



# THE IROQUOIS SPRINGS TIMES

WINTER EDITION 2024

P.O. Box 20126 | Dix Hills | NY 11746  
P: 631.462.2550 | [www.iroquoissprings.com](http://www.iroquoissprings.com)

## ★ A NOTE FROM MARK AND LAURA ★

### Happy New Year – Can't Wait for Summer '24

#### Hello 2024!

Now that we're officially immersed in the vibes of the new year, we're gearing up for the upcoming summer at Iroquois Springs with amazing enthusiasm! Flashing back to the Annual Camp Reunion on December 3rd, the sheer joy of seeing everyone gathered was simply incredible. After all this time without our traditional camp gathering, it was truly amazing to all be in the same room together again. Our community came together, with people traveling from far and wide for the chance to be together again, including a few surprise guest staff members who just couldn't resist!

The "camp energy" was nothing short of magical – a blend of smiles, laughter, hugs, winks, and an indescribable feeling of togetherness. Reconnecting with campers and parents, reliving memories, and rekindling the special bonds and friendships unique to camp is an experience beyond words. It's that spirited energy that only the Iroquois Springs gang can generate, forming the cornerstone of our extraordinary community. There is always the feeling that we are all part of something..... something big – that something is the Iroquois Springs community that we are all an integral part of - something that we all created together. Somehow the "magic" we create together carries us all throughout the entire year and keep us all connected in such a special and unique way.

At the heart of camp is the people, and our campers have not just increased in numbers, but more

importantly, have grown in so many important ways. They radiate self-confidence, embody genuine friendships, are better siblings, and simply become better individuals because the camp experience empowers them to take risks in a warm, supportive, and caring environment. Our dedicated staff stands by them through challenges and triumphs, contributing to their remarkable growth.

Iroquois Springs has evolved into an awe-inspiring community where campers and staff mutually respect and care for one another, eagerly anticipating another summer in Rock Hill like nothing else. Our unparalleled reputation for nurturing campers and crafting incredible experiences with our mature, well-trained staff is a monumental achievement, made possible by the phenomenal camp families and staff who wholeheartedly believe in the essence of Iroquois Springs – Thank you!

As we patiently look ahead towards another extraordinary summer in 2024, the excitement is infectious! Enthusiasm is at an all-time high with a robust enrollment – a heartfelt thank you for spreading the word to your friends and relatives! Many fantastic staff members have already committed to returning to their summer home.

The march towards Summer 2024 has officially begun, and we're thrilled beyond words! Let the countdown to another historic and unforgettable Iroquois Springs summer begin!



With Love,

Mark & Laura



## GIRLS SIDE GAB *With Rosie*

**CAN YOU BELIEVE IT'S 2024 ALREADY?** Time is flying, and we're getting closer to the best part of the year – **summer!** Before you know it, we'll all be reunited at camp, creating fantastic memories together.

As the summer approaches, the question I get asked the most is, "Should I send my child to sleepaway camp?" Of course, my response is always a resounding, "Absolutely!" Sending kids to camp is not just about **unplugging**; it's about forging lifelong friendships and creating unforgettable memories. Imagine the joy of seeing your child grow more independent and confident while having the time of their lives!

At camp, we **embrace and celebrate our differences, learning to be nice, kind, brave, and the best versions of ourselves.** It's an opportunity for kids to reinvent themselves, experiencing personal growth and increased self-esteem by conquering new challenges.

The impact of camp extends beyond the summer – it becomes a part of who we are. Whether reminiscing about camp stories or having impromptu camp meetups in unexpected places, the camp spirit stays with us. We recently had Iroquois Springs meet-ups in Florida during

the holidays, and it was incredible reconnecting with old and new camp friends.

The letters I receive after camp are heartwarming, filled with stories of transformation and gratitude. I'm immensely proud of the life-changing experiences we provide at Iroquois Springs. A big shout-out to the parents of Iroquois Springs for giving the gift of a summer at camp!

I'm thrilled about the upcoming summer, welcoming new campers and excited to see familiar faces. **Line Up, Girls Side Sing, Color War, Rainy Day Schedules, Evening Activities, and FUZZIES** – there's so much to look forward to! Many of our amazing counselors and returning CITS from 2022 are back as staff, ensuring an unforgettable summer for everyone.

