Camp Courageous is a year-round recreational, respite care, and travel program for individuals of all ages with disabilities.
Construction starts on Accessible 18-hole Miniature Golf Course at Camp Courageous

To be completed in Summer 2023!

Plans are quickly moving forward to the construction phase on a new fully accessible 18-hole miniature golf course at Camp Courageous. This course was specifically designed to support the needs of individuals with disabilities. Camp’s miniature golf course will be all-accessible and 100% barrier-free for all individuals with ease of transition from one hole to the next.

Features and themes have been designed for each golf hole of this future camper activity. Support is needed to ensure that the entire course can be utilized by all campers. Any amount toward this 18-hole miniature golf course would be appreciated. Use the form on Page 30 to make a specific contribution (or scan the QR code below).

You can help make the Miniature Golf Course a great new activity area for campers. To see how you can support this project see the form on the Needs List on page 30 or go to campcourageous.org/miniature-golf

Scan this code to view the Miniature Golf web page: (To scan code open camera app, point at code, tap screen.)

Camp makes plans for additional Staff Housing

An exceptionally high-quality staff of volunteers and paid individuals are the key to Camp Courageous’ success. That was true in the past and will be in the future. Individuals willing to do whatever it takes to provide a wonderful experience for the campers is paramount for all staff. Camp has been pleasantly surprised and humbled by the number of staff that want to make Camp Courageous their lifetime career. Camp also has several individuals living on the grounds who are fully retired and want to live out their lives volunteering at Camp Courageous. Here is where volunteers and staff can tell, firsthand, the incredible difference they are making in the lives of those with special needs.

Camp Courageous’ goal is to recruit the very best, treat them the very best, and in return they will want to dedicate themselves to the Camp for as long as possible. With programs like emergency respite care, being available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for families of campers, it is imperative to have staff living on Camp grounds who can handle an emergency at any hour. The vast majority of the Camp Courageous staff live at Camp Courageous. As the Camp continues to expand, there is a growing need for facilities that would encourage a person to come here and decide to individually, or as a family, call Camp Courageous home. In addition to the staff dormitory and some homes, camp is moving to the next phase of staff housing through duplexes.

Pictured is an example of the type of duplex housing planned using a combination of donated labor and material.

Anyone wanting to donate any amount to this project would be sincerely appreciated. The naming rights to a half of a duplex is $100,000. With that gift a stone sign will be erected in front of the duplex supporting the wording on the stone sign will be the donor’s choice. The Bill and Marge Weber Family, Buck Beckwith, and Transamerica are a few examples of homes that have been funded for key staff over the years.

Honorary Board Member Charlie Weepie Passes

Camp Courageous was saddened to learn in early January of the passing of Honorary Board Member Charlie Weepie, 90, of Cedar Rapids. Charlie and his wife, Tina, started their relationship with Camp Courageous through their dear friend and Honorary Board Member Liz Valliere as they were looking for a new charity to support. In time, Charlie became more and more fascinated by Camp Courageous and realized this was a charity he could help grow and be a visionary for its future.

Charlie Weepie had an exceptional financial sense from his work experience with Link-Belt, FMC, Clark Equipment, and Highway Equipment, along with his deep admiration for Cal Basile. Charlie used appreciated stocks to fund Camp Courageous efforts like the Weepie Additon. A 10-acre area with five houses for Camp staff along with a facility for the camp horses and storage. Later, Charlie and Tina saw the need for expanded and improved medical facilities at Camp. They funded the Charlie and Tina Weepie Medical Center. One year they challenged thousands of Pineapple Gala attendees to help the Weepie Gala to raise $100,000 and they would match it…they succeeded!

In addition to their financial support, Charlie and Tina were exceptional volunteers. From the Pineapples Sales and Gala to Fruitcake sales, they were eager to help at any time and at any location. Charlie and I often sold fruittcakes and pineapples out of the WMT parking lot when Leo Greco was on the air. Each Pancake and Omelet Breakfast Charlie & Tina would enlist their entire family to help. They were dear friends of Leo and Louise Greco and often joined them and others on what became an annual trip to Branson, Missouri that raised funds for Camp.

Charlie Weepie was a very humble and frugal person. He would give the shirt off his back to help a person in need.

For me, one of Charlie Weepie’s greatest gifts was his gift of knowledge. We would sit down for hours every couple months to review the financial status of the organization, overall as well as its Perpetual Fund. The true beauty of Charlie was over these hours and hours of discussion, he had nothing to gain…he genuinely wanted to do what was best for Camp Courageous.

