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THE NIAGARA REPORTER

FREE July 25th, 2018 - July 31st, 2018 NiagaraReporter.com Vol. 19, No. 11 FREE

Residents Voice Their Opinions on Top Issues

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- Restiano/Rulli Help Save Fireworks Pg. 3
- New Sculpture Downtown Pg. 3
- Did You Miss the Community Meeting on Crime? Pg. 7
- Residents Gather to Reclaim Niagara Pg. 7



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EDITION

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OFFICIAL HOME OF THE ACTION
PAGES 4 & 5
Niagara Falls



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NIAGARA FALLS



The Niagara Reporter

July 11 at 11:37 AM · 🌐

"We are in the middle of summer – and something is missing in Niagara Falls.

The smell from the sewer treatment plant."



NIAGARAFALLSREPORTER.COM

Have You Noticed the Smell is Gone? - The Niagara Reporter

[Learn More](#)

Kristen Henderson: is this an admission that the problem has been a half-assed job of things was being done over a period of time? What i got from the article is they described performing the basic process and function of a wastewater facility as if they were doing a technological breakthrough project.

Frank Bauhm: What about the foul smell coming from city hall and city government? Fixable?

Sherry Gray-Mokhiber: I did notice as I drive to work that way, a big thanks to John and others responsible, great job!

Lori Ann: Sounds like we had idiots running the place before these fixes.

Rohn Fernando Coughenour: Yay! Niagara Falls actually accomplished something!!!



The Niagara Reporter created a poll.

July 5 at 8:22 PM · 🌐

NIAGARA REPORTER POLL

Which fireworks display did you like better this year?!

49% Seneca Niagara Casino

51% Hyde Park

This poll has ended.

256 Votes

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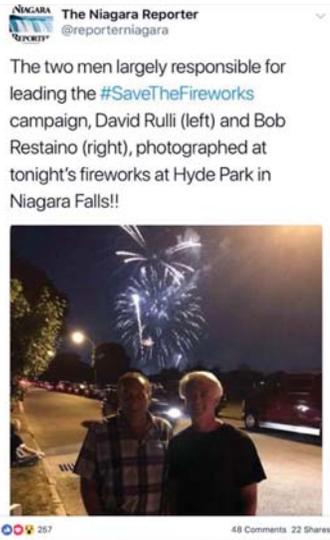
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Managing Editor

P.O. Box 3083, Niagara Falls NY 14304
(716) 870-1175 niagarareporter@gmail.com

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Syros Restaurant (869 Cayuga St.)
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- Lockport**
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Mom's Restaurant (2410 Military Rd.)
Niagara Towers (901 Cedar Ave.)
Niagara Falls Family Court (775 Third St.)
Niagara Falls Police Station (1925 Main St.)
Niagara Falls Public Library (Main St.)
Rite Aid (7804 Buffalo Ave. & 4407 Military Rd.)
Save-A-Lot (2429 Military Rd.)
- North Tonawanda**
Broadway Hotel (158 Main St.)
Budwey's Market (535 Division St.)
City Hall (216 Payne Ave.)
Lou's Diner (73 Webster St.)
Public Library (505 Meadow Dr.)
Olympia Restaurant (3312 Niag. Falls Blvd.)
Tops (301 Meadow Dr.)
Roman Café (797 Payne Ave.)
Save-A-Lot (1365 Nash Rd.)
- Sanborn**
Smokin Joes (gas station and store)
Tim Hortons (2970 Saunders Settlement Rd.)
Tops (2956 Saunders Settlement Rd.)
- Tonawanda**
Tops (890 Young St.)
- Wilson**
Lakeside Market (337 Lake St.)
- Youngstown**
Bandanas Bar & Grill (930 Lake Rd. (18F))
Public Library (240 Lockport St.)
Rite Aid (214 Lockport St.)
Village Diner (425 Main Street)
- Spallino Towers (720 10th St.)
Supermarket Liquor (8438 Niag. Falls Blvd.)
Tops (Niag. Falls Blvd., Portage, & Military)
Tim Hortons (all locations)
Wedge Liquors (825 Pine Ave.)
Wrobel Towers (800 Niagara Ave.)

