

RE/MAX HAS NEW DIGS

by Jackie Devine

It takes a team of players including staging designers, appraisers, home inspectors, property managers, contractors, bankers, mortgage loan officers, and government agencies to move the ball down the field, but it requires disciplined real estate agents and brokers to pass the 10-yard line and score a touchdown.

Always on the hunt for a story, I wondered, why those seasoned pros, the RE/MAX team, decided to the change locations on the playing field.

When I stepped in the doorway of their new digs, I had my answer: location, location, location!



Opening the interview, I asked Mike, "Why real estate, and why in Fairfield?"

He explained, "I majored in Ag Economics at Texas A & M and took quite a few real estate courses as well. After I graduated, although I enjoyed what I was doing in wholesale foods, I felt a different calling for my career. So, I took a shot at real estate back in 1991 and realized it was a perfect fit for me.

"It called forth my problem-solving skills, satisfied my desire to work with a team, and addressed my fascination with industry trends and real estate topics." Mike continued, "I thoroughly enjoyed interacting and mingling with people while helping them find the perfect home.





"Then as now, when buyers lay out their criteria, the three biggest things I sell them on in Fairfield are the family atmosphere, the small-town feeling, and the schools. No other neighborhood compares. I've sold a lot of houses to scores of people, and I've shown them a variety of areas. But, it seems the majority of them migrate back to Fairfield. They tell me the character of Fairfield is different than the Woodlands or other communities.

"Whether a client is working with our team or me, they consistently experience agents that are self-motivated, friendly entrepreneurs. They are tenacious, hard working and able to hustle. Our staff has a genuine interest in houses, architecture, and design, which is important to our customers."

Ironically, Mike's comments were also the perfect description of Pam, his wife, partner, and RE/MAX office manager. Pam obtained (Continued on Page 2)



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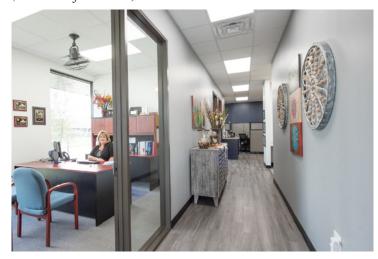
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her real estate license in 2011, and handles day-to-day operations, sells, and provides staging and decorating services for clients.

Pam is an entrepreneur in her own right. At the age of 19, she purchased a furniture store in Beaumont Texas. After operating it for 10 years, she relocated to Houston and began climbing the corporate ladder working with such recognized names as Fingers, Star Furniture, Levitz and The Room Store.

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(Continued from Page 2)

A few years ago, she laughed, "I recognized Mike was having a lot more fun than I was. So I decided to make a career change and joined the RE/MAX team."

"After operating out of our former location for twenty-five years," Mike explained, "Our office became too small. We were recruiting new agents and lacked the space for expansion.

Then, Bob Elberger with Concorde Realty Development contacted us about the site at the N.E. corner of Mason and Cypresswood. We knew we wanted to stay in Fairfield and recognized it was a perfect location, so it was a natural fit for us.

"As we planned the build-out and design of the office," Pam explained, "we wanted it to be inviting, light, bright, and open. Focusing on agent development and training, we knew we needed a large conference room that could easily accommodate 15 to 20 people. Plus, we wanted additional office space and a "Bull Pen" with Wi-Fi where agents could hook up their computers.

The Schroeders are heavily involved in supporting the community of Fairfield and their favored charities. For every home they sell, they make a donation to Texas Children's Hospital.

In September REMAX sponsored an ice cream give-away to thank everyone in Fairfield for their twenty-five years of success and to celebrate back to school.

"We are hosting an Open House Grand Opening on Friday, October 12th." he continued, "We will have a DJ, mobile food truck, beer, wine, and cocktails. We want to thank the many people of Fairfield over the last 25 years who have entrusted our brokerage with the biggest financial decision of their lives...the purchase of their home. We also want to salute all of our amazing agents for their hard work and dedication, for making our business possible, and for making our dreams come true."

December 1st, they will kick off their 12TH Annual Toys For Tots drive. Their annual Pictures With Santa event will be held at the office from 10:00 to 3:00. Santa will arrive on the Fire Truck about 10:00 am, weather permitting. They will also have a silent auction



where all the proceeds go to Texas Children's hospital.

Mike said, "I can't emphasize enough that I don't work for a living; I love what I do. I enjoy helping people whether it's helping people buy or sell homes or developing agents to become peak producers."

They want the community to know that they are looking forward to developing new agents and would enjoy showing them what the big red, white, and the blue balloon is all about. They also have additional office space for lease to seasoned agents or newbies who want to get in the business.

They have a room for community events, business meetings or clubs, and invite Fairfield residents to call if they are looking for a space to meet.

Pam and Mike have three grandchildren 18, 8, and 7. Their son Ricky and his wife Audrey live in Lakewood Forrest and operate an evaluation service and appraisal firm.

In closing, Mike said, "Amateurs practice until they get it right. Our professionals practice so they don't get it wrong. At RE/MAX, we strap on our helmets and shoulder pads every day to help our agents, clients, and residents score a touchdown in the perilous, yet rewarding, home-buying game of life."