Charlie was a person of deep faith. He wanted to ‘grow people and to grow assets.’ Charlie and Tina Weepie have a pretty thick file at Camp. As I reviewed this file, in the back of the file is a note they wrote me which summarizes this wonderful couple and the legacy they leave…

Dear Charlie (Becker)-
Please accept our thanks for a wonderful evening we enjoyed at the Pineapple Gala. The presentation of the recognition award is very much appreciated (Induction on to the Honorary Board).

As stated earlier, our gifting is not for publicity, but to meet valid and justified needs. Camp Courageous fulfills the need for individuals with disabilities and their families. It is deserving of our future annual gifting of time, talent, and treasure as the Good Lord continues to bless us and make us the custodian of His gifts.

Charlie, we treasure our relationship. Keep up the wonderful work you do in such a positive manner.

Charlie Weepie
Tina Weepie

I will dearly miss our time together…but the lesson taught…will carry on…

Camp’s sincere sympathy goes out to Charlie and Tina’s children, Jean (Bob) Beer, Margaret Weepie, Michael Weepie, all of Cedar Rapids, and Brian (Angela) Weepie of Fernandina Beach, FL…along with other family and friends. They dearly loved their family and always had a wonderful story to tell about each other.

-Charlie Becker

Camp raffling Fiat 500 Abarth sports car in 2023

After seeing the success of the Camp’s raffle of a VW Bus last year, Eloise Dennis of Center Point, IA donated a 2013 Fiat 500 Abarth sports car to Camp Courageous. She hopes that the raffle of the car will not only raise funds for Camp but also raise awareness like the VW Bus did last year.

Camp Courageous will be selling tickets throughout 2023 for $25. The drawing for the raffle will be held at Camp’s Durgin Pavilion on Sunday, December 31, 2023.

1971 VW Bus raffle winner is Amy Wright

As part of the Camp Courageous 50th Anniversary celebration in 2022 a 1971 VW Bus was raffled to raise funds and awareness of Camp. Both goals were reached as tickets were purchased from across the country.

Congratulations to Amy Wright, winner of the VW Bus raffle. Pictured are Amy and her husband, Thomas, as they prepare to drive the VW to its new home. A HUGE thank you to all of those who participated and made this raffle a big success!!

It’s no use going back to yesterday, because you were a different person then.
See the completed Multipurpose Field now with concession area and restrooms, Mini Golf area under construction, Zipline rides ($10 per rider), Train rides, Camp tours, purchase a raffle ticket for the Fiat 500 Abarth, and more!

Camp Courageous Main Lodge • 12007 190th Street, Monticello IA 52310 • Phone 319-465-5916

Camp Courageous had the good fortune to work with Dawn Carlson, as CEO & President of the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Stores of Iowa, for over 25 years. After inheriting the relationship between PMCI and Camp Courageous, which began in 1981, it grew by leaps and bounds under Dawn’s leadership. Between her relationship with Camp, her need to help others, and her love for horses and strong Christian beliefs, Rhythms of Grace was born. Located just west of Des Moines (Dallas Center) Rhythms of Grace provides hope and healing through equine-assisted services. It is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for children and adults with diverse needs by partnering with the horse to bring hope and healing through equine-assisted services. Camp recently attended their 2nd Annual Gala and was among several attending the event wanting to attend their 2nd Annual Gala and was very happy for Dawn and her successful efforts. Camp is able to go downstairs and enjoy bowling and arcade games.

Campers enjoy free Cupid Shuffle event

Over 200 campers and their staff RSVPed for the 2023 Cupid Shuffle event held at Camp Courageous, but over 300 attended! Staff setup more tables and chairs to handle the crowd that filled Durgin Pavilion. Campers were able to enjoy great music, dancing, refreshments, and more throughout the event. They were also able to go downstairs and enjoy bowling and arcade games.

Campers are pictured playing games during the Cupid Shuffle event.

Thank you to volunteers (L) Deb Pingle and (R) Cherie Huber for painting faces during the Cupid Shuffle event.

Donated items accepted and added to the sale daily. Credit cards are accepted for purchases of $10.00 or more. If dropping off more than three bags of items and need assistance unloading call 319-465-5916, ext. 2340 to make an appointment. Get a list of accepted donations on Manchester Garage Sale’s web page by visiting the web address below or scan the QR code (with your smartphone camera app).

Camp Courageous
Manchester Garage Sale
Camp’s largest year-round fundraiser!
Buy new and gently used items with proceeds going to Camp Courageous!

Run 100% by these incredible volunteers:


Monday Afternoon (L-R) Bonnie Knipper, Joanne Cain, Mary Ann Carradus, Susan Kroger, and Donna Carradus. Not pictured: Dianne Wortham.