**So, let's live, love, and laugh in 2024!**

I can't wait to see you all soon!

*Love Rosie :)*



## A Message From the Camp Office

### Greetings I.S. Families!

Can you believe it? It's already 2024! I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season with laughter, fun, family, and friends. During the break, I was in Rock Hill and had the opportunity to show my brother and sister camp for the first time. Their excitement and curiosity while I told them about our special camp community made me even more excited for summer 2024! Time flies, and you know what that means – camp is just around the corner, and we're diving headfirst into preparations for another incredible summer.

From our winter office, we're buzzing with activity as we extend a warm welcome to new families and staff, offer unwavering support to our returning community, and, of course, craft even more engaging content for you on TikTok and Instagram Reels! (Follow us @IroquoisSprings on TikTok and @Iroquoisspringscamp\_official on Instagram).

Now that my shameless social media plug is out of the way, let's shift our focus to the crucial details. It's that time of the year when your camp forms become available on the parent dashboard.

Don't worry – the Iroquois Springs office is here for all your form-related questions and needs. Discover the vital general camp forms and medical documents on your dashboard, all of which should be completed by April 15.

You're likely already aware, but it's our duty to emphasize that completing these forms is crucial for our team to ensure a smooth and successful summer season. Taking care of these forms sooner rather than later allows you the time and effort needed to provide our staff with the necessary information for your child(ren)'s arrival at camp.

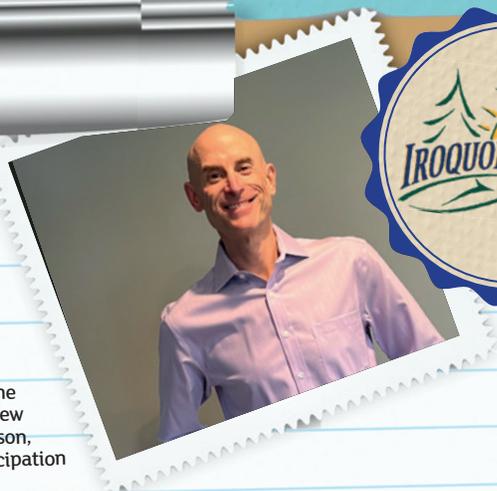
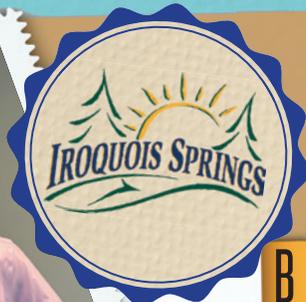
We strongly advise contacting your child's pediatrician to schedule their annual check-ups sooner rather than later. Securing appointments a few months in advance can save you the hassle of springtime scheduling difficulties, commonly referred to as the "camp-surge." Plus, it grants you ample time to complete all required forms before the April 15 deadline.

The Iroquois Springs office is eager to assist you in preparing for an unforgettable summer at camp and all the exciting adventures ahead.

**Best wishes, Jared**



# NOTES FROM BUBBA'S CLIPBOARD



"Embarking on the journey of a new year, we find ourselves on the brink of exciting adventures and endless possibilities. The past few years may have brought different challenges during the off-season, but the heart of camp season remains the same, filled with anticipation and unforgettable experiences.

As we ushered in 2024, I found myself stepping into the most exhilarating adventure of my life. Not a typical thrill seeker, but always up for a challenge, I embraced the opportunity to check off a bucket list item with my oldest daughter, Avery. Skydiving at 10,000 feet above the earth, breaking free from the comfort zone was a breathtaking experience. The free fall, the majestic view of the Rocky Mountains, gliding back to the ground, it was an adventure etched in my memory, an adrenaline rush like no other. To all the thrill seekers out there, I highly recommend this heart-pounding escapade!

Life's valuable lesson became even more apparent in recent years—cherish each day, seize opportunities, and actively pursue the ones waiting just around the corner. Don't wait for life to come to you; go out there and grab it! Thrilled to share that our family's skydiving experience was a resounding success, and we are relishing our time together as a family of four. Winter brings us the joy of skiing with friends, seeking out a warm weather adventure as well, and navigating the exciting college journey post-camp this summer.

