

# CAMP BEECH CLIFF

## ECHOES 2019







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# Leadership

## Welcome!

Camp Beech Cliff couldn't exist without the hard work of our volunteer boards. Board members give their time and resources in support of our mission. Welcome to incoming Directors: Lori Bartlett, Strick Heilman, Annah Houston, and Vince Messer; and Trustees: Mary McCall and Peter Rogers. A heartfelt thank you to our outgoing board members for their six years of volunteer service: Donald Graves, Thomas Hodge, Eileen Miller, Faith Pulis, and Megan Smith.



Lori Bartlett



Strick Heilman



Annah Houston



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Vince Messer



Peter Rogers

**Our Mission: Camp Beech Cliff MDI enriches the lives of people of all ages through its summer camps, year-round outdoor education, and recreation programs inspiring personal growth, connections among people, and an appreciation of the natural world.**

Camp Beech Cliff, PO Box 381, 264 Beech Hill Road, Mount Desert, ME 04660-0381, (207)244-0365  
[www.campbeechcliff.org](http://www.campbeechcliff.org)

## Unpacking Summer

### A Message from our Executive Director

I was making the rounds at camp this summer and had a conversation with a camper, a girl probably about the age of 11. When I asked her how camp was going this week (a question that I ask whenever possible), I heard: "I've got my friend here with me. She's from Europe and we meet up every summer at Camp." When I asked if there is anything that she would like to see changed, I got a response that I have heard for the past fourteen years: "I wouldn't change anything." And then she added the words: "This is our happy place."

Back ten years ago, I had a lot of kids who were upset with Camp because we were about to undergo renovations. Why would we change something so special to them? It was perfect the way it was. That was a hard conversation then, but most kids understood once we had our new camp.

Here we are again, asking important questions about what makes Camp special and what should we consider doing differently. This past year over 200 people of all ages and backgrounds were asked to 'weigh in' as the Camp's board members and staff work on a new strategic plan. We always want to keep Camp fun, fresh (ideas!), friendships, and fiscally sustainable and this takes a lot of planning and work.

Here's one big example of an issue that we must tackle and one that we share with so many local businesses

and organizations – finding housing for summer staff. When the Camp grew in popularity after the renovations in 2012, we never imagined that we would grow to 265 campers each week; to support that level of operation, we now hire 66 staff each summer. As much as we try to hire locally, we are competing with many MDI employers and must hire about two-thirds of the staff from away. Offering housing is key to attracting good staff, and good staff is key to keeping Camp fun, fresh, and building those friendships.

I will keep you informed as to where we are going in the new year with all of these great ideas and information that we have collected. By the new year, we will have goals set up for the next three years as we head into our 25th anniversary in 2022. As for now, I'm happy to report that we had another good summer which you will see throughout the newsletter. The pictures say it all. Thank you to the many of you who make this camp what it is today!

Most gratefully,





# CBC Year in Review

## October 2018

CBC witnessed the blissful nuptials of multiple couples set among the fall colors.

Author Clare Vanderpool comes to discuss her book *Navigating Early* with Island Readers & Writers book program with all of MDI's 7th graders.

Our pickleballers come in from the cold and turn Eagles Nest into a pickleball haven.

## November

All those 7th graders return to CBC for a day of teambuilding and anti-bullying coaching with Y.E.S.

The Friday Family Climbing and open gym mania resume for all that extra energy that builds up thru the school week.

CBC campus is put to bed for the winter... we pull the leaves off the trees, the lake is drained, and Mike Duffy is packed away until Spring.

## December

RockStars adult climbing on the indoor rock wall resumes. Thank you to Gary Churchill and others for expanding and resetting the wall and climbing routes!

Believe it or not, but Matt begins hiring staff for the 2019 Summer Camp program.

## January 2019

Thanks to generous support from Healthy Acadia, a free climbing program opens 2 nights a week for local teens.

Student groups from Unity College and University of Maine use CBC as home base for outings and retreats.

## February

Matt tours New England recruiting the best counselors for the summer season.

