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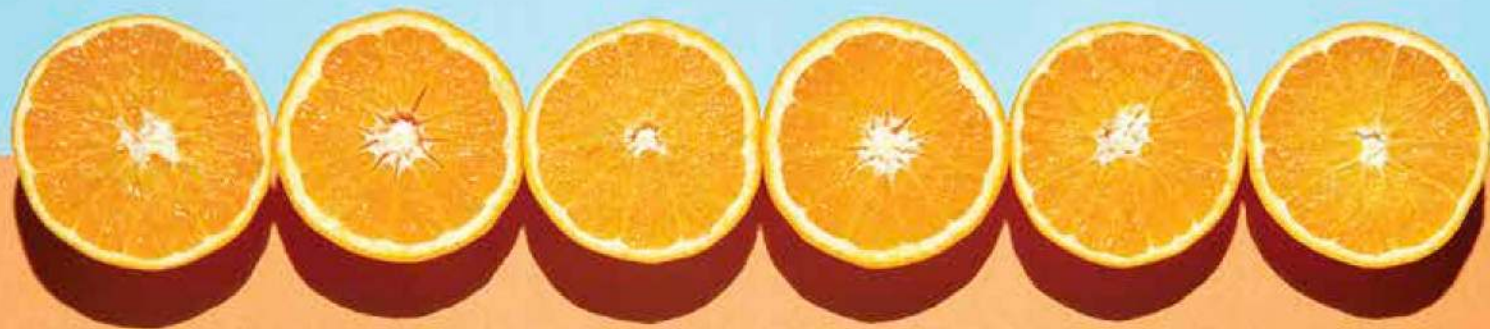
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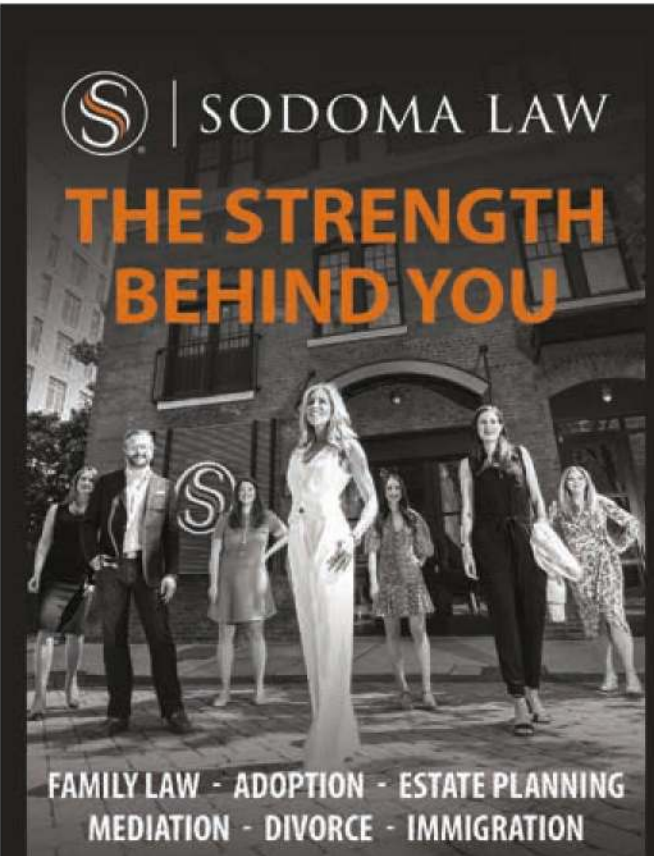
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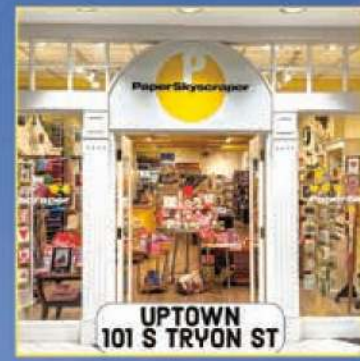


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Stroll Dilworth is your neighborhood publication. Break out your cameras and share your pictures with us for our September 2026 issues. Please send pictures to Delia at clteditor@strollmag.com for our upcoming issues.

**HERE ARE A FEW
SUGGESTIONS FOR
PHOTO SUBMISSIONS:**

Summer Camps and Vacations – Was your summer getaway incredible? Did you attend a great summer camp or mission trip? Share photos of your favorite summer memories.

Late Summer/Fall Sports – Swim team, tennis, golf and travel sports are wrapping up their seasons, while late summer conditioning for fall sports is getting underway. Whatever sport you enjoy this time of year, we invite you to share your best action shots with us.

