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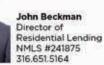
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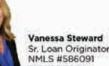
















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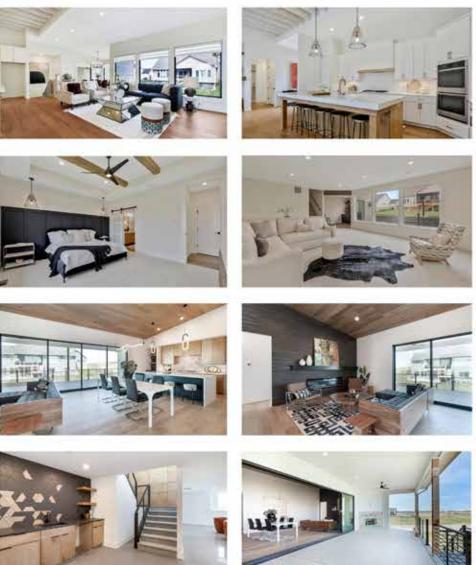
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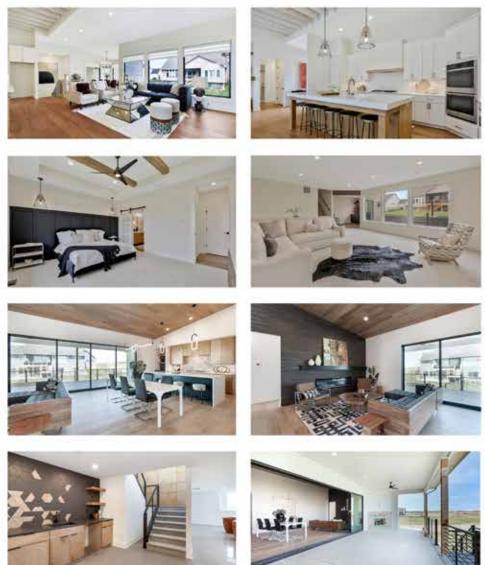
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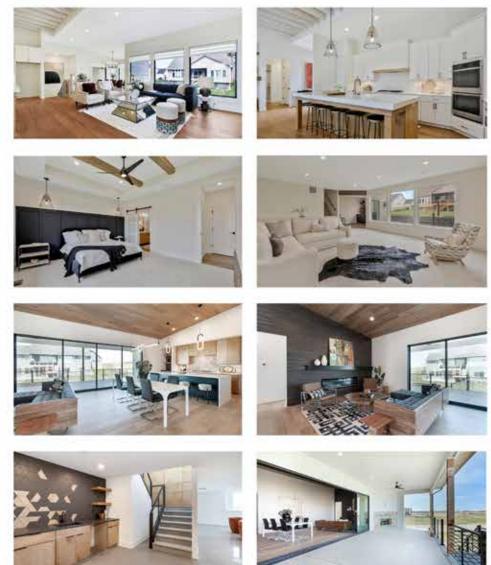




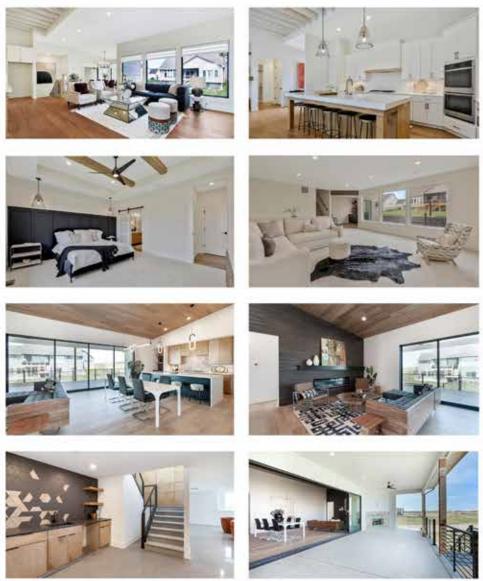


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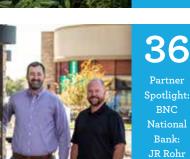


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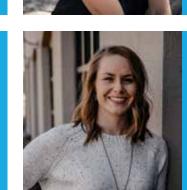
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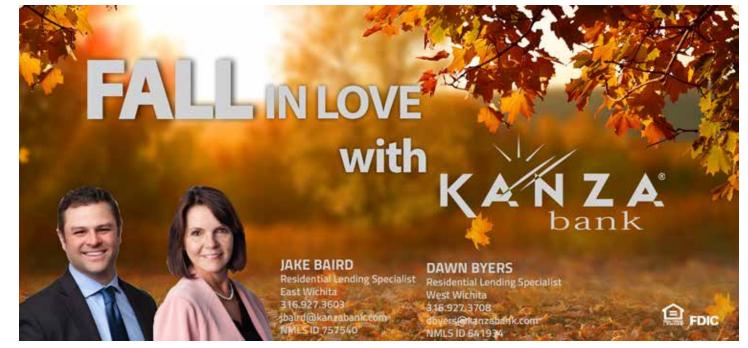
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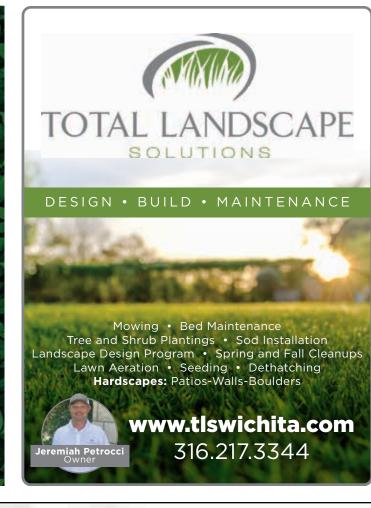


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# business in BLOOM

WHEN YOU SEE A SUNFLOWER, YOU MIGHT BE STRUCK BY ITS SIMPLE BEAUTY AND BOLD COLORS.

That's why visitors to the farm that Walter and Diana Burress own are able to enjoy a true sight behold — a silo adorned by giant sunflowers.

