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SATURDAY, JULY 31**



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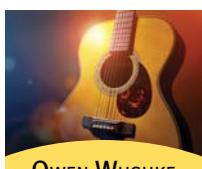
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August Long THANK-YOU CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Lots of plans for August long weekend at Moosomin Lake

BY SPENCER KEMP
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A busy weekend is planned for Moosomin Lake over August Long Weekend.

On Saturday the lake will be bustling with live entertainment with Blake Berglund, a community market, bounce tents, and even Paw Patrol characters attending.

Karen Hebert with the Moosomin Regional Park Entertainment Committee says that there will be plenty of fun all day, starting off with the Moosomin Community Market at 11:00 am.

"We're going to have music starting at 4:00 pm with Look DJ Service and so that's going to be when the beer gardens start as well. So Look DJ Service will also look after the technical side of our band also, which is Blake Berglund," said Hebert.

"The Moosomin Community Market is going to set up as well from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm this weekend."

She notes that the market is going to be set up across from the lake store and says the road will be closed off to vehicle traffic.

For the younger audience, Hebert says there will be games in the morning as well.

"We're going to run some kids games too in the morning. We try to get a little something for everybody to do," said Hebert.

Kids will be able to bounce around and have fun with Jumperoo Party Rentals coming out as well with four bounce tents, rollerballs, and even four Paw Patrol mascots.

The night will end with beer gardens opening up at 4:00 pm and running to 1:00 am and Look DJ Service opening for country star Blake Berglund who will begin performing at 8:30 pm.

The concerts will be completely free and Berglund will perform until midnight.

Hebert says she is hoping for a busy weekend after 15 months of Covid-19 restrictions.

"Everybody is just so thankful to be able to do something. We have no idea what to expect for turnout. For camping, the campground is pretty booked for the weekend but it's not as booked as it would have been if we had our fireworks. But the campground has been busy and I'm really hoping we'll get lots of day traffic too, the Community Market I hope will bring in some more day traffic," said Hebert.

Bounce tents and Paw Patrol joining in on weekend fun

Jumperoo Party Rentals from Estevan

will be coming out to help with festivities over the long weekend.

Co-owner Sara Culbertson says that there will be plenty of bounce tents for kids and even Paw Patrol mascots.

"We are going to be bringing at least four inflatable bounce houses and they all have slides and bouncing areas. We're also bringing four Paw Patrol mascots. We have Marshall, Chase, Rubble, and Sky coming," said Culbertson.

For \$10 kids will receive a bracelet or a stamp and will be able to play all day.

"We charge \$10 a child and they can play all day. We provide either a stamp or a bracelet so they can leave and come back later if they need to nap or get lunch or anything."

The bouncy castles and rollerballs will open at 11:00 am with the Moosomin Community Market and will remain open until 8:00 pm before Blake Berglund's concert.

Culbertson says that after over a year of being unable to do any events, she is looking forward to bouncing back.

"It's going to be our very first event since Covid hit and all the regulations have lifted."

"We're so excited to bring back the fun!"

Cook your own steak at Moosomin Lake

There will be no shortage of good food this weekend at Moosomin Lake with the Granny Mo's providing a wide variety of different tasty treats for August long.

Owner Clint Poelzer says there will be a variety of the store's specialties on the menu, including a foot-long chili cheese dog for the hungry beachgoer.

"We're going to be doing a lot of appetizers which are our mainstay here. Wings, ribs, boneless ribs, mac and cheese bites, Mozza sticks, that type of thing. We're going to be featuring a footlong chili cheese dog, we're going to be offering burgers, pizzas, popcorn, ice cream, fresh-squeezed lemonade," said Poelzer, noting that the Beach Burger will also be available.

He says that food will be offered at both the restaurant itself and at the Burger Bar to help reduce wait times for tasty treats.

"We're going to split it up a little bit. We have this thing we call the Burger Bar and it's a structure that was built here a few years ago so some of the stuff will be out there as well so people don't have to come in the store, wait in line, and crowd up. Hopefully, that offers us some flexibility."

In addition to the appetizers and foot-long hotdogs, Poelzer says the restaurant

will be offering patrons a steak night where customers get to cook their own steaks to their liking.

Poelzer says the restaurant will provide everything needed to cook a steak to the customer's liking.

"Friday and Saturday night I'm going to be doing a steak night where you cook your own steak to your liking and we offer baked potatoes, salads, that type of stuff.

"Basically you come into the store, you order the steak that you want whether it be an 8oz, 12oz, or 16oz prime rib steak. We give you the steak you want to cook and then we give you utensils, gloves, spices, barbecue sauce, everything you need we'll have out there for you to use as little or as much as you want."

Poelzer says that he plans to continue to offer steak nights on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays of each week until the end of the season.

Moosomin Community Market being held at the lake

The Moosomin Community Market will be taking place at Moosomin Lake this Saturday at 11:00 am to add to the festivities of the day.

Organizer Jarrod Slugoski says he is looking forward to the coming market and says that being

part of the community is his goal for the market.

"Because it is a community market I like to join it to whatever is going on in town so the park crew had asked us to move the market down to the grass landing in front of the store where concessions would typically be set up for the fireworks show. It's a nice little space and I think it'll be good," said Slugoski.

He says that from what he has heard from vendors, they are excited for the weekend and hope for a good turnout.

"They're excited. It's a huge opportunity for them and the campsite is full and the people who live in their cabins are down there all weekend and with the festivities of the day it should be a really great turnout to check out vendors that day."

Slugoski is working on getting food truck vendors out for the market as well this Saturday but says that with Covid restrictions food trucks are in high demand.

"Food trucks are in demand right now. I do have one that came out a few weeks ago that I'm trying to get down this weekend."

