

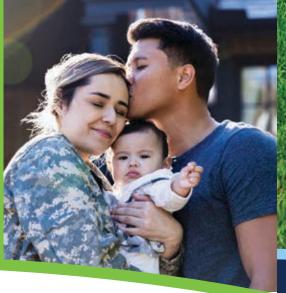
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Dear Real Producers of Charlotte,

As we emerge from another winter, it's time to start thinking about the spring real estate market. Despite the uncertainty and volatility of the past few years, there are many reasons to be positive and hopeful about what lies ahead.

Interest rates are still historically low, making it an ideal time for buyers to enter the market. Low rates can help spur demand and lead to increased competition for properties, which is great news for sellers. And even though interest rates are on the rise and can impact the real estate market, it's important to remember that they are just one factor among many. The economy, supply and demand dynamics, buyer motivation, investor demand, and local market conditions can all contribute to a robust real estate market, even in the face of rising interest rates.

The overall economy is still showing signs of strength and stability, which bodes well for the real estate market. With more people returning to work and consumer confidence on the rise, we can expect to see increased demand for homes in the coming

months. Overall, while a low-inventory market can create challenges for REALTORS®, it can also create opportunities for those who are able to adapt to the market conditions and leverage their skills and expertise to serve their clients effectively.

Moreover, there are a number of demographic trends that are driving demand for housing. As millennials continue to enter their prime homebuying years, they are driving demand for starter homes and entry-level properties. At the same time, baby boomers are looking to downsize and simplify their lives, leading to increased demand for smaller, more manageable homes.

In short, the spring 2023 selling market is shaping up to be a positive and hopeful one for real estate. With low interest rates, a strong economy, and demographic trends driving demand, there are many reasons to feel optimistic about what lies ahead. So get ready to spring into action and make the most of this exciting market!

Thank you to all of you who attended our Masquerade Sneaker Ball on March 9th! Check out photos from

the event on page 18 in this issue and on our social media pages, where you can tag yourself and your friends! Next, we're excited to gather with everyone again on May 18th for our Lawnapalooza event, which is going to be another great time together as a community. Keep an eye on your inbox for details and your exclusive invitation!

This month, we're pleased that preferred partners National Property **Inspectors, Dave Barch Heating** and Air Conditioning, and Seegars & Townsend, PLLC, have joined the Charlotte Real Producers family. Welcome!

With gratitude,

Kristin Brindlev Owner/Publisher Charlotte Real Producers 313-971-8312 Kristin@kristinbrindley.com www.charlotterealproducers.com



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NADINE MORGAN Allen Tate Realtors® My mom.



BRANDY RHEINSCHMIDT eXp Realty

Probably my best friend, Kelly. I grew up in a town where you got out of school and got a front desk job, but when I met her, she told me to get out of there and get a different job.



ELI MAGIDS Fathom Realty My dad.



JULIE WILLIAMS Southern Homes of the Carolinas My parents.



ERICA VAUGHAN Lake Homes Realty LLC My grandmother.



STEPHANIE CLINE **Belle Properties** My dad.



NATALIE RUTHERFORD Wilkinson ERA

My grandma half-raised me and she always believed in me. She always said I could be the first female president and always helped me believe in myself, no matter how hard the task. She was also a free spirit. I loved having that influence in my life. I want to live more like her. I'm really a rule follower.



JULIE NGUYEN Yancey Realty LLC

My high school boyfriend's mom. She was a single mom and put herself through real estate school, and by the time I met her, she was successful.



LISA MCCROSSAN **Ivester Jackson Distinctive Properties**

My mom because she always supported me, and when I felt like I had speed bumps in a career or relationship, she always gave me a kick in the butt.



MARTY WILCOX Lake Norman Realty Inc.

My dad, because he is invested in properties and also his entrepreneurial business, so seeing his drive and watching him as I grew up.



KOYA LAMAR Coldwell Banker Realty

My grandmother, Alberta Golden, dedicated her life to help mothers who were addicted to drugs get their lives back together for their kids.



LISA WARREN Cottingham Chalk

My father, Willard Gourley, was the most influential person in my life! Super involved in affordable housing all of his career, ending with working at Habitat until he was 82!



TRACY WANNER Yancey Realty

The most influential person in my life has always been my mom. She worked her whole life taking care of our family and never relied on a man to take care of her. She had an incredible drive to be the top salesperson at Paul Mitchell hair salons, and she taught me never to give up and always work hard, and that's what I have done my entire career.



MAEGAN GILER Viva Electric

A previous employer at my first 'big girl' job. He was a CPA turned GC who taught me, inadvertently, "How to Run a Business and Maintain a Normal Blood Pressure 101."



DAVID DIGIOIA DiGioia Realty

My mother. She has provided the best wisdom and advice! When I lost my job, she convinced me to get into real estate full-time — a passion of mine — at a very low point in my life. Today, it has paid off in spades! She taught me to follow my passion, not just a job... Changed my life!



DEBBIE MONROE Lake Norman Realty Inc.

The founder of Lake Norman Realty, James Jennings, was the most influential person in my life as he had the vision, over 45 years ago, to see what the Lake Norman Area could be.



ANITA SABATES The Allen Tate Company

My mom was certainly the most influential person in my life. She had a wonderful sense of humor and no matter what challenge came her way ... she always remained positive. I really miss her.



