

Times Leader & Weis Markets Year of Giving

Camp Freedom dedicated to helping disabled veterans, first responders

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Submitted Photo

Kyle Jones, a volunteer veteran of the U.S. Navy, and Mike Johnson, a veteran of the army and Camp Freedom guide, help Camp Freedom hunter Bruce Crane of Wisconsin into an all-terrain vehicle to go hunting Nov. 7, at Camp Freedom in Carbondale.

CARBONDALE — Camp Freedom provides opportunities for disabled veterans, first responders and their families by allowing them to experience the outdoors in a safe and protected manner, while giving them exposure to the life-healing benefits of outdoor activities. Camp Freedom is the December recipient of the Times Leader Media Group and Weis Markets \$500 donation as part of the “Year of Giving” program. The program recognized a different non-profit each month in 2019 with a spotlight in the Sunday newspaper and a monetary donation. The program is a way for Weis Markets to engage more closely with the communities in which they operate.

According to the organization's website, the 1,800-acre property could have been used for many opportunities. At the hearts of property owners, Bill and Laura Bachenberg, and Camp Freedom Executive Director Matt Guedes, lies a passion to serve others and pay it forward. They have combined their passions to create an outdoor adventure healing camp that will serve individuals with disabilities, including veterans and first responders, their families, and Gold Star families.

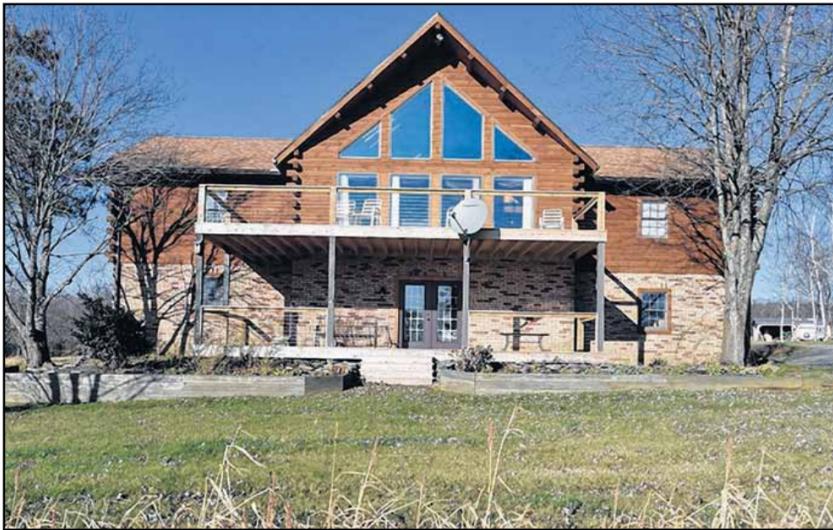
The property consists of endless opportunities in the outdoors that will be cherished forever by those who experience them. The 1,800 acres provide magnificent hunting adventures. With a 1-½ mile section of river designated as

Pennsylvania Class A Wild Trout water and two ponds, fishermen will leave extremely satisfied. The property also adjoins to the D&H Rail Trail which gives visitors access to 38 miles of trails for hiking and biking. With truly unlimited outdoor activities available, Camp Freedom is a dream property with a mission to help the disabled overcome life's difficulties.

The website has this to say about the camp: “Camp Freedom is more than a hunt, a fishing trip, or a hike on our pristine 1,800 acres. It is an opportunity for those who are seeking continued

According to Camp Freedom:

- There are more than 4 million disabled Veterans in the United States.
- Over 20 veterans commit suicide every day.
- Law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, and other first responders continually see the worst of human experience. The ravaging effects of fire, the emotional and physical damage caused by accidents and abuse, the threat of personal attacks, constant stress, and an inability to save everyone they attempt to save takes a toll.



The lodge at Camp Freedom in Carbondale.

Times Leader File Photo

- Camp Freedom is a unique organization that helps Veterans and First Responders onto a pathway of recovery and strives to keep families together through outdoor activities.
- Camp Freedom utilizes nature to save lives and rebuild families.
- Our outdoor adventures provide individuals with an experience of a lifetime that enables them to move forward on their life journey. We specialize in creating adventures for our veterans, first responders, their families, and Gold Star families at no cost to them.

For more information, go to: www.campfreedompa.org/. To make a tax deductible donation, send to:

Camp Freedom
attn: Lori Strohl

2750 Limestone St., Coplay PA 18037
For donations by credit card, call 570-536-6000.

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markets

Year of Giving

As a local company, we believe in giving back to the communities we serve.



We are pleased to support
Camp Freedom.

Camp Freedom provides disabled Veterans, First Responders, and their families with high quality outdoor adventures. Camp Freedom allows these individuals to experience the outdoors in a safe and protected manner while giving them exposure to the life healing benefits of outdoor activities.

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