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The two men largely responsible for leading the #SaveTheFireworks campaign, David Rulli (left) and Bob Restaino (right), photographed at tonight's fireworks at Hyde Park in Niagara Falls!!

everything went smooth, till it stopped then crazy people in cars NFPD has to do a better job at directing traffic

Valerie Shumway-Khan: Thank you! They were much better than the casino's this year.

Christine Lucas Clark: Thank you they were amazing! Better than last year!

Joanna Jo Romano: Thanks for providing for Niagarians.

Ed Herman: I do not know Mr. Rulli but have called Bob a friend forever. 2 great guys and a great job gentlemen!

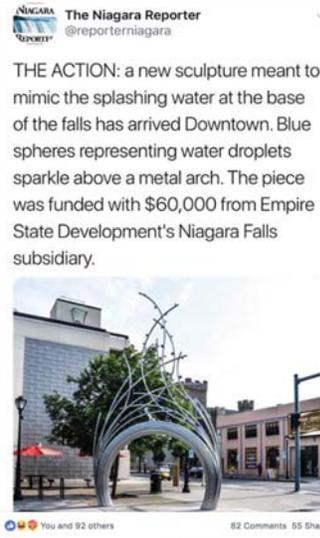
Brian Brierley: Thank you Gentleman wouldn't be the same without them.

Danielle Lea: Great job Bob!!

Sam Archie: And we thank them but one must ask was it politically motivated

Howie Ewing: Bobby for mayor!!!

Kevin Hutchinson: Thank you, I still dont understand how the city could not fund anyway. Sure alot of missing money, was a great show ev-



THE ACTION: a new sculpture meant to mimic the splashing water at the base of the falls has arrived Downtown. Blue spheres representing water droplets sparkle above a metal arch. The piece was funded with \$60,000 from Empire State Development's Niagara Falls subsidiary.

Andreassi Don Adam: The mayor stood underneath it and posed for a picture but has no answer for our poverty stricken streets, he should go pose in front of abandoned homes and buildings, or maybe in front of the welfare office.

Sam Archie: What a joke.

Maria Fabiano: At least this one looks nice and didn't cost over half a million

Laurel Sheehan-Wasik: Oh yeah... That's sure to draw the tourists and keep them here, said no one ever. Yet another monumental waste of tax payer dollars. I wonder who got the kickback from that monstrosity.

Rose Rolfe: You drive around the City it's a disgrace and nothing for the kids to do

but there is money to waste on a sculpture! Unreal! Why don't you take some of that money and invest in the Niagara Falls kids? A game arcade, splash park, race track like Canada did, something fun for them to do. The money you waste on crap could go to better use!

Ian Stirling: A new sculpture was unveiled in downtown Niagara Falls. The blue orbs we're incorporated into the design to mimic the tax dollars falling from people's pockets in a chaotic manner and arriving at a point always reminiscent of a void. The \$60,000 pieces is appropriately named WTF (wasted tax funds).

Steve Carroll Jr.: They know how much the last one was universally hated this Is like flipping the people of NF the bird... I am a pastor maybe I am not supposed to say it... nope it's truth.

Mary McCarthy: Now if we could only go see it without being robbed, raped or shot?

Daniel Klaes: I think it looks pretty, but I understand what all of the residence of NF are saying.

Jon Fadel: But only 13 streets get paved this year.

Franny Spyra Angeletti: I like it. Nice addition to NF.

