



Bedford Main Street, Inc.

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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A BIG SPLASH AT “SAY GOODBYE TO SUMMER!”

Have you ever seen a beach in Bedford? Well 75 children and their parents have! On Friday, August 16th, the merchants of Centertown Bedford put on the first in a series of Friday night events called **Bedford Family Fridays**.

The kickoff was called “**Say Goodbye to Summer**” and did they ever! The parking lot was filled with 30 tons of sand, a beach umbrella, and plenty of sand toys. Bedford’s YMCA was on hand to coordinate several beach volleyball games for children of all ages. Other fun activities included the Limbo and the Hokie Pokie. Keith Campbell from WBLT 1350 AM radio was the DJ/MC for the evening. The children searched for seashells in the sand, and some were marked with a star. These were redeemed for prizes donated by Centertown merchants. Toward the end of the evening, the children (and parents) gathered around the WBLT stage for a story time presented by Kim Lottman from Peaks of Knowledge. The featured stories were *Sun Dance*, *Water Dance* by Jonathan London, *Down by the Cool of the Pool* by Tony Mitton, and *The Relatives Came* by Cynthia Rylant. The Bedford Fire Department was on hand with one of their trucks to wet down the sand and allow children to tour the truck and talk with the firefighters.

If you missed the fun, you can join in any Friday night at 6pm in Centertown. This Friday, August 23 will be “**Under the Bedford Big Top**”, featuring a circus theme that is sure to please the youngsters. There will be clowns, face painting, circus games, and other activities. The primary objective of **Bedford Family Fridays** is to provide a free family time that will be enriching and educational. Most of the Centertown merchants stay open late until 8pm for your convenience.

Because this is a free event, many area individuals and businesses donated their time and resources. Bedford Main Street, Inc. would like to thank those who contributed:

Bedford Ready Mix	NBC Bank	Owen Building & Remodeling
Bedford YMCA	City of Bedford	Bedford Fire Department
Bedford Police Department	Family Dollar	Rapid Printing
Lion of Judah Church	All the volunteers who make Family Fridays a success	

For more information about future Bedford Family Fridays or to volunteer, please call 540-586-2148 or 540-587-8886.

Bedford Main Street, Incorporated is a non-profit organization dedicated to the historic preservation and economic development of Bedford’s Centertown business district. Founded in 1985 as a part of the Virginia Main Street Program, Bedford Main Street achieves its goals through the activities of the Merchants Committee, Design Committee, Farmers Market, and special events in Centertown. Bedford Main Street also sponsors the Bedford Council for the Arts.