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TABLE OF CONTENTS



06
Preferred Partners



09
Meet the Team



10
Top Producer:
Chris Benedict



16
Legend in the Business:
Jennifer Kish



20
Rising Star:
Ahmed Fayz



24
Making a Difference:
Tasha Dane

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Chris
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Photos by Jennifer Arnett with Starloft Photography
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FROM TEXTBOOKS TO DREAM HOMES

When success is measured not just in numbers but in relationships built and dreams fulfilled, Chris Benedict stands out as a luminary. An accomplished agent with Coldwell Banker Realty, Chris brings over a decade of experience, a stellar track record, and a passion for helping clients navigate the intricate path of buying or selling their homes.

Chris embarked on her real estate journey in 2012, a strategic move during a market resurgence. “In some ways, it was a great time to start because the deals were more complicated — such as foreclosures and short sales,” she said. “As the market was slower, it gave me a chance to really learn our trade at a less hectic pace but with thorny, more challenging deals.” Her foresight paid off, because the market skyrocketed the following year, which found Chris ready and fully trained — and with a wealth of experience under her belt.

Before her real estate career, Chris was a sales representative and sales supervisor in the college textbook industry, notably with McGraw-Hill Publishing Company. A seven-year stint as a stay-at-home mom preceded her return to McGraw-Hill. The pivotal moment came when the company spun off its college textbook business in



of all of our activities is always our cornerstone principle,” Bob said. His background in product development at GM, where customer-centricity was paramount, aligns seamlessly with the Benedict Homes philosophy.

2012, leading Chris to explore a long-held interest in real estate.

“I’ve always wanted to try real estate, and it seemed like a perfect fit,” Chris shared. “Many of the same skills I gained while working in the college textbook industry transferred easily into my new profession, and I found that I absolutely loved being an agent!”

Chris’ success is not only measured in sales volumes but also in the recognition she has garnered over the years. She has consistently ranked in the top 5-8% of Coldwell Banker’s global sales associates worldwide from 2015 to 2022, and in the Metro Detroit area, she has been recognized as a top 5% REALTOR® from 2014 to 2023 by Hour Detroit magazine. Her real estate career began with a notable achievement in 2012 when she was named Coldwell Banker Weir Manuel’s “Rising Star,” which is awarded to the individual with the highest first-year sales in the entire company. As a relocation specialist, Chris received the distinction of “Top 3-Highest Customer Satisfaction Survey Results” in 2018. These accolades attest not only to her sales prowess but also to the satisfaction and trust she instills in her clients.

Beyond her individual achievements, Chris is now joined by her husband, Bob, in creating Benedict Homes, a testament to the family values that underpin their approach to real estate. Bob spent nearly 39 years at General Motors (GM) before he retired, and now he brings a wealth of skills and experiences that complement Chris’ expertise. “At Benedict Homes, keeping the customer at the center

For Chris, success extends beyond the professional realm. “Success is leaving the world a better place than when you found it,” she explained. Her commitment to giving back is evident in her roles within the community and church, and in her various volunteer capacities.

Chris’ family — which includes her sons, Nate and Caleb — remains a central focus. Together, they share a love for activities such as golfing, hiking, biking, and engaging in lively discussions. Their pandemic puppy, Rosie, adds a dose of joy to their lives.

As a seasoned professional, Chris offers valuable advice: “The key to being successful in our business is to always keep your clients’ best interests at the center of everything that you do. Your job is to guide your clients through this tricky process, not to simply sell a house. You also have to work hard and smart, and develop good relationships with your clients.”

“Treat others with kindness, compassion and integrity,” Chris added. “Keep your client at the focus of the transaction and provide outstanding value and service for them.”

Chris’ approach to real estate is not just a story of professional success: It’s a narrative of passion and dedication, and a commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of those she serves. As Benedict Homes continues to grow, the Benedict family’s legacy in real estate is sure to leave a lasting mark on the industry.

“

Keep your client at the focus of the transaction and provide outstanding value and service for them.