Traditionally, this time of year allows us to introduce our **returning staff** for the upcoming summer. These individuals embody the spirit of Iroquois Springs, carrying forward our camp's culture and values. They play a crucial role in guiding new staff to become **'difference makers'** at Iroquois Springs.

**Below is the list of staff who can't wait to get back to the 12775 and have already replied YES to returning to camp this summer!**

- |                     |                        |                            |                          |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Andie Abrams        | Alayna Fischer         | Max Lasky                  | Nohemi Quintero          |
| Remy Alperstein     | Hannah Fouladi         | Avery Lieberman            | Jorge Fernando Ramirez   |
| Cara Angelo         | Gregory Fuller         | Rich Lippmann              | Abigail Ramsden          |
| Danna Arciniega     | Charlie Gallagher      | Matthew Loew               | Libby Randles            |
| Andres Arizti       | Cameron Goeree         | Juan López Muñoz           | Jenny Rich               |
| Roberto Azpiri      | Alejandro Gomez Flores | Erick Lopez Ruiz           | Tiffany Roberts          |
| Timothy Baldock     | Abigail Gonzalez       | Nina Margey                | Francisco Sanchez Guzman |
| Aixa Martinez Bidot | Ivonne Gonzalez Garcia | Luis Velez Martinez        | Omar Tlapa Sansalvador   |
| Richard Blackburn   | Madelyn Gray           | Jesus Martinez             | Mason Schimmel           |
| Josh Bogard         | Karolina Grychtol      | Fernanda Martinez Pimentel | Irwin Schtierman         |
| Rosanne Bogard      | Colin Hamilton         | Lissie Maurer              | Chloe Selmes             |
| Adam Buckle         | Emma Hasson            | Aobhé Mc Laughlin          | Jack Sherman             |
| Sarah Bush          | Joel Herrera           | Maria McCloskey            | Peter Shifrin            |
| Shauna Butler       | Alexandra Hochstedler  | Eoin McCloskey             | Eleesha Rose Shigdar     |
| Daniel Cabrera      | Adrijan Hrzic          | Tim McGinnis               | Kristin Silbowitz        |
| Jason Calvert       | Carlos Hull            | Ciaran Miles               | Kygh Sneed               |
| Virginia Carman     | Ryan Isaac             | Stacy Moore                | Shari Steinert           |
| Juan Castro         | Cameron Jarvis         | Frank Morris               | Emma Stevenson           |
| Lynn Cicco          | Chloe Johnston         | Devon Nassau               | Lauryn Stewart           |
| Jillian Cohen       | Scott Jones            | Sarah Newfield             | Charlotte Storey         |
| Georgia Cole        | Nicholas Jordan        | Angel Ocasio               | Dawid Swietochowski      |
| Jose A. Velez Cruz  | Noa Katz               | Steven Palmer              | Jasmin Tadina            |
| Panna Cseko         | Elizabeth Katz         | Alyssa Pavlu               | Cameron Taylor-Stevens   |
| Ian Cuapio          | Caitlyn Kavanagh       | Zach Pelzer                | Heather Tollin           |
| Aldair Dauzon       | Corey Killford         | Gabriella Perry            | Sarah Vergura            |
| Leslie Davis        | Lucas Kim              | Kennedy Pfeiffle           | Nicole Waddell           |
| Charlie Dean        | Matt Korn              | Donna Poole                | Violet Washburn          |
| Cynthia Dickson     | Gabrielle Krumper      | Matthew Projansky          | Milly Whitehead          |
| Grace Donaghey      | Ryan Lasky             | Emily Quartermaine         | Matt Wills               |
|                     |                        |                            | Isla Wilson              |

While this list is already impressive, it's bound to grow as some of our staff on the 'maybe' list firm up plans for an unforgettable summer in Rock Hill. Get ready for an epic season ahead!"

Thank you in advance to all our staff who have committed to providing our camp community with an incredible summer together!

