

# Camp Newaygo December E-Newsletter

## GIVE BACK TO CAMP

What's a better holiday gift than the Gift of Camp?  
View our Annual End-Of-Year Giving Letter Below  
And Donate [HERE](#)



## CHANGING LIVES ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

**"THIS SUMMER WAS LIFE CHANGING FOR ABRIELLE. WITH YOUR ROCK STAR STAFF, SHE WAS STRETCHED, CHALLENGED, ENCOURAGED AND BELIEVED IN. SHE HAS TRULY TRANSFORMED BEFORE MY EYES INTO A STRONG, INDEPENDENT GIRL WHO FOUND AN INNER VOICE AND SPIRIT. SHE TRULY BECAME HER BEST SELF. THANK YOU."**

**-ALEX, VERONICA & ABRIELLE**

Dear Friend,

Abrielle is a five year old whose parents are thrilled with her Camp Newaygo experience. After just one summer at Camp Newaygo's day camp, she is already looking forward to when she is old enough to go to resident camp. If you are like me you have asked yourself how you can make a difference in the world. At Camp Newaygo, we believe we can change the world one camper at a time. Will you join us? Our Changing Lives Annual Campaign supports our goal to keep camp affordable for all children and families to experience so we can share our mission with a broad range of children and families.

The Camp Newaygo Advisory Board works tirelessly to meet the needs necessary to keep camp vital and prospering by providing a vibrant camp that nurtures its traditions and enhances its contribution as a community asset. But, they need your support to continue with these objectives.

We hope you will make a donation to Camp Newaygo's important work through our Changing Lives Annual Campaign. Please help us reach our goal of \$15,000 by making a contribution now.

Gratefully,



Jane Vitek  
Executive Director  
Camp Newaygo



**P.S.** For your convenience, you may also donate online by visiting <http://bit.ly/1vJZaJP>.



### ZIP LINE CANOPY TOUR

Imagine being 85 feet in the air flying through the trees. Well, that is exactly what you can do on the new Zipline Canopy Tour. Start out on a 325 foot zip to a sky bridge, then rehook up for a 350 foot zip to the tower and climb to the top zipping with a friend in a 25 mile per hour race to the finish on the double zipline for another 400 feet.

Thanks to the Dooge family and several other local donors, this new addition to the Dooge Challenge Course was made possible.

The zip line will be available for campers, event participants, schools and church groups; as well as being open monthly to the public May through October. Contact us to plan a Zippi-de-do-dah birthday party any time.



# GIRLS RESIDENT CAMP

Summer 2015 Registration is NOW OPEN!

Register [HERE](#) for Summer 2015

View our 2015 Dates and Rates [HERE](#)

Visit our new page on "Preparing for Resident Camp" [HERE](#)

Camper Winter Reunion - There's Still Space! Register [HERE](#)



BOOM BOOM, aint it Great TO BE

# CRAZY



camper

# WINTER REUNION

DECEMBER 29-30TH 2014

MEET UP WITH OLD SUMMER FRIENDS  
& ENJOY OUR COZY DORMS

### CHECK IN

MONDAY DEC 29TH FROM 1-2PM

### CHECK OUT

TUESDAY DEC 30TH FROM 4-5PM

### WHAT TO BRING

DRESS WARMLY BECAUSE WE  
WILL BE OUTSIDE! GLOVES, HATS,  
JACKETS, SNOW PANTS, ECT. YOU  
ARE WELCOME TO BRING YOUR  
OWN SLED. ALSO, BRING YOUR  
SLEEPING BAG AND TOILETRIES TO  
STAY OVERNIGHT. THE CAMP STORE  
WILL BE OPEN SO BRING SOME  
SPENDING MONEY IF YOU CHOOSE

**REGISTER AT** [www.campnewaygo.org](http://www.campnewaygo.org)

**Bring Your Nuttiest Outfit For  
Monday Night's**



aint it great to be crazy  
**PARTY**

### ACTIVITIES (Weather Permitting)

SLEDDING, TUBING, SNOWSHOEING,  
CAPTURE-THE-FLAG, ARTS & CRAFTS,  
SNOWMAN BUILDING, PHOTOGRAPHY,  
COOKIE DECORATING, AND MORE!

**RECENTLY, AT CAMP**

# FOUR SEASONS OF DISCOVERY

CAMP NEWAYGO NEWSLETTER WINTER 2014

## HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM CAMP NEWAYGO,

With a record November snowfall in Michigan of 28 inches, we were ready early for a December to remember here at Camp Newaygo. Santa and his reindeer were the stars at our Santa and S'mores night at Lang Lodge and Dueling Pianos were featured at our Ladies Holiday Night Out. Our catering for a cause business, Ridge Specialties, has had a great year thanks to the support of local organizations and businesses helping to make our work with children and families possible. It smelled great in the lodge as they baked over 600 pies and other baked goods for our Thanksgiving fundraising bake sale.

