



Camp Victory is lucky to collaborate with local college students

By Kate Stepnick, Camp Director

For the second year in a row, campers have been missing out on all the fun they have at Camp Victory, but luckily Camp Victory has been fortunate enough to work with Bloomsburg University and Pennsylvania College of Technology to help our campers have some fun in a virtual way! Michael Patte, a professor at Bloomsburg University said "... due to the impact of COVID-19, Camp Victory has not offered face to face camps for the hundreds of campers who attend each year. So, Camp Victory and their partner groups are offering virtual camp experiences. Bloomsburg University students enrolled in the Child Life Specialist program have produced a variety of virtual play invitations (arts & crafts, music & movement, nature/outdoor play, mindfulness) for campers to enjoy this summer. We hope the play invitations help to fill the void left from not being able to attend Camp Victory this summer in real time."

The Penn College students were in their final semester of their Physical Therapy Assistant program and developed videos to promote physical therapy while also having fun. One group even wrote a song all about PA Vent Camp! These videos were sent to four different partner groups to use in their virtual camps and will also be displayed on our Facebook and YouTube pages after the campers get the first look.

Camp Victory has also been able to work with Bloomsburg University students to provide Zoom panel discussions with some of Partner Group Camp Directors, Medical Staff, and parents. It has been a fun and educational way for those students to learn more about Camp Victory and our amazing campers.

Camp Victory staff have worked hard to provide a virtual presence to help give campers and families the feeling of camp at home. Without the help of the college students, it would not have been possible to develop so much content. Camp Victory is so thankful for the students' time and energy towards these activity videos and we hope it has been as beneficial to the students as it has been to Camp Victory. We look forward to welcoming them to Camp Victory in person in 2022 to provide real-time activities to our campers throughout the summer.



In Memory of Lois Bangs - An Original Pie Lady

By Jamie Huntley, Executive Director



The “Pie Ladies” have been baking pies for our campers almost from the very beginning of Camp Victory. Their delicious pies always put big smiles on the faces of our campers and counselors every Wednesday. Everyone looks forward to Wednesday’s dinner because they know that the “Pie Ladies” will be there with their amazing assortment of delicious, yummy pies for dessert. And, the campers always love seeing and talking to the Pie Ladies, as they so lovingly serve the pumpkin, lemon, apple, cherry and chocolate pastries.



Sadly, we have had to say “goodbye” to one of our special Pie Lady friends. Lois Bangs, one of the original Pie Ladies, passed away recently. Her smiling face and delicious pies will be missed when we gather on Wednesday nights next year. Thank you, Lois, for your care and devotion to Camp Victoryand, for all of the delicious pies you baked over the years!

In Memory of Brian L. Bankes

By Gail Truax, Assistant Camp Director



In January, 2021 everyone who knew Brian L. Bankes, unexpectedly lost a loving friend. Brian was the kind of guy you could count on to make you feel significant and bring a smile to your face. He was great at sharing a kind word or narrating an entertaining story. Brian did everything passionately. His love for archery directed him to get his instructor’s certification. He certified many people at Camp Victory and diligently operated Camp Victory’s archery station. For many years Brian was very involved with Camp Kyndie and served as its director. A simple conversation with Brian would reveal his love for his family, camp, woodworking, and travel. We miss you, Brian, and your friendship. Friendship is the sweetest form of love, so when we say, we’ll be friends to the end, it’s as good as saying, we’ll keep you in our hearts until the very last beat. Thanks for the memories, now rest peacefully, friend.

A Place to Reflect - Chapel Gets a Facelift

By Gail Truax, Assistant Camp Director



No matter what definition of “friend” you choose, here at Camp Victory we have many. We have many friends who help and support our mission of providing a unique camping experience for children, families and individuals facing similar challenges. Working together with our Partner Groups, we nurture and celebrate well-being in our campers. Our volunteers, staff, specialized facilities and programs create an extraordinary, fun environment to foster friendships, hope and life-changing bonds.

Recently, amidst these unusual times, a group of our friends dedicated their time to freshen up our tranquil chapel area. Old wild shrubs and weeds were removed and replaced with ornamental stone. A black decorative

fence was added to the pulpit area to create a peaceful backdrop. Soon, the electric service will be repaired and with a little power washing the brick walkway- engraved full of memories and honors- will be replenished. A special thank you to Richard Smith at Greenwood Landscaping and the Smith family for all their hard work!

We are incredibly grateful for every contribution given by all our loyal friends. Whether you volunteer, send a check or create an improvement to a serene area of camp, your helpful hands allow Camp Victory to remain a Special Camp for Special Kids!





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Thank You's

Camp Victory is grateful for the support of so many people in so many ways! From countless hands-on volunteers to individual, group, or company donors, we couldn't operate without everyone pitching in. Recently, Camp Victory was awarded a grant from the Ivy Lodge 106 to help purchase a new washer and dryer for the Med Shed as well as a grant from Williamsport Sight Services Lions Club for hand sanitizer and roofing for two cabins. And while our grant efforts are typically focused on improving Camp Victory for our special campers, we were fortunate this year to get a grant for staff. Thanks to the Community Giving Foundation, a 'Healthy Workplace' grant allowed us to buy a treadmill, some weights, and two stand-up desks. The mini-workout room will be accessible to camp counselors too. A big thank you to each and every supporter, volunteer, and donor!

Keep in touch

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We strive to keep our mailing list current. If you would like a change in your listing or to be removed, please let us know.

A copy of the official registration and financial information can be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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