Tuesday Morning (L-R) Smith, Linda Soales, Mary Ann Schiess, Ardel Brooks, Betty Werner, Mary Dighton, Lynn Ryan, Barb Wolfram, Don & Carmen Melody, Betty Erthum, Carolyn Gustin, and Diane Ward.

Tuesday Afternoon (L-R) Maria Schiess, Carolyn Gustin, Seth Baumhover, Pat Swanson, Dick Koch, Chris Tegeler, Jim & Julia Hopkins, Joyce Chrystal, John Smith, Linda Soales, Mary Ann Schiess, Ardel Brooks, Betty Werner, Mary Dighton, Lynn Ryan, Barb Wolfram, Don & Carmen Melody, Betty Erthum, Carolyn Gustin, and Diane Ward.

Wednesday Morning (L-R) Penny Swanson, Joyce Dorney, Dolly Bessey, Donna Hansen, Linda Mensen, Mary Funke, and Grace Baumhardt. Not pictured are: Thayne & Kathy Benz, Madeline Borrett, and Char Strub.

Wednesday Afternoon (L-R) Joyce Dorney, Julie Pasker, Seth Baumhover, and Ruth Ann Kroener. Not pictured are Betty Erthum, Donna Handeland, Kay Wood, Mary Mauger, Darlene Ries, Patty Discher, Mary Ann and Donna Carradus.

Thursday Morning (L-R) Tammy McCusker, Sandra Kent, Chris Tegeler, Joanne Cain, Carolyn Melody, Marcia Hoejerg, Don Melody, and Jean Pasker. Not pictured are: Karleen Sellors, Deb Wolfram, Denise Rorabaugh and Seth Baumhover.

Thursday Afternoon (L-R) Annette Stark, Mary Trumm, Chris Tegeler, Jan Grundmeyer, Berdina Bell, Penny Swanson, Maria Schiess, Tanja Foster, Marcia Hoejeer, and Patty Gesler. Not pictured are: Jackie Sherman, Patty Discher, Mary Ann and Donna Carradus.

Store Hours:
Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Wednesdays 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Saturdays 9:00 AM to Noon

Hours are subject to change. Visit the web page the latest updates.

Manchester Garage Sale
1121 E. Main Street, Manchester, IA • Phone: 563-927-2120
Get more details at: campcourageous.org/Manchester-garage-sale

Happiness is not something ready made. It comes from your own actions.
Congratulations to the Marion Sunshiners Kiwanis Club as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary! Camp Courageous has been fortunate to be involved in the Club for almost all of their 50 years. Several members were among the first volunteers at Camp Courageous laying sod in 1973, just before the first campers came in 1974. Camp’s dear friend, Mel Holubar was honored for being a 50-year active member. Mel is a wonderful person, who was one of those original sod layers at Camp. Pictured is Mel receiving the 50 years of those original sod layers at Camp. The event will be held rain or shine.

Camp Courageous cannot thank the Five Seasons Bottle & Specialty Collectors Club enough for their incredible outpouring of support for decades. At their holiday party they collected a car load of needed items for the camp along with a presentation of a check. The Five Seasons Bottle & Specialty Collectors Club has been supporting Camp Courageous since some of the camp’s earliest years. A special thank you to Fran and Ken DeMarce (front seated), who work the year-round for camp...along with the entire membership!

A special thank you to Amy Upchurch Kohlweiss for helping organize a “Team Grayson” night at the Colo-NeESCO High School Basketball games against Collins-Maxwell to benefit Camp Courageous. Their FFA had a delicious Chili Supper. What a wonderful turn out from the area communities, showing their genuine, good and caring nature. Amy’s son, Grayson, (4th from the left) attended Camp Courageous last year and “had the time of his life,” according to Amy. She wrote, “Grayson and others with Muscular Dystrophy have a chance to be ‘normal’ with peers like them for a week in June!” Pictured are five of the camp’s earliest years. Camp Courageous was honored for giving Camp Courageous the opportunity to provide them a program about the Camp. They have been great individual donors over the years and great donors as a group. Special thank you to Past District Governor and Membership Chair Paul Fugate; Club President Jim Barty; and Service Chair Bernadette Lane for scheduling the program. It was a wonderful evening!

Thank you to Doug Langerman of the Fredericksburg Lions for inviting Camp Courageous to give a program to their group! Four of their members visited the Camp last summer and especially enjoyed some zipline rides. Camp is grateful to them for nearly 25 years of support!

