NABBY NEWS

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GIVING THANKS TO OUR NABBY FAMILY

DEAR NABBY FAMILY,

As Thanksgiving approaches, we hope you and your families are doing well and looking forward to spending time together over the holiday.

It's been a busy fall here at Nabby! We've enjoyed reconnecting with returning families, meeting many new families, and welcoming so many of you back to camp for our Halloween celebration. Behind the scenes, we're already hard at work planning programs, re-connecting with staff, and making improvements throughout camp as we look ahead to Summer 2027.

We're especially excited by the wonderful response to early enrollment, with many groups already full or nearing capacity. It's always encouraging to see so many families looking forward to another summer at Nabby, and we share that excitement!

As we reflect on all we have to be thankful for, we're especially grateful for the families who continue to make Nabby such a special place. We never take for granted the trust you place in us each summer. There's nothing we enjoy more than seeing children make friends, try new things, grow in confidence, and simply have fun being kids.

From our family and the entire Nabby team, thank you for being part of our camp community. We wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy Thanksgiving and a wonderful holiday season.

We can't wait to see everyone back at Nabby next summer!

Warmly;

Joe + Rita









ANNUAL HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION WAS A TREAT!

What a beautiful fall day for Halloween at Nabby! More than 260 Junior Camp campers and their families joined us for an afternoon of costumes, games, trick-or-treating and plenty of familiar faces, along with many members of our Nabby staff.

Armed with trick-or-treat bags and camp maps, campers made their way around Nabby, enjoying Halloween games and collecting treats along the way. Sports stars, sharks, Disney princesses, Marvel superheroes and favorite music and movie characters were everywhere! We also loved seeing some especially creative costumes, including homemade ShopRite robots, a Super Mario Bros. family and even the beloved Dolly Parton!

Joe and Rita got into the spirit as a groovy couple from the '60s, welcoming new families and catching up with returning campers, parents and staff. There was plenty of fun throughout camp, from Dinosaur Land at the gazebo with counselor Jake to spinning the prize wheel, doing the limbo, pumpkin bowling, visiting the Nabby pumpkin patch and taking family photos with Scooter!

One of our favorite parts of the day was watching campers reunite with their friends and counselors, with lots of smiles and happy hugs along the way. We especially loved seeing children excitedly show their families around camp and capturing so many wonderful family portraits on the famous Nabby stage.

Seeing all those happy faces was the best treat of all! A big thank you to our families and staff for joining us and making Halloween at Nabby such a special day.

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 2









CAMP NABBY
HALLOWEEN PARTY













FROM NABBY TO NINJA WARRIOR!

Celebrating Will Vaz and the determination, talent and heart behind his incredible ninja journey.

When Will Vaz first watched American Ninja Warrior at just six years old, he thought it looked like fun. He wanted to give it a try. Eight years later, that young boy's dream became a reality when he traveled to Las Vegas to compete on the very show that first inspired him!

A longtime Nabby camper and most recently an LIT (Leader in Training), Will has become an accomplished ninja athlete, earning championship titles and competing against some of the best young athletes in the sport. This past August, he captured the Ninja Sport Championship (NSC) Youth title in the oldest youth age division, an accomplishment he considers one of his proudest. He was also crowned an all-around World Strongest Ninja champion in 2023 and has earned a place on the U.S. national team for Obstacle Course Racing (OCR).

Will's ninja journey began at Grit Ninja, a local gym that had just opened when he was six. After celebrating his birthday there, he signed up for after-school classes and quickly discovered a passion for the sport. Before long, he was competing in organized leagues on weekends, and he hasn't looked back.

His mom, Katie, remembers that his determination was evident from an early age. "He was always climbing, always adventurous and always willing to keep trying," she shared. Once he discovered ninja, the family practically had to convince him to leave the gym! Katie credits his confidence, work ethic and ability to solve problems under pressure as some of his greatest strengths.

Those qualities have taken Will to competitions across the United States and around the world, including Ireland, Barbados and Milan. And his ambitions continue to grow. With obstacle racing joining the modern pentathlon at the Olympics, Will has his sights set on an extraordinary goal: competing in the 2032 Olympic Games.

Of course, one of the most exciting chapters of his journey has been competing on the NBC-TV show American Ninja Warrior. Will and his family traveled to Las Vegas for the filming of Season 20, an experience he describes as incredibly exciting. While he can't reveal how he performed until the show airs in Summer 2028, simply being there was a dream come true.

Through all his accomplishments, Will remains a busy, well-rounded teenager. Now a freshman at Horace Greeley High School, he also runs the 100- and 200-meter sprints for the school's track team. His mom is especially proud of the way he's learned to balance athletics, school and friendships. But above all, she says, "He's just a good kid. He's kind, has a good heart and a great work ethic." And we're lucky to know that side of Will at Nabby, too!

Over his six summers at camp, Will has made plenty of memories, from Senior Epics and games of Predator & Prey and Apache Relay with his Penn friends to his most recent summer as an LIT, where he enjoyed working with younger campers in our Dartmouth & Williams groups. He's also enjoyed seeing Grit Ninja bring its obstacle challenges to Nabby each summer, giving campers a chance to experience a sport he loves.

