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PUBLISHERS' NOTE



Celebrating Milestones and New Beginnings

Dear Neighbors,

As summer begins and another school year comes to a close, we want to take a moment to celebrate all of the graduates in our community. From kindergarten milestones to high school and college commencements, this season is filled with excitement, pride and new beginnings. Congratulations to every student and family reaching a special milestone this year....your hard work, dedication and perseverance deserve to be celebrated.

As parents of young children, we often look around this neighborhood and admire the incredible families who have raised such kind, respectful, driven and well-rounded kids. Trust us when we say that parents with younger children absolutely take notes from the neighbor friends who have already done such an amazing job navigating these years. One of the most special parts of this community is learning from and supporting one another through every stage of life.

To each graduate, enjoy this moment and embrace all that's ahead. And to the parents, congratulations to you as well. Your love, guidance, patience and

example matter more than you know. We hope this summer brings time to relax, recharge and make lasting memories with family and friends. Thank you for continuing to make this neighborhood such a special place.



EVENT THIS MONTH
Mahjong Night!
Join us Wednesday,
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IT TAKES A VILLAGE!

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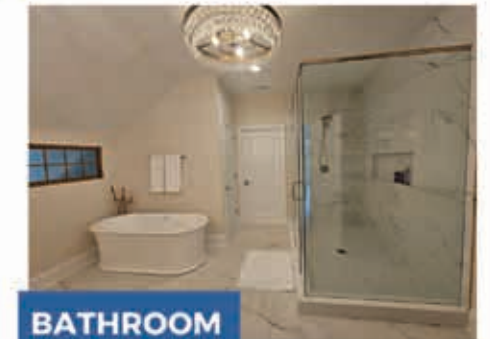
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THE Thevaos FAMILY

For the Thevaos family, life in Ballantyne Country Club is rooted in connection, adventure and a deep appreciation for both home and the wider world.

Dean and Norelle, along with their daughters Anna Grace (6) and Claire (3), have called the neighborhood home for nearly four years. “The people. Hands down,” Norelle says when asked what they love most about living here. “We have developed amazing friendships within our community. We enjoy holidays, travel, weekends and so much more with each other. They are there in good times and bad. We feel so fortunate.”

Their home is also shared with two beloved rescues—Bear, a 15½-year-old lab, and Moxie, a spirited 3-year-old schnauzer-yorkie mix (or “snorkie,” as they affectionately call her).

The couple’s story began with a bit of hesitation and a lot of fate. “We met on a blind date in January 2014,” Norelle shares. “Neither of us had ever been on a blind date, but after

much consideration we reluctantly agreed. We met for a drink and ended up talking for three hours.” A few days later came their first official date—with Dean picking Norelle up “like a gentleman”—and the rest, as they say, is history.

Today, their life is a joyful mix of family, careers and shared passions. Dean serves as a chief technology officer in the fintech space, while Norelle brings two decades of experience as a makeup artist to her business, Makeup by Norelleb, offering lessons, special event hair and makeup and more throughout the Charlotte area. Prior to motherhood, she worked with several prestigious makeup brands in corporate training and development.

At home, the family thrives on staying active and engaged. Anna Grace and Claire are busy with dance classes, tennis, soccer and swimming, while Dean and Norelle carve out time for their own interests. Norelle enjoys Barre3, tennis, Peloton workouts, reading and hosting, and has recently returned to gardening—a hobby she

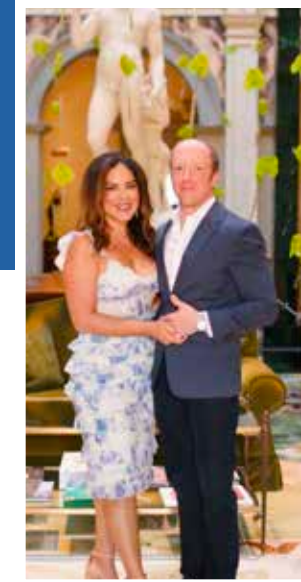
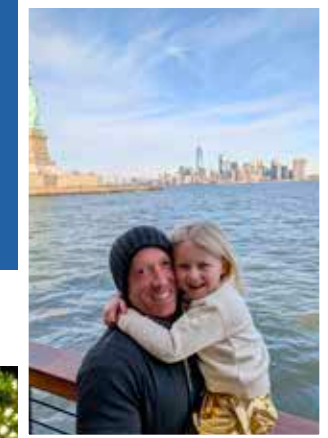


Photo by Kate Brighton Photography



first learned alongside her grandfather. Dean, meanwhile, gravitates toward the outdoors, especially fishing and time in the mountains. He’s also the family’s go-to chef, known for preparing “fantastic meals” that often bring everyone together around the table.

Travel is a central part of their family story. “Whether it’s regional or international, we prioritize traveling,” Norelle says. “It’s important to us to show our girls as much of the world as possible.” One of their most memorable trips was a two-week journey through Italy in 2025, where they explored Rome, Florence and the Portofino coast. “We really enjoyed experiencing it with our children,” she says. “We are all happiest near the water.”

Those moments on the water—especially boat days filled with good food, drinks and snorkeling—top their list of favorite travel memories. “A close second would be seeing historical places around Europe,” Norelle adds. “It’s so humbling to see how old this world really is and to experience all the beauty it has to offer.”

