





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT® FOR HEALTHY LIVING FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YMCA of Greater Hartford

CAMP JEWELL YMCA

Lewis Fox Corn Roast: August 9

Summer Camp Open House D:

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April 13, 2-4 p.m.

11-6 yeM

June Family Camp: May 30-June 2

Memorial Day Family Camp: May 23-26

Special Riding Weekend: May 16-18

Mother/Daughter Riding Weekend:

Ranch Welcome Weekend: May 2-4

Spring Work Weekend: April 11-13

Winter Family Camp: Feb. 17-20

UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Camper Reunion: Feb. 14-16

Summer Camp Open House C:

Summer Camp Open House B:

Women's Retreat: April 4-6

The YMCA for **Youth Development**: Murturing the potential of every child and teen, for **Healthy Living**: improving the nation's well–being, for **Social Responsibility**: Giving back and toolon's well–being, for **Social Responsibility**: Giving back and providing support to our neighbors. The YMCA of Greater Hartford is a non–profit $501(\mathbb{C})(3)$ charitable organization established in 1852 and is one of the nation's oldest YMCA's. PyCA's and is one of the nation's oldest YMCA's.

campjewellymca.org

6 Prock Hill Road, P.O. Box 8 Colebrook, CT 06021

A Branch of the YMCA of Greater Hartford

CAMP JEWELL YMCA



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMPJEWELL YMCA



THANKS · GRACIAS · GRAZIE · MERCI · DANKE · OBRIGADO

The year 2013 marked Kathie Reese's 30th anniversary working at Camp Jewell, where for 29 of those years she's served as our office manager. Responsible for all aspects of running the office, camper registration, coordinating the employment paperwork of all our seasonal employees and more, Kathie's done an incredible job keeping everything running smoothly and efficiently. But to the people who've worked alongside her all these years, she's been even more.

Many of us know Kathie as the "camp grandmother," who has cared for and built relationships with many kids who have grown up at camp as a result of their parents working here. Though some of these kids are still at camp, many have moved on and she remains close with them, their photos hanging in her office.

To celebrate Kathie's anniversary, she was recognized in December by the YMCA of Greater Hartford, and was also presented with a proclamation from the Connecticut's General Assembly by our State Representative, Jay Case.

We recognize Kathie's consistency over the past 30 years and every day that she's been here she's brought a sense of calm, consistency and reliability. Thank you for who you are and all you do, Kathie!



Kathie Reese, our office manager, with a proclamation from Connecticut's General Assembly recognizing her 30 years of service to Camp Jewell YMCA.

Over the last 10 years, Camp Jewell has made a concerted effort to diversify our camp community and provide the YMCA camp experience to more people regardless of their ability to pay. Camp is a place where kids from all backgrounds and walks of life can learn about each other, spend time with one another and understand each other and the world around them better. Thanks to your

support, we gave out more than \$250,000 scholarships in 2013. Our goal this year has increased to more than \$300,000, in part because of a new partnership with the Hartford-based Capitol Region Education Council. Together we're going to bring 336 kids to camp on scholarship this year. We have kicked off our 2014 Annual Campaign and again we're asking for your help to bring even more kids to camp this summer. I could write a book about all the stories we hear from families who benefit from our

scholarships—both the details of how or why they are in a situation where they need to ask for help, as well as how camp has impacted their children and families. Last year we heard from a family whose parents were divorcing, the father had recently lost his job, the mother was ill, and money was tight. Their children had come to camp before, so they knew the value of two weeks at Jewell, but they weren't in a position to be able to realize that opportunity for their kids without some assistance. When a single, disabled mom reached out to us looking to send her child to camp so she could have a two-week break from the daily struggles they faced together, we were able to welcome the child to a world where she could just be a kid.

You made the camp experience a reality for these and many other families. The stories are endless and the need greater now than ever before.

So how can you be a part of our 2014 Annual Campaign? The easiest way is to make a tax-deductible donation, either by mail, phone or online at www.campjewellymca.org. We welcome donations in any amount! We also invite you to volunteer your time to the campaign. Volunteers are needed for administrative tasks, as well as to reach out to your family and friends to ask for their support. This year many staff, campers and volunteers are launching their own Camp Jewell YMCA donor webpages through our "Friends Asking Friends" web application, and you could be one of them. It's an easy way to spread the word about camp and allow us to offer even more camper scholarships. Call or email me and I'll help you set up a webpage.

I look forward to hearing from you and how you'd like to get involved. I wish all of you a happy and healthy 2014!





Ray challenged volunteers to raise more than \$10,000 on the last Annual Campaign call night in January, promising to jump in frozen Triangle Lake if they met the goal—and they did! He took the plunge at Alumni Winterfest.

CAMP JEWELL AND CREC BRING KIDS TO CAMP RECEIVED Schools of Excellence



We are excited to announce Camp Jewell YMCA has partnered with the Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) in an effort to bring more than 100 students from CREC's magnet schools to camp this summer on scholarship.

"Because of the success we had in bringing 10 CREC students to camp last summer, we wanted to expand the program to reach more students in the Greater Hartford area," Ray Zetye, Executive Director, said. "In addition to summer campers, we are also recruiting counselors from CREC's pool of high school seniors set to graduate in May who have gone through leadership training programs at their magnet high schools. Together we are working to provide life-changing opportunities to kids who otherwise may not experience a residential YMCA camping program."

CREC is a non-profit regional education service center serving 35 Greater Hartford public school districts. It also manages 19 magnet schools throughout the Capitol Region. Its mission is to improve the quality of public education for all learners.

