

NEWCOMERS *Resources*



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Josh is a native Charlottean and attended the former Charlotte Hebrew Academy

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Are you a newcomer to Charlotte?

Would you like to be featured in this new and growing section of *The Charlotte Jewish News*? We are looking for people who have been here less than a year who wouldn't mind answering a few questions and sitting for a photograph. Please call 704-944-6765 if you or someone you know would like to be our next Newcomer feature family.

Are you the owner or proprietor of a business that would be of interest to newcomers?

Let them know who and where you are by advertising in the new Newcomer's Resources Guide.

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Newcomers

It's easy to imagine that the diverse sports available in North Carolina might attract someone to live here, but would you believe that the "unrestricted access to Cheerwine" is among Martha Yesowitch's favorite things in Charlotte?

It wasn't just the tasty local soft drink that brought Martha, Brian and Asher here. Brian's company, International Speedway Corporation, relocated his division, MRN Radio, to Concord. Though his work has brought him across the US - the Kentucky Derby, The Breeders' Cup, the PGA, NFL Football, Coca Cola 600, top ranked boxing - his current assignment as a producer for SPRINT Vision is perfectly situated here in the heart of racing.

The Yesowitch family moved from Deland, FL, a small college town 20 miles west of Daytona Beach ("Think Davidson with palm trees," Martha says in an attempt to perfectly describe her former home). But here in Charlotte they seem to have found a comfortable place to call home.

Two-year-old Asher's needs took precedence when the family arrived here, so swimming lessons at the Levine JCC were one of the first things they signed up for. With a Masters in Library Science from the University of South Carolina, Martha also "checked out" the local libraries right away, too. "The storytimes at the South County Library and the Plaza-Midwood branch are great," she recommends.



Martha, Asher and Brian Yesowitch

The family feels that Charlotte is so great because it can be all things to all people. It can be "Long Island" if you want it to be; it can be "New England"; it can be the "Midwest." "The area seems to have grown more diverse as each new industry and trend comes to town," they say. "There is a definite method to the madness that makes Charlotte somewhat resistant to the economic difficulties the rest of the country is experiencing." Brian likes the excitement generated by the region's college sports. Martha likes how easy it has been to make friends. Asher's needs are more simple: he loves the slides at Davie Park.

Their advice to people thinking about moving to the area: "If you're interested in Jewish associations, this city has everything. Do what makes you comfortable - whether you're a Hadassah member, a softball player or a poker player - this town can accommodate all of those interests. We can tell you, you won't get bored and you certainly won't be lonely." ☆

Collaborative Mitzvah Project with JCC Oasis Senior Enrichment Program, UMAR Arts Center Students, JFS, and the McColl Center

LJCC Oasis Senior Enrichment Program participants partnered for four weeks with UMAR Arts Center adult students to paint and decoupage art boxes. These boxes were then filled with garden supplies, seeds and tools. The completed boxes were presented to the Metro School students, an inner city Charlotte school, in support of their Ceramic Sculpture Garden. The Sculpture Garden is under the artistic guidance of the McColl Center for Visual Art.

The Oasis Senior Adults really enjoyed their time with the UMAR students.

Lynn Gelper, a talented Oasis participant, and her daughter Lauren Komarczyk, helped teach the decoupage craft. They were assisted by JFS staff Bea Gibbs and Erin Goldstein.

UMAR students, under the direction of Eileen Schwartz, attend art classes at the new UMAR Arts Center in NODA. UMAR is a 25 year old agency that serves and supports the needs of developmentally disabled adults.



Oasis members with Metro School students.

The LJCC Oasis Senior Enrichment Program is a place where seniors gather daily to socialize, pursue intellectual stimulation, and participate in physical and health promotional programs. Gourmet kosher meals are prepared by a professional chef three days per week. All active, independent adults age 50+ are welcome to join.

For more information about the Oasis Senior Enrichment Program please contact Linda Bass, Senior Adult Program Director, 704-944-6735, linda.bass@charlottejcc.org. ☆