

THE MERRICK MESSENGER



NEWS FROM LIONS CAMP MERRICK



October 2026



2026 Solo Camp Staff

FROM THE DESK OF JAN ZEIGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Last week was our "Night of Comedy" fundraiser, and I was moved by the level of support provided by the Greater Waldorf Jaycees. Not only did they donate the incredible space and the delicious food, but they also made a \$25,000 donation to cover some renovations needed for the Jaycee House at camp! They did an incredible job with the event, and we are grateful to them for their continued support of Lions Camp Merrick. Because of the Jaycees and other organizations who have generously supported our mission, we will be able to expand our summer programming this year.

We would also like to send a big shout-out to our local Lions Clubs and community partners who purchased tables and to Edwards L. Sanders Insurance Agency for serving as a corporate sponsor. And we appreciate each and every donation for the Silent Auction! I would also like to thank the Lions Camp Merrick Board of Directors for all of the time and energy they put towards the fundraiser – and for the ongoing support they provide year-round. We are especially grateful to Senator James Simpson, Commissioner Ralph Patterson, and members of the Charles Charitable Trust for attending.

This is the first in a series of newsletters that I will be putting together to keep our stakeholders informed throughout the year. Please forward to anyone who may be interested in learning more about Lions Camp Merrick (and to any potential partners or sponsors). Many thanks! ~Jan



Board President, Craig Gough, and Jan Zeiger



The JCI Senate Room at the Greater Waldorf Jaycees Community Center



Senator Jim Simpson and Board Vice President, George Kirby

[Additional Event Photos](#)

CRITICAL FOCUS: ADVOCACY & GROWTH

SHARING OUR MISSION BY VISITING LIONS CLUBS AND BY PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY EVENTS & T1D WALKS

Thank you to Noah and his mother, Jessica, for visiting the La Plata Lions Club in September to share their personal Lions Camp Merrick experience. We also want to thank one of our Program Directors, Bailey Sclater, for speaking to the Francis Scott Key Lions Club in Frederick this past summer. Our Archery Director, counselor, and former camper, Amelia Leber, will be assisting with the booth at the T1D Breakthrough Walk in Delaware later this month. In addition, Alice, a CIT and former camper, will share a testimonial in Middletown.

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 3 – Breakthrough Community Summit in Richmond
Oct. 7 – Leonardtown Lions Club
Oct. 24 – T1D Breakthrough Events in Bethesda, MD and Wilmington, DE (Grace/Eva in MD and Jan in DE)
Oct. 28 – Middletown Lions Club
Nov. 5 – South Carroll Lions Club
Nov. 7 – District 22W Diabetic Walk in Woodbine, MD



[More Photos of the Event](#)

EXPANDED SUMMER PROGRAMMING

We are proud to announce that we will be expanding our programming this summer. The first addition will be a second week of T1D “Solo Camp” to accommodate the schedules of our busy families. That second week is allowing us to offer a special two-week experience for campers in middle and high school who have stayed with us in the past and are looking for an extended session. We are also in the process of planning a “Traditional” Summer Camp for local residents that will occur immediately following T1D camp. In addition, we are meeting with the MD School for the Blind to explore the possibility reviving of our program for young people with visual impairments this summer.



Lions Camp Merrick T1D Camp - Summer 2027

(FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS with TYPE 1 DIABETES)

Dates Released - September
Tuition Announcement - November
Staff Applications Available - December
Camper Registration Opens - January

Pre-Camp/Staff Training Week - Arrive Evening of June 27th

Family Camp - July 6th thru July 9th

Solo Camp - “Sunrise Session” - July 11th thru July 17th

Solo Camp - “Starlight Session” - July 18th thru July 24th



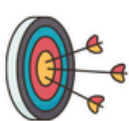
Solo Camp - Two-Week Session - July 11th thru July 24th

Note: We will host a brief traditional camp session immediately following T1D camp. Details regarding the program and staffing needs will be shared when they are available.