The silo represents the strong bond between Walter and Diana. It is also a visual reminder of Diana's real estate business in bloom as Broker/ Owner of B Realty, LLC.

"I love seeing people I work with walk into a house and being able to see their face light up. In that moment, they know this is the one for them," Diana says. "My husband farms, and we're in the house we'll be in forever, and I won't move ... so I get that with my work with clients."

BURRESS



### LIFE'S REWARDING PATH

Walter and Diana got married in 1986 and started a family.

	"We have two daughters. When they were in
to	preschool and grade school, I went to work for
	Butler County Title and worked there for sev-
	eral years," she says. "After that, I worked in the
	mortgage department at Prairie State Bank."

After the bank was acquired by another financial institution, a Broker approached Diana, asking her if she would be interested in becoming a REALTOR<sup>®</sup>.

na	"My husband farms, and I said, 'No, we don't
	need two self-employed people.' But then Walter
at	and I talked, and we decided to move forward
	with real estate," she recalls. "That was in 2007,

...





Diana explains. "I'm passionate about real estate and love to get out there and work with them. If you're passionate about something, it's not a job."

### REACHING FOR THE SKY

Away from work, Diana treasures time with Walter and their two adult daughters — Olivia and Ariel.

In her free time, she likes to read and go four-wheelin with Walter. She also has a passion for flowers ... one kind in particular.

"Sunflowers are my thing. We grow them every year. About 15 years ago, Walter started planting sunflowers around the house. For the first 10 years, I would invite clients to come out and take pictures in our fields. A few years ago he posted and tagged it, and we had people fre all over come out. It's a wonderful event mid to late sun mer... We have 8 acres in sunflowers," Diana explains.

"We have scads of photographers who come out. They can come out and stay as long as they'd like and take pictures. Last year with COVID, you could hear people laughing and interacting. It was such a beautiful thing because no one was doing that during COVID."

I s-	They had talked about having sunflowers painted on a silo at their farm. They had checked into the price to have that done, but it was more than they wanted to spend.
nd	Diana came up with another idea. She would paint the silo herself.
g	"We had a friend with a lift that I borrowed and I got started on this. I started on September 15 and finished it the end of October, when it was getting cold. It has taken on a life of its own online. It has over 100,000 likes. People would come out to watch me paint."
, W	Diana talks about her accomplishment with humility.
rom n-	"I'm not an artist, and I would never take that away from anyone who is trained to be an artist," she says with a smile. "I took the brushes and God took my hand it just kind of happened. I drive by it and say I can't believe I painted that."
e	Like the flowers planted on the farm and those painted on the Burress' silo, Diana's business keeps reaching skyward a sure sign that her business is in bloom.

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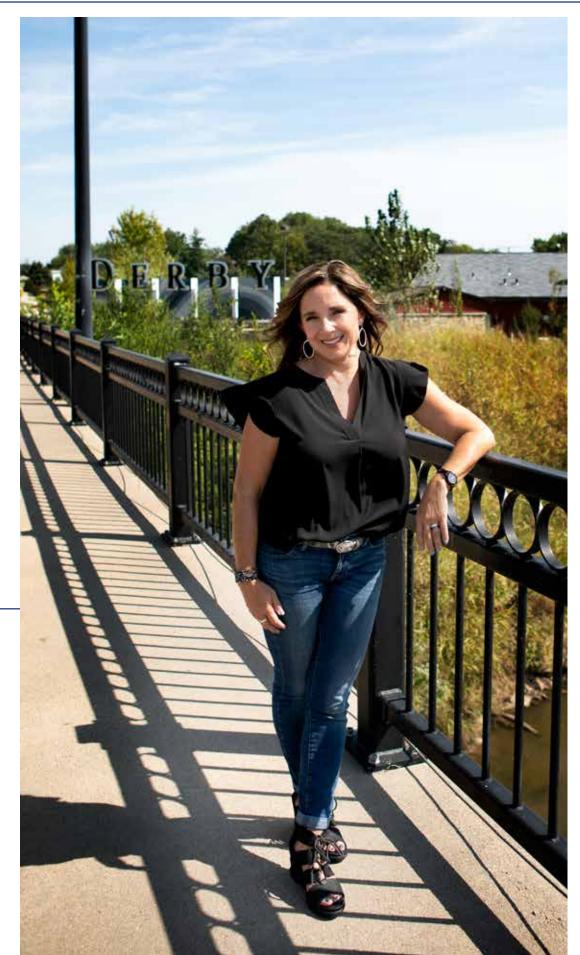
# RHONDA LANIER

### A DESIGNER REALTOR®

### >> on the rise

Written by Holly Bay | Photography by Kelly Remacle Photography

Born and raised in Topeka, KS, Rhonda Lanier didn't always know she was going to become a REALTOR®. Interior design actually ran through her veins. For 30 years, her parents owned a small custom cabinet and remodeling business, and Rhonda watched them and learned their craft from a youth into adulthood. She realized she had the same creative vibe as they did and she proceeded to earn her degree in Interior Architecture from K-State in 1995. After earning her degree, she started her career at Cessna Aircraft working mostly within the parameters of design. While at Cessna, she had the opportunity to collaborate with a wide range of people from fabrication specialists to engineers and even the private jet owners, themselves. She was sometimes lovingly referred to as "the bulldog" because of her giant-sized spirit and no-nonsense work ethic wrapped in a small package. After 15 years at Cessna, Rhonda desired experience with different companies. For the next five years, she worked with several suppliers of various business jet manufacturers. During this stint, she further perfected her negotiating and customer service skills. After 20



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years in aviation, wearing many hats during her tenure, she decided to leave the field all together for a completely different life adventure.

Rhonda's initial interest in real estate began as a way for she and her husband to delve into the property investment biz. "I love reinventing a home with my own two hands ... and I'm very meticulous ... from designing an appropriate layout, to finding just the right finishes." Rhonda felt like she could use her design abilities, eye for detail and experience to truly grow a thriving business, although she didn't think it made financial sense to buy, sell and manage rentals unless she had a real estate license.