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Jennifer Kish



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▶▶ legend in the business

By Robbyn Moore | Photos by Tracie Seeley with Metro Shores Media
Photos taken at Lombardo Homes Model at Windridge Estates in Northville

For more than 24 years, Jennifer Kish has led her real estate career with a dedicated heart. Her unwavering honesty has built trusted relationships and realistic expectations that have guided her clients to homeownership success. “I am committed to ensuring that my clients make informed decisions and find the perfect property

that meets their needs,” she said. “Building strong and lasting relationships based on trust is the cornerstone of my professional approach.”

Jennifer is the ninth child out of 10 children. As a result, she learned at an early age the value of teamwork and collaboration. “While I was

growing up, my parents instilled in me a strong work ethic and the determination to see things through to the end,” she shared. “These qualities have shaped me into a resilient individual who is always ready to tackle challenges head-on. In the business world, these traits have set me apart and propelled me forward. I embrace

every opportunity with enthusiasm and dedication, knowing that success comes to those who put in the effort and never give up.”

Currently at CENTURY 21 Riverpointe, Jennifer has established herself as a trusted, local real estate advisor. She brings a wealth of

experience and a proven track record of being a multimillion-dollar producer. In recognition of her remarkable performance and steadfast commitment to customer satisfaction, she has been honored with the esteemed CENTURY 21 President’s Award for overall production and customer satisfaction. “This achievement underscores my dedication to delivering exceptional results and to ensuring the utmost satisfaction with my professional partnerships,” Jennifer said.

Jennifer has always had a deep passion for home renovation and decorating. Her desire to help others achieve their dreams and goals led her to pursue a career as an agent.

“Being able to assist people in making one of the most important decisions of their lives is truly fulfilling,” she said. “Throughout my journey, I was fortunate enough to work alongside one of my mentors, Rose Koval. Her guidance and expertise shaped me into the professional that I am today. As a result, I am dedicated to providing outstanding service and to making the homebuying or selling process a seamless and positive experience for my clients.”

Jennifer’s acquired knowledge and leadership continues to be shared because she has become a teacher herself. “I have dedicated myself to the training and mentoring of numerous agents over the course of my

career,” she explained. “Mentoring individuals to reach their fullest potential is not just a responsibility but a passion of mine. I firmly believe in going beyond the minimum requirements for education and staying up-to-date with the latest trade trends. By constantly expanding my knowledge and skills, I strive to provide exceptional guidance and support to those under my mentorship. Together, we can achieve greatness and exceed expectations in this ever-evolving industry.”

Jennifer believes that it is a privilege to guide and support first-time buyers on their path to homeownership. “I absolutely love working with first-time buyers because their enthusiasm and eagerness to learn about the entire homebuying process is truly inspiring,” she said. “It is incredibly rewarding to witness the joy on a client’s face when they have successfully achieved their goal of becoming a homeowner. Being a part of that journey and helping them navigate through the process brings me immense satisfaction.”

Beyond real estate, Jennifer enjoys participating in a variety of activities with her family. She has been happily married to her husband, Greg, for 40 years, and they have one son, Alex. This October, they will be welcoming a daughter-in-law, Kirsten, into the family. In the summer, they spend time boating and soaking up the sun, and during the winter, they take enchanting ice walks and marvel at the winter wonderland. The family also has a passion for traveling and exploring new places, immersing themselves in different cultures and creating lasting memories. When they are at home, they find joy in cooking delicious meals together or gathering around a bonfire, sharing stories and laughter with friends and family.

From listing and showing properties to handling offers and ensuring effective communication, Jennifer strives to exceed expectations in every step of the transaction. As an added benefit, she is also a licensed notary, which allows her to further assist clients and potential clients with their needs. “I believe in delivering a professional and seamless experience, ensuring that the sale is closed in the most efficient and satisfactory manner possible,” she explained. “I am dedicated to providing top-notch service to my clients.”



“It is incredibly rewarding to witness the joy on a client’s face when they have successfully achieved their goal of becoming a homeowner.”

