

THE IROQUOIS SPRINGS TIMES



SPRING EDITION 2022

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★ A NOTE FROM MARK AND LAURA ★

A Return to More Normalcy

In March we attended our annual camp conference, the largest gathering of camp professionals in the country – the last time we were there was just a day before the pandemic shut down the world. What a pleasure it was to finally reconnect in person with camp professionals and to celebrate the resilience, determination, and aspiration of the entire camp community.

As we enter the third year of the pandemic, new research confirms camp is a “need to have” childhood experience rather than just a “nice to have” opportunity. Simply put, **kids need camp, now more than ever**. Being screen-free among peers and near-peers, independent from parents, sharing experiences outdoors in a safe, caring, and sacred environment is essential for childhood development, identity formation, and community building.

As we continue to make the annual march towards the summer, each day seems more and more hopeful and optimistic that this summer will be able to look and feel like many previous summers. We are excited and planning for things like inter-camp games, out of camp trips, and an in-person visiting day once again this summer. These time-honored experiences were sorely missed in 2021.

We are also pleased to share with you that with the ability to welcome back so many of our long-time international staff members paired with staff from all throughout the US, our staff hiring process is back to what feels like a more regular cycle. It will be great to see so many returning faces after they were forced to sit last summer out. Our staff from all corners of the world are buzzing about this summer – they cannot wait to get back to Rock Hill!

Before we wrap up our article to get back to preparing for summer '22, we wanted to recognize an amazing 11-year-old boy from Texas. When we read Time Magazine earlier this month the issue was dedicated to kids who are changing the world. Orion Jean was named the kid of the year by Time for being an Ambassador for Kindness. He speaks in his interview about kindness being a choice and about the great work he has done this year spreading kindness throughout his community. The Iroquois Springs message we speak about each day is SPREADING!

We are also so proud of the many campers in our camp community who are also spreading the message of kindness and doing great things for other people – we know there are several campers in our community that are going to change the world – a lofty goal, but certainly achievable by our amazing campers. We are humbled by everyone who has bought into our mission and values – thank you.

As the daylight continues to grow each day this time of the year, we are counting down the days until June 25th, when we will all be back together this summer – a summer that will look and feel a lot more like summers past! It's the way it should be after all this time – our campers and staff deserve it.

See you there!



With Love, Mark & Laura

GIRLS SIDE GAB *With Rosie*

Wow, I truly can't wait to WELCOME you all back to camp in just about 2 months from today!

This is the last newsletter before we are officially in Rock hill for the summer, and I couldn't be more excited! To put it simply, I am way over the snowstorms, cold and wet weather and ready for a change... bring on sunshine and camp life as we know it! Lately, I have been getting so many awesome emails and letters from some of our past campers and counselors, they all remind me how special camp is and what a life changing experience it is for everyone. Whether they are lucky enough to return this summer or headed in a direction to be **difference makers** in the world, this time of year always gets "camp people" excited and motivated.

Over the course of the last few months, while camp stood cold and quiet, we tried to keep the fire burning as we met during the off season to plan for another summer to remember. While it always seemed so far away as we talked (probably because it was 20 degrees outside), I can now say that the warmth in the air has me getting even more excited as I prepare for my summer at Iroquois Springs with my favorite people in the world! I am excited to be with you again, can't wait for line-up, campfires, trips, our "cruise", evening activities, DJ Yahney and more! When I see your faces throughout the day and each evening before you go to bed, it reminds me why I do what I do. The smiles, laughter, singing, cheering and even some of the tears, it truly makes it all worth it. Whether you come to camp because you love being on the athletic fields, in the pool or lake, at Hobbyville, or on the adventure course, what we all desire is the friendship and love we experience when entering the gates in Rock Hill, I can't wait to see you get off the bus on day 1, overwhelmed with excitement and anticipation of what's to come! I will be your biggest cheerleader through Girls Side Sing, College Days, Color War and all the other events that define who we are at camp!

For the new campers who are going to call Iroquois Springs home for the first time in '22, I welcome you with open arms, and will treat you as I do my own child. I commend you for taking this step, stepping outside your comfort zone,

and getting ready to be part of an experience that will change your life forever! You will have the opportunity to grow up a little, learn why being "nice" to one another truly matters and simply being part of something bigger than you likely could have ever imagined.

As you may already know, because it was truly a "proud parent" moment, Josh and I celebrated the bat mitzvah of our daughter Oliva a few weeks ago. I was overcome with emotion as I watched so many of her camp friends, and of course ours as well, share in the magic of that day. Sometimes you simply can't put into words the impact camp has on you until you experience before your eyes, but O-M-G, there were no words necessary! Oliva was phenomenal, she celebrated in style, surrounded by so many people who love and care for her, and to see her with her camp friends truly filled my heart as a parent and of course as the Girls Side head counselor.

So, with that my friends, I remind you that camp is so close, yet we still have time left for studying and being nice. Just a reminder, **it's much easier to be nice to each other than to be mean**. We treat others the way we want to be treated. On Girls Side we do not tolerate any behavior that leaves other out or "mean girl stuff." Just a reminder, Iroquois Springs is a special place and what makes it so special is that we are made up of NICE, caring and empathetic girls. You make me proud both at camp and outside of camp. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK**. Continue doing the right thing!

