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MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

- 1 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2 (This was the first census that took place while [a] Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 And everyone went to their own town to register.
- 4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.
- 8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at

night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and

> 13 Suddenly a great compa-

lying in a manger."

- ny of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,
- 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."
- 15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."
- 16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Luke 2:1-20 NIV

Merry Christmas from the staff of *Central* Mississippi Real Producers!

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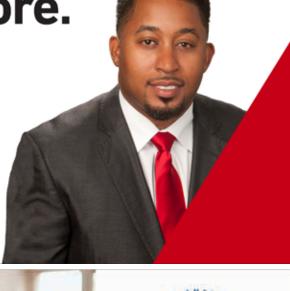
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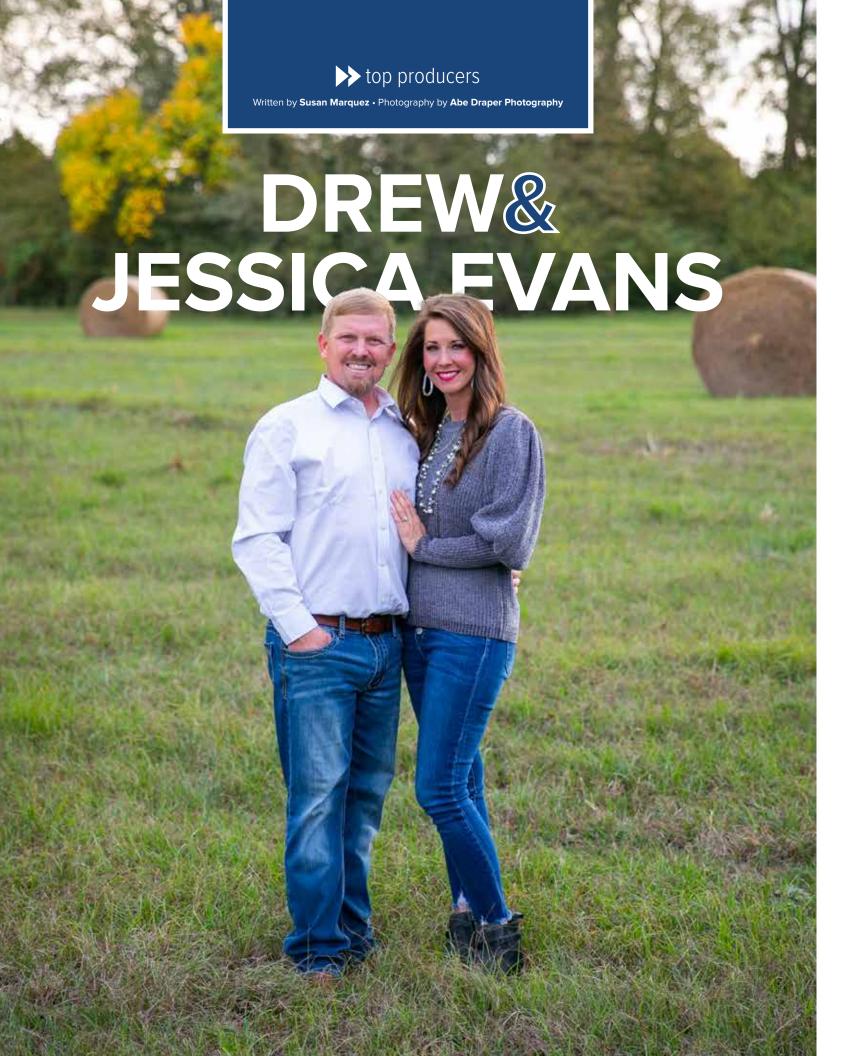








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When Drew and Jessica Evans met in the fifth grade at Oak Forest Elementary School in South Jackson, they surely never dreamed they would be in business together someday or that they would also be married and parents to four children.

