

THE CAYUGA CHRONICLE

DECEMBER 2025
THE WINTER ISSUE

ROOKIE DAY

If you are residing on Junior Campus this summer, and will be eligible for Teen Campus the following summer, we recommend you sign-up for Rookie Day. It's your chance to spend a day on Teen Campus to check it out. The morning program includes a tour of the Teen Campus facilities, including the cabins, dining hall, infirmary, art center, weight room, and a lot more. After the tour, you'll sign-up for your electives with the teenagers and attend activities with them for the entire day. Rookie Day is voluntary for 12 & 13 year old's. It's a fantastic opportunity to get a taste of what awaits you as you transition to the Teen Campus. You'll have the chance to meet future cabin mates, participate in exciting activities, and experience the vibrant community that makes the Teen Campus so special. By the end of Rookie Day, you'll have a better understanding of the Teen Campus vibe & the amazing experiences that await you in 2027. Be sure to bring your enthusiasm and a spirit of adventure—it's going to be a day full of a lot of fun.



CAMP TOURS & ZOOM CALLS

Thinking about joining us this summer for some fun in the sun? Speak with one of our Directors to learn more about Camp Cayuga! Whether you're curious about our diverse range of activities, the dining experience, or the unique traditions that make Camp Cayuga special, our Directors are here to provide all the information you need to make your decision with confidence. Personal tours are available at your convenience 7 days a week. If you'd prefer to tour camp with other prospective Cayuga families and meet other Cayuga staff members, join us for our Annual Open House in April (4/26/26). This is an ideal time to visit camp! We highly recommend that all new families take a tour to get a greater feel for our grounds. Zoom Calls with our Directors can also be arranged during normal business hours. Contact our New Jersey Business Office to set-up a Tour or Zoom Call appointment. We hope to hear from you soon! Scan the QR code to take a tour of Cayuga's campus & learn more about private family tours & our Open House in the Spring.

CAYUGA STAFF FROM AROUND THE WORLD!

WE'RE EXCITED TO REPORT THAT NEXT SUMMER'S STAFF IS LOOKING AWESOME! OUR STAFF DIRECTOR (KATIE) HAS ALREADY RE-HIRED A TON OF RETURNING COUNSELORS, SENIOR STAFF & SUPPORT STAFF FROM LAST SUMMER & WE'RE PSYCHED THEY'RE JOINING US AGAIN! WE CURRENTLY HAVE STAFF HIRED FROM 14 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES: DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, SPAIN, HUNGARY, POLAND, IRELAND, ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, WALES, NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, MEXICO, COLUMBIA, AND THE U.S. AS FAR AS U.S. STAFF, THEY ARE FROM 11 TOTAL STATES: NEW JERSEY, NEW YORK, NORTH CAROLINA, PENNSYLVANIA, FLORIDIA, WASHINGTON, TEXAS, SOUTH CAROLINA, ARKANSAS, ILLINOIS & CONNECTICUT. WE'RE EXCITED TO HAVE



THIS GROUP ON BOARD. SUMMER '26 IS GOING TO BE ANOTHER GREAT SUMMER - THANKS TO OUR STAFF! MAKE SURE TO CHECK-OUT THE APRIL EDITION OF 'THE CAYUGA CHRONICLE' TO MEET ALL OF OUR RETURNING STAFF WHO SIGNED ON FOR SUMMER '26!

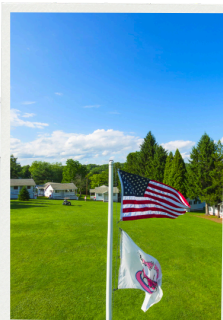
POSTCARD

WELCOME NEW CAYUGA CAMPERS!

Our hearts are eager to welcome you to Camp Cayuga! It's a magical place & we're excited to share the experience with you. We pride ourselves on creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where all campers can express themselves and make lifelong friends. With over 60 activities to choose from, there's something for everyone. Whether you're interested in sports, arts and crafts, or outdoor adventures, our experienced staff will help you discover new passions and push yourself to try new things! We can't wait to meet you & create an unforgettable experience together! Your Camp Director, Brian Buynak



