



Special Edition



Greetings

I'm sure that many of you were surprised to learn of our plans for developing Joseph Davis Park into a major attraction for revitalizing the Lower Niagara Region's economy. The Chippatee Nation wish you to know that our goal is more than financial support for the venture. This is an opportunity for our people to promote positive family and

community values, social and racial tolerance, and above all, a commitment to respect, honor and protect Mother Earth and all creation.

Thunder of the Niagara will be much more than a resort gambling casino. It will include an historical theme park that tells the real story of the Lower Niagara Regions' role in developing the American wilderness, an all-weather resort including fine dining, Native American and other boutiques, an indoor sports arena for golf and tennis, and a luxury marine basin, including a marine store, yacht brokerage, and townhouse complex.

We are confident that we will be successful. Shuttle services to the new *Spirit of Ontario* ferry boat landing planned for Youngstown, cooperative programs with Niagara Falls and Fort Niagara tourism, Art Park programs, and the new Bass Pro outlet on Water Street will attract hundreds of thousands of visitors to this community. In addition, an hourly ferry boat service during the summer months to the wineries and live performances in Niagara-On-The-Lake will be facilitated by the new Homeland Security offices at Fort Niagara.

Should the Youngstown Yacht Club properties be appropriated for the *Spirit of Ontario* ferry landing, you will be welcome to build a new facility within our luxury marine complex, adjacent to the all power boat marine brokerage for which we have extended a right-of-refusal option for RCR to manage.

Thunder of the Niagara is a three year construction project that will bring in thousands of workers from the world over. The need for housing, food and clothing, schools, and utilities are a great opportunity for expanding the Youngstown and Lewiston communities. I believe that we can say with confidence that the Lower Niagara Region will never again be the same.

Sincerely, Graham "Snake Eyes" Westman



Youngstown Landing for Rochester Ferry

In a surprise move that caught many locals off guard, it was learned this week that the Rochester ferry *Spirit of Ontario* will include Youngstown as a stopover for Canadian and up state New York gamblers. The City of Rochester is reestablishing the Fast Ferry service between Rochester, NY and Toronto, Ontario.

The service will be "high speed", operating at over 50+ MPH, accommodating approximately 750 walk-on passengers, up to 220 cars and up to 10 trucks and buses. "More than just a method of transportation, the *Spirit of Ontario* is truly a unique travel experience, offering amenities and ambience worthy of a mini cruise ship."

The Youngstown stopover is expected to serve gamblers heading for the newly announced Thunder of the Niagara casino and theme park to be built at Joseph Davis Park (see *Thunder of the Niagara*, pg.3). Speaking for the record, Commodore Gary Tisdale has denied speculation that the Club will trade its waterfront properties in Youngstown for space in the up scale marina at Joseph Davis Park.

Nevertheless, rumors persist and one Rochester official noted privately that the combined properties of YYC and the Village would be ideal for the necessary landing site, bus terminal, and facilities needed to support the ferry and shuttle service (the shuttle service would connect the Water Street landing site with the casino).

Architectural plans would preserve the historic charm of the Village. The Grist Mill, some say, is a ready made support facility requiring few alterations and easily preserved as an historical site. Fears about

See [Rochester Ferry](#) on page2.

Bass Pro Youngstown



Jet Ski Rentals
Live Bait
Duck Decoys
Gas & Diesel Fuel

YOUNGSTOWN YACHT CLUB

P.O. Box 379
 Youngstown, N.Y. 14174
 Phone: (716) 745-7230 ~ Fax: (716) 745-7365
 E-Mail: YYC@YYC.org ~ Web site: www.yyc.org

Flag Officers

Gary Tisdale
 Commodore
Ceri Hugill
 V.C. House

Mary Alice Eckert
 V.C. Yard

Vic Snyder
 V.C. Fleet

Tom Tomaszewski
 Treasurer
Ray Volpe
 Secretary

Board of Directors

Paul Cannon
 Membership

Jim Carminati
 Jr. Sailing

Don Finkle
 Publicity

Mark Kirby
 Harbormaster

Michael Banks
 Insurance

Youngstown Yacht Club Auxilliary

Gerry Ann Beatty
 President

Ripples is published monthly and distributed to eligible Club members and to subscribers. To subscribe, please contact Josie at josie@yyc.org.

News about Club events and members are always welcome and highly encouraged. E-mail articles and photos to LibertaT37@verizon.net or drop them off with Josie in the YYC Club Office.

Editor: Ray Volpe
 Copy Editors: Melanie Tisdale, Judy Volpe

Ferry Landing Won't Impact Plans for Water Street Bass Pro Outlet

News of the Rochester Ferry landing in Youngstown was a surprise to Village leaders that have quietly been arbitrating the purchase of Williams Marine by Bass Pro. Bass Pro, a mega retailer for



outdoor enthusiasts, recently negotiated a deal with Erie County officials to convert Buffalo's idle Memorial Auditorium into a destination-point retail complex designed to attract ardent outdoorsmen and sportsmen in Western New York and Southern Ontario

"I'm not sure how all of this will fit together" said one Village official "Our plan was for Bass Pro to open an auxiliary store on the Williams Marine property, one catering to fishermen and duck hunters, with fuel and marine repair services, jet ski rentals, and slips for power boats."