Back to School – Shopping sprees, open houses at our community schools and cars packed for dorm room setup are sure signs it's time to return to school. Whether you are heading to graduate school or preschool, we'd like to see how you are preparing for the new school year.

Labor Day – A great weekend to get out of town one last time before the routine of another school year sets in. Show us how you made the most of this work-free weekend.

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 summer weddings in our community. Share the love by sending your special wedding day pictures to us!

Family and Neighborhood Gatherings – *Stroll Dilworth* 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 Dilworth? If so, welcome! Please send your contact info to clteditor@strollmag.com to be added to our monthly sneak peek email and event invitation list. To submit an idea, photo or article, please email Delia at clteditor@strollmag.com!



VETERANS SPOTLIGHT

As America celebrates its 250th anniversary this year, we'd love to honor the Veterans in our neighborhood.

Whether you served in wartime or peacetime, at home or abroad, we invite you to share your story, military photos (past or present) and memories of your service. Help us recognize the men and women who have served our country and inspire future generations through their stories. Email Delia at clteditor@strollmag.com!



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Where I Belong

BY CONTRIBUTING WRITER KANKU MICHELSEN

I didn't realize how disconnected I had become until I stopped moving.

For years, my life was defined by constant motion: airports, client sites, hotel rooms and different cities. I was successful by every outward measure, yet slowly losing my connection to family, friends and community. Eventually, that detachment became impossible to ignore.

I left my consulting career without a concrete plan, knowing only that I needed to stop in order to move forward.

I bought my townhouse in Dilworth in 1999. What first drew me to the neighborhood was its sense of connection. Life unfolded on sidewalks and porches rather than behind closed doors. It felt like a place where people still knew one another.

What I didn't realize then was how much I would one day need that sense of community.

After leaving my job, I found myself asking a difficult question: What's next? The structure that had defined my life was gone, replaced by uncertainty. During that season, my neighborhood became more than the place where I lived. It became an anchor.

I began walking every day. What started as a way to pass the time became a path back to myself. Familiar faces appeared. Neighbors said hello. Local coffee shops, restaurants, parks and tree-lined streets invited me to slow down and pay attention.

Over time, I realized that neighborhoods offer something we rarely talk about; they provide a sense of belonging. They remind us that our lives are connected to something larger than our work, our schedules or our accomplishments.

Whether you live in Dilworth, Myers Park, SouthPark or somewhere else entirely, perhaps the places we call home offer more than convenience or location. Perhaps they quietly hold us steady during life's transitions.

Sometimes, where you belong isn't just where you live. It's the place that helps you find your way back to yourself.

Kanku



Kanku Michelsen is a long-time resident of Dilworth and owner of Dilworth Travel, a travel agency dedicated to the place that she calls home. She can be reached at kanku.michelsen@dilworthtravel.com.

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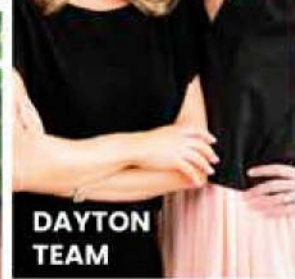
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Neighborhood Snapshots

Back-to-back champions



Dilworth Softball's 10U team had an unbelievable year, winning the Majors CharMeck Softball League for the second year in a row. The team finished 27-0, which included winning the League Championship, County Challenge tournaments and the All-Star Championship. Dilworth had a tough task of playing over 27 different teams from great softball programs around Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. Congratulations to Dilworth head coach Ryan Spencer. Go Dilworth!



To share your photos, please email Delia at clteditor@strollmag.com.

HELLO Summer!

The Summer real estate market in Charlotte is buzzing! Whether you're a first-time buyer, empty nester, buyer, or seller, I'm your advocate to help you make the right choice at the right moment. As a longtime Dilworth resident (since 1986), former mortgage broker, and real estate investor, I can evaluate your needs and help you make the best decision for you.

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Vegan Lemon Cake

"You can't believe it's plant-based!"