Forward to all new
Camp Cayuga
Campers





WIZARD OF OZ

ARE YOU A PERFORMING ARTS FAN? DO YOU WANT TO EXPERIENCE A MAGICAL AFTERNOON AT THE THEATER? IF YOU ANSWERED YES, WE HAVE THE PERFECT SUMMER TRIP FOR YOU! TRIPS TO THE PLAYHOUSE ARE SCHEDULED EVERY 2-WEEKS. THE FORESTBURGH PLAYHOUSE HAS EARNED A FINE REPUTATION FOR ITS YOUTH THEATER PRODUCTIONS. THEIR PLAYS INCLUDE 'THE CLASSICS', WHICH HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SUPER POPULAR WITH OUR CAMPERS. THE FORESTBURGH PLAYHOUSE WAS FOUNDED IN 1947 AND IS THE OLDEST CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING SUMMER THEATRE IN NEW YORK. IT'S LOCATED ABOUT AN HOUR FROM CAMP. THIS SUMMER, WE WILL BE ATTENDING 'WIZARD OF OZ' & WE ARE (OF COURSE) PUMPED (ESPECIALLY WITH WICKED 1 & 2 CURRENT CRAZE AND POPULARITY). CAMPERS OF ALL AGES ARE ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND THE TRIP. LISTEN UP FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AT FLAGPOLE AND JOIN THE FUN BY SIGNING-UP DURING ELECTIVE SIGN-UPS OR WITH YOUR DIVISION DIRECTOR (IF YOU'RE A JUNIOR CAMPER). WHETHER YOU'RE A LONGTIME THEATER ENTHUSIAST OR NEW TO THE STAGE, THE PLAYHOUSE TRIPS PROMISE TO BE A HIGHLIGHT OF YOUR SUMMER. DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF LIVE THEATER WITH YOUR FRIENDS. FOR PLAYHOUSE TRIP DATES, CHECK-OUT OUR CALENDAR OF EVENTS WEBPAGE.

ATTN: NEW & RETURNING CAMPERS JOIN THE PEN PAL CLUB



As we eagerly anticipate another exciting summer, we want to remind all campers about Cayuga's Pen Pal Club. This club provides a fantastic opportunity for new and returning campers to connect before camp starts. What you can expect when you join the club: 1) engage in conversations about camp topics and personal interests; 2) share experiences and build new friendships; and 3) returning campers can offer insights and answer questions for newcomers! Joining the Pen Pal



Club can help alleviate any nerves that new campers might feel. If you haven't signed up yet, consider doing so by completing the online form (available on dashboard). Once you sign up, you'll be added to the Directory, which includes: camper names, sessions, grades, email addresses and/or cell phone numbers of all pen pals. Feel free to reach out to as many campers as you like! An updated directory will be emailed to you and your parents each month.

Staff Spotlight

MEET ELIZABETH!

Elizabeth began her journey with Cayuga in 2024 as a Teen Campus Camp Counselor. During both 2024 & 2025, she earned the prestigious Counselor of the Month award. This summer, she will return to camp as a Junior Campus Division Director, and we couldn't be more excited! Whether it's leading her Olympic team to victory, or creating strong connections with the campers in her cabin, she consistently embodies passion, dedication and care. Her vibrant energy & compassionate spirit are bound to leave a lasting positive impact on our camp community. We are eagerly looking forward to her contributions as part of our exceptional team of Division Directors! The Division Director position aligns closely with her practicum and campus roles. Elizabeth will be graduating in May 2026 from Miami University (Ohio) with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work and a Child Life Specialist Co-Major. She is currently completing a practicum at a Teen Center, where she leads life-skills and mental-health programming for teens and is launching a grant-funded project, "Pizza with a Purpose" which brings teens and individuals with developmental disabilities together for connection and community. Next semester, she'll complete a placement at an Elementary School. On campus, Elizabeth works as a Student Associate and former Vice President with HAVKS Peer Health Educators, where she oversees wellness programming and supports the day-to-day operations of the Office of Student Wellness.



PARENT CORNER

RESOURCES, SUPPORT & INFO FOR PARENTS

Even though camp is several months away, it's never too soon to prepare your camper for camp! Preparation is key to ensuring your camper has an enjoyable and enriching camp experience, filled with new adventures and friendships! There are a few things you can do at home to make sure your camper will have a successful summer. Whether it's your camper's first time away from home or they're a seasoned camper, prep is super important. 1) Make sure your camper goes on a few sleepovers; 2) Have your camper independently do their hygiene routine; 3) Encourage your camper to try new foods and develop healthy eating habits (this will help them adjust to the diverse camp menu); 4) Talk to your camper about the importance of making new friends & being open to different experiences; 5) Familiarize your camper with the daily camp schedule and activities, so they know what to expect and can look forward to their favorite events; 6) Packing your bags together, allowing your camper to take responsibility for their belongings; 7) Encourage independence by having your camper manage a small allowance or budget, teaching them about saving and spending wisely; and 8) Discuss any concerns or apprehensions they might have about being away from home, reassuring them with stories of your own camp experiences or those of family members.