"I'm trying to get a few out there, as many as I can."

The market will begin at 11:00 am and run until 4:00 pm.

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SATURDAY, JULY 31

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**Moosomin & District
REGIONAL PARK**

**August Long
THANK-YOU CELEBRATION**

SATURDAY, JULY 31



**Free concert at
Moosomin Lake Saturday**

There will be a free concert featuring singer-songwriter Blake Berglund, originally from Kennedy, on Saturday, July 31 at Moosomin Regional Park.



Moosomin
Regional Park
August Long



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**Moosomin & District
REGIONAL PARK**

**August Long
THANK-YOU CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, JULY 31**

Berglund excited to share new music this Saturday

BY SPENCER KEMP
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Kennedy-born singer-songwriter Blake Berglund will be performing at Moosomin Lake as part of Saturday's August long weekend celebrations.

Look DJ Services will open for Berglund starting at 4:00 pm on Saturday before Berglund begins his performance at 8:30 until midnight.

Berglund says he is looking forward to performing again after the Covid-19 pandemic put a hold on touring and in-person concerts.

He says that he took the time to write new music and find new ways to convey messages through music.

"Before becoming a songwriter I was just a writer, like with journaling or putting ideas down, and sometimes an idea that you think is a quick paragraph just to get something out of my mind, a new perspective on an issue or trying to figure out a problem ends up being six paragraphs, then it ends up being two blogs worth, and I find this is something that's been really foundational in my whole life. So I spent a lot of time in the pandemic writing, writing blog posts, writing essays, and then it just naturally came to me, I had this inkling where I thought it's nice to be a writer it's nice to be putting these blogs out, it's good to be writing long-form but I have always been and I always will love to be a songwriter with how you get to express yourself with the parameters of songwriting and the rules of it when you eventually get to a certain point where you're comfortable with those rules and then you get to break all those rules and find something that's so unique to yourself. In the pandemic, I found a new unique self in my writing," said Berglund.

"I think that people who have been following me for 20 years and have supported me up to this point will know that my sound is always changing. There's always been a twang in it from the beginning but it's been really important to me to push and expand on the boundaries of what one would call country music. Through this pandemic I found myself falling in love with some real old country music and then just taking my blogs and taking my long-form writings and taking the ideas out of those and just making songs out



Kennedy-born singer-songwriter Blake Berglund will be performing at Moosomin Lake this Saturday starting at 8:30 pm.

of them. Then I had one, two, ten, a few dozen songs in this approach to the writing and I found it to be a really interesting way of stylistically changing what I'm doing and it'd be silly if I wasn't going to try some of that stuff out in Moosomin as it's my first show back after this writing period. I have the band together and there's a bunch of new stuff we want to run and the best way to get these out to the world is by getting these out to the world. That's going to be one of the big things coming up on the 31st is just trying new stuff."

Berglund says the show will have a little something for everyone, with a mix of covers, old content, and some of his new content inspired through the pandemic.

"A lot of artists that go on for three or four hours do a really covers-heavy show and mine most definitely is about 50 to 60 per cent cover songs, the other bit would be my material and my friend's material but I've always tried to put lots of originals in long shows and I try to nestle them

in between songs that influenced that writing so you get a little bit of a storyline in these four-hour performances.

"Next Saturday in Moosomin there's going to be a whole swath of people who haven't seen me before or even heard of me before and it's my job to pull them in, keep them in, entertain them, and not sacrifice the integrity of who I am as an artist."

He says that concert-goers can expect a wide variety of different covers, including covers of songs by bands that inspired Berglund's career.

"We're going to play a ton of Marty Stewart stuff because he's so influential in my original writing, a whole bunch of Highway Men, Willie Nelson, Kris Kristofferson, that kind of stuff because of the influence that's been. I almost don't want to say it because it's going to be such an awesome part of the show but I just love The Hip, they're the greatest band of all time in my eyes and I've never played any

Hip tunes in shows. It's going to be nice to bust out some Hip tunes along with the stuff I've been writing through the pandemic. It's pretty twangy, pretty country, and it's good to dance to."

Growing up in a smaller community, Berglund says he is looking forward to Saturday's performance as it reminds him of home.

"If there's something happening in town there's a good chance that everybody knows all about it rather than a small percentage in a larger centre. And it's a lifestyle that is my lifestyle and everybody is going to come to that show from Moosomin, from Fairlight, from Wawota, from Whitewood, from Keno Lake, wherever it might be from Rocanville to Redvers, all of southeastern Saskatchewan is such an amazing market in itself. It's a collective of small communities and, not to sound cheesy, those are my people. I'm a rural kid who grew up playing hockey and taking piano lessons in the southeast corner and now I'm 25 years into a music career and it's fun to just take that experience and reflect it back on the people who are showing up," said Berglund.

With this being his first performance since the Covid-19 pandemic, Berglund says he is nervous about getting on stage again but remains ready to rock.

"I'm nervous for other people's experience, truthfully. I made the decisions that I felt would be the safest for me to get in front of people and perform and I hope everybody else is making those decisions. We really didn't have anybody going to bat for the arts during the pandemic and that has forced everybody in the arts to have their own agencies as to when to get back to the world to make a living as everybody else has. So that's a reality I have to face on Saturday night is that I know I'm going to be safe, I know my bands going to be safe, and I hope that whether it's 200 or 500 or however many people show up everybody else is safe," said Berglund.

"There's a bit of nervousness but as far as what I do and as far as my music goes? I'm firing on all cylinders and I'm feeling really good about that stuff. That's not going to be a problem, that's just going to be awesome."

Berglund will be performing this Saturday starting at 8:30 pm and his show will run until midnight.



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August Long THANK-YOU CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, JULY 31

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11 AM - 8 PM

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Blake Berglund