Stay off social media as much as you can! Take a break from Instagram, Snap and Tik-Tok. Now that the weather is getting nice, call a friend, go outside, be mindful of the world around you, there is so much to explore if you take the time to see it! **One of the best parts of camp is that we all get to unplug, try doing it more often during the year**. Smile and laugh lots and try to make new friends. Invite the "new kid" to sit with you at lunch and then tell me all about it. You have the power to make a positive difference in someone's life. Now get out there and do it

Ladies, keep working hard at school, keep smiling and remember to continue being nice. Love you all - keep smiling, enjoy this time with your family and stay safe and healthy!

See you sooner than you might think.
XOXOXO

Rosie

TRADITIONS

Camp has always been about traditions – these are the special memories we hold so close, but most importantly these camp traditions tie generations of campers together.

Traditions like Color War, Rope Burn and Order of the Blue and Gold are just a few of the special traditions we re-live with one another each summer and have generations of campers fondly remembering their special time at camp.

Over the last 7 summers a new tradition was born at Iroquois Springs. At the Order of the Blue and Gold we present staff and campers, who have been at camp for 10 years or longer, a unique "dog tag" – one to keep and one to place on a specially designated tree on guest lawn, where it will live forever.

It has been remarkable to see how important it was for those honorees to be recognized in this way and we can't wait to induct this year's honorees. The ceremony over the last 7 summers has been filled with laughs and stories of past summers, but mostly of a unique and special bond that these folks had with one another, simply put, this is a family.

We are excited to welcome the newest group of honorees this summer on **July 23rd, the same day as the Order of the Blue and Gold**.

- **Hayden Abfier**
- **Richard Blackburn**
- **Leo Blank**
- **Andrew Bialek**
- **Max Lasky**
- **Amanda Kine**
- **Avery Lieberman**

Welcome to this year's honorees!





A Message From the Camp Office

Here in New York, the warm weather, chirping birds, blooming flowers, and longer days of sunlight mean only one thing - camp is on the horizon! The release of this newsletter signifies that we will be back together as a camp community soon. Being so, now is an excellent opportunity to reflect on the monumental year of diversifying, knowledge, personal growth, and reaching individual goals. Here at Iroquois Springs, our focus has been to use our learning experiences from last summer, our relationships with other camp professionals, and the input from our camp community to best prepare for the summer ahead. With another COVID year in the books and extensive dedication from scientists and researchers, we are now in a position where camp can feel more "normal." With busses, trips, reunions, inter-camp games, an in-person visiting day planned, and things moving in the right direction, we have much to be grateful for.

Last year in the spring newsletter, I emphasized the importance of setting goals, and I echo the same sentiment today. It is my hope that campers, parents, and staff can use this time leading up to camp to set new goals. Is there a new activity you would like to try? Is there a new skill you are trying to hone in on? Either way, using this time to self-reflect will undoubtedly change your perspective in the time leading up to camp. As for me, my goals last year were to be more organized, build connections, and conquer the new Ninja Warrior Course at camp. While staring at all the paper on my desk right now and the millions of tabs open on my computer...it's recognizable that I can still work on organization!

For me to continue to work towards that organization goal, I ask that our camp families help us with the preparation process. We will be sorting through all the parent forms, policy letters, medical forms, and more in the coming weeks. We need your help to ensure a great summer ahead, so please make sure to get any last forms you have not completed back to the camp office (upload to Parent Dashboard) ASAP. Also, if there are any camp-related questions you would like answered, please connect with the camp office or schedule a call with our "Camp Counselor, Robin", we will be sure to get back to you and help!

I'm truly looking forward to my 2nd summer working full-time for camp and lucked out in that I have grown professionally and personally amongst such a robust camp community. I would love to hear what goals you have accomplished over the past year and what goals you have set for yourself leading up to camp.

Now, who is ready to take on the Ninja Warrior Warped Walls with me this summer?

See you in June! - Jared

Don't forget To pack!

There is lots to do at camp everyday and certainly some things you might not think about as you prepare for the summer ahead, so while packing for camp, here are a few things not to forget:

- = 1. White & Black T-Shirts / Pillow Cases or Similar to Tie-Dye / Silk Screen / Air-Brush
- = 2. Anywhere Chair (Available from Everything Camper Website)
- = 3. Crazy / Fun Hat for "Crazy Hat Day"
- = 4. Football Jersey for Monday Night Football on Boys Side
- = 5. Musical Instrument (Camp Rock Band)
- = 6. Halloween Costume (Yes, we celebrate Halloween)
- = 7. Outfit for Banquet Night
- = 8. Tennis Racquet & Baseball Glove (if you have them)
- = 9. Nalgene Type Water Bottle

Of course, a full packing list can be found on the Iroquois Springs and Everything Camper websites.





Nalgene Water Bottles

CONTINUING FOR SUMMER 2022, WE ARE ASKING THAT ALL CAMPERS AND STAFF BRING A "NALGENE TYPE WATER BOTTLE" TO CAMP

Not only is this a great way to stay hydrated throughout the day, but it will also cut down on our use of disposable cups and help to achieve our goal of becoming a more sustainable community.

In addition, we have made a significant investment in the addition of "bottle filling stations" around camp that will provide filtered and chilled water for everyone to enjoy. These water bottles will be cleaned and washed in our kitchen on a regular basis to ensure that remain clean and sanitary throughout the summer.

