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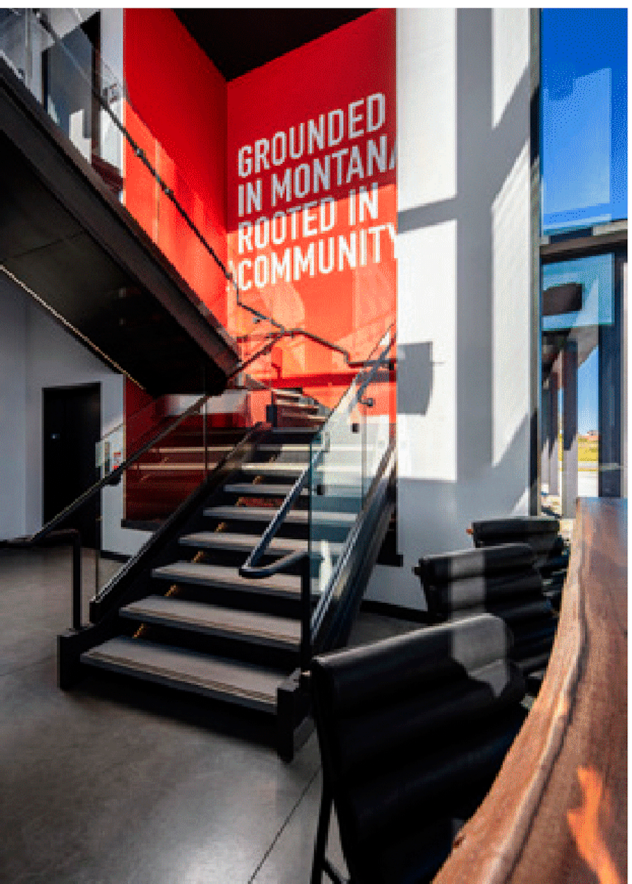

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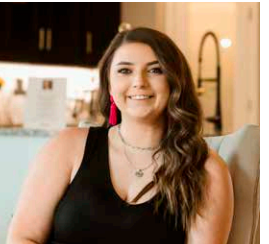





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 Rachelle Schmid <i>Owner/Publisher</i>	 Madison Coble <i>Editor In Chief</i>	 Zachary Cohen <i>Writer</i>	
 Arnica Rae <i>Photographer</i> <i>Arnica Spring Photography</i>	 Corey Dostal <i>Photographer</i> <i>Missoula Real Estate Photography</i>	 Mariah Allen <i>Photographer</i> <i>Mariah Allen Photography</i>	 Kyle Lux <i>Videographer</i> <i>PRSPCTV Media</i>





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▶ publisher's note

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This is all about you. We'll do personal and unique stories on members in the community, providing you with a platform to inspire others. As we grow, we'll add fresh content focused entirely on you. It

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CONTRIBUTION:

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partner spotlight
Amanda TORGERTSON



Montana Roots

Over the past few decades, Montana has grown tremendously. That's particularly true in Bozeman and Missoula, where population growth has created new opportunities and a flourishing business climate. Among all the new faces in Montana, Amanda Torgerson is a local with a longstanding history in Big Sky Country.

A fifth-generation Montanan, Amanda was raised with the values that make Montana's lifestyle unique. From an early age, she was taught the value of integrity, hard work, and a positive outlook.

“
Even when you're having a bad day, your attitude is the only thing you can control. It's important to approach all situations with a positive attitude.
”

“I was always taught to have a good attitude,” she shares. “Even when you’re having a bad day, your attitude is the only thing you can control. It’s important to approach all situations with a positive attitude. I was taught to be a hard worker and that when you say you’re going to do something, you do it to the best of your ability.”

Amanda became the first person in her immediate family to graduate from college when she earned a bachelor’s degree from Montana State University. She went on to complete a Master of Business Administration. She leveraged those degrees into a career in mortgage lending, which turned out to be a perfect match.

“I’ve always loved math, numbers, and problem-solving,” Amanda continues. “No one grows up wanting to be a mortgage professional, but for whatever reason, it just clicks with me. The problem-solving, talking to people, and the impact you have on people’s everyday lives is huge, and I still get to do math every day.”

Since beginning her mortgage lending career in 2006, Amanda has steadily built one of Montana’s most reputable mortgage lending teams. She considers herself lucky to have found this career, which has allowed her to stay in the community she has always known and loved, support her family, and be proud of what she’s accomplished professionally.

Putting the Customer First

Amanda and her team have a wealth of experience. Her team is full of Montana-born and raised mortgage professionals, bringing a local attitude and a community-centered outlook.

