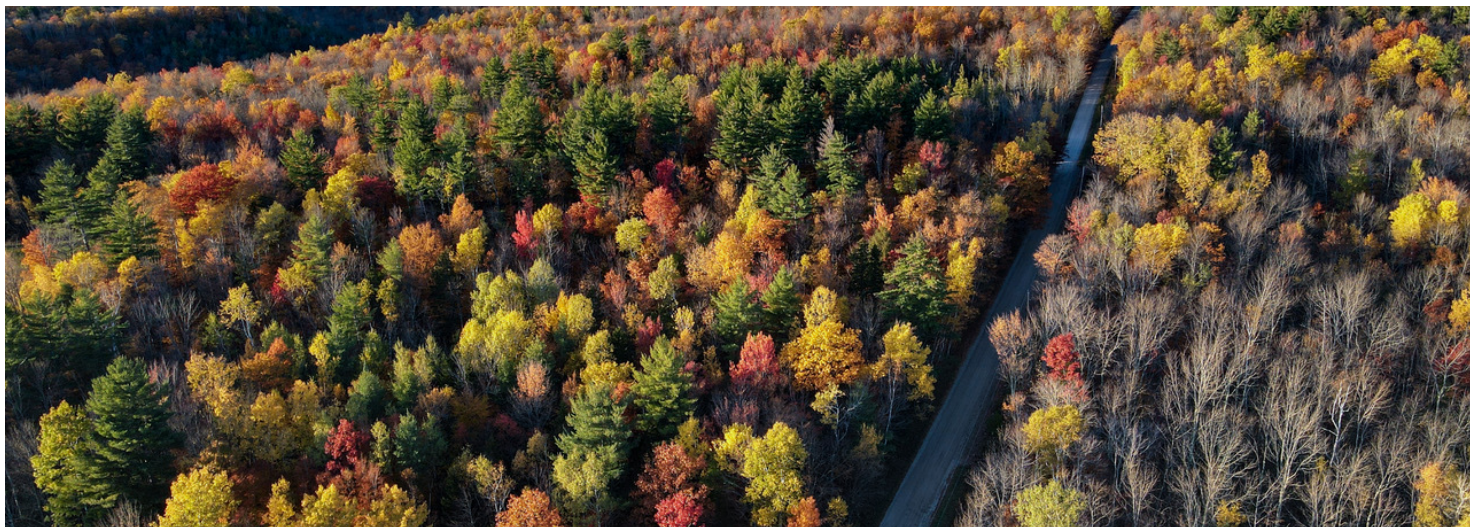


# CAMP THORPE ANNUAL REPORT 2021



*...created with gratitude for  
our community...*





## **Camp Thorpe Board Members**

# **Board of Directors**

Martha Heath, President/Treasurer

Roni Coleman, Vice President

Lyle Jepson, Secretary

Dorinne Dorfman

Ernest Miner

Molly Heath

Melody Frank

Pamela Crino

Katherine Bailey

Shelley Kessler

Melissa Collins

We are so excited to welcome Melissa Collins and Shelley Kessler to our board this year.





## Pivoting with joy..

We are proud of our pivot; our ability to take the spirit of an organization created before the invention of the internet, television or microwave and spread joy over the very recent invention of zoom. Our year resulted in over 100 creative zoom sessions and over 500 care packages for campers. We also welcomed two new fantastic board members, were featured in news outlets and exceeded all of our fundraising goals. In addition, camp will have a new garage and a new dining hall ramp next time you visit.

A  
community  
that stands  
together



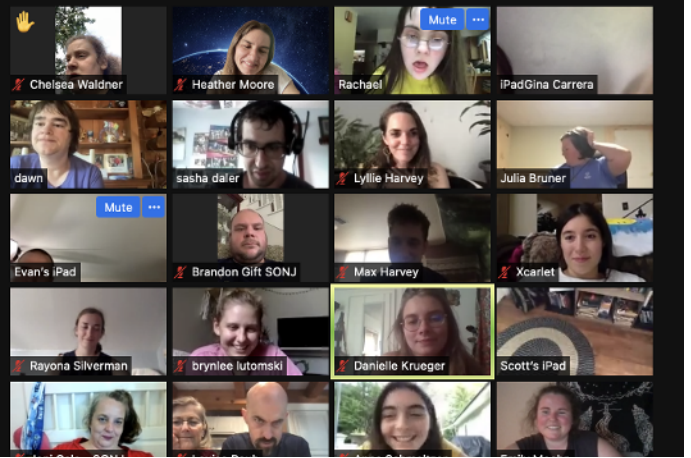
# This annual Report is dedicated to: Barry Wolcott and Geof Garth

Barry and Geof were the first supporters of the concept of Camp in the Box and have helped us to build a year-round camp in the Box Program that will launch in October 2021. Barry even offered programming ideas and we used many of them. Our favorite of Barry's ideas was to use the actual box we mail as a project. Heeding his advice, we had campers make the boxes into mini theaters and then create puppet shows!

