

Every day's a holiday 10

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FOXBORO — In bluejeans and a T-shirt Gerald Keane, mayor of Attleboro, stirs a simmering pot of Boston baked beans over a hot wood fire at his summer campsite at Normandy Farms on West Street.

Fellow camper and friend Edward Tedesco of South Attleboro sautees his favorite campside cuisine, linguica with peppers, to bring to the mayor's pot luck dinner. Another camper is busy roasting a 15-pound turkey for the 20 camper guests he has invited to Sunday dinner.

Though the Tedesco and Keane families are only a mere 10-15 minutes from their South Attleboro homes, their summer sojourn at the Normandy Farms campground feels like a million miles away from the hustle and heat of the city.

When it gets very hot, Keane drives the 10 minutes it takes from his downtown Attleboro office to lunch with his wife Dorothy and four of their seven children who camp with them. He often takes a swim before returning to his mayoral duties.

Season campers

Both the Keane and Tedesco families have been camping for the entire summer at Normandy Farms for several seasons. Both families have returned summer after summer "because our kids love it so much." But Keane and Tedesco seem very much in their element as they prepare their fireside dinners.

Each family that has a seasonal site at the campground is given first chance to have it for the following summer. Right now there is a long waiting list for seasonal sites said an employee at the campground.

Prices

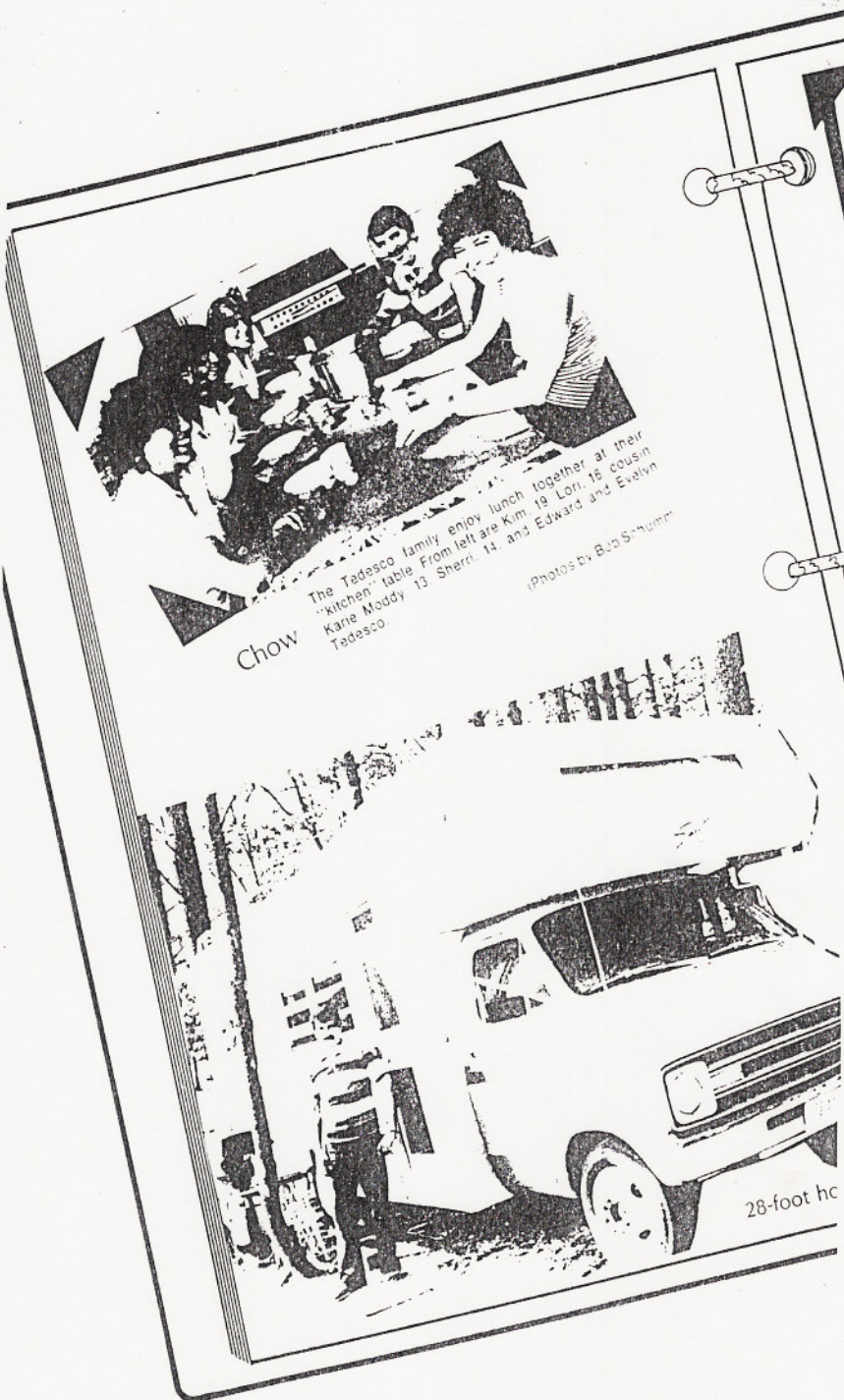
Prices vary according to size of the site, number of persons occupying the site, and what types of electrical hook-ups, for example for a washer and dryer, are needed. A base price for a family of four can start at \$160 per month.

