

# Family Tailgating For July 4th Infuses New Fun Into Time-Honored Traditions

Make The Most of Your Staycation, Marrying Patriotism and Practicality

Given escalating gas prices, decreasing home values and new luggage charges from ailing airlines, it's no surprise that many families will opt for a "staycation" around the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday this year, instead of embarking upon a far-away, 3,000-mile, \$5,000 -- \$10,000+ excursion.

While this could disappoint some family members who yearn to get away, CSN Stores notes that there's a lot you can do to maximize family-bonding by making the most of hometown holiday events in your area or just a few miles down the road.

"There are a lot of new, fun products on the market that can enhance the Fourth for families staying at home for the holiday," said Chuck Casto, CSN's Family First Expert and the father of a 6-year-old girl. "In fact, it's quite possible that the Summer'08 staycation could end up being one of the most treasured family times of the year for kids, parents and even grandparents."

Casto has sifted through literally thousands of fun items for families and has compiled the following Hot List to infuse more excitement into everything from the Independence Day parade and concert in the park to backyard barbeques, beach celebrations and town fireworks displays.

## Patriotic, Pop-Up Tent – Sportsstuff Liberty Cabana



The Stars & Stripes now have a new style and can also shield you from the sun. Imagine the fun, patriotic statement you'll make with the Liberty Cabana at the lake, town pool, beach, park or along the parade route. And it couldn't be easier to use, as it pops up instantly by tossing it into the air. Once the cabana opens, you can inflate the floor with an electric pump for added comfort. Your family can command a lot of space and attention with one, two or three of these cabanas on the 4th. \$129

## TEC Portable Cherokee Infrared Grill

Grilling is part of nearly all July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations, but in '08, grilling will go gourmet with the new Cherokee Infrared Grill. This compact wonder gives Dads, Moms and teens expert grilling capabilities nearly anywhere. With new infrared technology, you can seal juices into any meat, cooking it more quickly and with greater precision than with other grills. It's also more eco-friendly than most other grills. Be the hit of the parade or block party with this stunner. \$719



## New Italtrikes Tricycles Give Young Ones a Safe & Stylin' Ride



Tricycle riders love to join the “big kids” in the local town parade, but they need a strong, safe tricycle that helps them to stand out. Say hello to the beautiful new Italtrikes, built for safety with secure belts, sturdy construction and even sun shields that also help to ensure little ones are very visible to their parents at all times. The ample basket in the back is perfect for carting around toys or collecting candy thrown by parade float-riders.

Then after the parade, parents and youngsters will have durable bikes that will last at least until the little one moves onto a big boy or big girl two-wheeler. \$89.99

## New Sports Party Chair Makes Merrymaking Easier



Forget about those old, tattered chairs you carted out to every outdoor event in the ‘80s and ‘90s. Leave them in the garage this year and splurge for something new and more practical like this folding, easy-to-carry aluminum sports chair.

The extra-wide seat and padded armrests are designed for optimum comfort. The large side flap has pockets for a cell phone, sunglasses and other valuables. The chair also includes an insulated wine/water bottle holder and a side table that folds out to hold food, drinks, etc. \$61

## Now for the FUN & GAMES -- Anatex - Sports Bean Bag & Ring Toss Combo Set



Any parent knows how restless kids (and even grandparents) can get while waiting for the festivities to begin. But now there’s a solution to this problem. The Sports Bean Bag & Ring Toss Combo Set has great games for anyone 6 months old to 106.

The Bean Bag Toss game features four free-standing sports figures and brightly colored bean bags. The Ring Toss game has bases with sports ball designs.

This set allows for open-ended play - set the pieces close together for younger athletes, or far apart to create a challenging game for the whole family. \$56

## Even Fido Can Make The Most Of The Fourth



Rounding out our list is this brand new Kittywalk Royale One Tour Pet Stroller, literally a vehicle to ensure that the furry members of your family can partake in outdoor festivities – in high style.

Rugged wheels ensure a smooth ride, while one-touch rear brakes provide the safety pets need. Equipped with two zippered areas for easy access to your pet, this stroller also has plastic port holes for extra visibility, keeping your pet calm on the go. \$189.95

Incorporating just one or a few of these items into your family's holiday staycation could help make the July 4th events you attend much more festive and fun. They'll also be much less stressful than that exotic, far-away vacation you were considering.

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