BY CONTRIBUTING WRITER PAMELA MAY

Recipe courtesy of lovingitvegan.com

INGREDIENTS:

For the lemon cake:

- 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups white granulated sugar
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. baking soda
- $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp. salt
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups soy or oat milk
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup canola or vegetable oil
- 1 Tbsp. distilled white or apple cider vinegar
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 3 tsp. lemon extract
- 2 Tbsp. lemon zest

For the lemon buttercream frosting:

- 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups powdered sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup plant butter
- 2 tsp. lemon extract
- 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ Tbsp. freshly-squeezed lemon juice

PREPARATION:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Spray two 8-inch cake pans with non-stick spray and line the bottoms with rounds of parchment paper. Set aside.
2. Sift the all-purpose flour into a mixing bowl and add the sugar, baking soda and salt. Then add the milk, oil, vinegar, vanilla, lemon extract and lemon zest. Whisk with hand whisk briefly until nicely combined and no big lumps remain. Don't overmix; tiny lumps are okay.
3. Place in baking pans and bake for 30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.
4. Remove the cakes and cool on wire cooling rack completely before frosting.
5. Prepare your frosting by placing all ingredients into a mixing bowl. Mix; beginning at slow speed and increasing until thick and smooth.
6. Frost and decorate with lemon zest (and blueberries, if you like)!

To share your recipe, please email Delia at clteditor@strollmag.com.



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Halloween 2025

The Areskog Family

BY RESIDENT REPORTER KANKU MICHELSEN

For Andrea and Cris Areskog, their home in Dilworth has never been defined simply by an address. It's been about finding a community where their family can flourish.

Neither Andrea nor Cris is originally from Charlotte. Cris grew up in Atlanta and graduated from the University of Georgia, while Andrea grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan, earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and later completed graduate school at UNC Chapel Hill.

Interestingly, their paths crossed on Andrea's very first night in Charlotte. When they were casually introduced through mutual friends at an Alive After Five event at the Epicentre, neither could have imagined that one evening would lead to a marriage, three children and a life rooted in one of Charlotte's most beloved neighborhoods.

The couple has called Charlotte home for many years, but their connection to Dilworth began long before they moved here. Early in their relationship, Cris lived nearby, and together they

became active members of Dilworth United Methodist Church (DUMC). As their family grew, so did their ties to the community. Their children attended DUMC's Child Development Center, and the family dreamed of one day living within walking distance of the church that had become such an important part of their lives. When the opportunity arose to move into Dilworth in late 2023, it felt like the perfect fit.

Today, their home is filled with the joyful energy of three young children. Marley, 7, is a rising second grader at Dilworth Elementary who enjoys soccer, dance, Girl Scouts, choir and spending time with friends. Julian, 5, will begin kindergarten this fall and keeps busy with soccer, taekwondo, tee-ball and choir. The youngest, Pearson, 3, starts each day "with a song in his heart" and already loves swimming and soccer. Their 11-year-old rescue dog, Blue, adopted just after Andrea and Cris returned from their honeymoon, completes their family.

CONTINUED ►



Cris and Marley before the Dragon Dance



10th anniversary in Sonoma and Napa



Areskog kids on an evening family walk



Family visiting for Easter

Professionally, both have built successful careers while remaining deeply invested in family life. Cris recently celebrated 20 years with a consumer products company, where he serves as senior sales director, while Andrea is vice president of corporate strategy and development in healthcare administration. Cris also serves on the Dilworth Elementary PTA.

Both Cris and Andrea share a mutual commitment to investing in the community they call home. At DUMC they teach Sunday school, and Cris also leads outreach efforts through Kairos Prison Ministry and volunteers with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Carolinas.

When they are not volunteering or cheering from the sidelines at a soccer game, you will likely find the Areskogs exploring Charlotte's parks and playgrounds, spending time with their friends, attending concerts and traveling. One of their favorite family traditions, however, is beautifully simple: taking evening walks through the neighborhood.

Ask Andrea and Cris what they love most about Dilworth, and the answer isn't just the walkability or the restaurants, though they appreciate both. It's the sense of belonging they have found here. As transplants without extended family nearby, they have built a life rooted in friendships, faith and shared experiences. Today, Dilworth is more than the neighborhood they call home. It is where they have put down roots, built lifelong friendships, strengthened their faith and given their children the gift of growing up in a community where neighbors become friends and belonging is part of everyday life.

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Charleston opening

CORCORAN HM Properties

TWENTY
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RELATIONSHIPS,
RESILIENCE
AND VISION

When **Valerie Mitchener** launched what would become Corcoran HM Properties in 2006, she wasn't simply opening another real estate brokerage. She was creating the kind of company she wished existed—a place centered on relationships, professional growth and a culture where agents could truly thrive. "I've always had an entrepreneurial spirit



Patty Hendrix and Valerie Mitchener

and wanted to start something from the ground up," Mitchener says. "Life kept getting in the way until I had a moment where I realized life is short. If I kept putting it off, it would never happen."