**I can't wait to see you all in Rock Hill this summer! BUBBA**

## BOYS SIDE STUFF WITH JOSH



In the midst of strong winds, a temperature in single digits and a snow brush in hand, I can't help but wish for a magical blink of the eyes to transport me to the heart of Boys Side on one of those picturesque 85-degree summer days. If anyone knows a life hack to make this

happen, do share! While I yearn for the pleasant weather, my excitement truly lies in the anticipation of spending 3 or 6 weeks together, witnessing your achievements in summer goals, forging new friendships, and relishing the small moments that make our shared summer so special.

Our morning lineup discussions often revolve around the positive impact we can have on those around us. I consistently encourage you to uplift those in your circle, making them better through your presence. Keep this mission alive not only through the winter but also into the spring, and I assure you that not only will you positively influence those around you, but you will also evolve into a responsible and caring young adult, someone others would love to be around. At Iroquois Springs, it's a staff member's mission to be The Difference Maker, and we hope these values become an integral part of your lives. Remember, **"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."** Proudly wear your Iroquois Springs shirts to school, knowing that you are one of those Difference Makers.

The upcoming summer is poised to be the best yet. With many of our counselors and group leaders returning, the excitement for the planning of the summer of 2024 is beyond words. To borrow a famous line from our local legend, Brad Henderson, I'll unveil the new evening activities with a tease, "Not now...but in a moment." I extend my wishes for health and happiness to all of you throughout the cold winter, filled with fond memories of the past summer. For our new campers, get ready for the experience of a lifetime, and I eagerly await the moment you officially become part of the Iroquois Springs family.

All the best, **JOSH**

# Welcome

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



- Henry Almassy Pleasantville, NY
- Kent Almassy Pleasantville, NY
- Daisy Bieler New York, NY
- Genghis Cane Pleasantville, NY
- Eli Carragher Chevy Chase, MD
- Archer Fraade-Blonar New York, NY
- Siena Golden Larchmont, NY
- Amelia Higgins Chappaqua, NY
- Jacob Izakowicz Zurich, Switzerland
- Crosby Kayne Montclair, NJ
- Madeline Kelly Miami, FL
- Virginia Malinak North Lawrence, OH
- Georgia Malinak North Lawrence, OH
- Ivy Moscov Delray Beach, FL
- Sydney Nisson Baltimore, MD
- Oliver Parodi-Huml Long Beach, NY
- Mila Podolnick Boca Raton, FL
- Henry Rich Brooklyn, NY
- Sloane Rich Potomac, MD
- Cole Sambursky Plainview, NY
- Beckett Wheelock Boca Raton, FL
- Wyatt Wheelock Boca Raton, FL



## EVERYTHING CAMPER

We are pleased to let you know that we are once again teaming up with Everything Camper as our clothing outfitter for the summer. We know you are going to love the NEW STYLES and DESIGNS they offer along with great camp gear that will be available for all our camp families. Make sure to check-out their website at [www.everythingcamper.com](http://www.everythingcamper.com) to get a complete packing list for the summer and book a

VIRTUAL APPOINTMENT at one of their many "roadshows" where campers can see the latest styles and place orders for all kinds of great camp items!

Make sure to browse the Everything Camper website early and get your orders in so that you can ensure all of your IS SWAG is delivered on time!



## WASHINGTON DC

# The Seniors and CIT'S are heading to The Nation's Capital

As many of you already know, one of the highlights of our senior program includes a 3-night / 4-day trip each summer. This coming season, our senior campers (entering grades 8 – 11) will have the opportunity to visit

### The Nation's Capital, Washington D.C.

Highlights will include a trip to Baltimore's Inner Harbor, The National Mall (Smithsonian Museums), a Cruise on the Potomac, the thrills of King's Dominion and a few more surprises we are still working on!

### The Senior Trip will take place from July 28 – 31 during Session # 2.

Of course, should you have any questions about the trip prior to receiving further details, don't hesitate to let us know. This is an awesome experience, and we don't want you to miss it! Details and enrollment information will be sent separately, but we wanted to remind you about this great opportunity and can't wait to share all the highlights as we confirm the trip throughout the winter.

