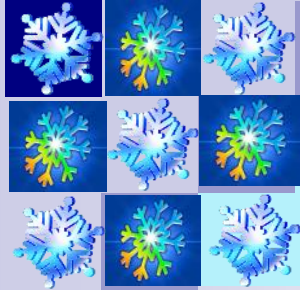


January 2019



PIERCE CAMP BIRCHMONT WINTER PEELINGS

HELLO FROM CAMP BIRCHMONT!

A few words from Greg & Laura...

We just finished hosting our Annual Winter Camper Reunion and it was so nice to see so many of you. We had a good time catching up with each other, playing some Camp Trivia for prizes, and looking at fun photos from last summer. If you weren't able to attend, we sent an email link last week to our current families and alums with our slideshow of pictures to share with everybody. So, if you'd like to see lots of summer smiles of camp friends and counselors please feel free to check it out at A glimpse back at 2018 - [Winter Reunion Slideshow](#)

All the best,

Greg & Laura



Central Park under a fresh blanket of snow...



Welcome to the beach...





Reunion Pictures



Thanks to Courtney A. for taking some cute Reunion photos.

News from our Campers, Staff & Alumni!

Max and Jake K., are both doing amazing in school. Straight A's for the first and second quarters. Max is working hard on his travel soccer team and Jake just moved up a division in his tennis league. They can't wait for camp to start up again! It was so great seeing Max K. who flew in from Atlanta for the reunion.

Let's hear it for Brandon R. who also flew in from Georgia to connect with his camp friends... And we welcomed Captain Max K., Ethan O., Marcus K., Mason W. and Davis L. who all made the trip up from Florida. A shout out to: Sophie and Johnny C. who came from Massachusetts, Zoe L. who traveled from Pennsylvania, and Brava to Blau B. who planned a trip all the way from her native Spain to see her American Birchmont friends.

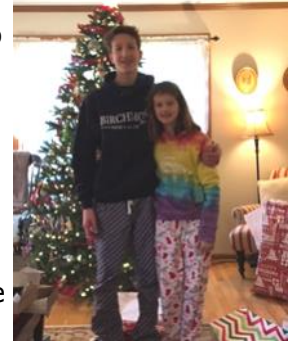


Gemma D. sent this adorable photo beside her favorite artist, Matisse, while visiting the Leopold Museum in Vienna. We always appreciate art at Notches at camp. Frieda Kahlo was the featured artist last summer at camp, along with Warhol, Calder, Mondrian, Matisse, and Van Gough in summers past.



Caroline B. sent in this lovely photo from her 12th birthday this Fall pictured with a few Birchmont friends she is excited to see again this summer.

Emma and Ryan C. sent this photo to let us know they were on the "Nice not Naughty" list as they were excited to open some Birchmont gear for Christmas. We will be happy to see you sporting your gear this summer.



Jesse S. started off the school year showing his Birchmont Spirit!

James, Sean and Mark N. started the school year off well. ALL 3 boys will be playing travel lacrosse with LI Express while achieving places on their school's academic honor rolls. Way to go!!

Dax R. has been busy water skiing and snow skiing in NH and has spent some time with his family on 4 X 4's and snowmobiles. His Dad, Steve R. who helped Jan and Curt T. coach tennis last summer has been coaching tennis and basketball at Brewster Academy this Fall and Winter, and will be working with some tennis pros in Florida during his school break. The R. boys say they are looking forward to another great summer at PCB.



We saw Basketball Counselor Wyatt K. at the Reunion. Wyatt has shared some pictures of a fascinating trip he took to India earlier this year. Wyatt is excited to return to Birchmont for another terrific summer.

We also heard from counselor Sophia P. who will be studying in the Netherlands till June when she will again be back at camp. She sends hugs to all her girls!

News continued...

Group Leader Jack B. attended the reunion and will also be studying abroad in the Netherlands this semester with Washington University where he attends school as a Junior. Jack's summer plans are up in the air, at this point but he says, if he cannot return, he wishes his Explorer Boys a great school year and a happy summer at Birchmont which he plans on visiting in August.



Aidan E. and Harry P. were bunkmates at camp for five years but had not been in contact since their camp days ended in 2015. Unbeknownst to each other, both of them decided to go to Elon University in North Carolina this year as freshmen – Aidan from Mamaroneck High School and Harry from Irvington High. Both had played varsity sport in their high school years – including tennis and soccer (Aidan) and baseball and soccer (Harry). Both of them decided to select a random roommate assignment from Elon hoping to be matched with someone good.....you can imagine the surprise (and delight) when the school matched them and their respective names popped up in their roommate assignment message this past summer. They are happily living in the same residence room in Virginia Hall in the Historic neighborhood at Elon and loving college life. They are pictured above on the 1st day of college and about 10 years old having won a camp tennis tournament . Harry is in the front with the red baseball cap and Aidan is behind him to his left with the navy and white baseball cap. Here's to the Birchmont Braves of old.

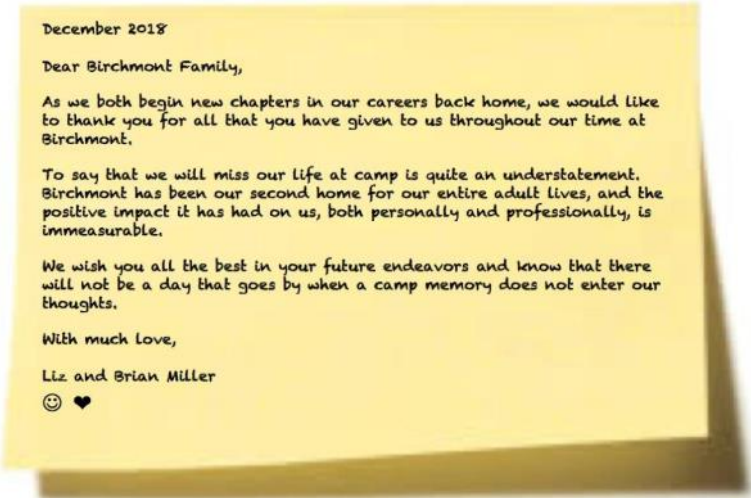
Every year brings new changes.