“We have a different attitude,” Amanda says proudly. “We’re out to put the customer first, doing what’s best for the customer, and opting for informed decisions about homeownership. We all have those same core values. When you surround yourself with like-minded people, it’s easy to support each other’s successes.”

“*You have to evolve with the market and choose a company that is going to take you in the direction that will make you and your referral partners the most successful. We always want to remain competitive and offer products the community needs.*”

Amanda and her team also understand the value of REALTOR® relationships within the competitive markets of Bozeman and Missoula. The end goal is the same for everyone involved in the transaction: to get to the closing table.

New Name, Same Service

Amanda and her team recently changed companies, leaving PrimeLending to join Union Home Mortgage. While the brand has

changed, the team — and the service they bring — remain the same.

“You have to evolve with the market and choose a company that is going to take you in the direction that will make you and your referral partners the most successful. We always want to remain competitive and offer products the community needs,” Amanda explains.

Union Home Mortgage has a strong sense of how to support local lenders and offer products to help with Montana’s unique markets. Amanda is especially excited about the opportunity to be more creative and open-minded about the loan products they can offer.

Integrity First

When she’s not working, Amanda is with her family. She and her husband, Jason, have three kids: Reier (13), Hannah (12) and Otto (10). They also have three dogs, meaning their household is often filled with chaos and fun — just the way Amanda likes it.

Amanda is grateful to still live in the state she grew up in. Montana is a special place, and while it’s undergone tremendous change over the past several decades, she is thankful for every experience she’s had here.

“Being an original Bozeman person, I often get asked if I like the growth, and I do. It’s allowed me to find success in a career I have a strong passion for, and it’s been fun to watch,” Amanda says. “The best part is telling stories about the old Bozeman, especially with my kids. It’s one of my proudest accomplishments — to say I’ve lived every day watching the community grow and to have influenced that growth.”



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JUNE

MURRAY

Keller Williams of Western Montana

DOWN - HOME VALUES

By Zachary
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Rural life has always suited June Murray well. Even though she grew up out of state, life in Montana has been the perfect fit.

“Having the open feel, living a quiet life, working with your hands — that’s what it’s all about. “I’m not really a city girl,” June says with a smile.

June and her family landed in Florence, Montana in 2019. Since then, they’ve made themselves right at home in the Montana community. Meanwhile, June has launched a career in real estate, and despite her preference for a quiet life, she’s making plenty of noise in the industry.

THE ROAD HOME

June was born and raised in Bakersfield, California. While Bakersfield is a growing metro today, June remembers a quiet, rural upbringing. After meeting her husband, Sean, and having children, they relocated to Keene, a small mountain town in the Eastern Sierras.

“My husband has been hunting Montana his whole life and always dreamed of living here,” June shares. “I initially thought it was too cold, but my dad passed away in 2016, and my mom lived here in Trego, Montana. I visited her during that emotional time and saw what a beautiful place it was. So I came home and said to Sean, ‘I’m ready. Let’s finish raising the boys in Montana.’”

June, Sean, and their two sons landed in the Bitterroot Valley in 2019 after a long search for the perfect place to call home. It was a change for the family in more ways than one. One unexpected shift was a decrease in Sean’s income. With the long, cold winter season, his work as a journeyman lineman was limited in the winter months. Sean was traveling out of state to work in the winter, and his family needed him to return home more regularly. That led June to leave her post as a homeschooling mom and homemaker to begin a career in real estate.

Although June was new to selling real estate, she had been inspired by the industry since she was a child.

“My grandpa was a farm broker, and I saw the freedom he had in his career and the legacy he was able to leave his four children when he passed away,” June reflects. “My grandparents owned a couple of beach houses and a cabin in the mountains, all

“

AT THE END OF THE DAY, I DON'T NEED TO LEAVE A LEGACY IN THE WORLD. TREATING PEOPLE WITH KINDNESS AND LOVING THEM IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT. ”





homes the family got to enjoy. It was neat to see how my grandma was so well taken care of even after he was gone. These properties were all small, humble places, but still something important. I wanted to do the same for our family. To have a career that is so intriguing and to also leave a legacy for our boys means a lot to me.”

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

June officially began her real estate career in late 2020, and she was named Rookie of the Year by Keller Williams in 2022. Her business has grown each year since, capped by a career year in 2023.

June has found success by prioritizing relationships. While her sales statistics are impressive, what matters most is the difference she makes in the lives of others.

“This is a people business. When we moved to Florence, I didn’t know one person. I was starting from scratch, but it’s about loving your community and being real, not about sales. It’s about people and how well you take care of them,” June explains. “Customer service is so important. I see so many agents trying to overcome a mountain of figuring out real estate, but

it just comes down to being real with people. It’s about listening to their needs, and being genuine and honest.”