That moment came after the loss of both of her parents within two years. As a single



Valerie Mitchener

mother, she found herself reflecting on what mattered most. "Ultimately, I believe my children inspired me the most," she says. "My desire to provide for my children and be successful—not just financially but as a mom—was the biggest inspiration."

After nearly six years with a local brokerage, Mitchener partnered with agent Patty Hendrix to launch Hendrix Mitchener Properties. In 2009, she became sole owner, and HM Properties was born. Today, as Corcoran HM Properties celebrates its 20th anniversary, the company has grown from fewer than a dozen agents into one of the region's premier luxury real estate firms, with more than 150 brokers serving Charlotte, Lake Norman, the mountains, the coast and select South Carolina markets.

Along the way, there have been milestones that still stand out to Mitchener. She vividly remembers seeing the company's sign installed outside its first permanent office in Piedmont Town Center. Another defining chapter came in 2015 when she and her husband purchased (and completely renovated) the company's current headquarters on Fairview Road. "I worked closely with the architect and builder to create a space that was specifically designed for our agents and staff," she says. Since then, the company has expanded with offices in Waverly, Charleston and Wilmington, and has purchased a building in Wrightsville Beach.

As Charlotte has evolved into one of the country's fastest-growing luxury real estate markets, Corcoran HM Properties has grown alongside it while staying true to its original vision. "When we opened our doors in 2006, Charlotte's luxury market was far more localized," Mitchener explains. "Today, it is a national and increasingly international destination."



(L to R): Sheryl Hallow, Valerie, Susan May, Meredith Tomascak and Margaret Wood

The firm's response has been intentional. Investments in technology, marketing, relocation services and agent development have allowed it to serve an increasingly sophisticated clientele without sacrificing its personalized approach. "We've expanded from a small independent office while maintaining a high-touch, relationship-driven culture," she says.

Ask Mitchener what truly distinguishes the company, however, and she will talk about the people. "Culture is where we stand out," she says. "One of the things we're most proud of is that while our company has grown, our core values haven't changed."

Those values—trust, integrity, collaboration and putting clients first—extend well beyond the customer experience. "Our firm is family," she says. "Everyone is extremely supportive of each other, not just professionally but personally as well."

That collaborative spirit, she believes, gives clients a unique advantage. "Rather than competing, our agents share market intelligence, expertise and opportunities because we believe our clients benefit when the entire organization works together."

Joining the Corcoran network in 2021 marked another significant milestone, giving the company the strength of a global brand while preserving its local ownership and identity. "It wasn't about changing who we were," Mitchener says. "It was about elevating what we already did well."

While larger companies approached Mitchener about selling the company, that never aligned with her vision. "Affiliating with Corcoran was a compromise and a solution to a problem I saw coming," she says. "We receive the benefits and

resources of a global brand without any change in ownership or control."

Looking back over two decades, Mitchener says she's most proud of the company's perseverance. Launching just before the housing recession tested every aspect of the young business. "It was a struggle, but with the support of our agents and staff, we didn't give up," she recalls. "I'm so proud of the tenacity and work ethic I witnessed from my agents during this time."

She also points to the remarkable loyalty of the people around her. Many agents have remained with the firm since its earliest days, while others have spent well over a decade building their careers there. "That we have retained so many of our agents through change speaks volumes about our culture, our leadership and the relationships we've built," she says.

As Corcoran HM Properties begins its third decade, Mitchener remains focused on thoughtful growth rather than expansion for expansion's sake. "Our focus is on organic growth," she says. "We're continuing to attract exceptional agents that fit our culture and share our values."

Above all, she remains appreciative for everyone who helped turn her vision into one of the Carolinas' most respected luxury real estate companies. "As we celebrate 20 years, I want to simply say thank you," Mitchener says. "We are deeply grateful for the relationships that have shaped the last two decades, and we look forward to many more years of serving you."

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Remembering Mildred (“Milly”)

Therapy dog, beloved friend, Dilworth Elementary legend

ON JANUARY 5, the Dilworth community said goodbye to one of its most beloved members, Mildred, better known as Milly, the golden retriever whose gentle spirit touched thousands of lives.

For more than a decade, Milly faithfully served as a therapy dog at Dilworth Elementary School, where she became a comforting presence in classrooms, hallways and the front office.

Whether listening patiently as children practiced reading, greeting students with a wagging tail or simply offering quiet companionship, Milly had an extraordinary gift for making everyone feel seen, safe and loved.