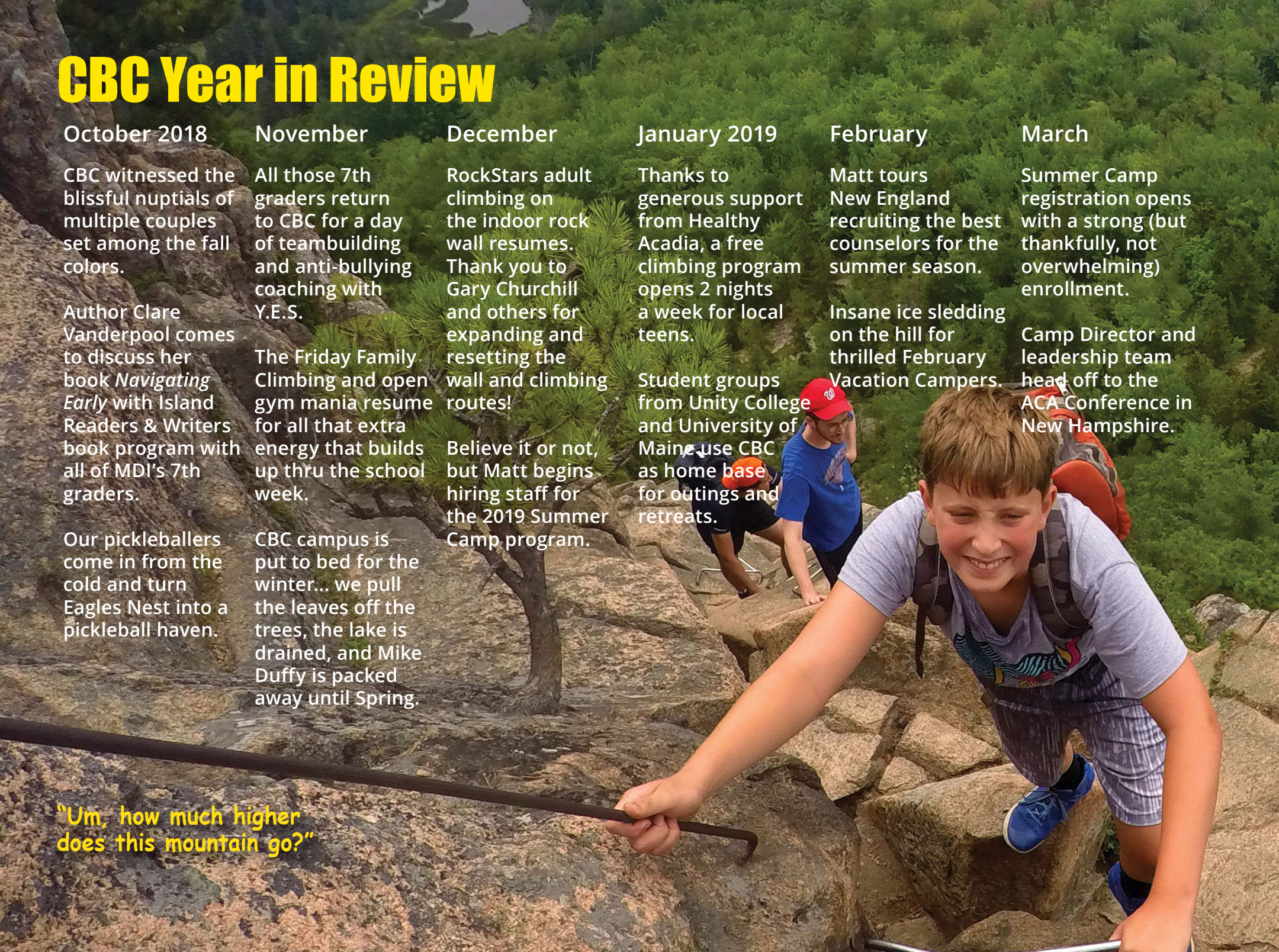
Insane ice sledding on the hill for thrilled February Vacation Campers.

## March

Summer Camp registration opens with a strong (but thankfully, not overwhelming) enrollment.

Camp Director and leadership team head off to the ACA Conference in New Hampshire.

"Um, how much higher does this mountain go?"





## April

Wet days don't keep our intrepid April Vacation Campers indoors.

CBC overrun with high school freshman and sophomores in search of teambuilding.