The Dysart Lions have been long-time Camp Courageous supporters, including (far right) Don Lyons. Pictured with Don are his wife, Elsie, and Camp Board Member and Past-Chair Jim Fools from Brooklyn, IA. They are pictured while at the Dysart Lions Pancake Breakfast. Don and Camp Courageous first met through the Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Stores of Iowa, nearly 40 years ago as Don served as Chair of their Board of Directors. For a number of years Don worked for Linn Coop, traveling over 100 miles to and from work each day. Don is a 60-year member of the Dysart Lions. Super individuals and a super Club that are all great Camp supporters!

Thank you to Gary and Violet Peterson from Newton, Iowa for their donation of a 1997 Chevy 2-wheel drive, 3/4-ton pick-up truck. Its just what Camp can use for many trailer runs when a heavier duty truck is needed.

Thank you to the members of the Mt. Vernon Lions Club for giving Camp Courageous the opportunity to provide a program about the Camp. They have been great individual donors over the years and great donors as a group. Special thank you to Past District Governor and Membership Chair Paul Fugate; Club President Jim Barty; and Service Chair Bernadette Lane for scheduling the program. It was a wonderful evening!

A special thank you to Amy Upchurch Kohlweiss for helping organize a “Team Grayson” night at the Colo-NeESCO High School Basketball games against Collins-Maxwell to benefit Camp Courageous. Their FFA had a delicious Chili Supper. What a wonderful turn out from the area communities, showing their genuine, good and caring nature. Amy’s son, Grayson, (4th from the left) attended Camp Courageous last year and “had the time of his life,” according to Amy. She wrote, “Grayson and others with Muscular Dystrophy have a chance to be ‘normal’ with peers like them for a week in June!” Pictured are five current and future campers, all with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and their Counselor, Andrew. Each camper received an autographed basketball from the players. Super evening! “Courage isn’t having the strength to go on. It’s going on when you don’t have strength.” — Napoleon Bonaparte

Impossible is just an opinion.
A very special thank you to Jeff Collins and Malora Cosgrove with the Cedar Rapids Donutland (4307 Center Point RD NE) for choosing Camp Courageous to benefit from their round-up during their month of December. Donutland and Camp Courageous want to make sure the customers of Donutland know how grateful we are to them for rounding their purchases up for Camp Courageous...super customers! Jeff Collins first had the idea of having a campers experience at Courageous, having a daughter who attends. Thank you to the customers, Jeff and Malora, and the staff for being so supportive of Camp Courageous! Pictures: Justin Cable, Cerisa Thomas, Malora Cosgrove & Jeff Collins, super, dedicated, and enthusiastic staff...always giving back to benefic others! (Donutland has two locations in Cedar Rapids, one in Iowa City, and one to open soon in Des Moines).

For those campers that are not competitive or want a more sensory experience the laser tag system can be set up as a traditional target area similar to archery. Campers sit at a table with the tagger. Close to 10 targets can be set up throughout the range giving them a chance to set off one of the colorful flashing lights. There are two mechanisms in the back of the tagger which create a recoil effect. This feature is perfect for campers with learning impairments. It allows them to “feel” the action. The bright lights of the sensors going off only adds to the experience.

If you would like to volunteer at Camp Courageous in any capacity, please contact volunteer@campcourageous.org

Volunteers needed in every Camp department as well as events (camp breakfasts, Sprint Triathlon, Cruise car show, and more!)

Don’t be afraid to give up the good to go for the great.
Debra Graham - In memory of Alice Kibler’s 90th birthday.

James and Helen Nagel - In memory of Lloyd G. Oppedahl.

Barkin - In memory of Phyllisмотреть источники

Beloit - People who wonder if the glass is half empty or full miss the point. The glass is refillable.

Bryan - In memory of Russel Hansen.

Buckingham - In memory of Arthur Weepie.

Burr - In memory of Margaret Doyle.

Farrell - In memory of Robert St. John.

Hageland - In memory of Diane Knerr.

Hageland - In honor of Margaret Doyle.

Hageland - In memory of Blake McDermott.

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Camp is hiring for Respite Care Weekends

Camp Courageous focuses on providing barrier-free opportunities to children and adults with disabilities and chronic illnesses. Campers of all ages and abilities attend camp throughout the year. Camp is dedicated to providing a variety of activities including arts and crafts, laser tag, tug, high and low ropes courses, zip lining, canoeing, swimming, and more.

Camp Courageous strives to accommodate all campers regardless of age or abilities, to adapt activities to anyone who chooses to participate. If you are interested, join us for our upcoming Mini Golf area. If you would like to help with our upcoming Mini Golf area, please contact us at 319-465-5916, ext. 2230.