Back in Charlotte, the Thevaos family enjoys discovering local favorites, from Asian cuisine to neighborhood staples like Roosters, Ilios Crafted Greek and Inizio, along with city favorites like Steak 48, Supperland and The Fig Tree. At home, meals often reflect their heritage, with dishes like chicken or eggplant parmesan, pasta and Greek chicken skewers with lemon potatoes making regular appearances.

When it’s time to unwind, both Dean and Norelle turn to fitness and simple pleasures. “Walking is a favorite stress reliever for both of us,” Norelle says. “I love a hot cup of coffee and a good book—and I’m always partial to a spa treatment or a nap.” Dean prefers quiet time at home, while Norelle enjoys a balance of relaxation and small gatherings with friends.

Deeply involved in the community, Norelle participates in book club and mahjong, while both she and Dean are active in the neighborhood wine club and enjoy many of the social and family events the club offers.

At the heart of it all is a shared sense of gratitude—for their family, their travels and the friendships they’ve built right here at home. “We always joke that it will be impossible to leave,” Norelle says. “We are so grateful for this community.”

To recommend a family to be featured, please email Delia at ballantyne@strollmag.com.



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How The Echo Foundation Is Shaping Charlotte's Next Generation

BY CONTRIBUTING WRITER STACEY SCHANZLIN

“WHAT CAN ONE PERSON DO?” This is the question at the heart of The Echo Foundation, a Charlotte-based nonprofit co-founded in 1997 by Nobel Peace Laureate Elie Wiesel and educator Stephanie Ansaldo. Through several transformative programs, the organization harnesses the power of education to inspire students to become the voices of conscience, necessary to create a more just and humane world. Students confront urgent humanitarian challenges, engage with global leaders and bring critical issues to light.

Since its founding, Echo has engaged more than 750,000 students and teachers from across 195 schools, delivering 29 award-winning, student-created curricula worldwide, and connecting 42 world leaders, including 15 Nobel Laureates, with local students. It also produced the award-winning documentary *In the Footsteps of Elie Wiesel*. Echo has mentored 101 Student Ambassadors through transformative travel programs and raised more than \$8 million to support its programs and initiatives.

One of Echo's signature initiatives is Voices Against Indifference, a curriculum-based program that connects high school students with global leaders who have responded to the world's most pressing challenges. Echo's 2025 theme, *AI for Humanity*, examines the rapid rise of artificial intelligence and its influence on society. The curriculum challenges students to explore the relationship between technology and humanity, and to consider the moral implications of innovation.

Last summer, eight Echo student interns dedicated more than 1,900 hours to developing the annual curriculum that examines AI's impact on everything from education and healthcare to the arts and the economy. The program invites students to consider the ethical questions behind the innovation.

“Echo taught us that leadership doesn't have to wait until you're older,” says high school junior student intern Nandhana Ramesh. “As interns, we were trusted to do meaningful work, and that changed how I see myself and my peers.”

The curriculum continues through the nonprofit's Footsteps Global Initiative, which gives Charlotte-Mecklenburg high school students the chance to learn about humanitarian issues through an immersive mix of study, travel and service.

This year's program will take Echo Student Ambassadors across Europe, where they will meet with global leaders and connect with their peers abroad to see how global policy, justice and ethical decision-making play out in real life. Their travel culminates in their participation in the 2026 Youth Peace Summit at The Hague. They will then return to share what they learned with the Charlotte community.

“Our program teaches students that they can be compassionate leaders of tomorrow,” says Echo Foundation president Stacey Schanzlin. “Their curiosity and willingness to engage with the challenges shaping our world show what's possible when learning is sustained and student voice is taken seriously.”

Looking ahead, The Echo Foundation is already building its 2026 and 2027 student-created curriculum: *The Arts as Witness*. Through Echo's summer internship program, students will research and explore how artists have documented human suffering, resilience and hope—and how film, literature, visual art and music can challenge injustice and inspire action.

To share an article idea, email Delia at ballantyne@strollmag.com.



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The Seasonal PORCH STYLIST

Year-Round Curb Appeal

BY CONTENT ASSISTANT ANDREA POWELL



A home's curb appeal adds to the attractiveness of the neighborhood, makes your house feel inviting and helps when putting it on the market. Decorating your porch for the current season is a great way to enhance curb appeal. And an even better way is to let Christine Davies of The Seasonal Porch Stylist do it for you.

While Christine and her husband were living in Brooklyn, NY, they decided they wanted a better life for their growing family. They found Waxhaw on YouTube, came for a visit in February 2017 and "fell in love." Both in the banking industry, they quickly found positions at Wells Fargo and had moved by summer.

What began as a hobby eventually became a new career for Christine. "Growing up, my mom always did a little something for the seasons and holidays, especially around Christmas, and I guess it rubbed off on me," she explains. Her own house in

downtown Waxhaw has a huge front porch, a place where her family spends a lot of time, and it made her happy to decorate it according to the season because, "Our porch, the entryway to our home, should be as inviting as the inside." Inspired by the entrances in her husband's hometown, London, she realized, "There's no reason why our homes and businesses can't look just as amazing and welcoming in the Queen City."

Christine is the lead designer; however, she is very hands-on when it comes to execution and installation. She relishes a challenge, working one-on-one with the homeowners and businesses to ensure their vision comes to life. Many of Christine's designs include elements that she handmakes, from the floral installations to the holiday garlands. These are all custom designs.