Stay hydrated

FAVORITE RECIPE FROM

Kitchen Stadium

Campfire Apple S'more Nachos

INGREDIENTS

- 3 large apples
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 cup mini marshmallows
- ½ cup chocolate chips

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Wash, core and slice apples into circular slices and place layered onto a foil grilling pan or in a foil packet.
2. Sprinkle apple slices with lemon juice and cinnamon.
3. Cover apples with marshmallows and chocolate chips before placing on the grill (low heat) for 10 minutes.
4. Remove, let cool and enjoy!

ATTENTION New Camp Families!!!!



If this is your first time coming to Iroquois Springs and you have some of those first-time camp parent questions - packing list, forms and "what to expect" question..... have no fear - we have you covered with our very own

"Camp Counselor"

We are excited to introduce you to Robin, our camp counselor who is here to help you best prepare for this summer. She is a veteran member of our full-time camp team, and mom of 3 Iroquois Springs campers.

If you have not made an appointment to connect with Robin to have all your camp questions answered, be sure to do that right away - <https://calendly.com/robin-iroquoissprings>

She cannot wait to speak with you!



MEMBER GREEN CAMPS

GREEN CAMP UPDATE

Going green and maintaining a sustainable lifestyle is a long-standing resolution for many.

Here at Iroquois Springs, we recognize that expanding our knowledge and developing a sustainable mindset is not an easy task. Therefore, we joined **Green Camps**, an organization that recognizes the transformative power of camp and has the mission to inspire the next generation of eco-leaders. This non-profit organization is a new resource to Iroquois Springs to better our knowledge and work towards a more sustainable camp community.

With our new partners at Green Camps, our goal is to adopt a sustainable mindset and be more environmentally knowledgeable. This eco-centric journey started when we recently met with NYSEG (New York State Electric & Gas Corporation) to swap out all our light bulbs for LED lights. LED lights last longer, save energy, contain no hazardous materials (mercury free), and allow for less landfill waste.

Camp is a dynamic place with multiple moving parts. To continue our efforts, we are forming an **Iroquois Springs**

"Green Committee" to put our best foot forward and have perspective from various people in our camp community, especially our CIT's and staff.

This is an opportunity for our CIT's to formulate ideas, collaborate, and begin their leadership stride for the upcoming summer. Recently, we reached out to our CIT campers and invited them to volunteer on the **I.S. Green Committee**, which will allow our oldest campers to document volunteer hours for school, and it is a great resume builder for college as well.

We compiled a survey for our camp community to fill out for our newly formed **"I.S. Green Committee."** Your feedback will allow us to better understand the sustainability of camp and recognize where we can focus our energy and growth to inspire, educate, and implement environmentally friendly initiatives at Iroquois Springs.

Please use the QR code below to access this short survey!



BOYS SIDE STUFF WITH JOSH



I am thrilled that it is time to write the Spring Newsletter because that can only mean just 1 thing -- **camp is right around the corner**. I am excited to switch my snow shovel and winter hat for suntan lotion and sports equipment. I had the opportunity to spend a few days at camp this winter and what sticks out in my mind the most was the amount of snow that covered camp, just so hard to imagine sometimes. It took me quite a bit longer to make the trip over to the frozen Boys HC from the basketball courts, but I was determined nonetheless and climbed, slid, and watched each step a bit more carefully as I made my way across Boys campus. As great as it was to be back in camp and at the place I call "home", it just didn't feel right. It felt as if camp was frozen in time, literally! I was hoping that I could close my eyes for a moment and when they opened, find all of you, campers and staff alike, standing around the flagpole on Boys Side waiting for line-up to begin. I missed the sound of the bouncing basketballs on the court and the crack of the baseballs hitting each other's baseball mitts during rest hour. I missed seeing kids hanging out on their porches with their counselors, telling stories and playing guitar. Well, these times are about to begin again, and I think I might be the most excited for it...what do you think, are you with me?

We have so many new campers and families who I would like to **welcome to Iroquois Springs** this summer. It's remarkable to see all the new names (and soon to be faces) that will be joining us for what will once again be an epic summer together! Your camp experience is going to be second to none, because Boys Side knows how to have fun and we all **make life-long friends**. I know our returning campers can't wait to welcome new friends and show them what makes Iroquois Springs the special place we all hold so near and dear to our hearts. I think we all agree that there is nothing in the world like hanging out in the bunk, listening to music

on the porch or socializing at canteen time with your best friends in the world. I am sure you can't wait for the summer to begin already, just like me! The flag is about to be raised on Boys Side, the Monday Night Football combine trophies are being polished and basketballs are being prepared for our World Class Boys Side Knockout Tournament. We also have a ton of new and exciting program ideas that your counselors and group leaders are preparing as we speak.

On a personal note, I was lucky to spend some quality time with many of my closest camp friends as well as my daughter's bunkmates and friends too. We celebrated the bat mitzvah of Olivia and were surrounded with life-long friends who I am lucky enough to call family. It's truly amazing how things come "full-circle" and I know if it was not for camp, as a camper and staff member, that special day for our family would have been so different. I was so proud of "O" that day (and of course Rosie too), and literally had a smile on my face the entire weekend!

