

## Summer sounds: You don't need a boat for this lakes fun

By GIL BLISS

Sunday News Correspondent

**YOU'RE NEARING** the end of a long day on Lake Winnepesaukee — fishing, boating, swimming or maybe just taking in a little sun.



The night beckons. A nice meal is certainly on the agenda, but what about after that?

Lucky for you, there are two different concert series around the lake that book top-notch, nationally-known acts that appeal to a variety of musical tastes.

The Meadowbrook Musical Arts Center in Gilford is celebrating its 10th anniversary and has become a popular New England venue for outdoor concerts.

The Great Waters Music Festival in Wolfeboro may not have as many dates as Meadowbrook but also attracts varied noteworthy acts.

Meadowbrook Managing Partner Bob Harding noted the recent designation of the venue by the state Department of Resources and Economic Development as a top summer tourist attraction in New Hampshire.

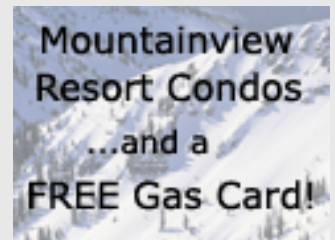
"We're very proud of that," said Harding, who has upgraded his facility on a yearly basis, beginning with open seating next to a modest stage until the present time, where patrons sit under a covered pavilion in the midst of a landscaped campus.

Meadowbrook seats 3,200 and Harding said there are plans for 2006 to add reserved lawn seats.

Harding said the mix of musical offerings will be enhanced this year with the addition of a Family Fourth Fest on Independence Day, a family day that will feature "1964: The Tribute," a Beatles act that plays Meadowbrook every year, followed by an hour-long laser light show set to patriotic-themed music.

The day will also include classic rockers Fat Back; dancers from the **Edgewater Academy of Dance**; the aptly-named '80s band "The Big 80s"; comedian Tom Hayes and a juggler, magician, stilt walker, two moon walks, miniature golf, climbing wall, costumed characters, a roaming clown, inflatable jousting, face painting and a caricature artist.

The Great Waters Music Festival is now in its 11th year, during which time the venue has distinguished itself by combining an idyllic setting under the white tent at Brewster Academy with a diverse range of concerts.



This year's season is nine shows, including the popular three-day folk festival and new this year, a jazz festival.

"We've always had a strong backing for jazz, so this is a natural thing to do," said festival president Ben Warren. "This follows in the footsteps of our folk festival."

The folk fest started as one day and has now increased threefold. "The response has been great," Anderson said.

A change for this season is the institution of a VIP ticket section, where patrons will be able to enjoy a pre-concert reception with the artist.

Here's a look at what's some summer entertainment in the Lakes Region:

### **Great Waters**

- Broadway in Wolfeboro, Joel Grey, Saturday, July 9.
- 100-Voice Chorus and 45-Piece Symphony Orchestra, 11th Annual Masterworks Concert, Saturday, July 16.
- Pianist Jim Brickman, Friday, July 22.
- 4th Annual Great Waters Folk Festival, Nanci Griffith and the Blue Moon Orchestra, Odetta, Chris Smither, Bill Morrissey, Harry Manx, Christine Lavin, Richard Shindell, Ruthie Foster, April Verch, The Mammals, Redbird, Kris Delmhorst, Jeffrey Foucault, Peter Mulvey, and more to be announced, Friday-Sunday, July 29-31.
- 2002-2004 Grammy Award Winning Gospel and Blues act Blind Boys of Alabama, Thursday, Aug. 11.
- Annual SummerSing, A Reading of Joseph Hayden, Theresa Mass in B Flat, and John Rutter, Requiem, Saturday, Aug. 20.
- 1st Ever Great Waters Jazz Festival, Dizzy Gillespie Alumni All Stars, and more, afternoon and evening Mainstage Concerts, Saturday, Aug. 27.
- Count Basie Orchestra Friday, Sept. 2.

### **Meadowbrook**

Big & Rich, Cowboy Troy; Second Stage: Tammy Jackson Band, Saturday, June 4.

- Lynyrd Skynyrd, the Marshall Tucker Band; Second Stage: Fat Back, Wednesday, June 15.

- Strange Days Festival featuring The Doors of the 21th Century, John Kay & Steppenwolf, Vanilla Fudge, the Yardbirds, Pat Travers, Thursday, June 23.
- Switchfoot, Howie Day, Sunday, June 26.
- Kevin James, Friday, July 1.
- Family Fourth Fest, 1964: The Tribute, Laser Light Show, Saturday, July 2.
- Montgomery Gentry, Uncle Kracker, Miranda Lambert, Friday, July 8.
- Smothers Brothers, the Kingston Trio, Sunday, July 17.
- REO Speedwagon, Creedence Clearwater Revisited, Thursday, July 28.
- ZZ Top, Friday, Aug. 12.
- A Prairie Home Companion, The Rhubarb Tour, with Garrison Keillor, Saturday, Aug. 13.
- Collective Soul with Gin Blossoms, Sunday, Aug. 14.
- Journey, Friday, Aug. 19.
- STYX, .38 Special, Second Stage: Phil 'N' The Blanks, Saturday, Aug. 20.
- Boston POPS 2005 Esplanade Orchestra, with Keith Lockhart conducting, Special Cabaret Performance, Sunday, Aug. 21.
- Clay Aiken, Saturday, Aug. 27.
- B.B. King Blues Festival featuring B.B. King, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Joe Bonamassa, Tuesday, Aug. 30.
- Bob Weir & Ratdog, Bruce Hornsby, Friday, Sept. 2.
- Hall & Oates, Tears for Fears, Second Stage: Gazpacho, Saturday, Sept. 3.
- Tim McGraw & the Dance Hall Doctors, Warren Brothers, Second Stage: Pony Express with Karen Morgan, Monday, Sept. 5.

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