Camp Volunteers Rita and Ken Wolﬀ are “9 Who Care” award winners!

Congratulations to Rita and Ken Wolﬀ for winning the “9 Who Care” award from Camp Courageous and other volunteer efforts. They will now go to New York City to receive their awards at the Kennedy Honors Watch for a future story about their nomination and award.

For those seeking a career in Special Education, campcourageous.org/respite-care-counselor-application/

Weekend rate is $330.00

One day or day one. You decide.

Camp Visitors

Linda Jay
Victoria Barnum
Laurie Kramer - In memory of Morgan McPherson
Val Krause
Jennifer Borkholder - In memory of Keith Cook
John August
James Schumacher
Cliff Conrad
Dorothy Wegner - In memory of Virginia Brauer
Michelle Ann Frith - In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas St. Fahl
Maryann, & Myra Frith
Dorothy Wegner - In memory of Virginia Brauer
Michelle Ann Frith - In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas St. Fahl
Maryann, & Myra Frith

Weekend rate is $330.00

One day or day one. You decide.
Very often, a change of self is needed more than a change of scene.

This winter I had the pleasure of going on my first trip. A group of travelers and I went to Cuba and had a show. It was a spectacular show and site to see in the adorable town of Havana.

On my first trip, I met several seasoned campers and I'm so glad that I got to introduce myself to them. As a new camper I had the pleasure of meeting was Ronnie. He and I spent the bus rides laughing at each other's jokes, getting to know each other, and bonding over our shared experiences. This winter I had the pleasure of meeting was Ronnie. He and I spent the bus rides laughing at each other's jokes, getting to know each other, and bonding over our shared experiences.
Camp Courageous is in need of supplies for screen printing in arts and crafts which is part of the camp’s program development. Screen printing is a process where ink is forced through a mesh screen onto a surface. Making careful screens is the key aspect of the screen printing process. Once the screens are made, platemaking is the process of crafting a printing ink, which then will be printed onto the material of your choice using a screen printer. And, lastly, plastisol ink is used and painted onto the material from the screen printing.

The ink comes in different colors and will allow campers to create their own shirts or paint the object that we screen printed.

If you would like to contribute toward these supplies then please consider going to our website at campusa.org for more details. Thank you!
Durgin Pavilion is located on beautiful Lake Todd. Two accessible levels. Upper Level accommodates 250 people. Lower Level features arcade games. Lower Level Patio accommodates 300 for outdoor seating. Large parking area and additional parking across 190th Street.

For more information, visit www.campcourageous.org for cancellations or call (319) 465-5976 ext. 2140.
Ann, and Becky. Camp Courageous is the Catholic Order of Foresters, all Camp presented a State Family Award. He was his heart. LeRoy was instrumental in the role in the Jesup Knights of Columbus, Pump-Scheer American Legion Post 342 organizations, like the his active role in several to know LeRoy through the opportunity to get to the family and friends. Camp's sympathy goes at Camp Courageous.

Camp Courageous is saddened by the recent passing of Bob Smrcina, 84, of Dubuque. Bob was a dear friend of Camp and was always just a phone call away from helping Camp. Bob made a request that his memorials go to Camp Courageous. Camp Courageous is saddened by the recent passing of Bob Smrcina, 84, of Dubuque. Bob was a dear friend of Camp and was always just a phone call away from helping Camp. Bob made a request that his memorials go to Camp Courageous. Camp Courageous is saddened by the recent passing of Bob Smrcina, 84, of Dubuque. Bob was a dear friend of Camp and was always just a phone call away from helping Camp. Bob made a request that his memorials go to Camp Courageous.
By the pool...

Camp Courageous Vermazen-Carver Aquatic Center Information

Daily Admission: $6.00/ Swimmer $6.00/ Adult $8.00/ Family of 4 $24.00/ Family of 5 $30.00/ Family of 6

15-Day Pass: Reserve your spot for 15 days in advance for $30.00 per person. A $150.00 non-refundable deposit is required.

6-Month Pass: Reserve your spot for 6 months in advance for $225.00 per person. A $450.00 non-refundable deposit is required.

Annual Pass: Reserve your spot for the entire season for $360.00 per person. Non-swimmers are included in each package.

Non-swimmer guests are included in each package.