It was this thought that led her to seek direction from their REALTOR® and friend, Amy. Amy had worked with them previously so she knew Rhonda's abilities firsthand and encouraged her to really think about being a full-time agent ... not just for her own investment possibilities ... something Rhonda hadn't really considered. She was, however, intrigued about how she may fare in the real estate field. After all, she had everything engrained in her that the best REALTORS<sup>®</sup> in the business have: A remodeling background, leadership skills and a knack for seeing possibilities other people may miss.

Rhonda acquired her real estate license in 2017 and jumped in with both feet. She joined Amy Preister's real estate team and remains there today. The transition from her lifelong career into real estate was laid with plenty of challenges... She had stepped out of her comfort zone and the consistent, solid paycheck and great benefits it provided. The first

•••

... year was rough. Without a client for the first five months, she wondered if the decision she made was a mistake. After over a year in real estate, Rhonda saw progress earning both Rookie of the Year with KWHP and producing enough volume to be part of the President's Club! She had to do some soul searching when an opportunity to return to a "traditional" job presented itself.

> Ultimately, the offer was meant to be something she couldn't refuse, yet she DID turn it down and has never looked back. Rhonda started to experience the satisfaction of serving the public, the freedom of making your own decisions, and ability to work around her family's lives and not vice versa. She did NOT regret her decision, and that same year she

Many think the team environment seems to be for getting people's feet wet, so to speak ... allowing the greats to help boost new agents' careers while helping to make a living for all parties involved. Rhonda says, "Amy's team is different from most teams - it's a collaboration of individuals, who lean on one another for support and knowledge. Each team member is an independent agent who runs their own business."

Rhonda's assistant, her right hand if you will, Ashley LeMaster, has been monumental during her career, and she wouldn't be where she is today without her. When asked to define success, professionally, Rhonda explains, "It's about an inner peace of knowing my clients are happy with the



was even inducted into the Master's Club! Some of you may wonder why an agent, who, with the help of her assistant, Ashley, sold a volume of \$7.8 million just last year and an impressive almost \$25 million in her career of just four and a half years, would choose to stay on a real estate team?

service Ashley and I have provided." Ultimately, they strive to maintain strong relationships with clients, assure them they can always turn to Ashley and she for home-related advice and have comfort knowing they will confidently refer them to their friends and family. For Rhonda, it's not the money





that keeps her going. "It's about being passionate ... always giving 110% of yourself."

On many occasions, Rhonda goes above and beyond, at times even assisting clients in managing home-improvement projects prior to listing their properties. She has

### **EVERY EXPERIENCE IS AN OPPORTUNITY:**

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUCCEED. OR AN OPPORTUNITY TO FAIL -MOST IMPORTANTLY, ALL ARE OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN.

> the right contacts and project management experience to help them make it happen, as well as a knack for knowing where to get the most bang for the buck. "My objective is to take as much of the home buying and selling stress off my clients' shoulders as I can."

Rhonda, being the giving person she is, does something very special after each deal. She donates a "closing gift" to a charity or nonprofit of her clients' choosing. She especially loves it when they choose military organizations such as The Wounded Warrior Foundation or Tunnels 2 Tower. These hold a very special place in her whole family's hearts, especially, since her husband, Dave, is a veteran. She also personally supports various youth sports organizations. As a parent of children who participated in competitive sports, she knows how costly the activities can be yet how beneficial they are in shaping a child's work ethic and character.

When not working with clients, showing homes or helping stage a seller's home, Rhonda and Dave love to travel to tropical locations. The further she is away from home, the more she gets re-charged! Also, there aren't many days that go by where she doesn't enjoy a bit of dark chocolate with a glass of red wine! When asked to describe her most successful accomplishments outside of her career, she says, "Having raised kids who are responsible and respectful contributing members of society and who push themselves to excel a bit beyond their preconceived limits."

She always made sure her kids understood that the only limits set on them were self-imposed, and if they didn't believe they could achieve, no one else would either. Rhonda always says, pertaining to both in business and in life, "Every experience is an opportunity: an opportunity to succeed, or an opportunity to fail - most importantly, all are opportunities to learn." Words to live by from one of Wichita's best!

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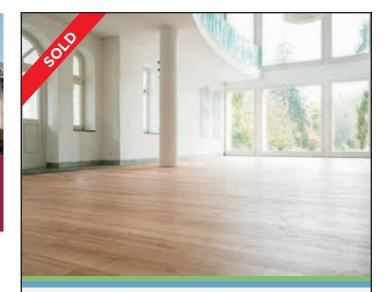


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Though she spent much of her younger years growing up in Mississippi, Terry Ziegler, with **ReeceNichols South Central** Kansas, now calls Kansas home. She's been in the real estate industry now for 10 years, has a career volume of over \$50 million and has earned many awards along the way, including Rookie of the Year with her firm in her very first year, Presidents Circle and Masters Circle.

Real estate wasn't always a part of her vision, though. She first attended college in Springfield, Missouri, at Central Bible College, where she earned her Associates in Deaf Ministry. She then went to Johnson County Community College, which at the time, was the only school in the state of Kansas with a program for Sign Language Interpreting. After receiving a state license in Sign Language, she furthered her education at Friends University with a bachelor's degree in business.

It was after working in the interpreting industry that Ziegler says she decided a new path was needed for her future. She began working in outside sales for a recruiting firm, where she quickly advanced to management and finally became the President of Sales for that company.

### MORE THAN A TRANSACTION

"I enjoyed everything about this position, such as becoming extremely familiar with many of the businesses that make up the Wichita area and the people who started them and work there! However, I did not enjoy how often I was required to travel and I hated being away from my husband and young children. That is when someone suggested real estate to me, and I am so thankful they did! What a great fit for someone who loves people, their community and the business aspect of a transaction."

This industry has had a remarkable impact on Terry. "The most rewarding part of real estate and a surprise blessing is the friendships created through each transaction. Some of the clients I have had the privilege of working with have truly become close friends of mine!" With just 10 years under her belt, she has no plans of slowing down any time soon. For her, real estate is part of who she is and not just a "career."

