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A man with short, wavy brown hair and a light beard is looking down at a black smartphone in his right hand. He is wearing a light-colored button-down shirt under a dark jacket. A strap from a bag is visible over his shoulder. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene.

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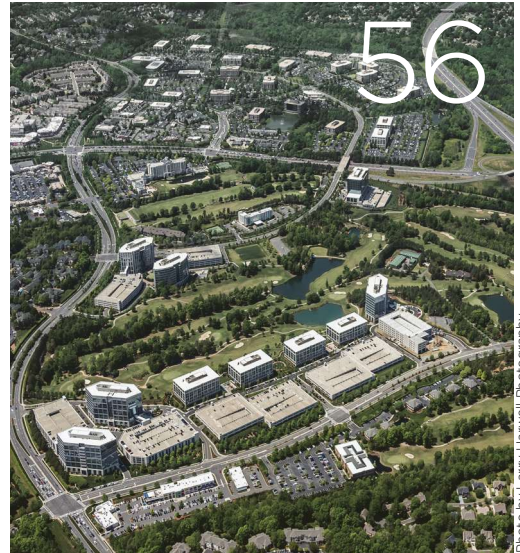


Photo by Larry Harwell Photography



Photo by Ray Sepesy

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704-607-2338



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Behind The Scenes

Beach or Mountains? Featured Contributors Weigh In



Photo by Ray Sepesy

Kelsea Moore

Since graduating from UNC Chapel Hill's School of Media and Journalism, Kelsea Moore has handled social media and digital marketing for a variety of organizations. Today she is the digital communications specialist for Northwood Office.

"Definitely the beach," Moore says. "I grew up close to the coast and took day trips to the beach as often as I could every summer."



Photo by Ray Sepesy

Susan Shackelford

A freelance writer and editor, Susan Shackelford is a former sports writer for The Miami Herald and The Charlotte Observer. She is a Phi Beta Kappa journalism graduate of UNC Chapel Hill.

"I like the beach, but I love the mountains," Shackelford says. "I especially enjoy hiking to waterfalls, taking in vistas and reflecting on our world's bountiful beauty."



Photo courtesy of Michael J. Solender

Michael J. Solender

A Charlotte-based freelance writer, Michael J. Solender shares his stories about travel, the arts and fascinating people with The New York Times, Southern Living and many other publications.

"As much as I like the beach, during the summer I prefer a mountain getaway," Solender says. "I enjoy the crisp air, long morning hikes and opportunity to spy some wildlife."

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Summer 2017 Vol. 17, No. 2

On the Cover



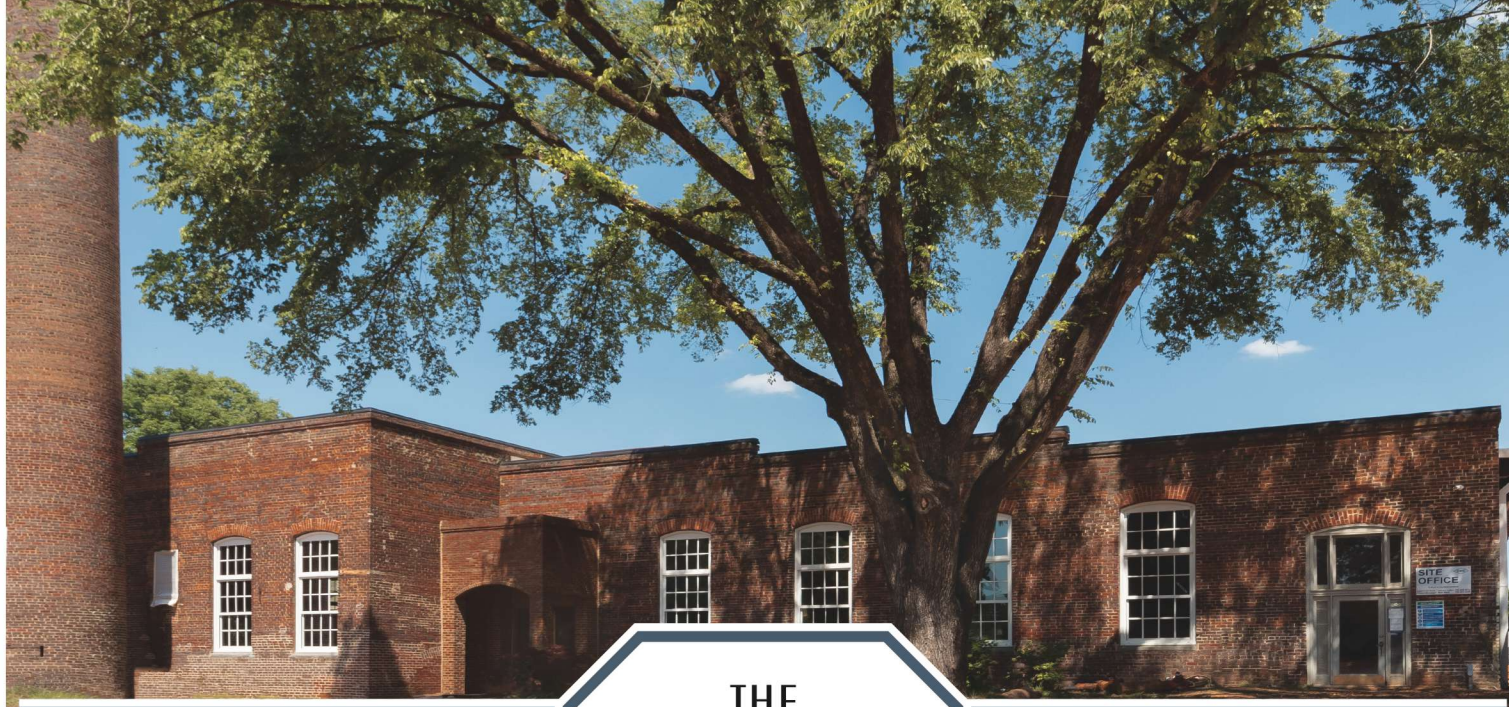
A refreshing brew on Brazells' rooftop is a popular nightlife choice in Ballantyne. Photo by LunahZon

What inventive thinking and expression are taking place in Ballantyne? Let us know!

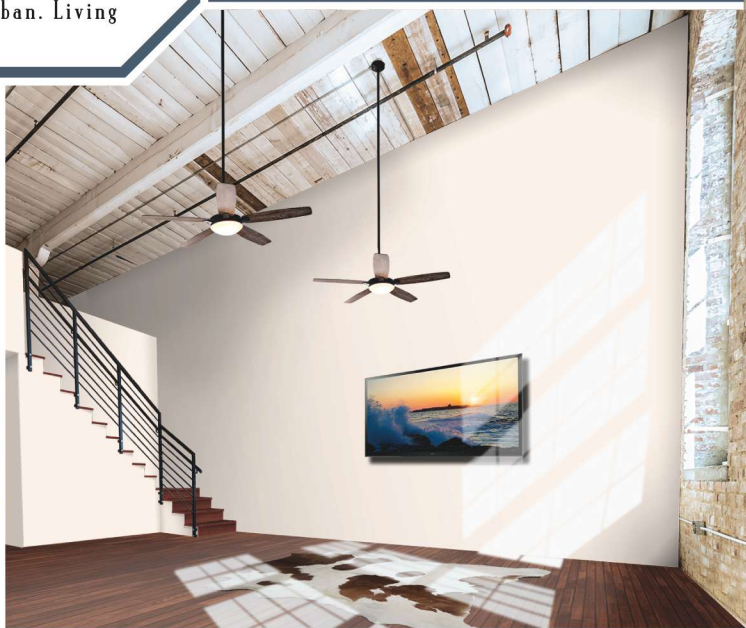
With help from Matt Olin and the CreativeMornings/Charlotte team — committed to showcasing Charlotte's creative thinkers, makers and doers on a global level — we have a Ballantyne feature called "Creative Spark!" See page 96 and think about submitting your entry.

From fine arts to education to creative business practices, we like to consider it all. Send a brief description about your project or idea and any accompanying imagery to Jodi Greenwald at jgreenwald@ballantynemagazine.com.

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Raise a Glass!

Ballantyne's Future Shines Brightly



Two photographers and I recently visited several Ballantyne restaurants and bars for our feature story "Unwind and Enjoy: 5 Nightlife Spots to Check Out in 28277." Along the way, a funny thing happened: At restaurant No. 1 we ran into friends of mine having dinner. One of these friends turned out to be a neighbor of one of the owners of bar No. 2. Then, at bar No. 4, the photographers realized that a former client of theirs was now the bar's manager.

With a daily population of more than 60,000, Ballantyne is home to 3,000 residential units and 5.5 million square feet of commercial space, including office buildings, shopping, restaurants and hotels. Some of our watering holes now have views of office towers and

monuments from their outdoor patios; yet, Ballantyne remains a community where you can bump into people who know and care about you.

On March 1, ownership of almost all of Ballantyne Corporate Park (as well as Ballantyne Magazine) changed hands from The Bissell Companies to Northwood Investors. Since then, Ballantyne residents have been wondering how this transaction might change the feel of their community, how it may affect their favorite local magazine (yes, we're biased!).

We talked to our readers and then used that input in speaking with leadership for "New Era." The article shares the dynamic future Northwood sees for growth, while building on the Bissell legacy and nurturing that sense of community we all love. We think you'll share our enthusiasm for Northwood's vision for an even better Ballantyne.

Reflecting on what all this says about Ballantyne, we gravitate to that famous French saying: The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Only — they are poised to get even better.

So, we raise our glasses and look ahead to the future.

Cheers to Ballantyne!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jodi".

Jodi Werner Greenwald
Editor-in-Chief

Corrections – At Ballantyne Magazine, we are committed to excellence and accuracy. In our spring 2017 fashion spread, the Douglas Rose website was incorrectly listed. It should have been www.douglasrose.co. Also, in our Who Knew? story, proceeds from Conni Branscom's book "What Kyle Can Do" help purchase adaptive bikes, not e-bikes, for children with special needs.

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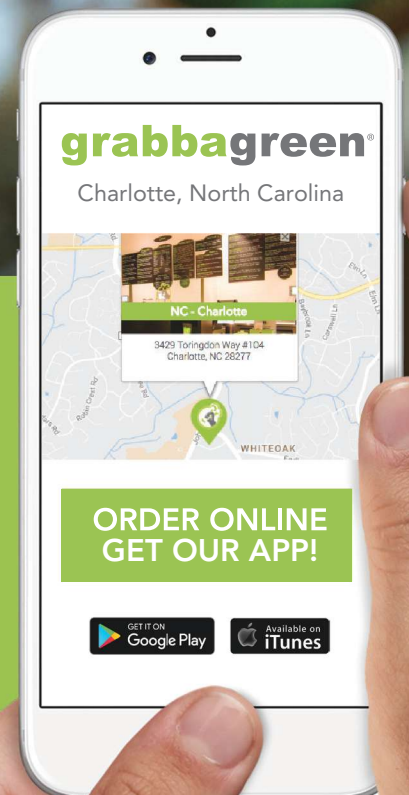
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At a Glance

What's happening in and around Ballantyne



Meck-South Rotary Celebrates 20 Years

Mecklenburg County-South Rotary Club celebrated its 20-year anniversary in May. Known as “Meck-South,” the club has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years to help child-related nonprofits.

Among those groups are: Alexander Children's Home, Elon Children's Home, A Child's Place, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and Habitat for Humanity. Matching grants were given to the club for projects with Elon Homes, Holy Angels, Rainbow Express Camp and Camp Boomerang. The club also has

sponsored — and members have housed — eight youth exchange students.

Meck-South raises funds through silent auctions, holiday wreath sales and duck races. For the past three years, the club has sponsored the BMOF (Bloody Marys on Five) Golf Tournament at Piper Glen Country Club. The event has raised more than \$150,000 for Beds for Kids and other nonprofits.

Members meet for breakfast Fridays at 7:30 a.m. at Another Broken Egg Cafe in Ballantyne Corners. Info: www.mecksouthrotary.org.

News Clues

Events, activities and more



① Ride! Ballantyne Set for September

Ride! Ballantyne will take place Saturday, Sept. 2, at Morrison Family YMCA. The community ride for charity is for cyclists of all levels, with participants choosing among rides of 35, 40, 63 or 80 miles. Fueling stations with restrooms and mechanical bike repair will be provided on each route. Registration: www.ymcacharlotte.org/races.

② Tri! Ballantyne Returns July 15

This summer's Tri! Ballantyne marks the return of the outdoor triathlon for the adult division. Sanctioned by USA Triathlon, the event will be held Saturday, July 15, and features a 300-yard swim, 12.7-mile bike ride and 3.1-mile run.

Hosted by Morrison Family Y, the race supports the YMCA Annual Campaign that serves under-resourced local children. Details/registration

for the adult Tri! Ballantyne, Preschool Fun Tri! and Kid's Tri!: www.ymcacharlotte.org/races.