Understandably, The Seasonal Porch Stylist is busiest during the fall and going into the holidays. To best serve her clients, Christine finds that working with around 20 clients at a time is the "sweet spot." The process is simple: a consultation covers



interests, needs, budget and timeline. "Within a week, I provide an inspiration board based on their vision, and once they approve, I get to work," Christine describes. "As a designer, I always try to include an element of surprise for my clients." She encourages customers to think ahead and secure install dates as early as possible, especially since spots are limited. She tries to finalize holiday designs in July and August and fall designs in May and June, ensuring clients' needs are met and delivered exactly how they want during the busiest time of year.

Christine considers all the home's elements for her design. "I offer a very curated service," she says. "Whether you need furniture, have many stairs or desire special lighting, I want your welcome to feel exactly how you want it, season after season, right down to the door mat." Prices vary for an installation, but projects typically start at around \$1,200.

While much of her time is spent on designs in September through December, Christine loves sprucing up entryways during the spring as well. "It's a great time to wake up your porch," she notes. But an even better idea is to subscribe to her year-round service. "Our subscribers receive priority throughout the seasons, and they also receive a price break. Plus, I get to know their porch intimately." She goes on to add, "This is one of those 'I hit the easy button' decisions. I figure out what the porch needs and what you want, season after season, without you having to request it or lift a finger. I'll get to know your style and eliminate decision fatigue." The benefit to you? Throughout the year, your porch or entryway will make a welcoming statement, customized and intentional for your home.

Christine brings the "wow" factor – the seasonal foliage, the wreath, the lights, the doormat and the small details. She works with a wide variety of textures, using both real and faux elements, to create a one-of-a-kind look that elevates your entire neighborhood. If this is what you're looking for, the Seasonal Porch Stylist should be your first call.

For more information and to see a gallery of her work, visit theseasonalporchstylist.com.

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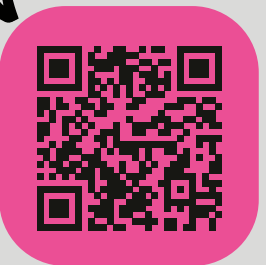
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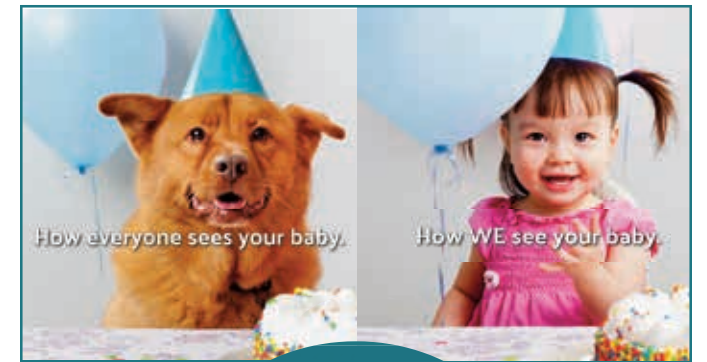
Jenny, the Shoeneck family's dog, is from Ballantyne Country Club and is a 1-year-old female poodle. This loving family got her as an entertaining addition to their family! She has her original name, meaning "Jenny" wasn't given to her by the Shoenecks.

Harry Shoeneck says, "She liked our Thanksgiving pie, so as you can tell, she is very spoiled." Jenny loves to play and is quite friendly with everyone. Jenny knows when to comfort and when to have fun while enlightening people's day. Harry also mentions that "she is a strong dog through her personality and in strength, but she can be goofy in some moments."

Jenny helps the sun shine through on hard days in the Shoeneck household. She loves exploring the mountains and also has a passion for playing fetch.

Overall, Jenny is affectionate and smart, while being silly, which makes her a fantastic addition to a family like the Shoenecks.

To recommend a pet to be featured, please email Delia at ballantyne@strollmag.com.



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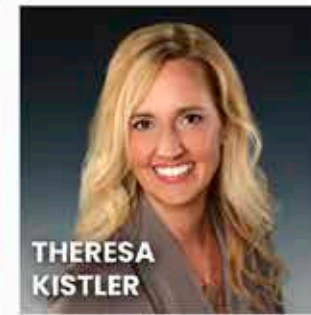
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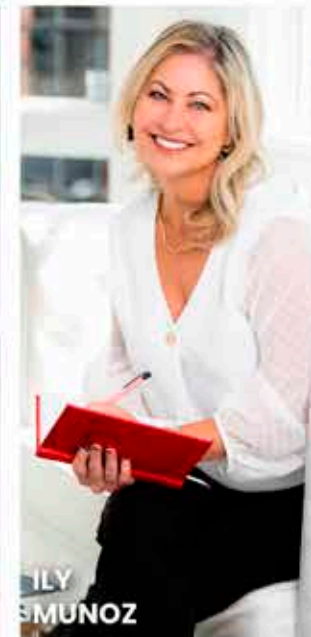
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The Elegance of Travel

The new golden age of yachting

BY SHELLEY AND ALBERTO BENITEZ, CO-FOUNDERS

FOR MANY DISCERNING TRAVELERS, the most memorable journeys are no longer found on the largest ships, but aboard smaller, more refined yachts where the experience feels personal, unhurried and beautifully curated. This is the new golden age of yachting.