Out of state boy scout troopers earn the badge for less than ideal camping conditions during a wet and windy weekend bivouac on Pulis Field.

## May

A crew of MDI High Schoolers lend a hand and move our new half-ton chicken coop into the chicken run.

CBC hosts Maine Americorp volunteers for a little teambuilding and a lot of wood-chipping.

Island Pathway program with MDIHS closes out for the year with an overnight adventure.

Time to plug Mike Duffy back in.

## June

16 new chickens arrive and begin laying eggs like champs!

Summer staff arrive for orientation and training.

Jim constructs the 'Chill Zone' for campers.

First week of summer camp.

## July

CBC campers strut their stuff in the annual Bar Harbor Fourth of July parade.

12th Annual Ladies who Loonch Luncheon and Fashion Show.

Appalachian Mountain Club crosses Echo Lake for weekly climbing nights.

Nimbus Dance Works and CBC campers do not disappoint with a wondrous performance at the Criterion.

## August

Circus Superstars and Acadia Theater Company bring excellent camps, and great camper performances to CBC.

Hawk Henries graces CBC with an evening performance.

Summer Soirée thank you reception for CBC donors and volunteers.

Last week of summer camp.

## September

George Stevens Academy, Blue Hill School, Beech Hill School, and others start the school year off right with collaborative teamwork and teamplay at CBC.

JAX Computational Sciences retreat.



## **"THE HILL IS CALLING AND I MUST GO..."**

### **A Message from our Camp Director**



THE HILL is calling! If you've been associated with Camp Beech Cliff in any way, you have no doubt experienced, or heard tell of...THE HILL! For some of our campers, it's a defining factor of their summer here. One of the favorite jokes from parents and

others after experiencing the hill is: "You guys should install a ski-lift."

THE HILL: If you travel the hill, you know that what awaits you is the shore of Echo Lake. It's the chance to swim and play with friends; to explore in canoes and kayaks the nooks and crannies and coves that hide around the edges of the lake; to try stand-up paddle boarding for the first time; or just to listen for the call of Waldo or Wenda, our beloved loons. It's a beautiful setting with so much to do and such an important part of the summer camp experience.

When the CBC's summer Leadership Team discussed the phrase that would appear on the back of our staff shirts this past summer, we kept coming back to:



"The Hill is Calling, and I Must Go!" It was more than just a joke about that difficult hill. We realized that the hill is a metaphor for all of us. Whether you've been a CBC camper, a camper parent or grandparent, a board or staff member, we all have our respective hills in life. You know the ones I'm talking about. It's an obstacle that stands before you, and in order to achieve something amazing or reach a destination, you need to conquer it. That value of challenging ourselves and walking those 'hills' is one that we try to instill in all of our campers. We hope that each of our campers walks away feeling inspired to try something new, no matter how hard it may be, and will walk away feeling proud of what they did. That's why we also decided that all staff AND campers had this slogan on their shirts this year:

**The hill is calling  
and I must go!**



### **FROM THE FAMILY SURVEY:**

**Q: What was  
your camper's least  
favorite experience?**

**A: "THE HILL!"  
(11% of Campers/Parents)**

**Q: What are your reasons for  
sending your child to camp?**

**A: "To challenge Themselves"  
(60% of Campers/parents)**





# 2019 Summer Camp

THE HILL IS  
CALLING AND I  
MUST GO...









# Junior Firefighters

Cars passing by CBC this summer might have caught a glimpse of campers practicing their aim with fire houses, witnessed a miniature house engulfed in flames, and campers running drills. All the fire companies on MDI came together to lead a Junior Fire Fighter program for campers ages 11 to 14.

When asked about what they learned, one camper remarked: "Firefighting isn't as easy as Hollywood makes it look. It's hard core tough and the firefighters are teaching us to really focus on making good decisions." From performing mock rescues in full firefighting gear, to learning how to check your fellow firefighter's equipment for safety, to the amazing fact that smoke itself is combustible, it was a week that both excited and educated all involved.

