It was a hard winter: cold, snowy and lots of wind. But the City of Olean did not stop working to make our community safer, cleaner, and more attractive for our residents.

With the help of the Cattaraugus County Land Bank, as well as the City of Olean’s Code Enforcement, Community Development and Department of Public Works a number of blighted properties were demolished.

The bulbs deep in the ground weathered the winter well and popped-up on a dreary spring day with a stunning array of colors.

And as the ground began to thaw, the plans for Lincoln Park were put in motion—Summer will be here soon.
Spring is here! And the City of Olean will swing into clean-up mode. The plows have been removed from the trucks. The Street Sweeper is removing the dust and debris left behind by the harsh winter. The smell of asphalt and fresh cut grass is in the air. And the sound of a crowd cheering on the Olean Oilers will travel across our valley.

But every spring we need help. Lila Ervay is seeking volunteers to help with picking-up the litter left behind by winter and to continue on litter patrol through early autumn. The City provides the bag sand gloves and the volunteers work on their own schedule. Please call Lila at 373-0677 to join this great cause.

My office is looking for volunteers to help weed our Union Street gardens. Volunteers did an excellent job late last summer. They came in late in the season and helped us gain control of the gardens. We hope if we ask for help earlier this year we can keep the weeds from taking control of the gardens. Construction started on the Lincoln Park Market in April and should be completed by mid-summer. We have already had people and groups reserve the facility for upcoming events. The addition will complement our downtown revitalization efforts.

The Olean Police Department Memorial Service was held in the Council Chambers/City Court on May 17, 2019. Photographed from the left are Mike Luty, Brian Donnelly, former Mayor Bill Quinlan, Jason Buckles, Mayor Bill Aiello, Jack Bell, Jim Tambash, Virginia Garl and Art Filjones.

Mayor Aiello was a judge in the Olean City School District’s Sodexo Future Chef Competition in March. The winner, Liam Herne, a second grader at Washington West, has been chosen as one of forty regional finalists.
Olean High students, teachers and staff, in partnership with the City of Olean and the Cattaraugus Region Community Foundation sponsored a clean-up day at Oak Hill Park on April 30th. The City provided the bags, the tarps, the gloves and a truck. The Foundation provided pizza. And the High School provided the workers. About 150 students volunteered for the event and their hard work got Olean’s historic park ready for the summer season.

Oak Hill park is part of Olean’s 160 acre park system and the efforts of the faculty and students at the park were a great help to the City staff charged with spring cleaning our parks.

National Grid, in celebration of Arbor Day, planted a number of trees in Mount View Cemetery in late April. In addition the company pruned the “Roosevelt Tree” in Lincoln Park.

“Each year National Grid has partnered with the City to plant and prune trees in celebration of Arbor Day,” said Mayor Aiello. “This year in addition to planting the trees at the Cemetery we were pleased that Jay McIntosh, a National Grid employee and a Certified Arborist, offered to prune the tree in Lincoln Park that is thought to be the tree that Theodore Roosevelt gave to Governor Higgins.”

“According to Sue Cooper, the City’s Forester, pruning the tree will preserve the tree’s integrity and Mr. McIntosh, as a certified arborist will do the job properly,” Mayor Aiello added.

“I want to extend my thanks to National Grid and Mr. McIntosh. The corporation has been a great partner over the years and has pruned and planted many trees in Mount View Cemetery. We appreciate that this year they will extend their knowledge and skills to Olean’s most famous tree,” Mayor Aiello said.
Attention Cat Owners

City of Olean New Cat Ordinance:

Any feline running at large will be treated as a stray cat and will be subject to the Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate and Return (TNVR) policy.

ON: June 2—June 8, 2019

A TNVR team will be in your neighborhood. They will humanely trap, neuter, vaccinate and return community cats to your neighborhood.

Please help make this a success:

Keep your pet cat inside on the above date(s).

Please do not feed any community cats during this time. They will only enter the traps if they are hungry.

If pet cat’s normally feed outside, please move feeding inside during this time. Once the trapping is done, you can go back to feeding cats outside.

For More Information Please Call:
Mayor’s Office: 716 376-5615
Your Alderman: ________________

Resolved, that the City of Olean Code of Ordinances Chapter 5, Section 5-3, is amended to include the following:

(c) Any feline found running at large will be treated as a stray cat and will be subject to the TNVR policy as detailed in Article III of this Chapter.

Resolved, that Chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to include the following Article:

§ 5-41 Trap, neuter, vaccinate, and return program policy.

A. TNVR of community cats shall be legal in the City of Olean, and interested citizens are encouraged to participate in and support TNVR activities on a voluntary basis.

B. All persons who attempt to trap community cats for TNVR in the City of Olean should be familiar with the guidelines, supported by regional and national feral and community cat organizations, regarding appropriate methods of TNVR.

C. Socialized cats and all kittens subject to TNVR shall be eligible to be, but not mandated to be, re-socialized and put up for adoption.

D. An ear-tipped cat received by local shelters shall be returned to the location where trapped unless veterinary care is required. A trapped ear-tipped cat shall be released on site unless veterinary care is required.

E. It shall not be a violation of this section to determine that the best course of action for a particular cat, or cat colony, is to be left alone.

§ 5-42 Implementation of policy.
The City of Olean shall implement and administer this article in consultation with community cat welfare experts, including the Cattaraugus County Cat Nippers.

FOR DEFINITIONS PLEASE SEE ORDINANCE IN FULL AT WWW.CITYOFOLEAN.ORG
The Olean Fire Department made rapid responses to local fires on North Second Street and South Third Street. In the South Third Street fire, the Olean Police Department was able to safely evacuate the owner of the home.

Mayor Aiello attended the Grand Opening of the new Boundless Connection Computer Learning Lab in February. The Mission: Ignite Lab with 10 laptops and a specialized computer for podcasts were funded by a grant from Spectrum.

Mayor Aiello and his wife Patty were two of the judges of the Olean Home Show. The winner of the best booth was Cutco (to the left) and the winner of the best use of the theme was, again, for the third year in a row, the Van Dyke Agency (below). Please note that the log cabin in the photograph was made out of flotation noodles.

Above Mayor Aiello and Board President of the Greater Olean Chamber of Commerce Andrew Caya present the award to Cutco.

At the right Andrew Caya, Mayor Aiello and Patty Aiello present the award to the Van Dyke Agency.
It was my honor to attend the send-off for the Olean Husky Boys Basketball Team on Thursday, March 14, 2019 as the team headed off to play in the 2019 NYSPHSSA Basketball Championships.

Coach Anastasia’s team had an excellent season and once again our community is very proud of the athleticism and sportsmanship of his team. During the year his team gave him this 600th win as a coach and 14th Section VI title. During his career he brought two state titles to Olean, became Western New York’s leader in coaching victories and was inducted into the New York State and Section 6 Halls of Fame. Coach Anastasia will be retiring from coaching and teaching and we wish him the best in his new endeavors.

“A friendly basketball wager with Allegany Mayor Greg Pearl brought me with a Huskie t-shirt in tow to Allegany’s Board of Trustees Meeting on April 1, 2019. Mayor Pearl and I had agreed to wear the other teams t-shirt pending the outcome of basketball playoff between the Olean Huskies and Allegany Limestone Gators. Olean won and Mayor Pearl wore the shirt during their meeting.

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