③ Community House Hosts Lectures

Lower Providence Community House will hold its summer lecture series on Sunday afternoons at 3 at its historic log cabin. Speakers include birding expert Taylor Piephoff on July 30 and herpetologist Eric Stine on Aug. 27. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Proceeds benefit preservation of the historic facility. Details: 704-905-8334 or <http://lowerprovidencelogcabin.org>.

Ballantyne Breakfast Club Meets

The Ballantyne Breakfast Club will hold meetings in June and August. Dates and meeting topics will be posted at the group's website. Free and open to the public, gatherings are at The Ballantyne

on Saturday mornings at 9. Info: Ray Eschert at 704-651-1237 or www.ballantynebreakfastclub.com.

Market Open through Pumpkin Season

The farmers market at the Village at Robinson Farm is open every Saturday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. until pumpkin season concludes in October. Info: www.villageatrobinsonfarm.com.

④ Summer Concerts are Back

Free summer concerts return to Ballantyne this summer on Friday and Saturday evenings at StoneCrest, Blakeney and Promenade on Providence and on Wednesday evenings in June at Ballantyne Village. Info: www.shopstonecrest.com, www.shopblakeney.com, www.ballantynevillage.com, and www.promenadeonprovidence.com.

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The Golf Club at Ballantyne

To participate in special offers listed below, please mention them when reserving tee times at 704-248-4383.

Father's Day: On June 18, dads play for half price with one paid round of golf at the daily rate.

National Family Golf Month: Junior players receive half off the regular rate throughout July.

Community Service Providers Special: Teachers, police officers and firefighters play 18 holes free with one paid round from Monday, Aug. 14, through Friday, Aug. 25. Golfers must present valid employment identification.

Bring a Friend: Enjoy a half-price round with one paid round of golf at the daily rate throughout August.

20-Year Anniversary Season Special: Enjoy \$20 off a round after 3 p.m. daily in July and August. Terms and conditions apply.

Weekend Brunch

Enjoy a delicious brunch menu available in Gallery Restaurant on Saturdays and Sundays, 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



Whiskey Club

The Whiskey Club of Ballantyne will explore the nuances of whiskies served in Gallery Restaurant on Fridays from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Summer dates are July 28 and Aug. 25. Cost: \$65 per person (includes small plates).



Red, White & Blue July Fourth Lawn Party

Celebrate the holiday at The Ballantyne on Saturday, July 1, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Enjoy a festive evening with fireworks, live music, food trucks, local beer and games at the golf pavilion. Be sure to bring a picnic blanket!



Afternoon Tea

Tea is served Wednesday through Saturday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. year-round. Cost: \$40 for adults and \$20 for children, ages 5-12. Special teas this summer include Queen Elizabeth's Birthday Tea, June 14-17, and Summertime Tea in the Carolinas, July 12-15. Cost: \$45 for adults and \$25 for children, ages 5-12.

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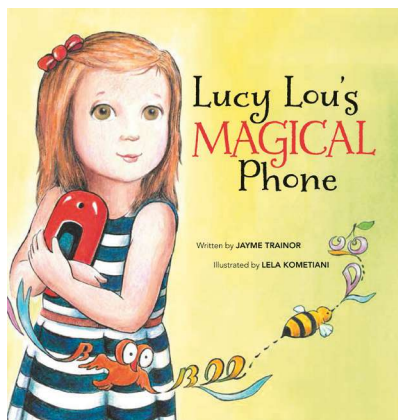
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Local Authors Debut Books



Jayme Trainor

Ballantyne-based Warren Publishing announced the publication of two books by local authors: "Lucy Lou's Magical Phone," an illustrated children's book by Ballantyne resident Jayme Trainor and "Secondhand Romance," a paperback romance novel by Jessica Stevens.

Details: www.warrenpublishing.net.



Jessica Stevens

Tate Co. Adds Associates

Associates Jennifer Boyd, Beth Ellis and Svetla Sarazen have joined the Ballantyne office of Allen Tate Co. Contact them at 704-541-6200.



Jennifer Boyd



Beth Ellis



Svetla Sarazen

The Ballantyne Names Sales Director



Brian Schleicher

Brian Schleicher was promoted to director of sales and marketing at The Ballantyne. Schleicher will oversee all sales and marketing efforts at the hotel.

Grande Beach Resort. In her current role, she will oversee the four hotels in Northwood's Ballantyne portfolio.

Wealth Advisor Recognized

Jeremiah C. Fitzpatrick, a private wealth advisor with Ameriprise Financial, a financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services Inc., qualified for the company's Circle of Success annual recognition program. Contact him at 704-916-6894.

Finance Director Hired



Wendy Feldblum

Northwood Hospitality announced that Wendy Feldblum has joined The Ballantyne as director of finance. Prior to joining Northwood, she served as director of finance at Naples



Kathy Lindsey

HR Manager Chosen

Kathy Lindsey has been appointed human resources manager at Northwood Office.

Agents Join Helen Adams Realty



Megan Barlow



Don Dixon



Sylke Haverkock



Kathy Humbert



Anne Murray-
Randolph



Leeza Pratt



Julie Will

The following agents have joined the Helen Adams Realty Ballantyne office: Megan Barlow, Don Dixon, Sylke Haverkock, Kathy Humbert, Anne Murray-Randolph, Leeza Pratt and Julie Will.

Younger Set

Spotlighting our kids

Marvin Ridge Senior Crowned

Gabrielle Simone Howard, a senior at Marvin Ridge High School, was crowned Ms. Debutante 2017 at "The Pearls of Union: A Regal Renaissance" on April 23. The cotillion, presented by the Union County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, presented eight teenage girls to the community.

Dr. Christine Mann Darden, a Monroe native and retired NASA senior executive featured in the book, "Hidden Figures," spoke at the event and addressed area youth at a special event the day before. Darden was not depicted in the recent movie by the same name but was one of four women highlighted in author Margot Shetterly's book.



Ms. Debutante 2017 Gabrielle Howard and Dr. Christine Mann Darden, a local "Hidden Figure" and retired NASA senior executive



Kate Ipek Fox

Student Relishes Cooking Prize

In April, Kate Ipek Fox enjoyed the prize she won for taking first place in the kids' category at the 2016 Gingerbread Lane contest at The Ballantyne.

Her entry, "The Ice Skating Rink," earned her a chef's jacket and private cooking class with The Ballantyne's pastry chef. Fox, a rising fifth grader at Elon Park Elementary, took notes with zeal and enjoyed tasting the macaroons, eclairs and mousse they created.

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Openings

New things to check out



HUE owners Ashley Higa, Janet Wolke and Jennifer Shows

Salon Opens in Ballantyne Quad



The lifelong dream of its three owners, Ashley Higa, Janet Wolke and Jennifer Shows, the HUE salon provides a full complement of hair coloring services, cuts and treatments. It's located in Ballantyne Quad. Info/appointments: 980-299-2994 or www.huesalonballantyne.com.

New Hotel in Toringdon



The Hampton Inn & Suites on North Community House Road is now open. The hotel features oversized guest rooms, a high-tech weight room, free breakfast and complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi. Info: 704-372-2226 or www.hamptoninn3.hilton.com.

Eatery Opens in Pineville



Metro Diner is now open in Pineville at 8334 Pineville-Matthews Road, #110. The restaurant features classic comfort food made from scratch. The Food Network's "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives" recently featured the diner's meatloaf plate, Pittsburgh steak salad and Yo Hala on the Square. Info: <https://metro diner.com>.

Ballantyne Corners Adds Pizza Spot



Toppers Pizza is now open in Ballantyne Corners on North Community House Road. The pizza chain offers handmade, customizable pizzas with many combinations for toppings and Toppers' signature line of flavored Topperstix and baked buffalo wings. Info: 980-221-2266, www.toppers.com

BBQ Spot Has New Management



Smoke BBQ Grille, formerly known as Smoke Modern BBQ, is under new management. The restaurant offers a new menu with more choices from the grill, shareable plates and Buck a Bone Happy Hour every day. Info: www.smokebbqgrille.com.

Photo Studio Comes to Waverly



little nest
PORTRAITS

Little Nest Portraits has opened in Waverly at 7314 Waverly Walk Avenue, Suite E-7. The boutique photography studio, owned by local resident Indre Both, offers imagery that captures the spirit of children. Info: 704-847-4444 or www.littlenestphoto.com.

Shipping Center Coming to Capstone

The UPS Store®

Jay Patel, president of Trini Management Inc. and owner of The UPS store at Blakeney Crossing, will open another UPS store at Capstone Corners on Lancaster Highway in early September. In addition to domestic and international shipping, The UPS Store offers an array of business services. Info: 704-953-1350.

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Fantastic Sam's Salon is open in Capstone Corners, near Goodwill and the ABC Store. The salon offers cuts, styling, coloring, facial waxing and other services. Info/appointments: 704-910-2108.

Grill Opens In Waverly



Authentic American Dining

Ted's Montana Grill, a restaurant known for its bison selections, has opened in Waverly. Founded by media mogul Ted Turner and restaurateur George McKerrow Jr., Ted's Montana Grill was recently voted the "No. 1 Bar & Grill" and one of "10 Great Dining Picks" by Consumer Reports. Info: www.tedsmontanagrill.com.

Grabbagreen Now In Toringdon

On March 22, Grabbagreen opened at 3429 Toringdon Way, #104. Using the tag "Eat Clean," the fast-food menu offers grain bowls, greens-based dishes, fresh juice and smoothies, acai bowls, kid-friendly items and breakfast all day. Selections are free of GMOs, gluten and preservatives; include organic choices and use only hormone-free and antibiotic-free chicken.

The city's first Grabbagreen location opened in early 2017 at The EpiCentre.

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Biz Buzz

Company news and announcements

School Offers Career Series



CPCC's Ballantyne Center will offer a new Career Management Series of four, one-day classes in June and July focused on helping individuals transitioning to a new career, developing their career or re-entering the workforce. Details/registration: CPCC Corporate and Continuing Education, 704-330-4223.

Local Chamber Hosts Luncheons

The Ballantyne Chapter of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce will hold Thursday luncheon meetings this summer on Aug. 3 and Sept. 7 at Ballantyne Country Club. Luncheons are held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Register at www.charlottechamber.com. Fee is \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door, subject to a wait list.

Networkers to Hear Negotiation Tips



Ballantyne Briefings, a local networking group, will meet Tuesday, Aug. 29, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Aloft Charlotte Ballantyne. Igor Gorlatov, principal at the Successful Negotiators Club, will share key negotiation strategies. Info: Allen Starrett at ars@starrettlawfirm.com, or www.fb.me/ballantynebriefings.

Wingate Hosts Open House

Wingate University Ballantyne invites the community to attend its open house on Wednesday, June 21, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The school, located at 13024 Ballantyne Corporate Place, Suite 150, provides academic programs for adults and continuing-education classes specific to company needs. Wingate also offers meeting space.

The open house features food, door prizes, a raffle and putting contest. Info: wingate.edu/ballantyne.



Organic Grocer Now Open

Whole Foods Market celebrated the opening of its third Charlotte location on May 20 in Waverly and officially opened the store three days later.

The celebration was a Bluegrass and BBQ event that benefited Sustain Charlotte, whose mission includes ensuring that fresh and nutritious food is available in all local neighborhoods. Shoppers who attended the grocer's official opening on May 23 enjoyed special sales as well as product demonstrations and samples.

Founded in 1978 in Austin, Texas, Whole Foods is an organic food retailer that offers products free of artificial flavors, colors, sweeteners, preservatives and hydrogenated fats.



Garden Inn Under Construction

Construction on a 141-room Hilton Garden Inn at the Waverly development was approximately halfway complete as of early spring. Developed by Nama Hotels, the hotel is located across from The Terrace, a public plaza, and will feature 3,000 square feet of meeting space. Details: www.waverlyclt.com.



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July Featured Exhibit:

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July 11th - July 29th



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① Autism After 18 Wins Award

Autism After 18, a nonprofit founded by Ballantyne resident Margaret Neelsen to raise awareness of the need for resources to help autistic young adults, recently won "Most Enthusiastic Group" at the Charlotte St. Patrick's Day Parade. Neelsen's son, Ryan, who is autistic, is a senior at Ardrey Kell High School. Info/ donate: www.autismafter18.org.

② School Supplies Drive Aug. 2-11

Ballantyne's Color the Park School Supplies Drive for Classroom Central

will be held Aug. 2-11. Donate packs of markers, colored pencils and crayons to help underprivileged children. Place donations in the collection barrels in the Corporate Park's building lobbies, or give online during the drive. Details: www.goballantyne.com.

③ Golf Tourney Aids The Sandbox

The British International School hosted a charity golf tournament in April at The Golf Club at Ballantyne. All money raised went to The Sandbox, a local charity.

④ Ballantyne Ball to Promote Wellness

Ballantyne Ball, a local charity, selected HeartBright Foundation as the beneficiary of its next masquerade ball, to be held Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018, at The Ballantyne. HeartBright promotes healthy lifestyles and preventive cardiology programs.

In its first three years, Ballantyne Ball raised \$226,000, including \$75,000 for 2017 beneficiary Lily Pad Haven. Info: Event chair Allen Starrett at allen@ballantyneball.org or www.ballantyneball.org.