This summer we broke another attendance record for our Girl's Resident Camp with 554 campers in a six week period—a 63% increase since Lang Lodge renovations were completed five years ago. It surely puts all of our facilities to good use and makes us realize that in order to not have to turn campers away, we will need to make some facility changes and add more time to the summer—both great challenges to have. We have already decided to add another week in 2016 to our Resident Camp sessions and are looking at ways to address our facility needs.

Be sure to stop by camp to see us for one of our family programs or when you are in the area.

Happy Holidays,  
Jane

## WEDDING BELLS

Jalisa Johnson and Michael Danhof are now husband and wife after a fun-filled three day destination wedding here at Camp Newaygo with friends and family from far and wide. As Assistant Director of Camp Newaygo, Jalisa knows all the best programs we have to offer and included them in her wedding weekend—moonlight movies on the patio, ziplining the Nature Canopy and great meals by Chef Gary. The beautiful ceremony took place overlooking Lake Pickerel from the patio followed by a reception of stuffed salmon and beef wellington and finishing



off with dancing to the sound of Dueling Pianos.

The newlyweds are all set in their house (Hunting Lodge), and Michael is ready for all that being a Camp Newaygo husband brings with it. Right now, that is maneuvering the camp driveway covered in snow each morning on his way to work in Grand Rapids.

Congratulations to a fantastic couple that is excited to share their energy and spirit with everyone that comes to Camp Newaygo for many years to come.

## ALUMNI SAVE THE DATE

Camp Newaygo will be celebrating it's 90th year of operation in 2016. We have set the date already so you can plan to be at camp for our Alumni Reunion 90th Year Celebration Friday, June 17th–Sunday, June 19th, 2016. Connect with your friends now to get everyone on-board to be here.

## NEW CAMPING GEAR

Each summer every Resident Camper goes on an overnight camp out trip and all Day Campers can sign up for a one night campout. From the five year-old first time day campers to the 17 year-old unit

campers, the kids are putting up tents, cooking over a campfire or on backpack stoves. Our campcraft equipment gets rough use summer after summer with little money left in the budget for replacement.

It is exciting to report that camp received a donation from a local adventure program that closed. We now have added 15 tents, 35 backpacks, 15 cook stoves, pots and pans, sierra cups and much, much more to our camping equipment inventory. We have already been dreaming about the different things we can do now because of this gift. Eight canoes, paddles and a canoe trailer are part of the gift as well. It is amazing!

Any staff member knows that Camp Newaygo has a great trip camping program but also knows that better equipment is always in high demand. This equipment will be great for community programs hosted by Camp Newaygo as well. Community partners make such a difference in being able to offer quality experiences, so a big thank you to everyone who thought to give this equipment a new life here at Camp Newaygo.

## BREAKING A WAVE!

Camp Newaygo has a very active non-motorized waterfront program—from stand up paddle boarding and sailing to kayaking, but this year it was time to invest in the only motorized portion of the waterfront program for campers with a new camp speed boat. From the opening day of resident camp until family camp at the end of the summer, the 18 foot Bayliner speedboat was pulling skiers and tubers almost daily. We have almost reached our goal of paying it off in 2015 thanks to some very generous donors, but you can help us reach our goal by making a donation to our end of the year campaign.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2014 HONOR CAMPERS AND STAFF!

Every summer, we have so many awesome campers and staff. Throughout the summer, we have honors we award to campers and staff who we think represent the spirit of Camp Newaygo best.

In session two, Natalie Jolicier and Maja Dudkowski were chosen for the grommet award. In session three, our July torches were Madeline Cunningham and Leah O'Rourke. The session four wishing boat lights were Ava Fink, Light of Faith; Mallory Sharp, Light of Hope; and Lia Kalinina, Light of Love and Abby O'Rourke as the log book dedicator.

This year we had an amazing staff, with 90% staff returning from the summer before. Chosen as rookie of the year was Program Specialist Julia Burger, appreciation for going above and beyond was Caroline Prokopowicz, and the highest award for staff of the summer going to Kori Swieter, receiving Log Book Dedication.

## THANK YOU DONORS!

You are much appreciated, and we didn't want to miss the opportunity to say a big THANK YOU! You have made the difference that keeps Camp Newaygo going and growing. For the complete list of 2013 donors, please see the back of this newsletter.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Murder Mystery Dinner** - 6:30 p.m, Saturday, January 24th,  
\$28/person, Attendance by Reservation Only

**Krop for Kids** - February 6th-8th Support Big Brothers Big Sisters of Newaygo  
County and Camp Newaygo at this Weekend Weekend scrapbooking event  
\$108- entire weekend, \$38- Saturday only

**Frozen Sing Along & Beer Garden**- February 21st, 3-6pm  
\$5 per person, 1 designated driver FREE per family

Thank You For Helping To Support Camp Newaygo's Mission Of Serving Children &  
Families In Our Community.