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THE ACTION

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WEEKLY HEADLINES

- Niagara Falls Police responding to the 400 block of 12th Street for a female trying to perform a diy boot removal from a vehicle.
- Niagara Falls Police responding to the 400 block of Niagara Street for a person who was pistol-whipped.
- Niagara Falls City Council passes law against aggressive panhandling.
- Huge scrap yard fire on Chew Road in the town of Sanborn.
- Niagara Falls Police responding to the Red Maple Inn on Rainbow Blvd for an attempted robbery. Possibly the same person who committed a robbery there two nights ago.
- Police, firefighters, county & air base hazmat teams on route to 175 Hawley St. - the County Courthouse - for unknown chemical substance. Three employees are said to be contaminated.
- A Niagara Falls man, Germaine V. Brown, faces three felony charges after a traffic stop early Tuesday morning in Royalton where officers determined he was operating the vehicle under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol while his 4-year-old son was in the back seat.
- Niagara Falls Police Department responding to the 2400 block Pierce Ave. for a man who has been staring at the same tree for the past hour and now is pulling bark off from the tree.
- NF Police Chief Bryan DalPorto is asking residents to use traditional reporting methods, such as calling 911 or the non-emergency line at (716) 286-4711, to report crime instead of social media platforms after online hysteria over an alleged homicide cover-up.
- Fitch Ratings, one of three major Wall Street bond rating firms, reduced Niagara Falls' credit rating one level on Wednesday to BBB, which is just above "junk bond" status. Niagara Falls' fiscal outlook was also changed from stable to negative without any casino revenue.
- Austin Terry, 20, of Buffalo, is facing charges after an officer on duty at CanalFest witnessed him throw a 15-year-old boy into the Erie Canal. He is charged with reckless endangerment, endangering the welfare of a child and marijuana possession.
- A 72-year-old woman was arrested for DWI on Saturday morning after telling police she had been drinking at Canal Fest. The woman, pulled over in Tonawanda, forgot to "park" the vehicle when looking for her license/registration & was driving the wrong way home.
- Niagara Falls police reported making three arrests just after 4am Saturday when multiple people objected to officers ticketing illegally parked cars on Highland Avenue. Several swore at the officers, threw rocks/debris, and one officer was even kicked in the neck.
- Niagara Falls Fire Department responding to the 1900 block of Cudaback for a "bad reaction" to synthetic weed.
- A New York State DEC officer suffered minor injuries after he was reportedly hit and dragged approximately 300 feet by an ATV in Wheatfield along Liberty Drive. A helicopter has since been dispatched to find the ATV that caused the accident.
- There was a fatal stabbing in the City of Lockport Fatal at Pine Street and Heritage Court late Sunday evening / early Monday morning.
- Niagara Falls police surrounded a home where an unoccupied vehicle, that matches the description of one that was possibly involved in the armed robbery at the Family Dollar, was found.
- Lockport police confirm a 16-year-old male was stabbed and killed last night at Pine and Heritage Court.
- A North Tonawanda man faces life in prison after being convicted of a drug charge in federal court. Joel Jimenez-Rodriguez, 38, was caught with 30 kilograms of cocaine hidden in a vehicle and charged with possession with intent to distribute.

Cries from Children and Dog Barking Spark Arrests



Photo courtesy of Samar Hamilton, The Action Niagara Falls

Sometime after 10 pm, Niagara Falls Police responded to a house in the 2100 block of North Ave for a check-the-welfare call.

Neighbors in the area were getting concerned because they were constantly hearing children cries coming from the house and dogs barking but never saw any kids or dogs.

Once officers arrived and assessed the situation, CPS and animal control were requested to the scene along with someone from the crime scene unit due to deplorable conditions in the home.

The dog or dogs were extremely emaciated and the family was living in "total filth" from what we were told.

At some point during the call, an altercation broke out with a male in the house who was possibly the father of the children.

Physical force had to be used to subdue him.

The pets and children were removed from the home. A female was taken into custody and a male was brought to the hospital to be evaluated before he is taken into custody.

