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Waterfront Film volunteers make final preparation for Kick-off Event

Award-winning documentary screening June 22-24

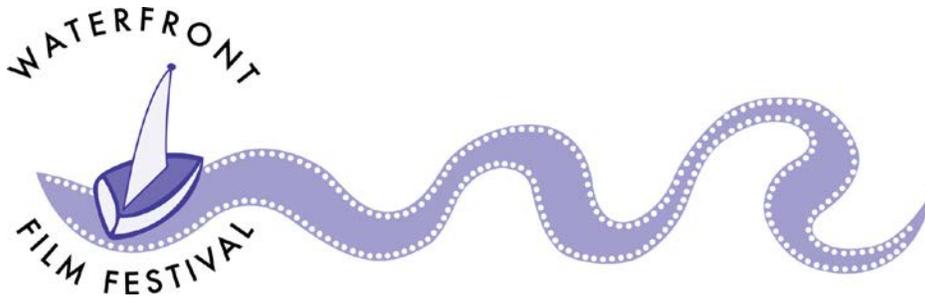
Holland, Mich., June 15, 2017 – A former auto garage on the corner of Columbia Avenue and 20th Street in Holland is undergoing a transformation to become a new screening and event venue.

Waterfront Film Festival has been working over the past year to complete the Phase I renovation in time for its first screening in the new facility. Features of the renovation include a large theater area and versatile gathering space, as well as offices, and a new outdoor green space being created with the assistance of Tim Adams and Ross Hirdes from Hollandia Outdoors, as well as Rudy Vedovell from Lots of Green.

The June 22-24 kick-off event will feature the Audience Award-winning film “THE ATAXIAN” – an inspiring documentary about two guys affected with the degenerative neuromuscular disorder Friedreich’s ataxia (FA) who compete in one of the most grueling cross-county bike races to raise money and awareness for the cause.

A Meet & Greet Reception will follow the movie and will offer an opportunity to mingle with the subjects of the film who are flying in from Philadelphia and California. Also in attendance will be Holly LeBlanc, a Holland resident, who is affected with Friedrich’s ataxia.

“Many people in the community know Holly for her positive attitude and strong advocacy of helping to bring awareness to the disease. It was Holly who brought this film to our attention, and we are thankful that she did,” said Waterfront Co-Founder Hopwood DePree. LeBlanc was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer and has been using her



time left to spread her message of hope to others. She recently founded the non-profit organization It Takes Hope (www.ItTakesHope.org). Waterfront Film Festival will donate all proceeds from the event to raising awareness and finding a cure for Friedrich's ataxia.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS & INFO: www.WaterfrontFilm.org

Seating is limited so advance tickets are recommended. Tickets are priced at \$25 to attend the film and Fundraiser Reception (all proceeds donated to awareness and finding a cure for FA).

7 p.m. Thursday, June 22

7 p.m. Friday, June 23

11 a.m. Saturday June 24 (\$10 matinee)

at Waterfront Film Festival's new facility located at 479 Columbia Avenue in Holland

About WaterfrontFilm.Org

Since 1999, the non-profit Waterfront Film Organization has been offering unique film experiences, education and opportunities. Based in West Michigan, Waterfront founded one of the leading destination film festivals in the Midwest, regularly hosting Midwest premieres of Academy Award winning and nominated films. For more information on Waterfront Film Organization visit www.WaterfrontFilm.org, "like" us on Facebook at Facebook.com/WaterfrontFilm and follow us on Twitter at Twitter.com/WaterfrontFilm

Attached Photo: Tim Adams and Ross Hirdes, from Hollandia Outdoors, roll-out turf to create a green space in front of the new event facility.

