

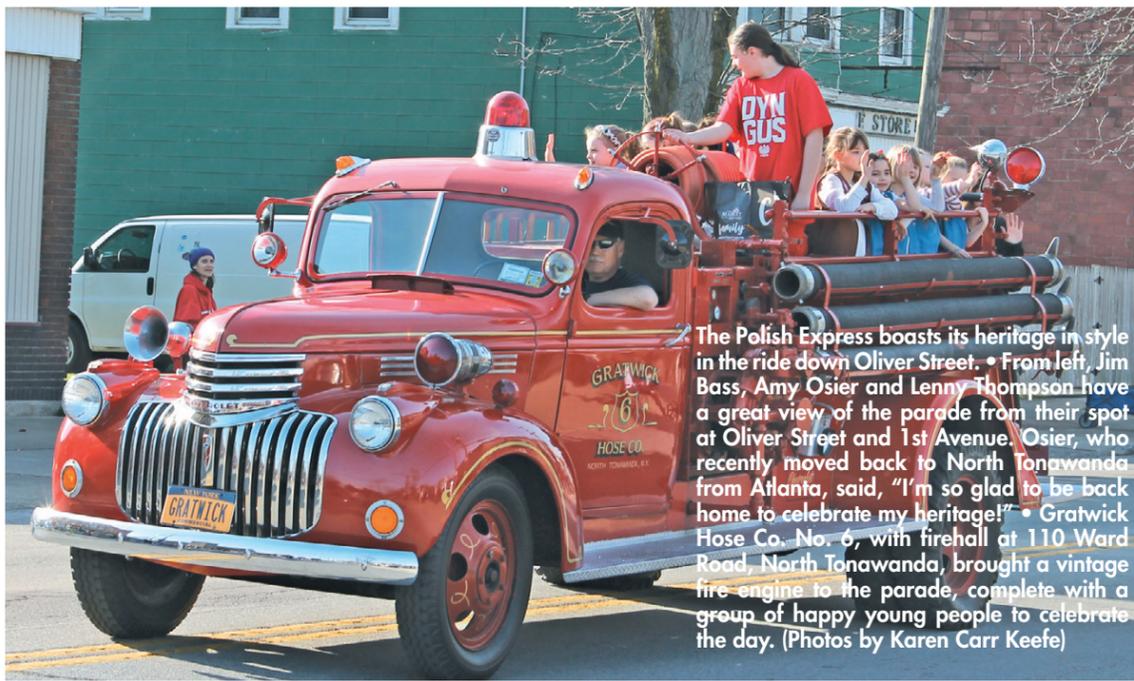


Dyngus Day celebrated in North Tonawanda

The third annual North Tonawanda Dyngus Day parade celebrated Polish heritage on Monday, April 10, with a lively procession to brighten the day after Easter. It wound down the Oliver Street business district, starting at 10th Avenue, turning down Keil Street and ending at the post-parade party at the North Tonawanda City Farmers Market.

The parade featured a variety of participants, from fire companies to sheriff's deputies and community organizations such as Cub Scout Pack 193. The colors of the Polish flag – red and white – were everywhere among the participants and the crowd. The party at the market featured live music performances by the premier polka band Captain Tom and the Hooligans.

The parade and party were hosted by the North Tonawanda Neighborhood Watch.



The Polish Express boasts its heritage in style in the ride down Oliver Street. • From left, Jim Bass, Amy Osier and Lenny Thompson have a great view of the parade from their spot at Oliver Street and 1st Avenue. Osier, who recently moved back to North Tonawanda from Atlanta, said, "I'm so glad to be back home to celebrate my heritage!" • Gratwick Hose Co. No. 6, with firehall at 110 Ward Road, North Tonawanda, brought a vintage fire engine to the parade, complete with a group of happy young people to celebrate the day. (Photos by Karen Carr Keefe)

Scam & fraud prevention public seminar in NT

North Tonawanda Mayor Austin J. Tylec announced his office is teaming with the North Tonawanda Police Department to host a scam and fraud prevention seminar. The event will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at the North Tonawanda Student Alumni Center, 405 Meadow Drive.

A press release stated, "Identity fraud cost Americans a total of about \$56 billion last year, with about 49 million consumers falling victim, affecting all age groups."

Tylec said, "Our police department has seen an uptick in scam complaints, and there are new methods popping up every day. Some of our residents losing up to \$70,000 in scams. That is why we felt this seminar was

an important topic to educate the public on a variety of important issues."

North Tonawanda Police Chief Keith Glass said, "Knowing the red flags of a scam call and when to simply hang up the phone can be the difference between falling victim to a scam artist or not. This seminar will touch on scams that affected residents right here in the City of North Tonawanda, and how to avoid being conned."

In addition to speakers from the NTPD, participants will also hear from PremCom, the company that manages the city's internet technology, securing its networks and updating servers. Niagara County Victims Assistance will also be on hand to answer any questions. Attendees will be given information on how

to identify scams and protect themselves from fraud and identity theft.



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