CBC was lucky to have the knowledge of folks like Mt. Desert Fire Chief Mike Bender who hoped to set a spark that could grow and help the community, and Mt. Desert Fire Lieutenant Amilie Blackman who recognized herself in the campers, noting that type of curiosity was what made her want to become a fire fighter. Chief Bender and Lt. Blackman shared their hope that the campers' enthusiasm would kindle further action and education

at home. When asked what advice she had for kids interested in firefighting, Lt. Blackman advised: "Keep learning - learn everything you can. Keep your eyes open and ask questions."

The favorite activity of the week? A giant soccer match where teams of uniform-clad campers faced off with the power of fire trucks and hoses, in place of cleats and kicks.

Thanks to the hard work of Jim Daigle, CBC's Facilities Manager and volunteer Firefighter in Southwest Harbor, who brought every fire department on MDI together to educate this group of campers. With a growing need for volunteers, the knowledge our campers gained may spread to others in the community as well. We are grateful to all of the emergency services personnel who helped to make this Junior Firefighter camp such a successful experience, and to the departments and towns that offered scholarships to local residents to encourage participation

*Bottom: Jr Firefighter campers battle in firehouse soccer (and water the lawn while they are at it!)  
Top: Campers learn about safety equipment and run first aid drills*

*The Junior Firefighters Camp  
was sponsored by the  
Bar Harbor Firefighter's  
Association*





# Teen Camps

When Camp Beech Cliff launched our Leader-in-Training program for teens in 2015, followed closely by the Adventure Teen Camp, we were responding to a clear need in our community. Teens are looking for a summer experience and parents want to see them engaged with the world beyond their devices. In the four years since the teen camp began, the program has doubled to 126 campers attending a combined 355 weeks of programming.

As the program grows each year, we learn important lessons and make changes to the program. In 2019 we continued that work by enjoying an overnight camping experience, summiting seven different mountains in Acadia National Park, and working together to create the “Teen Territory” at the waterfront. We learn together, we grow together, and we continue to work toward creating a program that helps to build connections between teens.









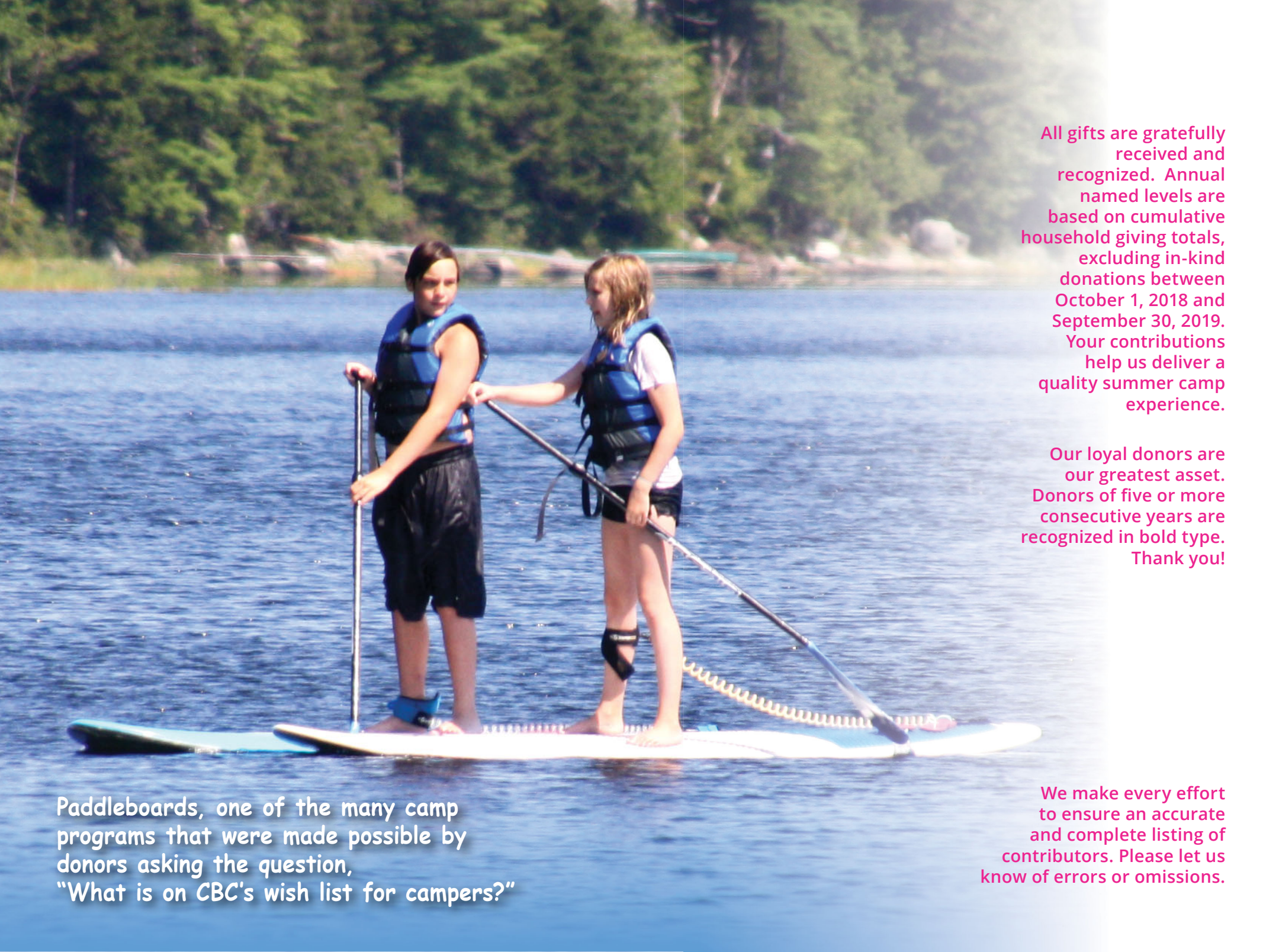
# Summer was a parade of fun!