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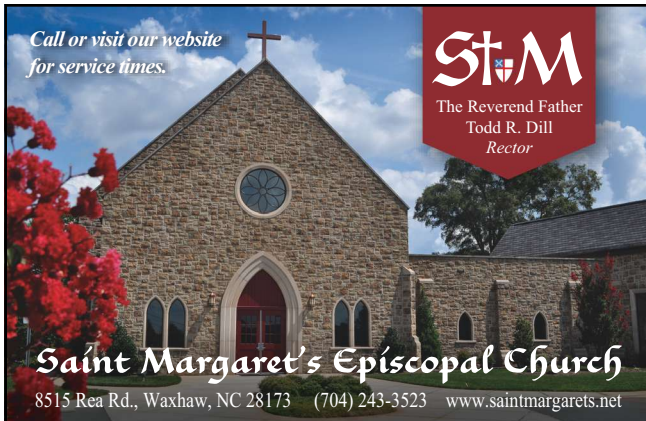
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Local Family Hosts Autism Fundraiser

Rudy and Becky Thoms are hosting the 4th annual Amrap 4 Autism event from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 26, at Misty Meadows Farm in Waxhaw. This year's goal is 400 participants raising \$40,000. CrossFit workouts will be available for all fitness levels, and there will be food trucks, beer, wine, music and children's activities. Details/donate: www.amrap4autism.com.

Community Matters Hits Milestone



Community Matters: Insurance Partners of Charlotte reached its "Million Dollar Milestone of Giving" at its 6th Annual Dodgeball Tournament this spring. Ballantyne companies participating were Liberty Mutual, Hull & Company, Peachtree Specialty Risks, ICA Claims, CorVel, Chubb, Great American and Sompco International. Details: www.communitymatterscharlotte.org.



BCC Rally President Robin Hyatt Saddler, Marcia Myers Gainer, Karen Rutledge, Kristin White, John DiCristo, Carol Aaron and Jacqueline Farrell-Mulholland serve on the BCC Rally Board of Directors. Directors not pictured: Maureen Andreassi, John Shrom, Natalie Corrigan

BCC Rally Sets September Events

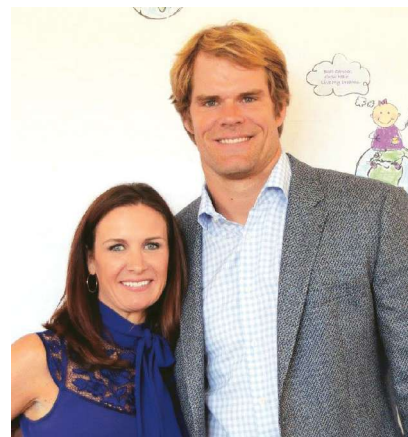
BCC Rally, an all-volunteer nonprofit in Ballantyne that raises funds and awareness to fight breast cancer, will host three major fundraising events in September at Ballantyne Country Club: an evening fundraiser, a ladies' golf event and luncheon, and a tennis clinic. Robin Hyatt Saddler is the new BCC Rally president. Details: www.bccrally.org.

Earth Day Event Brings Big Results



Ballantyne held its annual Earth Day event on April 20, securely shredding and recycling 7.5 tons (15,000 pounds) of documents, as well as collecting more than 4,300 pounds of computer equipment. More than 100 pounds of old and unused medicine was collected for safe disposal.

Coffee For a Cure Tops \$185,000



ISF's Erin Santos and Carolina Panthers player Greg Olsen at the coffee

This spring, the Isabella Santos Foundation (ISF) raised more than \$185,000 from local companies and individuals at its second annual Coffee For a Cure at Carmel Country Club. Proceeds fund research related to neuroblastoma and help bring innovative treatments for pediatric cancer to the local community. Info: www.isabellasantosfoundation.org. ⑩



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FACES

Intriguing Individuals

Get to Know these Notable Locals

Photos by Ray Sepesy

Faces introduces you to people who make Ballantyne lively and interesting. In this edition, meet Yuriy Vaynshteyn, Rachel Brown and Victoria Nwasike.



Rachel Brown

Hometown:

Charlotte

Job:

Online influencer,
Lifestyle blogger,
@queencitychic

**What do you like most about your job?**

I am always meeting passionate people.

Where did you grow up?

Charlotte. By the third grade, my family built a house and moved to Ballantyne.

What did you want to be when you were a kid?

A teacher. I also dreamed about being a back-up dancer.

What's your favorite thing to do in Ballantyne?

Shopping in Blakeney, dining in Ballantyne Village, visiting The Ballantyne to relax.

Do you have any pets?

I have an adorable labradoodle named Noah.

What do you eat for breakfast?

Usually it's a protein bar with my coffee and I'm heading out the door!

What are you reading now?

The book “#Girlboss” by Sophia Amoruso.

What's No. 1 on your bucket list?

I want to explore Paris and stay in a beautiful hotel — plus splurge on amazing food and shopping.

What charitable organization is important to you?

Carolina Breast Friends because it supports breast cancer survivors. My mom is one, and with this cancer being so common in women, it is close to my heart.

What would someone never guess about you?

I have never moved from Charlotte. I studied PR at UNC Charlotte. I am well-traveled, so you'd never guess I am a homebody.

Victoria Nwasike

Hometown:
Orlando, Florida

Job: CEO,
Goldencrest Global LLC

What do you like most about your job?

The projects are challenging, and I meet people in the community.

Do you live in Ballantyne?

Yes, in Cady Lake. My family moved to Ballantyne from Iowa in 2015.

What did you want to be when you were a kid?

A teacher. I taught for four years in Washington, D.C., prior to law school.

What's your favorite thing to do in Ballantyne?

Hang out with my family on the lawn at Blakeney Village Green while eating ice cream.

How do you stay organized? Any life-management tips to share?

I try to focus on one task at a time and not sweat the small stuff.

What are you reading now?

"Worldmaking: The Art and Science of American Diplomacy," by David Milne.

How do you spend your free time?

I like to go for drives with my family to explore Charlotte.

What's No. 1 on your bucket list?

I want to take my entire family to Asia, where I've traveled extensively for business.

What charitable organization is important to you?

Goodwill Industries of the Southern Piedmont. I like to find good bargains at their retail stores and admire their efforts in job training.

What would someone never guess about you?

My favorite color is yellow.



Yuriy Vaynshteyn

Hometown:

Kiev, Ukraine

Job:

CEO, Carolinas
Metro Realty and
Engel & Völkers

**What do you like most about your job?**

Opening my own company (Carolinas Metro in 2006) and having the privilege to work with such an amazing team. I feel energized about taking on each and every day.

Do you live in Ballantyne?

I live off Old Providence Road, which is a quick commute to my two offices in Ballantyne.

What did you want to be when you were a kid?

I idolized Albert Einstein and hoped to become a scientist like him.

How do you stay organized?

I keep a daily schedule, running to-do list and action items in my email inbox to help keep me organized. Having work-life balance is everything to me. I have three boys and we spend a lot of family time together.

What are you reading now?

“Crucial Conversations” authored by Kerry Patterson and several others. I like to read books that advance my leadership skills.

What’s No. 1 on your bucket list?

To travel around the world on a yacht.

What charitable organization is important to you?

My wife and I support Russian charities as well as the Special Olympics. We volunteer annually at the games in Charlotte.

What would someone never guess about you?

I tried to learn how to dance but never succeeded. ☹



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Unwind & Enjoy

5 Nightlife Spots
to Check Out in 28277

By Michelle Boudin | Photos by LunahZon

A photograph of two women sitting at a table in a restaurant or bar. The woman on the left has long dark hair and is smiling while looking at a menu. The woman on the right has short reddish hair, is wearing large hoop earrings and a black top, and is also smiling while looking at the menu. She is holding a glass of white wine. The background is blurred, showing warm lights and a television screen. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

Summer in the city means sunshine well into the night, hot temps, cool drinks – and lots of lazy patio time. Luckily, the Ballantyne area has plenty to offer – no matter what vibe you’re looking for. In no particular order, here are five great choices.

1

Grape and Agave

11318 North Community House Road

Vibe

This trendy lounge filled with chandeliers and sofas offers a cozy, intimate setting.

Patio

The small patio out back is a hidden gem with just a few tables, but the real treat here is the Champagne Room – the private space you can reserve (for free) for special parties.

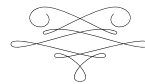
Specials

As its name suggests, Grape and Agave specializes in wine and tequila, but it also offers nightly drink specials (yes, there is beer, too) and live music twice a week.





2



Blackfinn Ameripub

14825 Ballantyne
Village Way



Vibe

This new kid on the block stays open to serve the late-night crowd. You'll find a lively – but laidback – atmosphere well into the night.

Patio

Blackfinn has not one but two patios and uses the plaza in Ballantyne Village for celebrations.

Specials

The restaurant holds special events for holidays, has DJs every Friday and rotates drinks specials. Check Blackfinn's Facebook page for updates.





3

Brazwells Premium Pub

11318 North Community House Road

Vibe

Young professionals and families have been enjoying Brazwells since it opened last spring.

Patio

The rooftop bar has been a big hit, and this summer Brazwells will be introducing a patio canopy in hopes of enticing crowds even when Mother Nature isn't cooperating.

Specials

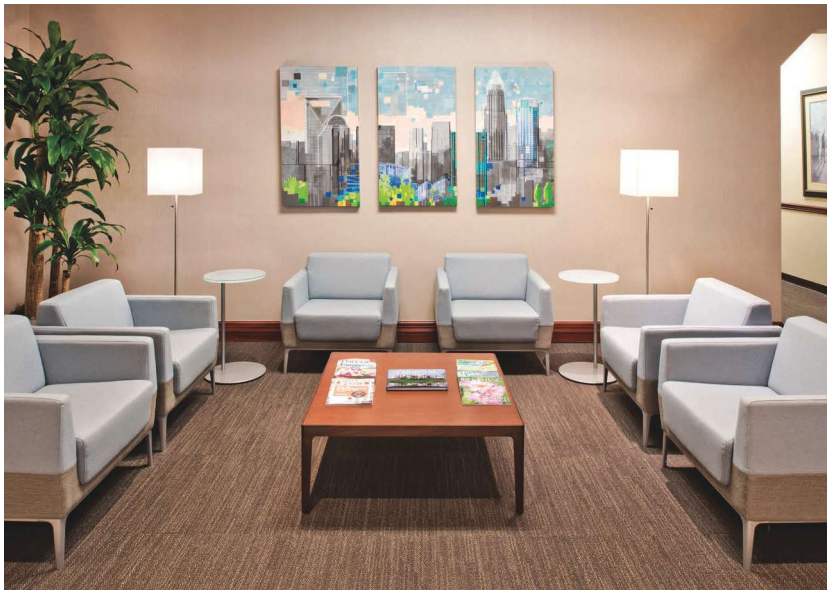
The restaurant has a new food and drink menu for summer that includes drink specials and live music on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



Photo courtesy of Brazwells



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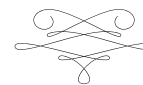
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4



131 Main

9886 Rea Road

Vibe

This Blakeney staple has been open for 11 years and attracts everyone from 30-year-old business people to retirees and families.

Patio

Customers tend to fight over the seating here thanks to the cozy fire pit.

Specials

Tuesday nights, you'll find half-price wine by the bottle.





5



Gallery

10000 Ballantyne
Commons Parkway
(inside The Ballantyne)

Vibe

The restaurant and bar inside The Ballantyne boasts an ambiance of approachable elegance that draws both hotel guests and locals.

Patio

There's a small patio with a spectacular view; Gallery overlooks The Ballantyne's golf course.

Specials

Gallery features an extensive bourbon collection and a notable wine list. Check out wine tastings as well as monthly meetings of The Whiskey Club of Ballantyne. Gallery also has introduced refreshing handcrafted cocktails just in time for the summer. ☺

2821 HAMPTON AVENUE
Charlotte, NC 28207



Gay Dillshaw

Charlotte-SouthPark
704-564-9393
Gay.Dillshaw@allentate.com

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MLS#3229427

6511 PEMBRY LINKS CIRCLE
Charlotte, NC 28277



Jean Benham

Charlotte-SouthPark
704-363-2938
Jean.Benham@allentate.com

Offered at \$1,150,000

Resort living every day. Nestled on over one acre, this elegant residence offers all the amenities for today's active lifestyle - swimming pool, hot tub, exercise, wet bar and office. Dramatic interior has soaring ceilings. Elegant formals and new chef's kitchen with stainless steel appliances, center island/breakfast. Sun-filled breakfast and keeping room with fireplace. Expansive main master. Large three-car garage with motor court.