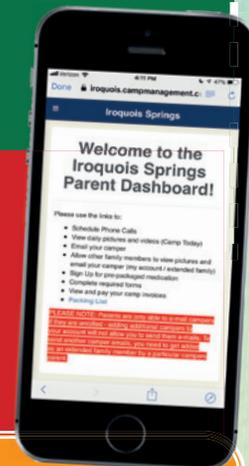
## TECHNOLOGY & ELECTRONICS UPDATE

We wanted to remind you that our Parent Dashboard has many features for families needing quick and easy camp information such as the ability to:

- View daily pictures and videos (Camp Today)
- Allow other family members to view pictures and email your camper (my account/extended family)
- View Packing List
- Email your camper
- Sign-up for pre-packaged medication
- Complete required forms
- Print statements
- Add a new credit card
- Make a payment online
- View current, as well as past invoices

### TEXT MESSAGING

While on the Parent Dashboard, don't forget to "opt-in" to our text messaging service which will allow you to stay on top of all the latest and greatest news coming from camp!



**REMINDER TO PARENTS...** Apple is no longer makes an iPod Nano or Shuffle, however, Iroquois Springs will continue to adhere 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 the information provided to you with our February 1st correspondence introducing you to the **MIGHTY VIBE & CAMPFIRE PLAYER**. Both devices are great options for camp and along with any other MP3 player that adheres to our policy is acceptable.

Should you have any questions at all, just call and ask, we are always available to help!

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN ROCK HILL



Winter has certainly made its presence known in Rock Hill, with the snow falling hard and often over the last 3 months. Of course, while many of us can only imagine camp as our “summer home” where the sun shines (liquid sunshine sometimes) all the time, we are determined to continue to push forward and continue the work that has been started to prepare for the opening of our facility in May when the first of our pre-camp team will arrive. As the plows drive through camp and push the snow to the sides of the blacktop paths, you can see exciting things happening and continued progress on adding to and maintaining our top-notch facility that we all get to enjoy each summer.

As initially reported to you in our last edition of the Iroquois Springs Times, there are lots of projects going on and some being prepared to start very soon. Here is the current update from 12775:



**Turf GaGa Courts:** Muddy gaga pits, be gone! Say hello to the all-new turf courts, turning one of our favorite areas into a clean and vibrant playing space.

**Health Center:** Staying healthy is our priority. We've spruced up exam rooms, bathrooms, and resting areas to ensure a cozy and safe environment for our camp community.



**New Waterski Ski Dock:** When the ice melts, the excitement rises! Our spanking-new ski dock is on its way, promising endless thrills for our water-loving campers – skiing, tubing, knee boarding, and more!



**Girls Side Cabin:** The old is out, and the new is in! The girls' cabin is getting a makeover – demolition is done, framing is happening, and soon, we'll unveil the fabulous new look!

**Boys Side Tennis / Pickle Ball Courts:** Get ready for some epic rallies! As the weather warms up, we're bringing you brand-new courts with fresh surfaces, snazzy fences, and a revamped complex that'll serve up some serious fun.



**Girls Flagpole:** Our evening meet-up spot is getting a makeover! Get ready for a fresh vibe at our full-camp gatherings starting June 29 – we can't wait to welcome you “home” with a new look and feel.

**Cabin Bathroom Renovations:** Some lucky cabins have already scored swanky new bathrooms. Stay tuned – more cabins are queuing up for a modern makeover in the coming summers!



**Aerial Adventure Giant Swing:** Hold onto your hats, thrill-seekers! We're introducing a jaw-dropping free-fall Giant Swing to our adventure course. New 65' poles will take your excitement to new heights – literally!

**And to our incredible camp families – you rock! Thanks for 23 summers of belief and support. Iroquois Springs is not just a camp; it's a thriving summer home where memories are made, friendships bloom, and fun never sleeps. Here's to building, improving, and creating magic together!**