I speak for the entire team of group leaders, counselors and staff that are as excited as you are to head back to 12775 soon! As the school year winds down, and the anticipation for the summer of '22 grows, know that you are going to be surrounded by people who want to see you **succeed, support you, encourage you and simply bring out the best in you** this summer! As we look forward to what will be another great summer, I hope that the next few months will go quickly and that we are all at the opening night campfires enjoying our friends and delicious s'mores sooner than later. I am so excited to get back that camp feeling that we have been missing all winter. There are about 60 days until we are back at camp doing what we love...let the official countdown begin!

Stay safe, be smart and always be a "difference maker." - Josh

NOTES FROM BUBBA'S CLIPBOARD



I love this time of year for so many reasons! First and foremost, it's **shorts season** (company policy from April 1 on), the pace leading up to camp really starts to intensify and the excitement builds every day! With the anticipation of our first arrivals in Rock Hill to work pre-camp, or the start of our group rental business in May, this time of year really gets me excited, as I know the feverish pace of camp life is about to begin, something I live for! It's amazing, that even after so many summers spent at camp, it simply never gets old. While so much stays the same, so much also changes. Whether it's finding new solutions to situations that our campers and staff are faced with or figuring out how to navigate different circumstances that have arisen for a variety of reasons, I love the challenge, the diversity, the ever-changing perspective that comes with being a camp professional.

I have been very fortunate over the years to call camp, my full-time career and something that is truly a labor of love, not something many people who go to work daily can easily say. While every day is not always perfect, I try to focus on the desired outcomes for all that are lucky enough to call **12775 "home" for the summer**. Making sure to focus on what really matters, for our campers, our staff, and our camp families too. Each one of us who helps to shape the caring and supportive nature that has become the foundation of Iroquois Springs is what drives me on a daily basis, knowing the difference that camp makes in the lives of so many.

On a much more personal note, as you are reading this newsletter, I have been fortunate enough to visit my daughter in Israel who is studying just outside of Tel-Aviv for 4 months during high school. Words simply don't do it justice, I have been blown away by the experiences she has shared with us on a daily basis (thanks to modern technology) and could not wait to make the journey to see her, not just to give her the biggest hug ever (like visiting day), but to embrace all that she has become and all that she wants to continue to accomplish during this life-changing experience. I have watched her grow, mature, become more independent and truly amazed by what she has gained as a young lady being away from home during this time. While my daughters have always been with me at camp from the day they were born, this experience truly allowed Rebecca and me to understand even more precisely how parents of camper's cope while their kids are at camp. For the first-time, I was truly able to put myself in a camp parent's shoes and ride the wave of emotion that we all feel as we watch our kids navigate all types of situations and circumstances outside of our direct care. What I can now say with more confidence than ever before, experiences like this, camp or studying abroad for kids, is truly life-changing and a monumental opportunity for those who are lucky enough to be afforded the opportunity at any level.

Well, as I write this article, my inbox is slowly growing and so is my to-do list, and if you know me at all, I like both to be complete at the end of any day, so it's time to put wrap this up and focus on the all the details that will help to ensure a great summer ahead. Know that we are working hard each and every day to put together a summer that we can all look back on and say it was the **best yet!** Our staff recruiters are working hard, our group leaders are starting to plan, Josh and Rosie (head counselors) are already having camp conversations with families and helping to shape our program calendar for the season and the wheels are truly in motion to create an unforgettable summer for all those lucky enough to call **Rock Hill, 12775** home in '22!

Looking forward to welcoming you all on opening day. Focus on what is important, don't stress about the things you can't control and know that we are all in this together. Can't wait to see you all in 12775 as we prepare for another summer together. So my friends, **keep all things in perspective** and look towards the future, because the summer of a lifetime is not so far away.

Warm thoughts for the summer ahead...be smart, make good decisions and get ready for the best summer ever!

BUBBA

Don't forget to check us out on...



MEMO FROM

MoMo



Hi, it's me MoMo! I can't believe it's already April! For me that's an extra big deal because that means next month I'll be moving to camp to get us opened up for our pre-camp season and getting camp ready for Summer 2022. Here in Florida, it's already starting to warm up and I can feel the summer sun breaking through. We're well on our way to being reunited in Rock Hill.

Our full-time Iroquois Springs team is just coming off the heels of a very exciting Tri-State camp conference. This was my first one and I can't say enough wonderful things about the experience. I had my eyes opened to a huge network of camp professionals from all sorts of camping backgrounds. We went to seminars, lectures, and workshops where I learned so much about camp from some of the industries brightest minds. My favorite part of the experience was

certainly being reunited with Mark, Bubba, Lindsay, and Jared. This was the first time we had all been together as a team and I think I speak for all of us when I say it was a moment I'll never forget. I'm walking away from the conference with tons of new and exciting ideas that I can't wait to implement this summer.

Lindsay and I have been hard at work over the past few months assembling what we believe is going to be an amazing staff, one of the best we've ever had. It has been so interesting speaking with people from all over the world and getting to know a little bit about each and every one of them and their unique experiences.

"Life is unpredictable" - During a recent interview with one of our new staff members these words kept ringing in my ear. What has been by far the most interesting part of this journey has been learning how every one of us, no matter where we come from or who we are, have been in some way impacted by the recent pandemic. There hasn't been a single person I've spoken with who doesn't have their own "COVID story" to tell. There have been many hardships and pitfalls that have brought us to where we are now, but the common theme throughout this process has been the **courage and resilience** shown by many of our newly hired staff. This next generation of staff members have lived through so much in the past few years, like all of us, but every one of them is ready to give of themselves this summer to be the **difference maker** in the lives of their campers. They are making a commitment to be there for their campers through everything a summer at camp has to offer. Hopefully they too will learn a thing or two about themselves and grow as individuals along the way. I am already so proud of our summer staff and I can't wait for all of you to meet them.

