

NEWSLETTER

# THE LINDLEY LEDGER

FALL 2024



## ANOTHER FALL AT 4-H CAMP!

Summer has once again given way to autumn here at 4-H Camp, and that means (in addition to enjoying the foliage and crisp air) we're already hard at work dreaming of next summer.





# WHAT'S NEW AT SUMMER CAMP?



## New Swim Platform

Our old floating dock has finally retired, after many years of service launching thousands of campers jumping into Lake Shawanni. It's been updated with a new swim platform to match up our upgraded dock system, which itself enjoyed it's rookie season sending campers jumping into the lake as well.

## Summer Camp Updates

Summer #74 at 4-H Camp was another one for the books! Between our classic overnight program and our day camp, we had 827 individual campers attend for a total of 1,137 "camper weeks." Beyond that, we had 70 summer staff and 60 volunteers who helped make all the magic happen.

Check out a few moments and big ideas from Summer '24 in [our new video](#)!



## Log Cabins Have Arrived!



We had a little extra traffic on the Camp road in late June, when our two new buildings arrived! They even made it around the turn near the Range Road with about six inches to spare. We can't wait for our Infirmary and Senior Staff Housing to be up and running for Summer 2025. They're going to be great additions to our site!



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## Join us at Winter Gathering

Our annual Winter Gathering is coming up in just a few short weeks! Winter Gathering will be held December 7th from 2pm to 6pm.

Join us for some light snacks and refreshments, some wintry camp activities, and to mix and mingle with campers and staff from last summer.

RSVP [here](#)!



## Staff Retreat

For our 75th Anniversary, in conjunction with the Campfire Council, we will be hosting a Staff Retreat in September of 2025.

More information can be found in the following pages!



## Leadership Weekend

Our annual leadership weekend for incoming Junior Counselors will be March 28th to 30th. The weekend is a training weekend for Juniors Counselor applicants who have applied to volunteer for summer 2025.

If you are interested in being a Junior Counselor this summer you can apply [here](#).



## Polar Bear Early Registration

[Registration](#) for Summer 2025 opens November 15th for both Overnight Camp and Day Camp.

Register during our Polar Bear Registration through December 31st for first pick in classes, sessions, and the lowest rate we offer.

The L.G. Cook 4-H Camp Campfire Council's

Give Now!



All funds go directly to supporting kids get the 4-H Camp experience next summer!

Summer 2025

# CAMPERSHIP CAMPAIGN



Give Online Now through December 7th

November 1st kicks off our Campfire Council's Annual Campership Campaign!

In Summer 2024, The New Jersey 4-H Camp gave out over \$62,000 in campership support to 88 campers for sessions at overnight camp in Stokes Forest and 4-H Camp at Rutgers Gardens. The funds raised in last year's 4-H Campfire Council Campership Campaign went a long way to making these 88 summer camp experiences possible.

Please consider contributing, and help spread the word far and wide that *you* can help give the gift of summer camp.

For our 2025 Campership Campaign, an anonymous donor has pledged to  
MATCH OUR ENTIRE CAMPAIGN, dollar for dollar!

This means any donation you give, (and any donation you get our way by spreading the word) will go  
TWICE as far to help TWICE as many campers get to summer camp!



# 4-H CAMP'S 75th ANNIVERSARY

## YOU ONLY TURN 75 ONCE!

From July 2025-July 2026,  
The New Jersey 4-H Camp  
will be celebrating its  
75th Anniversary.

The year will feature monthly  
events (held both on site and  
remotely) including a  
Staff Reunion Retreat in  
September of 2025.



Come January 2025, we'll be announcing our whole slate of events and celebrations to last our whole Anniversary year. But as for the Staff retreat:

This event, hosted at L.G. Cook 4-H Camp in coordination with the 4-H Campfire Council, will be open to former NJ 4-H Camp summer staff from all eras. It is intended to be a weekend of reconnection, reminiscing, storytelling, and sharing what the many generations of 4-H Camp Staff all have in common – fond memories and continued care for our little summer home in the forest.

This will be an **adults only** event (21+). (We'll have plenty of other options for family visits/open houses during the 75th Anniversary season!) There will also be options for spending the whole retreat at 4-H Camp, full weekend attendance with attendee-arranged off-site accommodations, or single day attendance on Saturday, September 20th. Further details to follow, with official registration becoming available in early 2025.

RSVP [here](#) or copy and paste the link below if interested for updates – and we'll look forward to celebrating 75 years of summer at 4-H Camp with you in 2025.

