

Bay Cliff News



www.baycliff.org

SOLID AS A ROCK

“Everything is a Warm-up!”

Briggs Parry understands the importance of team practices. He is the team manager of the Groves High School varsity football team in Beverly Hills, MI. Every drill, every practice is a warm-up for game day, and even the game is a warm-up for the next game. Briggs sees this as a metaphor for his own approach to life... everything is a warm-up! It's his motto for facing challenges.

Briggs started facing challenges at the young age of 4 months when he suffered an injury that stopped his heart & breathing for several minutes. The resulting brain damage affected his ability to walk, use his hands, and talk... but, not his ability to think, socialize, and communicate with others. Briggs is currently a senior in high school. He has been involved in therapy all of his life. His parents, Julie & Greg, heard about Bay Cliff when Briggs was 14 and knew the intensive therapy he would receive here would help him grow stronger and become more independent.

In his four summers at Bay Cliff, Briggs has done just that. His therapists have always found Briggs to be a goal-setter and a hard worker in therapy and in the Teen Program at camp. “Three of my goals,” says Briggs, “were to walk farther distances with the assistance of my walker, learn to walk without my walker, and swim better.” Briggs pushed himself, beyond expectation, to walk unassisted with ever-increasing goals of distance as summer progressed. His determination was exemplary. “I wanted to set a good example for the younger campers,” Briggs states. “Through the Teen Program I learned adult responsibilities, and it helped move me closer to independence.” With his steady approach, his balance improved & his endurance increased. “As Briggs was achieving his goals, I could tell he was in the best shape of his life,” says physical therapist, Christy Osborn. “It was time for Briggs to take himself to an even higher level.”

The challenge was to climb Thomas Rock, a nearby scenic area. It was a mile hike through the woods on uneven ground, over rocks, up 40 steep consecutive stairs. Briggs faced the challenge without hesitation - and without his walker. “With much grunting and grinding, I made it to the top independently. I



Briggs Parry, at the top of Thomas Rock

felt like the king of the castle. It was a wonderful feeling that I will never forget!” As Briggs often says, “Everything is a warm-up!” It was certainly a warm-up for walking to his mother at the end of camp. “She cried tears of joy!” As Julie recalls, “It was so cool to see him walking towards me and the progress he made. Briggs uses his walker in the crowded school hallway, but continues to walk on his own ... even the length of the football field with the team!” With his rock-solid attitude that everything you do now prepares you for whatever you do next, Briggs is on top of his game!

A proud but humble Briggs reflects, “Thank you, Bay Cliff, for allowing me to conquer my disability and become the best I can be.”

Bay Cliff's Campership Appeal...

Bay Cliff
Health Camp

Helping the Dream
Come True...

Your Help is Needed!

Thank you to our friends who have contributed to the 2011 Bay Cliff Campership Appeal! Your support is more important than ever.

We are very encouraged! So far, this year's Campership Appeal has raised \$139,250 towards our goal of \$175,000...only \$35,750 to go. If you haven't yet made a donation to the appeal this year, we hope you will consider making a gift.

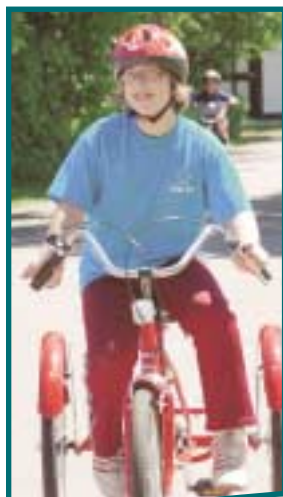
All funds donated through the Campership Appeal will be used specifically for the Children's Summer Therapy program.

Your donation will help provide daily therapy, medical and dental care, food and lodging, camp activities and 24 hour care and supervision - all part of a typical day!

The cost to serve and care for a child with disabilities at Bay Cliff is \$115 for a full 24 hour day.



2011
Campership Appeal



Parents contribute what they can afford. This leaves a significant cost that is funded by many generous individuals who believe in Bay Cliff and the futures of the children we serve. All gifts to Bay Cliff, of any amount, are important and very appreciated. Working together we can meet the needs of the children.

We hope you will join us and make a gift or pledge to the Campership Appeal. We also encourage you to visit us at www.baycliff.org to learn more about Bay Cliff and how your support makes a difference.

On behalf of the children who are pursuing their hopes and dreams for the future...

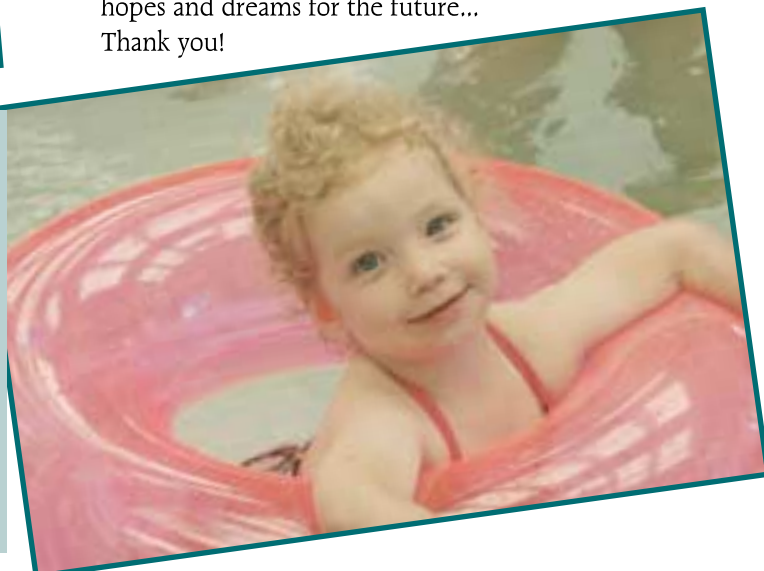
Thank you!



