

July 24, 2024 (and other dates): Members of VFW Post 5744 launched a “Snacks” Concession Stand as a means of generating income to support the Post’s community and veteran support services.

Items were carefully selected from companies that share our values of supporting Veterans and First Responders, as well as for sustainability and donating back to the community. Our introductory offerings included warm pretzels (Seacoast Pretzel Co., Rollinsford NH), beef jerky and meat sticks (Anthem Snack Co., Montana based veteran-owned company), popcorn (POPZUP Popcorn, Somersworth NH), lemonade (Newman’s Own), and water (Poland Springs).



After two delays, due to heat and then rain, the first of these was at South Berwick’s “Hot Summer Nights” concert featuring “Poor Howard and Mike (Bullfrog) Rogers”, with an opening act by local musicians “Tucker Smith and Henry Honkonen”.

Commander Jeff Chase and his wife Dawn additionally set up the concession stand on **July 27th** at the South Berwick and Wells Christian Church “yard sale”.

Our second go at a the “Hot Summer Night” concert series was on **July 31st** and featured the “Cormac McCarthy Band”, with an opening by local musician “Beckett Barlow”.



Tucker Smith and Henry Honkonen Poor Howard and Mike “Bullfrog” Rogers



Jeff Chase, Dawn Chase and Daniel Kenney man the Concession Stand at our premiere Hot Summer Night Concert. (Mike St. Pierre is taking the picture.)



Roger Guptill, Mike St. Pierre and Jeff Chase man the concession stand on **July 28th** at the Sanford Sounds annual “Show and Shine” Car Show.

Absent from the photo is Dawn Chase

Additional Hot Summer Night dates are slated, and additional venues are being sought.

Photos by Mike St. Pierre, Historian (and another)

September 7, 2024: Members of VFW Post 5744 operated a “Snacks” Concession Stand at the Mill Fields Festival in North Berwick as a fundraising effort. Chef Jeff offered grilled breakfast pastries on nan bread, warmed pretzels, and hot pizza. Other offerings included beef jerky, meat sticks, various flavors of popcorn, and various beverages.



VFW Post 5744 Concession Stand at Mill Field Festival

Manning the stand: Roger Guptill, Jeff Chase and Dawn Chase. Others who helped during the day: Barry Kray, Mike Murray and Mike St. Pierre.



Here's a sample of the snack items provided:



Flatbread Pizzas,
Breakfast Pastries,
Warm Pretzels



Anthem Beef Jerky,
Anthem Meat Sticks,
Pop Zup Popcorn



Mill Field Festival -North Berwick Maine

Photos by Mike St. Pierre, Historian; Mill Field Festival Photo from Facebook Page

October 5, 2024: VFW Post 5744 operated a Concession Stand at the First Parish Federated Church Fall Festival in South Berwick as a fundraising effort. Offerings were like previous efforts, but this time included baked muffins, apple cobbler, and hot apple cider.



VFW Post 5744 Concession Stand at the First Parish Fall Festival



Dawn Chase, Marc Scheele, and Jeff Chase.
Missing from photo: Mike St. Pierre.



Photos by Mike St. Pierre, Historian

November 5, 2024: VFW Post 5744 operated a Concession Stand and Recruiting Booth outside the Town of South Berwick's "Polling Place" (South Berwick Central School). Offerings included baked muffins, apple cider donuts, warm pretzels, steamed hot dogs, and corn chowder, as well as coffee, hot apple cider, and cold beverages.



VFW Concession Stand and Recruiting Booth



Thanks to Shelly Landry for the corn chowder – it was a hit!



Our newest offering: steamed hot dogs was very popular!

Thanks to Jeff Chase, Barry Kray, Malcolm Kenney, Marc Schelle, Shelley Landry, and Mike St. Pierre for making this fundraising effort possible!

November 30, 2024: VFW Post 5744 operated a Concession Stand at South Berwick's "Home for the Holidays" festival at South Berwick Central School. Offerings were similar to past efforts, with new additions being chili and sausage with onions and peppers on a roll.



VFW Concession Stand (stock photo)



Our newest offering: Sausage with Peppers and Onions proved to be popular!

Thanks to Shelly Landry for also providing Chili!

Thanks to Jeff Chase, Dawn Chase, Barry Kray, and Marc Schelle for working this fundraiser!