

LIFE AT

Lake Jeanette

FEBRUARY 2022

A PUBLICATION EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE RESIDENTS
OF LAKE JEANETTE

meet the **ROTH FAMILY**

Photo by Melissa Read Healy



YOUR STORIES! YOUR PHOTOS! YOUR COMMUNITY!

meet your neighbors

By Ellen Bryant Lloyd

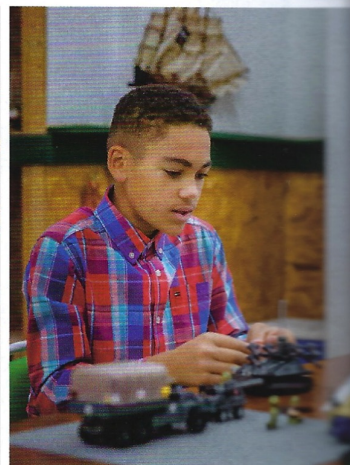
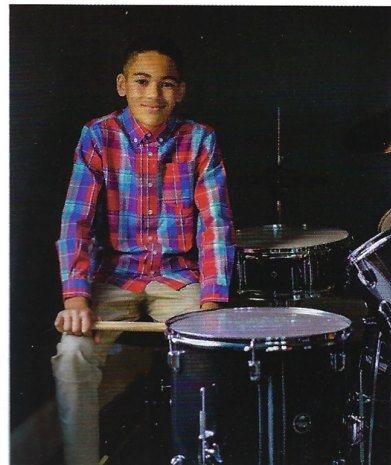
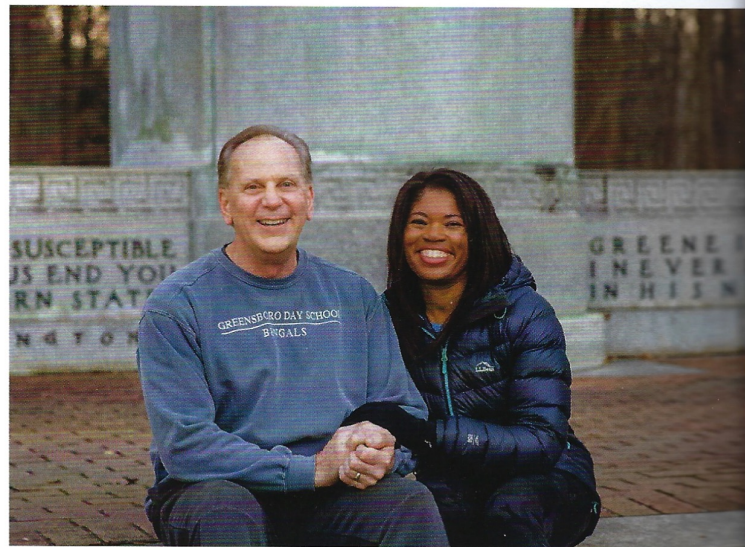
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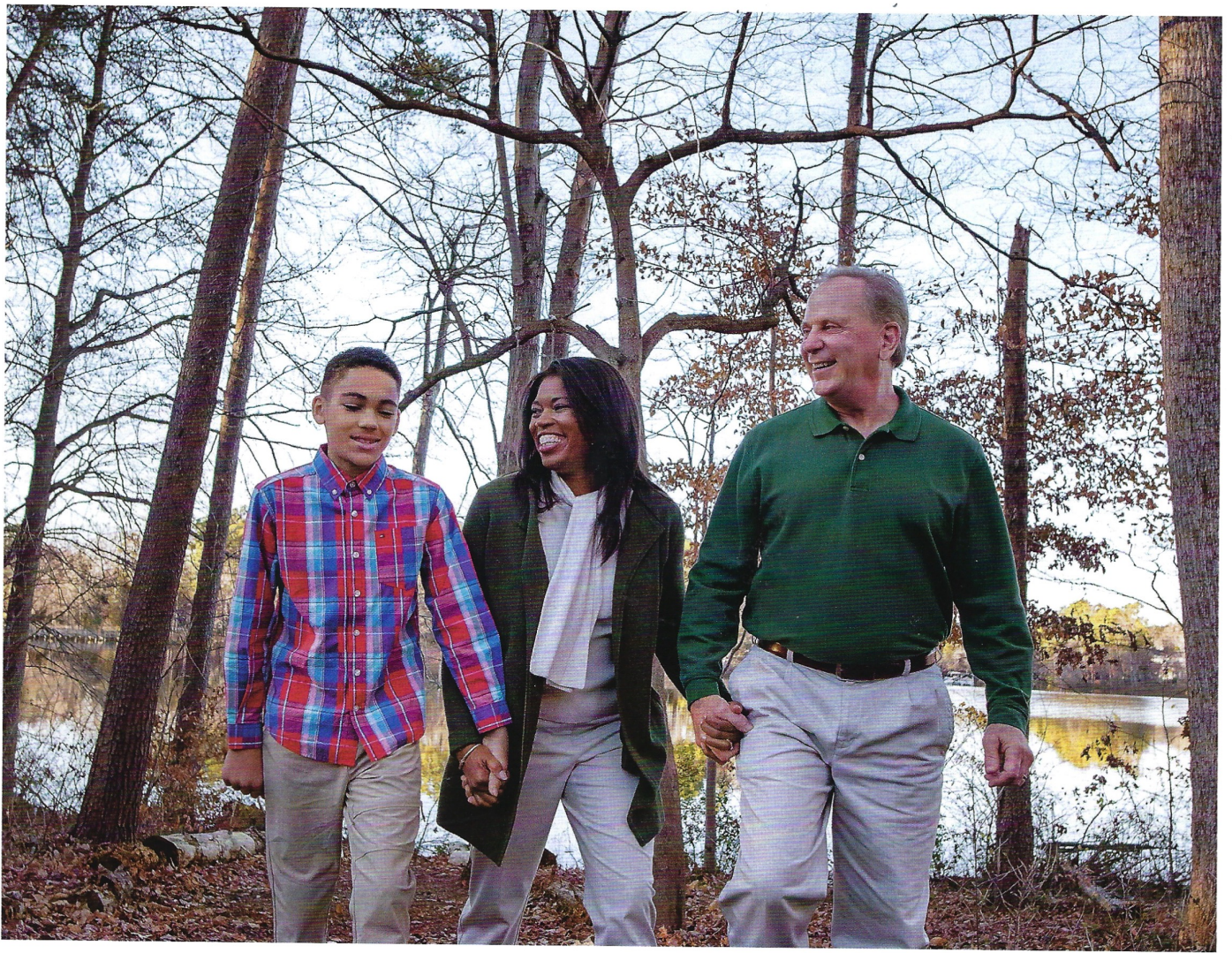
the ROTH family