Unlike traditional large-ship cruising, smaller luxury yachts are designed for travelers who value privacy, space, service and access. They carry far fewer guests, creating an atmosphere that feels less like being on a cruise and more like being welcomed aboard an elegant private club at sea. The pace is calmer. The service is more intuitive. The destinations feel closer. And the overall experience is far more aligned with the way today's luxury traveler wants to see the world.

Brands such as The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection, Four Seasons Yachts, Scenic, Aman at Sea, Orient Express Sailing Yachts and Windstar Cruises are each bringing their own interpretation of yacht-style travel to the market. Some are ultra-modern and resort-like. Others are expedition-focused, wellness-driven or inspired by the romance of classic sailing. What they share is a commitment to a more intimate way of exploring.

One of the greatest advantages of sailing on a smaller yacht is access. These vessels can often reach harbors, islands and ports that larger ships simply cannot. Instead of arriving with thousands of passengers, guests may step ashore in charming seaside villages, secluded coves or smaller cultural destinations where the arrival feels effortless and authentic. In places such as the Greek Isles, French Riviera, Caribbean, Tahiti, Croatia, the Amalfi Coast or even Antarctica, this smaller scale can completely change the experience.

There is also the benefit of space. Today's luxury yachts are being designed with expansive suites, private terraces, elegant lounges, refined dining and generous outdoor decks. The Ritz-Carlton Yacht Collection brings the service language of a luxury hotel to the water, with all-suite accommodations and private terraces. Four Seasons Yachts is entering the market with a residential-style approach, emphasizing large suites, indoor-outdoor living and highly personalized service. Aman at Sea's upcoming Amangati is expected to reflect the brand's signature serenity, privacy and understated elegance, with only 47 suites.

For those who crave discovery with comfort, Scenic's Discovery Yachts offer a different expression of luxury: refined accommodations paired with expedition capability. Scenic Eclipse is known for combining an ultra-luxury yacht atmosphere with adventurous exploration, including polar itineraries and immersive destination experiences. Windstar, meanwhile, has long appealed to travelers who prefer a more relaxed, casually elegant style of small-ship sailing, with yachts carrying fewer than 350 guests and itineraries that often visit smaller ports and hidden harbors.

Then there is Orient Express Sailing Yachts, which brings a sense of European glamour and nostalgia to the sea. With the debut of Orient Express Corinthian, the legendary travel brand extends its heritage from rail to sail, offering a beautifully stylized yacht experience rooted in craftsmanship, romance and the art of the journey itself.

Another major benefit is the feeling onboard. Smaller yachts naturally create a more gracious rhythm. There are fewer crowds, fewer lines and fewer distractions. Dining feels more personal. The crew learns preferences quickly. Excursions can be more curated. Evenings feel more refined. For travelers who enjoy luxury hotels, private clubs, fine dining and meaningful cultural experiences, this

style of travel can feel far more natural than a traditional cruise.

Yachting also offers a wonderful balance of structure and freedom. Guests enjoy the ease of unpacking once while visiting multiple destinations, yet the experience never feels overly scheduled. Morning may begin with coffee on a private terrace. The afternoon may bring a swim from the marina platform, a private vineyard visit, a chef-led market tour or time in a quiet harbor. By evening, guests return to a beautifully appointed yacht where every detail has already been considered.

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BY CONTENT COORDINATOR DELIA MCMULLEN

FOR KATY BRADFIELD, real estate is more than a profession—it’s a natural extension of a life deeply rooted in Charlotte and the Ballantyne Country Club community.

A Charlotte native, Katy grew up in the SouthPark area before graduating from Charlotte Catholic High School and UNC Chapel Hill. Though she spent time away for various opportunities, she has called the area home for most of her life. For the past 22 years, she and her husband Craig have lived in Ballantyne Country Club, where they raised their two children, Ally and Connell. Their family has fully embraced the neighborhood lifestyle, participating in everything from

golf and swim team to pickleball, Bunco and countless social events with friends.

Katy’s path into real estate began in 2007 when her sister, a successful agent, encouraged her to join the industry. “I fell in love with real estate and have continued to list and sell ever since,” Katy shares. That passion has translated into lasting success, earning her recognition as a Top Producer since 2010.

Today, as part of Corcoran HM Properties, Katy is known for a highly personalized, concierge-style approach. “I strive to treat each of my clients as if they were my *only* client,” she says. Her commitment to consistent

communication, in-depth market knowledge, strong negotiation skills and innovative marketing has built a business largely driven by referrals and repeat clients, —a testament to the trust she has cultivated over the years.

Her deep connection to the community also gives her a unique advantage. Having lived, raised a family and remained actively involved in Ballantyne Country Club, Katy offers firsthand insight into the lifestyle she’s helping others buy into. “It has been a pleasure to sell many beautiful homes in our community because I know the new owners will make friends easily

here and that their families will enjoy a great lifestyle and top performing schools,” she says.

When it comes to advice for homeowners, Katy keeps it practical and focused on long-term value. She encourages residents to maintain and thoughtfully update their homes to protect one of their most important investments. For those considering selling, she emphasizes the importance of working with an experienced agent who understands the local market and can provide a clear, strategic marketing plan. “Take their advice regarding decluttering, staging and pricing,” she adds.