Barry Wolcott and Geof Garth set up a scholarship fund last year in honor of Bud Wolcott that will benefit campers for years to come. Below left is an image (1948) of Bud and Barry Wolcott at a pine table that Bud built in 1947 (left). We still use them today as is evidenced by a camper and counselor sitting at them in 2019.







Lyllie Harvey started volunteering for Camp Thorpe as part of the Americorps Program and then was promoted to Program Director and then Operations Director. Her work has been stellar and instrumental in creating all programming since 2019. We will miss her as she begins a new journey opening her own therapeutic private practice this fall. Thank you Lyllie!

# Ode to Lyllie Harvey





While we all zoom-ed, Miner Construction was hard at work transforming Camp Thorpe's property, yet again. This time, thanks to a jaw dropping donation from the Fisher Foundation they built a new garage. Camp's garage, which contains all of the necessary tools to run camp, had been crumbling for a while. The original foundation, made of gargantuan field stones took heavy machinery to disassemble.

We are also excited to announce that we will be able to build a new ramp to our dining hall thanks to multiple donors, chief among them the Donchian Foundation.

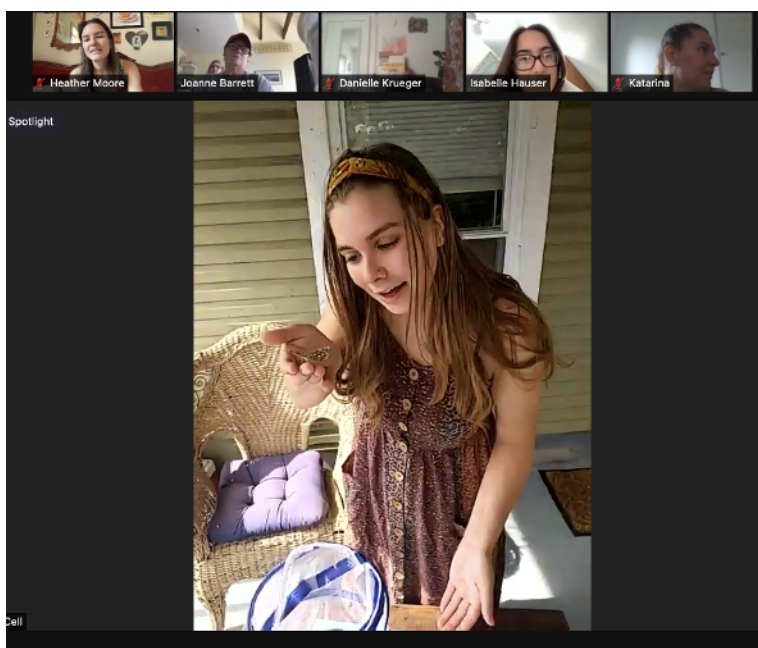
**Brand new  
garage and  
a ramp on  
the way!**







This year Camp Thorpe launched its first ever internship program and was lucky to welcome Stella Stiffman and Danielle Krueger, who both stayed on to run summer programming after their internships were over. Stella and Danielle ran many offseason zoom calls, created our first online auction, helped with annual appeals and so much more. In the summer months Danielle ran our nature area and Stella our mindfulness programming. Danielle is pictured, bottom left releasing butterflies that she raised as part of her area. Bottom right Stella enjoying a sunny day in Vermont.





# Seven Weeks of Online Programming

Thanks to extremely generous donors we were able to run seven weeks of online programming for free for our community. A few weeks prior to camp beginning we were lucky recipients for a Summer Matters Grant which resulted in increasing our offerings to 75 more families.

We mailed 325 box mailers that included ten projects with colorful, inclusive instructions and follow up videos.

We hired 14 excited counselors who designed original programming for our community and followed the schedule to the right from June 21st to August 6th.



# June 21st to August 6th

Time / period	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
10:00 AM		Get Moving		Nature/Gardening Time			
11:00 AM	Staff Meeting			Wild Card	Staff Prep time/Supervision		
12:00 PM		Theater/Music					
1:00 PM	Nature/Gardening Time		Craft Time	Science/Cooking		Staff Prep time/Supervision	
2:00 PM		Science/Cooking					
3:00 PM	Craft Time						
4:00 PM			Get Moving				Staff Prep time/Supervision
5:00 PM							
	Mindfulness Group		Wild Card		Dance Party		
6:00 PM							

Highlights from each area (each area created a dozen or so projects):

Nature and Gardening: Isabella and Danielle built faerie houses, raised butterflies and grew mini gardens!

