Belmont's 10 Mile Road Race gets its own day

By TIM CAMERATO | Jul 16, 2015   **0**

BELMONT — Usually an Old Home Day tradition, this year's 47th Belmont 10 Mile Road Race will have its own day to shine in the village. Organizers have set the race day for Aug. 8, along with a new relay race, 5K and field events.

Gretta Olson-Wilder, Belmont's special events coordinator, said the race was separated when selectmen scheduled Old Home Day on Aug. 1. She said town officials were worried about Old Home Day and the Belknap County 4-H Fair coinciding.

Since the race has its own dedicated group of runners, Olson-Wilder said the decision was made to create a day of events surrounding it.

"Why not grow it into its own event, its own day?" Olson-Wilder said.

The 10-mile race leaves Belmont Middle School at 8 a.m., before making its way down Depot Street to Jamestown Road, Union Road, Bean Hill Road, Seavey Road and then entering the Village at Church Street to the finish line on Main Street.

Registration costs $18 and includes a T-shirt. It's sanctioned by USA Track and Field and timed by Yankee Company/3C Race Productions.

New to this year are the Cow Pie Relay Race and Vito's 5K Run/Walk. Olson-Wilder said the relay race was created by race director Jeff Roberts.

"It's something that Jeff has actually wanted to do for a while," Olson-Wilder said.

Three-person teams will compete against other man, woman and co-ed challengers.

She said many people might not sign up for the 10-mile race because of its length. By splitting up that distance into 3.3 miles each, organizers are hoping the run is more manageable to casual runners.

Registration is $54 per team. The Cow Pie Relay is also USA Track and Field Certified and timed.

Olson-Wilder said Vito's 5K Run/Walk was designed for people new to running or who might want a nice walk around Belmont Village. All of the proceeds from the $5 registration go to the community's newest police officer, K9 Vito.

Because care for Vito and his equipment is raised solely through donations, Olson-Wilder said the race is for a good cause.

K9 Officer Evan Boulanger said he's "super excited" for the event, another way the community is stepping up to continue his partner's work. He said he plans on running and bringing out some friends in family to help support Vito.

Events don't end at the finish line. Olson-Wilder said she's also planning field games like sack and sponge relays and plank races, where three adults stand on two planks and try to move with them.

There's also the show-stopping final event – a cow pie throw at 11:30 a.m. Olson-Wilder said contestants will be given dried cow pies to see who can throw theirs the farthest

"This meets one of our goals to offer various events throughout the year to help residents of the Lakes Region live and active healthy lifestyle," Olson-Wilder said. She said it also helps attract new visitors to Belmont.

Registration forms and maps of the race routes can be found on Belmont's website at Belmontnh.org. Boulanger said those wishing to meet K9 Vito before race day can see him at Belmont's National Night Out on Aug. 4, at Sargent Park.

0

Comments (0)

Staff Profile

> **Tim Camerato**
> **Reporter**
> **603-581-1967**
> **Email Me**

Recent Stories by Tim Camerato

- **McCormack resigns from Gilmanton selectmen**
  Jul 16, 2015

- **Belmont's 10 Mile Road Race gets its own day**
  Jul 16, 2015

- **Currier to step up**
  Jul 14, 2015

- **Guinta dodges questions on finance scandal in Alton**
  Jul 13, 2015

- **Gilmanton selectmen ask AG's office to investigate leaks**
  Jul 13, 2015