All gifts are gratefully received and recognized. Annual named levels are based on cumulative household giving totals, excluding in-kind donations between October 1, 2018 and September 30, 2019. Your contributions help us deliver a quality summer camp experience.

Our loyal donors are our greatest asset. Donors of five or more consecutive years are recognized in bold type. Thank you!

Paddleboards, one of the many camp programs that were made possible by donors asking the question, "What is on CBC's wish list for campers?"

We make every effort to ensure an accurate and complete listing of contributors. Please let us know of errors or omissions.



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(breathlessly) "...and I named it Paul... and then we got to touch a salamander, and then we got to pet the bunny, and then..."





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*\* deceased*





It's called a challenge  
course for a reason.



Teamwork!  
That's what  
it's all about.





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**Heather and Wayne Sinclair**

Rachel Smallidge and Jason Ball

**Anna and Bart Smith**

Brad and Peg Smith

Nancy and Todd Smith

James Snow

**Stephen and Sara Somes**



Brenda Spoonemore and Sim Larkin  
 Lynne and Mike Staggs  
 Lori Stanley  
 Christina and James Stanton  
**Sheridan and Barb Steele**  
 Jay and Natasha Steinle  
 Toby Stephenson and Andrea Perry  
 Olympia Stone and Sims Preston  
 Lindy Stretch  
**Curt and Ann Strohacker**  
**Gretchen Strong**  
 Benjamin and Lura Strout  
 Sylvia Strumpf  
 Adrienne and Jeff Sullivan  
 Abigail and Michael Tadenev  
**Ann and Talbot Taylor**  
 Gillian and Bryce Teale  
 Tad and Diane Templeton  
 Amanda and John Thaller  
 Eric Thomas and Andrea Tilden  
 Mia Thompson  
 Jamie Thurlow  
 Angela and Timothy Torell  
 Laurie Towers  
 Helene Tuchman  
 Holly and Jason Tyler  
 Chris Wade  
 Robert and Leslie Waldman in Honor  
     of Gail Amalia Barth Katz  
 David and Meghan Walsh  
 Ted and Susan Warholak  
 Nate and Shyla Waring  
 Amy and Bill Warren  
**Heidi Welch and Patricia Tierney**  
 Kate and Jaime Weir  
 Anne Wetzel  
 Jamie Whitehead  
 Russell and Sara Whitmore  
**Lorie and Carl Wiebrecht in**  
     Memory of Aldene and Sally  
     Robbins