# HAPPY Birthday

## January

- 1 Dev Melwani
- 4 Samantha Finer
- 4 Cole Sambursky
- 6 Sophia Snyder
- 6 Nina Stein
- 7 Abby Dougall
- 8 Gadea De Silva
- 11 Kelly Hale
- 12 Himani Agrawal
- 12 Devon Green
- 13 Cheyenne Campbell
- 13 Emery Matusow
- 14 Alexa Bassuk
- 14 Jack Mitola
- 15 Gideon Yoran
- 17 William Berg
- 17 Aidan Blom
- 17 Eytan Fajga
- 19 Tyler Bassett
- 19 Nathan Dishuk
- 19 Ruby Rosen
- 19 Samara Weinfeld
- 21 Michael Vincent
- 22 Ella Horwitz
- 22 Brody Schimmel
- 22 Eli Stein
- 23 Jordan Herzog
- 25 Dylan Canfield
- 27 Harper Kelsey
- 28 Sienna Belmont-Spector
- 28 Kyle Gorman
- 29 Maisie Schoenberg
- 29 Addison Wein
- 30 Aryana Berger
- 30 Elle Stein
- 31 Olivia Danes
- 31 Aaron Gilbert
- 31 Ryan Jemal

## February

- 1 Gavin Freed
- 2 James Lear-Nickum
- 3 Viviana Acquaviva
- 4 Charlie Lottner
- 4 Brandon Tibaldi
- 5 Olivia Wolf
- 6 Ryan Friedman
- 7 Daniela Kliksberg
- 8 Gael Paradies
- 10 Gabriella Ruziecki
- 10 Sally Turetsky
- 11 Harper Eisler
- 12 Henry Almassy
- 12 Leah Schwarz
- 13 Maren Breen
- 13 Sydney Tibaldi
- 14 Jacob Izakowicz
- 15 Brody Rosenman
- 16 Justin Tibaldi
- 17 Evan Goldstein
- 17 Lexie Music
- 17 Henry Rich
- 17 Ashlyn Roffman
- 17 Sasha Rosenman
- 17 Ava Schachter
- 18 Charlie Weissberg
- 19 Reese Bassett
- 19 Amelia Higgins
- 19 Abigail Tropp
- 20 Ryan Basov
- 21 Marni Goldstein
- 22 Ethan Raiken
- 24 Virginia Malinak
- 27 Jacqueline Hausfeld

## March

- 1 Bryce Freed
- 1 Skylar (Sky) Levitt
- 1 Ivy Moscow
- 1 Logan Scott
- 1 Harlow Uris
- 2 Benjamin Metula
- 4 Reece Rich
- 5 Jacob Goldstein
- 8 Chloe Georgopoulos
- 9 Jeffrey Adrian
- 9 Zachary Mittler
- 11 Juliette Finnern
- 12 Evan Goldstein
- 12 Charlotte Landesman
- 13 Nola Chanley
- 15 Leo Vasapolli
- 16 Anna Buchwald
- 16 Abigail Kleinman
- 16 Ezra Taishoff
- 17 Chloe Epstein
- 17 Eoin Kennedy
- 17 Lili Yoran
- 18 Poppy Goldberg
- 18 Olivia Greeley
- 18 Harper Krauss
- 19 Carlo Dolgetta
- 20 Jake Noyes
- 20 Ivy Schneidman
- 21 Sammy Bernstein
- 21 Zoe Mitola
- 22 Amelia Baric
- 22 Sophia Drosos
- 22 Samantha Frank
- 26 Noa Klein
- 26 Bexley Wiegand
- 28 Hunter Baltch
- 28 Olivia Bogard
- 28 Max Mulle
- 28 Ryan Mulle
- 30 Dominic Ridge
- 30 Simon Solomon
- 31 Julia Beida
- 31 Eli Carragher





# COUNSELOR'S CORNER



Love from



Lindsay

As the winter winds whisper through the frosty trees, we find ourselves reminiscing about the sun-soaked days and starry nights we spent together at camp. It warms our hearts up to think of the laughter that echoed through the cabins, the friendships that blossomed, and the countless memories that now linger like the sweet scent of pine in the air.

As the winter chill sets in, I wanted to share a bit of warmth to help keep the spirit of camp alive, even on the chilliest of winter days. Picture us gathered around a crackling campfire, the sweet aroma of roasting marshmallows, and the echoes of laughter filling the air. Envision conquering the adventure course or climbing through the woods, gearing up for an exhilarating round at our low ropes course – ready to tap into your creativity and imagination for team-building activities. Imagine gearing up for one of our lively evening activities, whether it is in the theater, arena, fieldhouse, or somewhere else on camp...

