

## MEDIA RELEASE

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## Old Falls Street's Free Weekly Programming Begins – June 26

*Free Thursday Night Movies, Free Friday Night Concerts  
and Free Saturday Afternoon Family Fun Activities are Planned*

**Niagara Falls, NY (June 24, 2015)** – Summer is here and with it marks the beginning of Old Falls Street's free weekly programming for local and regional guests. In addition to daily Backyard Board Games featured on the Middle Block, Old Falls Street is bringing back the TGI Fridays on Old Falls street concert series, presented on Friday evenings beginning June 26; a new series of weekly Free Family Fun activities on Saturday afternoons, beginning June 27; and the ever-popular Thursday evening Flicks on Old Falls free family movie series, presented by BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York, beginning July 2.

"Over the past few seasons, Old Falls Street has established itself as the Niagara Falls 'Community Welcome Center,' featuring world-class programming for our residents, regional and out-of-town guests," said Spectra's Jason Murgia, Old Falls Street's general manager. "Our team has partnered with many local and regional organizations, entertainers and performers to present free family programming," he said while encouraging local residents and families to take advantage of all Old Falls Street has to offer throughout the summer.

Kicking off the free weekly summer programming is the TGI Fridays on Old Falls street concerts, beginning Friday, June 26, with the local band WidowMaker. The weekly series is hosted through Sept. 4, on the Conference Center Block, closest to series sponsor TGI Fridays (located inside the Sheraton At The Falls hotel), from 7 to 10 p.m.

The street concerts feature the area's most popular classic rock and dance bands, local merchandise vendors, food and beer concessions. Guests are encouraged to stay until 10 p.m., when fireworks are launched over Niagara Falls are clearly visible on Old Falls Street.

The TGI Fridays on Old Falls Free Street Concert schedule is as follows:

- June 26 – WidowMaker
- July 3 – Murphy's Law
- July 10 – Kurt & the Loders
- July 17 – Kiss This (A Tribute to KISS)
- July 24 – Zig Zag
- July 31 – Rumourz (A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac)
- August 7 – Disco Duck
- August 14 – Strictly Hip (A Tribute to the Tragically Hip)
- August 21 – .22 Calibre
- August 28 – 90 West
- September 4 – Carrie G & the Runaways

For more information on performers, please visit the Old Falls Street USA Facebook page and subscribe to the event listings.

New this summer is Old Falls Street's Free Family Fun activities, beginning Saturday, June 27 and continuing through Sept. 5, on the Middle Block. These weekly family activities are presented free of charge and feature continuous programming each week, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended hours on specific weekends.

"We are proud to partner with many local and regional organizations to present our Free Family Fun each Saturday afternoon," said Spectra's Katie Kielaszek, Old Falls Street's director of events. "There will be something new each week including cooking demonstrations, children's performers, special events, live performances, local merchandise vendors and more."

Two local organizations that will be on hand each Saturday are the Friends of the Niagara Falls Public Library, who will feature a book sale for adults and children, as well as the F-Bites culinary youth vocation program. F-Bites is facilitated by Chef Bobby Anderson, a Niagara Falls native, who competed on the television show, "Hell's Kitchen," with Gordon Ramsay.

Each Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 12 noon, Chef Bobby will lead a student culinary team in preparing a gourmet meal, while integrating various front- and back-of-house restaurant techniques, leadership skills and interactive fun. Guests will be treated to samples of the meal prepared on-site, served by the participants.

In addition, Old Falls Street will feature is free Backyard Board Games including foosball, table tennis, shuffleboard, hopscotch, large-scale Jenga, chess and checkers during this time.

Another new activity includes "Imagination Playground," an innovative play system for children, which encourages the importance of creative free play to help them grow up happy and healthy.

Other Free Family Fun scheduled activities are as follows:

Saturday, June 27

- Wellness kiosk by University Pediatric Dentistry
- Buffalo Museum of Science Activities (12 noon – 2 p.m.)
- Explore and More Children's Museum Activities (1 p.m.- 4 p.m.)
- Flicks on Old Falls Presents Annie (2014) (9 p.m.)

Saturday, July 4

- July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration with live music by the Kokomo Time Band, White Chocolate, and Whiskey Reverb (12 noon to 10 p.m.)
- Local Merchandise Vendors (12 noon to 10 p.m.)
- Explore and More Children's Museum Activities (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, July 11

- Music by D+B Karaoke and DJ (12 noon – 3 p.m.)
- Lakeview Animal Sanctuary Petting Zoo (12 noon – 4 p.m.)
- Flicks on Old Falls Presents "Date Night" Featuring 50 First Dates (9 p.m.)

Saturday, July 18

- Juggling Workshop with Nels Ross – In collaboration with WNY Young Audiences (12 noon – 2 p.m.)
- Explore and More Children's Museum Activities (1 – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, July 25

- Kite Making with Meg Albers – In collaboration with WNY Young Audiences (12 noon - 2 p.m.)

