

Normandy Farms' anniversary celebration brings jazz, awards

SUN CHRONICLE STAFF

FOXBORO — It was an historic occasion with a decidedly different beat as members of the Foxboro High School Jazz Ensemble were guests of the Daniels family to celebrate the 35th anniversary of Normandy Farms Campground and RV Park on West Street.

It was also Mardi Gras Weekend at the popular campground, but for a solid hour the young musicians of Foxboro High were center stage. Many of the greats of the jazz world were represented in selections and a real crowd-pleaser was the sentimental "I'll be Seeing You," a classic from the World War II era.

The campground was started in 1971 by the late Norman Daniels and his wife, Jan, on land that had been continuously farmed by members of the Daniels family since 1759. Norm was the sixth generation on the land. His children, Albert (Dan), Robert and

Janis, their children and grandchildren are the seventh, eighth and ninth generations.

Dan singled out many campers for special recognition, some of whom have been patronizing the campground for 30 years.

Recognition

Also recognized were long-term employees, including Lisa Hall with more than 25 years. Staff members with 20 years included Steve Lovell, Jean Lincoln and Luanne MacAulay.

The Daniels family found itself on the receiving end of recognition as Barry Johnson of Crossroads RV presented them a plaque recognizing not only their 35 years in business but the receipt of the 2005-06 designation of Campground of the Year.

It was the third time the campground has received the honor.

Going beyond his recognition of the park itself, Johnson said members of the Daniels family had become legends in

the campground industry.

Reflecting on the earlier years, Dan recalled the challenges of farm life, the years of raising chickens and sheep, the sharing of the family land between Norman Daniels and his brother, Doug, who started a tree farm on the opposite side of the road. Dan paid tribute to hard working family members, faithful campers, employees and the community of Foxboro for the success they have enjoyed.

The Daniels family, which has raised more than \$100,000 in a sustained commitment to the Jimmy Fund and the battle against cancer in children, turned the anniversary celebration into yet another good will mission.

Recognizing that some of their guests were natives of the New Orleans area, the proceeds of a raffle conducted as part of the celebration raised more than \$600 and was donated to the Hurricane Katrina relief effort.