Seminole

5 SIMPLE WAYS TO SUPPORT LIONS CAMP MERRICK



1

Talk with others about the work we are doing at camp to serve children with diabetes and the support we hope to provide for other populations in the future.

2

Connect LCM with other organizations that we might partner with to reach our fundraising goals. Help us gain access to festivals and other events in your area.

3

Suggest LCM as a rental venue to corporations & nonprofit organizations. Rentals help cover operating costs year-round. We are a wedding venue, too!

4

Encourage others to sponsor a camper, sponsor a cabin, or make a donation to camp. Financial support helps us cover costs and expand our programming.

5

Join us for our "Spring Clean Up" day, contribute to fundraisers when you can, and volunteer at camp if available. Advocate for LCM whenever possible.



THANK
YOU!
❤️

[Donation Link](#)

(301) 392-9471
103 Drury Drive | La Plata, MD

DINE TO DONATE

**Support
Lions Camp Merrick**
Thursday, October 8th
4pm-10pm

15%
DONATION NIGHT

Support Lions Camp Merrick by presenting this flyer to the La Plata location and Texas Roadhouse will donate 15% of your total food purchases

Every Second Thursday in La Plata

SIGN UP TODAY

YOGA RETREAT

At beautiful Lions Camp Merrick

October 23 - 25



Proceeds benefit the charitable efforts of the Bowie Lions Club and Lions Camp Merrick

PRESENTED BY



All meals will be plant-based, vegan.

Fee includes meals, yoga, activities, and lodging (climate controlled shared cabins, single beds, with a restroom and small refrigerator)

Bring with you: yoga mat, bedding, towel, and any personal items.

REGISTER HERE →



<https://bowielions.org/yoga/>

All yoga levels welcome!



Lions Camp Merrick
3650 Rick Hamilton Pl,
Nanjemoy, MD 20662

Ann Fleming

A Reiki Master, certified yoga teacher, and writer who enjoys sharing her favorite peaceful practices with those who are seeking ways to better encounter and enjoy their lives.

\$350
if registered by
October 5

\$400
if registered **AFTER**
October 5

18+
ADULTS
ONLY



Noelle Drewes
Yoga Model

Friday 10/23

- Check-in, 5-7pm
- Snacks provided
- Welcome
- Yoga
- Camp Fire

Saturday 10/24

- Breakfast, 8am
- Yoga/Meditation
- Art Activity
- Lunch, noon
- Yoga/Reiki
- Free Time, optional:
 - Nature Hike
 - Service Project
 - Canoe
- Dinner, 6pm
- Yoga
- Camp Fire

Sunday 10/25

- Breakfast, 8am
- Yoga/Meditation
- Departure

TOGETHER WE CAN

Lions Camp Merrick Comedy Show Fundraiser

Thank you for your support!

Waldorf Jaycees	Waldorf Lions Club	E.L. Sanders Insurance
Blackout Security	D. Moltz/Waldorf Honda	S. Morusiewicz
Silver Hill Lions Club	Maria Heard	Shield of Hope
McClure Living Trust	Omni Copies	Barry Gebler
JGS - Pourdrier	La Plata Lions Club	JGS - Anderson
Tacoma Park Lions Club	Action Reality	Leonardtwn & Friends
College Park Lions Club	The Ridge Lions Club	The Silver Diner
Today's Look Salon	Genevie Plumbing	Mechanicsville Lions



Lions Camp Merrick

EXPERIENCE • BELONG • GROW

Thank You

The Greater Waldorf Jaycees
JAYCEES

ELS

EDWARD L. SANDERS
INSURANCE AGENCY

Your support helps create life-changing experiences
for the campers we serve.

Looking ahead!

Coming soon...

T1D Reunion Information
Tuition Updates
New Camp Additions
Staff Applications
Camper Registration
Spring Fundraiser Announcement
"Work Day" – Saturday, May 8th

Lions Camp Merrick Inc

Sign up for Lions Camp Merrick updates!

Email address

Role

- ☐ Camper or Former Camper
- ☐ Staff Member or Volunteer
- ☐ Parent or Family Member
- ☐ Community Member

Submit

CLICK HERE

