

Ken-Ton Bee

New sign dedicated at Gratwick Riverside Park



Sue Downing of the Erie Niagara Sunrise Exchange Club, left; North Tonawanda Mayor Arthur Pappas; Tonawanda Common Council President Jenna Koch; Barbara Strzyz, Exchange Club of the Tonawandas; Director of Parks and Recreation Patty Brosius; Alderman-at-Large Robert Pecoraro; Common Council President Eric Zadzilka; 2nd Ward Alderwoman Donna Braun; Alderman-at-Large Jeffrey Glatz; and 1st Ward Alderman Mark Berube, stand beside the new sign at Gratwick Riverside Park.

Tonawanda Mayor Arthur Pappas, along with city officials and several members of the Erie Niagara Sunrise Exchange Club, as well as the Exchange Club of the Tonawandas, were on hand in North Tonawanda's Gratwick Riverside Park last week for the formal dedication of a new sign.

The sign was donated jointly by the Exchange clubs in recognition of the park, which was used to display more than 3,000 flags for the Healing Field Memorial. Organized by the Exchange clubs, the Healing Field stood to honor the memories of those who lost their lives in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"This was the perfect bookend to the entire Healing Field Memorial that took place from Sept. 9-11, 2016," said Alderman at-Large Robert Pecoraro, a member of the Erie Niagara Sunrise Exchange Club. "The partnerships between the City of North Tonawanda and the City of Tonawanda and the two Exchange clubs was exemplary in highlighting the way municipalities [and] organizations should work together for the common good."

"The new Gratwick Park sign is absolutely beautiful," Pappas said. "I think they did a tremendous job in putting it together. The Healing Fields Memorial that stood here, not even a year ago, was an incredible sight to see, and this sign will be a wonderful

reminder of the tireless work of the volunteers and members of both the Erie Niagara Sunrise Exchange Club and the Exchange Club of the Tonawandas.

“I can’t thank all of them enough for what they did to honor those that lost their lives on that harrowing day [16 years ago} and to give North Tonawanda the opportunity to host such an incredible display of national pride and unity.”

Installed in the park in May, the sign is specifically located by the Witmer Road entrance.

The Gratwick sign was produced by Rosewood Signs of Tonawanda at a cost of \$3,000, with funds coming from proceeds raised through the Healing Field.

http://www.kentonbee.com/news/2017-06-28/Local_News/New_sign_dedicated_at_Gratwick_Riverside_Park.html (accessed August 16, 2017)