Beyond the school, Milly also shared her special gift with patients and families during therapy visits to local hospitals, bringing comfort, calm and countless

smiles to people facing some of life’s most difficult moments. Wherever she went, her gentle nature and intuitive ability to connect with others made her a source of hope and healing.

School visits were always the highlight of her day. She delighted in dressing up for holidays and special events, soaking up every hug, pat and smile she received from students and staff. **CONTINUED ►**

“Milly brought magic to our neighborhood and school turning hesitant readers into powerful storytellers with her patient, listening ears. Everyone who knew Milly loved her.”

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Katie Smith with the statue of her family's beloved Milly



Even on the day she passed away, Milly spent time doing what she loved most—visiting the children who adored her.

This spring, Dilworth Elementary's graduating fifth-grade class honored Milly's remarkable legacy by gifting the school a statue in her memory, ensuring that future generations of students will know the dog who brought so much joy to its halls.

Milly may no longer walk the hallways, but her kindness, unconditional love and lasting impact will remain part of the heart of Dilworth Elementary and the many hospital rooms she brightened for years to come. She was, and always will be, one very good girl.

To have your pet featured, please email Delia at clteditor@strollmag.com.

FINANCIAL fitness

Turning Retirement Dreams Into Travel Realities

By Melissa Saleeby, CRPC®, Blue Cardinal Wealth Managing Director



One of the most rewarding aspects of retirement is the opportunity to reclaim your time and invest it in pursuits that bring joy, fulfillment, and personal growth. For many retirees, travel is not just a leisure activity but is a long-held aspiration and a central part of their vision for this next chapter of life. If traveling in retirement is on your to-do list, the following considerations can help you evaluate your options and build a strategy that supports your desire to explore the world on your financial terms.

Be strategic about timing. When it comes to retirement travel, timing matters. Many retirees choose to embark on their most ambitious trips during the early years of retirement, when physical and mental health are often at their peak. These initial years may involve longer or more frequent journeys, which can result in higher travel expenses. If this aligns with your personal goals, consider front-loading your travel budget to accommodate a more active lifestyle early on in retirement. Adjusting your financial plan to reflect this pattern can help you enjoy your adventures while maintaining long-term financial stability.

Define your travel style and preferences. Understanding your travel preferences is key to estimating costs and planning effectively. Are you envisioning short road trips to nearby destinations, extended RV road trips, or regular international travel? Each approach comes with its own financial implications. For example, domestic travel by car may be relatively affordable, while overseas trips can involve higher costs for airfare, lodging, and insurance. By clarifying the type and frequency of travel you envision, you can tailor your retirement plan to reflect realistic spending expectations and avoid surprises.

Look for ways to reduce travel expenses. Travel doesn't have to break the bank. There are many ways to reduce costs without sacrificing enjoyment. Consider renting a home or apartment if you plan to stay in one location for an extended period as this can be more economical than staying in hotels. Take advantage of your flexibility as a retiree by traveling during off-peak seasons, when prices for flights and accommodations are often lower. With a little research and planning, you can stretch your travel dollars further and make each trip more affordable without sacrificing the experience.

Review your insurance coverage. Insurance is an often-overlooked aspect of travel planning, but it can be crucial, especially in retirement. Travel insurance can provide peace of mind by covering unexpected events such as illness, trip cancellations, or lost luggage. It's also important to understand the limitations of your health insurance coverage. Medicare, for example, does not provide coverage outside the United States, and even domestic travel may require supplemental insurance depending on your provider. Reviewing your insurance needs before you travel ensures you're adequately protected wherever your journey takes you.

Retirement is a time to embrace new adventures, and travel can be one of the most fulfilling ways to do so. Consider connecting with a financial advisor to create a well-crafted financial strategy that supports your lifestyle and brings your retirement vision to life without compromising your long-term goals.



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Remodel or New Custom Home?

BY RYAN WINDT, VP OF DESIGN AT URBAN BUILDING GROUP

“SHOULD I BUILD A NEW HOME or remodel my current home?” may be the most common, yet daunting, question in residential construction today. High premiums placed on infill lots and rising costs on construction materials create a convoluted equation to determine which route is the best for your family. It’s important to know your options in order to determine what method may lead you to the best decision and ultimately add the most value to your investment in the years to come. Because we get asked this question daily, we try to help our clients evaluate the options, pros and cons to make the best value-driven decision for their families.

