

**Tanglewood**

**Red wagon:  
show companion**



Garrison Keillor

**Atmosphere festive for Garrison Keillor's radio show**

By Scott Stafford  
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LENOX — Here is the secret to a successful picnic to precede the Prairie Home Companion show at Tanglewood: a red, Radio Flyer wagon.

With this wagon, all things seem possible — such as candles, tables, chairs, designer tablecloths and blankets, dinnerware, flowers in vases, champagne flutes, and all manner of fine food and drink.

“I used to carry everything,” noted Bill Boyle of Springfield. “But the older I get, the better I used to be. Now I can carry everything I need in my wagon.”

Boyle was one of more than 8,000 people who would eventually grab a spot on the lawn outside the Shed at Tanglewood, with another 5,000 inside the Shed, yesterday for the annual Prairie Home Companion show hosted by Garrison Keillor and featuring James Taylor.

Boyle was sporting an early model, steel

four-wheel Radio Flyer, which he said has transported his children through their wonder years around the neighborhood and even in parades.

“Now we use it for Tanglewood,” he said.

Boyle, his wife Rose, friend Theresa O’Malley, and children Kathryn, Margaret and Marty were spread out on blankets and chairs. A table adorned with a candle, a flower vase and table cloth was close by.

They were feasting on lobster salad, broccoli-bacon salad, hot wings, cheese, crackers and blueberry-raspberry-peach cobbler.

“And a fine selection of adult beverages,” added Boyle.

The Boyles come to the Prairie Home show every year, and even listen in on the radio.

“We listen to him on the radio every Saturday night,” said Rose Boyle. “He gets us through the winter. And this is a terrific

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## Picnics with extravagance

**TANGLEWOOD from B1**

venue on a beautiful day.”

Elsewhere in the ocean of picnickers were Lori and Jon Zapka of Goshen, Laurie and Bob Benoit of Buckland, and Laura Reinhard of Northampton. They rolled in with a fancy six-wheeler wagon, laden with a table, chairs, candles, flowers — all the accouterments. The menu for the night included shrimp cocktail, roast beef finger sandwiches with caper mayonnaise, homemade salsa, broccoli, peanut-raisin salad, watermelon and brownies for desert, and, of course, champagne, wine and beer.

Bob Benoit pointed out that the ladies in the party made all the arrangements.

“It is a little extravagant — I would’ve had my little cooler and a ham sandwich,” he said.

Jim and Pat Andersen of Pittsfield parked their late-model, plastic Radio Flyer under the big tree.

The sides of the wagon come off, so it can double as a picnic table.

The Andersens and their friends — Louis Lonabocker of Boston and Veronica Jarek-Prinz, and her sons Dan and Max, of

New Rochelle, N.Y. — were talking and laughing and munching on cheese, bread, crackers, pretzels, Goldfish, peanut butter, Wing Dings, and roasted chicken.

“This is a four year tradition for us, and it’s always a nice night,” noted Lonabocker. “And this tree serves as a good landmark.”

Stephen and Marsha Cohen of Andover and Tyringham were picnicking with their friends Cheryl Rothstein and Richie Fink of Andover. Parked nearby was their 2003 model Radio Flyer, an ATW — All Terrain Wagon.

They were dining on grilled, chilled filet mignon with tarragon mayonnaise, country-style potato salad with roasted red peppers and scallions, and a vegetable salad with zucchini, summer squash, grape tomatoes, avocado, basil and thyme. The appetizer was pesto grilled shrimp.

By the way, Marsha Cohen is a caterer.

The Cohens come to Tanglewood almost every weekend.

“And we just love Garrison Keillor and James Taylor, so this is really a double-treat for us,” Marsha Cohen said.