MLS#3270620

2804 CARMEL ROAD
Charlotte, NC 28226



Andy Bovender

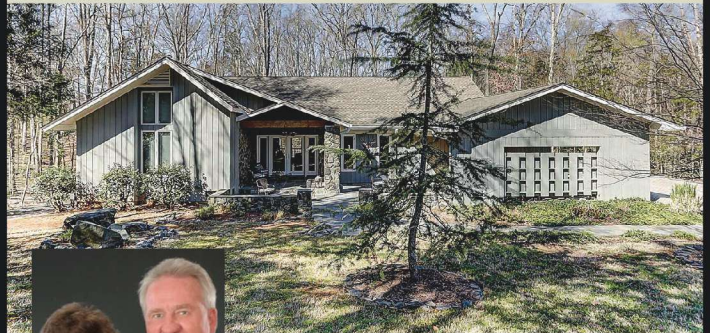
Charlotte-Providence@485
704-287-8317
Andy.Bovender@allentate.com

Offered at \$975,000

Full brick home built on private, beautifully treed lot. Unique 1.23 acres situated on corner of Carmel and Knapdale with crescent drive for easy access. Perfect setting for entertaining: in-ground pool, terraced patios and outdoor powder room with shower. Home has all the great bones, highly maintained just needs cosmetic improvements. Such a unique opportunity to bring your personal style to this home. Truly charming outdoor space and layout.

MLS#3243215

2630 LYNBRIDGE DRIVE
Charlotte, NC 28226



Kathy Huntley

Charlotte-Steele Creek
704-650-3677
Kathy.Huntley@allentate.com

Offered at \$899,000

Have you been dreaming of a mountain house in the city limits of Charlotte? Fabulous ranch with basement on private wooded cul-de-sac lot. Home has been totally updated with over \$350,000 in upgrades. Kitchen with custom cabinets and huge island. Beautiful hardwoods throughout the main floor. Vaulted great room with wood beams and stone fireplace, French doors lead onto deck. Each of the four bedrooms has its own private bath.

MLS#3267205

12147 JAMES JACK LANE
Charlotte, NC 28277



Terry Alfero

Charlotte-Ballantyne
704-608-8300
Terry.Alfero@allentate.com

Offered at \$1,099,000

Gorgeous French Chateau-style custom estate in desirable Ballantyne Country Club. Builder's former home with exquisite details. Two-story curved staircase with turret, gourmet kitchen with beam ceiling, copper farmhouse and veggie sinks, Wolf six-burner gas range, double oven, Sub-Zero fridge. First floor guest bedroom and cathedral beam ceiling library. Elegant owners retreat and master bath with claw foot tub.

MLS#3266521

3310 INDIAN MEADOWS LANE
Charlotte, NC 28210



Bryan Criminger

Charlotte-SouthPark
704-578-2016
Bryan.Criminger@allentate.com

Offered at \$875,000

Full brick custom home in gated community of Heydon Hall. Master on main with luxury bath. Hardwood floors throughout main level and upstairs hall. Chef's kitchen with island, built-in fridge, double oven, gas cooktop and hood, stainless steel appliances, wine fridge. Coffered ceilings in formal dining room and study. Huge recreation room with wet bar, media room and exercise area. Custom covered patio with wood burning fireplace (gas starter), jacuzzi pool and oversized two-car garage.

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At Chopt, you compose your salad from an edible rainbow of ingredients. A “Chopr” uses a mezzaluna to chop them all together.

Fresh Twist

Eatery Serves Up Creative Salads, Grain Bowls, Wraps

By Amy Rogers | Photos by Ray Sepesy

Here's a tasty question to mull over: Can you name a restaurant you'll find at the Empire State Building, in Times Square, a few steps from the White House — and in Charlotte's Blakeney shopping center?

Give up? It's Chopt, which bills itself as a "creative salad company" and has a modern, urban vibe. It's new to our region in the last two years, but with its fast and fresh offerings, it's quickly winning fans.

Steamy summer days call for cooler fare, and Chopt can create countless combos of salads, wraps and grain bowls. Yet, with more than 60 ingredients and 18 small-batch dressings to choose from, first-time diners may wonder just where to begin.

At the walk-up counter, the lavish array of ingredients resembles an edible rainbow: tri-colored carrots, gold and purple beets, shiny grape tomatoes and lively

green lettuces. With olives, onions, peppers and cheeses, plus falafel, bacon, steak and shrimp, it's fair to say that most anything is possible.

Luckily, Chopt's menu suggests more than a dozen sure-fire favorites. They range from a classic Cobb to a modernized kale Caesar to a Mexicali vegan salad so rich with avocado, hearts of palm and spicy dressing that few will miss the cheese.

And here's what's unusual: A server, called a "Chopr," doesn't merely take orders and assemble plates. Once a customer selects the ingredients, the Chopr places them on a large cutting board, and with a curved-blade knife called a mezzaluna, energetically chops all the ingredients together, then tosses them with dressing just before serving. That means the flavors of the almonds, apples, cranberries, and croutons all blend together. The roasted squash and scallions combine with the goat cheese, or the feta, or the Parmesan. Or, all three.



Build, Chop and Serve

The Mexicali vegan salad is so rich with avocado, hearts of palm and spicy dressing that you likely won't miss the cheese.



Every 60 days, Chopt offers a seasonal "Destination" menu highlighting ingredients from a different region of the country. Recently, a Pacific Northwest menu featured wild salmon, Tillamook cheese and a tamarind vinaigrette dressing.

Iced organic black, green and blood-orange teas, plus a tangy lemon gingerade will quench summer's thirst. There are plenty of gluten-free and vegan items, along with a kids' "lunchbox" option.

Chopt's founders believe in a "farm-to-fast-food revolution." The restaurant concept began back when Tony Shure and Colin McCabe were college students. Noticing the lack of healthy dining options, they decided they could invent salads that were appealing and satisfying enough to be main dishes. Instead of merely arranging greens and garnishes



Above: Choprs enthusiastically cut up your salad right in front of you at the walk-up counter.

Below: Fresh salad ingredients at Chopt often come from local farms.



on a plate and dousing them with dressing, the pair discovered that chopping everything together enhanced the flavors of the ingredients. They formed their company in 2001 (www.choptsalad.com).

Another Chopt in Charlotte is located at Park Road Shopping Center, and one is opening soon at The Arboretum.

Chopt works with local purveyors whenever possible. Here, they include Barbee, Barham and Burch farms; Coddle Creek Honey Farm; Goat Lady Dairy; King's Bakery and Slingshot Coffee.

Chopt in Blakeney may be hundreds of miles from the hubbub of Washington or New York, but there's a wonderful thing about food that's fast and fresh: It tastes great anywhere and everywhere. ☺



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Living in the Queen City may be cool, but summertime temps are anything but! With a bevy of warm-weather activities spanning from backyard barbecues to outings across the region, what to wear can be vexing. Here, we take the work out of wardrobe decisions so you can show up on time, in style — and, of course, cool!



Summertime Cool

By Whitley Adkins Hamlin
www.thequeencitystyle.com

Photos by Ray Sepesy



Golf Tournaments

If you're into the event for the sport, your focus is simple: cotton poplin and other lightweight fabrics, sneakers, shades and sunscreen. Have fancier plans at the clubhouse or company tent for August's highly anticipated PGA Championship? We recommend the words of the late great golfer Ben Hogan as a metaphor for your style: "As you walk down the fairway of life, you must smell the roses, for you only get to play one round."



Ladies

Adam Lippes Sleeveless Shirt Dress, Five One Five, \$1,190; Jenni Kayne Blush Heel, McKenzie Claire, \$475; Suzanna Dai Yellow Earrings, McKenzie Claire, \$195; Kate Spade Sunglasses, www.katespade.com, \$160

Gentlemen

Wiley Slip Cinch O Ring Belt, Tabor, \$150; Gitman Zephyr Oxford White Shirt, Tabor, \$168; TB Classic Grey and White Pincord Stripe Jacket, Tabor, \$1,980; TB Classic Grey and White Pincord Stripe Trousers, Tabor, \$1,050; MWC Classic 1960/70 Vietnam Watch, Tabor, \$55; MWC 18MM Nato Watch Band, Tabor, \$15; Mark McNairy Mohonk Brown Moccasins, Tabor, \$375

Lake Days

If there's one thing Charlotteans do the second it turns summer, it's hit the lake. Here we show you what to wear if your day on the water promises to be full. Throw a great cover-up over your suit and pair it with some chic (and necessary!) accessories for a look that will take you in style from boat to boardwalk to backyard party, well into the wee hours.



Ladies

Mirth Caftans Vana Caftan, Five One Five, \$288; Retazo Rope Statement Necklace, Our Place, \$123; Poolside Bags Uh Huh Honey Bag, Five One Five, \$155; Benjamin Beads and Tassels Necklace (styled as bracelet), Our Place, \$46; Amuse Society Hat, LA East, \$35; Valia Gabriel Leather Sandals, Five One Five, \$230; Sunglasses, Target, \$14.99; White and Warren Travel Wrap, McKenzie Claire, \$175; Slant Collection Sparkle Cup with Lid and Straw, Our Place, \$15

Gentlemen

Mollusk Ojai Swim Trunks, Tabor, \$70; Faherty Seaview Plaid Shirt, Tabor, \$148; Mollusk Realize Tee, Tabor, \$35; Sperry Broken In Boat Shoes, J.Crew, \$98; Raen Sunglasses, Revolution Clothiers & Co., \$135; Picnic Time 6 Pack Holder, Revolution Clothiers & Co., \$36; Beer Book, Revolution Clothiers & Co., \$10



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Ladies

Blonde No. 8 Army Jacket with Embroidery, Our Place, \$395; Manoush Tropical Top, McKenzie Claire, \$415; Blank Denim Shorts, LA East, \$75; Gaia Blue and White Round Bag with Pink Tassel, Five One Five, \$145; Matisse Coconuts Leather and Suede Sandals, LA East, \$183; Alex Holleman Necklace, McKenzie Claire, \$295; Sunglasses, Target, \$14.99

Gentlemen

Benson Chambray Pants, Revolution Clothiers & Co., \$130; Ted Baker Braaks Diamond Print Shirt, Revolution Clothiers & Co., \$150; Vans Canvas Sneakers, J.Crew, \$60; Faherty Adirondack Blanket, Tabor, \$128; Italgem Woven Bracelet, Revolution Clothiers & Co., \$75; Panda Sunglasses, Revolution Clothiers & Co., \$120; Triple Five Soul Chambray and Camo Backpack, \$89, Revolution Clothiers & Co.

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Photo by Larry Harwell Photography



A bird's-eye view of Ballantyne Corporate Park and surrounding areas, May 2017



By Nan Bauroth

In 1992, the turning of the first spade of earth in Ballantyne Corporate Park (BCP) heralded the dawn of a new age in commercial development in Charlotte. It set a standard in office parks by incorporating desirable lifestyle amenities such as beautiful pocket parks and ponds, walking trails and more. Twenty-five years later, that transformational promise is taking a new turn with the arrival of Northwood Investors.

new era

NORTHWOOD TO GROW BALLANTYNE,
BUILD ON BISSELL LEGACY

John Z. Kukral
President and CEO of
Northwood Investors



Photo by Ray Sepasy

"Our strategic vision is to continue to evolve the Ballantyne property into one of the premier office/living/retail destinations in the country," says John Z. Kukral, president and CEO of Northwood, which purchased nearly all of BCP from The Bissell Companies earlier this year. "Smoky Bissell and Ned Curran wanted one corporate partner to manage the entire property, and that was our advantage over other buyers who wanted to break off pieces of BCP."

Ranked as the largest commercial real estate deal in Charlotte's history, Northwood's investment includes 4 million square feet of Class A office space, 600 hotel

rooms, The Golf Club at Ballantyne and several hundred acres of undeveloped land within the approximately 535-acre BCP site.

Evolving BCP

To realize the property's full potential, Northwood plans to incorporate new amenities in shopping, dining and housing. These enhancements would reposition the property's image as a destination beyond a workplace and highlight the integrated lifestyle elements of the broader master-planned Ballantyne community, which is approximately 2,000 acres.

"We want to give people living in the Ballantyne area more reasons to come into the park," Kukral explains.

To realize the property's full potential, Northwood plans to incorporate new amenities in shopping, dining and housing.

AREA NOTABLES EYE BALLANTYNE'S FUTURE

"From the beginning, Ballantyne has represented the best of community building and healthy living. I believe that with Northwood's purchase our community is poised to stay on the cutting edge of 'live, work and play.'"

Steve Bowers
Senior Vice President
YMCA of Greater Charlotte



"I feel Ballantyne continues to fulfill the vision of a diverse community with a wide range of offerings. Future Northwood projects are just one more step in that direction. I personally like to think of our Ballantyne community as mirroring the best of our country's future."

Wil Brooks
Agent
State Farm Insurance



"Our goal is to have things blend together, with good activities that give people in this area a reason to come here, whether to shop, dine, walk the nature trails or work out at Sara's Y."

As Ned Curran — president of Northwood Office, which operates BCP for Northwood Investors — elaborates, "John's vision is to enhance all that Ballantyne Corporate Park can be, to go from primarily corporate office into all mixed uses."

According to Kukral, this is where Northwood's broad and diverse management platforms and expertise help. The company owns Blakeney, for instance, and so its retail team will provide added value. "In addition to retail, David Ravin and his multifamily team have great ideas to bring residential into BCP. We will also merge the hotel platform here with our hotel platform."