As Katy looks ahead, family remains at the center of it all—from celebrating her daughter Ally’s upcoming wedding to enjoying more travel with Craig, including a planned trip to Italy. She also looks forward to spending time with Craig and their son Connell at Lake Norman during the summer, making the most of time together close to home. Through every stage, both personally and professionally, her focus remains the same: building relationships, supporting clients and helping others find not just a house, but a true sense of home.

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BY CONTENT COORDINATOR DELIA MCMULLEN



At Lindsay Cadenhead Jewelry, the beauty of jewelry goes far beyond the finished piece—it’s about the experience, the intention and the life lived while wearing it.

Owner Lindsay Cadenhead has called the Charlotte area home since 2008, after growing up in rural Pennsylvania.

She met her husband here, and together they settled in Indian Land in 2016, where they’re now raising their 4-year-old son. That sense of family played a major role in shaping her business. “I started my business to be able to be more present at home, and it has been an incredible ride,” Lindsay shares.

Her pop-up jewelry business specializes in permanent jewelry and custom clasped pieces, offering clients something a little different from the traditional retail experience. Each piece is created with care, often starting as a simple idea and evolving into something deeply personal. “I love creating a gorgeous piece of jewelry from an idea,” she says.

What truly sets Lindsay apart is her commitment to both quality and experience. She



is highly intentional about the materials she uses—testing everything herself to ensure durability and comfort—and she continually refreshes her collection so clients always have access to styles that feel current, elevated and uniquely special.

That thoughtful approach extends to the way she connects with her clients. Many return again and again, drawn not just by the jewelry itself, but by the meaningful, personalized experience Lindsay creates at each pop-up event.

Her advice for those considering permanent or everyday jewelry is simple but important: choose pieces that fit seamlessly into your life. “Permanent jewelry should feel effortless,” she says. “You shouldn’t have to take it off or worry about it. Prioritize high-quality materials and styles you won’t get tired of, and don’t be afraid to layer or customize pieces to make them your own.”

At its core, Lindsay’s business is about balance—blending creativity, entrepreneurship and family life in a way that feels authentic. That balance shows up in every interaction and every piece she creates. “So many of my clients have become repeat customers and even friends,” she says. “That means everything to me.”

To follow along or find her next pop-up, connect with Lindsay on social media @lindsaycadenheadjewelry or visit lindsaycadenhead.com.

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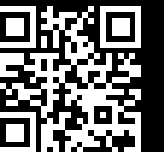
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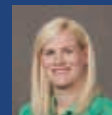
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ALIGN MAVEN WALLCOVERING

Precision, Craftsmanship and a Personal Touch

BY CONTENT COORDINATOR DELIA MCMULLEN



When it comes to transforming a space, the details matter—and for Omar Curbelo, owner of Align Maven Wallcovering, precision isn't just part of the job, it's the foundation of his work.

Originally from Cuba, Omar's journey to the Charlotte area is one defined by service and resilience. After moving to the United States in 2002, he later served in the US Marines, where he was deployed to Afghanistan. Following his recovery from injuries sustained from an IED explosion, Omar and his family settled in Pineville, where he now serves the community as a firefighter with the Charlotte Fire Department.

It was during time off from the firehouse that Align Maven Wallcovering was born. What began as general handyman work quickly evolved into a specialized craft after a client requested a wallpaper installation that exceeded expectations—and sparked a steady stream of referrals. As Omar recalls, "One of my customers wanted wallpaper on her ceiling, and the result was amazing. She recommended me, then that next person recommended me and it just took off from there."

Today, Omar focuses exclusively on wallpaper installation, bringing a meticulous, one-project-at-a-time approach that sets him apart. "No matter how small the job, I dedicate a full day to it," he shares. "It allows me to give each project the attention it deserves and ensures the highest quality result."

Clients consistently praise Omar for his communication, punctuality and clean, detail-oriented work. His process is rooted in personal connection as well; he prefers to meet clients in person for estimates to ensure accuracy and build trust from the start.



Omar Curbelo and his wife Beatriz bring a shared passion for craftsmanship to every project—often working side by side while their kids are at school.

For homeowners considering wallpaper, Omar offers simple but valuable advice: save wallpaper installation for last during renovations to avoid damage, and be cautious with peel-and-stick products, which often don't perform well on typical wall surfaces.

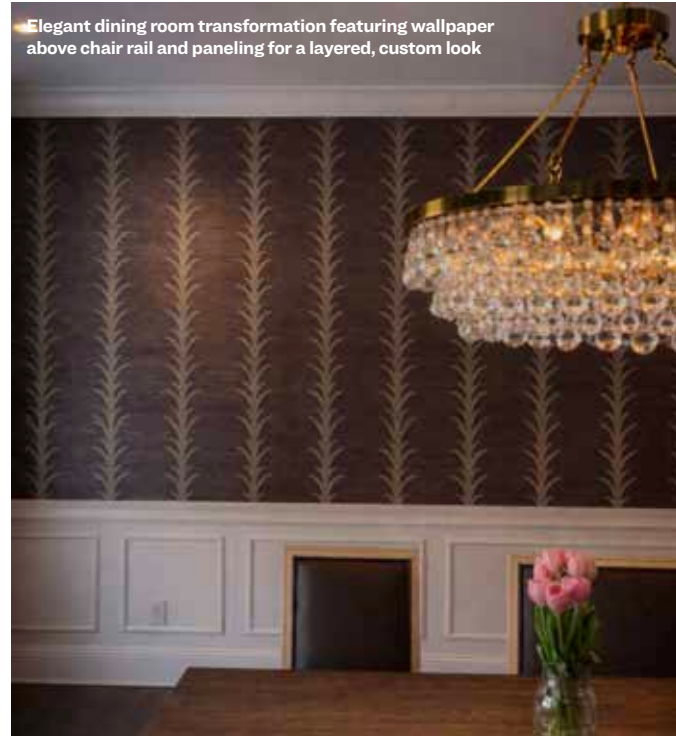
At home, Omar enjoys time with his wife, their two children and their Australian Labradoodle—and yes, pets are always welcome on the job.