As a young professional, Chip Roth felt regret that his workday had crept into the evening, but he knew that often came with the territory in his role as Communications Director of the Teamster Union in Washington, D.C. However, that night fate literally smiled on Chip, turning a less-than-ideal late night at the office into a life-changing one. “The clock read 9:00 p.m., and I had put off dinner once again, so I decided to go to a nearby restaurant on Capitol Hill. When I walked in, I was struck by a woman who had a beautiful smile — it was Denise. Her smile felt like a magnet, so I crossed the restaurant and said ‘hello’ to her. She had gone there after working a long day in the mayor’s office. I asked her out on a date the next night, and we have not been apart since,” Chip shares.

Chip and Denise enjoyed each other’s company and realized they had a lot in common, notably a shared commitment to public service. Their magnetic connection grew and they were married on September 6, 2004, at the top of the mountain at Chimney Rock State Park. Today, their family includes their son, Connor (12) and their golden retriever/border collie mix, Captain (5). Chip was raised in the Pittsburgh, PA, area and attended the University of Pittsburgh on a full academic scholarship. In 2014, Chip left his position with the Teamsters and founded Roth & Associates, a firm that offers strategic communications and business consulting to large corporations.

Denise grew up in Washington, D.C., and graduated from George Mason University. In 2017, the university recognized Denise with an honorary doctorate degree for her extensive public service and commitment to building better communities. Early in her career, Denise worked for the Office of Congressman Jim Moran before working for the Office of Mayor Anthony Williams in Washington, D.C. She then opened the Greensboro office of Congressman Brad Miller when she moved to the Triad. She then took the position as Vice President for Governmental Affairs with the Greensboro Partnership. In 2008, Denise became Greensboro’s Assistant City Manager, a role she held for four years before being named City Manager.