'Newfound Excitement'

Bissell founder Smoky Bissell insisted his 600 employees were to be grandfathered into the deal — a move he and

Northwood agreed would ensure not only a smooth transition but continued maintenance of the high quality that Bissell has established throughout BCP.

At an all-staff meeting shortly after the ownership transfer, Kukral outlined Northwood's plans for future development and was met with decided enthusiasm. "Our employees now have a newfound excitement and commitment because of Northwood's vision," Curran says.

Community Impact

"The Bissell organization has done a phenomenal job creating one of the most preeminent environments in the country," says Kukral. "Our goal is to continue to raise the bar and evolve Ballantyne into not just a place where people work and stay, but to add choices to make it even more attractive to everyone."

Curran also notes that from the vantage point of Bissell, one of the most appealing aspects of Northwood Investors is its long-term hold strategy. "They will nurture and enhance the assets," he maintains.



Cheeca Lodge in Islamorada, Florida



The Vue, Charlotte



Naples (Florida)
Grande Beach Resort

Examples of Northwood's Diverse Portfolio

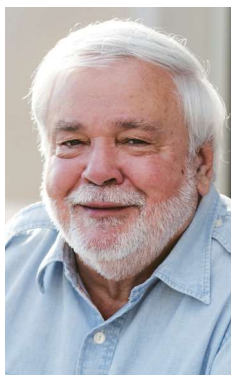


Blakeney, Charlotte

"Clearly, in purchasing most of Ballantyne Corporate Park, Northwood appreciated its value and what it has meant to the area, the city and the state. I am confident that under the leadership of Northwood we will continue to see growth and value that benefit our community."

Ray Eschert

Founder
Ballantyne Breakfast Club



"The Ballantyne area is an amazing, thriving community. We appreciate our relationship with the corporate park and feel excited about the changes Northwood has planned. More shopping and dining options will expand upon the great choices already here. New housing will add to the dynamic feel of the area."

Jill Philmon

General Manager and COO
Ballantyne Country Club

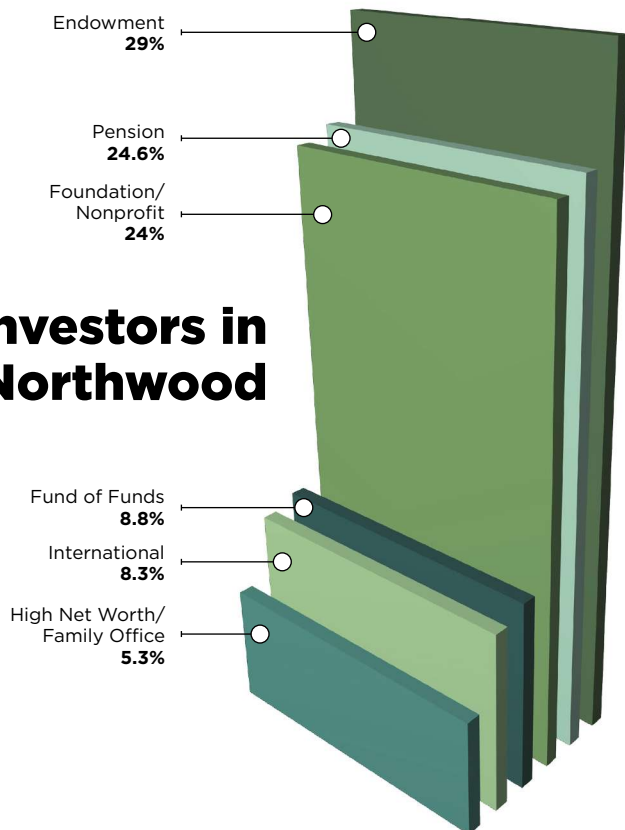




Ned Curran (left) leads Northwood Office, which operates Ballantyne Corporate Park for Northwood Investors, led by John Kukral.

Photo by Ray Sepesy

Investors in Northwood



“We are very excited about this opportunity and what it will ultimately mean for Ballantyne as a whole.”

Support for the many charitable endeavors in the park will be encouraged by Northwood. “We are absolutely committed to offering a variety of opportunities for different charities to engage the whole park,” Kukral stresses. “From my standpoint, we at Northwood feel we can learn from this immense

community spirit we see.”

Adds Curran, “Northwood has a reputation of supporting the communities where they own properties, and this was one of the qualities we looked for.”

Kukral also wants area residents to realize the type of people who stand behind the Ballantyne purchase. “We are making a long-term commitment on behalf of a number of investors that include public and private schools, symphonies, arts

“We are making a long-term commitment on behalf of a number of investors.”

— John Kukral



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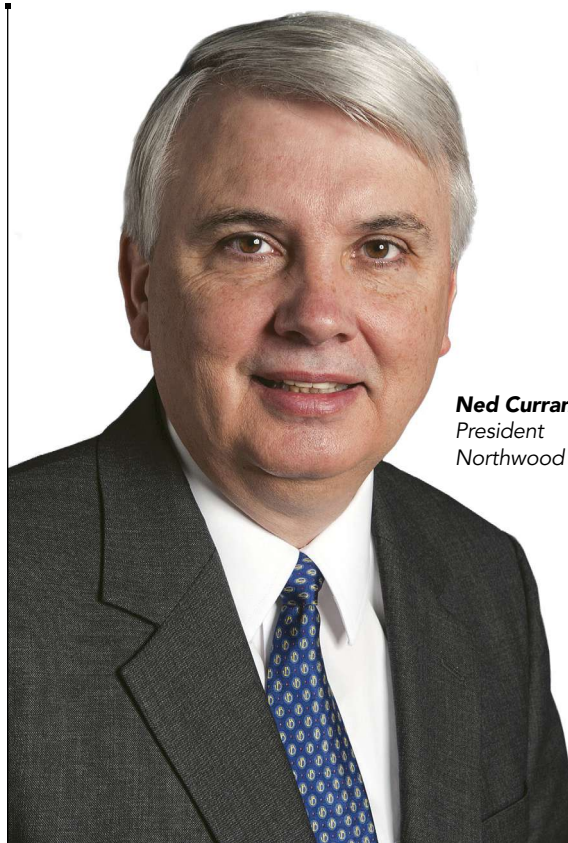
groups, public pension funds and cutting-edge medical research entities that rely on us to deliver a great return on their investments so that they can reinvest those monies in support of their missions. So, people in Ballantyne should know that we view this investment as a great opportunity for our investors to do their good work.”

Believer in Ballantyne

In weighing Northwood’s largest investment to date,

Kukral sees the proverbial whole as being greater than the sum of its parts. “The defining attribute of Ballantyne Corporate Park is the sheer scale of it and how it fits into the community,” he observes. “There are very few opportunities in the country where you can have a significant ownership like this. Other investment groups might purchase \$50 million of one or two office buildings or hotels, but we will benefit by owning such a large, concentrated investment. And

**Bissell founder
Smoky Bissell insisted his
600 employees were to be
grandfathered into the deal.**



Ned Curran
President
Northwood Office



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The Color the Park School Supplies Drive is one of the Corporate Park's signature charitable events (see page 27).

Photo by Ray Sepesy

“Northwood has a reputation of supporting the communities where they own properties, and this was one of the qualities we looked for.”

— Ned Curran

we are confident it will have a positive, transformative effect on Ballantyne-area properties.”

Kukral also sees ownership of Ballantyne as part of Northwood's larger strategy of continued investment in in the city. “We are bullish on Charlotte's ability to attract companies and people, and Ballantyne will be a major part of that continuing trend.”

In Curran's view, Kukral is the right person to spearhead the next generation of growth in Ballantyne. “John is very highly regarded on the international scene for what he has been able to accomplish for investors in acquiring and enhancing different types of real estate. We feel fortunate to have found someone who truly believes in Ballantyne.”



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fun couple

Jake and Page Fehling
'Create Their Own Normal'

By Dawn Liles | Photos by Ray Sepesy





The first thing you notice about Jake Fehling and Page Crawford Fehling is they are really tall. But their heights (6 feet, 5 inches and 5 feet, 11 inches) aren't the only reason they command attention when they walk into a room together. The parents of three children under 9 juggle busy careers while remaining upbeat, generous, ambitious, self-effacing and light-hearted. Here's a sample exchange between them:

Page: *I'm an expert napper.*

Jake: *You're amazing.*

Page: *I don't want to brag, but I can nap with the best of them.*

Jake: *Pro napper.*

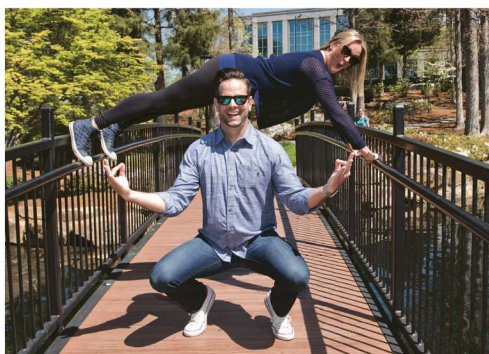
Both graduated from the journalism school at UNC, but didn't officially meet until they were both living in New York City and attended a UNC alumni event in 2005. They bonded over a "Dumb and Dumber" quote-off of movie lines and married in her hometown of Falls Church, Virginia, in 2006.

They eventually moved to Raleigh, where Jake, now 37, worked for USA Baseball, and Page, also 37, was



Hamming it up comes naturally to the Fehlings, whether in the studio or out and about in Ballantyne.

Click here to view behind-the-scenes footage from their photo shoot.



hired as an on-air reporter for WNCN. Their three children, Ford, 8, Cal, 7, and June, 4, were all born in Raleigh, and the family moved to Ballantyne in 2014 when Page was hired as a news personality for “Good Day Charlotte.”

“We go uptown all the time, but we

love living in Ballantyne for the convenience, the amazing schools and the incredible growth,” says Jake. They tag-team each day, as Page rises at 2 a.m. to get ready for her day at Fox 46 (hence, the expert napping), and Jake takes care of kid duties before heading to Move-

ment Mortgage in Fort Mill as the vice president of content and social strategy.

Their street is the veritable family affair. There’s Page’s brother, Casey Crawford, CEO of Movement Mortgage, a former tight end for the Carolina Panthers and a featured “Face” in



They bonded over a 'Dumb and Dumber' quote-off and married in 2006.



What Famous Couple Are You Like?

Jake: Dax Shepard and Kristen Bell.

Page: We love them.

Jake: They feel legit. #goals.



this magazine's summer 2013 issue. Casey and his wife, Michelle, have two children, and she is the owner of Rising CrossFit Ballantyne, where Jake and Page work out. Michelle's sister, Lorraine Castle, also lives on the same street, so the cousins and

aunts and uncles get together as much as their busy schedules allow.

Podcast, Emcees

In addition to working full-time jobs and raising three kids, the dynamic duo hosts their own podcast, "Date Night

with Jake and Page," in which they interview other Charlotte couples (see sidebar). They also serve as emcees for local charities, such as the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, and offer public speaking and personal and professional development through SkillPop.



Live Streaming Double Dates

Earlier this year, the Fehlings created their own podcast, "Date Night with Jake and Page." Each month they host a live double date over mics and drinks with prominent Queen City couples at Hygge, a co-working space in Charlotte.

Guests have included Muhsin Muhammad, a former wide receiver for the Panthers, and his wife, Christa. "Jake and I talked about what Charlotte couples we would like to meet and go out with, and we figured other people in Charlotte would also have fun meeting these couples in a casual setting," Page says.

Past shows can be found on www.jakeandpage.com, iTunes and other podcast locations. They live-stream each episode on Facebook (Page Fehling Fox 46), and the videos are posted to www.youtube.com/jakefehling.



Even when recording their podcast together, the Fehlings are a playful pair. Their podcast companions here are Montell Watson and Emily Breeze Watson.



"Page has the background and training to be an excellent and effective communicator," says Jake. "I'm basically the sideshow clown who comes in and makes people laugh."

"And reaches things on high shelves," Page adds.

A secret to the couple's success is that they "create their own normal," Page says, instead of judging themselves and their family by other people's expectations. They also say their ambition has limitations. "We have been writing a he said/she said pregnancy book for five years but have never finished it," says Jake. "Sometimes DiGiorno (frozen pizza), beer and 'The Bachelor' take over."

They make time for a weekly date night to keep their connection strong, but they also love

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“One of the reasons we like to do all this stuff is that we really just like to hang out together.”

—Jake Fehling

to spend time with their kids and make them a priority.

“One of the most memorable and fun nights with our kids was when we bid on and won a date night through the Ballantyne Ball,” says Page. “But we didn’t want to leave them for another night, so we brought them with us to 5Church for dinner, followed by a Hornets game and a night at an uptown hotel. I was so worried about our kids bothering other people at 5Church, so we went to dinner at 5 and finished just as the kids were starting to fall apart.”

The Fehlings’ love and admiration for each other is palpable. “This may sound corny,” says Jake, “but one of the reasons we like to do all this stuff is that we really just like to hang out together.” ®



Photo courtesy of the Fehlings

Ford, Cal and June Fehling enjoy a silly moment with their parents.