JESSICA BABINSKI Movement Mortgage

The most influential person in my life has been my dad. His name is Edward Warren.



PETE LAUTERER National Property Inspections

Most likely, would be my maternal grandfather, who came from a very poor and rural background. Was never afraid to try and/ or learn something new to improve himself or his family's well-being. Would always push his grandchildren to learn and to try something new. To this day, that keeps me moving forward.



VICKY MITCHENER Homeowners Impact Fund

Kathy Izard. Kathy shared her whisper, which led to her passion for working with the homeless in our community. After reading her book, "The Hundred Story Home," I felt my own nudge to start the Homeowners Impact Fund. The fund was created in 2020 and has distributed over \$330,000 to local organizations that work to lift men, women, and children out of homelessness. For years, I had felt the desire to make a difference. With Kathy's ideas, enthusiasm, and willingness to share her story, I became motivated to start the Homeowners Impact Fund.



BLAIR CREWSOld Republic Home Protection

My most inspirational person is my mother. She passed away in 2019 from a rare form of cancer. She had a huge impact on my life with her constant optimism and positive outlook on life, even through her battle. She was a middle-school teacher and had a big impact on her students' lives inside and outside of school. Still, to this day, her past students will tell me how nice of a person she was and how she was always finding ways to make their day better. That, in itself, is how I strive to live my life, making a positive impact on everyone I come in contact with. You never know what folks are going through, so if I can brighten their day just a little, then I have done my duty.











MASQUERADE SNEAKER BALL

MARCH 9, 2023

Charlotte Real Producers, you look good in luxury! Our Masquerade Sneaker Ball event on March 9th at 5555 Fairview Road in Charlotte was a smashing success! Thank you to all of our community members who were able to join in the fun that evening!

A special thank-you to our valued sponsors: Copper Builders and Shannon Rodden with Wells Fargo, and to our always-fabulous partners for making this event a big success! Thank you to Christina Ferrell of Christina Bakes **Cakes** for curating delicious food for the evening, and another big thank-you to Amber Ireland of Twist-n-Shout Balloons, to AlphaGraphics, and to DJ Dayna — your ability to create an

amazing atmosphere is unmatched. And last, but not least, thank you to the talented bartenders.

Digital, captured fantastic photos at the party while Roosterfish Media recorded the magic. You can find photos from the event on our Facebook page: Charlotte Real Producers (scan the QR code to view the gallery!). Be sure you request to join our private Top 500 group and tag yourself, along with your friends,

Our event photographer, Don Elrod, of Elrod



We look forward to seeing you at our next amazing event this summer! Be on the lookout for your exclusive invite.

For more information on all Charlotte Real Producers events, please email us at info@charlotterealproducers.com.

in the pictures!