After both of their families moved to Pearl in the mid-1990s, Drew and Jessica attended Pearl Public Schools. After high school, Drew and Jessica went their separate ways, becoming reacquainted again later in life. They found that spark and got married 12 years ago in February.





66 WE PUT GOD FIRST,THEN FAMILY, THEN REAL ESTATE.

Jessica worked for a local bank, ending up in the mortgage department. "I worked hand-in-hand with real estate transactions, but I didn't really understand what REALTORS® did. I liked my job, and I was comfortable knowing that I had a guaranteed paycheck and a 9-to-5 schedule." Looking for a second income, Drew and Jessica were introduced to a nutrition company called ViSalus. They did so well selling the products that Jessica was able to take a one-year sabbatical from her job at the bank. "Like any multi-level-marketing company, it began to change, and Gary Cress of The Cress Group offered me a job as his executive assistant," Jennifer says. "I give him credit for changing the direction of my career."



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Cress had a position open up in property management, and he asked Jessica if she wanted to get her real estate license and take the job. She took the online real estate course but never completed the state and national exams. By that time, Jessica and Drew found out that they were expecting their first child together. "I was 17 weeks into the pregnancy and had to be put on bed rest. I was limited in what I could do for Gary, and after the baby was born early, I decided to stay home and not return to my job at The Cress Group. Drew encouraged me and said he'd go to real estate school and work alongside me if I would complete the state and national exams."

Both Drew and Jessica got their real estate licenses in August 2015 and went to work with Nix-Tann & Associates. "Drew is the go-getter," says Jessica, who is more comfortable being the backup person. "I never thought I would be successful in real estate because I'm too much of an introvert to meet people. I told Drew if he would do the face-to-face work, I would manage it all behind the scenes." After five successful years with Nix-Tann and learning from the best brokers and friends, Walker and Becky Tann, Jessica got her broker's license in 2020, and the couple started Evans Premier Properties LLC.

"I started talking to the people I worked with in my landscaping company," recalls Drew. "Then I started talking to anyone I met, no matter where it was. I would meet someone out and about and ask if they were interested in buying or selling a home. I figured I had a 50-50 chance of them saying yes."

Drew is the "face" of the company, talking with clients and closing on sales. Jessica coordinates the closings, home inspections, working











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with the closing attorneys and everything else associated with following the transactions to the closing table. Their oldest daughter, Kayla, who is now a 21-year-old in nursing school, was a big help in the beginning, watching the younger children. "Our parents also helped, too," says Drew. Kayla has helped out in other ways with the business as well and has even completed her real estate schooling. "She wants to be a traveling nurse and sell real estate on the side," says Jessica.

•••



The Evans family enjoys being together and doing anything outside. "Drew and the boys love to deer hunt, and I love going to the beach," says Jessica. "We manage to do both." Drew says that Jessica's dream is to own a condo on the beach one day. "We are very family oriented," says Jessica. "We like to find things we can do with the kids, especially the 'first-time' experiences. We want to experience them with all of us together. We work hard to play hard."

Drew has coached all three boys in baseball and still coaches the youngest's select team. "Our All-Star team went 21 and 0," he says. "Drew is a successful baseball coach, landscaper, and now a successful REALTOR®," says Jessica.
"He has the Midas touch, and it seems all he touches turns to gold!" Jessica laughs. They recently purchased 20 acres of family land and bought a farmhouse. "We are also expanding our real estate company." Jessica currently has four REALTORS® under her in their Flowood office.

Faith is important to the Evans family as well. "We put God first, then family, then real estate," says Drew. "I give God the glory for our success. We believe in tithing first and being obedient in that. We have been richly blessed in our career and family." Jessica agrees. "We truly have been so blessed."









