

# THE GOLDEN EAGLE

Volume 10

#ItsACampThing

February 2022

## From the Directors:

Can you believe that **there are only 128 days until camp?** While you're at home, school, or work, we're in the office preparing for another awesome summer. A big part of our off-season is spending time speaking with many of our camp families. We're always excited to share the news of what's happening at camp along with the cool things we're adding for this summer. We always say that there's no place like Eagle's Landing! We like to believe that we create a magical place for a campers and staff, so **#ItsACampThing** is our official theme for the summer of 2022.



Eagle's Landing has remained open throughout the Covid pandemic. We followed all of the safety guidelines and even created our own Safety Plan and Operating Guide for the summer (a copy is available on our website home page). We sanitized every 30 minutes, washed our hands, and socially distanced. We are proud to say that we successfully kept Covid out of camp for the entire summer! While we expect 2022 to have many of the same precautions, we are waiting for the NJ the Department of Health's final guidelines. As always, we will keep you updated through email, so keep an eye on your inbox. Be assured that you're sending your kids to a



proven winner. Eagle's Landing not only showed you that we can operate safely, **we also won the New Jersey Reader's Choice Award for Best of the Best Summer Camp** (Again)! Yay! Go ELDC! *Woohoo!*

**When the weather is cold outside, you can be sure that things are heating up at camp. Winter season is when we build for next year and right now we're in the middle of construction here at camp.** The Gem Mining unit has been unpacked, all of the electric and plumbing is in place, and when Spring comes we'll have a new activity area for our younger campers to sift through sand for cool gems, fossils, and shells. Don't worry moms and dads, the campers will bring home their treasures so you can see them too! We can't wait

to see the giant water tower and sluice in action and the excitement on our campers' faces as they explore this new activity. Once the ground thaws, we'll be ready to build the Survival Station down by the Ropes Course. The Survival Station was developed out of an idea from some of our older campers and we are thrilled to be able to make it happen. In addition to **Hatchet Throwing** and **Outdoor Cooking**, our lesson plans include some brand new skills that campers will learn to build their experience and knowledge of the outdoors.

Last month set new enrollment records for ELDC! Enrollment is strong for this summer because parents are ready to get their kids out of the house and playing outside! When our campers and staff come to Eagle's Landing, they leave their technology at home. No laptops, no tablets, and no cell phones. They spend time outside with their friends having fun and socializing.

We've heard from many parents who are concerned that we'll fill up before May and they want to ensure a spot for their child. Remember that you have until June 1 to get a full refund.

**We have officially started waiting lists for some grades and weeks for this summer,** so tell your friends to sign up today if they're not yet enrolled. If you're already signed up but didn't give us your grouping requests, please complete the **Group Request Form** before March 1. You can find it in the "Forms" section of your Campminder online account.

Our campers interested in theater will be excited to hear that our Drama Program is getting an update as well! New this year, an additional Drama Show will be added so that this summer we'll be performing a 3rd & 4th grade show, a 5th & 6th grade show, and a separate 7th, 8th, & 9th grade show! Hanna is currently working with our new Drama Coordinator picking the shows. Be on the lookout for the show announcement on social media over the next couple of months! This year, we'll continue the shows for our younger campers in Kiddie Kingdom and in grades 1 and 2. The Lower Camp shows will be on Wednesday, August 10. More details will follow.

We want to extend a warm welcome to our new campers. We're thrilled that you're now a part of our extended camp family! **Over 88% of our families return each year**, which is a huge compliment to our staff who care for your children during the summer. As Directors, we realize that we're only as good as the people who work with us and that's why we have the best staff in the world of camping!