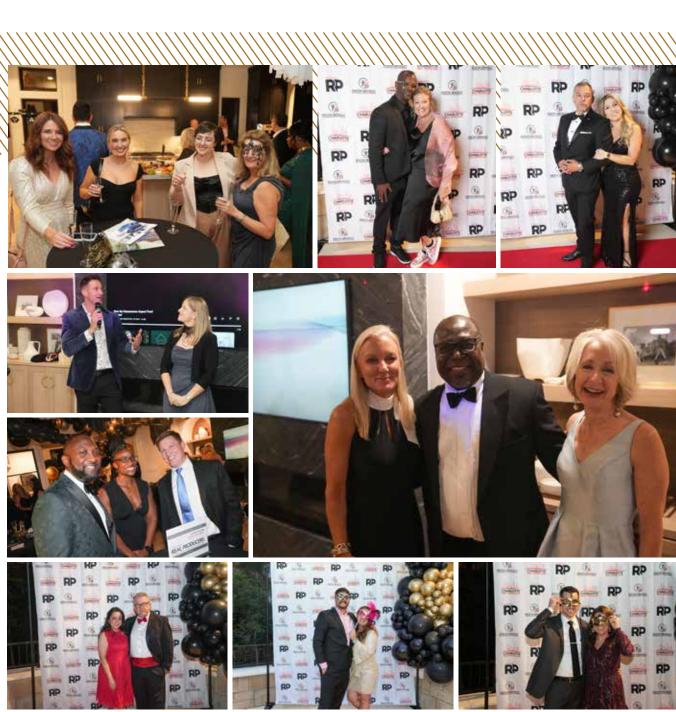












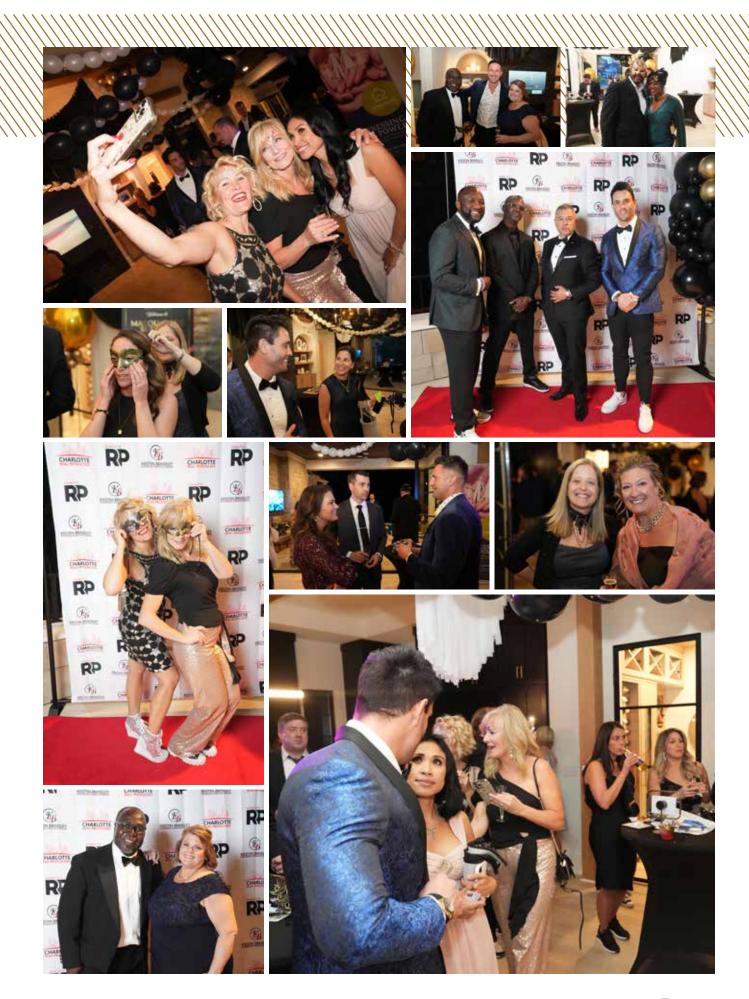


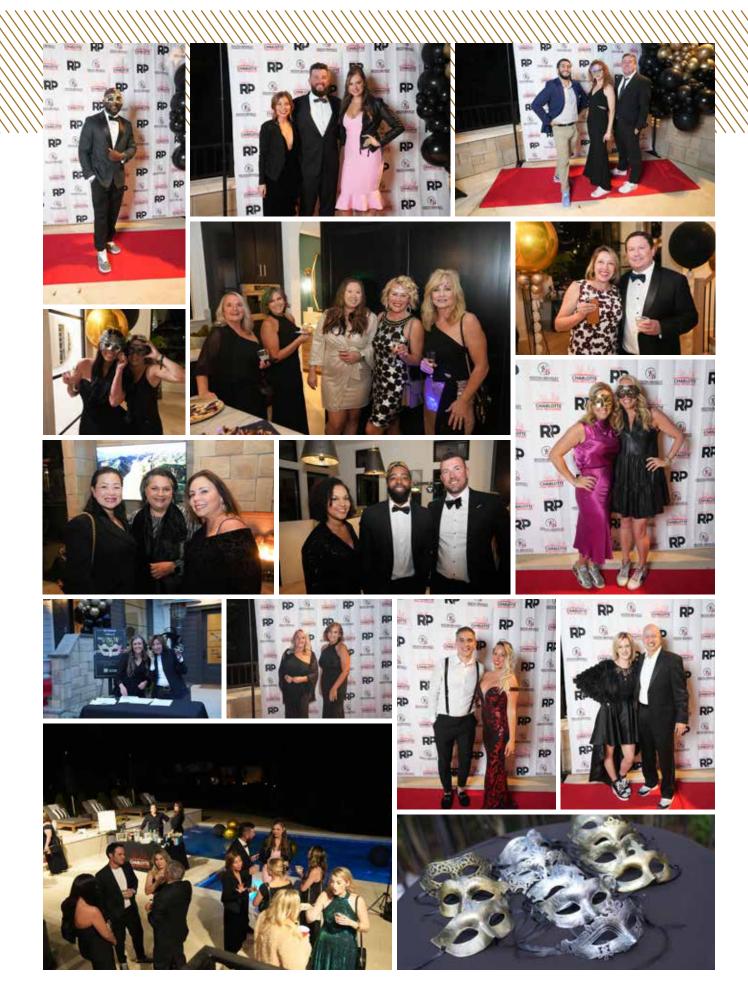
















Serving the Greater Charlotte Area









By Jess Wellar | Photos by Andrew Herman

JIMMY & MAEGAN GILER VIVA ELECTRIC

BORN INTO THE TRADE

After only five years in business, Viva Electric is dominating at providing the best in quality, consistent electrical services across North Carolina. The secret sauce? Owners Jimmy and Maegan Giler are quick to credit their other half for their fledgling company's success...

"Jimmy was first introduced to the trades right out of high school and hasn't looked back since," says Maegan. "Jimmy always talks the talk and walks the walk. As for me, my father was an electrical contractor and my grandfather was an electrician in the Navy, so we're both proud to have 'street cred' among our peers in the trade."

Jimmy is quick to echo his partner's sentiments.

"Maegan was practically born into the business.

She's the third generation in her family to be working in the trades and has nearly four decades of experience being in and around the industry... We certainly know what we are doing."





Viva started out as a luxury custom home and construction-focused electrical contracting company. But over time, the Gilers realized that working for the homeowner and exclusively providing residential electrical service is where they both excelled and was the market niche where they could provide the best level of customer support.

"We do anything electrical related that is done for an existing home, typically in one day," Maegan says. "We're in and out with quick, prompt service. No construction, no remodels, no rewiring homes. We also help REALTORS® across North Carolina with electrical inspections."

"Some services we provide include outlet switches and fixture installations, panel replacements and upgrades, EV charger installations, and whole-home generator installations and maintenance," Maegan explains.