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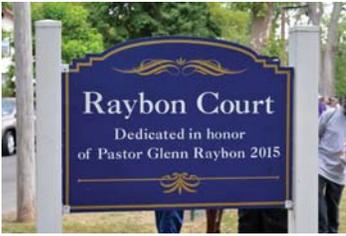
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Photos the Police vs. Pastors Basketball Game at Gluck Park on July 21st

Niagara Falls Police won 48 - 42



Niagara Falls City Council Honors NFPD Officer



A New York State DEC Officer suffered minor injuries after he was reportedly hit and dragged approximately 300 feet by an UTV.

The UTV fled the scene and at the time of printing this paper has not been found.

The Action would like to congratulate one of the Niagara Falls Police Department's newest officers, Patrick Ciccarelli, for being recognized by the Niagara Falls City Council for his bravery during an arrest of a violent felon.

On June 23rd, a man by the name of Yong Lu, who was wanted by US Marshals and New York Police Department for cutting off

one of his pregnant wife's arms and a few fingers in New York City was arrested by Officer Ciccarelli in Downtown Niagara Falls.

Not only did Officer Ciccarelli act in a professional manner and keep his cool during an extremely high-anxiety situation, but he also kept his hat on!

Congratulations Officer Ciccarelli.



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<p>INDIA GRILL FINE INDIAN CUISINE 2117 Military Rd. Niagara Falls, NY (716) 524-2142</p>	<p>COUPON 10% OFF ORDER OF \$20 OR MORE Join us for lunch OR dinner!!</p>	<p>930 Lake Road (18F) Youngstown, NY 745-1010</p>	<p>COUPON FREE COCKTAIL WITH BREAKFAST Mon - Fri: 6am - 11am Sat - Sun: 6am - 12pm Like us on Facebook!! Open 7 days a week starting at 6am!! Exp. 7/31/18</p>	<p>2501 Pine Avenue NF, NY 215-6217</p>	<p>COUPON 10% OFF ORDER OF \$20 OR MORE CITY-WIDE DELIVERY!!</p>
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The Niagara Reporter
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THE ACTION: community leaders in Niagara Falls held a special meeting at Niagara Street School tonight regarding the police, their relationship with those they serve, and what can be done to help address crime.

Did you know about this? Because we sure didn't.



Danielle Hoffman: Seems to be a pattern where public forums are not publicized, and then when people speak up online they are chastised by certain local public figures for not showing up.

Marvin Crittenden Sr.: Who wants to bet a years salary that the communities who NEEDED to be there weren't aware it was even happening?

Matt Lolo: No, nobody knew about it.

The Niagara Reporter
@reporterniagara

BREAKING: plans for a microbrewery at the former Summit Park Mall are back on!! Below is an architect's rendering of the renovated mall, with Big Thunder Brewing Co. and volleyball courts in the foreground and fields houses in the back (copyright Jonathan E. Bennett Architecture)



Geoffrey Snyder: That place has had so many other projects fall through. This sounds like another one. Who is going to go there just for a microbrewery? Oh well at least it keeps the architects busy drawing renderings that will never come to fruition.

Danielle Hoffman: Better than what it is now, hope it's a huge hit! Half brewery half winery would be a cool use of the space.

Pat Gerfin: Awesome hopefully it goes through!

The Niagara Reporter
July 7 at 8:52 PM · 45

"Residents from the Niagara Falls community gathered Downtown this morning to show their displeasure in New York State's handling of city resources."



NIAGARAFALLSREPORTER.COM
THE ACTION: Residents Gather to 'Reclaim Niagara' - The Niagara Reporter

You and 50 others · 15 Comments · 12 Shares

Chris Melson: It can be reclaimed by not voting for that horrible mayor

Geoffrey Snyder: Both Cuomo and Dyster are to blame for wasting taxpayer's funds. Cuomo only cares about the State Park and dumping as many sex offenders into the city, and Dyster just wastes money on petty projects that have nothing to do with the city's quality of life. This has been going on at the city level since Mayor Elia was in office, for God's sake! #FixTheFallsNow

Ian Stirling: I'm with you but, residents need to get out and vote. For years voters have been com-

placent with what they get. Until a candidate comes along to wake people up and get them off their dead asses, we're screwed. Albany won't listen unless we have a Mayor willing to kick there door in over and over and over until it answers.