$50.00/hr - Party Room (25 Guests) $225.00 25-30 Guests 2 Pools

$150.00 25 or less Guests One Pool (2 Lifeguards)

$275.00 51-75 Guests 2 Pools

$350.00 51-75 Guests 2 Lifeguards

$500.00 51-75 Guests 3 Lifeguards

The Vermazen-Carver Aquatic Center is available for rental when not in use by campers. For questions or details visit campcourageous.org/indoor-or-pool or call 319-465-5916, ext. 2600 or pool@campcourageous.org

Pool Rental - Pool rentals are limited to 1 hour swim time. Non-swimmer guests are included in each package.

$50.00/hr - Party Room (25 Guests) $225.00 25-30 Guests 2 Pools

$150.00 25 or less Guests One Pool (2 Lifeguards)

$275.00 51-75 Guests 2 Pools

$350.00 51-75 Guests 2 Lifeguards

$500.00 51-75 Guests 3 Lifeguards

The Vermazen-Carver Aquatic Center is available for rental when not in use by campers. For questions or details visit campcourageous.org/indoor-or-pool or call 319-465-5916, ext. 2600 or pool@campcourageous.org

Lap Swim, Water Aerobics, and Family Swim sessions are available throughout the year.

Camp Courageous' Annual Tait & Dottie Cummins Memorial Pineapple Gala

August 18, 2023 • 6 PM • DoubleTree, Cedar Rapids

Silent & Live Auctions, Hawaiian Dinner, Camp Program, and more!

NEW FOR 2023! Auctions will be online with Qtego!

Gala auctions will be presented by Qtego, the #1 auction platform in the nation. Qtego staff will be assisting on-site.

Watch for the Pineapple Sales at area Hy-Vee Stores coming in early August.

Scan the QR code or visit the Gala web page at https://campcourageous.org/gala for ticket and auction details.

MAIL-IN FORM FOR TICKET ORDERS AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE 2023 PINEAPPLE GALA & AUCTION

We would like to make a donation to the Gala of 

We would like to be a GALA SPONSOR...

LEVEL AMOUNT Receive up to...

GOLD $1,000 1 Table (10 seats)

SILVER $500 2 Tables (20 seats)

BRONZE $250 3 Tables (30 seats)

We would like to purchase _____ tickets at $75 each.

We would like to make a donation to the Gala of 

We would like to make a donation to the Gala of 

Thank you!
Thank you to Jan Dyson from Hope Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids for inviting Camp Courageous to give a program to their Women of Hope group! Had a wonderful time with this delightful group. So many had connections with the Camp and its events. Camp is grateful for their support and this opportunity! Camp Courageous is available to give programs any time and virtually any where. Just call the camp (319-465-5916) for more information.

It was a treat for Camp Courageous to have (L-R) Nickie Waddell and Sharon Kouba come to Camp with a carload of needed items for the campers and their programs. They brought yarn, quilts, fleece blankets, pillowcases, and a lot more. A huge labor of love from Nickie and Sharon and from members of their church and the El Kahar Shrine Aux. Nickie’s husband was a Shrine clown for years and Don and Sharon were very active with Shrine and the Pineapple Gala, which Sharon remains active. Each year the trip for two given away at the Gala is in memory of Don Kouba. Two wonderful ladies doing a real labor of love.

Camp Courageous would like to thank B & W Racing Services for selecting Camp to be one of the charities to benefit from their Central Park Open House and Polar Run/Reindeer Plunge. A sincere and warm thank you to all those who chose to take the plunge into the Lake at Central Park...that is truly those who chose to take the plunge into the Lake at Central Park…that is truly

Volunteers Needed for Travel Program!

Volunteering for Camp Courageous Travel trips is a great way to experience the joy of camp while making a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities. The Travel program offers trips both domestic and abroad. Travel campers have a great experience through the hard work and dedication from volunteers. All volunteers are interviewed and then trained by the Travel program before attending a trip. All trips are free for volunteers to attend, including meals, activities, and lodging. The only thing volunteers need to pay for are any souvenirs!

The requirements for volunteers for the Travel program are as follows:
- 18 years and older.
- Able to lift 50 pounds.
- Must be able to walk long distances and be active.
- Desire to work with adult individuals with disabilities.
- Must pass a background check.
- Great Attitude.

If you or someone you know may be interested in a volunteer opportunity with the Travel program contact travel@campcourageous.org for additional details on applying.

Travel Program is on the move!

The Camp Courageous Travel Program is for adult campers that want to explore more of the world around them. As you can see, 2023 has started out with several trips and many more scheduled throughout the year.

- “Little Women” performance
- “We Will Rock You” musical show.
- The Simon and Garfunkel Story
- Iowa Hawkeye basketball game
- San Francisco, CA
- Make plans now to travel with Camp Courageous in 2024 to the U.K.
- St. Louis, MO
- Walt Disney World parks and resorts.