Serving the Charlotte region, both Viva's Charlotte and Lake Norman branches are fully capable of servicing the entire metro region, from Lake Wylie to Lake Norman, Belmont to Waxhaw.

"We are licensed in both North and South Carolina as well," Maegan notes. "We have grown Viva from working out of our living room turned office in Charlotte to six physical locations now across North Carolina: Charlotte, Lake Norman, Greensboro/Winston, Raleigh, Greenville, and Wilmington."

Looking at the future of the trade, the Giler team sees the writing on the wall as baby boomers start to hang up their tool belts in droves.

"About 53 percent of skilled trade workers are over the age of 45. Almost all of them will retire in the next 20 years. As baby boomers age out of fields like electrical, HVAC, and plumbing, they'll be leaving behind a gaping void. Right now, there just aren't enough young people pursuing the trades to replace them," Jimmy points out.

Viva Electric is looking to fill that gap with a training program for ambitious youth showing an interest in the trades.

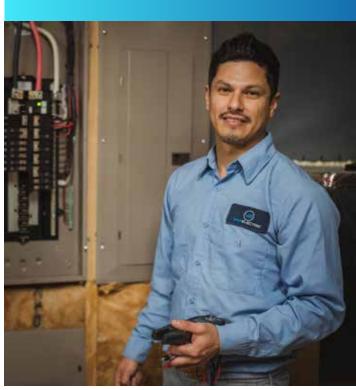
"We have a Market Leader program which takes talented individuals who demonstrate our core values, and we place them in leadership positions across our branches," Maegan says. "Our culture is very



PARTNERS IN LIFE & BUSINESS

Jimmy Giler is originally from Ecuador; Maegan, his wife and business partner, is a proud local girl, born and raised in what is now the "LoSo" area of Charlotte.

"After two decades of being together and totally having each other's backs and having gone through it all, we are a solid team," Maegan beams. "Jimmy's my high school sweetie, and he's kinda stuck with me at this point."





Along with co-owning Viva Electric with her husband, Jimmy, and serving as the company's marketing director, Maegan Giler is a founding partner of NuBlue Service Group.



important to us, and we take our core values seriously too — being hungry, humble, and smart. Our first criteria for hiring, and a number of our decisions, are based on these values."

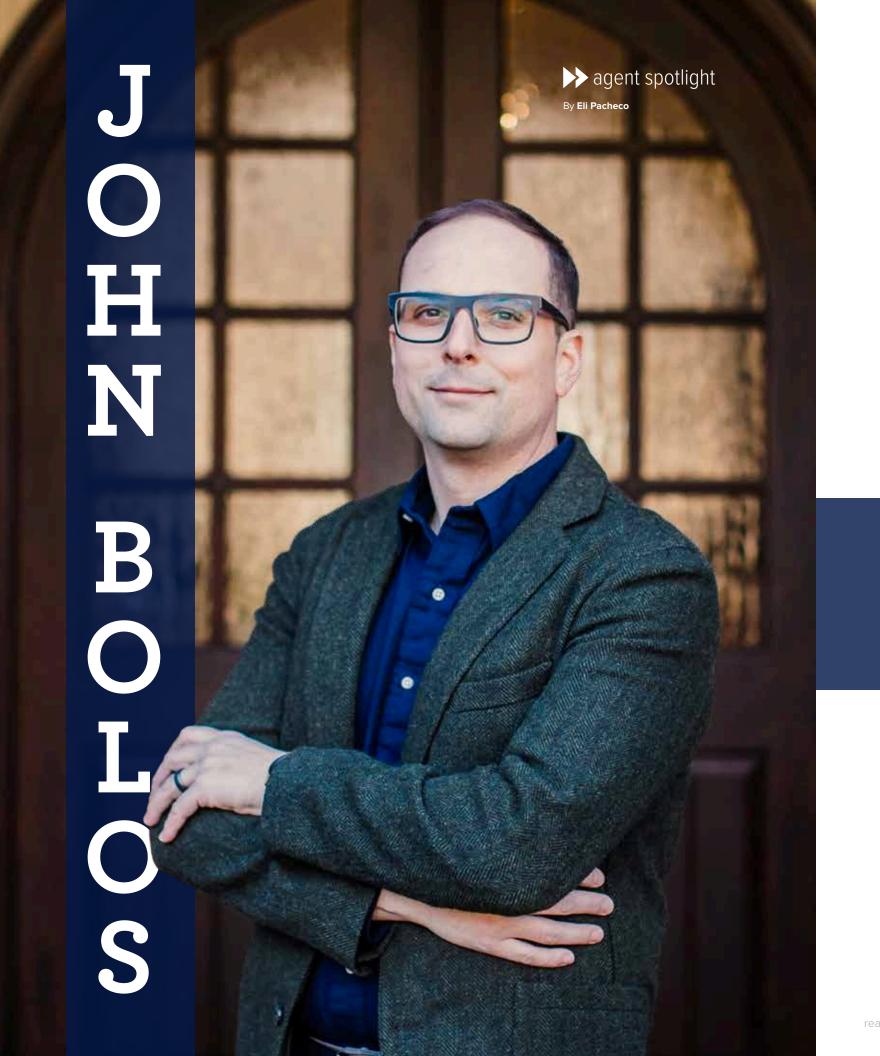
With five years under their tool belt at Viva Electric, there's no talk of resting on their laurels for the Gilers. They have an eye to continued growth and are currently rebranding the company under the NuBlue Service Group umbrella, which will allow them to handle all things HVAC and plumbing, in addition to electrical.

