



PHOTOS BY ERIN PLUMMER

Above: Linda Zelek of Zelek and Associates serves a shaved steak sandwich to Gracie Hoefs during Moultonboro's first community block party.

Left: Olivia Watson, 7, Emily Marra, 7, Julia Marra, 4, and Adam Watson, 5, enjoy their candy and balloons outside the Moultonboro Country Store during Moultonboro's first Town Block Party.

Below: Wendy, Megan, and Matthew Wallace sample the dips at one table during the Dip Off in the Community Center parking lot with Michelle Fullerton sampling dips on the table behind them.

M'boro gathers for community block party

BY ERIN PLUMMER
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MOULTONBORO — From a dip competition and a cake-walk to music and games, family fun and community spirit was all around at the Moultonboro Town Block Party Saturday.

Centered in the village and the Lion's Club building, the first block party of its kind in Moultonboro offered a variety of activities for all ages.

The block party was a culmination of ideas and organization by Linda Zelek of Zelek and Associates, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Hilary Bride, and Parks and Recreation Director Donna Kuethe.

"Ever since we moved to

town we often talked about doing something like this," Zelek said, saying the idea has been especially strong in the past two years.

"I moved to this area recently and I felt that I wanted to form a sense of community," Bride said.

Bride spoke with Kuethe about the concept of the block party.

"I thought it was a great idea," Kuethe said. "We got a lot of other organizations on board and went to the selectmen."

After all three spoke, they realized they all had the exact same idea for the block party.

"The three of us got together in April and decided we needed to do something



fun for our town," Zelek said. "We actually met in April and we've been meeting every three weeks until recently, now it's (been) once a week. I went around to a lot of the businesses and got them involved."

Bride said various contributions were made by different businesses and organizations. The Moultonboro Recreation Department, Zelek and Associates, the United Methodist Church, the Historical Society, and the Moultonboro Women's Club were some of the most active organizations, though the Public Library, the Red Hill Outing Club, and many other businesses and organizations had activities as well. Some

gave monetary donations, while others offered their parking lots for use and other things.

"People helped where they feel like they could," Bride said.

"Our goal was to create a sense of community and I think we've done that," Kuethe said.

"It's good old fashioned fun in Moultonboro," said Jim Zelek of Zelek and Associates. "First time we've tried it and the way it's going, we're going to do it again."

"The talk amongst the town, 'Oh, are you going to go to the block party,'" Bride said.

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Behind-the-scenes making of the NE Homebrewers Jamboree

BY EMILY KILLINGER
SPECIAL TO THE MEREDITH NEWS
CONCORD AREA HOMEBREWERS
MEMBER

Friday Sept. 11, noon

We are "packed to the gills" as my mother would put it, or at least that's how I feel as we pull out of the driveway. Family camping seems to find me packing way too many comforts of home. Add to that the very 200 Liter Allagash Brewery barrel that my husband has to deliver to the Jamboree and we are driving two cars this year.

Our fourth year attending the Jamboree is about to begin and I am filled with excitement for good times ahead and a bit weary of the increased responsibility our small club has to play in this year's event.



PHOTO BY EMILY KILLINGER

Aiden Ramshaw takes a turn at tossing the keg during the kids games. This was Aiden's sixth year in attendance and this year he also took on responsibility by setting up a lemonade stand to collect additional donations for Make-A-Wish.

1:30 p.m.

Our two-car caravan pulls into Branchbrook

Campground's group campsite greeted by the usual Friday set-up crew, as I like to call it. Each of the past four years of attending and helping at the NE Home-Brewers Jamboree we have arrived early, usually to find some usual suspects ready to help get things set and ready for the following day.

4 p.m.

Upon setting up our family campsite and reserving

space near us for the remainder of our club members, we head straight over to help set tents. Each year the number of tents to set up seems to increase. Steve Loignon of the Southern Maine Homebrew Club rallies the troops, and before you know it we have at least a dozen people around to help raise tents. They start going up like wildfire. I've never seen us work like such a well-oiled machine.

6:30 p.m. till bedtime

The rain sets in, starting as a small sprinkle, increasing to a medium to light steady stream. Our club settles in to make dinner and congregate under three easy up tents, trying to stay dry.

In true Jamboree spirit we toast a couple and travel out in the rain to other club campsites to greet old friends and see the new faces.

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PHOTO BY EMILY KILLINGER

Organizer Steve Ainsworth gets things started and keeps them rolling throughout the day by making announcements and calling out door prize ticket numbers.



PHOTO BY EMILY KILLINGER

Dana and Debbie Peterson take a turn at running the tap lines and table for the Southern Maine Homebrewers.