

A Magical Camp Katan Experience

By Stephanie Freedman, Early Childhood Program Supervisor

Camp Katan, the preschool summer camp at the Levine JCC, finished its very successful six-week session on Friday, July 27, but there is no reason for the fun and excitement to end now – be on the lookout for fun programs all year long. Our theme this year was “Let the Magic Begin” and boy was it magical. Each week 177 children were nurtured in a way that they were able to grow, make new friends, and create memories that will last a lifetime. Our campers learned to swim through group swim lessons, soaked their counselors on the splashground, attended a magic show complete with white doves,

pretended to be animals with our Drama Specialist, laughed and listened to Ms. Debby’s stories in the Levine-Sklut library, made science come alive with Ms. Marcie, celebrated Shabbat with Ms. Patty and the list goes on and on. Each day gave me *nachas* to witness the sheer joy, excitement, and nurturing that the staff shared with their campers. Many of our staff spends the rest of the year in CMS schools or local preschools, which makes them the perfect fit for Camp Katan. My own child (camper) came home each day from Camp Katan excited to tell me about his day - what fun it was to experience it through his eyes after I had spent months planning. I will miss seeing the smiling

faces of our campers each day and even though the magic of Camp Katan has come to a close, I am looking forward to seeing you all throughout the year in our preschool programs at the LJCC. For those of you who have younger siblings, be sure to register for our JTots Playschool Program. For more information, do not hesitate to contact me directly at stephanie.freedman@charlotte-jcc.org or 704-944-6891. ☆



Fun at Camp Katan includes swimming and other special activities.



Levine JCC Cares about ...

Here at the Levine JCC, we believe we have a responsibility to the world around us. Because of that spirit of giving, we want to provide our members with programming that involves social action. Under the banner of “Levine JCC Cares,” we will bring our community together to perform Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) and Gemilut Hasadim (acts of loving kindness). Through Levine JCC Cares we will provide opportunities for families, seniors, young adults, and teens to serve the Greater Charlotte community and beyond in ways that connect us with others and are motivated by the pressing issues of the day.

Current Opportunities: For the past several months, JCC Cares volunteers have been volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte, whose mission is to provide the families of children being treated in area medical facilities with a safe, affordable, and caring “home away from home.” Come help out at the following upcoming events:

Cookie Crew: September 12, 10 AM-12:30 PM. Come in and help the House smell like home. Prepare home-baked treats for families to enjoy. Sign up limited to four people.

Meal Preparation: October 7 4:30-7:30 PM. Meal preparation teams plan a menu, purchase sup-

plies, and prepare a home-cooked meal at the House for the families staying there. Each person who volunteers will be asked to donate towards the purchase of groceries. Sign up limited to seven people.

Future Opportunities: We are seeking LJCC members to take on volunteer leadership roles within our program. Specifically, we would like volunteers to chair or head some of the programs that we would like to pursue. At this time, these include the following:

- * Ronald McDonald House
- * Bright Blessings
- * Military Care Packages at Jewish Holidays
- * JFS Hanukkah drive
- * Christmas Eve/Day event(s)

If you are interested in volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House, taking on a leadership role and/or have questions or would like additional information, please contact Julie Rizzo, Director of Development and Social Action, at julie.rizzo@charlottejcc.org or 704-944-6730. ☆



Julie Rizzo

Refugees

(Continued from page 16)

Soviet Union), and the other, from Ecuador, became practice buddies. “They encouraged each other after they met in class. They were delightful.” One became a citizen in April; and the other in May. The Ecuadoran woman returned to class to act as a mock examiner for the next class cycle.

Citizens are sworn-in with about 100 people from dozens of countries. They sing the national anthem and recite the pledge of allegiance. They view a video address from the President and they pledge their loyalty and allegiance to the U.S. and its constitution.

CRRA hopes to serve as many of the 15,000+ legal permanent residents in Mecklenburg County

who are eligible to become naturalized citizens. For more information about the citizenship classes, contact Dottie Shattuck at dottie.shattuck@carolinarefugee.org. If you know green card holders, please let them know about CRRA’s citizenship classes and application services.

August has been a very busy month for arrivals. At press-time, CRRA was set to resettle 55 refugee clients from August 1 through August 16 alone, a number approaching the largest previous influx of 62 in a month. CRRA needs cash donations to serve all of these clients and continues to need furniture and housewares for the many apartments the agency must prepare. Call 704-535-8803 to donate or volunteer. ☆

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Tuesday, September 4, 5:30 - 7:00pm

Latinos and Jews in the Fabric of our Nation
Wednesday, September 5, 10:00 - 11:30am

Diplomatic Reception
Wednesday, September 5, 3:30 - 5:30pm

U.S. Values and Interests in a Changing Middle East
Thursday, September 6, 10:00 - 11:30am

All events will take place at
The New Gallery of Modern Art
435 South Tryon Street, Charlotte

For details or to RSVP contact: blumem@ajc.org

AJC

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