Though camp may feel distant, it's actually all around us woven into the fabric of our surroundings, even in these frosty winter days. You just need to know where to find it! So while we might not be at camp right now, that doesn't mean we can't have a blast and dream about those sunny days ahead. Go grab your cozy blankets, put on your favorite camp tee, and let's dive into some winter wonders and summer daydreams!

## LET'S TRANSPORT OURSELVES TO...



**OUTDOOR ADVENTURE:** Bundle up in your warmest gear and head outside for some winter fun. If there is snow on the ground, try building a snow fort/igloo or have a snowball fight with your friends. If it's not snowing, bundle up and go on a hike. Climb over fallen logs, swing from some of the branches - be careful but get adventurous as if you are at your own adventure course! No matter the weather, you can of course always challenge yourself and go ice skating, too. Winter is full of cool activities that can make you feel like you're right back at camp!

**INDOOR RAINY DAY CAMP GAMES:** Bring the camp spirit indoors with some classic camp games. It may not be a hot rainy day at camp, but you can certainly have just as much fun as if it were! Host a virtual game night with your camp buddies, play board games with your family, do a winter themed project such as making fake snow, painting ice crystals for a fairy garden, or creating adorable pom-pom penguins.

**EVENING ACTIVITIES:** Pretend your bunk is loading into the theater for a fun evening activity and head to your living room (or wherever is most comfortable). Connect

your music to your tv, crank up the volume, and have yourself a karaoke night! You can also invite your friends over to have a mini talent show or channel your inner Brad Henderson and learn a few magic tricks - bonus points if you perform them for your family. The fun doesn't have to wait until summer! (Although if you do learn some magic tricks, I can't wait to see them at camp!)

**CAMPFIRE:** Set up a cozy indoor campfire (safety first, of course!) and share your favorite campfire stories or sing your favorite campfire songs. You can even create your own stories and imagine the exciting adventures that await us when we're back at camp. If you have an outdoor setup for your campfire – ex. outdoor fire pit - dress in your favorite camp sweatshirt, wrap yourselves in a blanket, and roast some marshmallows outside!

**COOKING:** Now, here's the best part - let's whip up a delicious summer-themed treat to transport ourselves to camp in spirit! Try making "Campfire Cones" – it's like having a taste of summer in the winter!



Remember, the camp spirit is with you no matter the season. So, make the most of winter, have a blast, and keep those summer daydreams alive! If you decide to do any of these activities, send us your pictures, we'd love to see them! We can't wait to see you back at camp for more adventures soon.

**STAY WARM AND ENJOY THE WINTER WONDERLAND AS YOU INDULGE IN YOUR SUMMER DAYDREAMS!**





## REUNIONS - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Maryland

Dave & Buster's, Gaithersburg  
Saturday, March 9th  
11:00 – 1:00pm



### Florida

Boca Raton, on Sunday, March 10th

Gather with camp friends outdoors, enjoy some fun activities, great food, share memories, get excited for the summer ahead and pick-up your framed camp pictures from last summer. (If you can't attend, we will of course mail them to you.)

Further Details to Follow  
We can't wait to see you!

## FAVORITE RECIPE FROM

### Kitchen Stadium

### Campfire Banana Boats

#### WHAT YOU NEED

- Bananas (1 per person)
- Mini Marshmallows
- Chocolate Chips
- Crushed graham crackers
- Other optional toppings: sliced strawberries, shredded coconut, nuts



#### HOW TO MAKE IT

##### PREPARE THE BANANAS:

- Keep the banana peels on and make a lengthwise cut along the inside curve of each banana, leaving the peel and creating a pocket for fillings.

##### FILL THE BANANA BOATS:

- Stuff the banana pockets with mini marshmallows, chocolate chips, and any other desired toppings.

## ATTENTION New Camp Families!!!

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



We hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable holiday with friends and family and is looking forward to a wonderful year ahead. The start of the New Year brings great excitement as we look toward Summer 2024 and another amazing summer in Rock Hill! It won't be long before we are back with our camp family, having fun, laughing with friends, and creating lifetime memories.