When asked what success means to her, she replied, "Success is continuing to grow and not becoming stagnant.

...



••• It is also maintaining a balance in my profession and my personal relationships. I want to be the best wife, mother, friend and REALTOR® I can be, to spend quality time with my husband, children and friends, and to really have true relationships. Last but not least – and honestly more important than the above - to remain true to my faith! That is the ultimate success - to live the life God intended me to."

Terry has been happily married to her husband, Ray, for 24 years. Ray loves to play softball each year with a group of his friends – some of which he has played with for 30 years. Ray and Terry's son, Brady,<br/>also spend a lot of time together fishing on theirfight against pancreatic cancer. "I encourage<br/>one to learn something new about this cance<br/>be just an unfortunate diagnosis for some, bu<br/>others, it can be developed due to lifestyle ch<br/>Learn the risks, live a healthier lifestyle, and<br/>decrease the numbers on this rising cancer."

most of their "down" time together while at home. For family vacations, they each choose a new destination they want to visit and then have a family vote. The place with the most votes wins – what a fun tradition! With Thanksgiving approaching soon, she says it's her favorite holiday due to all the family activities and everyone being together.

Terry manages her life and business based on building rock-solid relationships with those around her, being true to herself and completely caring about others and their needs. In her true nature, she says some of the best advice she could give to up-and-coming agent is to "remember to stay true to who you are, and be yourself. What is successful for one may not work for another. And ... always stay active. If you do not have a lot of transactions moving at the time, become familiar with Wichita and the surrounding areas, study different styles of homes, visit model homes ... learn EVERYTHING REAL ESTATE! Become involved with RSCK, join a committee - just be involved!"

With this being the November issue of Real Producers, Terry wants to remind us all that November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month. Her mother, unfortunately, passed away from pancreatic cancer the same year she started her real estate career, so she will often put her logo in the color of purple to honor her mother, as purple represents the fight against pancreatic cancer. "I encourage everyone to learn something new about this cancer. It can be just an unfortunate diagnosis for some, but for others, it can be developed due to lifestyle choices. Learn the risks, live a healthier lifestyle, and let's



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> ROT I Mortgage Lending: A Team Effort

hen I first spoke to Jarrod (JR) Rohr regarding our Partners feature, the first thing I noticed about him was his humility. JR is an already well-known mortgage lender and the Regional VP of Mortgage Retail Sales at BNC National Bank homing here in Wichita, however, his focus has never been about himself or his own successes. It's about his team. He not only heads up the Wichita, KS, branch but also has offices in Missouri, Illinois, North Dakota, Nevada and Arizona. He will never brag, but some of the

accolades his team and/or he have received during his career are the RSCK Partner of the Year Award and the BNC National Bank Leadership Award!

The RSCK Partner of the Year is a tremendous award in itself. This honor recognizes partners and friends in the industry whose fiscal responsibilities are continually current with the RSCK while simultaneously making the most noteworthy contributions to REALTORS® and their Agencies. According to the RSCK website, these award HIS BNC FAMILY, AS HE CONSIDERS THEM, IS WHO KEEPS HIM GOING.



... recipients must always exude personal and professional integrity and a clear, genuine concern for the community and its well-being, especially within the real estate industry.

> JR really didn't consider a career in the mortgage lending industry in college. In fact, while attending Emporia State University on a football scholarship, he actually got into student teaching with the goal of becoming a teacher! He eventually discovered, within himself, that it really wasn't his calling after all. His whole life had been about becoming a teacher and striving for that ultimate goal, so once he realized it wasn't for him, he was at a loss as to what his career destination should be. It was his college roommate, who was in the mortgage biz himself, who initially lit the flame and, in a roundabout way, recruited him.

He met his friend's manager at a small firm called Hearthside Lending, was hired on, and that was the beginning of his career. After a short stint at

Hearthside, he made the move to Regent Financial in West Wichita and was there for six years. In late 2007, BNC National Bank saw something in this young, eager man and offered him the branch manager position here in Wichita. The rest is history.

As mentioned above, JR's success is not due solely because of his own efforts. He has a strong, confident and diverse team under his wing. His BNC family, as he considers them, is who keep him going. Keith Stareck, his manager of the Wichita branch, was a co-lender from his days at Regent. He actually helped to train Keith so, when he was in the market for a new Wichita office manager, he remembered Keith's abilities and reached out to him. Keith accepted the offer and has now been an integral part of the BNC community for five years, confidently leading the Wichita branch.

Loan officer, Sally Conger, was a friend from high school, no less, who had kept in touch with JR over the years. When JR first became manager at BNC, he reached out to her about a possible lending position. At



the time, Sally was having some difficulties with her then job, so it seemed the perfect time to make a change. She has been with him for 10 years now. LO assistant, Kaitlin Ashley, was referred over to JR by a REALTOR® friend of Sally's. She is Sally's personal assistant and friend. They have a cohesive working relationship and rely on each other to make things happen.

Tanner Crouch, loan officer, is new to the business. Tanner was brought over by a mutual friend leaving behind a pretty successful sales career selling giant metal palm trees! You know which ones I mean ... the ones you see in the backyards of some high-dollar homes around town ... yes, those ... and he was great at it! JR is so excited to mold and shape this young and eager man into a great part of the BNC family.