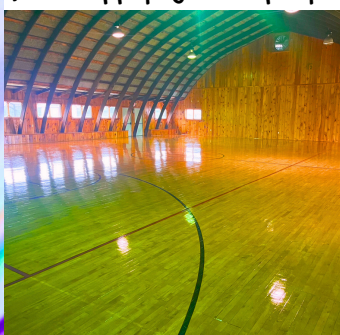


DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CAYUGA KID

8am - wake-up, get dressed and get ready for the day
 8:20am - flagpole assembly (this is when we'll announce upcoming events/birthdays, & remind you of important info)
 8:30am - breakfast time
 9:15am - head back to the cabin and do some cabin clean up (this is when you'll make your bed, tidy your cubby, & do your assigned cabin chore)
 9:30am - activity #1 (for juniors)
 9:45am - elective sign-ups (this is the time when you and your cabinmates will pick out your activities for the day)
 10:20am - activity #2
 11:20am - activity #3
 12:30pm - lunch time
 1:10pm - canteen/ down time
 2:10pm - activity #4
 3:10pm - activity #5
 4:10pm - activity #6
 5:10pm - activity #7
 6:20pm - dinner time
 7:00pm - canteen/ down time
 7:30pm - flagpole assembly
 7:40pm - night time evening activity (one of the most anticipated and exciting parts of the day)
 9pm - junior curfew (& lights out at 9:30pm)
 9:30pm - inter curfew (& lights out at 10pm)
 10pm - senior curfew (& lights out at 10:30pm)
 10:30pm - teenside curfew (& lights out at 11pm)

Camp Winter Update ENHANCING OUR CAMP GROUNDS

Each off-season, our team comes together to make improvements to the campgrounds. We have nine months to prepare and complete all our projects. Our dedicated full-time crew, consisting of Steve, Dick, Justin, & Jackie, tackle these essential tasks. This off-season, they are focused on: renovating the Junior Boys cabins (B1, B2, B3) (installing new knotty pine, adding new windows & increasing the number of outlets & lights); refinishing the Junior Campus gym floor (applying new polyurethane); waxing the Teen



Campus Rec Center floors; assisting in the construction of a new staff cabin; and installing new porches on the Junior Campus Rec Hall. Their hard work & dedicated efforts ensures that camp is in tip top shape for summer 2026, providing a welcoming & safe environment for all our campers and staff. In

future summers, we plan to create new projects and continue our renovations.

NEWSLETTER CONTEST

LET'S TAKE A TRIP DOWN CAYUGA'S MEMORY LANE!
 Campers, can you successfully guess the Cayuga year?



Camp Cayuga has been around since the 1950's. Unfortunately, back then, digital cameras weren't around, which means we only have a handful of photos of Cayuga before the early 2000's. For this Newsletter Contest, we wanted to shake things up & put your decade skills to test! Campers, can you guess what years these photos were taken in? If you guess correctly (or even within a 5-year window) you will be entered in the Newsletter Contest raffle for a chance to win Camp Cayuga merch! HINT: Pay close attention to the clothing & hair style trends! Send us your answers via email by January 15th. We'll announce the winners in our next Newsletter & notify the winners via email.



CARE PACKAGES FOR CAMPERS

CAMPERS @ CAYUGA ARE PERMITTED TO RECEIVE CARE PACKAGES AS LONG AS ALL THE GOODIES INSIDE ABIDE BY THE CAMP'S GUIDELINES. CAMPERS ARE PERMITTED TO RECEIVE A SLEW OF DIFFERENT ITEMS, SUCH AS: MAGAZINES, BOOKS, GAMES, & OTHER APPROVED ITEMS (AS SHOWN IN THE PACKAGE BELOW). PARENTS CAN SEND THEIR CAMPERS CERTAIN SNACKS LIKE CRACKERS & PRETZELS AS LONG AS THEY'RE STORED IN A SEALED CONTAINER SIMILAR TO RUBBER-MAID. OTHER TYPES OF FOOD, LIKE CANDY, NUT PRODUCTS & PERISHABLES ARE PROHIBITED. REMINDER: THE CANTEEN (ALSO KNOWN AS A GENERAL STORE) IS OPEN DAILY TO OUR CAMPERS. IF CAMPERS ARE RUNNING LOW ON SNACKS OR TOILETRIES, THEY CAN PURCHASE AN EXTRA SNACK (IN ADDITION TO THEIR 2 FREE SNACKS) OR MINI TOILETRY ITEMS FROM THE CANTEEN. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT CARE PACKAGES, PLEASE REFER TO THE PARENT HANDBOOK, WHICH IS AVAILABLE



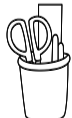
ON YOUR DASHBOARD IN THE SPRING. PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A LIMIT ON THE # OF PACKAGES CAMPERS ARE PERMITTED TO RECEIVE (1 CARE PACKAGE PER WEEK). PARENTS, WE KINDLY ASK THAT YOU ADHERE TO THIS GUIDELINE. IT ENSURES FAIRNESS FOR ALL CAMPERS. THE JOY OF RECEIVING A PACKAGE FROM HOME IS A CHERISHED PART OF THE CAMP EXPERIENCE, AND FOLLOWING THESE GUIDELINES HELPS US CREATE A SAFE AND ENJOYABLE ENVIRONMENT.

HANDLE WITH CARE

FRAGILE



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