Just as there is a lot of thoughtful preparation that goes into getting camp ready for the summer ahead, we know that our camp families are also busy preparing their campers for the best summer possible. In the months leading up to camp, there will be camper forms to complete, a packing list to review, and purchases to be made. If you are new to the Iroquois Springs family and need some guidance to make this process easier, we are here for you.

Preparing for your camper's first overnight camp experience can feel overwhelming, but you do not have to do it alone. Robin, our camp "counselor" is here to provide guidance on what to expect this first summer, including camper forms, the packing list, and tips for first-time camper jitters. As a veteran member of our full-time camp team, and a mom of 3 Iroquois Springs campers, Robin will take the time to understand your concerns and answer your questions.

To connect with Robin, just make an appointment at <https://calendly.com/robin-iroquoissprings>

#### WRAP IN FOIL:

- Wrap each banana tightly in aluminum foil, leaving the top open so you can check for doneness.

#### CAMPFIRE COOKING:

- Place the foil-wrapped banana boats on a grate over the campfire or on hot coals.
- Cook for about 5-7 minutes, or until the fillings are melted and gooey.

#### CHECK FOR DONENESS:

- Carefully open one banana boat to check if the marshmallows and chocolate are melted to your liking.

#### SERVE AND ENJOY:

- Carefully unwrap the banana boats.
- Let them cool for a moment before eating with a spoon or straight from the peel.

## A MESSAGE FROM...

Hi Everyone! It's me MoMo! Happy New Year! As we step into 2024, the excitement surrounding camp is palpable, and we can't wait to begin another incredible summer of fun, growth, and unforgettable memories.

Before we look ahead to the new year it's important to take a moment to celebrate the achievements we all experienced in 2023. This past summer we witnessed remarkable friendships, personal growth, and a spirit enrichment that truly defines our camp community. From epic campfires to thrilling outdoor adventures, every moment was filled with laughter and love.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you some of my New Year's resolutions for this upcoming summer:

**Embracing Inclusivity:** Ensure that the camp environment is inclusive and welcoming to campers and staff of all backgrounds, abilities, and interests. Develop programs that celebrate diversity and promote a sense of belonging for everyone.

**Incorporate Educational Elements:** Consider integrating educational components into camp programs. This could involve nature walks, science experiments, or guest speakers to add an educational aspect to the summer experience.

**Team Building:** Focus on building a strong sense of community among campers and staff. Incorporate team-building activities and events to foster positive relationships and a supportive atmosphere.

**Environmental Awareness:** A pledge to incorporate more environmentally friendly practices at camp. This could involve reducing waste, promoting recycling, and educating campers and staff on the importance of caring for the environment. #greencamps

**Safety First:** Make a resolution to review and update safety protocols and emergency procedures. The well-being of campers and staff should always be a top priority, and regular safety drills amongst other practices can help ensure everyone is prepared.

**Enhance Camper Engagement:** Resolve to create even more engaging and impactful activities that cater to the diverse interests of our campers. This could include new sports programs, arts and crafts projects, or themed events.

These are just a few of the many goals I have for myself and the programming department this summer. What are some of your New Year's resolutions?

Before I wrap up, I want to express my deepest gratitude to our camp community. Your support and enthusiasm make Iroquois Springs a truly special place. Together, let's make 2024 a summer to remember!

As Always,

**MoMo**



## Dates to Remember

**Spring Mailing - Thursday, February 1st**

**Maryland Reunion - Saturday, March 9th**

**Florida Reunion - Sunday, March 10th**

**Tri-State Camp Conference - Tuesday, March 12th to  
(Office Closed) Thursday, March 14th**

**Camper Forms Due - Monday, April 15th**

**New Family Orientation - Sunday, May 19th**

**Area Pick-Up for IS Baggage Service - Sunday, June 23rd**

**Opening Day - Saturday, June 29th**

**Visiting Day - Saturday, July 13th**

**Rookie Day # 1 - Sunday, July 14th**

**Session #1 Ends - Friday, July 19th**

**Session #2 Begins - Saturday, July 20th**

**Rookie Day # 2 - Sunday, July 28th**

**Senior Trip to Washington DC - Sunday, July 28th to Wednesday, July 31st**

**Campers Return Home - Friday, August 9th**