



Photos by Mike Cunningham



Hustle And Bustle

These youngsters are enjoying the great variety of activities put on by the Winston Lake Family YMCA Preschool this summer. Activities included field trips, educational activities, picnics, swimming, movies and a Fiesta to top the session off.

Youngsters enjoy active summer at Winston Lake YMCA

By ROMY ALLEN
Special To The Chronicle

Summer is drawing to a close, but if you were to take a peek in the 4- and 5-year-old classroom of the Winston Lake Family YMCA Preschool, you would never know it. The activity in the classroom is constant, and the hustle and bustle of field trips and visitors is very serious business.

If you were to have peeked in the classroom in June, you would have seen many activity sessions on animals -- from dinosaurs to farm animals, from forest animals to zoo animals -- with many trips to farms, the Nature Science Center to see the dinosaurs and to woody areas to study the forest animals.

But if you were to take a closer peek, you would have seen that the real excitement was focused on the big trip to the Museum of Life and Sciences in Durham. Both young and old could appreciate all the areas of interest. Their prehistoric display is monumental. The jungle display is fabulous. The barnyard animals are funny and the reptilian creatures chilling.

There are many more points of interest, but it's time to move on to July. The best advice I can

give you is to go and check it out for yourself.

The month of July was just as exciting, with a two-week Kickoff of Nature/Science weeks. The first week of the series dealt with the "Hug-a-Tree" project, in which each child adopted and personalized their own tree. They learned all about the parts of their trees and the species. Some of the children even gave their trees a name.

The second week of the series involved the planets, stars and moons of our universe. The children learned about why there is night and day, the position of our planet earth in relationship to the sun, and that the sun is in fact a star.

The series ended with a visit to the Morehead Planetarium in Chapel Hill. Keep in mind that all through the field trips and special activities, we squeezed in time to

go swimming twice a week, the movies once a week, the Arts for Tots six-week program at WSSU, an occasional picnic at our own special places and a graduation.

Whew! Out of breath? Don't be -- because we still have August on the agenda.

Everyone thinks that just because August usually symbolizes a return to school, things should start calming down. Not here at the preschool.

During our occupations week, both the Police and Fire departments paid us visits in full uniform and gave us good tips on personal and fire safety. Once we learned about good safety practices, then it was off again.

We visited some local fast food restaurants and learned all about their operations. Naturally, when we finished the tours, we hung around and helped sample

their products. Yum, yum!

But that still wasn't enough for us hustlers and bustlers. We decided to have a picnic at a different park each week, with the grand finale at Tanglewood. That was absolutely pure fun, because we were able to play in different surroundings each week.

You ask, is that all? Well, yes and no. We've decided to take it slow and easy this last week of preschool before we all take off to our respective kindergartens. We are only going to pour up some freeze pops, prepare our guacamole, fiesta up a pinada -- all for our Fiesta!! Of course, this will take place on the very last day of preschool, so we can go off to kindergarten with a bang!

Romy Allen is a preschool teacher at the Winston Lake Family YMCA.

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Dr. L.V. Stennis

Meeting planned to form new church

The Christian Charismatic Methodist Church International Inc. will sponsor an organizational meeting Monday, Sept. 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Family Christian Center, 4111 Carver School Road.

The purpose of the meeting is to organize a local church congregation.

Bishop L.V. Stennis, chief executive officer of the organization, says: "If you believe that salvation comes through Jesus Christ, that God wants his people to live in divine health, that he wants his people to prosper, that he gives us the Holy Spirit to be our guide, then you need to be at this meeting."

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