

VALKAZON



KAREN'S CORNER

A Springtime Hello from Camp Nakanawa

Hey Nakanawa Family,

Spring is here (finally!), and with it comes the usual mix of muddy boots, blooming flowers, and the warmth of some sunshine on our faces. Easter may have passed, but we're still holding onto the joy—and maybe a little bit of chocolate too. There's just something about this season that makes everything feel a bit lighter and brighter, right? It's also got us thinking about what matters most — special moments with family (both the one you're born into and the one you find at Camp), the beauty of nature waking up around us, and the deep peace that comes with purpose. Here at Nakanawa, that purpose is blooming as beautifully as the dogwoods. And speaking of things growing, **our Arboretum project is coming to life!** Slowly but surely, certification forms are being completed, signs are being made, and the whole idea of having a place where trees can teach is becoming real. It's pretty exciting. Honestly, we've been blown away by how generous our alumnae community has been. You all just keep showing up—and it's humbling in the best way.

Back at Camp, we're elbow-deep in **prep for Summer 2025**. The water is back on, Egypts are ready, grass is being mowed and we are tending to all the things Camp needs after a long winter nap. It's wild how quickly the place comes alive again. The thrill never gets old.

We were also proud to **be part of the Character Banquet** again this year—a celebration that just keeps getting better. The message? *Values Matter - Character Counts*. Honestly, in a world that moves a little too fast sometimes, it felt good to slow down and really celebrate the kind of leadership that comes from the heart.

Service Weekend and May Reunion are just around the corner. Whether you're

planting, painting, laughing, or just breathing that good Nakanawa air, we can't wait to see you.

Oh and before we forget:

Why did the tree get picked as camper of the week?

Because it *stood tall*, stayed *rooted* in its values, and always *branched out* to help others!

So here's to spring—messy, beautiful, hopeful spring. Wishing you peace, a few flowers, and maybe even a surprise moment or two that makes you stop and smile.

S'mores Truly,
Karen and The Camp Nakanawa Team

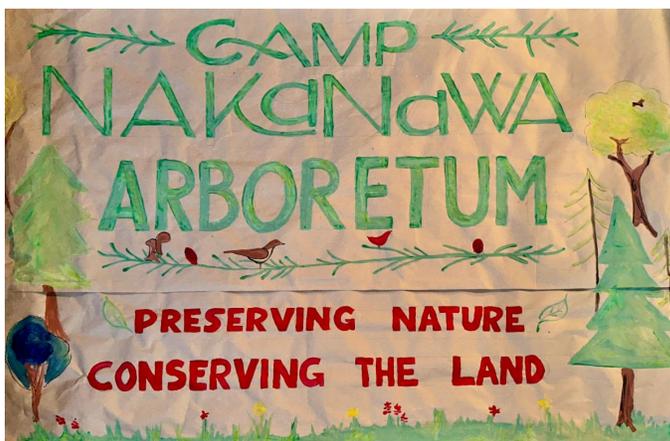


What does an arboretum mean for Nakanawa?

Camp has begun the pre-certification process to establish the **Camp Nakanawa Arboretum**—a living legacy rooted in stewardship, learning, and love for our forested home. This initiative honors the sustaining gift of the Rogers family and reflects our commitment—shaped by the vision of Pepe and Ann Perron—to protect our land and educate through nature. The arboretum will serve as a natural classroom, support healthy biodiversity, and reflect the values that make Nakanawa so special.

We invite you to [watch a special video announcement](#) narrated by our Board President, Wyeth Outlan Burgess, to learn more about this exciting new chapter.

Introducing the Camp Nakanawa Arboretum | A Legacy Grows



Camp Nakanawa proudly announces the **Camp Nakanawa Arboretum**—honoring 106 years of stewardship with a living legacy of conservation, education, and beauty. If you missed the live broadcast on Instagram on Arbor Day, click the button below to watch it.

see the video announcement here

Camp Nakanawa Celebrates Character with Local Student-Athletes

At Camp Nakanawa, building strong character in youth is at the heart of everything we do. That's why we **were proud to sponsor the 4th Annual Character Banquet**, hosted by the Crossville-Cumberland County Sports and Events Council, honoring student-athletes from Cumberland County High School



(CCHS) and Stone Memorial High School (SMHS). With the inspiring theme "*Values Matter – Character Counts*," coaches from each school nominated athletes who demonstrate exceptional leadership, values, and character. From these nominations, three top honorees from each school were awarded \$500 college scholarships, and their respective teams received \$500 to help with expenses.