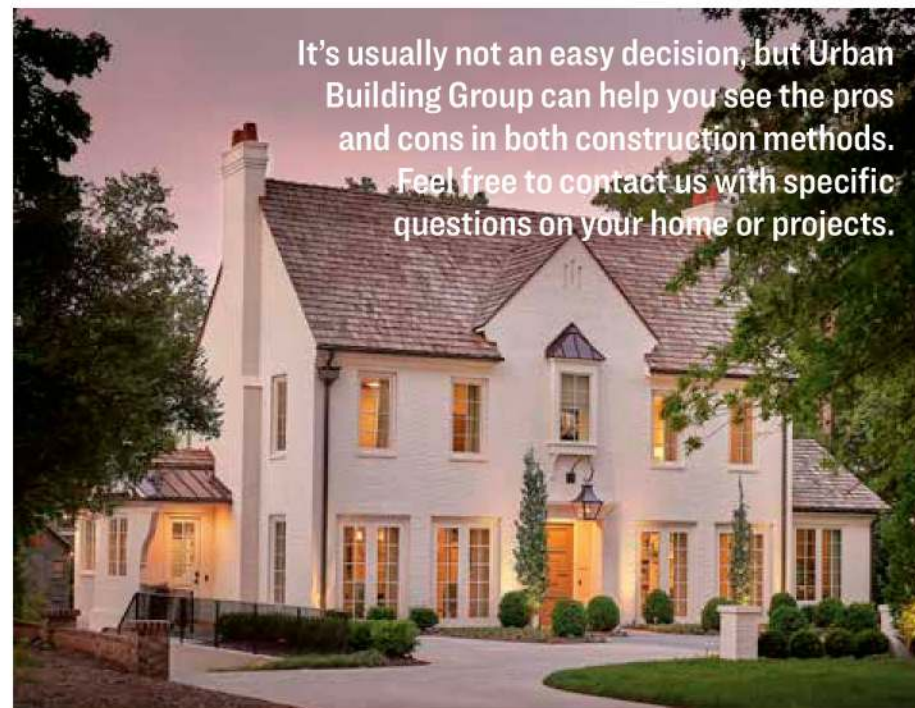
WHEN EVALUATING YOUR OPTIONS, CONSIDER:

Costs & Condition

It goes without saying a primary reason homeowners choose to remodel is there is some measurable value of the existing home. Ascertaining this value can be difficult and is highly dependent on the role the existing home plays in the new plan as well as the condition of the existing home. Generally, the larger the variance in the desired size of the new home compared to the existing home, the lower the value of the existing structure in the equation. The existing condition and type of construction on your home must also be considered before starting plans.

Location & Placement

Is the home you are considering remodeling located on your lot at the optimal spot for privacy, sun angles, views and overall lot function? If not, maybe it’s best to start new.



It’s usually not an easy decision, but Urban Building Group can help you see the pros and cons in both construction methods. Feel free to contact us with specific questions on your home or projects.

Zoning

It’s important to check your local zoning and setbacks to determine if there are any advantages or disadvantages created by remodeling or new construction. Once you tear down a structure, setback violations are not grandfathered back in for the new structure. This means you wouldn’t automatically be allowed to construct your home back where the existing one was.

Design Limitations

Working with an existing structure may save money, but it can also limit your design options. It’s important to consider how much you are saving and what, if



any, compromises may be required on the design to utilize the structure. It’s also important to note that sometimes working with the existing structure creates character that simply can’t be reproduced in a new home.

Learn more about Urban Building Group’s projects at urbanbuildinggroup.com; follow them on Instagram @urbanbuildinggroup_charlotte; Facebook – Urban Building Group or call the office at 704-307-4606 to get started with your custom home and/or renovation.

To have your business featured in an upcoming issue, please email Zane Odom at zane.odom@strollmag.com.

Building Bridges Through Education

La Paz Global’s mission to connect & inspire

BY LINDSAY LOSASSO, MANAGING DIRECTOR, LA PAZ GLOBAL

In a world increasingly shaped by division and rapid change, one nonprofit is proving that education can be a powerful force for connection. La Paz Global, founded in 2007, supports learning communities that value and promote our shared humanity.

The organization grew from a grassroots effort to help US donors support the scholarship program at La Paz Community

School, a bilingual K-12 International Baccalaureate school in Guanacaste, Costa Rica. Today, La Paz Global pursues two core priorities: providing scholarships for students from underserved communities and promoting the school’s human-centered educational practices for replication across the world.