LEADING WITH KINDNESS AND LOVE

Despite the change in her day-to-day life, June remains a woman committed to faith, family, and her love of the great outdoors. She and Sean have two sons, Jett (17) and Tash (15), who enjoy joining their parents to hunt, fish, and get out in the wilderness as much as possible. Hunting mule deer and catching trout is their favorite collective pastime.

June also gives back to her community, a testament to the care she extends to everyone she meets. Two organizations that are particularly close to her heart are The LifeGuard Group, a non-profit devoted to supporting those who are victims of human trafficking, and Dubbers Care, an organization that helps support local families struggling with homelessness.

“At the end of the day, I don’t need to leave a legacy in the world. Treating people with kindness and loving them is what’s important.”

“

I SEE SO MANY AGENTS TRYING TO OVERCOME A MOUNTAIN OF FIGURING OUT REAL ESTATE, BUT IT JUST COMES DOWN TO BEING REAL WITH PEOPLE. IT’S ABOUT LISTENING TO THEIR NEEDS, AND BEING GENUINE AND HONEST. ”



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MIKE ANDERSON

National Parks Realty



► cover story

By Zachary Cohen
Photos by Mariah Allen Photography

THE HEART OF WHITEFISH

Growing up in Whitefish, Mike Anderson had the gift of experiencing the town in a quieter time. Mike remembers a version of Whitefish that had about half of its current population of full-time residents and fewer travelers passing through. But it was always a ski town with some of the best fishing and outdoor recreation around.

“Growing up in Whitefish was awesome,” Mike recalls with a smile. “The town was not discovered yet. There were busy times in the winter and a lot of shoulder time when there was nothing going on. That changed around 2000 when people started coming to Glacier National Park. Visitors traveling into Whitefish began seeing it had everything—rock climbing, backpacking, whitewater rafting, you name it. A lot of people began moving in, and the town got a core of energy.”

Mike has been an outdoor lover since he was a kid. In the winter, you’ll find him chasing powder and following his passion for alpine ski racing. In the summers, he spends most

of his free time fly fishing and exploring the backcountry of Northwest Montana. Decades of life in Whitefish have only made him more grateful for the place he calls home.

Before he started his real estate career, Mike managed The Great Northern Bar & Grill for 17 years. He often had vacationers coming in asking him for advice about where to buy and sell real estate, and it dawned on him that he could become a REALTOR®, serving the needs of those customers.

“The owner, Doug Rommeriem, supported me in getting my license and selling over the bar, so that’s what I did. Within 30 days, every local in town knew I got into real estate. Within another month, I had to get out of the bar because I was too busy. Things took off like crazy. I ended up being Rookie of the Year for Northwest Montana, and the story unfolded from there,” Mike explains. “I knew everyone in this town. I was very well-liked, so as soon as I got into real estate, people knew I was trustworthy, and I blew up out of the gates. I probably took 20 listings in the first year in the Flathead Valley.”

Mike was officially licensed in 2005. His long-standing relationships, strong

reputation, and hard-working approach helped his real estate career take off, and over the past 19 years, he’s been leveraging those traits for continued success. He’s been National Parks Realty’s #1 producing agent for the past 13 years.

The Flathead Valley is one of the most desirable locations in the American Northwest for today’s real estate buyers and investors, and for good reason. There’s the beautiful 3,315-acre Whitefish Lake, the world-class slopes of Whitefish Mountain Ski Resort, and the Whitefish Golf Club, which has the only 36-hole golf course in northwest Montana. Mike knows this town better than almost anyone else, making him the ideal person to introduce clients to these gorgeous amenities and experiences.

When he’s not selling real estate, you’ll find Mike enjoying the splendor of Whitefish himself. In the summers, he enjoys fly fishing, mountain biking, and relaxing at his cabin on the Thompson River. In the winter, he spends as much time as he can alpine skiing. Mike also has a passion for supporting the local community. Although Whitefish has experienced



THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF CHANGES, BUT I THINK IT’S IMPORTANT TO KEEP THE CORE OF THIS TOWN, THE DEEP ROOTS OF THIS TOWN.



tremendous growth, at its roots, it’s the same small town he has always known and loved.

“There have been a lot of changes, but I think it’s important to keep the core of this town, the deep roots of this town. It’s

bittersweet,” Mike shares. “The community itself is important to me. We’re still that town where everyone is happy to live here. The claim to fame of Whitefish is “work less, play hard.” That’s still true. I’ll still work three or four days, then take the rest to go play. That’s what Whitefish is all about.”

Mike is the Vice President of the Flathead Valley Ski Education Foundation and Chair of the Sports Committee. He dreams of bringing the famous Doug Smith Downhill race back to Whitefish.



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