Sandy Wilcox and Jack  
Russell  
Nancy Wilder  
Jerry and Marilyn  
Winkelstein  
Richard and Nancy  
Winstanley  
Goody Wiseman and Jasper  
Denniston  
George and Linda Woolley  
Margot Woolley  
Lee Worster  
Janice Woychik  
Ruth and Charles Yeiser  
Jim and Mary Yellen  
Jena and Jeff Young  
Dr. Zhongwei Zhang and  
Hong Liu

## **BUSINESSES, FOUNDATIONS, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

American Camp Association, New  
England  
Merrill Lynch Private Banking &  
Investment Group  
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust  
Bar Harbor Firefighter's Association  
**Chalmers Insurance**  
Cotswold Foundation  
Davis Conservation Foundation  
The Dead River Company  
**First National Bank**  
Friends of Acadia  
G.F. Johnston & Associates  
Gartner, Inc  
Geddy's Pub  
Greater Horizons  
Hattie A & Fred C Lynam Fund  
J. McLaughlin  
**Machias Savings Bank**  
**Maine Community Foundation**  
MDI Real Estate  
Mount Desert Campground  
RMB Capital Management, LLC  
Salesforce.org  
Spirit Fund of the Maine  
Community Foundation  
**The Puffin Fund of the Maine  
Community Foundation**  
Town of Tremont  
Whistle Pig Farm  
William Blair  
Witham Family Hotels Charitable  
Fund

## **IN MEMORIAM DOT PULIS**

Dot Pulis, with her husband, Clifford, founded the original Camp Beech Cliff in the early 1950's. A rustic all-boys overnight camp, their program ran until the mid-1970's. In 1997 Dot and Cliff transferred the land to the new non-profit that would become the CBC of today. Cliff and Dot were always champions of the camp experience and great supporters of the Campership Fund at Camp Beech Cliff.



*Dot with her granddaughter Faith, a recent CBC board member*

## **IN MEMORIAM LEE PATTERSON**

This year we said goodbye to one of Camp Beech Cliff's original founders, Lee Patterson. Lee was a counselor in the early 1970's at CBC and then went on to be a career camp professional running Denning Travel Camp. After settling back on Mt Desert Island, he worked with others in the 1990's to create the independent non-profit day camp that it is today. Vance O'Donnell, Camp Beech Cliff's director in the early years, said: "Lee's love and experience of camp lore were in his blood. He could be counted on to examine ideas and see them from more than one perspective. His firm, gentle way helped us make sound decisions in timely a manner. Lee helped Camp stay its course through transitions and enormous growth with his steady, calm leadership. Lee also continued to share his love of Mother Nature with his knowledge, his collection of animal tracks in plaster, and teach the inter-connectedness in the natural world."



*Lee at CBC in 1997 and again in 2015 to receive a recognition on the 20th anniversary of CBC*



## IN-KIND DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

Abbe Museum  
Acadia Shops  
Debra Andrews  
Liz Angelbeck  
Baker Kline Inc  
Bar Harbor Popcorn  
**Bar Harbor Tea Company**  
**Bar Harbor Whale Watch Co**  
Barbara Shelley Art  
Lori and Matt Bartlett  
Beal's Lobster Pier  
Jean and Margaret Beaulieu  
Jenna Beaulieu  
Beeswax Candle Co  
Mike Bender  
Carol Berman  
Mark Berry  
Amilie Blackman  
Blaze  
Carisa's Hair & Nail Salon  
Brian Carleton  
**Carroll Drug Store**  
**Causeway Golf & Tennis Club**  
Gary Churchill  
Clark Point Catering  
Lisa Horsch Clark and Bob Clark  
Classic Boat Shop  
CODA  
**Colonel's Restaurant & Deli**  
Gary Conrad  
Lyn Cook  
Cornerstone Gallery  
Cranberry Island Fisherman's  
Coop  
Criterion Theater  
Jim Daigle