[https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_1Ohv00z4RuKk3vo](https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1Ohv00z4RuKk3vo)



# BEHIND THE SCENES

## Camp Director's Note

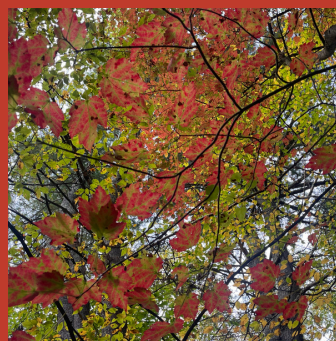
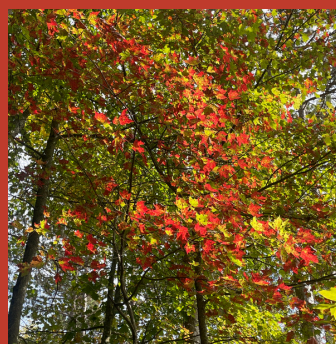
So, despite this fancy fall motif and decidedly autumnal color scheme, there's really just two seasons at 4-H Camp: Summer and NOT summer. Or, rather, summer and between summers.

IN BETWEEN summers, we (in addition to hosting all our rental groups and retreats) split our time between reflecting on last summer and working on next summer. We'll be sharing plenty of updates on what's new and exciting for Summer #75 - but for now, we'd like to focus a bit on reflecting by sharing our new Camp video! Filmed over two days during Session #3 (Chaos Week!) of Summer '24, we love how it gives a few campers and staff the chance to share what makes the 4-H Camp experience so special. Enjoy!



## Into the Woods with Woodrow

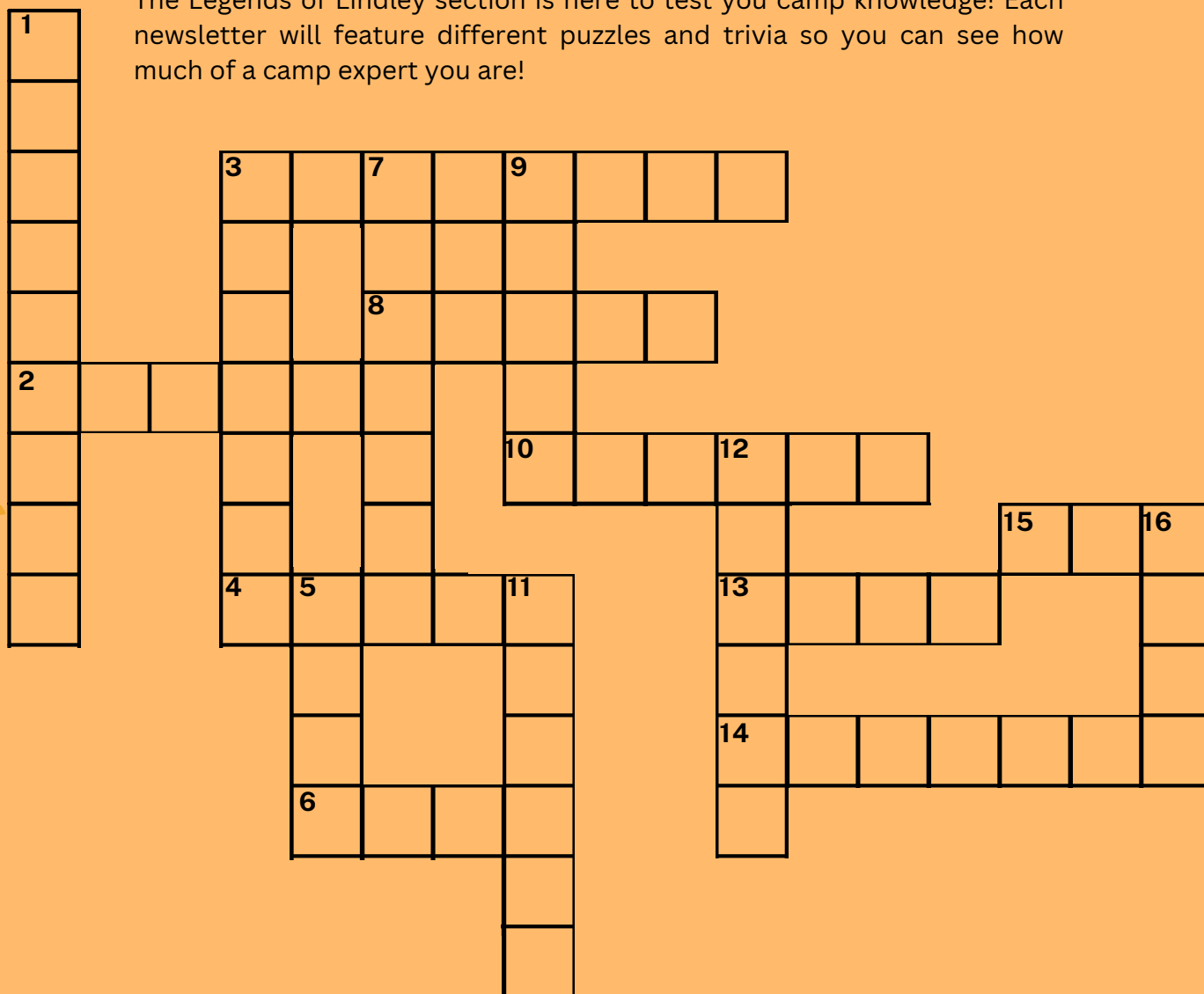
**Woodrow can confirm Fall is in full progress at 4-H Camp.**





# LEGENDS OF LINDLEY

The Legends of Lindley section is here to test you camp knowledge! Each newsletter will feature different puzzles and trivia so you can see how much of a camp expert you are!