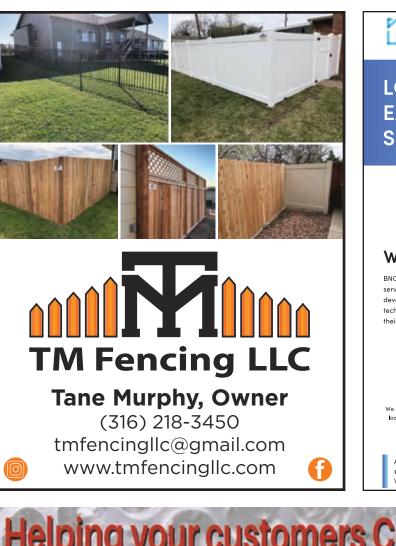
Shandra Kline, loan processor, has worked with JR since 2008. What began as a part-time position for Shandra quickly turned into a full-time position after just two weeks. JR saw something in her that just fit and wanted to keep her around. Loan closer, Lori Hays, has worked with JR for over 10 years. She started as a processor but has since been promoted to a loan officer role after proving her strengths to him. A long-time friend of his, Lori has been there through the ups and downs and continues to support JR and the Wichita community. JR and loan processor, Kandace Alverson, began their relationship at Hearthside at the very beginning of his career. They worked at different firms for a while, then, after 10 years apart, they are working together at BNC, once again teammates.

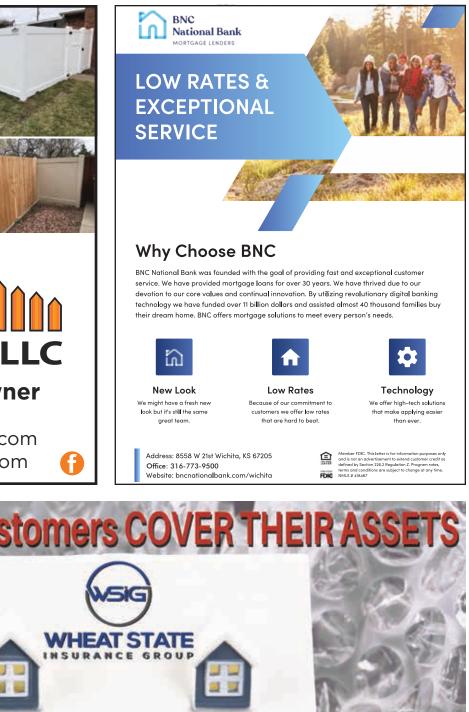
In 2020, two weeks before COVID reared its ugly head, processor Amanda Paque started working for JR. She made it through orientation, then the shutdown came, and she had to suddenly transition into working from home as a brand-new employee. She proved herself and is still a wonderful part of the team to this day. And finally, JR's nephew, Corey Hahn, worked odds and end jobs through college and wanted to try an office job. He reached out to his uncle and was offered a LO assistant role. He's doing well and may have found his niche.

WHETHER IT'S WITHIN HIS OWN FAMILY **OR HIS BNC TEAM, JR HAS ALWAYS FELT THAT HELPING OTHERS TO ACHIEVE** AND EXCEED THEIR OWN **GOALS IS HIS GREATEST** ACCOMPLISHMENT OF ALL.

During his downtime, JR truly enjoys just being with his wife, Cassy, who he lovingly refers to as Wonder Woman, and their three kids, Cooper (12), McKenzie (11) and Cate, (11). All three of his children are active in sports and extracurricular activities, and supporting these events are how they spend much of their time as a family. JR also loves to be outdoors. On some weekends you'll find JR and his two Weimaraners, Darby and Cleo, hunting, fishing and sporting clays.

When asked to define success, he simply says it's helping others reach their goals and watching them succeed. Whether it's within his own family or his BNC team, JR has always felt that helping others to achieve and exceed their own goals is his greatest accomplishment of all.





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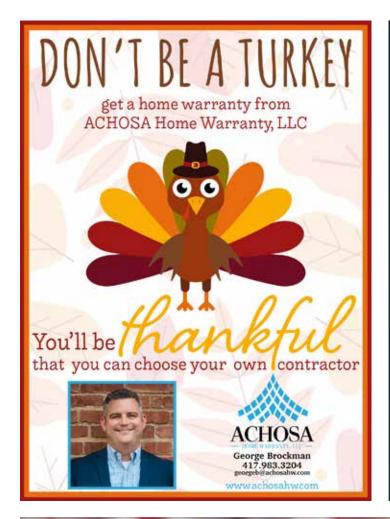
> -Janiece Erbert, REALTOR® Keller Williams Signature Partners



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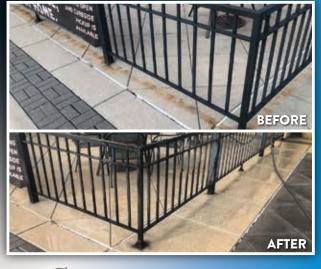


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ask the expert Morgan Dawson,

For the last 30 years, the west side of Wichita has been steadily

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growing, and, although you probably have heard the name, you may not realize what an integral part Schellenberg Development Company has played in its progress. Founded in 1989 by Marv Schellenberg, SDC has dedicated their work to creating neighborhoods that will stand the test of time. Some of their past communities include Hampton Lakes, Avalon Park, Forest Lakes, Reflection Ridge (the first private golf course community on the west side), and Fox Ridge.

Today, SDC is a family-owned and -operated company with each of Marv's four children having different roles that highlight each of their own strengths. From construction to home sales to property management, the Schellenbergs guarantee that each part of the development process maintains the same family values and high standards throughout the entire process.

So why should REALTORS® bring their buyers out to SDC communities?

During the early stages of each development, Marv focuses on the importance of building a community with the future in mind. His company thinks creatively when it comes to how they plan to enhance the beauty of the property, rather than destroying what is naturally already there. They put in berms and native grasses that will continue to grow more beautiful as the years pass and roads that curve natu rally with the landscape. SDC takes a piece of ground with nothing on it and transforms it into a beautiful development that will stand the test of time.