- Explore and More Children's Museum Activities (1 – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, August 1

- Flicks on Old Falls Presents "Date Night" Featuring Dirty Dancing (9 p.m.)

Saturday, August 8

- Touch-a-Truck Family Activity / Stuff-a-Bus Charity Event (11 a.m. – 2 p.m.)
  - Touch-a-Truck is an annual event allowing children to climb on large trucks and municipal vehicles while interacting with the firefighters and police who use the vehicles daily.
  - Stuff-a-Bus is a nonperishable food drive benefitting Community Missions of the Niagara Frontier
- Explore and More Children's Museum Activities (1 – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, August 15

- Buffalo Zoo Mobile (12 noon – 4 p.m.)
- Explore and More Children's Museum Activities (1pm-4pm)

Saturday, August 22

- Music by D+B Karaoke and DJ (12 noon – 3 p.m.)
- Explore and More Children's Museum Activities (1pm-4pm)

Saturday, August 29

- Puppet Making Workshop with Janice Spagnola – In collaboration with WNY Young Audiences (12 noon – 2 p.m.)
- Explore and More Children's Museum Activities (1 – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, September 5

- Taste of Niagara Falls Food Festival (11 a.m. – 8 p.m. Event continues on Sunday, Sept. 6.)
- Music by D+B Karaoke and DJ (12 noon – 3 p.m.)
- Local Merchandise Vendors

Additional Free Family Fun programming will be added throughout the summer. For more information, please visit the Old Falls Street USA Facebook page and subscribe to the event listings.

Returning this year is the ever-popular Flicks on Old Falls free outdoor movie series, presented by BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York. This growing series will be hosted on Thursday evenings, from July 2 through August 27, on Old Falls Street's Middle Block (weather permitting), at 9 p.m.

As presenting sponsor of Flicks on Old Falls, BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York is happy to offer the Healthy Zone Cruiser as part of the free family entertainment prior to each Thursday evening flick. The Healthy Zone Cruiser is van filled with fun, healthy activities like hula-hoops, beanbag toss, Kan Jam, yoga balls, soccer balls, sidewalk chalk, jump ropes, and fun giveaways.

"We are so pleased to partner with Old Falls Street for this great summer activity," said Julie R. Snyder, Director of Corporate Relations, BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York. "We can't wait to bring the Healthy Zone Cruiser to Old Falls Street on Thursday evenings for pre-movie fun."

In addition, Old Falls Street is partnering with Western New York Young Audiences and D&B Karaoke and DJ to present additional family programming prior to each film, beginning at 8 p.m. The Friends of the Niagara Falls Public Library will also host a used children's book sale each week.

The Thursday evening Flicks on Old Falls Free Outdoor Movie Series schedule is as follows:

- July 2 – Happy Feet
  - (D&B Karaoke – Dance floor music at 7:30 p.m.)
- July 9 – Despicable Me
  - (Hip-hop performance by Differential Flava Crew at 8 p.m.)
- July 16 – The Wizard of Oz
  - (Juggling performance by Nels Ross at 8 p.m.)
- July 23 – Lego Movie
  - (D&B Karaoke – Dance floor music at 7:30 p.m.)
- July 30 – Frozen Sing-Along
  - (D&B Karaoke – Dance floor music at 7:30 p.m.)
- August 6 - Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs
  - (Wellness Activities with University Pediatric Dentistry at 8 p.m.)
- August 13 – Finding Nemo
  - (Live music by the Hill Brothers at 8 p.m.)
- August 20 – The Goonies
  - (D&B Karaoke – Dance floor music at 7:30 p.m.)
- August 27 – Toy Story
  - (Puppetry by Janice Spagnola at 8 p.m.)

Additional free Saturday evening Flicks on Old Falls movies are planned as follows:

- June 27 – Annie (2014)

Old Falls Street is also presenting two free Saturday “Date Night” Flicks on Old Falls movies on July 11 and Aug. 1. Date Night movies are planned to appeal to an older audience. Beer and wine vending will be available on these Date Night evenings only.

- July 11 – 50 First Dates
- August 1 – Dirty Dancing

Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets for all Flicks on Old Falls movies. Food concessions will be available for purchase. For more information on performers, please visit [www.FallsStreet.com](http://www.FallsStreet.com) or the Old Falls Street, USA Facebook page.

*About **OLD FALLS STREET, USA**: Old Falls Street, USA, managed by Spectra by Comcast Spectacor, is a historic three-block destination that conveniently connects the entrance of Niagara Falls State Park with the Conference & Event Center, the Seneca Niagara Casino & Hotel and other Downtown Niagara Falls, NY attractions. Serving as the “Welcome Center” for residents and visitors alike, the dynamic thoroughfare provides spaces for daily vending and special activities including concerts, festivals and holiday activities. Additional information can be found at [www.FallsStreet.com](http://www.FallsStreet.com).*

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