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A refreshing, colorful libation is strawberry basil lemonade, served with or without vodka.

Outdoor Ambiance

Host Simple, Memorable Lawn Parties with these Easy Guidelines

By Beth Redlich Mattos | Photos courtesy of ArtShots Photography

Summer is the perfect season for festive celebrations. Family and friends gather for graduations, family reunions, weddings, holidays and simple get-togethers. Hosting a lawn party in your backyard, or even at a park, can be much more fun and easy with a few creative tips.

Select a Theme

Defining a theme for your event gives you a starting point and will provide your guests a lasting memory. The theme can be used to inform your planning. For example, think about using your backyard as a setting for a Mexican fiesta or a Hawaiian luau, delighting your guests with food and décor that complete the idea.

Play music to further your theme. Pick selections that support the mood you're seeking. Hide cordless speakers in the landscape and set up a personalized playlist on Pandora.

If your theme is "games," you can introduce board games as part of the décor. You can use boards from Monopoly, Scrabble or other games to set under centerpieces,



The 2017 color of the year, "Greenery," pairs beautifully with vibrant, versatile jewel tones.



platters or bowls. In the yard or park, it's also fun to incorporate lawn games such as cornhole, giant Jenga and horseshoes.

If you pick a "rustic" theme, you can pull out a shabby chic couch for seating or place a door atop two barrels for the bar. Use beige and white and mismatched china to keep the theme cohesive. A s'mores bar will match the color scheme and be a sweet ending to your party.

Think Color, Lighting

The 2017 color of the year, "Greenery," is also called apple green. What a perfect complement to your yard!

"Greenery" pairs beautifully with vibrant, versatile jewel tones. Consider simple white dishes with jewel-tone flowers or vice versa. If you decide to stay with simply green and white, you can use your food as accent colors — think rich hues of grilled vegetables, sliced red tomatoes with green basil and white mozzarella cheese, and a bright pink punch.

Don't let the sun go down on your event without having planned for



Lighting can add a splash of color to an evening event.

evening lighting. Who doesn't love candles, whether real or LED? Try big pillar candles nestled in sand-filled containers and spaced evenly along the border of your yard.

If you have a fence, deck or the perfect tree, you can hang colorful lanterns or floral balls for a splash of color.

Another idea is to weave strands of string lights around the base of trees and through the branches. Globe string lights add a special touch and

are easily found these days. Remember to have ample light by the food and at the bar or beverage table.

Say Cheese!

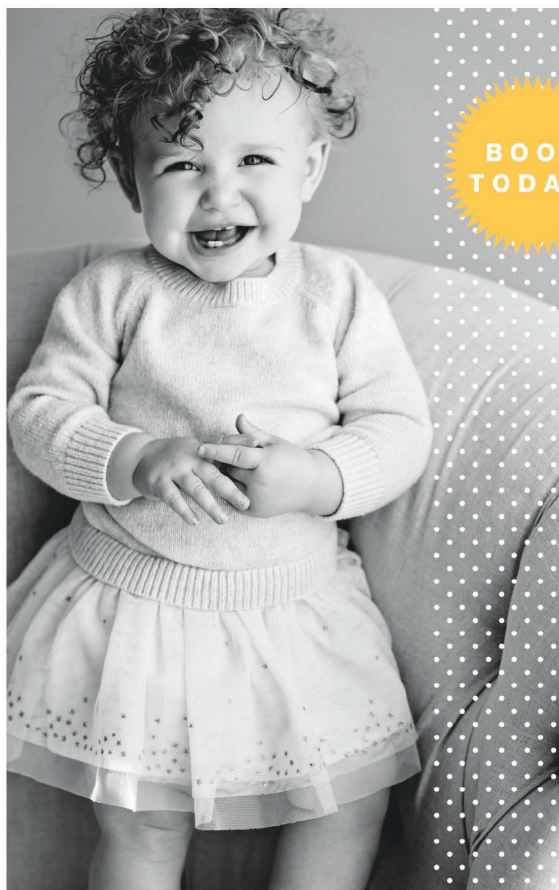
Plan early. Set a theme. Pick your music to match your theme. Have fun with color and lighting. Keep the food simple and have plenty of ice-cold drinks on hand.

Remember to take lots of pictures. Create summer memories to last a lifetime. Most importantly, have fun! ☺



Beth Redlich Mattos, lead designer of Creative Events Charlotte, has spent the last 20-plus years creating colorful events that tell a

tale. She specializes in life's many occasions, from bar/bat mitzvahs to proms, weddings, galas, expos and corporate events.



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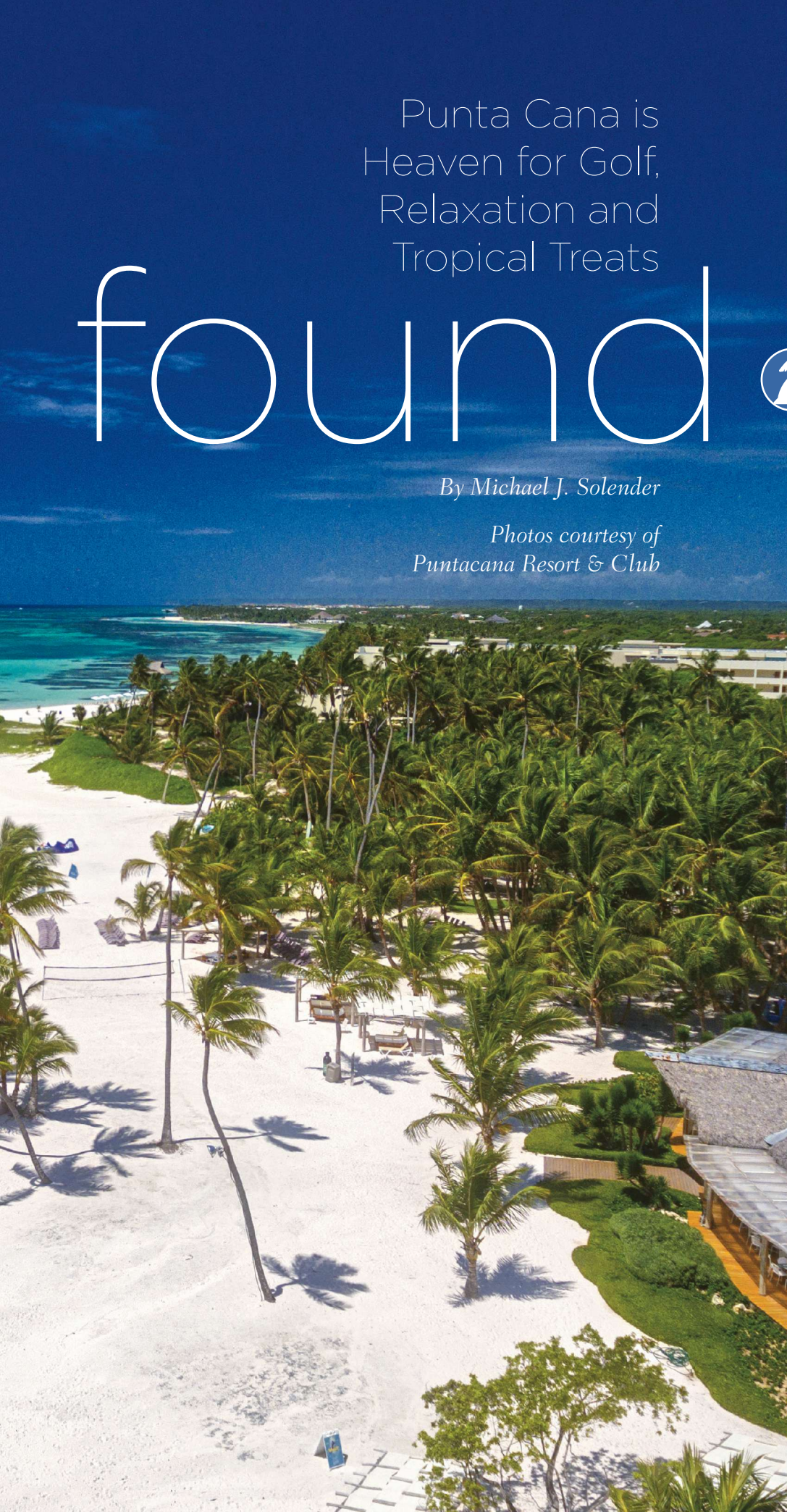
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paradise

An aerial photograph of a tropical beach. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, transitioning to a deeper blue further out. The beach is a wide, white sand strip. Several palm trees are planted along the right side of the beach. Numerous lounge chairs are arranged in neat rows on the sand. A few people are visible in the water and on the beach. The sky is a deep blue with some light, wispy clouds.



Punta Cana is
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Tropical Treats

found



By Michael J. Solender

*Photos courtesy of
Puntacana Resort & Club*



Charlotte's hosting of the PGA Championship at Quail Hollow Club in August is generating a new level of golf fever here, spurring many to seek the ultimate golf holiday.

A look south to the Dominican Republic's Punta Cana on the island's east coast yields Puntacana Resort & Club, a shimmering getaway where salt air, azure seas and balmy trade winds envelop 45 holes of outstanding golf in the Caribbean. Just a three-hour nonstop flight from Charlotte, Punta Cana is an all-season destination where the weather is mild, the beaches stretch for miles and culinary discoveries are true tropical treasures.

The lush 26-square-mile, eco-minded resort includes several accommodation options, which include the Tortuga Bay Hotel, a baker's dozen collection of beachfront villas with interiors designed by Oscar de la Renta, and the Westin Punta Cana, a family-friendly upscale property situated directly on Playa Blanca Beach.

Be as active as you like with kitesurfing, paddle boarding, beachside yoga or tennis on the resort's clay, grass or hard-surface courts. Or, do nothing at all. A good beach novel and a tropical smoothie while lounging poolside are formidable foils for shaking off the hustle of the Queen City.



The Igneri Underwater Museum features 22 sculptures by Dominican artist Thimo Pimentel.

Oceanside Golf

Golf takes center stage at the resort with no star shining brighter than the Tom Fazio-designed Corales Course. With six oceanfront holes, Corales is a visual stunner that plays host to the Web.com Tour's Puntacana Corales Classic, the only PGA stop in the Caribbean.

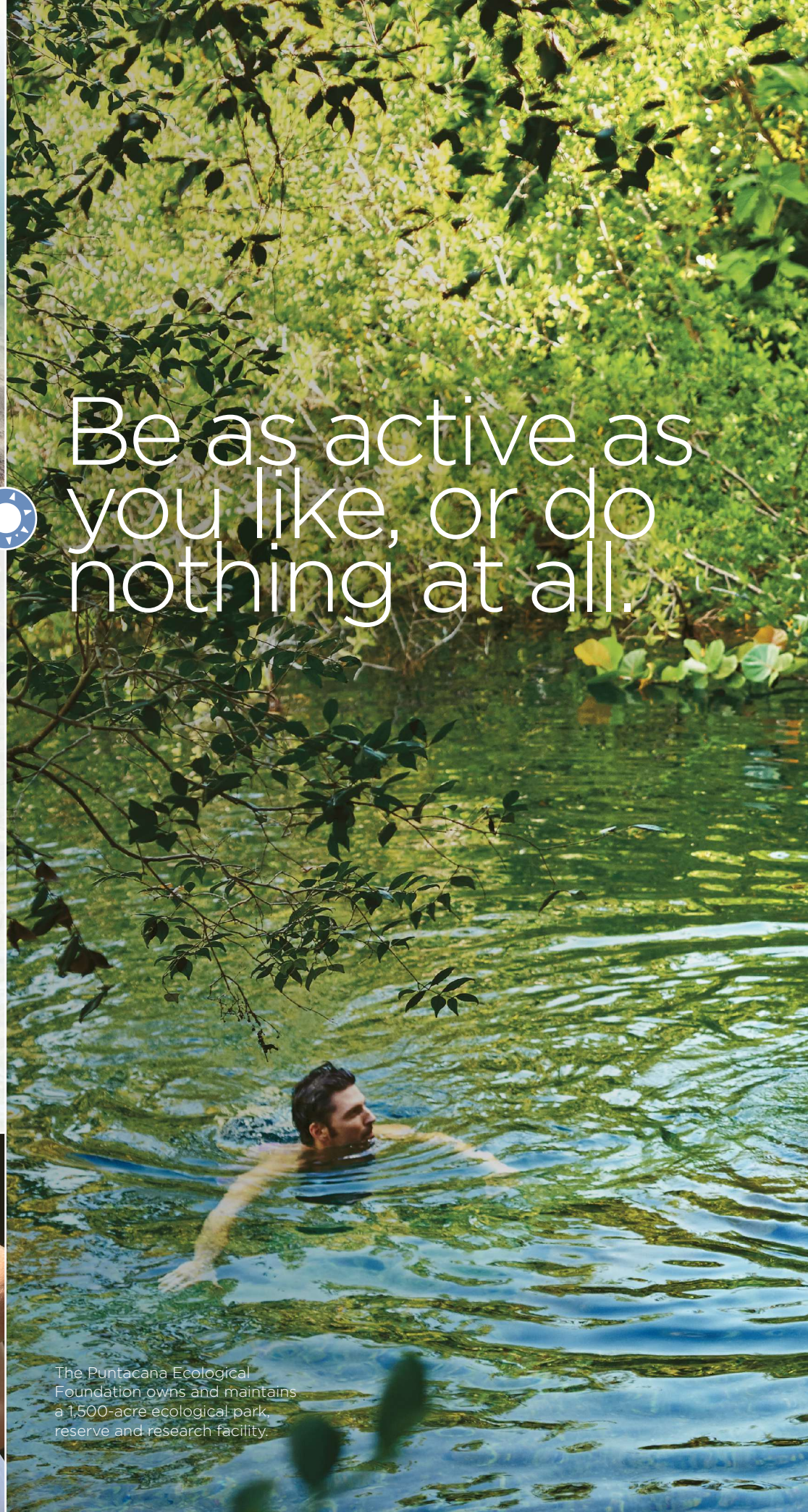
PGA tour player and Charlotte resident Seamus Power played in the Corales Classic last year, notching a

Charlotte resident Seamus Power played in the Corales Classic last year at Puntacana Resort & Club.