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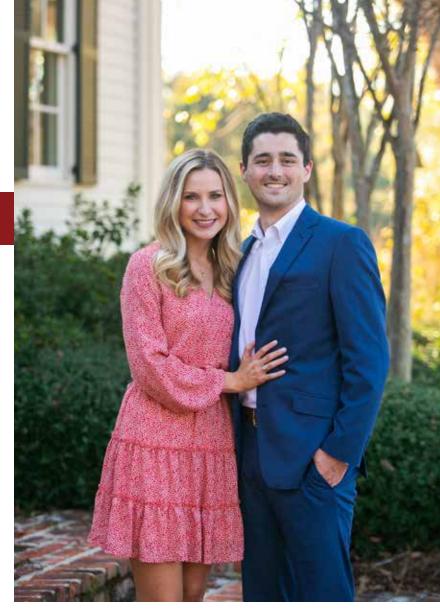




Josh Williamson is a Brandon guy, through and through. He was born and raised there. After graduating from Mississippi State University, he and his high school sweetheart, Haley, moved back to Brandon when they married in March 2021. He attended Brandon High School, while Haley attended Hartfield Academy. "We grew up in the same youth group and built a strong friendship prior to dating," Josh says.

During his senior year of high school at Brandon High, Josh participated in a work-based learning program that allowed him to gain experience in the workforce. "I was able to work for Hopper Properties





every day after school." He continued working there while he attended Hinds Community College for two years. Josh didn't realize how much he would learn about real estate by being in the room and listening to conversations in the office every day. The managing broker of Hopper Properties, Allison Palmer, played a major role in Josh pursuing a career in real estate. "I went on showings with her and saw how well she served her clients. That's what really appealed to me about the business."

Josh took the real estate course online, and by the time he started at Mississippi State, he already had his license. In 2018, Paul Hopper opened an office in Starkville and gave Josh the opportunity to be his first agent at that location. "With the help of Paul Hopper, Allison Palmer and Mary Ann Roper, I was able to sell real estate while pursuing my degree." Josh majored in business administration with a concentration in marketing, real estate and business management. He graduated from Mississippi State during "the COVID-19 semester" of 2020, with Haley just one semester behind.

• •



While his primary focus is selling residential properties, Josh says he also loves land sales. "I enjoy the outdoors, and there's something about land that is so unique." Right now, Josh says his circle of influence is young people who are getting out of college and wanting to buy their first home. "First-time homebuyers are a real driver of my business. I really love that because people will always remember buying their first home. I love being a part of that experience." Josh recently purchased his first home in Brandon, so he understands the emotional impact it can have.

Understanding that a home is the biggest investment most people will make in a lifetime, Josh wants the experience to be a memorable one. "Serving people





We have connected with so many people in our stage of life. Having that community has been so beneficial to who we are.



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and helping them purchase a home are my favorite parts of the job."

While Josh and Haley are a lot alike, they also have their differences. "She likes to shop, and I like to hunt," laughs Josh. "My family has a couple hundred acres in Attala County where we spend a lot of time." Most recently, Josh went on a pheasant hunt in South Dakota.

Aside from hunting season, weekends often include cheering for MSU and attending church on Sunday. "We love our church family at First Baptist of Jackson. We have connected with so many people in our stage of life. Having that community has been so beneficial to who we are."















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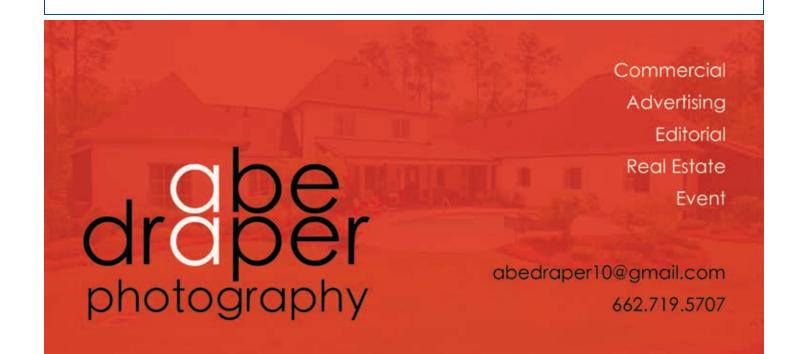
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partner spotlight

"BOBBY" MOOREHEAD

Closing Attorney Bobby Moorehead Finds Value in Real Estate While Helping Others

Written by Susan Marquez • Photography by Abe Draper Photography

You don't have to talk with Bobby Moorehead long to know that he has a servant's heart. The closing attorney's slogan is "Easy Does It," and that refers to the fact that he does all he can to make a real estate closing as easy as possible for all parties.

