

## Speaking of Camp Kamassa By Mary Kitchens

Our friends from the Air Force Reserves, Army National Guard, and Marines were back in Crystal Springs last week for the first of many planning sessions before the work begins at Camp Kamassa for 2019. The Duration Staff, the ones who will be with us continually from February through July, will arrive in late February and the on-site work will begin March 4. Sumrall Road is about to be busy again!

Many of you met SMSgt Stacy Gilman this past year as he assisted Major Beth Emmons on the project. Beth won't be here next year, Stacy will be in charge. New people will be coming in who I'll introduce later. Next year they will set up a tent city at the camp site, sleeping and cooking there.

We will be calling on the community to feed the different squadrons, so let us know if your church, club, family, or business would like to help with this. It is a wonderful way to say, "Thank you for helping Copiah County build a camp for children and adults with special needs and thank you for your service to our country".

Last week Karla Evans and I drove to Houston, MS, to participate in a special day of fun for school children in that area with special needs. I believe there were about 85 children there with their teachers, parents, and grandparents. We had a large wheel (courtesy of Linda Channell) for the kids to spin for prizes, everyone won a prize with every spin. There were horses, a helicopter, fire truck, and carriage. The cake walk for toys and cupcakes was very popular.

Why did we go? Sure, we had fun playing with the kids but mainly it was a great opportunity to spread the word about Camp Kamassa. There's a whole new group of folks now excited about the camp.

If anyone could drop a couple of bags of candy by the office, we'd really appreciate it. With Trunk or Treat coming plus the almost 300 elementary school children who will come by the office for a treat, we could use some help having enough candy. The money to buy candy comes out of our pockets, not foundation funds.

Sunday, October 28, is our Bunco Tournament. Linda Channell and Ila Sears have done a great job planning this event. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased from Linda, Ila, at our office, and at Touch of Glass Mosaic Studio. This includes lunch, entry to play, and some great prizes. Location: The R.O.C.@First Baptist Church, Crystal Springs, 1:00-4:00.

Until next time, let's keep speaking of Camp Kamassa.  
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