Mary Stavers: it's about time that the state starts to pay their fair share. It would fix the casino revenue problem 100% if we even got 25% of the revenue that the State gets from the state park. It's time to stand up for our city!

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ANALYSIS

KKK & Congressional Black Caucus Agree: Disarm Black Constituents Now



Ken Hamilton

Not since 1859 and abolitionist John Brown's raid on the federal armory at Harper's Ferry in Virginia has some American government officials been so vehement in their attempts to keep comparable arms out of the hands of its black citizens.

New York state Governor Andrew Cuomo has on his website a bulletin announcing that members of the Congressional Black Caucus has joined him to encourage the Senate to "... block the confirmation of President Trump's Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh, citing his interpretation of an unlimited Second Amendment."

"Judge Kavanaugh is President Trump's latest gift to the NRA," Cuomo said. "His past opinions show that Judge Kavanaugh believes that it's a constitutional right to carry even the most dangerous assault weapons, and as a member of our nation's highest court he threatens to roll back our gun safety

laws and put our communities in danger ... In New York, we believe in common sense gun safety and will fight against Judge Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court as we continue lead the way on gun safety."

Somehow, members of the CBC are seeing the issue of gun control like a film-splicer might, only examining the two pieces of film that he is holding in their hands at the time that he is cutting a movie, taking little note of the big picture importance and good that an armed constituency could do in the prevention of crime.

Even John Brown understood that unless citizens had the means to protect themselves there could be no freedom. Brown's raid on the Harper's Ferry Arsenal was for the purpose of arming then-enslaved Africans so that they could fight for their freedom - this, two years prior to the start of the American Civil War where Lincoln replicated General Washington's valiant efforts for white American freedom in the War of American Revolution, using comparable arms to thereby gaining freedom from Britain. Imagine where we would be if the Minute Men at Bunker Hill had no personal comparable weapons when the Red Coats came a-marching.

Equality is one of the tenets that the CBC has on their agenda for the 115th Congress. Latest estimates of the privately held arms in the United States range between 270-

310 million. The issue is as it was in the Jim Crow South, a minority of Americans holds these firearms - and that minority isn't the common African-American citizen. Therefore, the question that begs to be asked if it is President Trump or the CBC that is aiding the Ku Klux Klan by looking to remove dangerous guns from these representatives' inner-city conclaves, all the while fighting to keep dangerous citizens right where they are.

I understand both the governor's and the CBC's ambitions to make our communities safe; however they cite no example as to where such drastic actions of trying to get dangerous guns out of the hands of dangerous criminals or citizens without the mental capacity to safely and properly use them has ever worked in a laboratory as diverse as our America.

Furthermore, how can the CBC cite a mistrust of the police, even in quickly responding to calls in the inner-city, if they respond at all, and then at the same time want to

take away the means for their own inner-city constituents to defend themselves.

The CBC members are largely, if not entirely from the large cities of the country. Yet their website says that they have a total representation of 78-million constituents with only 17-million (22%) being black; and not all blacks live in the inner-city. Surely they must understand that the culture of rural areas are quite different than urban ones, and that the disarming of any American's rights are, as Martin Luther King would be apt to say, the disarming of all American's rights.

If Trump is gifting the NRA with Kavanaugh, one has to ask, "Are the CBC proponents of non-recognition of the Second Amendment actually gifting the KKK?"

The CBC says that they are voice for the voiceless, but in New York state the obvious voiceless are honest, hardworking New Yorkers, black, white, brown, yellow and red.



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NORTH TONAWANDA

Changes Coming to Canal Fest?



Brendan McDonough

Big changes to Canal Fest? Yes, but not the ones you might have heard.

Rumors swirled throughout social media in the winding days of Canal Fest that the venue for the event could be moving.

The event has been held in the Tonawandas for the past 36 years and while there are no plans to eliminate it or change the venue, organizers told the Niagara Reporter that the 37th year could include some changes.