A Jackson native, Bobby grew up near Callaway High School. "It was a neighborhood called Presto Heights because it was close to the Presto plant. There was also Hanging Moss swimming pool, where I grew up swimming, and Vickers, now the Eton Corporation, where my father worked for 35 years." Raised Catholic, Bobby graduated from St. Joseph Catholic School in 1985. He and his wife, Bridgette, have five children, ranging from the ages of 13 through 22. "Our two oldest boys, Cullen and Liam, live in Ridgeland in a house we are currently renovating. Our oldest daughter, Farrell, is a junior at the University of Dayton in Ohio. Our youngest son, Sully, is a freshman at Mississippi State University. Our youngest daughter, Murphy, is in eighth grade at St. Joe in Madison." The family are all parishioners at St. Richard's in Jackson.

Growing up, Bobby says he always knew he wanted to be in real estate. "I loved looking at houses and noticing the details that seemed to add value to a home." Bobby's grandfather, an engineer and troubleshooter for U.S. Steel, told him he would do well in law. "That's because my brother and I could argue a point forever. I would dissect and research a subject, and I became interested and fascinated with laws and the justice system."

After graduating from St. Joe, Bobby went to the University of Mississippi, where he studied philosophy and psychology.









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He then attended law school at Mississippi College. "I knew by then that I wanted to practice real estate law. I grew up friends with D.J. Horecky's children. She was a prominent real estate attorney in Jackson, and she gave me my first opportunity to work in real estate law." It was during his time with Horecky that Bobby began to see the real value in real estate.

He then went to work for John Underwood, who taught Bobby the finer points of real estate and foreclosure law. "I learned I wasn't interested in the litigious area of the law. Real estate seemed to be more stable and more relational. As a matter of fact, I have some of the same relationships now that I made when I first started closing real estate transactions."

Considering the client's experience was always important to Bobby. So much so that when he started his practice, he hired focus groups to find out what was important to them at a closing. "That was an eye-opener, and I still remember those things to this day." While real estate law can be very repetitive to the attorneys, Bobby realizes that it's not a common occurrence for someone closing on a home. "I try to make them feel as comfortable as possible when they get here," he says. "We explain things in a way to try to put them at ease. Patience and experience help everyone at the closing table." Bobby and his assistant, Tammy Kimbrell, have been doing this for over 20 years now. "We both enjoy helping people navigate sometimes complicated transactions."

Helping a deal realize full potential is always a satisfying feeling, and Bobby has recently done just that with helping remodel the former Parker House Restaurant in Ridgeland and putting the Bike Crossing in the space. "I work to find value for friends, partners and clients, including secured transactions such as tax-free exchanges and opportunity zone deals. I can also help people who are having problems with bankruptcies hold on to their home."

Elizabeth Spell is on staff with Bobby and helps people save their homes. She has worked with bankruptcy judge Barney Eaton. "We can help people when they are having issues," Bobby says. "We help find, keep and save homes while helping folks keep and build equity." We can also help clients navigate the death of a loved one owning real estate. Through the probate process, we can help the heirs sell the real estate of the deceased."

Bobby says one thing REALTORS® need to know about him is that he is going to be here to help on a real estate deal if something comes up in the future. "I'm invested in the community. I live here. I built my office here in Ridgeland. I've got experience, and I can help navigate tricky situations. I'll sacrifice to help agents and others with their problems. Our job is to close the deal and help REALTORS® look good to













their clients. They have a hard job, and we want to do what we can to make it easier for them." With great relationships with chancery court clerks, county clerks, lenders and real estate agents, Bobby says that he works to foster communication so everyone leaves the closing with a good feeling.

