

THE GOLDEN EAGLE

Volume 9

#Eat Camp Sleep Repeat

December 2020

From the Directors:

2020 will be the year to remember and certainly the summer we will never forget! With a combined 50 years as camp Owners and Directors, Barry and I are used to daily surprises and constant changes. We always do our best to plan for an amazing summer, however, changing everything at the last minute and running a camp during a global pandemic was not easy, and certainly not for the unseasoned camp professional. Many camps did not open last summer and so we're glad that you believed in us and trusted us with your kids. We worked long hours to communicate effectively with all of our families and to be respectful of whatever choices you made. With the coronavirus still spreading throughout the world, we are proud to say that we were open! We



operated all summer and we did not have any problems. Our staff and families all worked together to keep COVID out of our camp and to keep everyone safe. Eagle's Landing has shown that health and safety is our number one priority. We welcomed many new families

last summer and we look forward to seeing everyone back for 2021, including those campers who decided to take a break and not attend this past summer.

Over the past few weeks we've seen an increase in camper enrollments for 2021. Parents are telling us that they're concerned about their kids staying virtual for the spring, and they want to ensure that they have a spot at camp for next summer! The social and emotional health of our campers and staff is important and Eagle's Landing gives them all the opportunity to socialize and play with friends in a safe environment. We are looking forward to seeing the kids play outdoors, swim in our **3 BRAND NEW POOLS AND SPRAY PARK**, laugh, and have tons of fun!! Similar to this past summer, we may have restrictions on enrollment and we are



already filling quickly. We suggest that you enroll now so you don't lose your spot. Remember that you can withdraw your camper for a full refund or change your weeks until June 1. We don't know why any family would enroll at a camp that was closed last summer? We showed you how we can run a camp through a pandemic. Believe in Eagle's Landing! We're getting lots of emails asking about our plans for 2021. First, we are planning to open on June 28 with our regular camp program. As the COVID vaccine distribution ramps up, we are confident that some of the restrictions from last summer will be eased. Second, we will continue to have our "sanitation stations" throughout



the camp, and we will continue to ask campers and staff to disinfect or wash their hands throughout the day. All camp equipment will continue to be cleaned and sanitized. Third, we may still have to wear masks and camper groups may not be able to mix. Therefore, we are planning for group sizes of up to 12 campers for grades 2 and below. For campers entering 3rd grade and up, we are increasing the group size up to 16 with additional counselors. This will allow the larger groups to participate in more activities. The feedback we received from parents at the end of the summer requested that we develop plans to facilitate a modified COVID electives program. These larger groups will allow for elective choice within the group. We can't predict everything and there are many details that we have to wait until the spring to hear about. Fourth, we are hopeful that trips will be back for our older campers. We are planning all outdoor trips to stay as safe as possible.

Hanna, our Assistant Director, is working on social media projects to keep us all connected. Please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, and TikTok so you don't miss anything (all of our handles can be found on the next page). Hanna creates all of our contests, TikToks, posts pictures from summer, and shares interesting articles that pertain to kids, camp, and parents. She is also developing a new staff video training program that will roll out in January to supplement our existing orientations. Some of our video topics include *How to create a healthy group dynamic*, *How to handle "girl gossip"*, *How to facilitate healthy competitive sports with male campers*, and *How to ensure that every camper in your group is being heard*. There is so much that goes on "behind the scenes" to make Eagle's Landing happen and Hanna does an amazing job of keeping it all organized.

Hanna also coordinates all outside picnics and events on the property. We've already heard from companies who want to schedule a picnic and do something special for their employees. Schools are reaching out to schedule end-of-year celebrations, and we are booking more bar/bat mitzvahs, graduation parties, and weddings. See more information inside if you're interested in booking an event.



Please tell your friends and share the camp love! We are scheduling private, socially-distant tours on January 22, 23, and 24 so new families can see camp before our February 1 tuition increase. Feel free to stop by to say hi and to get out of your house. We wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year. Stay warm, stay healthy, and think summer! There's only 191 days until camp!