"We are looking to expand into South Carolina in 2023, and we have a goal of eventually having locations across all of the Southeast," Maegan says. "We are expanding our footprint ... so stay tuned!"

For more information on how Viva Electric can help you or your client today, find them online or on social at CallNuBlue.







From Zero to a Billion-Plus

From foreclosure sales to one of Zillow's first Premier Agents and owning a Century 21 franchise, John Bolos has become a high achiever and a well-recognized figure-head in the industry and in the Carolinas over the last 20 years.

Since 2003, John has honed his craft with personal service, effective marketing, and a gift for negotiating for his clients. The founder of the John Bolos Group at Keller Williams is the top-recommended agent on sites such as HomeLight, Upnest, Zillow, and more.

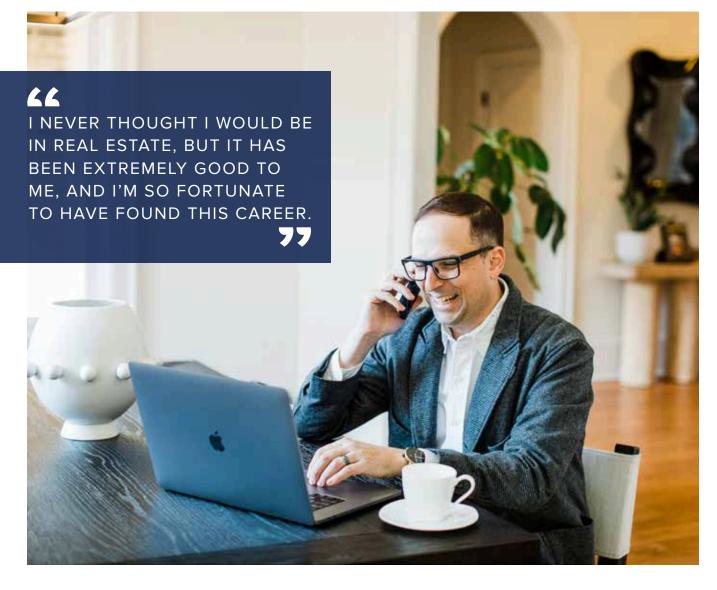
John now offers a turnkey service that streamlines the selling process. He assembled a team of specialized buyers and personally works with homeowners to help them move on to the next chapter in their lives.

He learned about the art of selling from his parents and established his own style along the way. "I always had a general knack for sales," John says. "I never thought I would be in real estate, but it has been extremely good to me, and I'm so fortunate to have found this career."

John rose to success before real estate by selling car stereos and running his own music shop — transitioning easily from booming speakers to a booming real estate market.

Columbia's number one agent in 2016 spent more than a decade working with Zillow as one of 10 Charlotte agents in a flex program. The result: huge gains and offers to buy him out.

John opened a Century 21 franchise that covered South Charlotte and Columbia. During his ownership, John brought the franchise to the number two position in Columbia and the top 5 percent nationwide within the franchise. He sold it right before the COVID-19 pandemic to focus more on building a team than running a brokerage.



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"I sold Century 21 because I'm passionate about working with people one-on-one," John says. "I wanted to be less involved in the mechanics of running a brokerage and more focused on team building and working with the consumer."

John's advice for new agents is to join a team to boost your career more rapidly and successfully. "There weren't teams like this when I started!" he says. "I latched on to someone who knew the business and received their support; I was very fortunate to have that opportunity. You can get a license but not know how to make a sale. You need to connect with the right people to get the proper training on how to generate your own business while not burning yourself out."

Trent Corbin is president and CEO of The Redbud Group at Keller Williams South Park. He met John years ago at a Zillow conference and knew they'd become friends.

"John impresses me with his willingness to roll up his sleeves to get any job done," Trent says. "He always seems to be operating on the frontier of real estate technology and processes. And he's always my first call when an opportunity arises." IT TOOK ME YEARS TO FIGURE IT ALL OUT,
AND NOW I SHARE IT WITH MY TEAM SO
THEY CAN LEARN HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL
AND CREATE A BALANCED LIFE.

77







Trent says he and John teamed up for a title company venture. The results have been positive. "He has been relentless in building that into something far beyond what I imagined it could be," Trent says.

John enjoys spending time with his wife, Angela, and their two children, Emma and Noah. They love being outdoors, hiking, and taking trips to the mountains. They also enjoy international travel and going to music events. In fact, John is a full-fledged musician with more than 15 years of piano experience and 10 years in the DJ circuit.

