



PRESS RELEASE

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(photos available on request)

THE OCEAN PARK ASSOCIATION PRESENTS INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVITIES

OCEAN PARK, MAINE – The Ocean Park Association proudly presents a full slate of activities for the Independence Day holiday. “July 4th in Ocean Park is like stepping back in time,” says Managing Director Tonya Robles, “it’s a family-friendly, patriotic, unpretentious way to celebrate Independence Day.”

The first event of the holiday period is the **Morning Worship at the Temple**, 50 Temple Avenue, on Sunday, July 2nd at 10:00 am. The service will be led by Rev. James McBride, Director of Missions for the Delaware Baptist Association, and will feature patriotic music selections performed by the Temple Choir and Temple Brass, as well as fitting hymns sung by the congregation. Programs for children are available in Jordan Hall, 48 Temple Avenue.

The Ocean Park Music Festival kicks off with a Maine favorite on Sunday, July 2nd at 7:30 pm in the Temple. Returning for the second year in a row, the nine-member **Bob Charest Band** has played throughout New England to rave reviews, having earned a reputation for energetic and festive shows. Three lead vocalists, a horn section, and a full rhythm section perform as a kaleidoscope of talents, choosing from a songlist that is long and diverse, from swing and oldies to classic rock, pop, soul, and country. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased in the Ocean Park office or by calling (207) 934-9068, ext. 205.

The **Twentieth Annual Family Sand Sculpture Competition** is scheduled for Monday, July 2 from 1:00-3:00 pm. The contest takes place on the Ocean Park Beach between Randall and Ancona Avenues, and the theme is “Stories of Ocean Park” – contestants are invited to create a sculpture of a favorite Ocean Park pastime. Participants must register at the Ocean Park Association office at 14 Temple Avenue. Judges will announce the winners at 2:45 pm on the beach, and the winners will be recognized at the parade on July 4th.

The **Decorated Bike Contest** opens the July 4th activities at the Agnes L. Park Recreation Building on Colby Avenue between West Grand and Clover Avenues. Registration begins at 8:00 am, and the contest judging is at 9:00 am. Also at 9:00 am is the Religious and Cultural Committee Tag Day. The **56th Annual Independence Day Community Parade** kicks off at 10:00 am at the Bell Tower on Temple Avenue, followed by the Ocean Park Band Concert at 10:45 am. The parade features the Ocean Park Kazoo Band, the Ocean Park Beach Chair Brigade, and family-built floats from multiple generations of Ocean Parkers. At 7:30 pm caller Ray Hilton leads a **Square Dance** in the street in front of Jakeman Hall, 14 Temple Avenue, preceded by a square dancing exhibition with the Pepperell Squares Dance Club at 7:00 pm.

All events are open to the public. In 2006 Ocean Park, a Chautauqua community, will celebrate its 125th year of providing cultural, educational, religious, and recreational programs. Visit the website at www.oceanpark.org.

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