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# Lick 'em and join 'em at Stamp Camp USA

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by Lynda Jo Runkle, Correspondent

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Young stamp collectors will get an opportunity to combine creative and organizational skills at next month at Stamp Camp USA.

The camp for youths ages 8 to 14 will be held April 23 in conjunction with Lancopex 2005 Stamp Show and Exhibition at Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Stamp Camp was introduced in 1995 in Northern Tioga School District, Tioga County, to teach the basics of collecting and caring for stamps and the use of stamp tools.

Activities include scavenger hunts; using identifiers and maps to learn geography; translating markings on envelopes to understand bar codes and ZIP codes; and storytelling with stamps, envelopes and postmarks from around the world.

Participants select a topic and hunt through donated items for related stamps, envelopes and postmarks. Each camper uses his or her selected material to create three-dimensional or four-page competitive exhibits.

Throughout the activities, each camper earns "Stamp Camp cash" to purchase prizes.

The program was developed by Cheryl Edgecomb, a former postmistress in Tioga County, and elementary school teachers Suzanne Harer and Sylvia Wood. Edgecomb, now executive director of the camp, said "our philatelic education program can bring (many opportunities) into the community. (The camp) can help strengthen and nurture children and families."

The camp is limited to 20 participants and preregistration is required by April 18. The cost is \$10 per child.

For more information, call Jim Boyles at 394-5118 or e-mail him at [jboylesdejazzd.com](mailto:jboylesdejazzd.com).

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