Marv and his team want buyers to love the home they build for years and years to come. Every new

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	home build is unique to its neighborhood—you won't find that "cookie-cutter" appearance in a Schellenberg development. When it comes to builders, each added to the SDC builders' pro- gram must go through a selection process before approval. Only top-of-the-line construction teams are allowed to build in a Schellenberg development. This leads to consistent quality of homes and an exceptional building experience for buyers.
е	Most importantly, all Schellenberg Development Company's communities are co-op friendly! REALTORS® are encouraged to bring their buy- ers out to any Schellenberg-developed neighbor- hoods. SDC wants to work with other agents and start the sense of community before the purchase. REALTORS® don't have to worry about buyers wandering into a Schellenberg development alone; one of the first things community managers ask is, "Are you working with a REALTOR®?" There is no competition. No stealing of buyers. No exclusion of buyer representatives.
5	Additionally, SDC offers initiatives for REALTORS® who sell homes in their neighborhoods as a "thank you" for supporting the company. Each year, Marv Schellenberg offers agents who sell two homes in any of his communities a trip of a lifetime; some of the destinations in previous years have included Peru, Hawaii, Ireland, Costa Rica, and Italy! Without the support of these REALTORS®, Marv and his company couldn't create these beautiful, community-driven neighborhoods.
- 1	So, if your buyers are looking to build or can't find the perfect home on the resale market, bring them to a Schellenberg community and <i>experience</i> <i>the difference</i> .

Current communities include: Arbor Creek (183rd and Pawnee), Bay Country (119th and Central), Estancia (37th and Ridge), and-comings soon-The Coves (53rd and Tyler).





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history in real estate Written by Richard Schodorf, Security 1st Title





# THE EVOLUTION OF THE Living Room

There is no room in the house that captured the transformation of the American self-image and identity more than the parlor, which was the predecessor of the modern living room. In the 18th and 19th centuries, Americans were in search of respect from the European continent. The historical reasons behind this American brand of social insecurity were laws on the books in most European countries, called Sumptuary Laws. These laws sought to prevent people of common birth from purchasing clothing or furniture that would allow them to misrepresent their social standing. Imposters would not be tolerated.

In America, most of the citizens' ancestors would not have qualified as being born of privilege. So, the parlor afforded the perfect opportunity to make a demonstration of independence. The word "parlor" was a derivative of the French word "parlour," meaning to speak. Parlors were the "front rooms" of many of the middle- and high-class homes of the day. Having a parlor room was proof of ranking status, showing that the family had, in fact, arrived, in both the cultural and the financial sense.

Erika Palmer in her book, *The* Fascinating History of the Living *Room*, observed that a considerable amount of the family budget went into furnishing and maintaining the parlor. Of course, the trick was the art of purchasing furniture and other trappings that just looked expensive. The room represented the place where a family could meet, entertain and, of course, impress other members of the community. However, since most homes in America consisted of anywhere from one to three rooms, the Parlor appeared to some as an unnecessary extravagance.

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the parlor took on more solemn duties as it served as the place where wakes and funerals were held and was often referred to as the "funeral parlor." During this period, only about 40 percent of all children survived to become adults, and life expectancy of men was 40 years and women was 42 years.

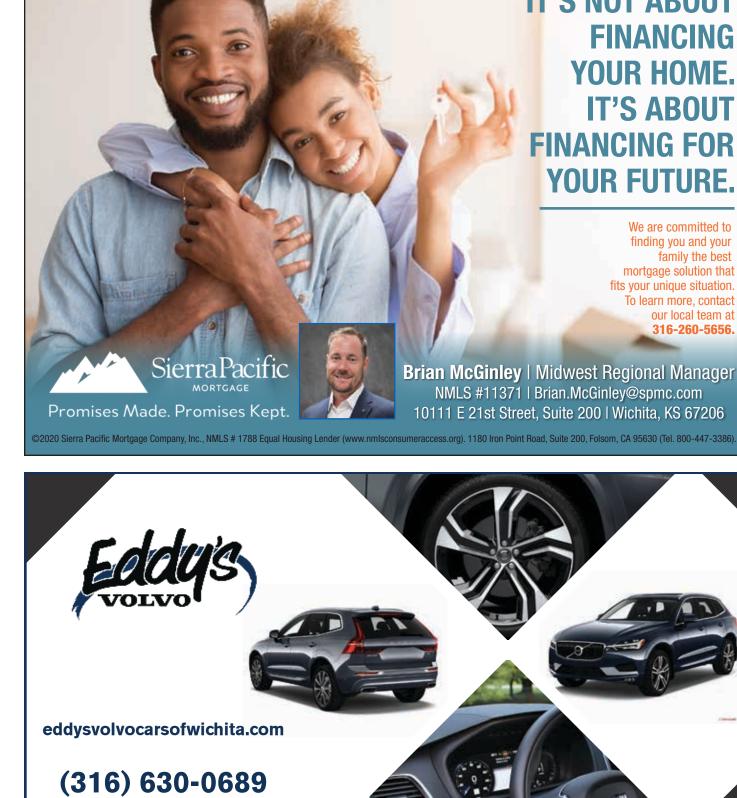
During this period, the ceremony called the "wake" was to become a common ritual to be held in the parlor prior to a burial. For some, the "wake" was an effort to watch the body of the departed to prevent the body from being occupied by spirits. For others,

the three-day "wake" period was one more guard against the fear of being buried alive. But, for most, the parlor served as the perfect place to pay last respects to the family of the departed.

World War I put America on the world stage, and Americans felt more comfortable being, well, Americans, and the parlor was transformed into the living room. Americans would gather in the living room around the radio and later the television set. The room where people would gather to talk to each other was replaced by a room where the family gathered to be entertained.

Advances in technology have proved to be a double-edged sword.

Computers have allowed the human race to be wonderfully productive and instantaneously entertained. However, this version of progress seems to have arrived with a major downside: our happiness. Daniel Gilbert observed in his book Stumbling on Happiness that humans are happiest when we are interacting with others because we are social beings by nature. Maybe having a room dedicated to talking and listen ing to each other is a room whose time has come, again.