As always, please reach out to us with any questions you may have at 732-821-9155. We're at camp every day and we'd love to hear from you! **Stay warm and think summer!**

- Ruth Ann, Barry, Hanna, & Shira



## THE STAFF CORNER

Ilyse, our Office Manager, is returning for her 10th summer! She works with us throughout the year getting everything ready for the next camp season. During the winter months, Ilyse works on ordering supplies, developing the bus routes, ensuring that the birthday cards are mailed on time, planning the upper camp trips, and so much more. Ilyse is an amazing multitasker and is a great resource for finding a great deal. When you call camp during the off season with a question, you'll most likely speak with Ilyse. During the summer, Ilyse works with 4 other people in the office to ensure that camp is running smoothly and that every detail is taken care of for our families. During camp, she ensures that the daily camper and staff attendance is correct, the buses are in on time, answering parent phone calls, and helping staff with anything they need. She is one busy lady! Ilyse lives locally with her husband and 2 daughters, who both work at camp. We thank her for her endless dedication and look forward to many more years together.



Leigh is a special person behind the scenes who most camp families never get to meet. We first met Leigh in the Parent Transportation line 7 years ago when her sons started as campers at Eagle's Landing. During our casual conversations we found out that Leigh worked as a bookkeeper. We offered her a year round position at camp and it was a match! We are thankful to have someone in that position who is smart, upbeat, and compassionate when dealing with our camp families, their payments, and their registrations. Leigh keeps busy after camp hours with her own business making and selling gourmet dipped apples (we've taste tested them and they're delicious)! Leigh is a mom of 2 boys, driving them to hockey, art classes, and more! If there's ever a question on campers' weeks, payments, or refunds, Leigh handles it all.

Chrissy, who is returning for her 5th summer, is another rock star in our office! Chrissy's primary job is to produce the weekly newsletter that goes home to camp families every Friday during the summer. She also creates many of the daily and weekly reports designed to update our staff of what's going on every day at camp. You always know when Chrissy is in the office with her laugh and smile. Chrissy teaches AP English during the school year at Manalapan High School, so her editing skills are top notch. Chrissy is an avid music lover and concert goer of her favorite band, Phish. Chrissy lives locally with her husband and 2 children who, of course, go to ELDC!

## Are you following us?

Eagle's Landing is all over social media and if you're not following us, then you're missing out! One of the benefits of ELDC on social media is that kids and parents can follow us without worry. During the off-season, Tik Tok, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter are great ways for you and your kids to stay connected.

We post unreleased photos from last summer as part of our weekly update. We have cool contests with nice swag prizes and post some great articles about children and parenting. Everything is monitored for safety and we ensure that only ELDC staff post to our pages.

We send out e-mails and mail our newsletters, so if you're not on social media, you won't miss out. If you are interested in checking us out, follow us on Tik Tok, Pinterest, Instagram and Twitter at (@EaglesLandingDC), and Facebook at (@EaglesLandingDayCamp). The latest camp news is always posted online so "like us" on Facebook and watch for the latest contests and updates.



## Have you checked out the Calendar?

Special Days are back and better than ever! Jamie, our Special Events Coordinator, has outdone herself adding some new days and bringing back some all-time camp favorites. **Special Days are moving from Wednesdays to Thursdays**, which gives Jamie more time to get ready for her BIG days! We suggest that you take the Special Days Calendar and hang it on your fridge or on the kid's bathroom mirror so you don't forget which theme days to participate in. We also added a new service for all of our camp families who struggle with finding 'accessories' for their camper to wear on themed days. For 2022, we've created a **Spirit Pack** that includes some super cool "spirit" items. The bag includes 1-2 items that relate to a themed day every week (such as silly sunglasses). The Spirit Pack will cost \$15 and comes in a re-usable ELDC canvas tote bag! We created the Spirit Pack for our busy families who don't always

have the time to run out and buy something or create something at home. If you're interested in ordering one, please email Leigh@EaglesLandingDayCamp.com and she will take care of ordering the bag and having it ready for you to pick up here at camp!



# HELP US BUILD THE BEST STAFF YET!

Eagle's Landing continues to grow and we're always looking for new staff to make camp a safe and fun environment for everyone.

We have several positions open for this summer and we thought that we would ask YOU, our families and friends, for referrals. We have many families where one parent is in education or knows someone who may be interested in a summer job.

We are looking for a Junior Counselors (students who are currently in 10th grade), Art Staff, Sports Staff, and Lifeguards/Swim Instructors.