80 Escape
BALANCE THE SUMMER 2017

Photo by Sam Greenwood



Be as active as
you like, or do
nothing at all.

The Puntacana Ecological Foundation owns and maintains a 1,500-acre ecological park, reserve and research facility.





Golf Magazine rated La Cana Golf Course No. 1 in the Caribbean.



Dominican cuisine is carefully curated and prepared with colorful island flair.

top-10 finish that helped propel him to receiving his tour card.

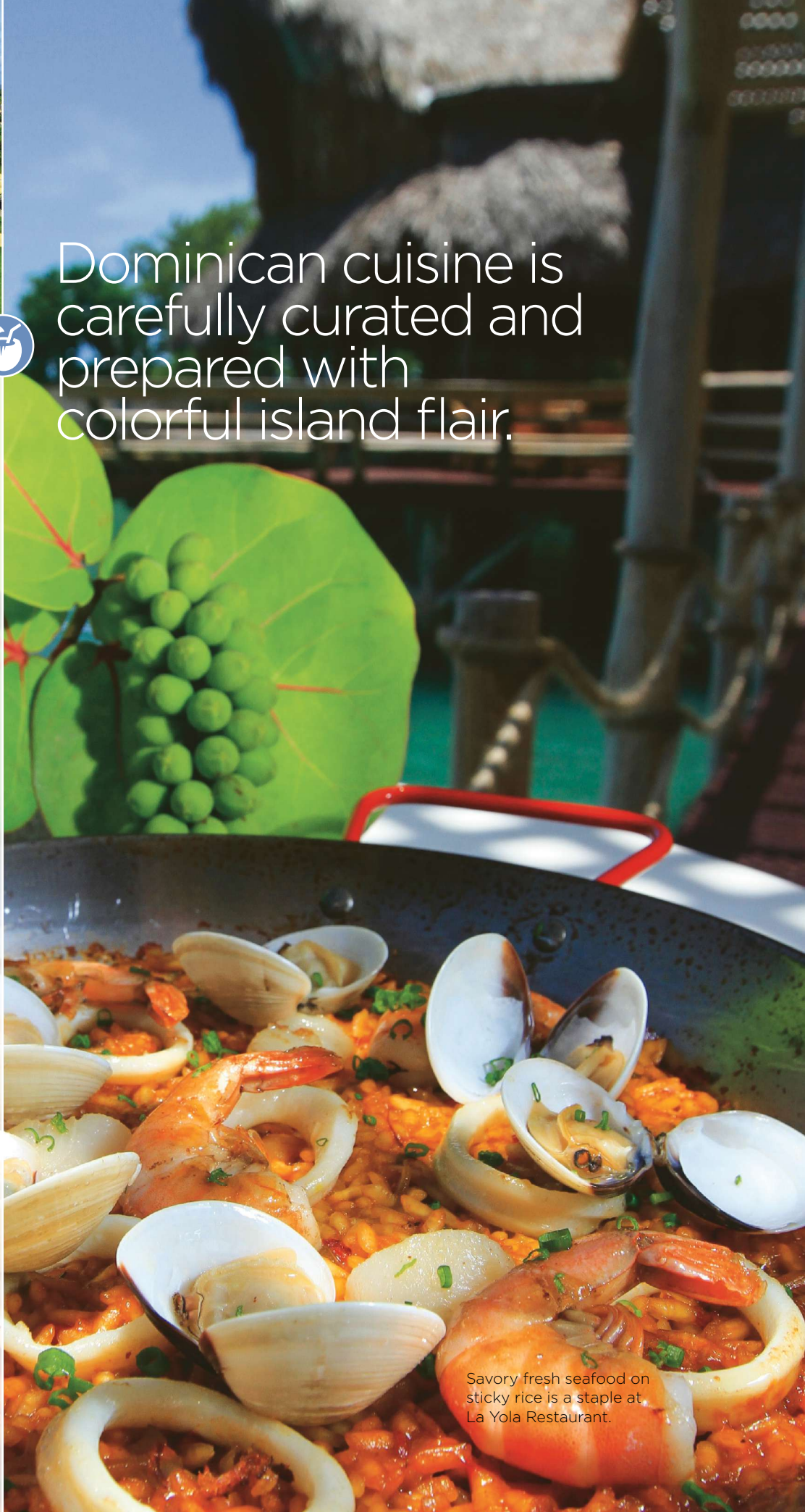
“Corales is a spectacularly beautiful golf course,” says Power. “It’s going to be breezy, but it gives golfers of all skill levels a chance to score well. The fairways are generous, the greens are in fantastic condition and the finishing ocean holes are among the most beautiful I’ve ever seen.”

Nearby, La Cana Golf Course showcases legendary course architect P.B. Dye’s mastery with 27 holes that Golf Magazine rated as the No. 1 course in the Caribbean. “The combination we have in La Cana with 27 holes offers the best of ocean and inland-course designs, testing scratch and weekend golfers alike,” says La Cana head pro George Riley. “The ball sits up nicely on the paspalum turf, always delivering a good lie. People have high expectations when they come to Punta Cana, and we make sure we deliver.”

Both courses make use of paspalum, the environmentally friendly turf receptive to salt-water irrigation and able to thrive in tropical conditions.

Island Exploration

Golfers aren’t the only ones finding paradise in Punta Cana. Waxhaw resident



Savory fresh seafood on sticky rice is a staple at La Yola Restaurant.



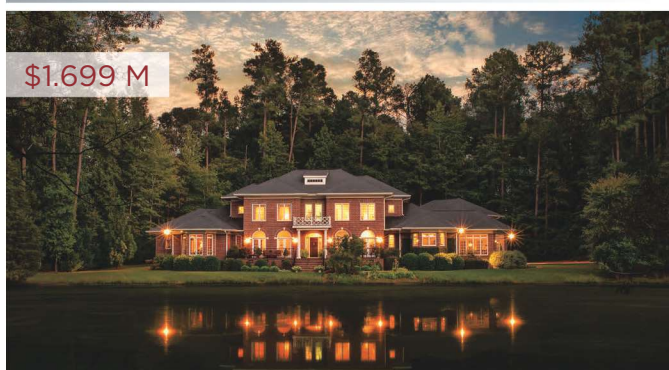
La Yola Restaurant provides open-air dining by the water or under its giant thatched hut called a "palapa."

Jessica Weill grew up in the Dominican Republic and returns home often.

"Punta Cana is a wonderful resort destination and an area of the island that has been carefully developed over the years," says Weill, founder of Weill Fitness, an area nonprofit providing fitness programming for children with special needs. "An absolute must visit while in Punta Cana is an excursion out to Saona, a small offshore island only accessible by boat or catamaran. The water surrounding Saona is crystal clear, and there are natural pools with starfish off extended sandbars, extra-long stretches of white-sand beach and a very relaxing vibe."

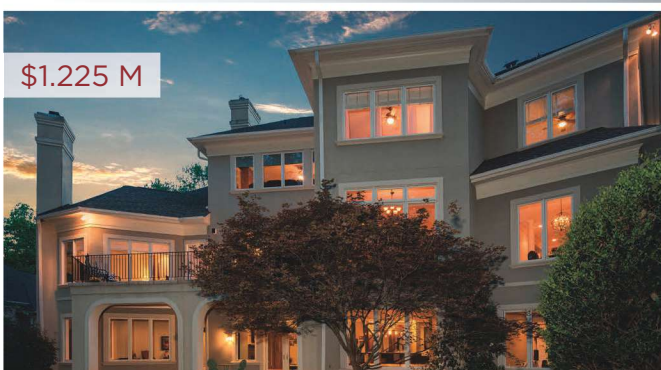
Half and full-day excursions to Saona that include lunch, drinks and snorkel gear are available through several tour operators in Punta Cana.

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Golfers aren't the only ones finding paradise in Punta Cana.



Scuba enthusiasts find an extra-special cultural experience with their dives when visiting the Igneri Underwater Museum. This underwater exhibition features 22 sustainable sculptures created by Dominican artist Thimo Pimentel. Early settlers of what was once known as “La Española” are depicted in these historically accurate underwater artworks.

For “me” time, Six Senses Spa places top priority on pampering guests. Signature treatments include Asian therapies such as Thai and foot acupressure, couple’s massage and special treatments for golfers.

Sound and sustainable tourism are demonstrated by Grupo Puntacana, the resort’s developer. In 1988,

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Photo courtesy of Jessica Weill

Jessica Weill enjoys time on a catamaran with her brother and nephew as they sail to Saona Island.

the company created the not-for-profit Puntacana Ecological Foundation, donating more than 1,500 acres to create an ecological park, reserve and research facility. Environmental initiatives feature programs protecting the population of the indigenous Ridgway Hawk, coral reef preservation and expansion, sustainable aquaculture in farming tilapia and a fascinating beekeeping project, where protected hives yield not only forest honey but the rare royal jelly as well.

Dining

Dominican cuisine is carefully curated with the freshest tropical produce, just-caught seafood and locally raised proteins prepared with colorful island flair.

Shrimp sautéed in coconut sauce, served with pigeon peas rice, is a fine example of a traditional Dominican dish offered at La Yola, a marina-side, open-air restaurant under a giant thatched hut called a “palapa.” The perfectly cooked sweet pink shrimp are bathed in a slightly spicy, slightly briny coconut broth and served on a bed of sticky rice.

Service is attentive, yet measured with knowledgeable staff to guide you through the offerings. Remember to enjoy a cold Presidente, the fine Dominican lager that pairs well with the area’s hearty fare.

Save a visit to Bamboo for your last night in Punta Cana. The restaurant’s Mediterranean-Dominican creations are inspired, and the harborside setting is cozy and intimate. Diners may enjoy a playful amuse-bouche from the chef and then be tempted with the likes of mango gazpacho with salmon tataki and pineapple froth, mushroom risotto with Parmesan foam and Caribbean lobster, grilled or baked.

Be forewarned — visiting Punta Cana is not without one significant downside. The return flight home always comes faster than you wish. ☹

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Swim Across America participants prepare to start the Nantucket, Mass., event in 2016.

Making Waves

Ballantyne-based SAA Launches Local Swim Event to Fight Cancer

By Jodi Werner Greenwald | Photos courtesy of Swim Across America

As a land-locked city, Charlotte might not immediately come to mind as the headquarters for the official charity of swimming. But when one considers the Queen City's reputation for producing Olympic swimmers and swim programs that call Charlotte home — such as SwimMAC and Mecklenburg Swim Association — it makes sense.

Rob Butcher was living in Ballantyne in 2015 when he was recruited to become CEO of Swim Across America (SAA). One condition of his acceptance: the organization would move its headquarters to Ballantyne. Butcher says he knew a Charlotte swim would soon follow.

That's because Charlotte possesses the three components the nonprofit looks for when starting a benefit swim: a core group of volunteers; a location to host a safe, fun



Rob Butcher

swim; and a cancer research beneficiary that would get behind the cause.

As envisioned, the inaugural SAA Charlotte Open Water Swim will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, at the Lake Norman YMCA to benefit Levine Cancer

Institute. Mary McCullagh, who has spearheaded SAA Nantucket and Boston swims, will lead the Charlotte event. As many as 500 participants — from fitness swimmers to Olympians, many of whom have been affected by cancer — will swim between one-half mile and 3 miles each.

The inaugural Charlotte fundraising goal is \$100,000. By the fifth year, Butcher expects the Charlotte swim to raise as much as \$400,000 annually, like SAA's other swims.

Charlotte will be the organization's 15th open-swim benefit.

The event is like Charlotte's 24 Hours of Booty but on water instead of a bike, Butcher says. Participants raise at least



Dr. Derek Raghavan

Photo courtesy of Dr. Derek Raghavan



Olympic swimmers Missy Franklin, Kristy Kowal and Heather Petri visited SAA beneficiary Children's Healthcare of Atlanta last fall.