Camp Jewell will provide 50 scholarships and CREC has committed to match that number and provide an additional 50 scholarships. Camp Woodstock, also a branch of the YMCA of Greater Hartford, has offered an additional 10 spots for CREC students this summer.

"Spending two weeks at Camp Jewell will allow children from Hartford to develop social skills and create new relationships with others they might not otherwise meet," said Eric Crawford, Managing Director of Student and Family Relations at CREC. "Our students will enhance their vision of the world by interacting with nature and learning that there are opportunities that exist outside their neighborhoods."

The program is intended to allow the campers who participate to return to Jewell each year, climbing the same YMCA camping ranks that many alumni have, from camper to counselor and beyond.

In an effort to bring the work we do at camp to scale, impacting more children in our community, we are also working with several of the CREC schools individually. Many schools have signed on to bring students and teachers to camp's outdoor center during the school year to participate in environmental education, teambuilding and recreation programs.

We look forward to welcoming CREC's students in the coming months!

MATCHING GIFTS

RAY'S ROUNDUP

If you've made a donation to Camp Jewell's Annual Campaign this year there may be an easy way to make that donation even bigger without digging into your own pocket. Many employers offer matching gift programs up to a certain dollar amount. Please check with your employer to see if your donation qualifies for a matching gift. Thank you for being part of the camp community that's working to bring more kids to camp on scholarship this summer!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP JEWELL YMCA the



WOMEN'S RETREAT WEEKENDS

If you're one of many women who would like a weekend away to relax, rejuvenate and spend time reconnecting with friends and the natural environment, we have the perfect program to make that happen for you!

In addition to all of the year-round youth and family programs we offer, we set aside two weekends a year—April 4-6 and September 12-14 this year—for a special program geared specifically for women. These Women's Retreats offer a wide variety of outdoor pursuits as well as opportunities to settle down inside for quality time with friends or quiet time on your own.

Some of the outdoor activities that can be scheduled for the weekend include horse-drawn hayrides, canoeing, kayaking, hiking and horseback riding, all of which allow you to explore camp's natural environment during the start of spring or fall. Other activities that may be offered include jewelry making, cardio kickboxing, informational sessions on topics like women's health, knitting, yoga, meditation, glass painting, seasonal crafts and more. Reiki and massage are often available for an additional fee.

As with our other programs, all meals are provided for the duration of your stay, including fare like stuffed French toast, omelets, a deluxe salad bar and baked tilapia, shrimp or herbed chicken. You've probably experienced firsthand or at least heard about Lisa's homemade desserts, so be prepared to enjoy sweets like carrot cake and death by chocolate.

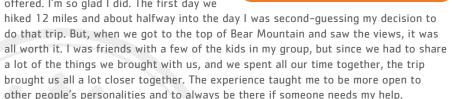
The next Women's Retreat begins April 4 at 6 p.m. and runs through April 6 at 1 p.m. The cost is \$175 per person, or \$300 for a pair of friends. Financial assistance is available. For more information or to register, please contact Jess Bryan, assistant camp director, at 888-412-CAMP x262 or jess.bryan@ghymca.org.



CAMPER SPOTLIGHT: JORDAN VIRTUE

I love Camp Jewell because of the activities that are offered and because I meet people there from all over the world. The whole program is about making kids happy and it's a place where everyone belongs.

This past summer was my second at Jewell, I was a senior and I chose to go on the hiking trip along the Appalachian Trail, even though our 5th Annual Wine Tasting event in my cousin told me it was the hardest one offered. I'm so glad I did. The first day we



nore than 200 YMCA supporters at

Another thing camp has taught me, and that I tell other people, is that if you want something you need to go out and do it. You need to take part. So many things are opportunities of a lifetime and you don't want to miss out because you're afraid of something. I'm so glad I challenged myself on the hiking trip and I can't wait to come back to camp next summer as a Senior or in the Leaders in Training program.

I'm really active at the Y in my neighborhood where I've been part of the Youth Achievers program since I was in fifth grade. As a child my mom and I would go to the Y together every Friday, it's always been a big part of my life. I know I'm welcome here, and our Y always supports what I'm doing in school. The Y has really been there

I appreciate all the people who have donated to the Strong Kids Campaign. Because of your help I've been able to have incredible YMCA experiences that have made me the person I am today.

ALUMNI WINTERFEST

The 25 alumni and their families who came for WINTERFEST in January were met with fresh snow and lots of fun winter activities! Our annual winter alumni gathering gave camp friends a chance to connect, check out photos from our archives and enjoy all the camp has to offer. Our next big alumni event at camp is Corn Roast on August 9. Watch your mailbox for information on regional camp alumni events in the coming months. We hope to see you soon!



Chantal Hurtado and her daughter, Aria, on the tubing hill at Winterfest.

FIND YOUR FRIENDS

Check out these photos from our archives to see if you recognize any of your camp friends! If you think you see someone you know send an email with the photo number and the name of who you think it is to ruthie.napoleone@ghymca.org. If you're correct, we'll throw your name into a hat to win a Camp Jewell YMCA t-shirt, so be sure to include your t-shirt size with your email.

















WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP JEWELL YMCA



THANK YOU 2013 DONORS

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Listing includes donations over \$100 made to our Strong Kids Campaign as of 12/31/13.



Camp Jewell Credo:

"We come together for this short time to live simply, close to nature and closer to each other; that we might renew our respect for the world around us, recommit ourselves to family and friends, and rejoice in God's love for us all."

Camp Jewell YMCA

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