We are also looking for help on our Maintenance Staff and in our Kitchen making sandwiches and serving food. Anyone you send our way MUST be able work Monday through Friday from 8:30 am - 4 pm for all 8 weeks of camp. In addition to a paycheck, anyone who works at camp can enroll their kids at a reduced rate. We are open to grandparents who used to teach and are looking for something to do during the summer. You will receive a \$125 Tuition Credit for next summer for anyone you recommend that gets hired! Please email Ruth Ann for more information at [Ruthann@EaglesLandingDayCamp.com](mailto:Ruthann@EaglesLandingDayCamp.com).

## CHILD CARE TAX CREDIT

If you were gainfully employed in 2021 and incurred expenses for the care of your child or dependent so that you could continue to be employed or look for employment, you may be entitled to a tax credit for a portion of your camp tuition. Check the instructions in your income tax booklet and contact your accountant for additional information.

The Federal Tax ID number for Eagle's Landing Day Camp is: 45-3645311.

## TRIBES

This is the fifth summer of Tribes at Eagle's Landing! Each year we find ways to make Tribes a significant part of the summer for our campers. For continuity, campers, siblings, and staff stay on the same tribe for all of their years at Eagle's Landing. **We schedule a special 2-day Tribal Competition during the last week of camp!**

Our four Tribes, the **Eldings**, **Ladings**, **Delcans**, and **Camdels** compete in fun activities throughout the 2-day event. Put your game faces on and get ready to see who this summer's Tribal winner will be!



## 2022 Camp Calendar

Week 1 . . June 27 - July 1

Week 2 . . July 4 - July 8

Week 3 . . July 11 - July 15

Week 4 . . July 18 - July 22

Week 5 . . July 25 - July 29

Week 6 . . Aug 1 - Aug 5

Week 7 . . Aug 8 - Aug 12

Week 8 . . Aug 15 - Aug 19

Camp will be closed Monday, July 4

## Stay Lates are Changing...

Stay Lates have now changed to Stay Ins! The State of New Jersey is now limiting the amount of time that we can spend at camp after the regular camp day. As a result, we've had to modify how we do our Stay Lates at camp. While the rules may have changed, they won't stop us from doing something special for our campers! We've developed a new program at ELDC for 2nd grade through CITs to give them something new during the summer. Our 1st graders will continue to have their own breakfast on Pajama Day, which is on the Monday of week 3. Our 2nd graders will have an exclusive ice cream party featuring a full sundae bar with special flavors of ice cream. Our campers in 3rd-6th grade will have a special schedule where they will get to make smores, extra pool time, special snacks (that campers will vote on), and a round robin of activities during their 'Stay In'. Starting in 7th and 8th grade, campers will get a special lunch that's not on the regular menu along with the 'Stay In' activities and s'mores. Our LITs and CITs will get a special food truck for them to enjoy with some activities that they never get to do at camp. The Stay In activities will be for grades 3-CIT and only happening on their Stay In dates once during the first 4 weeks of camp and again during the last 4 weeks of camp. The best part for parents is that there are no late pickups and no additional fees. We're also happy that all of our campers will be able to participate because the Stay In will occur during the camp day! We know that some campers will be disappointed, and we are too, but we're turning something beyond our control into a positive event.

We are in the process of creating the special Stay In events over the next few weeks and we would love to get camper ideas of what they consider is special to do at camp. Please send any ideas to [RuthAnn@EaglesLandingDayCamp.com](mailto:RuthAnn@EaglesLandingDayCamp.com) and we will do our best to incorporate as many ideas as we can.

## TOOLS 'N TECH

Campers in grades 3-9 have the option of picking our Tools 'N Tech elective again this summer. For those not familiar with it, Tools 'N Tech gives our gadget gurus the opportunity to discover what's inside all of that electronic equipment. We are accepting donations of electronic equipment (working or not) for the campers to use. We will pick up any donations. Due to potential hazards, we can not accept TVs or CRT computer monitors. Please call us at 732-821-9155 with any questions.



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**Camp starts in 128 days!**  
Who is ready to try Hatchet Throwing?!!