"I always want to find those creative ways to put value into real estate. There are a lot of opportunities, and I see the potential. I want to help others see that value as well. I also enjoy environmental law and how the use of land can harm or help people."

Involved in the community, Bobby has served on various boards, including the Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce, The McCoy House and several different advisory boards and committees. At his kids' school, Bobby served as the St. Richards athletic director and football coach. Bobby

• •

is optimistic about the future of our state, and he is a cheerleader for the city of Jackson. "I am proud of my home city, and I am optimistic about its future. I want to say a public 'thank you' to Coach Deion Sanders, who has been a breath of fresh air here. With his help, I believe the city is destined for great positive change."













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After graduating from Lanier High School, Carla attended Hinds Community College, where she studied banking and finance. She then went to Jackson State University, where her

sole focus was on finance. After graduation, Carla went to work at Deposit Guaranty Bank in Jackson. She was content in that role, but following a divorce, Carla wanted to earn a second income. "I had a friend in real estate, and she encouraged me to give it a try," says Carla. "I was so shy, and I was sure I couldn't sell anything. But my friend took me along with her on showings, and I thought that maybe I could give real estate a try."

Carla got her license in 1990 but stayed on at the bank for another three years. "I guess you could say I eased into real estate," she says. "It was not what I had aspired to, but it's the path God wanted me to be on, so I couldn't argue with that." She went to work with James Carson at Universal Homes and Properties. "I learned so much during those three years and I gained a lot of experience."

A REALTOR® colleague of Carla's encouraged her to go to RE/MAX. "I credit most of my success to broker Alan Paterson, as well as Susan Burton Williams, RE/MAX, and Jeanie Malouf, who was my office mate there. Those ladies took me in and helped me to go above the crowd." She took the leap and left the bank to sell real estate full time. "My first year, I was a million-dollar producer, then I became a multi-million-dollar producer followed by making top salesperson in the region. It was a great experience for me, and I am so grateful for all I learned there."

Eventually, the fire of her father's entrepreneurial spirit was lit within Carla. Her time at $\ensuremath{\mathsf{RE}}/\ensuremath{\mathsf{MAX}}$ helped give Carla the confidence she needed to strike out on her own. "I got my broker's license in March 2000, and I went on my own in November 2000."

While Carla is not the CPA she thought she might be one day, she now owns a company called CPA Realty. "Our mission is to establish and maintain a proven reputation for expertise and reliability in the real estate sector." One after another, agents



began calling Carla, wanting to go to work at CPA Realty. It wasn't long before she moved from a two-room office to Kelly Dabb's old office. "I leased it for two years and kept asking Kelly to help me find a building of my own." One day Kelly said he didn't have a building, but he did have some land. Carla took a look at it and realized it would be the ideal place for her own building. Located at 1 Professional Parkway in Ridgeland, the building is Carla's pride and joy. "It was built by Laws Construction Company. They did a beautiful job."

Carla has had over 55 agents come through her brokerage over the years. "Right now, we have eight agents, three of which have been with me for over 10 years. The other five are like family as well." CPA Realty specializes in residential real estate, as well as small commercial properties that are up to 10,000 square feet.



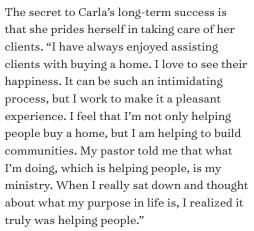














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Carla says that there is so much more to selling a house than being a REALTOR®. "I am a REALTOR® first, but at different parts of the process, I am a financial advisor, a therapist, a counselor and a friend. I must be

doing something right because I get a lot of repeat business and referrals. I am selling houses to the children of people I sold houses to years ago. That's a great feeling."