Keep your face always toward the sunshine and shadows will fall behind you.
Camp Courageous recently unveiled a new stone sign at the entrance to the Pictured Rocks Addition of Camp Courageous (formerly Pictured Rocks United Methodist Church Camp). The sign acknowledges those who had the vision to see the need to purchase this additional land to provide the need for growth to better serve the campers of the future, and funded the project. Those donor contributions will be returned next major chapter in the Camp Courageous History were Bill and Kay Pitlik, Bill Beckwith, Jim and Arlene Bader, and Bud and Georgia Zimmerman. Wonderful individuals who have played a key role in the Camp’s past and now in its future.

Thank you to Jennifer Freeland for donating to a car to Camp Courageous. The car was from her late father, Don Arnold. Jennifer’s grandmother was Mary Westhoff, a great Manchester Garage Sale Volunteer in the 80s. Mary’s daughter, Sarah, was a regular camper and son, Casey Westhoff, was a Camp Courageous Counselor and has dedicated his career to the profession of serving those with disabilities. Super Family!

Anyone interested in donating a vehicle of any type to Camp can contact Russ Yonkovic at 319-465-5916 ext 2500. You can also E-mail Russ at: russ@campcourageous.org

Endowing Staff Positions at Camp Courageous

You can ensure that Camp Courageous continues to grow through exceptional staff by endowing a position. Position endowment creates employment stability and also reduces operating expenses for the camp. Through endowing a position, you will impact Camp Courageous for generations to come.

Those who have endowed a position will be recognized on the Camp Courageous Foundation display. Additionally, a plaque recognizing the donor will be displayed above each position’s office door.

Staff Update: Camp Courageous Facilities and Maintenance Staff

As Camp Courageous has grown from serving 213 campers with special needs over a summertime program, to nearly 10,000 campers in a year-round program, it has also grown from 40 acres to nearly 400 acres; from 5 buildings to nearly 35 buildings and from a staff of 12 to a staff of around 100! At the same time, the need to maintain what the Camp presently has and to meet the growing needs of the facilities has never slowed. Camp’s philosophy has always been, if one can’t take care of the facilities, how can Camp take care of the campers. Everyone’s first impression of Camp Courageous, is extremely important. This is the team that makes sure the first impression is good… as well as all future impressions.

Camp Courageous is fortunate to have a Facilities and Maintenance Team who are exceptional. They are dedicated to meeting the campers needs along with those of the staff and the public. From fixing a camper’s wheelchair to fixing a huge pump in the pool, every day is different, and every day is filled with new challenges.

Jeff Martens recently joined Camp and brings a strong background in water quality and so much more. He is a graduate of the Univ. of Dubuque with a Major in Environmental Science and a minor in Biology. His background gives Camp the heads up on integrating the sciences with science-based solutions. Camp wants to be good stewards of the land and the water we drink. Today, there is a tremendous amount of daily testing of camp’s drinking and waste water. It has become a full-time job and Camp feels fortunate to have Jeff’s talent.

Happy Retirement to Terry Crowley after nearly 10 years at Camp Courageous. Terry was known to help anyone in need. He was a huge hit with campers as the train engineer for several years. Terry is a former assistant Camp with moving acres of grass, repairing and maintaining equipment, and assisting with the addition of the Pictured Rocks land. He was not needed for projects to get done! Terry’s years of service to all and Camp wishes him the best in his retirement. He will be missed!

Regular Volunteer Jim Zimmerman has been involved with Camp for over 40 years. He started by bringing family campers to camp as a teacher and later as administrator. Jim enlisted his entire family to be volunteers and staff at Camp Courageous. He’s been an integral part of Camp for over a decade and has volunteered an endless number of hours in the facilities and the maintenance department and other areas of the camp.

If you have questions or would like more information regarding position endowment, please contact Charlie at checkers@campcourageous.org or 319-465-5916 ext. 2500.
Camp Courageous is a WISH LIST on Amazon! Almost all of the needed items on this page are on the WISH LIST and are just a click away online. Find the wish list link at:

www.campcourageous.org/needs-list

MAJOR NEEDS:

$400,000 Duplex-Staff Housing (or $200,000 for one side)
$150,000 - New Camper Bus
$75,000 - 20KW standby generator
$120/208 Volt 3 phase
$75,000 - 800 AMP Generator for PBJB buildings and area
$60,000 - 40 Telehander
$25,000 - Maint. Utility Terrain Vehicle
$25,000 ea. - Mainliner Memorial Park sponsor of Five Branch (Army tanks) and COVID monuments
$20,000 - 8 Passenger People Mover
$6,000 - Adult changing table (need 2)
$5,500 - Commercial Paddle Board for Campers
$5,500 - 8 Prostalty Air Hockey Table
$2,000 - Adventure Equipment (helmets & Adaptive Harnesses)
$2,000 - Rubbermaid Commercial Wheelbarrows (need 6)
$2,000 - Foam Machine for Campers

How would you or your group like a presentation given about Camp Courageous? Want camp at your next meeting? Want to visit and tour Camp? Please call 319-465-9510 for details.

