



NEW YORK POST

LATE CITY FINAL
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Declare independence from diets with you

Declare independence from diets with these holiday eats

By CYNTHIA KILIAN

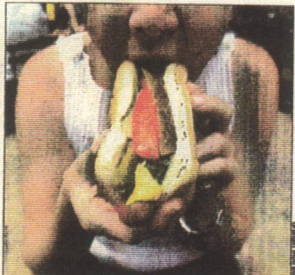
STUCK in the city this Independence Day? Cheer up and count your lucky stars and stripes.

From where to watch the fireworks, cocktail in hand, to do-it-yourself barbecues, city revelers will find all they need for Life, Liberty and especially the Pursuit of Happiness right on their doorstep.

Rare sight

Forget camping out on the FDR. **Rare View**, the new rooftop bar at Rare (the Shelburne Hotel, 203 Lexington Ave., between 37th and 38th streets), is the perfect perch for the city's incomparable fireworks display, enhanced by a 360-degree city view including the Empire State Building.

On the Fourth, Rare View will be open from 6:30 to 11 p.m. (with a \$30 cover), serving patriotic punches like the "Freedom Freackerer," a Stoli Razberi concoction topped with whipped cream drizzled in blue curaçao and



The Shake Shack is now open in Madison Square Park.

grenadine, and the "American Sparkler," a Souza Commemorative tequila and blue curaçao sour garnished with star fruit.

Flying colors

Starting Sunday, Les Halles Downtown (15 John St., between Broadway and Nassau Street, [212]

285-8385) will swing into patriotic mode with a special red, white and blue menu to mark both July Fourth and Bastille Day.

The special "Liberty Festival" dishes will feature ingredients presented in the shape of American and French flags.

The Stars and Stripes is a tuna and tomato tartare

appetizer, and the Tricolore is fashioned of codfish with beet and blue potato purée as an entrée. For dessert, there's a frozen parfait of curaçao, lemon and raspberry.

For every red, white and blue dish sold, half of the price will be donated to the non-profit best Buddies charity.

It takes a Village block party

Village restaurant (62 W. Ninth St., [212] 505-3355) is having a two-week Fourth of July Block Party, starting tomorrow.

The \$25 prix fixe includes a beer of your choice, a chopped summer salad with feta cheese and oregano, organic beef burgers with topping

choices of guacamole, truffled porcino, English farmhouse cheddar, gunciale (crackling of cured pork joint) or portobello, and watermelon with lime, mint and cracked black pepper for dessert.

In the brew department, there'll be a wheat beer tasting of Brooklyn White,

Omsegang, Hoegaarden and Blanche de Bruges, and \$2 Buds all day and night on the Fourth.

A good ribbing

Daisy May's BBQ (623 11th Ave., at 46th Street), and one of the tops on the city's barbecue list, has just started packaging its brand.

The \$89.95 grill pack provides three slabs of pre-cooked pork ribs, enough to serve eight, plus three sauces. You can reheat them on the grill, in the oven or even in the microwave.

Order a day ahead, Monday through Friday until 8 p.m., at (212) 977-1500.

Dog day

Feed a gang with a super kit of tube steaks from Artie's Delicatessen (2290 Broadway, at 83rd Street, [212] 579-5959).

The "Top Dog, Tikout" includes 25 hot dogs, homemade buns, mustard and sauerkraut for \$65.

Shakin' all over

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