With years of service still ahead both in the fire department and in business, Omar is proud to continue serving the community in more ways than one—bringing beauty, care and craftsmanship to homes across the area.

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Elegant dining room transformation featuring wallpaper above chair rail and paneling for a layered, custom look



Precision in every detail, from seamless pattern alignment to clean finishes around light switch plates



WHY HIRE A PRO FOR WALLPAPER INSTALLATION? OMAR'S ADVICE

Wallpaper can completely transform a space—but achieving that polished, magazine-worthy look often comes down to professional expertise. Omar shares why bringing in a pro is worth it:

- **Flawless finish:** Professionals know how to align patterns perfectly, eliminate bubbles and create clean seams that are nearly invisible.
- **Proper wall prep:** From repairing imperfections to priming surfaces, a pro ensures your walls are truly ready—something many DIYers overlook.
- **Material know-how:** Different wallpapers (grasscloth, vinyl, cork) require different techniques. A professional understands how to handle each one correctly.
- **Time and cost savings:** Mistakes can be expensive. Hiring an expert helps avoid wasted materials and time-consuming do-overs.
- **Tricky spaces handled with ease:** Corners, ceilings, accent walls and tight spaces are where pros really shine, delivering a seamless look throughout.
- **Long-lasting results:** Proper installation means your wallpaper will hold up beautifully for years without peeling or shifting.

Hi, I'm Omar — a full-time firefighter and wallpaper installer.

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Elevate Your Game

How Charlotte's premier fitness studio is transforming golf performance with TPI assessments

IN CHARLOTTE'S COMPETITIVE GOLF SCENE, every swing tells a story. From the rolling fairways of Quail Hollow to the private greens of Myers Park Country Club, local golfers are continually seeking a competitive edge—one that goes beyond new clubs or lessons and dives into the science of how their bodies move. At the forefront of that pursuit is a growing trend that blends elite fitness, biomechanics and athletic precision: the Titleist Performance Institute (TPI) Assessment, now offered at The Fitness Studio, Charlotte's premier private fitness studio conveniently located in Piper Glen.

This isn't just another workout or swing analysis service. The TPI methodology is the gold standard in golf performance, trusted by over 90% of professional tour players and their training teams. The system is designed to identify physical limitations that directly affect a golfer's swing—mobility restrictions, stability imbalances, strength deficiencies and movement inefficiencies

that subtly erode performance and, over time, increase the risk of injury.

At The Fitness Studio, this assessment is led by Wade Haras, a certified TPI instructor and golf performance specialist known for guiding golfers toward stronger, more efficient and painfree play. During the TPI screening, Wade walks clients through a comprehensive movement evaluation that uncovers the ways each individual body influences the mechanics of the golf swing. It's a precision driven, personalized experience that replaces guesswork with insight—showing exactly how hips, shoulders and core engagement work together to shape a player's performance.

“This is the performance blueprint trusted by tour professionals—now in Charlotte.”

—WADE HARAS

“Every golfer has a unique physical blueprint,” says Haras. “When we understand what the body can and can't do, we can design a smart, customized program to help the swing function at its best. That's the same foundation used by elite PGA professionals—just adapted for golfers here in Charlotte who take their game seriously.”

From there, Wade and his team develop a bespoke training program based on the assessment results. Some golfers work to build rotational power and core stability, while others focus on shoulder mobility, hip sequencing or balance. The workouts are fully customized, often incorporating functional movement drills, resistance systems, mobility training and sport specific strength exercises—all with the goal of improving swing efficiency, distance and control. Each TPI assessment also comes with a full swing body-connection analysis report.

The studio itself matches the caliber of its method: modern, private and deeply personalized. The quiet, appointment-only setting is tailored for high performance coaching, offering privacy and focus far beyond what's found in traditional gym environments. It's a space where Charlotte's business leaders, athletes and golf enthusiasts can train with intention—and see measurable progress on and off the course.

Clients frequently report noticeable results within weeks with longer drives, smoother tempo and renewed confidence in their body's ability to perform. Beyond performance, the program's benefits extend into overall wellbeing—improved mobility, stronger posture and fewer aches and pains translate into healthier, more enjoyable everyday movement.

As Charlotte grows into one of the Southeast's most vibrant wellness and golf destinations, The Fitness Studio is leading the way in performance innovation. The TPI Assessment, once reserved for professional athletes, is now accessible to dedicated golfers who want to optimize



their bodies with the same precision and purpose as the pros.

Golfers ready to elevate their game can schedule a TPI Assessment with Wade Haras by visiting *TheFitnessStudioCharlotte.com* or by calling 704-819-9576. Whether you're looking to gain distance, reduce pain or simply unlock your body's full potential, this is where science meets the swing—right in the heart of Charlotte's Piper Glen community, or Wade can come to you offsite. Because the real secret to a better swing isn't in the club—it's in how your body moves.