- Ruth Ann and Barry

HAVE YOUR NEXT EVENT AT EAGLE'S LANDING!

A company picnic, family event, graduation party, bar mitzvah, or wedding at Eagle's Landing is the perfect opportunity for you and your guests to relax, refresh, and have fun! Our staff of professionals will take care of all the details and organize your day whether you invite 100 or 1,000 guests. Swimming, sports, and a catered BBQ will create an event to remember. Book now for 2021; dates are going fast!

Eagle's Landing also has space for meetings and indoor events in the Nest! Whether it's a holiday party or a corporate lunch, call Hanna at 732-821-9155 for more information.

Get Connected with ELDC

We're now on **TikTok**! Find our weekly videos by following us **@EaglesLandingDC**. "Like" our **Facebook** page (**Eagle's Landing Day Camp**) for the latest updates, discounts, and unreleased photos!! Not a Facebook fan? Follow us on **Instagram** at **@EaglesLandingDC**. If none of those suit you, then check out our **Pinterest** page with lots of SUPER ideas for your campers at **@EaglesLandingDC**! You can now be connected with ELDC all year long. We have exciting news and projects that are online only, so **start following us TODAY!**

Pay it Forward with Food!

Last year we filled our buildings from top to bottom with cans and boxes of food for those in need. This winter we're doing it again! We are collecting nonperishable food to help restock our local food banks. Many families have been affected by COVID and cannot afford basic necessities like food. Help us help others during this holiday season and pay it forward by donating whatever you can. We are collecting now through December 30 and we will distribute the food continually over the next few weeks. If you cannot swing by to drop off your items, please call us at 732-821-9155 and we will be happy to pick up the donation from your porch (our version of curbside donations!). We collected over 500 items last year and we hope to beat that this year. Thank you in advance for your assistance and we wish you and your families a very happy and healthy holiday this year.

SAME FACES, NEW PLACES

We are fortunate to have an amazing staff who returns year after year! During the winter we don't get to see you, which is why we like to remind our families how lucky you are to have these amazing talented people watch over your children during the summer!

Christina has literally done every position at Eagle's Landing. She has been a Counselor, Junior Counselor, Counselor for our LIT/CIT Program, Shadow for a child in need, Nature Specialist, and last summer was the Division Leader for 7/8 girls. She teaches High School math and feels that she has not really had the chance to connect with some of our younger campers. So, for this upcoming summer, Christina will be the Division Leader for 3/4 girls and she is super excited about it! She has been working here so long that her campers she had as a Junior Counselor are now staff! Grade 3/4 is one of the largest divisions at camp and there are always things popping up that she can help problem solve. Christina believes that every child should have a unique camp experience and she is determined to make that happen for all of her campers and staff.



Meredith, who has been our Sports Coordinator for the past 2 years, is moving all the way to the other side of camp for a new challenge as the Cooking Coordinator! During the school year, Meredith teaches in the Sayreville Elementary Special Education program. She lives locally with her son, who is of course a camper here at ELDC! She is known around camp for her smile and her inability to stand still. She is a triathlete during the year and that energy continues all summer long. Meredith has the ability to help every camper focus on what they do well so that they can feel good about themselves. She can often be found running through camp wearing a tutu!



Kevin, who was our Computers Coordinator last summer, is moving over to coordinate our LIT/CIT Program. He will work directly with all of our counselors to provide additional training and coaching as needed.



Kevin also has a long history with us; he was a counselor for us over 20 years ago at another camp. Kevin lives in East Brunswick with his wife and 3 children (the 3rd child is brand new!) During the winter, Kevin works as a school Psychologist in the Perth Amboy school district. We are proud to add Kevin as the Division Leader for the LIT (Leadership in Training) Program for rising 9th graders and CIT (Counselor in Training) Program for rising 10th graders for so many reasons. We work with high school-aged campers and help them to become better camp Counselors, to give back through community service projects, to have fun with their peers at camp, and to develop skills to benefit their future employment. Kevin has a vast background in training and working with older kids from his previous overnight camp experience, and he now shares that talent with our staff and campers.

