

# NIGHT EAGLE NEWS

A Primitive Camp for Boys Ages 10-14  
[www.nighteaglewilderness.com](http://www.nighteaglewilderness.com)

Fall 2016-2017 (802) 446-6100  
[Facebook.com/nighteaglewilderness](https://www.facebook.com/nighteaglewilderness)

## From the Director

*You have all heard me talk of Allen Flying By and how he has influenced me and Night Eagle. Now, he is standing against a pipeline that the Lakota feel threatens their water. Below is an excerpt from NPR.*

As resistance to the \$3.8 billion Dakota Access Pipeline in Standing Rock, N.D. that will cross under Lake Oahe (less than a half mile north of Standing Rock) and threaten the Lakota resources and sacred sites, concludes its seventh month, two narratives have emerged:

- 1) We have never seen anything like this before, and
- 2) This has been happening for hundreds of years.

"If you don't know very much about Native American people, you wouldn't understand that this is something that's kind of natural to us," said Hopkins, who was born on the Standing Rock Reservation. "When we have ceremonies, we do camps like this. It's something that we've always known how to do, going back to pre-colonial times."

In the late 1800s more than 10,000 members of the Lakota Sioux, Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes set up camp to resist the U.S. Army's attempt to displace them in search of gold. That camp took form at the Little Bighorn River in Montana. After the soldiers attacked the camp in June of 1876, the Battle of the Little Bighorn, widely known as (Gen. George) Custer's Last Stand, erupted. In defeating the Army, the tribes won a huge land rights victory for American Indians.

There was also the 1973 Wounded Knee protest, a part of the American Indian Movement in 1973, when Indians occupied the town of Wounded Knee on Pine Ridge Reservation



**Allen Flying By** at the Sacred Stone Camp

in order to draw attention to the U.S. government's failure to honor treaties. Two Lakota were killed and hundreds arrested during the 71 day event.

If Native American resistance is an old story, that's because the systemic violation of indigenous land rights is an old story. And if history is any precedent, the resistance won't end at Standing Rock.

Kim Tallbear, a professor of Indian studies, stated, "I'm, like, oh yeah, they did that in the 19th century, they did that in the 16th century. This is not new. And they're still fighting for the same things they were 150 years ago."



## Fall Work and Play Weekend

It's hard to believe that we have had three amazing work weekends in a row! This fall the rains held off once again enabling us to accomplish all of our major projects.



**River Bow, Summer Bear, and Mark** in the garden.

We were a small but mighty group! Of course, Summer Bear showed up first. Then Arctic Rain and his dad, Mark, arrived while I was busy measuring the shower so we can replace the floor next spring.

It was about that time that we heard Leaux coughing loudly under the food shelter and saw foam dripping from his mouth. After we dragged him out, I was off to the veterinarian. Diagnosis: he may have licked or eaten a frog or mushroom. \$200 dollars later and he was back at camp, an older but not wiser puppy.

Around lunchtime, River Bow (2009-12) showed up with his brother, Ember Dance (2014-16), and his mom, Julie.



**Julie, Arctic Rain, Ember Dance, River Bow, and Summer Bear** preparing the garden for winter.

Together we cleared the water bars in the road, began repair of the wood shed, replaced a window trim at the food shelter, and reset the tipi poles for Teton.

After lunch, Summer Bear and Julie jogged to Little Rock Pond and checked the shelter as part of our duty for the Green Mountain Club.

After they returned, somebody (I think it was **Summer Bear**) thought it would be a good idea to remove some of the large toe stubbing rocks around camp.



**Arctic Arrow, Leaux, Mark, and River Bow** struggle with a rock by the shower.

Before leaving on Sunday, we put the garden to bed and covered it for the winter, filled the solar batteries with water, shut off the pump and the power in the food shelter, and emptied the refrigerator.

## New Night Eagle Website

In the summer of 2015, both Little Bear and Snowy Owl suggested that we redo our camp website. They convinced me that, although our current site is good and has served us well, it was time to update it. Little Bear got the ball rolling and set up a basic site and then he headed off for the University of Tampa and Snowy Owl left for St. John's, leaving me to learn to design the new site. Thanks, guys!

It's been a long process, but with the help of several Night Eagle moms and friends offering suggestions along the way, we will soon be revealing our new site. Stay tuned for the Grand Opening!





**Fire Otter** weaving a hemp belt for his breech-clout!

### Fire Otter to the Rescue!

Since the middle of August, I have been going to camp in hope of catching some more of our beaver friends who arrived in the lake the last week of camp.

I've been on watch at 6:00 in the morning and at 9:00 at night - - no luck. Now that winter is upon us, the pesky critters usually stay around their lodge, but the will be out full force in the spring when the ice melts.