Counting down the days till we're all back together! See you soon! - MoMo

As the cold weather begins to fade, the days get longer, and we are once again awoken by the sounds of birds chirping, we are reminded that camp is just around the corner. As I walked outside today, I was faced with the first scent of spring. There is a hint of warmth and light in the air. For many, this signifies the start of a period where the flowers begin to bloom and the leaves on the trees start to reappear. We are all ready to store our winter jackets, gloves, and hats for the year. But for me, this time of year has always meant more. While I love all seasons, I am particularly fond of spring, as I know that it is the **gateway to summer**, my favorite season of all.

It was always this exact time of year where the countdown to camp felt real. I used to say, "Only 10 more Saturdays until the first morning line up!", "Only 11 more Fridays until college days!", or "Only 15 more Tuesdays until carnival!". Each day marked off my calendar truly felt one day closer to camp. It was the time of year where I would start thinking about packing for camp, preparing labels for all my clothes, and window shopping for the latest "bunk junk."

While we have been counting down the whole year, I want to say congratulations, we have made it to under 75 days - where the countdown to camp feels tangible. We can see the light at the end of the tunnel as we envision ourselves getting onto the camp buses, as we can picture pulling into camp on the very first day, and can imagine ourselves being reunited with old camp friends (and of course meeting new ones too)!

In the office, Matthew and I have been busy finalizing the last few spots to round out our staff of **difference makers**. These

Love from

Lindsay



amazing staff members are so excited to meet each one of you and have already begun preparing for the start of camp. We have staff members from all around the world who are eager to use their enthusiasm and passion to make this summer an unforgettable one.

So, as you step outside tomorrow morning, take a deep breath in, and smell what spring really smells like - the start of camp. Take some time this week to reach out to your camp friends, post your favorite camp picture on social media, or put on your favorite camp t-shirt, and celebrate the fact that we are officially only two months away from camp!

Let's all together say goodbye to winter, a big hello to spring, and be reminded of all that this wonderful season brings ahead. We will see you all so soon in Rock Hill!

MARYLAND & FLORIDA GATHERINGS

We had the chance to get together with our Maryland and Florida families about a month ago and what a blast we had. It's so nice to connect with parents and campers as we draw closer to camp, reunite with friends, answer questions, and genuinely see so many people as excited as we are for the upcoming summer. Thank you to all those that were able to make it and spend a few hours talking about camp, enjoying some Chick-fil-A and Ice Cream Cookie Sandwiches and of course our host families!



Announcing Rookie Day & Explorer Camp

Come explore the world of overnight camp at Iroquois Springs for an incredible, fun filled day!

Who: Future campers entering the 1st through 4th grades in September. Each program is strictly limited in enrollment, so please sign-up ASAP!



ROOKIE
DAY

Date: Sunday, July 10th
from 9:30 – 3:30
(1-Day Experience)
(No Siblings Please)
Cost: No Charge

Date: Saturday, July 23rd
from 11:00 AM until Sunday,
July 24th at 4:00 PM
(Overnight Experience)

Cost: \$150 per camper, including transportation and t-shirts. This will be credited towards any camper who enrolls for camp in 2023.



Explorer
CAMP

Program: Get a chance to explore what an Iroquois Springs camper enjoys each day throughout the summer. This is a terrific way to discover what Iroquois Springs will be all about before the 2023 summer arrives. You will be instantly transformed into an Iroquois Springs camper for life! This unique, well-rounded program provide campers a chance to experience a variety of activities in a fun, nurturing and safe environment and also a great way for parents to tour camp and meet the leadership team at Iroquois Springs. way for parents to tour camp and meet the leadership team of camp.

Call the camp office for registration details or enroll on-line!

Don't forget to say hello to our entire group of Rookie Campers from last summer who have decided to return to camp for a full session this summer – we are so proud of all of you!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROCK HILL

Wake-up Rock Hill, ready or not, we are headed home! It's time to unlock the doors, turn the on the lights, get the water flowing and get camp ready for another amazing summer which is quickly approaching. Over the last decade plus, we have managed to do some incredible things at camp during the winter, even through the most adverse conditions. We built a **brand-new theater**, **renovated endless amounts of cabins**, **added a new kitchen**, **built a world-class fitness center**, **installed an awesome aerial tree-top course** and so much more! It never ceased to amaze us, that while the snow was on the ground and most people were figuring out a way to stay inside, we had countless amounts of dedicated folks working to make our summer home an incredible place to spend our summer. As you know, our plan for this summer was to build an amazing new **Iroquois Springs Fieldhouse** in the very same location that stood our original structure. Sadly, this project has been delayed for a variety of reasons, the same ones we are all dealing with in our regular day to day lives. There is a severe shortage of available materials, prices have escalated so much that the company building our structure off-site has seen delay after delay after delay and thus has recently informed us, they are not going to make the timeline we originally set for our new building to be erected. Of course, we aren't throwing in the towel on this project, but we simply will have to wait just a little while longer until we can enjoy this new facility. In the end, we know it will have been worth the wait, providing us with an indoor facility that will simply be amazing and something to marvel at, like so many other projects we have taken on over the years.