BOOK A SESSION

Golfers ready to elevate their game can schedule a TPI Assessment with Wade Haras by visiting TheFitnessStudioCharlotte.com or by calling 704-819-9576.

ABOUT THE SPECIALIST

Wade Haras, certified TPI instructor and golf performance specialist, delivers precision-based evaluations and customized training programs designed to improve swing efficiency, power and longevity. Learn more about Wade's approach.



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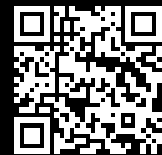
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For decades, Pineville Rug Gallery has been a trusted destination in the Charlotte area for authentic handwoven rugs, timeless craftsmanship and personalized interior design guidance. Located on Main Street in Pineville, the gallery has built a strong reputation for helping homeowners create warm, elegant spaces centered around quality pieces designed to last for generations.

Owned by Reza Elyasi, the business specializes exclusively in authentic handwoven Oriental and Persian rugs imported from overseas. Every rug in the gallery is carefully selected for its craftsmanship, artistry and uniqueness. Unlike mass-produced rugs, these pieces are handmade using techniques passed down through generations, making each one a functional work of art with its own story and character.

What makes Pineville Rug Gallery unique is not only the quality and authenticity of its inventory, but also the personalized experience clients receive throughout the design process. The gallery works closely with homeowners, interior designers, stagers and realtors to help create spaces that feel intentional, timeless and reflective of each client's personal style.

Over the years, the business has developed relationships with more than 100 interior designers and industry professionals throughout the Charlotte area. These partnerships continue to play a major role in the company's growth and expansion as the business evolves into its next chapter.

One of the philosophies that has helped define the gallery's approach to interior design is the belief that homeowners should design a room from the ground up.

"When designing the interior of a home, start from the bottom and design up," says owner Reza Elyasi. "Choose your rugs and main furniture first, then build the room around them with paint and decorative items. These rugs last generations and are meant to become part of the home itself."

As the business continues growing, exciting changes are underway. Pineville Rug Gallery recently transitioned from operating two storefronts on Main Street to focusing operations within one storefront location while expanding behind the scenes with the purchase of a warehouse on Westinghouse Boulevard. This expansion will support the launch of a new Design Division focused on strengthening collaborations with interior designers, stagers and real estate professionals across the region.

The business is also continuing to expand its partnership within the design community through involvement with the Interior Design Society of Charlotte. These relationships are helping further establish the gallery as a trusted resource for both homeowners and design professionals throughout Charlotte and beyond.

In addition to local growth, Pineville Rug Gallery serves customers nationwide and internationally through worldwide shipping capabilities. The company is also



preparing to launch a newly expanded website and upgraded online presence, making its collection more accessible to customers everywhere.

With a commitment to authenticity, quality, and thoughtful design, Pineville Rug Gallery continues to help homeowners create spaces filled with warmth, beauty and timeless character.

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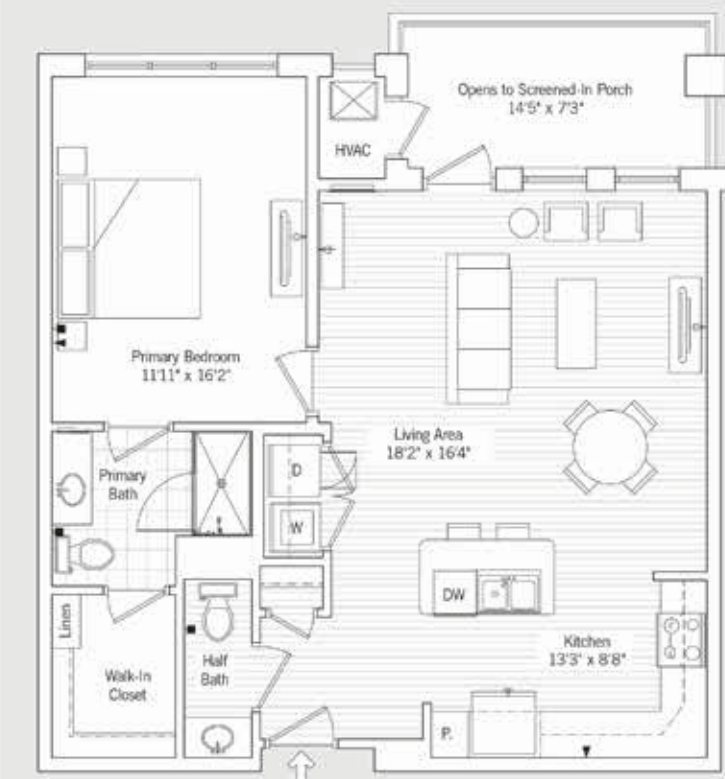
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Fertility Clinics Aren't What You Think (And That's a Good Thing)

BY DR. SETH KATZ



When people think of fertility clinics, they often picture a single path, one that feels clinical, overwhelming and centered entirely around IVF. After nearly 20 years of caring for patients in the Charlotte area, I've seen firsthand how different the reality actually is.