Two Years, Many Milestones

by Jonathan Spenser, Adult Ministries Pastor



It is hard to believe, but Second Baptist Church is already coming up on the second anniversary of their new Cypress Campus! The Second Family opened their doors in Fairfield on

October 30, 2016 and have been very busy since that day. Every Sunday, they offer outstanding Bible Study classes to the community for all ages and stages and dynamic worship featuring live preaching from Pastor Stephen Bailiff. But if you've been around Second, you know that Sunday mornings are just the beginning of their mission. Since our Grand Opening two years ago, the Cypress Campus has already experienced these incredible milestones:

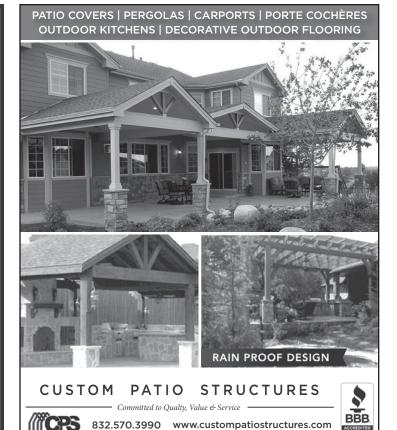
- They've offered state of the art VBS programs the past two summers with over 5000 in attendance from the local Cypress area.
- Second adopted 3 local CFISD schools. Every month, Second comes alongside them by mentoring students, supporting teachers, and sponsoring school events.
- They've developed CFISD partnerships including hosting district wide training meetings and seminars. They've also recognized the

superintendent and Cypress' two state championship teams on Sunday mornings (Cy-Fair HS and Cypress Christian).

- Christmas events and services have impacted thousands in the area. From their annual Kids Crazy Christmas Shows, to their amazing train displays for the kids, to last year's memorable Christmas Spectacular event, Second has provided an incredible Christmas calendar filled with programs for the entire community.
 - They've made the Easter season memorable with a free "Passion (Continued on Page 5)







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Week Experience" exhibit, a 20,000 Easter egg hunt, and incredible celebration services on Sunday mornings.

- Their All American Sunday event on 4th of July weekend was a community favorite, as it featured a carnival and a professional fireworks show for the entire community.
- They've hosted a Dave Ramsey conference, a marriage conference, and special sports camps for kids.
- Following Hurricane Harvey, the Cypress Campus played a pivotal role in ministering to impacted families in NW Houston. Over 1000 volunteers from their church remediated over 240 flooded homes. The church also served as a donation and distribution center and were able to get nearly 300 pallets of goods to families in need.
- They weekly host 500+ ladies from the local Community Bible Study organization.
- Most importantly, they've baptized over 700 people and joined over 1400 new members since opening their doors!

It has been an amazing two years of ministry for the Second Family, but the staff and leadership truly believe the best is yet to come! They'd like to invite you to come worship with them this fall as they celebrate all that God has done, and look forward with great anticipation to all that is yet to come. For more information you can visit their website at www.second.org/cypress or their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/secondcypress



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Fairfield Choir Sings at the Vatican

by Archibald Franklin

Since 1626 the finest choirs in the world have sung masses at St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. In 2018 Fairfield's own, Good Shepherd United Methodist Church Chancel Choir joined the list that includes Coro della Cappella Musicale Pontificia (The Pope's Choir), the Vienna Boys Choir, the choir of Notre Dame Cathedral Paris, Choir of Men and Boys from St. Thomas on 5th Avenue in New York, etc. Each year leading conductors from around the globe are invited by the Vatican to lead choral masses at the high altar when the St. Peter's Choir is on summer sabbatical. This year, Dr. Sterling Allen, Director of Music and Worship Arts at Good Shepherd received this prestigious invitation from the Cardinal who oversees all liturgical services at St. Peter's Basilica and in the Sistine Chapel.

Dr. Allen led the choir on tour to Venice, Florence, Assisi, Sienna, Pisa, and Rome. They embraced Italian culture, enjoyed the beauty of the country, and explored the ancient sites. The tour culminated with the beautiful evensong mass at the High Altar of St. Peter's Basilica. During the mass the choir sang favorite settings of Mack Wilberg's Amazing Grace featuring choir, organ, and flute; Mark Hayes' Fairest, Lord Jesus; Go to the World (the song Good Shepherd uses weekly as their benediction song); and Mozart's Ave Verum Corpus.

The Chancel Choir of Good Shepherd is not new to traveling and singing in prestigious venues. In 2016 the choir sang while on a concert tour of Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and England. In 2017 the choir sang two concerts at the invitation of President Donald Trump at the White House during it's Christmas celebrations. In 2020 the choir is looking forward to outreach concerts in Prague, Vienna, Salzburg, Oberammergau, and Munich. Each of these concert/outreach tours includes not only singers and instrumentalists, but also friends and family. If you're interested in joining the next tour to the Czech Republic, Austria, and Germany email Dr. Allen at sterlinga@goodchurch.us. To hear this incredible choir locally you can attend worship at Good Shepherd every Sunday at 9:15 AM and on December 9th for their annual Christmas at Good Shepherd concert.



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