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▶ rising star

AHMED FAYZ

CARRYING FORWARD A LEGACY OF SERVICE

Photos by Tracie Seeley with
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Photos taken at Lombardo Homes
Model at Concord Park in Canton

Ahmed M. Fayz isn't an ordinary real estate agent. With a career spanning just two and a half years, he has quickly become a force to be reckoned with in the real estate market of Dearborn, Michigan. As a proud member of the Real Estate One - Dearborn Heights team, Ahmed is dedicated to his craft and to his clients, which has propelled him to achieve remarkable milestones, boasting a career volume that exceeds \$4 million.

Ahmed's success in real estate wasn't paved with gold from the start. Before he donned his agent hat, he navigated through various industries — from working in cement and roofing to serving in the infantry and becoming a licensed firefighter. His diverse background shows his commitment to personal growth and exploration.

"I've worn almost all different types of hats," Ahmed said with a chuckle. "It's never too late to try something new or achieve a better life for you and your loved ones."

Ahmed's path to real estate was influenced by none other than his father, Mike Fayz, a seasoned veteran with decades in the industry. From humble beginnings, Ahmed watched his father toil tirelessly to provide for their family and was inspired to continue his father's legacy of service and dedication to



helping others. "My father has been in this business for over 30 years," Ahmed explained, "and it's my turn to carry out his legacy of helping others find their dream home and with helping them with all of their real estate needs."

Ahmed's dedication to his clients extends beyond the closing table. He works alongside his father and two younger brothers, Ali Fayz and Sam Fayz, emphasizing the importance of teamwork in achieving success in the real estate world. "I wouldn't have these numbers without my



“
If it was easy, everyone
would be doing it.
Ride out the storm — the
sunshine is a great
REWARD.
”

team’s hard work,” Ahmed said. “We work together, crossing over deals and helping each other out during each other’s deals.”

For Ahmed, real estate is not just about the accolades and achievements: He is driven by the profound impact he can make in the lives of his clients. “Seeing how happy my clients are when they leave a closing — sometimes in tears of joy — that’s what keeps me going every day,” he said. “Seeing good reviews on Google of past clients who write paragraphs about how well I served them — it really feels better than the commission sometimes.”

Ahmed’s goals are as big as his heart. “My dream is to be the top agent in Michigan very soon,” he said. With his passion for helping others and his commitment to excellence, there’s no doubt that he is on his way to achieving that dream.

Despite the challenges Ahmed has faced, his mantra remains unchanged: resilience is crucial. “The first three months were hard to get clients and to adapt, but it’s normal,” he recalled. “You have to weather that storm — and still do!”

Ahmed wants to leave aspiring agents with a piece of timeless advice: “If it was easy, everyone would be doing it. Ride out the storm — the sunshine is a great reward.”

Ahmed’s journey is defined by his creed, and it’s a legacy he’s proud to uphold. “Stay loyal to your client and to the business,” he said. “Execution is key, and slow and steady wins the race.”



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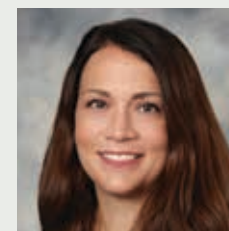
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TASHIA

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Tasha Dane stands out as a remarkable real estate agent with a heart for both homes and hounds. Armed with an undying passion for saving furry companions in need, Tasha has made a significant impact not only in the realm of property transactions but also in the lives of countless four-legged friends. Her story is one of dedication and compassion with a unique blend of professional expertise and heartfelt philanthropy.

Tasha's professional journey began nearly four years ago when she

embarked on her real estate career. She hit the ground running, becoming a prominent figure in the industry, even earning the playful moniker of a "real estate maven." She spent two years of her career at Home Direct Realty where she honed her skills before joining Keller Williams Advantage.

There's more to Tasha, however, than her real estate prowess: She also has a deep connection to a charitable organization close to her heart — the Spark of Love Animal Rescue. Located in Woodhaven, Michigan, the rescue organization is a shining beacon of

Photos by Tracie Sealey with Metro Shores Media

making a difference



hope for animals in need and for the people who cherish them. "They not only take in and care for animals in need, but they also help people keep their pets by providing basic vetting and food," Tasha explained. "They sponsor spay/neuter appointments and really contribute tremendously to the community."