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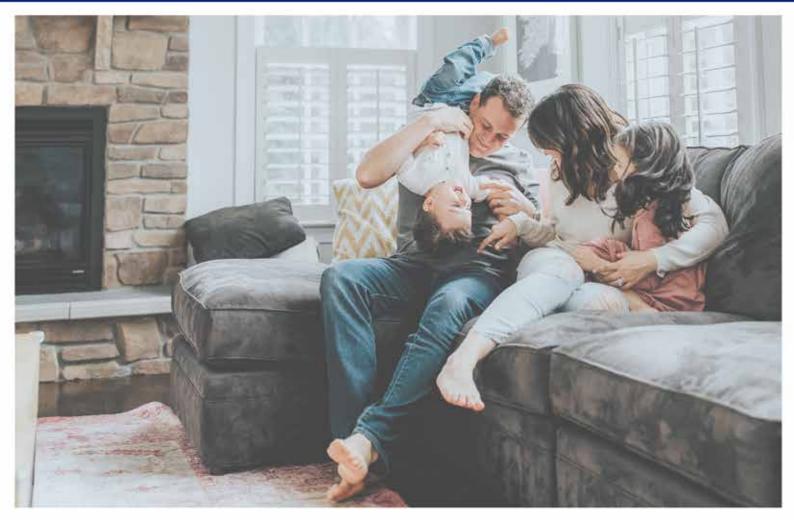
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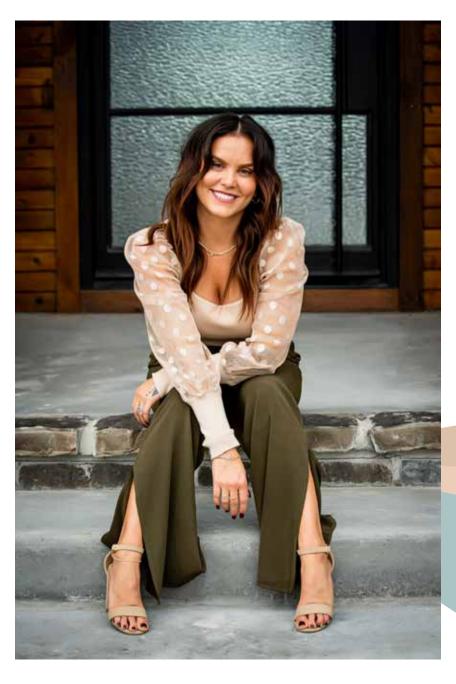


# Desiree Mesle

NAV REAL ESTATE

### broker spotlight

Written by **Ashley Streight** Photography by **Jennifer Ruggles Photography** 



### NAVIGATING ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS

NAV REAL ESTATE IS A PROMISING, NEW AGENCY HEADED BY BROKER AND OWNER, DESIREE MESLE. NAV WAS NEWLY ESTABLISHED IN JUNE 2021; HOWEVER, DESIREE'S EXPERIENCE DOES NOT START THERE. WITH OVER 12 YEARS OF DEDICATED WORK AS A REALTOR®, SHE IS FAMILIAR WITH THE INDUSTRY AND WELL-ROUNDED IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE PROFESSION.

Starting out in 2008, Desiree had no formal education in real estate and began as an assistant to Marilyn Harris-Goertz, now retired broker, of Marilyn Harris Real Estate. After a few short months, Desiree found herself unexpectedly passionate about real estate and the process behind it. Desiree obtained her real estate license one year later in 2009 and continued to work under Marilyn for 12 years. During this time, she was able to build her clientele mainly through referrals and social media exposure. She learned the inner workings and mechanics of the business by shadowing Marilyn.

"Marilyn had a very successful real estate career, and has always brought value to those around her, and I wish to carry on her legacy through business relationships and practices," says Desiree.

BE HAPPY WITH WHAT YOU HAVE WHILE WORKING FOR WHAT YOU WANT.

When Marilyn made the decision to retire, Desiree chose to step into her full potential and establish a new company of her own, while still maintaining the integrity of Marilyn Harris Real Estate. NAV Real Estate is a full-service real estate company that focuses on navigating all real estate needs of the client, whether it be residential, commercial, building new, relocations or investments.

...

### ...

Clients are highly valued, and Desiree is dedicated to ensuring they know their value. She believes in thinking outside the box to make a smooth and skilled transaction possible. She makes certain that she provides honest reports and up-to-date knowledge of the market, as well as a forecast for the future.

Real estate is one of the biggest investments individuals make in their lifetime, and Desiree educates her clients on how to maximize that opportunity. Desiree is passionate about

