

Neighbors Neighbors

THE PLESSNERS

Photos by David Frey, David Michael Photography

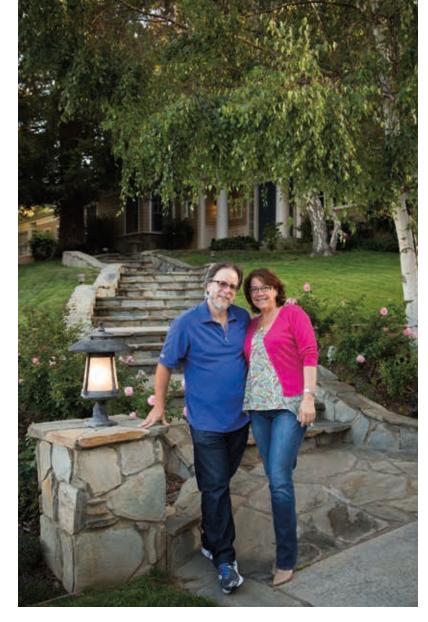
KEEPING THE PAST ALIVE

Here at Inside North Ranch, we strive to generate a sense of community through this publication and the social events that we host for the residents. This month's featured family, the Plessners, is making great strides at a similar goal – preserving a sense of family. In our busy society today, it is often difficult to find the time to remember and honor our family's story. Do you know your story? Do your children know their family history?

The Plessner family is a Brady-bunch blend of Mitch and Gayle's six kids, four boys and two girls - Ari (30), Rebecca (29) who is currently getting her PhD in London England, Kat (27), Fred (26), Sherwood (23), and Matthew (19). When they are not developing their businesses, Mitch and Gayle concentrate on staying active by riding bicycles, playing tennis, or walking their three dogs - Snoop, Hermione, and Lucy. Their favorite restaurants in the area are Rustico and Lure. When asked what they love about North Ranch, Mitch replied, "When I return from a trip out of town I feel a sense of peace driving up Lindero Canyon Blvd. When I look around I can see how our community appreciates where we live, by the effort put into the homes and the way neighbors look out for each other."

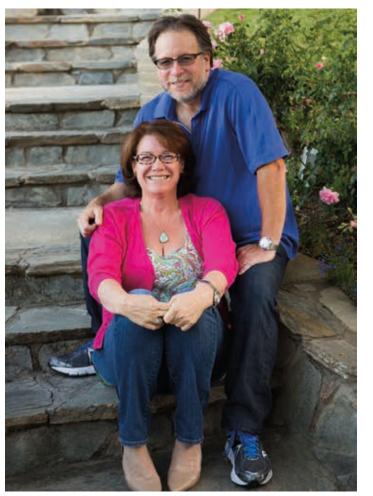
Mitch Plessner was formerly Chief Editor of audio books at Random House. A few years ago he left this long-time position as part of a major effort to revise his priorities and goals in life. He was tired of commuting and working long hours. Life is too short. Gayle supported him completely in his decision; she knows first-hand how hard it is to initiate meaningful change in one's life. Gayle recently received her Master's Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from California Lutheran University. She is getting her PhD from Pacifica Graduate Institute and is currently helping to preserve a sense of family as a Marriage and Family therapist intern and is awaiting licensure. She practices at The Landing in Westlake Village.

After leaving Random House, Mitch started a new business converting media of all types to digital format. The business began with a conversation with his 80-year-old father-in-law. "It was



Thanksgiving and we were discussing how people tend to have a lot of useless media laying around their homes. But it's only useless because technology has rendered the media storage device obsolete," says Mitch. "My tech-savvy father-in-law thought it'd be great if someone could provide a service to consolidate old film, videos, and scattered photos because it was such a shame to let all those treasured family memories fade. We brainstormed about a business that would convert everything to more easily accessible digital formats," says Mitch. He came up with a plan for what is now Plessner Digital & Archive. A thriving North Ranch business and publication sponsor.

In addition to the digital conversion services offered, he has added a new feature to the business called "Keeping the Past Alive," which is family video biography service. This involves a parent or grandparent telling stories of their life - where they were born, where their parents were from, even where their grandparents were from, how they met their spouse, their wedding day, kids, etc. Mitch meets with the client and they discuss topics to be discussed, then he records them in the comfort of their home, cuts in scanned photos, and it's all recorded in hi definition.











"Both my parents have passed away. Back in 2007, I taped my dad and his sister talking about their time growing up. It's something I will always have and can pass down to my kids so they know where our family came from," says Mitch. "I am excited about this new product 'Keeping the Past Alive' and I believe it's something people don't know they want...yet."

Do you have a special family that we should highlight in our Meet Your Neighbors section? Contact Kim at kim.dawson@n2pub.com to learn how your family (or your neighbor's) can be the next featured neighbors!