Thanks to the support of generous local sponsors—including Wyeth and Ed Burgess—36 honorees and over 200 guests attended this meaningful evening free of charge. Camp Nakanawa's own Ann and Pepe Perron sponsored the evening's guest speaker.

This year's speaker, Will Overstreet—former University of Tennessee defensive end and member of the 1998 national championship team—delivered powerful words about commitment, teamwork, and the value of character. "Talent without hard work and desire is not enough," he said. "What do you want people to say about you? That you were a great athlete but not a good teammate—or that you worked hard and made everyone around you better?"

Camp Nakanawa is honored to share in this celebration of character and leadership in our community. Congratulations to all the honorees -- their example is what makes sports, and life, truly great.

Click [here](#) to see the article.

MAY
down in
Tennessee...



Service

W e e k e n d MAY 16-18, 2025

Don't Miss Out: Register for Service Weekend by May 4.

We hope you'll join us for this year's Service Weekend May 16-18. Come for the weekend or just for a day - every set of hands makes a difference! Nothing is better than time spent beside Lake Aloaloa, doing light work to help prep camp for the summer season. No special skills required: just a willingness to pitch in alongside other Nakanawa volunteers.

Questions? Contact Alex Seblatnigg at alexseb13@yahoo.com.

[register now for service weekend](#)

RING THE BELL!

Camp is hiring a new part-time position.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

JOIN THE TEAM!

- BIG IMPACT
- FLEXIBILITY
- DRIVE CHANGE AT THE CAMP YOU LOVE
- WITHIN 3 HOUR RADIUS OF CAMP

CONTACT US

[CLICK BELOW...](#)

[apply within for Director of Development](#)

Pack With Purpose: Your Nakanawa Shopping Code is Here!

Pack for the best summer ever with Everything Summer Camp! Use our code for discounts on camp essentials and support Camp.



[shop now](#)

A Fantastic Counselor Team

The talent and enthusiasm in the 2025 Counselor staff will make this summer a huge success. Counselors are joining us from all over the United States, as well as Spain, Ireland, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Mexico and Columbia.

[We are still hiring cabin counselors](#)

to teach and inspire our campers. Encourage friends and family to apply now for a life changing summer where they can gain valuable skills and make an impact on the lives of others. Please contact Blair Rissing with questions about available positions and for more information: 843-259-4685 or blair@campnakanawa.org



[apply to be a counselor](#)



'Cause We're From Tent Tent Tent Row....

Margaret Matens says "thanks" to all who replied with information about old TR songs. As she finalizes the new song book, she was glad to credit a few more Tent Rows with their creations. And, thanks to Mary Miles Loveless, we rescued another old favorite from obscurity. Created by TR 1974, this was a standard Tent Row song through the 70s and 80s. Maybe TR 25 will resurrect it.

It's Howdy Doody Time

Tent Row 1974

(Part I Tune "Playmate")

It you will notice
Then you will plainly see
That we are charming girls
From Cabins 1, 2, 3
We mind our manners
We tend to every chore
And we'll be jolly friends
Forever more, more, more. . .

(Part II Tune "Lollipop Guild", Wizard of Oz)

We ... represent
The privileged few
The privileged few
The privileged few
Aaaaaaaand ... on behalf of
The privileged few ...
We'd like to take this time to say "How do you do. . ."

(Part III Tune "It's Howdy Doody Time")

It's Howdy Doody time
It's Tent Row rally time
We're always having fun
In Cabins 3, 2, 1
We're always chasing bats

Or being chased by rats
We've been here quite awhile
Let's have a smi-iii-lle!



Alumnae Giving
Honor someone you love with a
gift to the Nakanawa Fund.

In memory of
James F. Apthorp
Virginia Harris Thomas

[give now](#)



Nakanawa in the Know

[Service Weekend and May Reunion
Weekend: May 16–18, 2025](#)

[2-Week Session: June 15–27, 2025](#)

[4-Week Session: June 30–July 26, 2025](#)

[Reunion Weekend: July 18–20, 2025](#)

[Mother/Daughter Weekend:
September 12-14, 2025](#)



**Camp Nakanawa's regular business hours are Monday–Friday, from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Central Time.
Messages received outside of those hours will be answered on the next business day.**

Camp Nakanawa | 1084 Camp Nakanawa Rd | Crossville, TN 38571 US

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