In 2014, Denise was honored to be tapped by President Obama to be the Deputy Administrator of the General Services Administration, a position that reported directly to the President. She held this position until 2015 when she was named Administrator of the GSA. In 2017, Denise was named a Fellow for the National Academy of Public Administration, a position she holds to this day. Chip was honored to also be a presidential appointee having been named as a Senior Advisor for Strategic Communications for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The Roths relished their time living in D.C. and have fond family memories of attending White House Christmas parties and Easter egg hunts. They also formed special friendships with many people there, including U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch, who is originally from Greensboro, and her husband.

Neither Chip nor Denise were born in Greensboro, but they fell in love with the city while living here prior to moving to Washington, D.C. to serve in the Obama Administration. "As our time in the Obama Administration was drawing to a close, we decided to go back 'home' to Greensboro. We had developed such wonderful relationships while living here before that we

wanted to reconnect with those whom we considered extended family," Denise says.

Chip, Denise and Connor quickly settled into their Lake Jeanette home and became involved in the community and activities they enjoy. Chip returned to his firm, Roth & Associates, expanding the scope of his business to include capital and business development, and Denise joined WSP USA, a large international engineering firm that guides cities and states nationwide in developing public policy, as a Senior Advisor. In 2020, she was named president of the firm. Connor started school at Greensboro Day School where he is now in the sixth grade.

Chip enjoys playing tennis and practicing yoga and meditation. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Unity Church of Greensboro and recently worked with local ministerial leaders to convince Guilford County to distribute Covid vaccines through churches so congregants would feel more comfortable getting them. This effort gave Guilford County enhanced opportunities to distribute vaccines to hard-to-reach minority populations.

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Denise enjoys tennis, running, cooking and volunteering at Greensboro Day School where she serves on the Board of Directors. She is also a member of the Board of the NC-Folk Festival and serves on the Steering Committee of Building Best Guilford, sponsored by the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro. "As the former Greensboro City Manager, it is rewarding for me to see efforts I helped initiate while serving in city government come to fruition, including the Steven Tanger Center for the Performing Arts, LeBauer Park, and the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering. It is wonderful that these initiatives are now helping Greensboro thrive," Denise says.

Chip and Denise continue to be passionate about public service and making a difference in the community. In fact, Chip has decided to take his public service involvement to the next level and is a candidate for Greensboro City Council to represent District 3. "It would be an honor to represent my community in this capacity. I love Greensboro and am committed to giving back with my service," Chip says.

Connor is on the soccer, lacrosse and track teams at Greensboro Day School. His flag football team recently won its league championship at Proehlfic Park. Connor also plays the drums and is an avid Lego builder. In fact, there is a devoted space in their home where he can build and display his expansive creations. Connor is an American war history enthusiast who hopes to attend the West Point Military Academy. He enjoys displaying re-creations of famous American war battle scenes he builds with Legos. "While in D.C., we lived three blocks from the U.S. Capitol, which allowed us to regularly visit the Smithsonian Museums that were within walking distance from our home, especially the Museum of National History and the Air and Space museums," Chip says.

The Roth family loves living in Lake Jeanette and taking advantage of all the amenities. "We love playing tennis, kayaking on the lake, walking Captain along the trails, visiting nearby museums, helping coach Connor's athletic teams and watching his games. We appreciate the intergenerational relationships that we have developed with neighbors. Connor has made many friends and even forged special friendships with some military veterans in our neighborhood. In fact, we love Lake Jeanette so much that we recently bought another home on the lake in the same neighborhood. It is wonderful! We love the serenity... We are definitely home!"

Pre-Covid, the family enjoyed traveling to many countries including Australia, Spain, France, Ireland and Morocco, and look forward to traveling again post-Covid. Connor has identified the World War II museums in London as a top destination.

Closer to home, the Roths enjoy having Sunday brunch at Green Valley Grill, visiting local sites or taking in performances at the Steven Tanger Center for the Performing Arts. They also like watching sporting events on television, especially the Pittsburgh Steelers, Pittsburgh Penguins or the Pitt Panthers (Chip points out that they are ACC football champions) or the Avenger series.

Chip, Denise and Connor are a close-knit, community and service-minded, active trio that truly enjoys spending time together. Chip and Denise are proud to have served and continue to serve our community and country in a number of significant roles, and Connor hopes to say the same when he grows up.

Without a doubt, Chip and Denise are especially grateful for the fateful evening when their demanding careers facilitated a connection that set them on a path leading to a full, interesting and wonderful life together. A powerful connection that started simply ... with a smile.



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