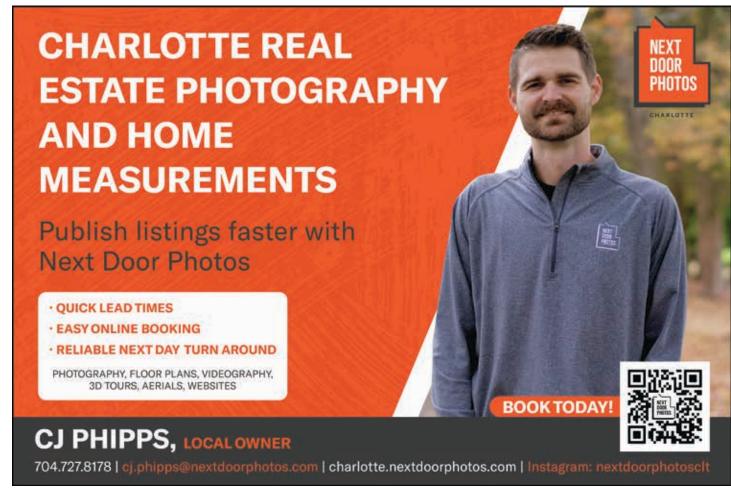
John also wants to create an environment that generates inner happiness — not only for himself but for his team. It's why balance is an important part of his team training.

"Money isn't all of it," John says. "How will you enjoy your time if you're working 80 hours a week? It's a balance of work life, personal time, family, friends, and your body. My business has given me the ability to build a team that will allow me to have a balanced life. It took me years to figure it all out, and now I share it with my team so they can learn how to be successful and create a balanced life."













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ABIGAIL

HINES MILLER ——

Abigail Hines Miller grew up around real estate, but the pandemic, along with some encouragement from her friend and former REALTOR®, finally inspired her to make the full-time leap into Charlotte real estate in 2022.

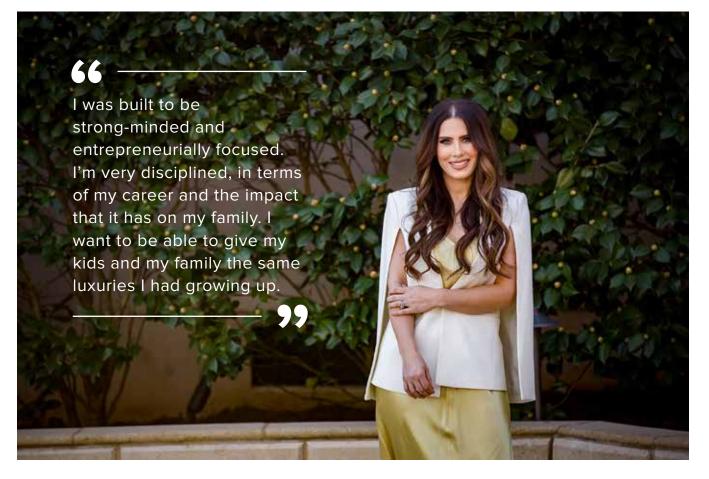
"I'd seen it from a distance, but decided to take the opportunity and jump in," Abigail says. "The pandemic kind of kick-started it because I was 90 percent remote and had two small kids, so I could kind of get my feet wet before moving on and doing it full-time."

She also had inspiration from her own home search.

"The agent who'd sold us our home in 2017, Erica Mendoza, became a good friend of mine. She'd been encouraging me to go the real estate route because she thought I'd be a good fit for the business."

Abigail's family has a history of entrepreneurship as her father has created and sold multiple million-dollar businesses, along with owning investment properties across the country. Her mother has run a commercial interior design business for more than 35 years, for which Abigail worked as a sales representative while starting up her own residential interior design business.

Abigail started her real estate career part-time at Henderson Ventures before moving to Ivester Jackson Distinctive Properties as she scaled up in 2022. She also combines her own staging and interior design business, Tailored Interiors Group, working regularly with agents in her office. She won the "Rookie of the Year" award at her former agency based on her leadership,



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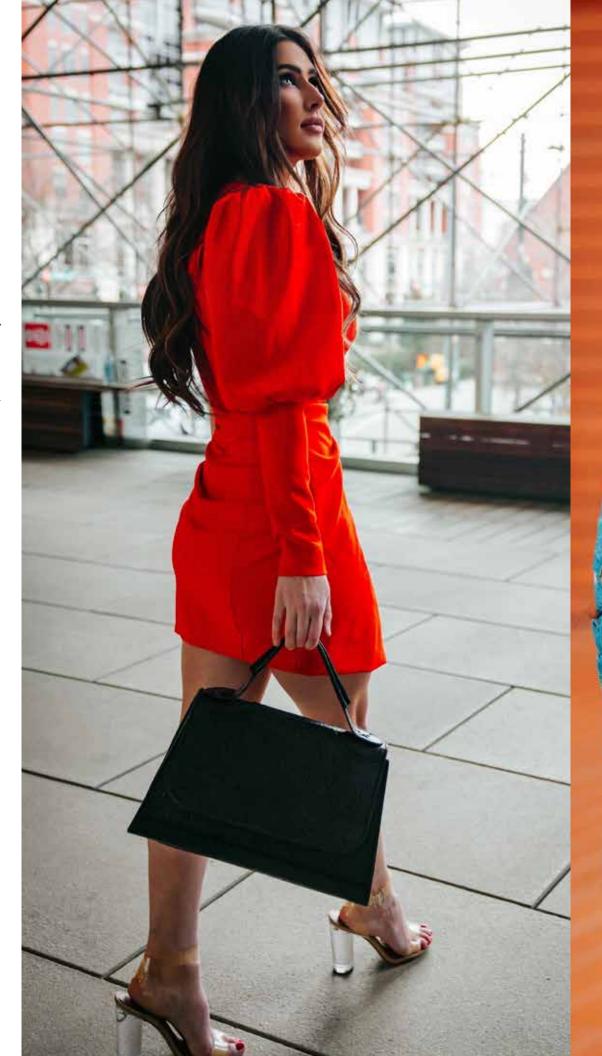
sales volume, lead generation, and bringing in new clientele. Abigail had \$5.4 million in sales last year, but, with her move to the new agency and greater familiarity with the business and the area, she projects growth to \$15 million to \$20 million in 2023.

