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COL. AND MRS.
HENRY TILDEN SWAN

Director — 1963-2003
Advisory Director — 2004-Present
JACK SWAN

April 7, 2006

Dear Parents:

Please take the time to read and complete in full each part of this EXTREMELY IMPORTANT medical mailing. Inside you'll find all of the forms and information you'll need to make sure your child has a safe and healthy summer in 2006. Thank you!

Before you are finished, you will have to complete the following tasks:

- Read each item in this package completely (Please!)
- Complete in full, sign, and return to Pok-O-MacCready Camps the following documents for each child you are sending to camp:
 - o Health Form (large white fold-out sheet)
 - o Health Care Provider Form (pink sheet, to be filled out by physician's office)
 - o Emergency Card (cream card)
 - o Meningococcal Meningitis Response Form (salmon sheet)
- Complete in full, sign, and return to the Smith House Health Care Center the following items for each child you are sending to camp:
 - o \$100 Health Care Deposit check, made out to "Smith House Family Health Care Center" along with payment form
 - o Smith House New Patient Information Sheet
 - o Smith House Patient Statement of Release

Please complete these tasks before June 1, 2006. Your child will not be permitted to attend Pok-O-MacCready Camps without each one of these important tasks complete.

New York State no longer allows Camp Nurses to administer Over-The-Counter medications such as Tylenol or Advil, based on our local health center's Standing Orders, as was the practice in past years. Therefore, **THE NURSE CANNOT GIVE YOUR CHILD MEDICATIONS FOR TEMPORARY CONDITIONS OF ANY KIND WITHOUT A PHYSICIAN'S SIGNATURE FOR EACH MEDICATION ON THE ENCLOSED HEALTH FORM.**

The pink Health Care Provider Form enclosed lists the medications that may be administered to your child for simple problems such as a headache or stomachache, as well as medications for severe generalized **allergic reactions that may occur suddenly, IF YOUR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SIGNS IN THE SPACE PROVIDED FOR EACH MEDICATION THAT MAY BE GIVEN ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS.** Without a health care provider's signature and dosage, the nurse will not be authorized to administer any of these medications, and your child will need to be taken to the Smith House Health Center for an order to be obtained, if the need arises. This will result in the forfeiture of your \$100 deposit.

P.O. Box 397 ♦ WILLSBORO, NY 12996
VOICE (518) 963-7656 ♦ FAX (518) 963-4165 ♦ WWW.POKOMAC.COM ♦ INFO@POKOMAC.COM

The Camp Nurses will be able to treat your child for simple conditions such as a headache with Acetaminophen (Tylenol) or Ibuprofen (Advil) based on their assessment when the attached form is signed by your health care provider and returned to the Camp. In order to prevent delay in treatment of simple health issues, WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO HAVE YOUR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER SIGN FOR THESE MEDICATIONS, ON THIS FORM, AT YOUR CHILD'S PRE-CAMP HEALTH EXAM.

I would also like to inform you about meningococcal disease, a potentially fatal bacterial infection commonly referred to as meningitis, and a new law in New York State. On July 22, 2003, the New York State Public Health Law was amended to include §2167, requiring overnight children's camps to distribute information about meningococcal disease and vaccination to the parents or guardians of all campers who attend camp for 7 or more nights. This law became effective on August 15, 2003.

Pok-O-MacCready Camps are required to maintain a record of the following for each camper:

- A response to receipt of meningococcal meningitis disease and vaccine information signed by the camper's parent or guardian; AND
- Information on the availability and cost of meningococcal meningitis vaccine (Menomune™); AND EITHER
- A record of meningococcal meningitis immunization within the past 10 years; OR
- An acknowledgment of meningococcal meningitis disease risks and refusal of meningococcal meningitis immunization signed by the camper's parent or guardian.

Meningitis is rare. However, when it strikes, its flu-like symptoms make diagnosis difficult. If not treated early, meningitis can lead to swelling of the fluid in the surrounding the brain and spinal column as well as severe and permanent disabilities, such as hearing loss, brain damage, seizures, limb amputation and even death.

Cases of meningitis among teens and young adults 15 to 24 years of age have more than doubled since 1991. The disease strikes about 3,000 Americans each year and claims about 300 lives.

A vaccine is available that protects against four types of the bacteria that cause meningitis in the United States – types A, C, Y and W-135. These types account for nearly two-thirds of meningitis cases among teens and young adults.

Information about the availability and cost of the vaccine can be obtained from your health care provider and by visiting the manufacturer's website at www.meningitisvaccine.com. Pok-O-MacCready Camps does not offer meningococcal immunization services. To learn more about meningitis and the vaccine, please feel free to consult your child's physician. You can also find information about the disease at the websites of the New York State Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control.

I encourage you to carefully review the enclosed materials. Please complete the Meningococcal Vaccination Response Form and return it to Pok-O-MacCready Camps with your completed Health Form, Emergency Card, and Health Care Provider Form.

Thank you in advance for your completion of these many tasks. You will hear from camp again in early May.

Sincerely,



Wendy R. Sayward MS, RN, CNS
Health Director, Pok-O-MacCready Camps



John S. Swan, Jr.
Director, Pok-O-MacCready Camps