\$400, and awards go to the highest fundraisers, not the fastest swimmers.

With a slogan of “Making Waves to Fight Cancer,” SAA lives that reality. In 2016, SAA made grants of \$4.5 million to fund research and clinical trials. Since its founding in 1987, SAA has contributed more than \$65 million toward the development of immunotherapy treatments.

Prior to his current role, Butcher was executive director of U.S. Masters Swimming and served on SAA’s board of directors. A former high school and collegiate swimmer, he has a personal motivation for leading SAA: his mother died of stage 4 appendix cancer in 2008.

When Butcher researched potential beneficiaries for the Charlotte swim, Dr. Derek Raghavan, president of Levine Cancer Institute, shared a list of clinical research programs that needed funding. “Because SAA is largely focused on good health

and young people and young athletes doing noble work, we agreed that perhaps a focus on some of our younger (leukemia) patients would be appropriate,” says Raghavan.

SAA’s business model requires that all proceeds from a swim stay in that local community. In Charlotte, the money will fund clinical trials and laboratory research spearheaded by Dr. Jonathan Gerber, director of the institute’s leukemia section.

For an event site, Butcher reached out to his friend, Ben Pinegar, executive director of the Lake Norman YMCA, which has one of the few Y waterfronts in the country. Near Interstate 77, the site is essentially a private cove with 12-foot-deep water. Participants will swim loops around the cove.

Registration for the inaugural SAA Charlotte Open Water Swim runs until Sept. 15. To swim or volunteer, visit www.swimacrossamerica.org/charlotte. ©

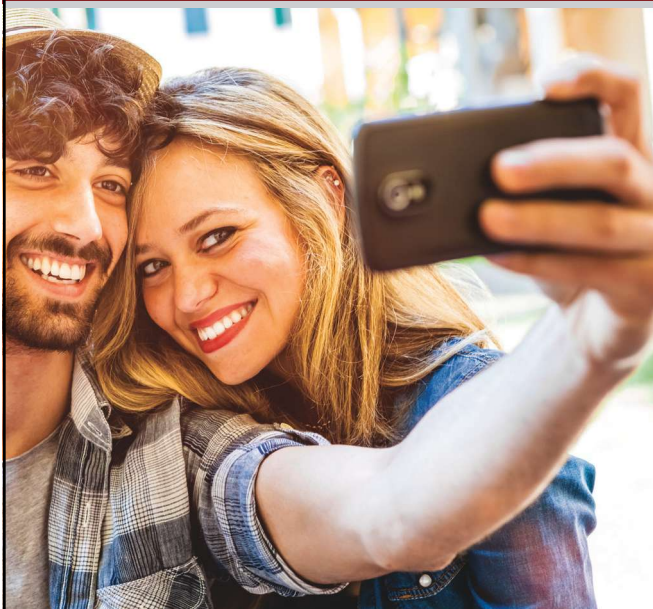


Charity Impact: SAA provides seed money for cancer research. SAA’s \$65 million in grants have served as a catalyst for an estimated \$200 million in additional funding that beneficiaries might not otherwise have received.

Lead Corporate Sponsors: 7-Eleven, Cisco, Accenture, SwimOutlet.

Ballantyne Location: Three full-time employees work at SAA’s headquarters in the Ballantyne Corporate Villas off North Community House Road, occupying 700 square feet of space.

Charlotte Olympians: Ricky Berens, Mel Stewart, Jilen Siroky and head Olympic coach David Marsh are expected to participate in the SAA Charlotte Open Water Swim and to visit patients at Levine Cancer Institute.



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Hope Gala Benefits Families

Photos by Steve Huff Media

The 2017 Celebration of Hope was held March 11 at The Ballantyne. The 14th annual gala returned to its inaugural "Rat Pack" theme and honored the memory of Hope Stout on what would have been her 26th birthday. Guests of the black-tie event enjoyed a cocktail reception, dinner, silent auction and dancing.

Proceeds benefited the March Forth with Hope Foundation started by Hope's parents, Shelby and Stuart Stout. The foundation provides financial assistance to children with life-threatening diseases and helps families stay together during treatment — which were Hope's wishes.

1. David and Lyndsey Stodgill, Karen and Derek Risley
2. Leonard Wheeler, Stuart Stout
3. Simon and Sherry Newman
4. Mitch and Karen Eisner, Christine and Joe Zammit
5. Debbie and Lyn Short, Jamie and Krystle Jones
6. William Wilson, Melissa Glennon, Riley Fields
7. Laura and Padej Yakamna, Kim and Del Turner
8. Sharon and Jerry Gregory
9. Ryan and Mary Thigpen
10. Leonard and Blanche Wheeler, Janice Bristow



Tourney Supports Food Pantry

Photos by Ray Sepesy



Common Heart's 7th annual Common Cupboard Golf Classic was played May 1 at Firethorne Country Club to raise money for Common Cupboard food pantries. The day included a 50/50 raffle, door prizes, contests, lunch, dinner, a silent auction and prizes for first, second and third-place teams.

Common Cupboard feeds local people in need, averaging about 700 families a month. In 2016, pantry locations provided a week's worth of food to more than 9,000 households across Union County, Matthews and Mint Hill.

1. Bob Moore, Gary Sharpe, Brian Wallwork, Ron Saggio
2. Mike Canady, Larry Greene
3. Anna Dowdy, Don Hall
4. Marc Wood, Britt Wilkerson
5. David Causey, Michael Branton
6. Brenda Robbins, Hank Williams
7. Nick Deneault, Flint Foley
8. Rusty Tarlton, Justin Johnson
9. Mike Applegate, Sam Rogers, John Mark Freeze, Doug Shipley
10. Luke Smith, Jonathan Fournier, Lucas Nowocin
11. Craig Jackson, Tim Sullivan, Bob Faulkner

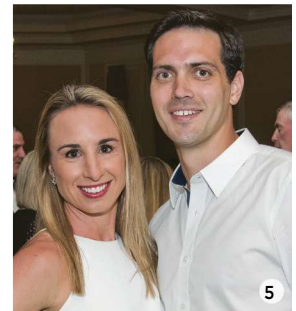
Gala Funds School Programs

Photos by Ray Sepesy

The St. Matthew Saturday Night Gala, a PTO tradition since 1992 at St. Matthew Catholic School, was held April 1 at The Ballantyne.

This year's theme was "Denim and Diamonds," with Ballantyne Jewelers and Quimby & Collins Orthodontics serving as sponsors. Celebration Sounds and TapSnap provided entertainment, and Mark Snyder was the auctioneer.

The event raised more than \$50,000 to support classroom-enrichment programs and technology, as well as to provide funding for playground shading.



1. Michael and Nathalie Lankford
2. Cris and Amy Russell, Cory and Drew Ward, Neil and Christine Shaw
3. Cindy Baxter, Heather Roberson, Dawn Nacional
4. Kevin and Patty Sweeney
5. Erin and Patrick Truxillo
6. Stacy and Tony Eisenhauer
7. Natalie Campbell, Caroline Pelletier, Nathalie Lankford, Amy Reilly, Bianca Lugg
8. Cindy Baxter; Sami, Madeleine and Yuhun Tekin; and Dawn Nacional
9. Heidi Cowan, Claire Jones, Leah Desloge
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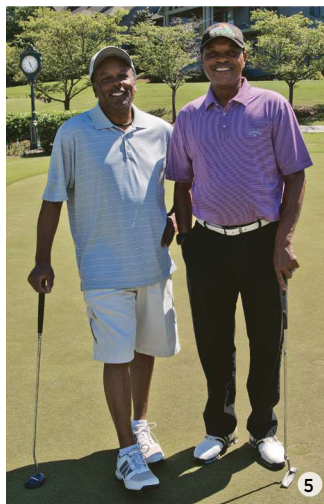
Golfers Aid Friendship Trays

Photos by Ray Sepesy

On May 8, The Ballantyne hosted the Driving Away Hunger Golf Tournament to support Friendship Trays, Charlotte's meals-on-wheels program. The event — now in its 23rd year — provides funding for the organization while also delivering a fun-filled day of good friends and good food.

Founded in 1976, Friendship Trays is a nonprofit that delivers more than 750 nutritious meals every weekday. The organization serves senior citizens, handicapped individuals and people limited by health issues.

1. Brian Landon, Tommy Beecher, Mike Vanderveer, Van Miller
2. Jim Curry, Kevin Gribbon
3. Ronnie Fortenberry, Tim Freer, Bret Stephenson
4. Tobe Holmes, Gene Carney, Jim Iannuzzo
5. H.L. Barnette, W.L. "Pop" Woodard
6. George Hargrove, Ralph Falero, Levin Lynch, Sean Eaton
7. Steven Boyd, Jimmy Rembert, Leon Simmons, Otis Stroud
8. Yolanda Grier, Nikki Henderson, Aubrey Blakely, Kieauna Nelson, Jon Penninger
9. Bill Farthing, Chip Ford
10. Ashley Chilton, Ralph Falero, Elyn Dortch
11. Charlie Stewart, Don Harris, Paul Haisley, Alan Simpson



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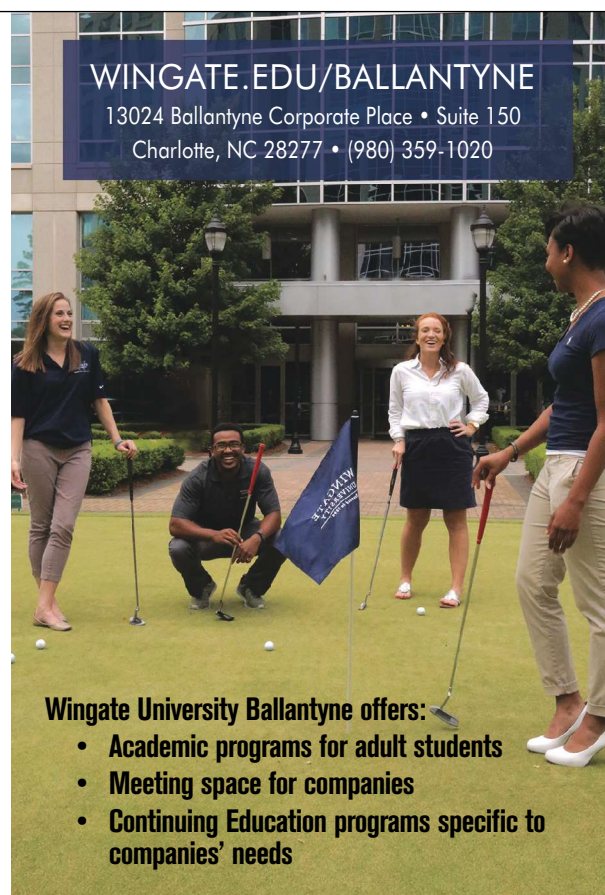
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Vintage Vibe

Local Resident Fashions Wearable Art

By Matt Olin and Jodi Werner Greenwald | Photo by Ray Sepesy

Cara Morris creates wearable art from the basement of her Ballantyne home. She sells her one-of-a-kind pieces at boutiques, shows and at www.runway45.com. In 2016, she won “Best in Show” at Waxhaw’s Kaleidoscope Fest.

In this edition of “Creative Spark,” Morris shares her creative process with Matt Olin from CreativeMornings/Charlotte, www.charlotteiscreative.com.

What was your original “spark” of inspiration?

The altered couture styles I discovered on Etsy. But the more I searched, the more what I wanted was in my own head. That was the beginning of my “self-taught” adventure.

From where do you source your vintage textiles?

In the beginning, it was my mom being an excellent early-bird hunter at yard sales. I now have contacts that specialize in selling vintage linens. Friends and customers also donate beautiful linens to me to repurpose.

How long does it take to create a single garment?

From two hours to two days. Sometimes I will look at a large tablecloth for hours, hold it up at different angles, plan the cuts around the patterns. If it’s big and beautiful, I pray over it. I have to get up enough nerve to cut it. I can’t imagine being a surgeon.

Do you have a favorite piece?

My current favorite is one I dyed an eggplant shade because it was stained. It merged perfectly with a faux suede jacket I rescued from a thrift store.

Is there creative tension in creating clothes that are both art and something practical?

Mixing prints can be a challenge from an aesthetic standpoint as well as a wearable one. Certain prints and colors have a lot more range of flattery than others. Early on I decided if I could merge unpredictable elements and keep it comfortable, I would have a successful line of clothing.

What’s up next?

I have big plans for my little scraps. Nothing should go to waste. I would like to see a whole separate product line produced from my leftover pieces. The customer would be informed at point of purchase that a portion of each sale goes to help a specific charity.

Anything else you’d like to share?

I am a single mother who started on a shoestring budget. My most valuable trade secret is my mom. She tags, trims, runs errands and picks up all the slack when I travel to shows. She’s my amazing sweat-equity, dependable business partner. ⑩

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Share with us your creative ideas or projects, and you could be featured on this page. To be considered, send a brief description and any accompanying imagery to Jodi Greenwald at jgreenwald@ballantynemagazine.com.



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