On a more upbeat note however, we are still finding ways to make changes and improvements, even during these challenging times, when simply purchasing or ordering things that used to be so simple have presented a host of obstacles. As you have heard, inter-camp tournaments are back, and we need to get you to those games safely.

Camp has purchased **4 brand-new vans** for the summer (and if you know the "car market" right now, that was no easy feat), but we are thrilled to know that is a task that is now off the ever growing "to-do list" this time of year. In addition, we have just purchased a **Ski Nautique competitive ski boat** that will be on the water this summer at Swinging Bridge Marina. Campers will once again have the opportunity, if they choose, to enjoy an extended amount of time on the water outside

of camp to water-ski, wakeboard, kneeboard and more under the supervision and care of our home-grown waterski director, Zach Pelzer. We can't wait to get the engines started again on this program and so many others as we head into the summer!

This time of the year is simply so exciting for us all. You can almost feel the anticipation of our camper and staff arrival as you step foot on camp and start to see the magic happen. From the smallest of details to the most complex, we love this time of year! The golf carts are being tuned up, sport equipment is starting to be delivered, storage items are getting unpacked, flowers are being planted and the sense that another monumental summer is on the horizon is truly palpable. It never gets old, even after all these years, each season is special in its own way, and our pre-camp crew, which has slowly started to arrive at camp, is busy making sure that we don't miss any of the details as we continue to get camp ready for opening day!

Our facility is second to none, complete with so many new buildings, program areas and options for everyone to enjoy and of course for what we have worked so hard to build since 2001. A "camp family" comprised of kind and compassionate campers, loyal and proud parents, dedicated and selfless staff and a full-time team whose sole purpose is to provide all who are lucky enough to call Iroquois Springs home, a place we can all be proud of, a place we can all find comfort in, a place we can all call home! ***Thank you to all that have made this possible, hard to put into words what we have done in last 20+ years together!***

Make sure to continue to follow our social media feeds and stay on-top of what's doing in 12775 throughout the rest of the off-season and our lead up to camp, we can't wait to see you on opening day!



POLICY REMINDER

WE WANT TO TAKE TIME TO REMIND YOU OF SOME IMPORTANT POLICIES THAT HELP CREATE OUR CAMP COMMUNITY

We know one critical component of the camp experience is the opportunity for kids to "unplug." We strongly believe it is essential to being at camp and we count on campers and parents to support our stance on this without exception.

In the instance of a camper being found in possession of a cell phone or a disallowed electronic device (any that can access the internet), that camper will have to go home for three nights. Parents will have to make arrangements to pick-up and return the camper to camp. Should the camper be away from camp on the senior trip, parents will need to pick-up their child from the trip location.

WE HOPE THAT THE IDEA OF MISSING THREE ENTIRE DAYS OF CAMP WILL DISCOURAGE CAMPERS AND PARENTS FROM DISREGARDING THIS IMPORTANT POLICY.

REMINDER TO PARENTS.....Apple is no longer making an iPod Nano or Shuffle, however, Iroquois Springs will continue to keep to our policy which does not allow the use of electronics that have a screen or can access the internet. That said, please plan accordingly, as music is a big part of bunk life and we want campers to enjoy listening to their favorite tunes, so please refer to our previous email with suggestions on MP3 devices appropriate for camp. (Mighty Vibe)

Many parents and campers have already reviewed and signed the "Policy Agreement" document that outlines our expectation for our camp community each summer. We want to remind parents that any camper in possession of electronic cigarettes, vaporizers (Juul, Vape Pens, etc.) or other similar devices will immediately be dismissed from camp for the summer without tuition reimbursement, as items such as these have no place in our camp environment.

Thanks for your continued support and cooperation in making Iroquois Springs a camp community we all feel good about calling our summer home. **SHOULD YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AT ALL, JUST CALL AND ASK, WE ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO HELP!**

Dates to Remember

Camper Forms Due

Friday, April 15th

NY Camp Reunion

Saturday, April 23rd

New Family Orientation at Camp

Sunday, May 22nd

Area Pick-Up for IS Baggage Service

Sunday, June 19th

Opening Day

Saturday, June 25th

Visiting Day

Saturday, July 9th

Rookie Day

Sunday, July 10th

Session #1 Ends

Friday, July 15th

Session #2 Begins

Saturday, July 16th

Explorers Camp

Saturday, July 23rd to Sunday, July 24th

Senior Trip to Boston

Sunday, July 24th to Wednesday, July 27th

Campers Return Home

Friday, August 5th

Welcome

We are thrilled to welcome the following new campers to the **Iroquois Springs Family** (since our last newsletter)

