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VISITORS CAN “LIVE FREE AND SAVOR SUMMER” DURING FESTIVAL AND FAIR SEASON IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Granite State offers visitors a full slate of late summer events and attractions

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – (July 15, 2015) – Visitors can “Live Free and Savor Summer” from now through the end of September by experiencing one of the many late summer events in **New Hampshire** (www.visitnh.gov). Special festivals and fairs celebrating the state’s culinary flare, diverse arts and cultural offerings, classic New England traditions and distinct personalities will be offered throughout the state. Please see below for more information on July, August and September happenings in the Granite State:

PRESCOTT PARK ARTS FESTIVAL - Portsmouth, N.H.

Now – Sunday, August 23, 2015

Celebrating its 41st anniversary in 2015, the Prescott Park Arts Festival presents a diverse lineup of music, art, theater and dance on the banks of the Piscataqua River in the charming waterfront city of Portsmouth. The festival has no fixed admission cost to attend and provides a family-friendly atmosphere, making the event an ideal one for all ages. The festival is currently underway, and upcoming events include:

- The **17th Annual Folk Festival** (Sunday, July 19, 6:00 p.m.) features performances from Martin Sexton, The Stray Birds, Spirit Family Reunion, and Dustbowl Revival.
- The **11th Annual WOKQ Country Music Festival** (Saturday, August 1, all day) will feature a wide variety of country acts that will be announced at a later date.
- [Seven Stages Shakespeare Company](#) presents William Shakespeare's comedy **As You Like It**, with performances scheduled for July 26 and August 2, 8, 9, 16, 23 which began at 3:00 p.m.
- Headline concerts each Wednesday night as part of the River House Restaurant Concert Series.
- Performances of **Peter Pan** will be featured throughout the festival at various dates and times, which are [available here](#). Peter Pan is presented by C&J Bus Lines.

For more information, please visit www.prescottpark.org.

MONADNOCK MUSIC FESTIVAL - Peterborough, N.H.

Now – Friday, August 7

A summertime staple in the tourism region that bears its name, the Monadnock Music Festival celebrates its 50th anniversary season in 2015 with a host of acclaimed classical artists and performances held throughout the communities of Peterborough, Keene, Milford, Deering, Nelson, Harrisville, Jaffrey Center, Wilton and Greenfield. Highlights of the event’s 50th edition include:

- **Season Reunion Weekend** (July 24-26) that features Christopher O'Riley, pianist and host of the popular "From the Top" program on NPR as well as guest artists from Monadnock Music's 50 years, curated by James Bolle
- **Gershwin Gala Concert & Reception** (Friday, August 7) featuring the original Paul Whiteman Band, Monadnock Chamber Orchestra and pianist Alan Feinberg, conducted by Gil Rose

For more information, including a full schedule of events, please visit www.monadnockmusic.org.

LEAGUE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE CRAFTSMEN'S FAIR - *Newbury, N.H.*

Saturday, August 1 – Sunday, August 9

Starting the first Saturday in August and spanning nine days, the annual League of New Hampshire Craftsmen's Fair showcases the work of some of the finest craftspeople in the country. Visitors can see and shop for one-of-a-kind fine craft from more than 350 artists and producers as well as the opportunity to meet the makers and learn about their vision and passion for their craft. Guests to the event can enjoy daily craft demonstrations, participate in workshops, walk through the fair's Sculpture Garden and take in a variety of strolling performances that feature oversized puppets, magicians, mind readers, musicians, and much more. For more information, please visit www.nhcrafts.org/craftsmens-fair-overview.php.

SOULFEST AT GUNSTOCK MOUNTAIN - *Gilford, N.H.*

Thursday, August 6 – Saturday, August 8

This year's edition of Soulfest features three full days of music with 125+ artists and performers spread across five stages. Headlined by popular contemporary Christian artists such as Newsboys, Casting Crowns and Third Day, the event is one of the largest music festivals in New England. Single day admission begins at \$45 for adults, and full festival passes are available at \$120. Discounted rates are available for children and seniors (\$40), and group pricing is also available. In addition to the festival, Gunstock Mountain offers visitors a full slate of summer activities that include Ziplining, mountain biking, hiking, fishing, Segway tours and more. For more information about the music festival, please visit www.thesoulfest.com. More information about Gunstock Mountain is available at www.gunstock.com.

NORTH COUNTRY MOOSE FESTIVAL – *Pittsburgh, N.H.*

Friday, August 28 – Sunday, August 30

Locals say it would be wrong if the region did not honor the mighty Moose, its most famous wildlife. The 23rd edition of the North Country Moose Festival provides family-friendly entertainment centered around Moose, while also featuring a classic car show, a craft fair as well as contests and activities for all ages where festival-goers can show off their dancing, cooking, moose-calling, or any other odd talents. For more information, including a full festival schedule, please visit www.chamberofthenorthcountry.com/moose-festival.html.

HAMPTON BEACH SEAFOOD FESTIVAL – *Hampton Beach, N.H.*

Friday, September 11 – Sunday, September 13

Celebrating its 26th year in 2015, the Hampton Beach Seafood Festival serves as the unofficial end to the Summer season in this seaside community. Festivities include a sampling of more than 50 of the Seacoast's top restaurants that will serve hungry attendees seafood delicacies. The festival is also home to 80+ Arts & Crafts vendors promoting locally made products as well as hundreds of Ocean Boulevard merchants that offer coveted end-of-the-season deals on their wares. Family friendly entertainment is also a draw of the event, as a Kiddie Land with children's entertainment as well as chef demonstrations, and two stages of continuous entertainment with 15 Bands and Orchestras take center stage. For more information, please visit www.hamptonbeachseafoodfestival.com.

NEW HAMPSHIRE HIGHLAND GAMES & FESTIVAL - Lincoln, N.H.

Friday, September 18 – Sunday, September 20, 2015

The New Hampshire Gathering of the Scottish Clans is a not-for-profit New Hampshire Corporation dedicated to the furtherance of the dance, music, athletics and customs of the Scottish people and to the continuance of the Gaelic culture. Amongst the largest and one of the most diversified games in the country, the NH Highland Games & Festival includes the Gathering of the Scottish Clans, with over 60 clans and societies and features the best entertainers from Scotland, Canada and the U.S. Events include Massed Bands, Sheepdog Trials, Celtic World Music Concerts, the New England Regional Scottish Fiddle Championship, Scottish Athletics, National Highland Dance Competition, Solo Piping & Drumming, Scottish Harp (Clarsach) & other competitions. For more information, please visit www.nhscot.org.

ABOUT THE DIVISION OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The Division of Travel and Tourism Development, as part of the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, works with the state's seven travel regions to increase visitation, travel and visitor expenditures in order to expand business activity and employment throughout the state. The division is responsible for domestic and international advertising and public relations, literature publication and distribution, www.visitnh.gov administration, grant administration and research to monitor and measure the impact of travel and tourism to the state. For more information about New Hampshire tourism, call 603-271-2665 or visit www.visitnh.gov.

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