

Embracing a New Season

JOHN AND JENNIFER WALDROP ARE SHIFTING GEARS, FRESHLY SETTLING INTO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, MAKING CHANGES IN THE FAMILY BUSINESSES, AND ENJOYING THEIR EMPTY NEST.

WRITTEN BY RESIDENT, CHRISTINA CUSH

IN 2006, John and Jennifer Waldrop left Columbus, Georgia, and the comfort of the friends and family they grew up with, to raise their two kids in the peaceful oasis that is Ponte Vedra Beach. John's family had a beachfront house, which is where the Waldrops made a soft landing for about a year, until they found a place of their own near Christ Church. At the time, their son Jake was 5 and their daughter Wynn was 2. They became part of welcoming community at Christ Church preschool and made family friends that have lasted for over two decades.

Moving the Nest

In 2015, they shook things up and bought at home in a small, gated community, where they lived for about 10 years. "Over time, we wanted more of a neighborhood feel, a walkable neighborhood, and in the many years that we've lived and

worked in Ponte Vedra Beach, we kept hearing about the friendliness of TPC Sawgrass." On April 1, 2026, they made the switch to Sawgrass, with Max, their 3-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel.

Thanks to the help of local real estate pros, they found the perfect house on Cypress Creek Drive East. "There is a ton of natural light pouring in, it's roomy enough for us to entertain, there's space for the kids when they come home. The house was in great condition; we just made it more fun and colorful. I love the vibe of it and I'm crazy about the live oaks in the back yard. We sit on our back patio watching all kinds of birds hang out in them."

"If you meet John," Jennifer adds, "He's quiet and subtle, living in this very colorful house. But even though he's quiet, there's a lot going on in that brain of his. It doesn't stop. He's always processing and thinking about our businesses."





Business Partners

In addition to moving the family nest, John and Jennifer made a big change in their working lives. For the past 15 years, Jennifer says, “I have been digging in dirt, installing and designing landscapes and we recently sold that business, Vie Plant and Garden Design. I’m now helping John at Vie Home Services, which he’s run for over 15 years, and am excited to get into something different. I bring organization to scheduling the projects and teams and have a keen sense of design for the remodeling and renovation projects,” says Jennifer. At Vie Home Services, John’s team offers pressure washing, decking maintenance and replacement, home watch and security, and storm preparation and clean up. “Our clients put a huge amount of trust in us,” says Jennifer, “And we don’t take that lightly. They are letting us on their property and into their homes.”

Making Family Memories

Now 24, Jake is a graduate of Florida Gulf Coast University’s PGA Golf Management Program working as the 1st Assistant Golf Professional at Spring Run Golf Club in Estero, Florida. “He is living the life and plays golf every day down there,” says Jennifer. When he comes home, he likes to play more golf at the course he grew up on at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club. Jake also enjoys taking adventurous deepwater fishing trips with his dad.

Wynn is 22 and finishing up her college education at TCU in Fort Worth, Texas, as an interior design major. She is currently interning with a design firm in Fort Worth. “She’s my little



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helper when it comes to design. If I get stuck on something, she’ll tell me like it is.” says Jennifer. Wynn shares an apartment at school with her dog Sadie, a spirited doodle mix. After graduating, Wynn will return to Jacksonville to join an exciting design team she previously worked with as an intern.

Jennifer and John have had a blast traveling with the young adult versions of Jake and Wynn, taking trips that blend some adrenaline-fueled moments, like riding dune buggies in the Las Vegas desert, or being in awe of nature, like exploring the trails at the Grand Canyon and the glaciers of Iceland.





Green Thumb

Jennifer's passion for gardening prevails, and she quickly transformed her front yard's garden beds and added giant colorful pots, like joyful exclamation points to her front entryway. Her top landscaping tips:

- Use pringles or dwarf podocarpus plants for hedges because they stay green, don't overgrow, and provide screening quickly.
 - Incorporate tropical plants and flowers sparingly in your flowerpots and garden beds, as they can't survive a rough winter. Invest in colorful perennials like salvia or pentas, or vibrant annuals like snapdragons, petunias, and zinnias.
 - A well-designed flowerpot is anchored with something tall or bushy like Queen Anne ferns, irises, or topiaries. The middle of the pots should have lower growing, colorful plants (pentas or begonias). Add a fun color to drape over the pot's edges (petunias, ivy, creeping jenny). Trim, fertilize, and water so the plants last for more than six weeks.