Those changes include eliminating rides on the Tonawanda side of the canal due to construction issues.

“We just started to have discussions with both cities,” said Pete Chenier, Canal Festival President.

“We do not know what the layout is going to be because they are doing some construction on the other side. Before anything can be decided we have come up with firm plans and solidify negotiations with the City.

The weeklong event brings people from both the Tonawanda and North Tonawanda sides of the canal together and many believe that the rides are a big part of that.

Many people say they rides are the whole reason that so many peo-

ple come to the event.

“This is a great event and I think the rides bring people here,” said Ellen Burns, North Tonawanda resident. “They are a benefit”.

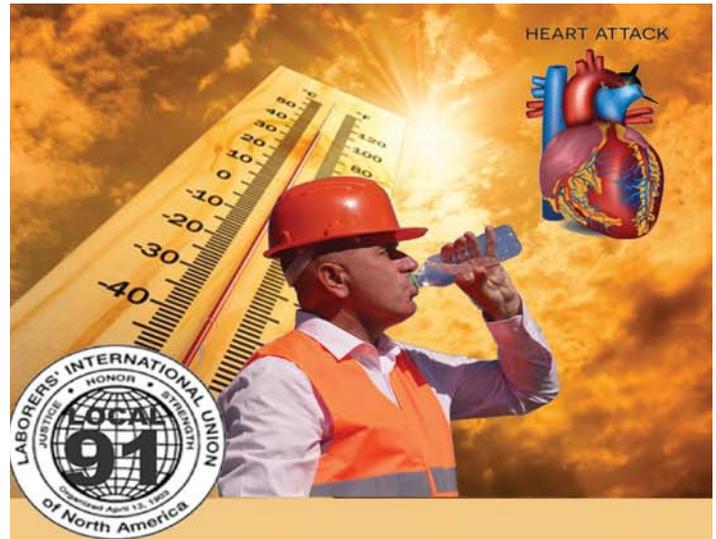
Another rumor floating throughout the festival was that the venue would be moving from the canal to Gratwick Park next year. Event organizers, as well as officials from both city governments, said the event will “always” be held at the canal.

Planning for next years canal fest will begin soon. Organizers say the layout will become public as soon as discussions with both city governments take place.

“When we had our negotiations with the City last year for this year we finalized them in February,” said Chenier. “They asked us that we come early in August so that we can start for next year. As soon as we figure out the layout it will be made public.”

By all accounts, this year’s Canal Fest event was a success. Good weather and lots of events brought people from all over to the festival this week. Organizers described the event as being comparable to previous years festivals.

Money raised from the event helps to support several local charities.



Hot Weather Is a Heart Hazard

It’s well-known that water, rest and shade help protect workers from heat-related illnesses like heat exhaustion and heat stroke. What you might not know is that these hot weather safeguards can also reduce the risk of a worker suffering a heart attack or other cardiovascular emergency. Hot, humid weather can be very hard on the heart, and it doesn’t have to be hot for very long for the risk of fatal heart problems to increase. According to the American Heart Association, a heat wave of just two days can increase the likelihood of premature heart-related death. Researchers studying heart-related deaths and daily temperatures in Australia found that hot, steamy weather causes changes in blood pressure, blood thickness, cholesterol and heart rate – all of which strain the cardiovascular system. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, heat-related illness kills more than 600 people every year in the U.S. alone and sickens thousands more. However, since heat stroke and other heat-related illnesses do not get reported to public health agencies – and because heat may not be listed as a contributing cause when a person dies of a heart attack on a hot weather day – the number of deaths related to heat may actually be much higher.

