

**SUMMER 2021 NEWSFLASH!**

Summer 2021 came with a lot of changes to how we operate camp. Many of the changes that we made, while we hope to be temporary, had a very positive impact on our summer and led to lots of fun.

This summer, for the first time ever, we operated a day camp program simultaneously with the overnight camp program. Day camp allowed us to offer another option in a year with a limited capacity on overnight campers. We are grateful to the staff and counselors that made this program so special this summer.

Overnight camp sessions ended on Friday nights this summer in order to allow time for our new cleaning company to clean in between sessions. Working with this company was a huge success and camp has never looked cleaner!

This summer we rented four pavilion tents that we stationed around camp. These pavilions gave us more shelter and shaded spaces for outdoor activities and helped us better use certain areas of camp for activities, programs, and meetings.

We are so thankful that we were able to open for the 2021 camp season and cannot wait to see all our campers and counselors next summer!



**Making the Best Better**

This season we were able to update a few of our facilities on camp. Major updates were done to the Grant House and to Red Shepard. These included fresh coats of paint, refinishing floors, and adding a second entrance to the Grant House that leads directly into Nurse's Office. We also added a turn around to the camp driveway which improved traffic flow. Nurse Kate Muldoon and kids pictured outside of new Grant House entrance on the left. Hartford County 4-H Board of Trustees President, Vicky Pelletier, and Camp Director, Jenn Paragone, putting some finishing touches on Red Shepard pictured on the right.



**Three Cheers for Our Volunteers! HIP HIP HOORAY!!!**

Camp Board members and volunteers were well represented at the recent Teen and Volunteer Recognition Program held on November 7th 2021. Camp is very fortunate to have dedicated individuals that have made Hartford County 4-H Camp a special place for campers, counselors, staff, and alumni! They strive to keep the 4-H tradition to make "The Best Better." Thank you Camp volunteers!

**Friend of 4-H Recipients:** Tom Wholley of CT Mattress was recognized for his generous donation! Chris Paragone and Mike Pelletier were also recognized for their support to reopen Camp for the 2021 season.

**Exceptional Service:** Hartford County 4-H Camp Closing and Re-opening Committee (Chair: Vicky Pelletier) and Hartford County 4-H Camp Maintenance Committee (Chair: June Zoppa) and Volunteers.

**Camp Leadership Volunteer Recognition:**

- Nate McMullin - 5 years
- Simone Upsey - 10 years
- Ken Picard - 20 years
- Peggy Forman - 40 years

**WHAT'S THE BUZZ!?**

- Congratulations to Connor Miele (Camper/Counselor '03-'15) on his completion of service in the U.S. Navy AND his recent marriage! Connor and Anna are settling in New York state.
- Congratulations to Brian Miele (Camper/Counselor '01-'12) on his completion of service in the U.S. Navy AND his graduation from THE Ohio State University. Brian has made Lewisville Texas his home.
- Congratulations to Aaron 'the boy' Miele (Camper/Counselor/Staff '95-'10) and wife Kaitlin on the upcoming birth of their son in December 2021. New baby will join big sister Harper. Aaron and Kaitlin have made Lakewood, Ohio their home.
- All of this makes mom, Pat Riordan Miele (Camper/Counselor/Staff/Camp Trustee '68-'21) a busy traveler!
- On October 9th 2021, Kelly Gilhooly (Camper/Counselor/Staff) married long time beau Sam Farnsworth with many fellow summer 2012 & 2013 4-H staff members in attendance.



Christopher 'Frenchy' French, Michael 'Moco' O'Connell, and Cory Brewer look so handsome while enjoying the crisp Vermont fall air.



Alison 'Aly Bally' DiCiancia, Margaret 'Marge' Blackburn, Alyssa Bloomquist, Kelly Gilhooly, Skylar 'Skye' Ives, and Heather Pardi strike a few poses in the photo booth.

**"How can I help Hartford County 4-H Camp?"**

We receive the question of, "How can I help camp?" quite often. There are many ways you can invest in Camp and that is by donating your time, manual sweat-equity, and by helping to raise funds for continued programs, education, endowment, and capital improvements.

Here are a few ways YOU can help!

- **2021 Hartford County 4-H Camp Annual Fundraising Campaign**  
Our annual fundraising campaign has kicked off! Please consider donating to Camp's Endowment, Working Capital, or Campership Funds. Your contribution will continue to help us maintain our beautiful facility and plan for future projects in the years to come, not to mention providing campers an experience to be remembered forever!

Now, this is something to smile about, indeed!

- **HARTFORD COUNTY 4-H CAMP & AMAZONSMILE PROGRAM**  
As a non-profit organization, Hartford County 4-H Camp can benefit from the AmazonSmile program! Any Amazon customer is allowed to designate 0.05% of their purchase price to a qualified charitable organization at no cost to you. Simply, log in at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) (PC or Mobile) with your same Amazon credentials and select Hartford County 4-H Camp!
- **American Eagle Cash Back to the Community**  
Hartford County 4-H Camp has been nominated through the American Eagle Federal Credit Union as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for the American Eagle Cashback to Community Program! Please consider casting your vote for Camp! Voting is open December 6 through December 19. Visit American Eagle's web site or [americaneagle.org/cashbacktothecommunity](https://americaneagle.org/cashbacktothecommunity) to vote. Also, please share this link with all your friends and families! The top three nonprofit organizations with the most votes will receive a donation from AEFCU!!
- **Volunteering!:**  
Hartford County 4-H Camp posts numerous volunteer opportunities on our website ([www.hartfordcounty4hcamp.org](https://www.hartfordcounty4hcamp.org)) and our social media pages (Facebook/Instagram). If you can, please set some time aside, bring your friends, and head down to Camp to help us Make the Best Better. Please submit a help desk ticket (<https://help.hartfordcounty4hcamp.org/>), should you have any questions about becoming a volunteer on Hartford County 4-H Camp.



SCAN ME  
DONATE ABOVE



If fellow alumni, parents, campers, or counselors are interested in being added to our distribution, please direct them to [hartfordcounty4hcamp.org](https://hartfordcounty4hcamp.org) so they can subscribe to our mailings.

This Camp Chatter wouldn't be made possible without support from Alyssa Bloomquist, Nadia Wentzell, Emily Bengtson, Paddy Miele, and Simone Upsey.