### TO DESIREE MESLE, SUCCESS MEANS FINDING THE BALANCE BETWEEN WORK, FAMILY, HEALTH AND FUN.

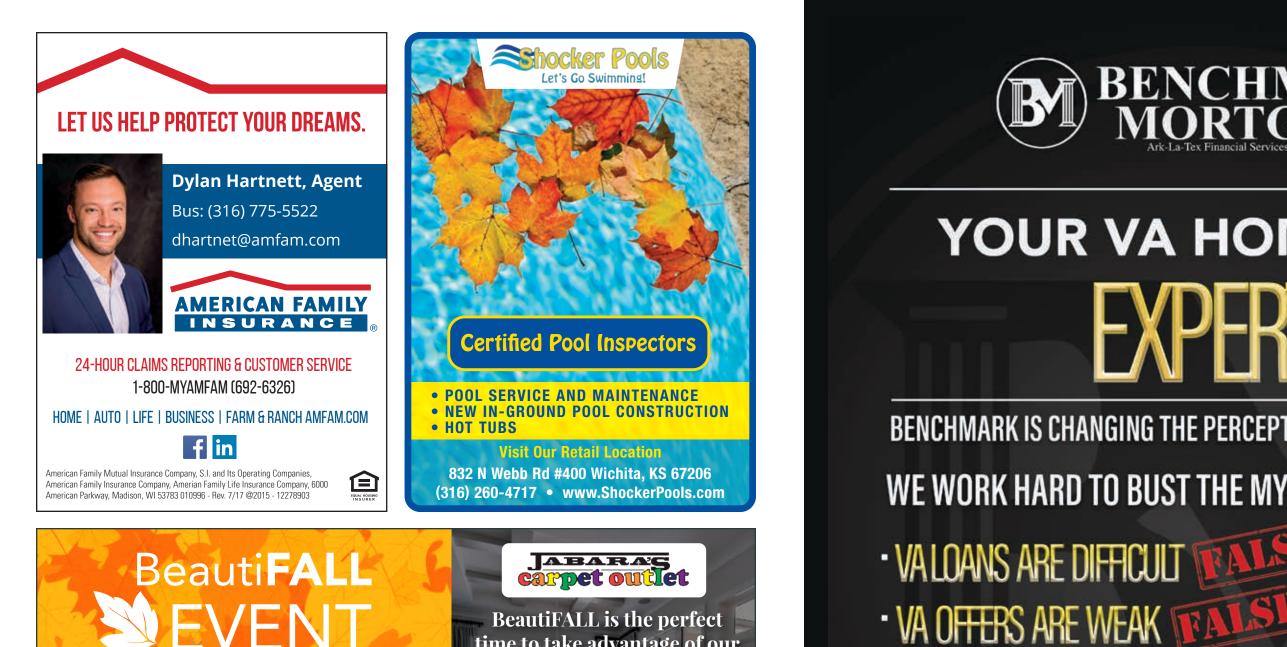


growing this new brokerage as well as continuing to educate herself on the fluctuating habits of the market.

Desiree was raised in Augusta, Kansas, and now lives in Goddard with her husband, Michael, and her daughter, Brianna, who currently attends Eisenhower High School. Michael works at Cargill Meat Solutions as a plant scheduler, and Brianna is involved in cheer and soccer. Desiree enjoys fitness and instructs at a private fitness studio. Wine, coffee, and listening to podcasts are some other things she enjoys during her rare downtime.

She continuously increases her knowledge of local schools, businesses and attractions to help buyers answer the question, "Why Wichita?" To Desiree Mesle, success means finding the balance between work, family, health and fun. One piece of advice Desiree has for those pursuing any career is: "Be happy with what you have while working for what you want."





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# Andrew REESE

### CREATING AN EDGE

### top producer

Written by Dave Danielson | Photography by Kelly Remacle Photography

The value of thinking outside the box can never be overstated. But it's often easier said than done.

That ability to innovate is something Andrew Reese excels at.

As a REALTOR<sup>®</sup> with Banister Real Estate, Andrew is definitely creating an edge for those around him.

"My day-to-day work has changed over the years. There's been an evolution. I do still sell, and I have another REALTOR® who helps me sell, but the development side has been the turn in my business over the last three years," Andrew says.

"With Banister Design, I find a lot of joy in creativity. While I enjoy selling houses, creating homes is what I like the most. I like helping a client buy and remodel a home, or help a client





••• sit down and create a new home from scratch. The creation of the home around each individual is what I really enjoy."

### A LOOK AHEAD AT HIS FUTURE

Andrew earned his real estate license about 10 years ago. Yet real estate was part of his life from the very beginning as a boy in McPherson, Kansas.

"Real estate started really early in my life, with my parents building and flipping some houses when I was growing up," Andrew says.

"One of my mom's best friends is one of the Top Producers in McPherson. My parents always loved building homes, and I remember flipping through floorplan books. We would build a house, and then my mom's friend would come along and we would sell that one, and then we would move into a fixer-upper and work on the new one."

### TAKING NEW STEPS

As Andrew grew to adulthood, he attended The University of Kansas.

"At that time, I knew I wanted to be in real estate," he recalls. "My major was in communications with a minor in business."

Once he completed college, Andrew and Marisa, the lady who would become his wife, lived in Kansas City for a year.

"She was in the medical field. She was working in Kansas City while she was waiting to get into medical school," Andrew remembers.

"During that time, I did inside sales for a year working with contractors. In time, she got into PA school, and I started selling copiers in Wichita. That's when the business I worked for put me into the real estate field, selling to real estate companies."

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FINDING A NICHE IS IMPORTANT. IN THE PROCESS, FIND A WAY THAT FITS YOU AS A PERSON, FEELS NATURAL AND THAT YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR. IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT SELLING AS MANY HOUSES AS YOU CAN.



**GAINING GROUND** 

After about a year and a half, Andrew was ready. He made the leap into real estate, joining the Josh Roy Team with Keller Williams, where he hit the ground running.

Through time, Andrew gained ground — as he built a successful business in real estate.

Today, as a REALTOR<sup>®</sup> with Banister Real Estate, he continues to build a real reputation for results. As he does, he has valuable support on his side.

"I also rely on a lot of outside resources. I have eight to 10 builders in my development who I lean on, along with Kaylee Nungesser, who helps me with the overflow on deals."

### **FAMILY FOUNDATION**

Away from work, Andrew treasures time with his wife, Marisa, and their two children — their 6-year-old daughter, Kinley, and their 4-year-old son. Beckham.

Our children are really into sports and being active. That's one of the things that I enjoy about working in real estate, as well, is that it has offered me the ability to create a schedule that works for business and personal life. I have always officed from home since the beginning with Banister Real Estate," Andrew says.

"That has been very important to me to help balance life with work and family ... to really be present with them."

In his free time, Andrew is an avid golfer and is a member at Crestview Country Club. He also has a passion for fishing.

Another free-time activity, which has become a family affair, is taking care of and maintaining the lots in the development that he and his family live in, and he develops.

"Bel Aire has been so good to us. As we put this development together, they believe in me and took a real leap of faith," he says. "This is an outstanding community."

### LEADING BY EXAMPLE

As Andrew reflects on his career, he also offers advice for others who are looking to move forward in their own real estate careers.

"One thing I would say is that activity breeds activity. As a young person getting into it, know that creativity creates activity. You can't be stagnant. I did a lot of open houses to create that activity," he says.

"Also, finding a niche is important. In the process, find a way that fits you as a person, feels natural and that you have a passion for. It's not just about selling as many houses as you can."

Day by day, Andrew Reese continues to make an impact by innovating, growing and creating an edge for those he works with.

As he says, "I have a true passion for what I do ... and having a chance to help people move ahead."



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**AS A YOUNG** PERSON GETTING INTO IT, KNOW THAT CREATIVITY **CREATES ACTIVITY.** YOU CAN'T BE STAGNANT.



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