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## **THE HAPPY PIRATES REUNITE!**

### **Doug & Gary Celebrate Their 20th Anniversary with a Free Concert**

Ahoy, happy pirates! Rochester's hometown kid rockers Doug & Gary are reuniting for a free concert in Rochester to celebrate their 20th anniversary of performing their award-winning music together.

"Over the years we've had so many requests for Doug and I to do another show together. Being the 20th year since we started, we both agreed this would be the perfect time," said Gary Smith.

From 1989 to 1993, Doug and Gary became household names among the 10-and-under set playing hundreds of shows every year to thousands of "happy pirates" throughout the United States. Their tour schedule even included stops at the White House in 1992 and 1993.

Doug & Gary were always sure to get their audiences singing and dancing with their family-friendly pop/rock repertoire featuring original songs (co-written by Gary's wife Kathryn) like "Popcorn," "Surfin'" and their trademark anthem "I'm a Happy Pirate." Their second of four albums, "The Mega Pegga Legga Dinosurus," was a two-time Parent's Choice Gold Award winner for "Best Audio Recording" and "Classic Audio." Video clips from their critically-acclaimed 1991 concert video "The Adventures of Doug & Gary The Happy Pirates" played regularly on Nickelodeon. In 1992, Billboard magazine named Doug & Gary among the country's top children's entertainers.

To the disappointment of their fans, the duo parted ways in 1993. Doug went on to pursue a teaching career, and Gary continued on as "Gary the Happy Pirate." To this day, Gary continues to bring smiles to thousands of children through his music and non-for-profit organization, The Pirate Toy Fund, distributing toys to children-in-need in the Rochester community.

"I'm excited. Rehearsing over the past couple weeks has brought back a lot of fond memories. How cool is it that kids that used to come to our shows now have children of their own, and will be bringing them to this show?" said Doug Ladd.

The free concert takes place on Wednesday, August 12 at Ontario Beach Park in Rochester as part of the "2009 Concerts by the Shore Series" sponsored by the Ontario Beach Park Program Committee and Wegmans. Wegmans is also celebrating a 20-year milestone for sponsoring "Concerts by the Shore." Show time is 6pm. The one-hour concert will be followed by the Dady Brothers and the Young School of Irish Dance.

For more information, go to [www.TheHappyPirates.com](http://www.TheHappyPirates.com) or call (585) 865-3320.

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