

Barn Bulletin, Summer 2026

Celebrating Summer at The Barn

It is hard to believe that we are already in the middle of August. Summer at The Barn was nothing short of extraordinary! We welcomed 27 new campers this year...a record for The Barn. Over six weeks, we shared countless laughs and smiles with some truly amazing children. We enjoyed summer snowball fights and water squirter competitions, bubble and karaoke parties, music jam sessions, surprise visits from enchanted unicorns and fairies, visits from some very special two legged dogs, painting our beloved mini ponies in rainbow colors, bottle feeding a baby calf and much more—every moment was a joyful reminder of what is truly important. The campers' radiant smiles and infectious giggles were heart-warming and unforgettable.

Camp Geronimo is difficult to describe in words, because what happens during a week of camp is truly transformative. Children arrive with anticipation and curiosity, and through the love, guidance, and creativity of our counselors and volunteers, they discover confidence, joy, and new possibilities. Each day brings moments of laughter, connection, and growth—moments that are so deeply felt. It is in these experiences that make The Barn such a special place. A child who once hesitated to try something new suddenly finds courage. Friendships blossom in unexpected ways. Smiles and laughter echo across The Barn, reminding us all of the extraordinary impact of compassion and community. Camp Geronimo is more than a program—it is a place where children realize they are capable of more than they ever imagined. That is Barn Magic!



Out of Destruction, a Garden Grows...



This winter's storms hit The Barn's Outdoor Learning Center hard, forcing us to take down seven of our wonderful shade trees. The landscape changed overnight, leaving behind root-ridden soil where majestic trees once stood. And yet, it is amazing what can take root. What has emerged in their place is an unbelievable garden—one that has become a living metaphor for The Barn's mission.

We call this space our joyful, beautiful, and wild garden. It is astonishing what a few scattered seeds—and a little help from our wild animal friends who kindly assist with seed spreading—can become. The area where our seven trees once grew is now home to pumpkins, watermelons, raspberries, strawberries, tomatoes, zinnias, giant sunflowers, and an array of colorful wildflowers. Its winding vines and brilliant colors simply make you smile. It is, in every way, a reflection of the amazing children and teens we serve.

Children arrive at The Barn carrying challenges that can feel overwhelming, yet through compassion, connection, and the gentle presence of our animals and natural spaces, they discover strength, confidence, and joy. What once felt limiting begins to open, and what seemed impossible becomes achievable. The same is true for our garden—give it a little attention, some weeding and watering, and suddenly life flourishes in ways you never expected.

Our work is grounded in this belief: growth can emerge from difficulty, and with the right support, every child can flourish. The Barn's programs create the conditions where resilience takes hold—where children learn to trust themselves, where families find hope, and where small moments of progress blossom into lasting change. This is the heart of our mission. Out of destruction, a garden grows—and at The Barn, that garden is tended with care, intention, and love. We are awed by its beauty and filled with its joy.





2026 Annual Hoe Down Fundraiser

It's time for one of our favorite traditions at The Barn at Spring Brook Farm, our annual Hoe Down. This year is extra special as we celebrate 20 years of service, community, and impact. We cannot wait to honor the past, present, and future supporters who have helped shape The Barn into what it is today.

Please join us on Saturday, October 3rd at 6 PM as we dust off our western wear and gather at The Barn for an evening of connection and celebration. Enjoy a lively night featuring a live and silent auction, delicious BBQ, and plenty of good old-fashioned fun.

Individual tickets are for sale at a cost of \$125 and sponsorship opportunities are also available. If you are interested in learning more about sponsoring our Hoe Down, please visit our website:

[2026 Hoe Down at The Barn](https://www.springbrook-farm.org/2026-hoe-down-at-the-barn).

Tickets may be purchased online or you may pay by check. Seating is limited. Sponsorships come with seated tickets. Here is the link for ticket and donations: [2026 Hoe Down Fundraiser](https://www.springbrook-farm.org/2026-hoe-down-fundraiser). Thank you all for your support of our programming and of the very special children and families we serve.



Another Life Changing Donation...

There are people in this world who remind us every day that goodness is alive and well. They spread love, kindness, compassion, and joy—not for recognition or accolades, but because they believe deeply in the greater good. Their quiet acts of generosity ripple outward, touching lives in ways they may never fully see. They know that the power of helping others is infectious, and through their example, they inspire all of us to do the same.

Once again, The Barn has been blessed by the generosity of an amazing donor whose life-changing gift has transformed our space. This spring, our back room became the "Cool Room"—complete with two mini-split units and brand-new sensory experiences. The transformation began with the help of *First Crew*, who generously volunteered their time to build a wall and insulate the space. From there, the vision came to life: our very first air-conditioned room, a safe haven where campers can escape the extreme summer heat and cool down when the weather becomes unbearable. It is "cool" in every sense of the word. Not only does the Cool Room provide comfort, but it also offers innovative sensory experiences that enrich our campers' time at The Barn. We are incredibly grateful for this extraordinary gift and for the kindness that made it possible.

From the bottom of our hearts—thank you for this incredible donation. Your generosity ensures that Barn Magic continues to grow, bringing joy, comfort, and inspiration to the children and families we serve.



UPDATE on 20th Anniversary Volunteer/Supporter Appreciation Open House on August 22

We did not receive enough interest to move forward with this event, but we are looking ahead with excitement for our Hoe Down on Saturday, October 3rd. This will be a celebration of the wonderful people who have helped make the Barn what it is today! We can't wait to gather with our community, honor the impact of so many, and share in the joy that makes The Barn such a remarkable place. We hope you can join us!

Fall Individual Program & Teen Individual Program Begins
August 24th - Sign up today!

Space is available for both sessions.

www.springbrook-farm.org/programs



www.springbrook-farm.org