"In these very challenging times, our support for the Campership Appeal is more important than ever. For the past 78 years, children with disabilities have been coming to Bay Cliff to pursue their dreams. I encourage you to

be generous. Together, we can keep the dream alive for the children!"

—Mike Coyne, MD
Bay Cliff Board President, Marquette, MI



...Will You Join Us?

Friends Forever

Memories to Last a Lifetime

When Charles Dzarnowski returned to Bay Cliff, after having been a camper in the 1940's, he talked about his favorite counselor, Mr. Johnny. "He was like an older brother to me." John Bullock served on the camp staff for 20 years, including 8 years as Camp Director. When asked if he remembered Charles, Mr. Johnny enthusiastically responded, "Oh, Chuck! He was a Raccoon in 1948!" How's that for memories!

Chuck was a camper for 7 years. He was one of the 27 children who stayed in the Big House in the winter of 1940-41 as a result of the polio epidemic that filled Upper Peninsula hospitals beyond capacity. His rehabilitation continued with therapy at camp. He even rode his bike from Iron River to Bay Cliff in 1952 as a fundraiser for camp! Chuck went on to pursue a career in business and build his life and family in the Chicago area. Mr. Johnny went on to serve others as an Occupational Therapist for 30 years, first with Easter Seals, and then at the Michigan School for the Blind. When he retired, he moved back to his home town of Marquette, always staying in touch with Bay Cliff.

The effects of polio often return in what is known as post-polio syndrome. For Chuck, Bay Cliff's Post-Polio Wellness Retreat, helps him understand he can do something about it. It was here at Bay Cliff that camper Chuck and counselor Mr. Johnny were re-united 60 years later. Now, whenever they get together, they reminisce for hours of building campsites, peeling potatoes, learning archery, weaving fabric on a string loom, crafting toys out of wood, and fun shared with the other Raccoons. "Chuck took an active part in everything," says Mr. Johnny. "He had the true Bay Cliff spirit, and he still has it!"

"Camp has changed over the years, with new buildings and such," says Chuck, "but what I remember most are my friends and my counselors." Mr. Johnny agrees. "It's not the material things that you remember; it's the relationships." Chuck recalls that "Remember" is the song we sing our last night at camp. "And, you remember when you're away!"

"He was like an older brother to me."

—Charles Dzarnowski, Camper

Mr. Johnny and Chuck, reunited after 60 years



Chuck spending Christmas 1940 in the Big House while recovering from polio



1948 Raccoon Cabin in costume for the 4th of July



♪ Remember the times we've had here... ♪



♪ ...Remember the friends we've made ♪

Remember Bay Cliff in Your Will

A gift through your will is one of the most meaningful legacies you can provide for your family and to Bay Cliff. Your will allows you to provide for your loved ones after your death, and also is an opportunity to make a wonderful difference for the children to pursue their hopes and dreams for the future. Your gift to Bay Cliff may be expressed in these words:

I give and bequeath the sum of \$ _____
(or ____% of my estate) to Bay Cliff Health Camp
for its most important priorities.

More specific instructions may also be provided regarding your gift. If you would like to learn more about will and bequest opportunities, or if you would like to meet with a Bay Cliff representative, please contact Bay Cliff Health Camp at (906) 345-9314 or baycliff@baycliff.org.

Additional Ways to Give

Development/Endowment Fund

Bay Cliff Health Camp also has a fund that provides long-term investment funds for the camp's program and facility needs. If you would like more information on making a planned gift by will or bequest, memorial, life insurance, annuity or other special gift, please contact the camp office.

Building and Facility Projects

Bay Cliff is tremendously grateful to the more than 2,000 donors who have helped us to make major renovations to the camp facilities. While much has been accomplished, we are still seeking gifts for several remaining important building projects. We would be pleased to provide more information if you wish to help!



Our Mission

For seventy-eight years, Bay Cliff's primary mission has been to improve the lives of children with physical disabilities. Today, Bay Cliff is a therapy and wellness center serving children with every kind of orthopedic, speech, hearing and visual disability.

Through an intensive summer program of daily therapy and traditional camp activities, children learn to become more independent and are inspired to believe in themselves and their potential.

Bay Cliff is a place where special children of all abilities are able to pursue their hopes and dreams!



A Spectacular Success!

Thank you to the Green Bay Packers, numerous volunteers, and the thousands of Packer fans who came to the Superior Dome for the first ever Packer Tailgate Tour in the Upper Peninsula.

The crowd was huge, the atmosphere was electric and the Packers didn't disappoint. The Bay Cliff campers leading the Packers through the crowd, and the singing of the National Anthem by Emily and Erika Cretens, were profoundly moving for everyone there. This was truly a celebration for the whole community, and raised close to \$40,000 for Bay Cliff. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event so successful.

A Commemorative DVD of the Tailgate Tour will be available soon. Watch for it at www.baycliff.org.

Upcoming Bay Cliff Programs

- December 30, 2011 **Christmas/New Year Open House**
Bay Cliff Big House
- January 19-22, 2012 **Winter Blast**
Winter camp for adults with disabilities
- March 2-4, 2012 **Snow Days**
Winter camp for children with disabilities
- March 22-23, 2012 **U.P. Pediatric Therapy Workshop**
Professional development and collaboration for therapists throughout the region
- April 21-22, 2012 **Cerebral Palsy Family Camp**
For children with cerebral palsy and their parents & siblings
- June 16, 2012 **Bay Cliff Campers Arrive!**
Summer Therapy Program

Bay Cliff Health Camp

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