**EAGLE'S
LANDING
DAY CAMP**



2021 Camp Calendar

Week 1 .. June 28 - July 2
Week 2 .. July 5 - July 9
Week 3 .. July 12 - July 16
Week 4 .. July 19 - July 23

Week 5 .. July 26 - July 30
Week 6 .. Aug 2 - Aug 6
Week 7 .. Aug 9 - Aug 13
Week 8 .. Aug 16 - Aug 20

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Camp will be closed Monday, July 5

We Need Your Help

As our program continues to grow, we are always looking for new, talented staff to come and work with us at Eagle's Landing. We have some key positions open for next summer, and we thought that we would ask for your suggestions! If you know of anyone who would be a good match for our team, please send us their names! We are currently looking for the following positions:

Counselors	Ceramics Instructor
Sports Instructor	Science Teacher
Baking Instructor	Technology Instructor
Bus Drivers	Maintenance Crew
Lifeguards and WSI	
Junior Counselors (currently in 10th grade)	

They must love working with kids (seems obvious, but you'd be amazed with some of the applicants who have walked through our doors) and they must be able to work all 39 days of camp. They should have a great attitude and a smile is important!

Please ask any referrals to reach out directly to Ruth Ann at Ruthann@EaglesLandingDayCamp.com or call 732-821-9155.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of our camp families who voted for us this past summer! Eagle's Landing Day Camp was



selected as the Best of the Best for Middlesex County again in 2020! We were so excited to hear the news and that everyone voted for us! We agree! We believe that we are the best camp. We don't take

this award lightly and we are thrilled to be recognized for taking good care of your children and making a difference in their lives!

We Are With You

At Eagle's Landing, we believe that you are not just a member of our family during the summer, but all year long. We realize that many of our families have been struggling with COVID and it's effects. We feel it too. We feel strongly that our business is here for children and their families throughout the year. We are here for you through our online contests, funny TikToks, a "Trunk & Treat" event, Sweater Weather Tours, and upcoming WinterFest Weekend in January to share some fun activities as safely as possible.

The world of Eagle's Landing is possible because of our dedicated staff. We wish we could put into words how much we appreciate our staff, and how committed they are to ensure the best summer possible for your children. As Owners and Directors, keeping an open line of communication and being as flexible as possible is the key to how we run camp.

As a part of our camp family, if you need assistance with anything, we are happy to help you. Likewise, if you are a family that has the ability to help others, we can connect you with others who genuinely need your kindness. Would you like your kids to get out of



the house and run around? Stop by camp and let them play on our playgrounds! We LOVE having kids on the property in any capacity. We realize that this past summer was different, but in many

ways it allowed us to reevaluate what we do and make it even better for upcoming summers.

This past summer we watched our teachers, who were virtual all spring, connecting with our counselors and campers. Our staff of college and high school students committed to limiting their social connections outside of camp for the summer to keep your children safe. We were in awe of everyone going above and beyond to make camp happen. At no point did we consider not opening for 2020, and the same applies for 2021!

Thank you to our camp families who remained flexible with us as our program changed weekly in following with Health Department COVID guidelines. At the end of the summer we were flooded with Thank You notes telling us how wonderful this summer was and how campers had the opportunity to experience a normal summer and play with their friends. Ruth Ann sat and read every note and cried happy tears just to know that we helped so many families.

As we approach Summer 2021 we wish all of you good health, growth for your child socially and academically, and for us all to get back to a "regular" life. We are so excited for this coming summer and we hope you will all be a part of it!

Thank you again,

-Ruth Ann, Barry, and Hanna



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EaglesLandingDayCamp.com



PRSR STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
NEW BRUNSWICK NJ
PERMIT NO 1641

Join us on
January 22, 23, and 24
12-3 pm for

January WinterFest Weekend Tours

Call 732-821-9155 to RSVP
and schedule your tour!

(Let's meet at the new spray park!)

CAMP STARTS IN 191 DAYS!