The scholarship program’s results speak for themselves; among 96 current recipients and 36 graduates, 100% have earned their diplomas and gone on to universities, professional careers and lives of impact. One of those students is Yaritza Villegas. Growing up in rural Guanacaste with limited access to higher education, Yaritza’s trajectory changed when she entered La Paz on scholarship. She went on to earn degrees from Marymount Manhattan College and a master’s from Columbia University’s Teachers College, later serving as Director of Advancement for La Paz Global itself. Today, she has returned to her hometown to help run her family’s construction company, driving economic growth in the very community that shaped her. Her story embodies La Paz Global’s core belief: that expanding access to human-centered education creates a ripple effect, cultivating leadership, compassion and cross-cultural understanding that reaches far beyond the classroom.

That mission has found a vibrant champion in Charlotte. After her family spent the 2022–2023 school year in Costa Rica — where her four children attended La Paz Community School — local resident and La Paz Global board president Anna Anglemyer returned home inspired to stay involved with La Paz. She founded *Let’s Rock*, a Charlotte-based fundraiser featuring an evening when she and her husband Brad open their home to friends, neighbors and community leaders for music and connection. The entertainment comes courtesy of The Boat Dogs, the Anglemyers’ twin sons’ band, performing alongside their



Students and teachers gather in the school’s open-air “palenque” for their morning meeting.

Charlotte Latin classmates. Local businesses contribute through in-kind donations, and an online auction features Costa Rican vacation packages. This year, the event raised more than \$22,000 for La Paz Global, a remarkable reflection of what community-driven philanthropy can accomplish.

At its heart, *Let’s Rock* represents something larger: two communities — Charlotte, NC and coastal Guanacaste, Costa Rica — united by a shared commitment to education and human connection.



To learn more, sign up for the newsletter or support the endowment fund, visit lapazglobal.org or email donations@lapazglobal.org. Follow along on Instagram at @lapaz_global.

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Myers Park High School Celebrates 75 Years of Mustang Excellence!

BY CONTRIBUTING WRITER NICHELLE WEINTRAUB



THIS YEAR MARKS A HISTORIC milestone as Myers Park High School celebrates the 75th anniversary of its opening.

For three-quarters of a century, MPHS has been a cornerstone of academic excellence, opportunity and community in Charlotte, preparing generations of students to lead, innovate and serve with distinction. As one of the largest high schools in North Carolina, MPHS is incredibly diverse, with students represented across every socioeconomic level and speaking over 47 languages.

To commemorate this landmark anniversary, the Myers Park High School Foundation, in partnership with current principal Robert Folk, invites alumni, students, families, faculty and friends to join a week-long celebration of Mustang pride this year from September 22-26.

Throughout the week, current students will participate in activities honoring the school's rich history and traditions. All Mustangs—past and present—are encouraged to attend the Friday, September 25 home football game in Gus Purcell Stadium, where alumni recognition and reserved seating will celebrate generations of Mustangs.

A reunion celebration takes place Saturday, September 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. as alumni are invited back to the MPHS Quad on campus. Class gathering areas, school memorabilia and food available for purchase will provide the perfect setting to reconnect with classmates and revisit cherished memories.

At 4:30 p.m., the celebration continues for current MPHS families and alumni, with a ticketed program in Gus Purcell Stadium featuring music, games, food trucks, speakers, recognition of past and present students and staff and a celebration of the traditions that have defined MPHS for 75 years.



LEARN MORE

Additional event details, including ticketing and parking information, will be available in

late August. To learn more about the celebration, the Foundation's work or how you can support its mission, visit mphsfoundation.org or scan the QR code.



Founded in 2012, the MPHS Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring every Mustang has the opportunity to succeed. The Foundation funds targeted programs that improve graduation rates, expand college access and provide individualized support for more than 250 students each year through a graduation coach, a Communities in Schools student support specialist, after-school tutoring, scholarships, college visits and student wellness initiatives.

As part of the anniversary celebration, the Foundation has launched its 75th Anniversary Legacy Campaign to grow its endowment by \$2.5 million, creating permanent funding to support future generations of MPHS students.

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To share your pics, please email Delia at clteditor@strollmag.com.



NC Outward Bound School

Building unity outdoors

BY CONTRIBUTING WRITER JAY AHUJA

Every summer, North Carolina Outward Bound School (NCOBS) sends dozens of Charlotte high school students on a weeklong wilderness course called Charlotte Unity Project. While “on course,” they tote heavy backpacks, rock climb and rappel, make their own meals, employ “leave no trace” camping techniques and sleep under the stars. Perhaps most importantly, they participate in instructor-led campfire conversations about current events and important issues.