On a more positive note, one insider said: "the Bass Pro deal isn't in jeopardy. There is room enough - and the Chippatee aren't interested in attracting the bait-shop and jet-ski crowd to their up scale marina."

The same official denied reports that fish and wildlife officials are scouting area farms as possible nature preserves for Canadian Geese and Amazon seagulls that feed on zebra mussels. They also denied reports of plans to create breeding tanks for eels, a new gourmet delicacy that has sparked greater investment in commercial fishing facilities on the Great Lakes.

Rochester Ferry from page 1

heavy traffic through the village should be alleviated by plans to extend the access road, currently connecting the Grist Mill and the Village's North Dock, further along the waterfront to Ft. Niagara, where it would merge with existing park roadways to the I-190. "It's perfect," one insider said, "all the traffic connecting the Ferry landing and the casino will circumvent the Village on the I-190 using existing on/off ramps at Ft. Niagara and Pletcher Road!"

When asked, local realtors would not confirm rumors that purchase options have been quietly offered to main street residents. Nor would Village officials confirm offers by speculators to build a new Village school in a land swap deal similar to that concluded recently in Niagara Falls. That deal, insiders say, would include Village condemnation of the existing strip mall adjacent to school property.

Thunder of the Niagara Casino, Historical Theme Park & Luxury Marina Planned for Joseh Davis Park

An unidentified Albany source says that plans to revitalize Western New York's sagging economy include development of Joseph Davis State Park as a multi-purpose casino, theme park and deluxe marina designed to attract families and high-stake gamblers from up state New York and Southern Ontario.

In a seemingly bizarre twist, the plan includes reactivating Ft. Niagara as a training center for Homeland Security strike force militia, and creating a landing site for the Rochester Ferry on Water Street. (See *Rochester Ferry*, pg. 1).

To attract Canadian and other high rollers, the Chippatee will also build a deluxe marina with condominiums and slips for power yachts up to 80 feet in length. RCR wouldn't comment on negotiations to operate the marina in exchange for a power yacht showroom and Nantucket Chandler's franchise to be located on the park's river front shore line.

A ferry service linking Niagara-on-the-Lake visitors to the park will be facilitated by the Homeland Security offices at Ft. Niagara (see *Homeland Security* sidebar).

A Water Street landing site for the Rochester Ferry has some speculating that the Club will exchange its waterfront properties for dock space in the new marina at Joseph Davis. A past board member - who asked not to be identified, noted that moving YYC to the park would be a financial windfall for the Club, and provide members superb dock, entertainment and dining services.

Rumors of the land swap have been fueled by speculation that the narrowness of the river at Joseph Davis and the water depth close to shore can not accommodate the Rochester Ferry.

Plans for Joseph Davis include a golf course, resort hotel, and may even include a horse racing track, long rumored to be the original purpose of the land's acquisition in the late fifties. Local officials point out that the I-190 on/off ramps at Pletcher road provide ideal access to the park, satisfying local area concern about increased traffic through the Village of Lewiston.

Insiders say that Six Flags has been subcontracted to design the theme park based on the region's history as a major trade route and battle site for early American and Canadian settlers. "The opportunity to build an historical theme park just a stone's throw from actual historical sites would be a unique opportunity" said one Six Flag's spokesperson. "Just imagine being able to offer shuttle services to Ft. Niagara and perform reenactments of real historical events."



The Thunder of the Niagara marina is expected to attract luxury yachts in the Lady Lola class

Homeland Security Training Center Planned for Fort Niagara Park

Located at the mouth of the Niagara River, Fort Niagara has long been a strategic element in geopolitical thinking. Deadly cannon overlooking the Niagara River controlled the passage of ships that embodied the transportation system for trade throughout the Great Lakes region and areas to the West and North beyond.

During World War II, Ft. Niagara was a major training center for the military, and many of the red-brick administrative buildings remain today as reminders of the Fort's importance in American history.

So it's not surprising that Homeland Security Forces would locate its new counter-terrorist training site here.

New York's congressional and senatorial representatives would not comment on rumors that the park is being reactivated as part of a complex plan to revitalize the Lower Niagara Region's economy with a multi-purpose casino, theme park, sports resort and condo-marina to be built at Joseph Davis State Park.

Queries about support for a new commercial wharf on Water Street for the City of Rochester's resurrected *Spirit of Ontario* ferry service to Toronto, and customs and immigration support for a ferry service to Niagara-on-the-Lake went unanswered.

**Casino, Theme Park, Marina
at Joseph Davis Park**



**Chippatee Plan Luxury Yacht
Basin**



**Historical Theme Park
to Celebrate Niagara's History**



**Bass Pro to Open Auxiliary
Outlet on Water Street**

**Youngstown Ferry Landing
for Spirit of Ontario
Will Attract Gamblers**



**Do Yah Know
What Today
Is ?**

The complex block contains a green border. Inside, there is a green text header 'Do Yah Know What Today Is ?'. Below the text, there are two cartoon illustrations. The first is a sailor character with a white hat and a red sash, flexing his right arm. The second is a sailor character with a white hat and a red sash, running and pointing upwards with his right hand.