

# Family fun with children's events at National Cherry Festival

The National Cherry Festival hosts thousands of children each year, thanks to the sponsorship of Big Boy Restaurants. All-time favorite kids' events include chalk art, turtle races, the pet show — complete with a pet and owner look-alike contest — and one of the nation's finest sand sculpture contests sponsored by Team Elmer's. There's even cherry pie eating contests sponsored by Sara Lee Bakery.

Back by popular demand is the Cherry Teddy Bear Tea, Sunday, July 3, from 3:30-5 p.m. The event calls all children and teddy bear companions to gather for an afternoon filled with fun in the park. Children will take part in teddy bear crafts, an afternoon tea party and storytelling. Children are asked to bring a blanket to sit on to F&M Park, located at Railroad and Washington streets near downtown Traverse City.

Special Kids Day, sponsored by Tom's Food Markets, Glen's Markets, and Oleson's Food Stores, is slated for

Wednesday, July 6 at 9 a.m. Physically and mentally challenged kids of all ages take delight in a fun-filled morning of activities including face painting, ping pong blow, and frisbee fling to mention just a few. Special kids will also have an opportunity to ride an elephant and take a ride in Traverse City's own historic fire truck. The children will enjoy complimentary passes to the Arnold Amusements midway park, compliments of the Arnold family. Interpreters for the deaf are provided by Charter Business.

Families await the fun of Cherry Kids Town in F&M Park on Wednesday evening, July 6 — a great night for kids of all ages. Families will be entertained by magicians, jugglers, puppeteers and folk singers. There's even Moomers ice cream for kids to build their own sundaes and a special theater production from second graders.

Thursday, July 7 is Kids' Day at the National Cherry Festival. Highlighting the day is the Touchstone Energy Junior



R-E file photo/Douglas Tesner

Royale Parade at 6:30 p.m. Hundreds of costumed children, bands and inflatable and marching units join 31 elementary school floats to Salute 50 Years of Disney Theme Parks. The National Cherry

Festival princes and princesses, sponsored by PPOM, will also be featured with each elementary school float. Registration for parade participation is Thursday, July 7 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at F&M Park.

- EXCLUSIVE SUNSET DINING • FRESH SEAFOOD
- STEAKS • LOCAL WINES



OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH & DINNER  
Lunch 11-2 • Dinner 5-10

**BOATHOUSE**  
RESTAURANT



Reservations Encouraged  
(231) 223-4030

[www.boathouseonwestbay.com](http://www.boathouseonwestbay.com)  
10 miles out on Old Mission Peninsula  
Traverse City

cf 6/29.803115

*This Is The Place:*

- Swimwear • Sunglasses
- Summer Fashions • Sandals
- All Your Needs for Fun in the Sun



946-8810 • 800-346-5788  
US 31 N at 3 Mile Rd



6/29.803304.cf