

NEIGHBORS OF

LELAND

DECEMBER 2024



MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR
NICHOLAS NEWELL
Spreading Christmas Cheer

Photo by Angela Bartlett Photography

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Nicholas Newell of Leland, North Carolina was born on Christmas Day. With a name like Nicholas and a birthday on Dec 25th, Newell founded his non-profit organization, Saint Nicholas Christmas Foundation. He thinks it is something unique and special not just for himself but more importantly for others involved.

"I love being able to take a special and fun fact about me and turn it into something that capitalizes for others," Newell confirms. "The help that we provide for others is amazing but what has garnered national attention for the organization is the fact that a "Nicholas" born on Christmas is essentially Santa."

Through his own hard work, Newell has been able to accomplish a lot. He's also welcomed help from many people along the way including his mother, media personnel, liaisons, etc. His mother, Pamela, serves as his regional director for their other chapters in the states of Idaho and Washington St. He also has regional operations in Colorado and California.

Newell pauses his day job as a real estate agent during November and December. This allows him to make his mission of helping people during the Christmas season possible and the best it can be by focusing on his foundation full-time.

Between 2018 and the present day, Newell has been featured on numerous news platforms to spread Christmas cheer. Dressed in his Christmas-themed suits in each of these appearances, these include Star News, WECT and WWAY locally. Most notably, he was featured on the The TODAY show in New York City in 2020.

This TV moment ultimately gave him more of an ability to have much further of an outreach to help more of the elderly and ones at a disadvantage this Christmas and every Christmas. Nick loves that he has the ability to make such a difference in this way.



The Saint Nicholas Christmas Foundation raises resources to gather gifts and collects physical presents for members of assisted living facilities who no longer have family or the means to help themselves. Information can be found at www.saintnick.com

Overall, Nicholas Newell just loves being involved in the Leland area community. Among being the founder of the Saint Nicholas Christmas Foundation, he also is the owner of the Capstone Group, a local real estate firm. He is also President of Mallory Creek Plantation HOA, a committee member of The City of Wilmington's Municipal Service District, a Executive Committee member of Wilmington Downtown Incorporated as well as a committee member of Cape Fear Realtors MLS.

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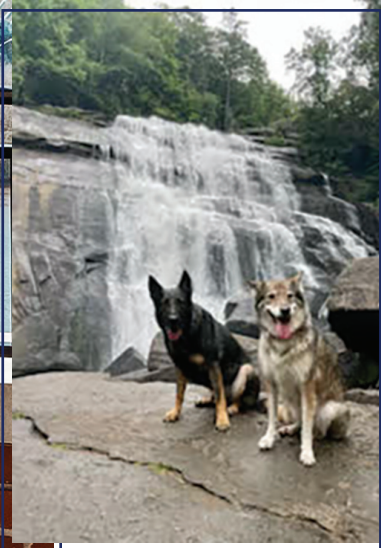
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first home. Back then, there were only a few hundred homes in Mallory Creek. It is much larger today but still has its charm. With assistance from other board and committee members as well as Association manager Rob Dunham, Newell oversees day-to-day operations of his neighborhood. They have grown to 1,500+ homes and 5,000+ residents. A number that is expected to continue to grow in the coming years.

"I love being able to volunteer and serve my neighbors as president of this association," Newell says. "It's not the white house so we try not to take it too seriously



but it's home and these are my people so It's every bit as important. There are roughly 500 towns and cities in NC. If our neighborhood was its own town we'd be bigger than more than half of them."

Along with his very active lifestyle helping the community of Leland and Wilmington, Newell does like to take time for himself. This can take on the form of traveling, be it around the state, the country or internationally when he has the time. He recounts being fortunate to live in his

community in Leland and enjoys his community where he can rely on them to help if he is out of town.

Aside from traveling he enjoys a very athletic lifestyle be it snowboarding, boating, scuba diving or at the gym. Newell also participates in local half marathons and plays sports recreation leagues of tennis, kickball and volleyball.

Nicholas likes to help others in his community. He looks forward to another Christmas "I have always worked hard and as a result been fortunate to have what I need and want," Newell extends on this idea. "So being able to help others on my birthday, to be in a position to help others is truly the best gift."

Part of his inspiration is his mother who participates in similar passions as well as his sister. "After a long career as a deputy, my mother currently works for the governor's office in our home state handling resident claims and complaints," Newell mentions. "My sister spends time raising my adorable nephew Cooper as well as working at a salon which she loves."

He also thinks his neighbors in Leland are awesome and helpful anytime they are called. Leland and his neighborhood of Mallory Creek, according to Newell, has grown a lot since the days when he bought his

GRATEFUL GRAZE



Meet Ericka Mitchell, the founder of Grateful Graze, a woman-owned business in Wilmington, NC, where cheese dreams come true! Since 2019, she's been all about the cheese and charcuterie life, serving up delicious graze tables and boards that turn any get-together into an Insta-worthy feast. Her cozy storefront features grab-and-go options like fresh sandwiches and salads, plus fun Cheeseboard 101 classes. With Grateful Graze, you have everything you need for unforgettable gatherings. Let Ericka handle the catering, and get ready to elevate your events—one delicious bite at a time!



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