Himani Agrawal	Bethesda, MD
Joaquin Alvarez	White Plains, NY
Max Anton	New York, NY
Otto Bell	New York, NY
Sora Bell	New York, NY
Bryce Bernasko	Dix Hills, NY
Grayson Bernasko	Dix Hills, NY
Joshua Bijari	Great Neck, NY
Brianna Birkhold	Kew Garden Hills, NY
Samson Block	Stamford, CT
Daniel Cochon	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
Jackson Dytco	Boca Raton, FL
Leila Evans	Concord, CA
Casidhe Flanagan	Midlothian, TX
Ishan Gandhi	New York, NY
Tate Goldman	Switzerland, AL
Marni Goldstein	Short Hills, NJ
Ben Guirovich	New York, NY
Alex Haboush	Cresskill, NJ
Kaleigh Hermanto	Pleasantville, NJ
Eleanor Jerutis	Dobbs Ferry, NY
Abigail Kleinman	Smithtown, NY
Chase Korn	Boca Raton, FL
Dylan Korn	Boca Raton, FL
Rodrigo Matias-Baez	Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
Cadence Nickum	Stamford, CT
Rosie Patkin	Dobbs Ferry, NY
Harriet Peachey	New York, NY
Martin Rebollar	Mexico City, Cuidad de Mexico
Maya Sagi	Raanana, Israel
Kaiden Sanders	Kalamazoo, MI
Kairo Sanders	Kalamazoo, MI
Dylan Silbowitz	Potomac, MD
Vivienne Silbowitz	Potomac, MD
Daniel Singer	Boca Raton, FL
William Soderholm	Hastings, MN
Luke Southworth	New York, NY
Ethan Sugano-Ernst	Waipahu, HI
Nina Tobias	Irvington, NJ
Summer Walters	Midlothian, TX
Harlow Wiles	New York, NY
Evyatar "Yaya" Edelman	Ramat Hasharon, Israel
Ethan Avnon	Tel-Aviv, Israel
Ofek Avnon	Tel-Aviv, Israel
Evan Danes	New York, NY
James Andoni	New York, NY

NCAA POOL

March Madness is always an exciting time of year, and the 2022 tournament did not disappoint! Many of us jumped on the St. Peters bandwagon and were rooting hard for them, too bad it had to end! We truly hope many of you enjoyed our 8th Annual Iroquois Springs camper and staff bracket competition. We are thrilled to let you know that Emmi Ross won the camper bracket and will be recipient of an IS style "party" at camp to enjoy with the entire bunk this summer. In the staff bracket, our very own "home grown" counselor, Ava Lieberman came out on top and will be sporting her new gear as well this summer. Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's bracket challenge, we are thrilled so many of you joined the action!



HAPPY Birthday

April

- 2 Justin Heller
- 2 Elle Menker
- 2 David Salzman
- 3 Emerson Mandel
- 3 Dylan Silbowitz
- 4 Emily Setton
- 5 Elan Messeri
- 5 Michael Scott
- 6 Daniel Cohen
- 6 Holden Rothschild
- 6 Samantha Wancier
- 7 Olivia Morton
- 7 Jacob Taylor
- 8 Ethan Farber
- 8 Eli Silberman
- 10 Alexa Dobstaff
- 10 Gracie Eisenberg
- 10 Halle Kraus
- 10 Callie Tollin
- 11 Jackson Projansky
- 12 Alice Frank
- 13 Hannah Krauss
- 14 Owen Geyman
- 14 Lily Gould
- 14 Lexi Horvath
- 14 Morgan Sauer
- 15 Emma Glaser
- 17 Jack Herzog
- 17 Jaiden Hirsch
- 18 Keira Eckhardt
- 19 Madison Slosberg
- 20 Tyler Bogard
- 20 Samantha Buckley
- 20 Gracyn DiGiacomo
- 21 Parker DiGiacomo
- 21 Bella Plaut
- 21 Mathilde "Tilda" Sexeny-Hauser
- 21 Ethan Sugano-Ernst
- 22 Chloe Collazo
- 23 Rachel Steinert
- 24 Casidhe Flanagan
- 24 Lila Friedland
- 24 Meyer Jacobson
- 25 Olivia Lippmann
- 27 Madeline Brabants
- 27 Lindsay Malley
- 28 Sophie Apple
- 28 Ilan Kleinman
- 28 Luca Zuniga
- 29 Kylee Bijari
- 29 Katie Wenczl
- 29 Ryan Wenczl
- 30 Fallon Elgart
- 30 Ezra Goldstein
- 30 Jacob Hook
- 30 Emma Lebowits
- 30 Jacob Mamlet
- 30 Sydney Mednik
- 30 Sarah Rich

May

- 1 Charlotte Cohn
- 1 Ethan Weinberg
- 3 Charlie Friedland
- 5 Jin Leung
- 5 Gabe Nash
- 5 Lola Tesi
- 6 Mason Rosenblatt
- 7 Bella Berrol
- 7 Ava Mandel
- 7 Layla Taheri
- 10 Daniel Cochon
- 11 Charlotte Gorin
- 11 Isabel Levine
- 12 Evelyn Kelly
- 12 Morgan Penner
- 13 Jonah Uris
- 14 Loghan Baeker
- 14 Anthony Moustakas
- 14 Rebecca Belle Tavelin
- 15 Rosie Patkin
- 15 Harris Wechsler
- 16 Vivian Kashdin
- 16 Emily Levy
- 17 Rowyn Fleissig
- 17 Chase Korn
- 17 Cadence Nickum
- 17 Daniel Yerushalmi
- 18 Lola Shapiro
- 19 Lily Cutri
- 20 Hannah McMullan
- 22 Alex Lebowits
- 22 Jordan Rael Meytes
- 23 Lexi Lozier
- 23 Lila Male
- 23 Hayden Pick
- 24 Jayden Leung
- 24 Lucas Palomino
- 24 Sophia Staller
- 26 Nicky Shaknes
- 27 Alexandra Liebman
- 27 Max Lippmann
- 28 Josh Engel
- 30 Alex Jackson
- 31 Emily Bash
- 31 Benjamin Holtzman
- 31 Jordyn Kelman