"It's in my veins and in my blood to chase my dreams and go after big things that others might fear pursuing," she says. "I've also been given the encouragement to be outspoken, stand up for myself and what I believe in, and position myself appropriately at a high level."

That drive has served her well, according to Abigail, as she made the decision to start out on her own. It also provided her with contacts, relationships, and the skills to build them after she and her husband, Tyler, who served in the military, returned home from serving in England. Tyler's experience in sales, particularly his experience with automotive sales, has also given her perspective on what it means to provide a great client experience.

"Things that have always been very important to me are responsiveness and honesty and integrity," Abigail notes. "My husband used to work in car sales at many different levels, and it didn't matter at what price point, everyone assumes car salesmen are slimy and don't trust them. A lot of people assume anyone in sales has the mentality that they're out for themself. But I don't think there's one client I've worked with that has ever felt that way."

When she's not working on generating new business or taking care of clients, Abigail lives with her husband, Tyler, their two sons, Eli (6), and Abram (3), and their dog, Zara, who they brought home with them from abroad. Both of their families live nearby, providing Abigail and her husband opportunities to be a part of their lives even more.





along with that decision.

"I didn't know how much

how it would coincide

with my design back-

ground. The story's still

I would love it, with the





While studying communications at North Carolina State University in the early 2000s, Amy Peterson picked up part-time work at a local real estate office. Her primary goal was to gain experience and earn money while attending school, but during this period, something unexpected happened: Amy discovered a passion for real estate.

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Growing up, Amy watched her father run a family commercial construction business. Her grandmother had her real estate license, although she only used it for personal investments.

"They were inspirations to me," Amy reflects. "My dad helped inspire a passion to have my own business, and I share his drive, work ethic, and his love for people. My grandmother influenced me by introducing me to real estate. That planted a seed."

Once Amy got a taste of the real estate business, she recognized an opportunity. Her temporary job answering phones at a local office became a long and successful career.

"During that time, I realized I had a strong interest in real estate. I was excited to watch and learn from the agents in the office. I realized the business was about relationships with people and helping people. I got excited about seeing the joy these buyers and sellers would gain through a real estate transaction, and I started feeling I could see myself going in that direction too. I love one-on-one connections, I love helping people, and I have a genuine interest in homes. It seemed like a good fit."

After graduating from NC State in 2004, Amy moved back to Charlotte, where she was born and raised. She began her real estate career with Allen Tate, a company she was drawn to for its family feel, the following year.

Relationships First

Nearly 20 years later, Amy is still thriving in real estate. She remains at Allen Tate, where she's built a steady business

as an individual agent. Her assistant, Kathryn Johnson, has been by her side for the last eight years.

"Kathryn is an amazing asset to my business. Her love and dedication to serving our clients has been a blessing, and I am so grateful for her friendship and partnership," Amy says.

Amy has built her business on the relationships she

maintains. As a South Charlotte local, she's leveraged her connections and intimate knowledge of the area to create a lasting flow of business.

"My business has always been built on referrals," she explains. "When I first started, I wrote letters to anyone I could think of, five to 10 a day, and mailed them out, asking everyone I could think of, if they had a real estate need, to call me. My business started with friends and family supporting me, and then it rolled into referrals. I've never done much personal marketing."

Amy balances her relational approach with a detail-oriented, systemfocused mindset. This helps ensure she's dotting her i's and crossing her t's during every transaction.

Amy's approach has been a big success. She's closed over \$300 million in her career and over \$125 million in the last three years, including a career-best \$46.6 million in 2020. She tends to play in the luxury arena (she closed a

\$4.7 million deal in 2021 and a \$4.1 million deal in 2022) but continues to work with buyers and sellers at all price points. Most of her business lies within South Charlotte.



6699

This work brings me so much joy. I just want to continue to grow my business. I just want to take extra good care of my clients, and I want to continue building my relationships with other REALTORS®.

Faith and Family First

As grateful as Amy is for her real estate business, faith and family are her top priorities. In addition to her husband and daughters, her siblings and parents remain in the Charlotte area.

"The most important thing to me is my faith. This has been the foundation of my life from an early age, instilled in me by my mom and dad. My mom has a compassionate servant's heart, which has been another significant influence and has inspired my passion for serving and helping my clients. Second, is my husband. We grew up together and went to school together since kindergarten. We're middle school/high school sweethearts. We have a long history, and he's my best friend and number one supporter."

Amy and Jason have three daughters, Anna Merritt (11), Lucy (8), and Elizabeth (6). They recently added a new member to their family when they adopted a puppy at Christmas.





Amy Peterson and her husband, Jason, with their daughters, Lucy, Elizabeth and Anna Merritt

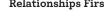
Right Where She's Meant to Be

After nearly two decades in real estate, Amy can't imagine doing anything else. Her work continues to bring her daily happiness and fulfillment.

