

# Entertainment & the Arts

## Oswego's Harborfest Children's Park filled with fun

Two stages of family entertainment, hands-on children's creativity workshops, kids' amusement rides and more unfold in Children's Park (West Park) during Oswego's Harborfest '97.

The park's anchor-Children's Stage, sponsored by the City of Oswego, entertains with three days of singers and musicians, dancers and actors, jugglers and vaudeville. One of the headliners, Russian singing and dancing troupe "Electrostat," appears as part of an international

children's project, the Oswego Cultural Exchange. This 17-piece troupe performs Russian folk songs and dances on the Children's Stage Friday, July 25 at 12:30 p.m. and Saturday, July 26 at 3 p.m. They also march in Harborfest's Children's Parade Friday at noon and appear on the International Stage.

Award-winning writer/musician/storyteller Bill Harley, called "The Mark Twain of contemporary kids music" by *Entertainment Weekly*, brings his upbeat musical en-

tertainment to the Children's Stage Friday, July 25 at 3:30 p.m. and Saturday, July 26 at 1 p.m. Harley has authored three children's books and 12 award-winning recordings, performed at the National Storytelling Festival, and is a regular on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered."

The Gizmo Guys—Allan Jacobs and Barrett Felker—have both International Jugglers Association awards and toured six continents with their rapid-fire show. They have brought their juggling juggernaut to The Late Show with David Letterman, HBO's Young Comedians, as well as appearances on Nickelodeon, Comedy Central, and the Nashville Network. They appear, thanks to assistance from the Children's Board of Oswego, Friday at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m.

Spats, The Lost Vaudevillian, bills himself as "the zaniest mix of egg-juggling, unicycling, ladder-walking, rope-spinning, fruit-tossing, prat-falling, joke-cracking and character-acting to hit the boards since Vaudeville's heyday. The internationally touring comedy of Spats, a.k.a. Paul Hadfield, touches down on the Children's Stage Saturday at 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Bart Dentino and Kevin Huber, performing Friday at 5:30 p.m., earned an award as American Library Association Notable Recording Artists. Additionally, Dentino won an Outstanding New Yorker in the Arts award, a New York State Emmy for his work on the PBS documentary "Flight to Freedom," and other acclaim for his children's music.

Bob Gibbons and Sweetheart the Clown, who have often performed everywhere from Harborfest to the Easter Egg Roll on the White House Lawn to Singapore and the Far East, return to MC the stage and perform Friday at 2:30 p.m., Saturday at 4 p.m., and Sunday at noon. Larry Hunt entertains and teaches with mask characters Saturday at noon and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. on the Children's Stage. Taino brings children's international music, with influences from Central and Latin America, as well as Africa, on Sunday at 12:30 and 3:30 p.m., with assistance from a Meet the Composer grant. The renowned Merry-Go-Round Playhouse from Auburn present their version of "Pinocchio" Sunday at 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. Miss Kelly's Dance Studio performs on the stage on Friday after the Children's Parade concludes.

"The City of Oswego is extremely proud of Harborfest, and my favorite venue

is Children's Park," said City of Oswego Mayor Terrence M. Hammill. "This Harborfest site, for the first time, is sponsored by the City of Oswego. Sponsorship of Children's Park was part of the 1997 Operating Budget of our great city. This lineup demonstrates how a small amount of money can buy a large amount of happiness and excitement for our children and our guests."

The Backyard Circus once again brings its tent to Harborfest's Children's Park with nine performances from Friday, July 25 through Sunday, July 27. Sponsored by Fulton Savings Bank, Oswego City Savings Bank, and Skaneateles Savings Bank, this troupe uses audience volunteers to play roles ranging from lion to lion tamer, tight-rope walker to daredevil, to put on an old-fashioned dress-up show under the big top.

Larry Hunt works with youngsters on creativity and esteem-building, helping them construct masks in Children's Park on Saturday and Sunday. The founder of the international touring company Masque, talks about expressiveness and inventiveness as he works with children on these pieces of art. Another hands-on creativity workshop—conducted by Jackie Dziedzic on Saturday and Susan Sincavage Hall on Sunday—features teachers helping kids put together playful creations like friendship brackets and "creepy crawler" hats. Wegmans Food Markets, American Express Financial Services, and Local 73 Plumbers and Steamfitters sponsor Children's Park's hands-on creativity workshops.

Additionally, the interactive, inventive, inimitable family performer Giamcomo the Jester, courtesy of the Sterling Renaissance Festival, performs in the park on Friday, Friday and Saturday, McGruff the Crime Dog, Vince and Larry the Crash Test Dummies, and The State Police Canines appear in the park, courtesy of the New York State Police. WSYT FOX 68 and WYYY Y94FM return as media promoters for the many activities in Children's Park Harborfest weekend.

Harborfest '97 runs Thursday, July 24 through Sunday, July 27 and features more than 200 admission-free performances plus tall ships and other nautical attractions, an international menu of mouth-watering foods, arts & crafts, showstopping fireworks and much more. More information is available by calling 343-FREE or visiting the Harborfest Port at [www.oswego.com](http://www.oswego.com).



Fashion show

At the recent Creative Night at Central Square Middle School, those in attendance saw a bilingual fashion show. Fashions Primavera was sponsored by the Spanish Club with clothing provided by Sears as a partner in education and coordinated by Ann Marie Stonecypher. Models for the evening were from left, Vice-Principal Jamie Coppola, Principal Bill McKee, student models Kara Murphy, Laura Saunders, Tameka Okafor, Heidi Hoyt, Sara Dodge, Andrea Martino, and Kristen Smith.



### Party on the Patio!

**Rain or Shine – Every Thursday 4:30-9:30**

Drink Specials, Food, Giveaways throughout the evening  
Live Entertainment... this week dance and party  
to the music of a DJ! Free Admission!

~ \$49 Special room rate for the night, too! ~



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★★★★ Neil Novelli, Syracuse Newspapers, "A hilarious production." Bruce Frassinelli, The Palladium Times, "Excellent voices, direction, dance." Joan Vadeboncoeur, Syracuse Newspapers, "Fine, full-course meals." Ron Caravan, The Valley News, "Don't miss out!"

**July Performances**

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
			Evening	Evening		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			Evening	Evening	Evening	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Brunch			Evening	Sold Out	Evening	Evening
20						
Brunch						

— For The Children —  
**Trial of the Big Bad Wolf**  
Luncheon Matinee – July 8, 9, 11, 16, 18

**New Haven Volunteer Fire Corp.**



## Firefighter's Field Days

**July 10, 11 & 12 – Thurs., Fri. & Sat.**

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Thursday</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Giant Parade</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Friday</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Music by "Dr. Boogie"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 p.m. till midnight</p>
<p><u>Saturday</u></p>	
<p>Children's Matinee</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 p.m. till 5 p.m.</p>	<p>Chicken Barbecue Dinner</p> <p style="text-align: center;">4 p.m. till 6 p.m.</p>
<p>Music by "Dave Hawthorn"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">8 p.m. till midnight</p>	

**Field Opens**

Thursday & Friday at 5:30 p.m.

Saturday at noon

Closes at midnight each night

A wide variety of food,  
drink & live entertainment.

Rides by:  
Ontario Amusements