Home away from home for both the Keane and Tedesco families are 28-foot campers which sleep six. Usually Keane's sons sleep in a tent but Monday night's ear splitting thunderstorms sent them scurrying into the safety of the trailer in the middle of the night.

Keane's other three children stay in their South Attleboro home but come to visit often and take advantage of the indoor and outdoor swimming pool, arts and crafts or other numerous activities at the campground. Family softball games are big this summer since Norman Daniels, owner of the cam-

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— Edward Tedesco



Chow

The Tedesco family enjoy lunch together at their "kitchen" table. From left are Kim, 19, Lori, 15, cousin Kane, Maddy, 13, Sherri, 14, and Edward and Evalina Tedesco.

(Photos by Bob Schumm)

28-foot hc

pground, installed a brand new baseball diamond.

The Tedesco and Keanes camp from late May until after Labor Day.

Some hearty souls, many of them in retirement, camp out until after Thanksgiving at Normandy Farms. They then pack up their gear and motor

minutes from home

and then proceed up north to New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine.

British are coming

On a recent Friday night all activities came to a halt when a bright red double-decker London bus pulled in with 24 young English visitors, their chaperones and a cook. The bus had been shipped over, the first of 20 planned tours on these English buses arranged by a British travel agency.

Campers flocked around this unusual camping vehicle and inspected the "upstairs" bunks and the downstairs kitchen and lounge area. Naturally at 4 p.m. the next afternoon it was time for a spot of high tea.

Family atmosphere

"It's a real family atmosphere," said one employee at the campground. There are scheduled activities all day long for kids. Other campers say it is a "secure place" and they are not worried about their kids during the day even when both parents are working full-time.

Two dances a week are held for teens and pre-teens.

"Kids have fun talking to kids from other places," says Keane. "they are all very friendly here. I watched my 12-year-old daughter go up the other night and ask a young boy from Chicago to dance," he said.

Kids help

Tedesco says his kids help out more with family chores at their site. His wife Evelyn is the charge nurse in a rehabilitative ward at Rhode Island Medical Center. She works full-time and finds it easier to persuade her kids to drop off the laundry at a camp washer and dryer on their way to the pool then they will do at home.

No phones

"The best part of it is there is no telephone here," says Tedesco, an employee at Sears, Roebuck and Co. in Providence. "It's much easier to relax here after work. It's spontaneous, we just sit around the campfire and some friends drop over. We'll put up a few hotdogs and talk."

"No one argues here," says Keane. He doesn't have a telephone but can be contacted by the police, Fire Department or whoever needs him via the camp office. "That's one convenience I enjoy doing without," he says.

"People just drop by at night for a chat," he says. When asked if anyone came over and engaged in political discussions with him, he laughed. "Most people don't even know I'm the mayor of Attleboro here."

He did however, take time out this week to watch television in his camper. The Democratic convention is one show he doesn't want to miss.



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—Gerald Keane

south to Florida.

The campground is in its ninth season though the Daniels family has been living on the land for over 200

years. There are over 200 numbered campsites on 100 acres of land.

Campers from other states find it an ideal location to visit Boston, the Cape