## A C R O S S

2. TYPE OF BRACELET YOU MAY MAKE IN THE CRAFT SHOP
3. THE OLD BOAT HOUSE IS NOW THIS
4. THESE CRITTERS HELP THE GARDEN AND SOME PEOPLE USE AS FISHING BAIT
6. WHAT YOU DO IN 13-ACROSS
8. NICKNAME FOR THE LOGISTICS DIRECTOR AT CAMP
10. OLDEST GIRLS CABIN
13. SHAWANNI, E.G.
14. TYPE OF WATERCRAFT
15. \_\_\_ CIRCLES, A BREAKFAST STAPLE

## D O W N

1. NOVEMBER 15TH THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST IS OUR \_\_\_\_\_ REGISTRATION PERIOD
3. THE CAMP DOG
5. CANOE ACCESSORIES
7. THE OFFICIAL NAME OF CAMP IS "LINDLEY G. COOK 4-H YOUTH CENTER FOR \_\_\_\_\_ EDUCATION"
9. *RISE & \_\_\_\_\_*: CLASSIC CAMP MORNING SONG
11. CAMP SEASON
12. OUR SNAPPING TURTLE FRIEND
16. VISITOR OF SUMMER '24 THAT WATCHED US FROM VARIOUS CAMP ROOFTOPS

*Answer Key on Last Page*



# STAFF CHECK INS

Each issue we feature some messages from current and former staff. Read on to meet some people from our camp community and hear how they bring summer camp with them into the Fall!



Staff Summers  
2018 - 2024

## Fran Bottini

Hi camp friends! It's Fran aka lil franny pack and I hope everyone is having a wonderful fall. Summers hold a special place in my heart after spending two years as a waterfront counselor (2018-2019) and three years on Senior Staff (2022-2024), but I have a secret: fall is my favorite season! While living at home in central New Jersey, I've spent lots of time over the last few weeks admiring the leaves changing colors and watching squirrels and birds play in my yard. The nature near my house hardly compares to the beauty of camp, but it reminds me to appreciate all the different types of natural beauty in my life. Before summer '24 I was teaching English in France, but now I'm searching for a new job and spending lots of time reading, trying new recipes, and walking around playing Pokemon Go. When I'm missing the sunny days of camp, I like to reach out to one of my camp friends and think about all of our fun times together. Camp might only be in the summer, but camp friendships last through all the seasons!

## Nicol Christie

Hey everyone! Nicol here aka old 5 cents, and I hope I find you all doing well and keeping warm this autumn (fall) season. Summer is always filled with the most excitement (due to the nice weather, I'm sure) but fall will always be the prettiest of the seasons sporting a warm assortment of leaf [sic] colours and the signs of harvest seasons coming to an end. I've been in a new house for the past 4 months, and although I'm surrounded by rolling hills and farms full of cute highland cows, my busy schedule means it does take a lot of effort to slow down and appreciate the wonder of nature and the incredible landscapes around me. I started a new job in a small rural school near here (63 children in the whole school!) and they have kept me on my toes these past few months. But now, as we celebrate the end of the harvest and look towards winter, I begin to remember the amazing times I've had at camp over the years and the lifelong friends I've made who I continue to catch up with (when I remember to). I carry all of the friendship bracelets I've received on my school bag so that I always have some camp spirit with me in my classroom. Camp may only be for a few weeks of summer, but the memories and friends will keep you feeling warm and loved for time without end. Hope you're all doing well and as always, see you next summer!



Staff Summers  
2018 - 2023



# STAYING IN TOUCH

## Submit an entry to Vesper Voices

If you have a camp story to share, pictures from your time at camp, a creative piece, or a question for camp you can submit that here to be included in our Winter issue. Alumni and current camper submissions welcome. Submit [here](#).

## Staff Check Ins

If you would be interested in being featured as one of our staff on our staff check-ins sections, please reach out, or fill out [this form](#).

## Follow Us on Social Media



## Sign Up to Join our Newsletter Mailing List

If you would like to sign up to join our Newsletter mailing list please click [here](#) to sign up

## Legends of Lindley Answer Key

### Crossword

Across:

- 2. BEADED
- 3. WOODSHED
- 4. WORMS
- 6. SWIM
- 8. TNIVI
- 10. ELEVEN
- 13. LAKE
- 14. ROWBOAT
- 15. EGG

Down:

- 1. POLARBEAR
- 3. WOODROW
- 5. OARS
- 7. OUTDOOR
- 9. SHINE
- 11. SUMMER
- 12. VELCRO
- 16. GOAT

## Photo of the Fall

