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POTAWOTAMI POST • Fall 2017



JOIN US FOR ONE
LAST CAMPFIRE!

October 21-22

Fall Camp (ages 8-13) is a great way to spend time with old friends and make some new ones! Join some of your favorite counselors for this year's festivities! Along with activities like archery, the Mole Hole Slide, campfires, games, 9 Square in the Air, Climbing tower, and GaGa, lots of fun fall activities are planned! Campers will stay in our heated lodges, carve pumpkins, take a tractor ride and hang out by the last campfire of 2017! The cost for this Camp extravaganza is \$105 per camper and includes 1 night lodging, 4 meals, supervision and activities.

REGISTER TODAY! Call us at 260.351.2525.



REGISTER BY NOV. 30, 2017
& SAVE \$75!

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
WHO IS ALREADY EXCITED
FOR NEXT SUMMER AT CAMP?**

If the answer is yes, then sign up for summer camp 2018 and take advantage of our early bird discount. If you register by November 30th 2017, you will save \$75. Sessions fill quickly, so sign up today! We cannot wait to see you and your family back in 2018. Register online at fwycamp.org or by calling 260.351.2525.

KATIE'S CORNER



Dear Friends of
YMCA Camp Potawotami,

At camp, we know that change is inevitable and growth is an important part of life. In that spirit, I wish to announce that I am taking on

additional responsibilities with the YMCA Greater of Fort Wayne. My new role will be as Senior District Executive Director directly leading the Parkview Family YMCA and providing support to YMCA Camp Potawotami and the new Jackson R. Lehman Family YMCA leaders.

Being the Executive Director of Camp Potawotami has truly been an honor and a privilege. Thank you to all of the staff, campers, parents, volunteers, guests and metro leaders who helped me become a better person. Longtime camp veterans know the symbolism of flying geese. This fall, geese will head South for the winter, flying in a "V" formation. Geese work as team and change roles when needed. Sometimes, the lead goose will rotate back and another goose flies point. It pays to take turns doing hard jobs. Geese honk from behind to encourage those up front. I plan on doing a lot of "honking" for camp.

The Camp Board and I have selected the next leader for Camp. We are pleased to announce that Katie Taylor will be our next Executive Director. Katie currently serves as our Senior Program Director and has previously been the Camp Director at Cedar Crest Camp in Tennessee, the Director of Covenant Hills Christian Camp in Vermont, and the Conference Program Coordinator of the Frost Valley YMCA Camp in New York. She graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor's of Arts in Sociology and has earned a Master's of Science in Camp Administration and Leadership.

Thank you all for your support and for sharing such amazing happy camping experiences with me. I can't wait to see what we can accomplish next. Honk! Honk!

Sincerely,

Patrick Kelly

Patrick



Another summer passed quickly at camp. It was a very busy summer at YMCA Camp Potawotami this year. We served over 550 campers, hosted Camp Watcha-Wanna-Do and MDA Camp, continued our partnership with the Indiana National Guard Youth Programs and began a new partnership with Camp Kesem.

The staff from this summer represented many countries from around the world including: New Zealand, England, Scotland, Ireland, Brazil, Mexico and the United States. The 2017 summer staff took great pride in their work this summer and camp very quickly became special to them. One staff member said, "Camp Potawotami is a special place unlike any other. It is a place to be yourself, make friends and grow as a leader. As long as I live, Camp Potawotami will always be in my heart."



Our campers also had a great time at camp. This summer we introduced Corcls which are round durable boats for campers of all ages. Campers use kayak paddles to explore the lake in their Corcls. Along with swimming, climbing, archery, arts and crafts and many other activities this summer, many campers also made smores quesadillas over an open campfire. We would like to thank all the families that joined us in 2017 and we look forward to seeing you again in 2018!



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