Last spring we had an early thaw, and before I could get to camp to check on the water level, the beavers had plugged the trickle tube and caused the lake to rise 4-6 feet. In May, **Gentle Thunder** persisted in getting the both the culvert and the trickle tube unclogged and succeeded.

Neither he nor I want to have to do that again, but we can't eliminate the beavers if they only come out after dark. Snowy Owl had just about convinced me to buy a night sight when I received a message from **Fire Otter** (camper from 2007-2010).

It seems that Fire Otter now has a trapping license. He remembered my many excursions to the lake during the summer at duck and wanted to know if he could help out by trapping the beavers in the lake (Picture me jumping up and down with joy!)

Since winter is the best time to trap beavers because their fur will be the thickest, I'm hoping that Fire Otter will be able to make it out to camp long before the spring thaw. If he can, I'll be able to rest easy. If he can't, then I'll have to resort to the old "thunder stick."

### Tipi Pole Cutting

Many thanks go to **Rolling Brook** (camper from 2008-11), **Summer Bear**, **Marsh Hawk** and his parents, **Beth** and **Jeff**, for giving up a beautiful Saturday in October to wander through the forest at Night Eagle looking for young fir trees that will become tipi poles.

With two chainsaws operating, it didn't take long before we had harvested 16 or 17 trees. We'll use some of them to replace several weakened poles on various tipi sites around camp. The rest will be used to replace the poles that we borrowed from Yankton last summer.

Thanks, everyone! We had a lot of fun, but the truth is that I'd probably still be out there cutting and dragging trees into camp if you had not been kind enough to help! **Pilamaya!**



**Jeff, Rolling Brook, Beth, Summer Bear, and Marsh Hawk**





Can you guess which one is Leaux?

# The Dog Days of Summer

(You supply the captions.)





## Sun Runner Update

This past summer, Sun Runner, was having a difficult time in camp caused by an unknown medical condition. He actually left camp and returned a week later only to have to leave again.

In early September, his grandmother emailed to let me know that he was diagnosed with Burkitt Lymphoma (a type of cancer) and was admitted to Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital in New Hampshire where he had a tumor removed and began chemo therapy.

Today I received an e-mail from Sun Runner's dad saying that after "a grueling 4 months of chemo he is happy to announce that Sun Runner got back his blood work/PT scan showing NO CANCER cells since his final chemo treatment and an EARLY first stage of remission recovery! He can now pick up his life where he had to put it on hold several months ago.

He will still need to go in for monthly blood work and PT scans every 3 months for a couple of years, but after the next 12 months, if cancer cells are still not present, he will basically be considered in full remission."

His father sends his thanks to all of you who knew about the situation and offered your concern, love, and prayers.

I know Sun Runner would like to hear from you so send him a note at:

Finnley Haggett-Levine  
36 Ward Hill Road  
Tunbridge, VT 05077

## So You Want to be a Counselor

I realize it's only November, but I'm already beginning to receive interest from potential counselors. In fact, I have already begun interviewing prospects. If you are interested in spending next summer at Night Eagle as a counselor, let me know. If you know somebody who you think would be a great Night Eagle counselor, please encourage him to contact me!



**Southern Sky** modeling one of **Arctic Arrow's** famous cattail visors - - a Night Eagle first!

## Early Bird Enrollees for 2017

Thunder Willow	Arctic Rain
Arctic Sun	Sunrise Bear
Prairie Sky	Mountain Maple
Medicine Rainbow	Night Heron
Mountain Friend	Summer Spring
Sun Flicker	Sun Meadow
Yellow Flame	Heart Spirit
Questing Crow	Wolf Cloud Laughs

## Bring a Friend to Camp

Please help us get the *Night Eagle* word out! If you know someone who might be interested in attending *Night Eagle* or learning more about camp, call or e-mail us and we'll send the family an information packet. ***If any of your referrals enroll for any Night Eagle session, we will be happy to credit your account with a value of 10% of the new camper's tuition.***

## 2016 CAMPER LEADERS

### 1ST SESSION

#### Wicasa

*Meadow Dreamer*

#### Pipe Keeper

*Otter Spirit*

#### Drum Keeper

*Marsh Hawk*

### 2ND SESSION

#### Wicasa

*Weaves the Wind*

#### Pipe Keeper

*Sunrise Bear*

#### Drum Keeper

*Summer Spring*



Important Dates:	June 25	Staff Week Begins
	July 2	First Session (2, 3, 6 weeks) Opens
	July 16	Four-Week Sessions Opens First One-Week Session Opens
	July 23	Second Session (2 and 3 weeks) Opens
	July 16	First One-Week Session Opens
	Aug. 6	Second One-Week Session Opens

**Night Eagle Wilderness Adventures**  
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*Grey Fox* takes the lead during Field Day