Students are chosen from a larger pool of applicants at eight CMS high schools, and they all receive full scholarships to cover course expenses and provide boots, headlamps, transportation and meals. It’s worth noting that these students typically do not know each other; as such, one of the primary goals of the course is to teach students they have much more in common than they are different, as they come to depend on each other to accomplish challenges of being out in the wilderness.

One of the first Charlotte schools to participate was Myers Park High School. Current principal Robert Folk was instrumental in initiating NCOBS’ Charlotte Unity Project more than 25 years ago, when he was assistant principal and NCOBS first got a grant from Foundation for the Carolinas to launch a pilot program.

When school starts back up in the fall, students who went on course participate in Unity Clubs led by educator advisors. They gather regularly to conceive and carry out projects that encourage unity at their schools and in their communities. Susan Pittinaro, who has been an advisor at Myers Park for four years, notes, “It would be easy to say they come back with a stronger foundation to build their self-confidence upon, but I think that occurs because they come back with a better understanding of themselves.”

Kaliyah Reed was among nine Myers Park students going on course. At East Mecklenburg High School for the send-off, Kaliyah



said she had only been cabin camping before, and she decided to go because she “wanted to try something new, get outside her comfort zone and learn new skills.”

Upon returning, Kaliyah was beaming and shared that rock climbing was her favorite activity on course, and she enjoyed getting to know others in her crew. When asked how the course changed her, she quickly replied, “I’m more patient, more open minded and more considerate.” She went on to say that she “100% recommends that other students try it.”

For more information, visit outwardbound.org/ncobs.



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The information contained herein has been obtained through sources deemed reliable by The N2 Company, but cannot be guaranteed for its accuracy. Any information of special interest should be obtained through independent verification. Supplied by Fran Miller with Dickens Mitchener

Address	Neighborhood	List Price	Sale Price	Sold Date	DOM	Beds	Baths	SqFt	Price Per Sq Ft
2317 Charlotte Drive	Dilworth	\$2,200,000	\$2,200,000	06/29/26	10	4	3.1	3,303	\$666.06
2019 Dilworth Road E	Dilworth	\$2,037,000	\$2,037,000	06/29/26	0	5	2.1	3,147	\$647.28
1529 E Worthington Avenue	Dilworth	\$1,675,000	\$1,690,000	06/25/26	2	5	4	3,437	\$491.71
1912 Dilworth Road E	Dilworth	\$1,675,000	\$1,600,000	06/23/26	82	4	3	2,802	\$571.02
1512 Ideal Way	Dilworth	\$725,000	\$784,000	06/22/26	0	3	2.1	1,707	\$459.29
416 E Park Avenue	Dilworth	\$2,140,000	\$1,985,000	06/15/26	38	5	5.1	4,661	\$425.87
661 Ideal Way	Dilworth	\$1,575,000	\$1,625,000	06/15/26	4	5	3.1	3,473	\$467.90
1818 Lennox Avenue	Dilworth	\$1,495,000	\$1,389,000	06/12/26	38	4	2	2,890	\$480.62
2501 Marshall Place	Dilworth	\$2,195,000	\$2,145,000	06/10/26	3	5	4.1	2,979	\$720.04
2204 Winthrop Avenue	Dilworth/Olmsted Park	\$925,000	\$975,000	06/10/26	2	3	2.1	1,729	\$563.91
704 E Worthington Avenue	Dilworth	\$1,500,000	\$1,460,000	06/04/26	0	4	3	2,433	\$600.08
2209 Cumberland Avenue	Dilworth	\$1,100,000	\$1,080,000	06/01/26	2	4	2	1,960	\$551.02
2005 Scott Avenue	Dilworth	\$750,000	\$725,000	05/29/26	28	3	2	1,910	\$379.58
1124 Langanore Place	Dilworth	\$2,790,000	\$2,800,000	05/28/26	2	5	4.1	5,676	\$493.31
1004 Lexington Avenue	Dilworth	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	05/21/26	0	3	2	1,857	\$700.05
2216 Springdale Avenue	None	\$1,700,000	\$1,700,000	05/20/26	5	4	3.1	3,438	\$494.47
1316 Ordermore Avenue	Dilworth	\$1,150,000	\$1,100,000	05/18/26	9	4	3.1	3,188	\$345.04
828 E Worthington Avenue	Dilworth	\$1,825,000	\$1,885,000	05/15/26	1	5	3	3,527	\$534.45
1201 Belgrave Place	Dilworth	\$2,575,000	\$2,400,000	05/15/26	36	6	4.1	4,101	\$585.22
Averages		\$1,649,053	\$1,625,263		14	4	3	3,064	\$535.63



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