Birchmont is known for the continuity of our staff especially in full time and administrative roles. This year is a bit of an anomaly, but with the combination of a strong senior staff and local connections, **Birchmont is uniquely positioned to move forward from strength to strength.**

After three decades of hard work and dedication our caretakers Rod & Sandy C. have retired from full time employment. That said, Sandy will be back in our summer office manning the phones and assisting all of our campers and parents. Rod will join us seasonally showing our new full-time caretaker the ins and outs of our expansive campus.

Jerome L. will be joining the Birchmont family as our full-time caretaker. Jerome is no stranger to Birchmont; in fact Jerome has built numerous camp structures to include our Stable, Androscoggin, The Lookout, The Boathouse, The Hill Top Gym, Windemere and The Barn. He has also been involved in dozens of the facility updates and repairs. For the past twenty years Jerome has run his own local contracting company and we are excited that he is joining us full-time!

With a heavy heart we say goodbye to Liz & Brian M.. Liz started as a camper at Birchmont and has literally grown up with us. She met her husband Brian while working at camp and the rest, as they say is history; Liz rising to our Head of Girls Camp and Brian as our Field Director. We'll of course miss Liz and Brian and wish them much luck in their new career paths and subsequent year-round responsibilities. The word is we'll be seeing them around camp...



We're proud to announce Melissa H. as our new Head of Girls Camp. Melissa is homegrown at Birchmont; in fact she was a 2nd generation camper starting in our youngest age group and continuing her journey through the staff as a waterfront staff member, Group Leader, Head of Special Events & Supervisor. As a teacher in Newburyport, MA she is uniquely qualified to take on the mantle of Head of Girls Camp and advocate for all of our female campers and staff!

John S. will be assuming the role as Field Director. John has a BS and a Masters in Phys Ed from The Citadel where he played baseball and football during his college years. He has been a teacher for the past 30 years and over this time has coached (and refereed) too many baseball, football, wrestling and bowling teams to list! John raised two children at camp (Bryony & Luke) who both went on to be staff members. We're excited for John as he takes on the position of Field Director.

Winter Peelings

After 13 summers, we say farewell to Arts and Crafts Head, Lu G. who thanks all the campers who came to make art, and enjoyed creating projects up at Notches. She would like to leave campers with 2 words to take with them into next summer, "Creativity Rules". As a recently retired teacher from NYC, Lu loves NH and will include a visit to Birchmont in her summer travels.

We feel lucky to welcome Lisa K. who will head up Arts and Crafts this summer. We know Lisa's happy, big personality as she has been working as a teacher with young people at Pierce Country Day School since 2013. Lisa has her Masters in both Education and Creative Arts from Hofstra and CW Post on Long Island. Lisa is eager to establish an Arts area at Birchmont which will encompass traditional camp crafts, textiles, and fine arts, while incorporating a mindfulness based program which empowers kids to stay present and engaged. Lisa has two camp aged children who are excited to begin their Birchmont experience.

Weddings, Babies and Engagements

We have heard of many joyous occasions as time marches on for beloved alums... *This Fall/Winter with many Birchmont friends in attendance. Cassie R., Courtney A., Tori P., and Holly M. all got married.*



Courtney and Bobby A.



Holly and Gary M.

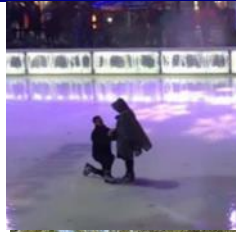
Cassie and Donald R.

Tori and Greg P.



Camp driver Timothy B., became an uncle with the birth of his niece Nov 17th.

Camp driver Sue D. became a Grandmother for the 6th time with the birth of Piper Jean D..



She said YES!

Michelle K. recently got engaged at the Bryant Park Ice Rink in NYC



Matt L. got engaged



Cassie R. has another wedding to help plan as her sister Elizabeth got engaged!



We regret to share the sad news of the passing of one of Birchmont's best, Jessica Friedman Waldman passed away this month after a brave battle with pancreatic cancer. Jessica loved Birchmont, and the feeling was mutual. She spent many glorious summers at camp, and stay connected through her children and grandchildren who also attended. We will remember Jessica, the loving spirit she brought to Birchmont, and how much she loved to share that experience with others.



Jessica Friedman Waldman
March 28 1944-
Jan 12 2019



News From Town

We are pleased to announce that the old ALLEN A motel is undergoing a complete and upgraded renovation. Our camp doctor Denise O'Grady and her partners Peter and Lani Ford purchased the historic but aging motor inn Dec. 14. The hotel will open this May under the new name The Lake Wentworth Inn and will have a stylish "Lake House" feel. The hotel is appealing because of its proximity (walking distance) to a beautiful woodland beach located just behind the property and popular Cottonwood Trail for biking and hiking with families. This is good news for our camp families since the hotel is just 5 minutes from Birchmont.

www.lakewentworthinn.com

Two other newly renovated properties we also recommend to our families and visitors this summer are: The Pickering House at the top of town, a beautifully restored farmhouse with dining barn, www.pickeringhousewolfeboro.com and Grey Shingles, a lovely property with cabins and a Rec Hall on Rust Pond in Wolfeboro www.greyshinglecamps.com