

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.

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Newcomers

Newlywed and New to Charlotte

Patrick and Laurie Dennis made the move to Charlotte December 17, one month after they were married. At ages 63 and 61, respectively, they were not happy with such monikers as "my significant other," "my partner," "my companion" and "my person." Since Pat, an Ophthalmologist, had accepted a position with the Christenbury Eye Center, a move was coming up, and they decided to go the conventional route in their new city as husband and wife. They had met on-line, always a topic of interest and surprise when people ask how they met (which will be six years in June).



Patrick and Laurie Dennis

Laurie, originally from New York, grew up on Long Island and moved from Northern Westchester to Greensboro in October 1991. A widow at age 50, she chose to stay in Greensboro where she worked at the Center for Creative Leadership. Pat, a graduate of Georgetown University Medical School, had his own practice for over twenty-five years in Kinston, NC where he raised his four chil-

dren (three of whom are simultaneously attending App State University in Boone).

The Dennises are renting a townhouse at the Colony in SouthPark and love the neighborhood and the city. Both are members of the "J." Laurie, who is recently retired, has taken mah jongg lessons and through volunteering, met new friend Gail Halverson who put her onto a wonderful ladies' golf group. The JCC has played a very welcoming part of their new life in Charlotte.

Happily married and happy in Charlotte! ☆

Homage to Fran Brown

By the LJCC Arts Committee and Students

Fran Brown has been a valued and honored member of the Levine JCC's Art Department. Fran's expertise and enthusiasm for the visual arts is evident and has rubbed off on any student who has taken a class from her. She has taught adult painting in both oil and watercolor, adult drawing, and kids and teen mixed media classes. However, her legacy will be in her uncompromising dedication to teaching the art of clay, both wheel and hand building methods for all ages. Fran's teaching includes techniques that have enlightened even the most accomplished clay artists.



Fran Brown with LJCC Arts Department Director, Aree Pearlman.

Fran has also made improvements to the ceramics studio, making it the best ceramics studio in all of Charlotte. She has enhanced the organization and functionality of the studio and even brought in

new resources such as the new Bailey hydraulic extruder. She has also successfully trained a handful of studio assistants in her detailed and strategic studio management style. Fran has been the gem of the visual arts here at the LJCC since 2004.

Fine Arts Update

The LJCC Arts Department is restructuring our program enabling us to not only meet and exceed the expectations of our current membership, but attract new members as well. The Arts Department is excited to be able to offer competitive programming and welcomes students to take a fresh look at all the LJCC arts has to offer. Students will also get a chance to meet new artists-in-residence and try new skills as well.

We will greatly miss her as she takes the next step forward in the journey of life's changes. Fran's husband has been offered a fantastic opportunity out of state and she will be moving to join him in the beginning of June.

We welcome you to check out the upcoming classes by going to www.charlottejcc.org, contacting the LJCC Front Desk 704-366-5007 or by contacting the LJCC Art Department director at aree.pearlman@charlottejcc.org. We hope that you will continue to grow your own arts talents here at the LJCC.

Please join us in wishing Fran and Tom a great new start, with good health, love and luck in their future adventures. Fran, we love you and will miss you. Thank you for all you have created here at the LJCC. ☆



A sampling of Fran's work.