LJCC'S Butterfly Project Continues to Soar

During the past year, the Levine Jewish Community Center has presented its Butterfly Project Workshop to more than 1,500 students from the Charlotte area and beyond. The two-hour workshop, generally targeted to 5th through 8th grade children, but available to adults as well, uses the story of the Holocaust as a vehicle to teach what can happen when prejudice, stereotyping, and discrimination are allowed to flourish. A critical aspect of the lesson is to examine what can happen when individuals and governments fail to respect and protect all people. Participants experience a Holocaust survivor's story, engage in a hands-on project that remembers some of the 1.5 million children who perished in



Butterflies painted by Camp Judaea campers.

the Holocaust, including the painting of a ceramic butterfly, and visit the Margaret and Lou Schwartz Butterfly Garden. Educational discussion groups focus on inspiring participants to

build bridges of communication, understanding, and respect for all people.

The Levine Jewish Community Center is fortunate to have two Holocaust survivors whose participation in the workshops is the highlight for many participants. Suly Chenkin and Irving Bienstock have dedicated many hours to the Butterfly Project Workshops. Their stories assist in achieving the goal of the Workshops: to teach each participant to remember the past, to act responsibly in the present and to create a more peaceful future.

This past summer, Suly attended and spoke at two workshops held at Camp Judaea, a Zionist Jewish summer camp located in

Hendersonville, in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Those were Suly's first visits to a Jewish summer camp ever. Suly's story of bravery was told to more than 200 campers attending Camp Judaea, who came from places such as Florida, Puerto Rico, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia,

Tennessee, Alabama, and Israel.
The campers painted ceramic butterflies which were left at the camp for creation of its own Butterfly Project memorial. One of the campers who listened to



Suly Chenkin with an Israeli Scout from Hadera.

Suly was a young Israeli Scout from Hadera, Charlotte's sister city in Israel. In addition, Suly spoke to campers from Camp Coleman, a Reform Jewish summer camp in Cleveland, GA. Camp Coleman is also creating its own sculpture at its facilities.

Parents of middle-school children, we'd love your help in getting your children's schools involved in our workshops. For more information about the Butterfly Project, to volunteer your time, or to arrange a workshop for your school, company, organization or faith-based group, please contact Dana Kapustin, at The Butterfly Project at 704-366-6833 or butterflyproject@charlotteicc.org

The Vial of Life Program

The Levine Jewish Community Center (LJCC) is committed to healthy living as part of its mission statement. While health and wellness are at the top of almost everyone's priority list, there are times when medical care is necessary. There are also times when

that medical care requires emergency intervention. When you face a medical emergency you may be scared, anxious, in pain, confused, or unable to speak for

yourself. It is during those times that your Vial of Life will speak for you and help save precious life-saving minutes during an emergency crisis by providing emergency responders with your vital health-related information. This information will enable responders to make the appropriate emergency decisions in the administration of emergency care that will impact your treatment and ultimately, your survival.

The Vial of Life is a free community-wide program being sponsored by the LJCC and the Oasis Senior Enrichment Program in conjunction with the American Senior Safety Agency. Our Vial of Life program is being funded through a grant from the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community through the generosity of the Fay and Danny Green Endowment for the Benefit of the Charlotte Jewish

Community.

As a participant in this program, you will receive a medical form to fill out, a plastic bag in which to place your medical form, a magnet with which to attach your plastic bag to your refrigerator, and a decal which will be

placed on your front window or door for easy visibility by all emergency responders. Emergency responders are familiar with the program and will look for your decal as they

approach your home.

Protect yourself and your entire family by having a Vial of Life for every family member, including children. It could save a life especially the life of someone with a chronic illness or complex medical condition. Make extra copies of the completed form and keep it in your purse, glove compartment, wallet, briefcase, backpack, etc. Keep it updated and current. If you live alone, you may also want to consider obtaining a medical emergency alert system for your home. If you have a potentially life-threatening condition, you should also consider wearing medic-alert jewelry.

Pick up your free Vial of Life kit at the Weinberg Center at the LJCC.

For more information, contact the nurse at the Weinberg Center at 704-944-6880 or visit www.charlottejcc.org. \$\Phi\$

