



**JEWISH  
COMMUNITY  
CENTER**  
OF CHARLOTTE

# The Jewish Community Center

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

### "Sharing Our Stories"

The month of June features Debra Pataky, dedicated volunteer, full-time mom, & active member of the JCC!

This column is a continuing series about current JCC members and what the Jewish Community Center of Charlotte means to them.

#### Debra Pataky is a busy woman!

As 2002 Co-chair of the Katan 365 committee, Debra is involved in the planning and implementation of Camp Katan (serving ages 2-5), a division of the Mindy Ellen Levine Day Camp.

Her children, Andrew (8) and Hannah (3), attend Charlotte Jewish Preschool, where Debra is the incoming PTO president and will represent the JCC on the CJP Board.



How does a busy mother of two relax? Debra is seen almost daily here at the JCC taking the yoga class. "It's my little piece of sanity!" she says.

The Pataky's moved to Charlotte from Ponte Vidra Beach, Florida two years ago. Debra was immediately impressed with the structure and activities that the Jewish Community Center of Charlotte was able to offer her family. "Andrew has been involved in sports activities and Hannah loves her aquatics and ballet classes, and both children are entering their second year of camp, as well. The JCC is certainly the center of my family's recreational activities", Debra continues.

But perhaps most meaningful, Debra feels she has formed friendships that will continue whether her family stays in Charlotte or moves on. Never too busy for play dates and nights out with friends, Debra says that "...by far, the biggest benefit to belonging to the JCC is the relationships that have been cultivated not only for myself, but for my entire family." ■

## Speakers in June at Oasis Enrichment Programs Every Friday!



Look to us for your connection to all current events, local and global.

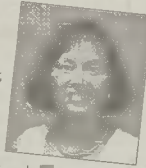
Dr. Jeffery Passe from UNC-Charlotte will be back June 7th from 1-2pm in the Boardroom to review the domestic agenda of President George W. Bush. June 14th from 1-2pm, Maggie Blutreich, Public Education Coordinator for the American Kennel Club will bring her pal and demonstrate grooming and training techniques for your "pampered pets!" Nora Black, Charlotte architect, will have a slide show and discussion on "Experiencing Charlotte Architecture: Old and New." She will be with us Friday, June 28th from 1-2pm. FREE and open to the public.

#### Apollo Winds Quintet

Donald Zelman and friends will perform Monday, June 17th from 1-2pm Gorelick Hall in this all wind ensemble. Our Monday performance is FREE and open to the public. We will see you there from 1-2pm!

#### Line Dancing with Yo Osborn is Back!

Join us Monday, June 17th, 24th and July 1st and 8th for the most hopping dance class around! This FREE class will take place in Gorelick Hall where Yo can teach you to sway, swing and swivel. Pre-registration required. ■



## Sixers Sweep Up Championship!

The Men's Adult Basketball League for the Winter was won by the Sixers. After winning the regular season with a record of 7-3, they were victorious over the Suns in the playoffs, edging them 61-55. The Championship game against the Kings was a hard fought battle with the Sixers prevailing, 61-55. ■



Pictured above: [bottom row] Josh Stein, Ryan Karp, Jed Levitas (top row) Andy Krell, Tom Wilson, Rob McManus and John Finucane.

## Ray of Hope Festival Shines!

By Diana Ades [Special Needs Committee Chair]



Nothing could dampen the Ray of Hope festival that took place on Saturday, May 4th at Camp Mindy.

This special one-day festival for children living with cancer took place on the coldest, wettest day in May that Charlotte has had in years. Despite the weather, nothing could dampen the spirits of the children, volunteers and sponsors. Once the festival opened, all had fun.

The wonderful firefighters from Engine 19 brought their truck and the children took pictures with them. Participants then decorated special frames for their photos. Kids picked up goodie bags complete with crayons, coloring books, Disney Beanie Babies and other assorted "goodies", then joined other festival goers in a game of Bingo, clay pot painting, t-shirt coloring, and special hand print tiles from Meg-Art South.

Queen City Clowns and the Carolina Clowns were on hand to make everyone laugh and Magic Barry kept everyone amazed with his magic all day long. A special appearance from Homer of the Charlotte Knights and Raggs from Raggs Kids Club added excitement to the day.

Throughout the rainy day, there were "shows" in the pavilion including King Tiger Tae Kwon Do and Charlotte All-star Cheerleading demonstrations. In addition, there were games galore with lots of prizes as well as Turbo Track car racing. There was cooking and face painting as well as key chain yarn braids and hair coloring. For the adults, Park Road Physical Therapy was on hand to give relaxing massages.



One major feature of the festival was the Harold Josephson



Ray of Hope Wall. Children were invited to sign their name, paint a picture or trace their hand on the banner. This banner is in memory of Harold Josephson who loved camp. His wife Lila recalls Harold saying, "The best things that happened to me, happened at camp". The banner that will hang permanently at Camp Mindy will honor Harold Josephson and all the children that participated that day.

These children, bravely living with cancer, were able to enjoy a special and fun-filled day because of the dedicated volunteers and generous sponsors.

A special thanks to Carolina's Medical Center, Kim Veith and Melissa Raphael for all their hard work on the Special Needs Committee project. ■



afterschool program

at the Jewish Community Center of Charlotte

Now is the time to register your child for the 2002-2003 J team After School Program. We pick up at most local elementary schools in the south Charlotte area. We offer a nutritious snack, homework assistance and a variety of activities like arts and crafts, sports, computer technology, cooking and more. For more information, please contact your after-school staff, Mitch Ormand at (704) 944-6733 or Shellie Karow at (704) 944-6792. Sign up now before it is too late! The J team is a member of POST - Partners in Out-of-School Time and our staff regularly attends meetings to keep updated on providing quality activities and experiences for children. ■

For Grades K-5