Sponsors of “The Camper T-Shirt” 2023:

Those who attend Camp Courageous have spent the entire year eagerly anticipating what the week holds, and one of their most prized possessions is “The Camper T-Shirt”. Campers look forward to receiving a T-shirt each year. The shirt is a symbol of belonging and acceptance, and wearing it gives them a sense of pride and confidence that they carry with them long after their time at camp.

Thank you to City, Clean and Simple for providing the T-shirts. Sponsors include Citizens State Bank, Pinnacle Engineering, Ohnward Bank, Cedar Lodge #11 (Tipton), Farmers State Bank, The Tibor Family, Dr. Kim Kazimour, LookIn2IT, and the Dave Mason family.

Thank you to L-R: Mackenzie Carpe and Gene Neighbor, President and CEO of City, Clean and Simple in Oelwein, Iowa. Colin Wellauf, CEO of CITY Clean and Simple in Oelwein, Iowa, and his staff have been long-time supporters of Camp Courageous. As camp prepares for its 2023 season, a much-needed donation of surface wipes and hand sanitizer was brought to Camp by (L-R) Brad Brickzin and Rick DeVries from the city’s primary depot located in Cedar Rapids. Thank you for making the trip to deliver this wonderful and needed donation.

Thank you to City, Clean and Simple (CITY Clean and Simple in Oelwein, Iowa) for their check in the amount of $25,000. Thank you to Farmers State Bank, For their donation of $25,000. Thank you to the annual sponsorship for the Camper T-shirt by Farmers State Bank, for their check in the amount of $2,000. Thank you to the annual sponsorship for the Camper T-shirt by Farmers State Bank, for their check in the amount of $2,000.

Colin Wellauf, CEO of CITY Clean and Simple in Oelwein, Iowa, and his staff have been long-time supporters of Camp Courageous. As camp prepares for its 2023 season, a much-needed donation of surface wipes and hand sanitizer was brought to Camp by (L-R) Brad Brickzin and Rick DeVries from the city’s primary depot located in Cedar Rapids. Thank you for making the trip to deliver this wonderful and needed donation.
Thank you to Joe Corpstein and Mailing Services, Inc., located in Cedar Rapids, IA. They address, sort, and mail this newsletter as a donation to Camp Courageous. They save the camp thousands of dollars with each mailing.

Thank you to Joe Corpstein and his staff for their incredible work. Scan the QR code or go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1ZUKpYohLw to watch a video about the relationship they have with Camp.

Upcoming Events:
- Apr 8 - Family Preview Day for new campers and their families
- Apr 22 - Monticello Pizza Ranch Benefit
- Apr 29 - Hawkeye Tailgate for Campers - Iowa City
- Apr 30 - Omelet Breakfast and Open House - Camp Lodge
- May 21 - Cruisin’ for Camp Courageous - Camp Courageous
- May 22-27 - Round-Up for Camp at participating Fareway Stores
- Aug 13 - Camp Courageous Sprint Triathlon - Camp Courageous
- Aug 18 - Pineapple Gala - DoubleTree, Cedar Rapids
- Dec 31 - Fiat 500 Abarth Raffle Drawing - Camp's Durgin Pavilion

Listen to AM 600-WMT Newsradio for Camp updates every Saturday morning between 7:15 and 7:30 AM.

Dates subject to change. Consult Camp's web site for latest info.

The basement of Camp's Durgin Pavilion has two bowling lanes as well as several arcade games that can be enjoyed while waiting to bowl. Camper Julie Bishop is pictured as she enjoys an air hockey game during a Respite Care Weekend.

The Camp's indoor pool has a climbing wall. Pictured is a student from a Maquoketa school group that challenged herself by climbing up the wall during their camp visit.

Camp Courageous is a year-round recreational, respite care, and travel program for individuals of all ages with disabilities. It is only through the support of so many caring individuals and organizations that Camp Courageous is able to provide experiences for individuals with disabilities. Please consider supporting camp by scan the QR code or going to https://campcourageous.org/donate-now

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We support Camp Courageous...