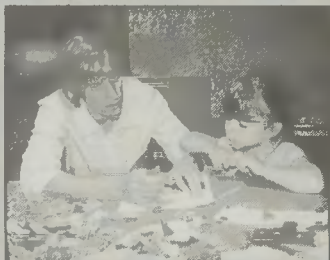


Donor Appreciation Day

On Sunday June 1, 2003 the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte hosted a Donor Appreciation Day at the Levine Museum of the New South to thank all of the donors to the 2003 Annual Campaign. Donors and their families enjoyed an afternoon event featuring storytelling for "children" of all ages, craft activities, actors bringing historic events to life, refreshments and giveaways. Banners listing campaign cabinet members, solicitors and Super Sunday volunteers were displayed throughout the museum to thank our volunteers. Special thanks go to Eric Lerner of Action Plus Sportswear for donating pens and to Arthur Mattos of ArtShots for the photography.



Amy and Sara Mullen



Barbara and Jerry Levin



Ed and Jill Newman with grandchildren Tori and Sydney



The Neal Kronovet Family

Federation's P2K Brings Teens from Hadera to Charlotte and Camp Mindy

By Amy Krakovitz
"What are these?" asks Lior Harosh, looking over some plates of sliced fruits on the kitchen counter.

"Avocado and mango." I respond slowly, as if speaking to a three-year-old. "Do you know what those are?"

The seventeen-year-old Israeli smiles. "Yes, of course."

"How do you say that in Hebrew?" I ask.

"Avocado and mango," he answers.

Okay, one Hebrew lesson wasted. But such are the lessons we are all learning with three teenagers from the Hadera region of Israel staying at three homes in Charlotte this summer.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte has brought these three teenagers to participate in Camp Mindy activities, to interact with members of our community, to share their knowledge and experiences of Israel, but mostly to bring a little bit of Israel to our remote corner of the Jewish world.

"We've tried to partner each of them with other teenagers," says Anna Gunsher, Camp Mindy director. "There's a certain comfort factor when they have other kids their own age around."

So Lior has been staying at my house, where my 16-year-old son, Dan, has acted as gracious host and chauffeur, not only bringing Lior to and from camp daily, but also including him in his regular activities, such as his Sunday afternoon game of Ultimate

Frisbee and his Thursday night bowling night.

Seventeen-year-old Nafar Meirovitch is staying at the home of Janet and Bruce Gorelick, where Alyssa, a recent high school graduate, has already grown attached to her. "She's so easy to please," gushes Janet Gorelick. "Nafar seems happy with everything. And Alyssa has been thrilled. She even thanked me for giving her a sister for a couple of weeks this summer."

All of the kids have been getting together when they have time off from camp. Pizza at the Mellow Mushroom, a fourth of July party at the home of Becky and Sara Hunt in Rock Hill and an informal get-together at the home of Jodi and Gary Michel, where



Nafar Meirovitch with camper Olivia Finby.

sixteen-year-old Gil Shaul is staying.

Although the Michel home has no teenagers, Gil has been partnered with the Hunt sisters of Rock Hill. And nine-year-old Allie Michel and seven-year old



Gil Shaul and Lior Harosh enjoy the swimming pool at the JCC.

Mara Michel are both enjoying Gil at their house very much.

"Gil has taught them to make friendship bracelets with string," Jodi says. "And they share their music with each other. When Gil goes out, the girls just can't wait till she comes home."

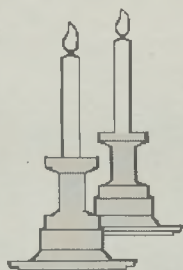
That seems to be true for all the homes that have sponsored Israeli teens through the partnership, this year and in years past. "Real bonds have been forged," Gunsher says. "People have been invited to homes in Israel, kids have kept in touch, some of last year's visitors have come back to visit Charlotte.

"It's a real give and take," she continues. "The Israelis get a chance to experience life here as well as practice their English. And we get to take a little of Israel from them, not just here in camp but in our own homes."

Lior, Nafar, and Gil have brought so much to the people in this community, both the kids they interact with and the adults they are staying with. But they are also bringing back a part of us with them to Hadera. ☆

SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING FOR AUGUST 2003

Friday, August 1, 8:09 PM
Friday, August 8, 8:02 PM
Friday, August 15, 7:55 PM
Friday, August 22, 7:46PM
Friday, August 29, 7:37 PM



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