Craft Time: Bryn and Vicente made ladybugs, cupcake flowers and self portrait postcards!

Science/Cooking: Rayona and Max made foccacia, pizza bagels, volcanos and slime!

Music/Theater: Anna and Kait created sock puppet shows, made musical instruments and told stories!

Mindfulness: Stella and Nate calmed us with a sequential journey through our senses!

Get Moving: Emily and Varsha explored scarf dancing, ballet, hip hop and so much more!

Wild Cards: We all visited bunnies, learned the history of s'mores, discussed movies and saw counselors home towns!





Campers enjoying summer 2021 online programming and projects. Please excuse image quality-most photos were taken from zoom screenshots.



## Fall and Winter Mailer

We sent a mailer in November of 2020 that contained projects for campers through April of 2021.

We created Thanksgiving centerpieces, birdhouses, drew images of camp and sang song through the chilliest months of New England.



*From our table to yours...*



## Camp Thorpe Picnic Days

The most glorious weekend of the summer had to be our well attended Picnic Days. Here new and old campers alike gathered to play picnic games, make crafts, go fishing and enjoy the splendor of Camp Thorpe's property. The feeling of happiness upon returning or seeing camp for the first time was palpable. Counselors spent the night in the cabins and continued a nearly 100 year tradition of creating happiness for others while growing as educators.

Quote from a 2021 counselor:

*"I am proud of finally finding that passion that I have been searching for all my life. I just felt like a passenger through school, getting good grades and achievements, but never feeling very confident of how I would put it to use. Now, on track to become a teacher, I am so grateful for the time I have spent here..."*







Richard Giard, Camp Thorpe Board Member, with new camper, John Kemp. Saving our pond through an aeration system is one of the many projects that Dick took on during the past year and a half.



Board members, Martha and Molly Heath and Shelley Kessler enjoying a picnic lunch.



## Camp Thorpe in the News

Camp Thorpe was featured in the news multiple times this year. We enjoyed spreading our mission in the Boston Globe, WCAX, and the Rutland Herald. We also received a lovely message on Governor Scott's Facebook page celebrating the kick off of our free online programming.

## Vermont summer camp for disabled forges connections during pandemic



# Metro

THE BOSTON GLOBE THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2021 | BOSTONGLOBE.COM/METRO

THOMAS FARRAGHER



PHOTOS BY JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

"Whatever our respite is — whatever it is that makes us feel whole, what it is that makes us feel human, all people need this," said Heather Moore, the director of Camp Thorpe in Goshen, Vt.

Quotation from the Boston Globe about our online programming:

*And then the campers got down to work.*

*There were cupcake flowers to assemble.*

*There were gummy bears to eat.*

*There were friendships to forge.*

*And, for a moment, the pandemic seemed very far away, somewhere hidden deep in the morning mist of the nearby mountains..*



# First Online Auction

**Camp Thorpe held its first ever online auction and received donations from many individuals and businesses!**

Dostie Bros. Frame Shop  
Vermont Teddy Bear Company  
Puro Coins and Jewelry.  
Jericho Cafe and Tavern  
Community Sailing Center  
Henry's Diner  
The Maples at Warner  
Allen Pools and Spa  
Darn Tough Socks  
Uncommon Coffee  
Phoenix Books  
Pyramid Holistic Wellness  
Andy's Dandy Dog Treats  
Homeport, VT  
Ben Patrick Art

Killington Ski Resort  
Tradewinds  
Lunaroma  
Smuggler's Notch Ski Resort  
ECHO  
Brownsville Butcher & Deli  
Switchback Brewery  
Laughing River Yoga  
Queen City Brewery  
Hildene, The Lincoln Family Home  
Spirit of Ethan Allen Cruise  
Burger Bar in Colchester, VT  
Jess Boutique  
Mirabelles  
ECCO Clothes

We also had donations from Shelley Kessler,  
Bev Pomeroy, Heather Moore Cara Lovejoy, Beth  
Giard!





# Camp Thorpe

P.O. Box 82, 680 Capen Hill Road, Brandon, VT 05733

802-247-6611 | [www.campthorpe.org](http://www.campthorpe.org) |  
[director@campthorpe.org](mailto:director@campthorpe.org)

Camp Thorpe is a 501(c)(3) organization.

All Donations are Tax Deductible