Workers with existing heart conditions are particularly at risk during high heat conditions, but these conditions can also be dangerous for workers who are overweight, over the age of 50 or taking certain medications. The human body functions best at an internal temperature that – depending on gender, recent activity, food and fluid consumption and time of day – can range from 97.8°F to 99°F. Maintaining this core temperature during heat-producing activities like pouring asphalt or wearing personal protective equipment requires the body to find ways to get rid of excess heat. It does this through radiation and evaporation (circulation and sweat), both of which stress the heart. It’s not possible to list an example temperature, as some people are more sensitive to heat than others. However, employers should always check the temperature and the heat index, which takes humidity into account, and make sure workers know the signs of heat illness, the symptoms of a heart attack and what to do when:

- Hot temperatures start rising
- Humidity increases
- There is no air movement
- Protective clothing or gear is worn
- Work is strenuous



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NT Library Holds Phantom Convention



Brendan McDonough

At the North Tonawanda Public Library kids of all ages were putting down the books and picking up some life long skills.

It's all part of the annual NT Library Con 2018, a Fantom Convention. The event was created by students and focuses on developing team building skills.

Organizers says some of the events on hand included pubic speaking, board games and special guest artists.

"We have the kids create and design their own panels," said Kelly Menzel, Event Organizer.

"It teaches them public speaking skills, organizational skills, and how to create an effective presentation. Also, how to work with an audience that ranges from ages 3 to 100."

"The kids will have to use these skills in school for their class presentations and if they go to college they will use the skills there. In general, it is a good life skill to have to be able to work with people that you have never met before."

This is the 4th year they have held the event and organizers hope it will be even bigger next year.

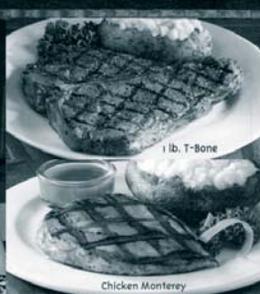
A Fireworks Finale to Remember at Canal Fest



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\$1049 Dinner Buffet
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\$699 Breakfast Buffet
With Beverage Purchase

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Following the July 29, 2017 dark water discharge and subsequent overflow incidents involving the Niagara River, the Niagara Falls Water Board (NFWB) has been working diligently to maximize the efficiency of the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant, while educating ratepayers and the general public regarding the facility's overall functionality and limitations.

The incident brought to light many issues that the NFWB faces with an aging wastewater facility. One year later, the NFWB is pleased to report several enhancements that have been made by the organization within its current operations.

The NFWB has been working cooperatively with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation under a consent order, as well as engaging local elected officials and community stakeholders on this important issue of wastewater infrastructure investments and overall system upgrades.

In addition, the following proactive operational efforts have been underway:

Valve Program

- The NFWB has replaced several problematic valves in the City of Niagara

Hydrant Flushing/Flow Testing

- The NFWB is in the process of an active hydrant maintenance program and is also in the process of a hydraulic study, aimed to identify problematic areas within the city

Sewer Camera Truck

- The NFWB is now able to aggressively identify sewer issues within its collection system, and in turn notify homeowners when issues are discovered within their laterals

Sewer Flushing

- Preventative measure that reduces the possibility of sewer main backups, which in turn protects homeowner assets

Water Main Updates

- New water mains on Buffalo Avenue and Bollier Avenue are anticipated to be completed this year

Being Better Neighbors

- The NFWB has become better neighbors to the homeowners that are adjacent to its properties by removing several dead ash trees that were a threat of falling down and causing damage
- The NFWB has also commenced annual odor control procedures and been working extensively to minimize odors throughout the Wastewater Treatment Plant

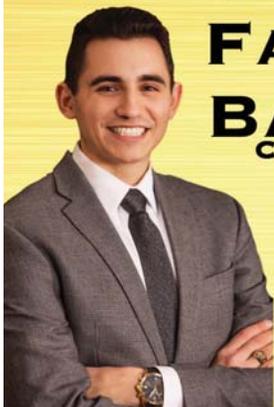
The NFWB remains wholly committed to proper wastewater treatment and the distribution of the highest-quality drinking water consistent with public health laws and regulations, as well as the public enjoyment of natural resources, the protection of fish and wildlife, the economic development of the city of Niagara Falls and the general well-being of the surrounding area.

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