

CAROL'S KIDS NEWS

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CAMP AT THE PREMIER SLAUGHTER LOCATION BEGINS!!!

Once again the tune of "I'm a V.I.P." spills down the hall of the Premier Schools. Therapists and children alike sing along. Yes, it's finally time for summer camp!

Applied Behavioral Concepts has revised the program from last year offering half day and full day options for kids with special needs to join in a highly structured program focusing on group instruction, fine and gross motor skills and sensory experiences.

Families began requesting camp information in January and the camp began taking registration in February.

"This year we only took few children in our older kids camp, and we did not advertise one, accepting just those we had been working with in the past." said Carol

Vancil, BCBA.

The camp has been fortunate in having staff trained and in place based on the number of registrations and have had several children join during the month. Even more children will be joining us in July.

"It is really important that our children are able to increase their language use enough to be noticeable to other professionals who share our children" said Lauren Burns, a camp leader. One mother reported her special education teacher asked her what her child was involved in this summer as his language has increased over the past two weeks.

"Applied Behavior Analysis is not Discrete Trial Therapy," said Carol Vancil, BCBA. "The techniques that are so successful involve learning through reinforcement which should be fun." Ms.

Vancil points out that only those who have had the additional training required to sit for certification or are board certified are qualified to oversee programs which use these techniques.

The Big Kids Camp is going well as well. "We learned a lot from our camp last year. This year the activities are appropriate for the kids as we know them better. I think the kids are having a really good time and so are we!" said Suzanne Roten who is leading the camp for us this year. Both camps are using the Handwriting without Tears Curriculum new to our offerings!

FAMILY GATHERING JUNE 22 3:00-5:00 AT THE WALCZAKS HOME—A SUMMER CAMP TRADITION!

Sunday, June 22, we will be gathering at the home of Jeff and Betsy Walczak to have a social time together, including a meal which features foods that are Gluten and Casein free. On the menu are typical backyard fare of hamburgers and hotdogs!

Jeff and Betsy hosted two family gatherings last year in their backyard at Hampton Cove. Last year topic presentations were a high-

light of the gatherings. The Walczaks yard is fenced and has a trampoline, gym and swing set. The patio area is covered and the event continued despite the summer pop up showers encountered last year.

To get to the home of the Walczak's, travel to the Hampton Cove Area by Cecil Ashburn Drive from Bailey Cove or over Monte Sano Mountain via Governors Drive, turning at the light (Walmart on the Right and a Publix on

the left). Travel north until you reach the subdivision entrance on your left (you will see the waterfall). Take the second left onto Treyburne. The road makes some curves to the right and then back left. You will see the back yard before you see the front door. The address is 2615 Treyburne and if you need more direction, the home number is 512-9975. We expect arrivals at 3:00pm.

APPLIED BEHAVIORAL CONCEPTS, INC. OFFERS:

- INCLUSION
- INCIDENTAL TEACHING
- DISCRETE TRIALS
- 1:1 OR 2:1 STUDENT TEACHER RATIO
- BEHAVIOR STRATEGIES
- SCHOOL OBSERVATIONS
- TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS
- THOROUGH EVALUATIONS

APPLIED BEHAVIORAL CONCEPTS ATTEND THE ABA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN CHICAGO ILLINOIS

Ms. Suzanne Roten, M.A., Carol Vancil, BCBA and Lauren Burns (Education major) flew to Chicago the last weekend in May to attend the ABA International Conference in Chicago, Illinois.

"In a field as specialized and dynamic as ABA, it is important to keep abreast of the literature and current applications and findings." said Carol Vancil. "We divided into groups to explore areas pertinent to our clients and families."

Ms. Vancil attended conferences geared toward social skills as the inclusion opportunities are so important to developing typical behaviors for later classroom development.

Ms. Roten has expressed a long time interest in teaching feeding skills and overcoming sensory texture aversions with our clients. Many children on the spectrum have limited diets. Expanding their diets is particularly helpful to the families choosing to become Gluten Free/Casien Free.

Ms. Burns, who is originally from the Chicago area, attended the conferences on toilet training and will present the information to parents at this months conference for parents.

While there was little down time for recreation, the trip was enjoyable as well as informative.

The trio flew by private plane piloted by Lauren's father into a suburb of Chicago. The women were greeted

by a stretch limo obtained by Carol's husband and taken to the Palmer House Hilton. Speaking at the hotel on their arrival was former President Clinton. The news in Chicago included information on a speaker also in town for another conference. Actress and activist Jenny McCarthy was speaking at another engagement held closer to the O'Hare airport.

While in Chicago, Lauren insisted they get some Chicago style deep dish pizza. Although they were warned by the waitress, they ordered too much! On the final day of the trip they were able to watch a Memorial Day Parade and a Hindi wedding party before taking the limousine back to the airport for the ride home!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Parent Training: June 16 6pm at the Slaughter Premier location will

be led by Lauren Burns. The topic is "Toilet Training". Please arrive early to get a chair! No reservations are needed. Any parents needing to bring their children, please let us know.

The Autism Resource Foundation offers help for families in the Huntsville area. The mission of ARF is to provide a financial and family support network. For information or to support the mission, please contact Jeff at 714-8464.

July 4, 17 and 18 both Premier Locations will be closed.

There will be no camp held on these days.

Parent Training: July 21 at 6pm at the Bradford Premier Location will be led by Suzanne Roten. The

topic is "Feeding" and is based on the information from the ABA International conference held in Chicago in May.

Making Connections Parents meetings

For information about Making Connections call Debbie Bumbika at 256-885-5959 . Childcare is available on a first come first served basis.

North Alabama Chapter of the Autism Society Held at the Jane K Lowe Center, on Lowe Circle. Child care is available. For more information call Carol Wright 256-880-1239 or visit www.autism-society.org/chapter101.

June 22 Family Gathering: 3-5 pm at the home of Jeff and Betsy Walczak

SPOTLIGHT ON JESSICA GOETZ

Jessica Goetz is originally from Clarksville, Tennessee. Her father was in the army, serving as a Chief Warrant Officer, for over twenty-five years, so she has been an army brat all of her life.

Throughout high school Jessica was very active in the school's activities as well as being academically focused. She was a member of color guard, show choir, student government, and national honor society. She was valedictorian at her high school in Enterprise, Alabama, and

attended Troy University in Dothan, Alabama on a full scholarship.

Jessica is new to the Huntsville area. She moved here with her parents in the Summer of 2007. She is currently a junior at the University of Alabama in Huntsville majoring in Elementary Education. She will do her student internship in the Spring of 2010. At UAH she is an active member in the Student Alabama Education Association where she is the current Vice President. When she is not going to school or working, she enjoys hanging out with friends. She

has been involved with young children all of her life from babysitting as a teenager to being an employee at a day care facility for two years.

Her interest to begin working with Applied Behavioral came from her love of children along with her determination to make an impact in their lives. She looks forward to the progress made each day by the children she works with. She hopes to have a large impact on the children's lives that she works with throughout her career with Applied Behavioral Concepts, Inc.