"This work brings me so much joy. I just want to continue to grow my business. I just want to take extra good care of my clients, and I want to continue building my relationships with other REALTORS®. That's the focus. Their happiness is the most meaningful reward for me. I enjoy listening to people and hearing people's stories," Amy smiles. "I hope I'm a good example to my girls, to show them that they can find a job they love and to work hard toward their dreams."

WORDS OF WISDOM

"It's important to stay positive in this business. It's a lot of long hours, and you have to be flexible. I hope I bring joy to others when they work with me. I feel like we all have to spread joy and not lose sight of a smile and laughter. Buying a home ... people are often overstressed. If we can stay calm and positive and listen to others, that is the key to this business."



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GROUND YOURSELF

in Nature This Spring

Bridge the gap between your body and the natural world through springtime mindfulness.

By Shauna Bryant, National Editor

As T.S. Eliot reminded readers in 1922, "April is the cruellest month." Here, the famed modernist poet refers to, among other things, the liminal state between the cold and starkness of the landscape during winter and the promise of renewal and fruitfulness in spring, particularly for yesteryear's agrarian societies. However, the transitional nature of April remains difficult over a century later; the lingering pall of winter still chills our days, and serotonin and vitamin levels struggle, while the earth begins to warm and transform, impacting expectations and rhythms. How can we navigate the changing seasons in harmony with our bodies and minds? Try one of the following therapeutic techniques this month.

Forest bathing: Originating in Japan, forest bathing encourages connection to nature through our senses. Don't worry, no actual bathing is involved — rath-

er, a slow, mindful walk in nature allows the bather to focus deliberately on their surroundings, tethered to the sights and sounds of the present moment. This practice has been linked to lower blood pressure, heart rate and levels of cortisol, depression, fatigue and anxiety.

Grounding: Also called "earthing," grounding is the practice of realigning our energy with the earth's natural electric charge, supporting the body's ability to heal and regulate itself. This technique involves direct skin contact with the earth's surface (e.g., walking barefoot, lying on the sand, swimming in natural bodies of water). Grounding has been shown to reduce inflammation and chronic pain and improve blood flow, energy levels, sleep and mood.

This year, celebrate Earth Day — April 22 — by getting your feet on the earth and your head in the forest. Your health will thank you!









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TOP 200 STANDINGS

Teams and Individuals Closed Data from Jan. 1 to Feb. 28, 2023

Office

Disclaimer: Information based on Canopy MLS closed data as of March 4, 2023, for residential sales from January 1, 2023, to February 28, 2023, in the Charlotte metropolitan area. Numbers not reported to the MLS by the date the information is retrieved are not included. MLS is not responsible for submitting this data. Some teams may report each agent individually.

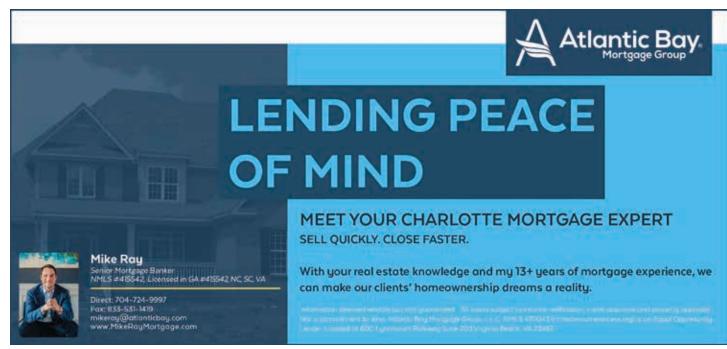
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Teams and Individuals Closed Data from Jan. 1 to Feb. 28, 2023

Rank Name Office List List Volume Sold Sell Volume Total Total \$
Units (Selling \$) Units (Buying \$) Units

Units (Selling \$) Units (Buying \$) Units

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Teams and Individuals Closed Data from Jan. 1 to Feb. 28, 2023

Rank Name	Office	List Vol	ne Sold	Sell Volume	Total	Total \$	Ran	c Name	Office	List	List Volume	Sold	Sell Volume	Total	Total \$
		Units (Selling) Unit	(Buying \$)	Units					Units	(Selling \$)	Units	(Buying \$)	Units	

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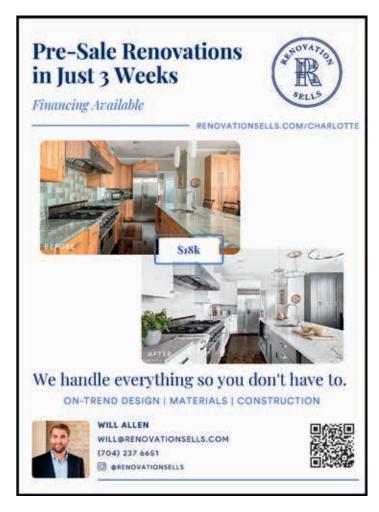
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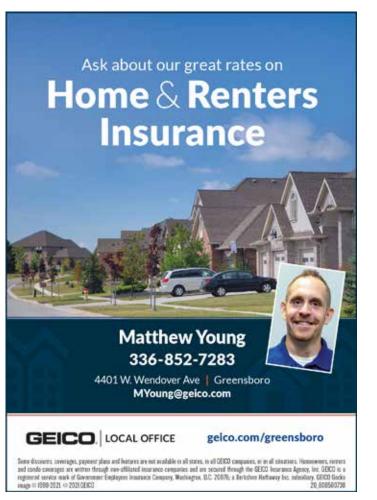
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