Tasha has been an independent rescuer with strong support from Spark of Love Animal Rescue for two years. She leverages her robust network and reputation to aid her rescue efforts. "I take in medical cases and raise the funds to get the vetting needed. Then, once the dog is healthy enough, I adopt them out to loving families," Tasha said. Her daily involvement goes far beyond occasional events: It also involves the daily grind of boots-on-the-ground action. "I help catch the stray dog or, like today, someone passed away, and the dog was left in the yard," Tasha added. "I went to the house to check it out and assess the dog. Now I'm networking to find a rescue to help or for a permanent home. I'm actively doing things like this every day."

Tasha's dedication is additionally reflected in her role as a moderator for a group known as "shares and prayers," lovingly dubbed the "rescue hub." With thousands of members — most of whom are fervent animal lovers — Tasha skillfully uses this group to extend her network and build her "village."

However, Tasha's journey into the world of animal rescue wasn't solely born out of a sense of charity: It was a deeply personal experience that ignited her passion. She recalls a poignant moment from a decade ago when she rescued a fragile 5-pound Chihuahua running perilously in the middle of a busy road. Her efforts to save the dog and find her a new home profoundly moved her. "It opened my eyes to this world. Now, I have saved over 100 dogs," Tasha said proudly.

Tasha's charitable work is truly unique and impactful, driven by her willingness to take risks and confront challenging situations. She's not deterred by the growls or fearsome appearances of stray dogs; instead, she stays put until more qualified help arrives. Her commitment is impactful because, as she rightly points out, the dogs she saves often transform the lives of others. "Having a dog helps you move around more, gives you responsibility — something that loves you unconditionally, which helps with depression and emotional support as well," Tasha said.

Tasha has found a way to intertwine her charitable efforts with her real estate business through "REALTOR® to the Rescue LLC." She plans to donate a portion of her commission to a rescue organization of her client's choice, allowing her to blend her love for real estate with her passion for saving dogs. Her dual roles, as an agent and rescuer, humanize her in the eyes of her clients, fostering a deeper trust.

The challenges Tasha faces daily, witnessing the abuse and suffering of neglected animals, have only made her stronger and more discerning in reading people and situations. She can distinguish between those genuinely in need of help and those struggling to care for their pets. Her approach is both pragmatic and compassionate.

Tasha is a doting mother to four beautiful daughters and says that they are the reason she is so driven and motivated. "I want to make sure my girls always have a

strong, loving role model, so they really do keep me going!" she said. "They have all developed my love for animals and play a big role in helping when we foster a pup."


One of Tasha's proudest moments doesn't involve monetary goals; instead, it's seeing the transformation of the saddest, most neglected dogs into happy, healthy pets in loving homes. Tasha's focus isn't on a finish line but on the journey to rescue and save as many lives as possible. "I sell houses so I can rescue more dogs," she said, smiling.

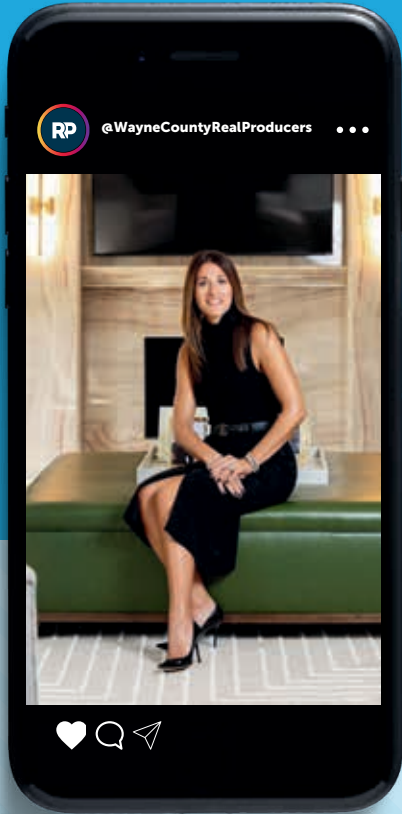
Tasha's charitable work is undeniably making a lasting impact on the community. Her ability to balance her roles as a mom, real estate agent and rescuer is a testament to her dedication to the things she holds dear. She is a reminder that one person can truly make a difference and inspire others to do the same.



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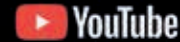
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