Debra Deal and Rogier van Bakel  
Downeast Pilates  
Phil Duggan  
Eager Eye Photography  
Judy Eason  
Jared Edwards  
Emily Ellis  
Sue Ferrante-Collier  
Carroll Fernald  
**Fiore Artisan Olive Oils & Vinegars**  
Floret  
**Fred's**  
Frost Farms  
Nancy Gleason  
Kristen Goodwin  
Shelia Greene  
Gull Rock Pottery  
Melissa Haas  
**Hairworks by Kim**  
Hammond Lumber  
Jeff Hanscom  
Chloe Hatcher  
**Havana Restaurant**  
Susie Hokansson  
Linda Homer  
Honey Comb Spa & Salon, Kelsey  
Ireland, Stylist  
Matt Horton  
Island Bound Treats  
**Islesford Dock**  
**Islesford Pottery**  
Linda Jacoby  
Jean Forbes Art  
Ali Kassels  
Sally Kellogg  
David and Christina Kline  
Ginny Lane

Chuck Liebow  
Lisa Hall Jewelry  
Little Notch Bakery  
LuLu Lobster Boat  
Main Street Mercantile  
Maine Magazine  
Kathe McDonald  
Mike McEnroe  
Milagro Coffee & Espresso  
Mother's Kitchen  
Klaus Mueller  
National Park Canoe Rental  
Northeast Harbor Golf Club  
Simon Orwell  
Erin Paradis  
Rosali Pirone  
Roxy Preston  
Quietside Art Gallery  
Judson Raven  
**Salsbury Organic Garden Supply**  
Kenneth and Sidney Salvatore  
Samsara Winery - Proprietors  
Joan & Dave Szkutak  
Sally Santosuosso  
Annie Salvi  
Lunn Sawyer  
**Sawyer's Specialties**  
Schoodic Institute at Acadia  
National Park  
Michele and Rachel Schultz  
Grace Scott  
Seal Cove Auto Museum  
**Seal Cove Pottery & Art Gallery**  
**Shaw Jewelry**  
Side Street Café  
Patricia Silberman  
Slack Tide Shop

Deb Smith  
**Southwest Cycle**  
Kim Storey  
Studio 296  
Allison and Steve Sullens  
The Batty Quilter  
The Shop  
Thurston's Lobster Pound  
Timber Tina's Great Maine  
Lumberjack Show  
John Izenour and Huyen Tran  
**Under the Dogwood Tree**  
Howard and Paula Vogel  
Wallace Interiors  
**Waves Hair & Nail Salon**  
Mary Webster  
Katherine Weiler  
Wendell Gilley Museum  
Whistle Pig Farm  
Jamie Whitehead  
**Wild Acadia Fun Park**  
Window Panes  
Anne Woodman  
Wendy Worrell  
Lee Worster

***Special thanks to the 2019  
Loonch Committee Volunteers:***  
Liz Angelbeck, Lori Bartlett,  
Lyn Cook, Judy Eason, Carroll  
Fernald, Sue Ferrante-Collier,  
Kristen Goodwin, Shelia  
Greene, Chloe Hatcher,  
Ali Kassels, Sally Kellogg,  
Sid Salvatore, Kathy Shaw,  
Patricia Silberman, Debbie  
Smith, Kim Storey, Paula  
Vogel, Anne Woodman, Lee  
Worster.





## **The 12th Annual Ladies Who Loonch: Friends, Fun, Fashion & Philanthropy**

The 210 attendees of our annual fundraiser enjoyed both a live and silent auction, a lively fashion show and a sing-along with campers over lunch. As one attendee remarked, "It's a chance to catch up with old friends, make new connections, and support a great cause."

And support they did! Through ticket sales, auction proceeds and incredibly generous paddle raises at the event, the ladies raised over \$140,000 for the Camp Beech Cliff Campership and Transportation Funds.

This event would not be possible without the hard work of our volunteer Loonch Committee members, and all the individuals and businesses that contributed to the auctions and raffles. Thank you!!



