

Office of the Mayor

ROBERT G. ORTT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Robert G. Ortt, Mayor
(716) 695-8540

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Mayor Ortt Announces 2014 Thunder on the Niagara Event At Gratwick Riverside Park

NORTH TONAWANDA—North Tonawanda Mayor Robert G. Ortt announced during a press conference today that the Thunder on the Niagara boat racing event will be “*bigger and better*” than the past 8 years held at Gratwick Riverside park. The Niagara Frontier Boat Racing Association (“NFBRA”) will be partnering with the American Power Boat Racing Association (“APBA”), and the American Canadian Hydroplane Association (“ACHA”). All together, these organizations will have over 100+ racing boat teams participate in the series event. The hydroplanes are automotive high-performance boats that fly and thunder over the water at speeds up to 180mph. The event, that is considered “the fastest show on water,” will take place on Saturday, August 16th and Sunday, August 17th at what is regarded as one of the most beautiful venues along the Niagara River, Gratwick Riverside Park.

Representatives from the Niagara Frontier Boat Racing Association and several other high-level North Tonawanda officials joined Mayor Ortt in announcing this family fun event that is largest free motor sport event in the area.

“Waterfront development is all about bringing people to your waterfront and making it accessible. Since 2006, this event has been drawing thousands of people to Gratwick Riverside Park and this beautiful vista of the Niagara River”, stated Mayor Ortt. “This year we expect it to be bigger and better than ever. It’s an event that the whole family can enjoy and we are proud that Thunder on the Niagara calls North Tonawanda home.”

The NFBRA announced that there will be additional food vendors and crafters on site during the two-day event. The park will be open at 8am and the first race each day will begin at approximately 9:30am. Attendees are asked to enter the park using the Ward Road entrance. Additional information can be found on the event website www.thunderonniagara.com.

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