I, William J. Aiello, Mayor of the City of Olean, do hereby proclaim Sunday, June 12, 2016 as NATIONAL CHILDREN’S DAY in the City of Olean and ask all residents to join in the celebration of this day, making it a day of remembrance and to commemorate it with the planting of flowers in the Children’s Memorial Flower Garden at Franchot Park.
Fun for Every Generation in Olean

The Golden Olympics were held in June at Good Times of Olean. After the Pledge of Allegiance (above and to the right) participants took part in numerous activities, including bowling at the facility. Mayor Aiello joined in on the fun.

The Youth and Recreation Staff met late in June to prepare for the summer season in the Parks. The seven week Youth Recreation Program started on June 27th and will run through August 12. Lots of fun activities are scheduled again this year.
Saturday July 2, 2016 was a day of celebration at the Fire Station and later in the day Olean’s Firefighters were in gear fighting a fire. More on both stories next month.....

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.

We love to see you in the Municipal Building. But if you can’t find parking—or if it is too cold and rainy, there are many other ways to pay your bills. Recently installed—a drop box right on Times Square. You can’t miss it—it’s white and has the City Logo proudly displayed. In addition, you can pay on line at this link: www.municipalonlinepayments.com/oleanny/

The City’s website is great source of up-to-date information. Please visit it at www.cityofOLEAN.org. In addition the city has a Face Book page and Twitter feed—all are excellent sources for information.

So Many Ways to Pay your Bills

“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