## 2019 Summer Soiree

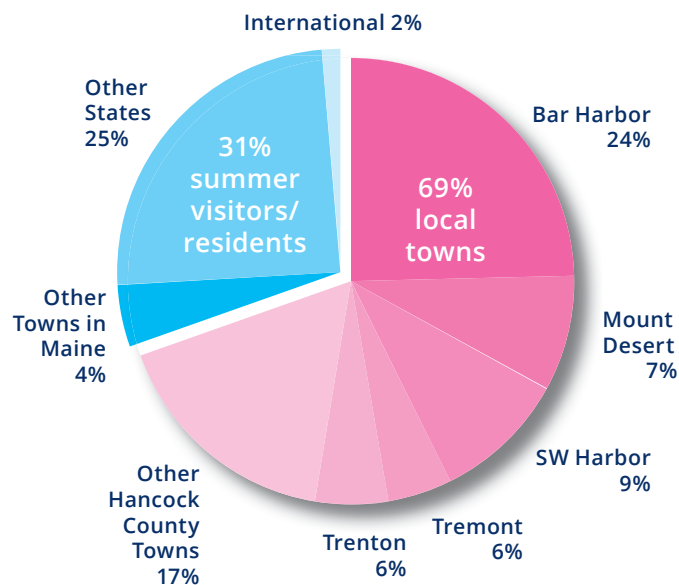
On the evening of the second Tuesday of August, we host the Summer Soirée to celebrate all the individuals, organizations, and businesses that support CBC and our campers through donations of money, time and supplies.

Support our campers, join the community of CBC champions and come join the party!

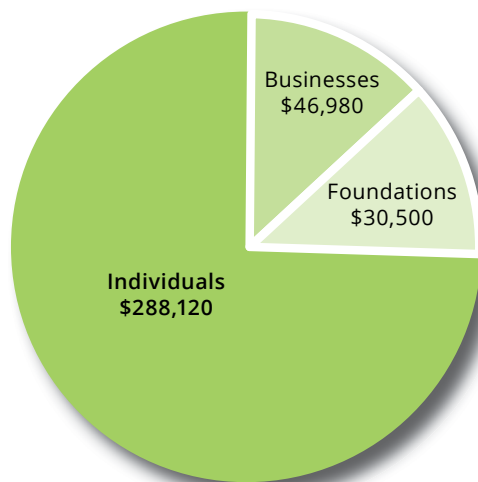




## Who are our campers?



## Who is donating to CBC?



## Why do we need donations?

**\$550**

COST OF  
CAMP

—

**\$230**

CAMP  
TUITION  
PAYMENT

=

**\$220**

NEEDED IN  
DONATIONS  
FOR EACH  
CAMPER  
TO RECEIVE  
THE CAMP  
EXPERIENCE  
THEY  
DESERVE.

A week of traditional summer camp at Camp Beech Cliff costs about \$550 a week for each camper. This amount includes the cost of the counselors, instructors, training, materials, transportation and all that goes into a great camper experience.

A local family paid \$230 and non-residents paid \$345 for that experience this summer.

This difference between the camp tuition and the actual cost of the camp can only be met through the donations of our camp community.

We do our best to keep the tuition as low as possible in order to keep the camp experience available to as many as possible.

Curious about what is on CBC's donation wishlist for the coming year? Reach out and we will be more than happy to share.

# Your Impact

What your donations made possible this year:

**2424 weeks of camp for 841 campers**

**\$77,058 in Campership scholarships shared between 104 campers**

**Over 17,000 free bus trips for 563 campers**

**5 new paddleboards**

**One new trail to the waterfront**

**Countless new experiences, new friendships, and smiles!**



# Calendar

Pickleball  
Mon/Wed/Fri 9-11am  
Tues/Thurs 5-7pm

Rock Stars  
(Adult climbing)  
Mondays Beginning in  
November 5:30 - 8pm

Wall Nuts  
(Family friendly  
climbing)  
Fridays Beginning in  
November 5:30 - 8pm

February School  
Vacation Camp  
February 17-21  
9am-4pm

Summer Camp  
Early Registration  
Period  
March 1-10

April School  
Vacation Camp  
April 20-24  
9am-4pm

First Day of  
Summer Camp! 😊 June 15\*

12th Annual  
Ladies Who  
Loonch  
July 10

\*depending upon snow days

**Calling all former CBC staff and former campers 18 and older, we are launching a CBC Alumni Association! There are many former staff members and campers with whom we've lost touch and if you are one or know of one please email [alumni@campbeechcliff.org](mailto:alumni@campbeechcliff.org) to submit updated contact information for all future mailings, email communications, and news about exciting events from the Alumni Association! Thank you!**



Connect with CBC at  
[www.campbeechcliff.org](http://www.campbeechcliff.org)  
or on facebook.



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Mount Desert, ME 04660-0381