On the road back and forth to Atlanta, Carla says she loves spending time with her three grandchildren there. "My daughter is married with three little ones, and they are my joy." Carla also has a "bonus" daughter. "She came into my life when she was 2 years old, and now she is 26. It has been a blessing." Carla loves to travel, and recently she took her granddaughters on their first trip to New York to see their first Broadway show. "It was a great trip." Carla says she also enjoys shopping and scrapbooking.

Being involved in the community is an important aspect of Carla's life. She

currently serves on the board of directors of the Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce, where she served as the organization's first African American president in 2013. A member of Central United Methodist Church, Carla serves as an usher and on the church's board of trustees. Professionally she has served as president of the Women's Council of REALTORS® in 2000, the first African American president of the Jackson Association of REALTORS® in 2011, and she was named the REALTOR® of the Year for both Jackson and Mississippi in 2012. In 2003 she was named one of the Mississippi Business Journal's top 50 businesswomen.

While she is getting closer to retirement, Carla is not any less busy. She stays in shape by working out three to four times a week. "I love working out. It makes me feel better, and it gives me energy to keep on going."













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CELEBRATES

RPAC Major Investors

For more than 50 years, the REALTOR® Political Action Committee (RPAC) has promoted the election of pro-REALTOR® candidates across the United States. Local voluntary contributions made by Central Mississippi REALTORS® (CMR) help to elect candidates who understand and support the real estate industry from City Hall to Capitol Hill.

On Thursday, Oct. 27, Central
Mississippi REALTORS® celebrated the impressive support and
dedication of its 2022 RPAC Major
Investor program at its inaugural
Tailgate Tasting & Silent Auction
at the MS Sports Hall of Fame. The
sports-themed event featured guest
speakers Kathy Fowler, 2022 RPAC
Major Investor Council chair of the
National Association of REALTORS®,

and Celebrity Chef Nick Wallace. Guests also enjoyed the sounds of the Raphael Semmes Jazz Ensemble as they toured the museum and sampled bites and sips from area restaurants.

Chef Wallace, who is best known for redefining the Southern culinary experience, prepared a "Hole in the Wall" menu. REALTORS® and their guests dined on smoked chicken with garlic ramp brown butter, herb nage and natural jus; braised beef and gulf coast style tomato gravy; honey combread muffins; slow-cooked collard greens and Vidalia onion pot licker; and white chocolate bread pudding!

"CMR has a strong culture of supporting RPAC. This year, we've raised more than \$120,000, reaching 118% of our annual goal! I'm extremely grateful for the unwavering support

of our members who contribute their annual fair share and for those renewing their Major Investor commitment," said Schneika Stokes, board president.

CMR extends special thanks to the 2022 Tailgate Tasting participating restaurants: 4 Top Hospitality, Char, Basils, Georgia Blue, Green Ghost Tacos, La Brioche, Sal & Mookies, Sauce Brothers, Small Cakes, The Pig & Pint and Zea's Rotisserie.

To learn more about how Central Mississippi REALTORS® are engaging in political advocacy and raising the bar for RPAC Investment, contact CEO Nita Martin at 601-345-3100. Browse CMR's 2022 RPAC Major Investor Gallery at https://cmr.realtor/rpac/major-investors/.





















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It's A Real(Tor) Merry Christmas!

"It's not what's under the Christmas tree that matters, it's who's around it!" — Charlie Brown

We hope that you have a joyful, safe and restful season as you spend time with family, friends and work family this Christmas!

Here are just a few snapshots of Christmas — past and present — with our REALTORS®.



Aliscia Oglesbee's children Dream Home Properties Inc.



 ${\it Kim\ Nixon, Suzie\ McDowell\ and\ Ashley\ Boutot-Keller\ Williams}$



Jenny Winstead's Ornament Swap



Nell and Vic Wyatt Nell Wyatt Real Estate



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