HERE'S WHAT I WISH MORE PEOPLE KNEW:

- **It's not just about women.** Fertility is a shared journey. Nearly 50% of infertility cases involve male factors, which is why evaluating both partners is essential. It's not about placing blame; it's about getting the full picture so we can move forward together.
- **We do so much more than IVF.** IVF is just one of many tools. In fact, a large number of patients at Reach Fertility never need it. We often see success with less invasive options like cycle management, hormone balancing and personalized treatment plans that work with your body.
- **Don't be afraid to start the conversation.** One of the most common things I hear is, "I wish I had come in sooner." There's no perfect timeline or strict criteria for seeing a fertility specialist. If you have questions or concerns, that's reason enough to begin.

- **There are no rules.** Meeting with a fertility specialist doesn't mean you're committing to treatment. It doesn't start a clock. It doesn't lock you into a plan. You're simply gathering information and exploring your options—on your timeline, at your pace.

Over the past two decades, I've had the privilege of helping individuals and couples across the Charlotte community take that first step—whether it's asking questions, finding answers or starting a path forward.

If you're thinking about your next step, I'd be honored to be part of that conversation.

Dr. Katz is a board-certified reproductive endocrinologist and the medical director at Reach Fertility.

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resident business guide

This is a current list of business owners and professionals from our neighborhood. It is an opportunity to network, qualify and potentially build a business relationship with other successful individuals who also live here. To be included in the Resident Business Guide, email your name, business name, phone number and email address to Ashley.Grimm@n2co.com.

<p>COMMERCIAL DEMOLITION Trifecta Services Inc. Karan (Sam) Shah (844) 711-3366 trifectainc.com</p>	<p>FOOD Einstein Bros. Bagels Phillip Rice (704) 840-1566 orders.einsteinbros.com</p> <p>GUN AND PAWN SHOP Beltway Gun & Pawn Scott Woller (704) 847-4181 beltwaygunandpawn.com</p>	<p>INTERIOR DESIGN AND HOME STAGING Elite Staging and Design ES Design Studio Kelly Hickman (704) 222-3634 elitestagingdesign.com</p> <p>MEDICARE INSURANCE Founders Insurance Agency Anjana Patel (704) 252-0183</p> <p>MEDSPA Younique by MK Medspa Mary Kate Walsh (704) 942-4424 youniquebymk.com</p>	<p>REAL ESTATE & BUSINESS LAW Patel & Shah Law, PLLC Ashka Shah (980) 800-9350 patelshahlaw.com</p> <p>REALTOR Charlotte Luxe Homes Ashley Horton (704) 975-5418 ashleyhorton.premiersothebysrealty.com</p> <p>HM Properties Katy Bradfield (704) 965-5968 hmproperties.com</p>	<p>Lorimer Realty Marie and Steven Lorimer (704) 516-6153 stevenlorimer.allentate.com</p> <p>WELLNESS Beyond Beauty Aesthetics Sothida Apple Berry (219) 669-9505 beyondbeauty.janeapp.com</p> <p>YARD SERVICES Charlotte Mulch Guys and More Ryan Merritt (704) 989-1554</p>
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STROLL BALLANTYNE COUNTRY CLUB IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PICTURES!

Follow us on social media! Instagram and Facebook: @strollballantynecountryclub

Stroll Ballantyne Country Club is your neighborhood publication. Break out your cameras and share your pictures with us for our July 2026 issue. Please send pictures to Delia at ballantyne@strollmag.com for our upcoming issues.

Attention Students – We are looking for Resident Reporters for Stroll BCC! Build a stronger resume and gain experience writing by joining our staff! We need students to take photos around the neighborhood and write articles on the people, places and events in our community. Please email ballantyne@strollmag.com for more info!

Here are a few suggestions for photo submissions:

- **Mother's Day** – Show us how you pampered and honored your mom!
- **Graduations** – It's time to celebrate our youths' academic achievements as they graduate to new and exciting challenges

ahead. Share your graduation photos and celebrations with us.

- **Memorial Day** – Show your patriotism! Share with us how you paid your respects to our military heroes on Memorial Day.
- **Father's Day** – Dads are special for so many reasons. Show us how you celebrated your dad!
- **4th of July and Summer Shots** – Happy birthday, America! Fireworks, flags flying, picnics and parades are favorite ways to celebrate our country's birthday. Send us your favorite Independence Day pictures and show us your best summer action photos!
- **Milestone Celebrations** – Do you or a loved one have a milestone birthday or anniversary coming up? Send us a memorable photo!
- **Weddings** – We'd love to share photos from spring and summer weddings in our community. Share

the love by sending your special wedding day pictures to us!

- **Military, Veterans and First Responders** – We'd love to honor our local heroes—please send us your article ideas or photos of Veterans to feature in our upcoming issues!
- **Family and Neighborhood Gatherings** – *Stroll Ballantyne Country Club* is all about family and community. Our favorite photos are those of kids playing, birthday parties and neighborly gatherings.
- **New to the neighborhood?** Are you and your family new to Ballantyne Country Club? If so, welcome! Please send your contact info to ballantyne@strollmag.com to be added to our email list. To submit an idea, photo or article, please email Delia at ballantyne@strollmag.com!

Please send your contact info to ballantyne@strollmag.com to be added to our email list. To submit an idea, photo or article, please email Delia at ballantyne@strollmag.com!



Please share your stories and photos with us by scanning the QR code here and tagging us on social media @strollballantynecountryclub.



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