When asked what advice he'd give younger campers interested in trying ninja, Will keeps it simple: "Give it a shot!" He encourages kids to find a gym, try something new and have confidence in their abilities.
We've had the pleasure of watching Will grow from a young camper into a talented athlete and, even more importantly, a thoughtful and kind young man. His accomplishments are extraordinary, but it's his character, determination and willingness to keep challenging himself that make us especially proud.

Congratulations, Will! Your Nabby family will be cheering you on every step of the way!

You can follow Will's training and competition on his instagram, @willthethrillninja



Will with his parents Mario & Katie



Will showing his skills at Nabby during Grit Ninja Week!



From the very start, Will had his sights set on American Ninja Warrior



Will (far left) competing in the Apache Relay

Continuing our summer tradition, we asked our campers, staff and families a question about being back at Nabby for our Halloween event.

WHAT DID YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT BEING BACK AT NABBY FOR OUR HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION?



Elliott - Camper since 2024
"Playing all the fun games and especially punching the cup and winning a sour patch candy!"



Tanner - Camper since 2023
"I had lots of fun punching the cup for Halloween candy!"



Julia - Counselor
"My favorite thing about today has been seeing all of the campers and staff members that I haven't seen in a long time."



Max - Counselor
"I loved seeing everyone again and their unique, fun costumes!"



Isabella - Camper since 2022
"Seeing the counselors I have had at Nabby!"
Savannah - Camper since 2023
"Going trick or treating around camp and seeing the counselors, especially Katie!"



Sydnee - Counselor
"The chance to see so many of my former campers and counselor friends. It's just the best!"



Fernanda - Camper since 2024
"I loved getting to go everywhere around camp and see Nabby again!"



Emma - Camper since 2023
"I loved seeing everyone back at Nabby!"
Kayla - Camper since 2024
"Everything!!"



The Davanzo Family

Maria
"I was a counselor at Nabby and am now a parent. I loved walking around and seeing old camper and counselor friends!"
Shane
"Any chance to come back to Nabby, we just love it!!"

FROM NABBY'S KITCHEN TO YOURS!

SWEET TREATS, TASTY TIPS AND A LITTLE THANKSGIVING INSPIRATION!

We're bringing a little taste of Nabby to your Thanksgiving table! Our campers had so much fun making Mini No-Bake Apple Pies in cooking class this summer, and we're sharing the recipe for families to enjoy making together at home.

Plus, our wonderful cooking instructor, Rachel, who also owns Boards by Rachel, is sharing some of her favorite tips and tasty finds for creating a beautiful Thanksgiving charcuterie board.

MINI NO-BAKE APPLE PIES*

A fun, easy recipe for little hands to help make, and a sweet addition to your holiday celebrations!

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 graham crackers
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- ½ cup apple pie filling
- Whipped cream
- Cinnamon sugar mixture

EQUIPMENT:

- Mixing bowl
- ½-cup measuring cup
- mixing spoon
- zip-top bag
- mallet
- mini pie tin

LET'S MAKE IT!

1. Place graham crackers in a sealed zip-top bag and crush with a mallet until the crumbs are very fine.
2. Add about ¾ of the graham cracker crumbs to the melted butter and mix well. Add more crumbs as needed until the mixture resembles wet sand.
3. Spoon the crumb mixture into the bottom of a mini pie tin and press down firmly with the back of a spoon.
4. Add approximately ½ cup of apple pie filling.
5. Top with whipped cream and a sprinkle of cinnamon sugar.



ENJOY!

*Single Serving

SIMPLE TIPS FOR A HOLIDAY BOARD

Looking for a little inspiration for your Thanksgiving spread? Rachel of Boards by Rachel shares five easy styling tips and some of her favorite finds to help you create a delicious, colorful charcuterie board.



Five Tips for A Beautiful Board

1. **Start with the cheese!**
   Place your larger cheeses first, then add cubes, wedges and slices for a variety of shapes and textures.
2. **Make your meats fancy!**
   Fold salami into pretty ribbons and gently bunch prosciutto for an effortless, elegant look.
3. **Add pops of color!**
   Fresh berries, grapes and seasonal fruit bring beautiful color to your board.
4. **Fill every little space!**
   Tuck nuts, olives and dried fruit into the empty spots for that full, abundant look.
5. **Finish with something fresh!**
   A few sprigs of rosemary or sage add the perfect seasonal touch.

Rachel's Favorite Charcuterie Finds

1. **Trader Joe's Unexpected Cheddar**
   A creamy, savory favorite with a delicious bite.
2. **Trader Joe's 1000 Day Gouda**
   Rich, nutty and perfectly aged.
3. **Merlot BellaVitano Cheese**
   A bold, wine-infused cheese that adds wonderful flavor and color.
4. **Supreme Brie**
   A classic, creamy crowd-pleaser.
5. **Stonewall Kitchen Apple Cider Jam**
   A sweet and tangy fall favorite that pairs beautifully with cheese.
6. **Firehook Rosemary Crackers**
   Crisp, herbaceous and perfect for pairing with all the good stuff!



Special thanks to Rachel of **Boards by Rachel** for sharing her creativity and holiday entertaining tips with our Nabby families!

@boardsbyrachelny

Happy Thanksgiving from Nabby's kitchen to yours!

boards by rachel
thoughtfully crafted grazing boards