June

- 1 Remi Karp
- 1 Sydney Karp
- 2 Chase Collazo
- 2 Taylor Goldstein
- 4 Jake Goldenberg
- 4 Martin Rebollar
- 4 Nicolás Rebollar
- 5 Jake Bernstein
- 5 Issaac Endlich
- 6 Jonah Bassuk
- 6 Payton Gold
- 7 Sophie Demarco
- 7 James Flores
- 9 Sydney Attman
- 9 Dylan Hecht
- 9 Chloe Lashins
- 9 Shelby Weisel
- 10 Sienna Friedman
- 11 Abigail Cooper
- 11 Felicia Cooper
- 11 Sam Lottner
- 11 Eli Rosenbluth
- 12 Maxwell Dugger-Ades
- 12 Harper Taheri
- 13 Skylar Bijari
- 13 Samantha Nalitt
- 13 Leo Wein
- 14 Riley Cohen
- 14 Owen Lieberman
- 15 Hayley Nelson
- 15 Spencer Plaut
- 16 Caleb Barth
- 16 Casey Lozier
- 17 Lily Myers
- 18 Scarlett Caiati
- 21 Ava Hart
- 21 Axel Krosney
- 22 Ben Guirovich
- 22 Gavin Preizler
- 23 Olive Kremen
- 23 Aiden Schames
- 23 Sutton Schames
- 24 Lucia Shulman
- 25 Joseph Holtzman
- 25 Jace Krupitsky
- 27 Evan Nelson
- 28 Mia Vergura
- 29 Dahlia Feinberg
- 29 Jenna Gesas
- 29 Micah Grobler
- 30 Ava Epstein
- 30 Gabby Pollack

Camp History and Culture Corner

HIDDEN CAMP: A TOUR OF SOME IROQUOIS SPRINGS SECRETS

As we have learned in previous issues of the Iroquois Springs Times, the hallowed grounds of Rock Hill 12775 are full of surprises! As you enjoy camp this summer, look out for camp's secret places – sometimes well hidden and sometimes “hiding” right before our eyes. They are all part of camp's fascinating backstory, a tale that stretches back centuries.... Intrepid explorers will uncover....

1 **Nineteenth century mezuzah.** The IS Health Center was once a barn, stabling the horses of guests to the Glenwood Hotel. The Glenwood once owned all the land now occupied by Camp. The no longer used entrance to the Health Center facing Guest Lawn once led to an adjoining residence. The mezuzah remains as a trace of those long bygone days.

2 **Hitching post for horses in the Health Center.** Another trace of the stables era of the Health Center building over a century ago. There is a roof to floor post where you can clearly tell its former use, remaining virtually unchanged through the years. Check it out when you stop by to receive medications!

3 **The Third Flagpole.** Nestled among some trees between the IS Office and the Parking Lot is a particularly tall flagpole. It survives from the old Glenwood Hotel and the early days of camp at Rock Hill. To the best of this writer's knowledge, it was in use until the World War II summers (early to middle 1940s). Standing on a little hillside and intended to be seen from a good distance away, it makes the imagination soar! You can imagine a 46 star flag from 1910 flying proudly.

4 **Bowling in the Dining Room?!** First year campers and staff always get quite a surprise the first time they see the bowling pin setups for two lanes in the boys side of the Dining Room. In its original form over a century ago, the Dining Room was a recreational center for the Glenwood Hotel, and this included a bowling alley!!!! It is fun to imagine the hotel guests of that era bowling in our Dining Room.

5 **The Mysterious Third Floor of the Office.** The venerable structure that we know as the Iroquois Springs Office started its existence in the 19th century, as one of the guest cottages of the Glenwood Hotel. While the first and second floors have been fully renovated and refurbished, the third floor has been almost untouched and used only for storage. The experience of visiting the third floor is like stepping back in time. The Iroquois Springs Office is home to some resident ghosts connected to the long history of the building. On a rainy, windy day, don't forget to look at the tower windows! Generally, fully off-limits to campers, under certain circumstances a very lucky bunk could have a visit arranged....

6 **“Miranda's Lair”.** The bunk right next to the Dining Room has a storage area underneath that many generations of campers and staff have known as “Miranda's Lair”. Miranda has more than a bit of the supernatural about her, and can best be thought of as the guardian of Girls Side. Ask one of your CITs for more details about a legend that is unique to Iroquois Springs

7 **The Mysterious Building Foundations on Boys Campus.** There are small patches on Boys Campus where you will notice that the grass doesn't grow. These patches mark the foundations of a building that occupied much of Boys Campus over a hundred years ago. This building was a larger companion to the Iroquois Springs Office and another guesthouse at the Glenwood Hotel. There are some true, spooky anecdotes to be shared about this long ago building. Ask the proprietor of....

8 **Josh's HC Museum of Curiosities.** This is not really the name – but it should be!!! A visit to the Boys HC will reveal of couple of shelves and several photos including items from the distant past of the magical land we know as Camp. These items have been found over the years by Boys Side Leaders, including many from the legend infested surrounding woods. Stop by. Look around closely. Ask questions. And let your imaginations soar!

Have a wonderful summer at the greatest place in the world.
It is truly “The People and the Place”!

By Larry Wilensky