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Mike Story



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The Things We're Taking With Us Into the New Year

As the calendar folds into another chapter, we tend to talk about what we're leaving behind. The habits, the doubts, the chaos we swear won't follow us. But this year, let's pause to recognize what will come with us because not everything from the past deserves to be left in the rearview. Some things are worth packing up and carrying forward.

We're taking the lessons that came from the quiet moments. The ones that taught us how to listen more closely to ourselves. The boundaries we built after years of overextending. The understanding that rest is not a reward, but a requirement. These aren't resolutions, they're realizations. Hard-won, deeply felt, and too valuable to forget.

We're bringing with us the friendships that feel like home. The people who remind us to laugh at the mess, who celebrate our smallest wins, who answer texts with voice notes when words fall short. We've learned that community doesn't always look like a crowd! It can be the steady few who hold space for you, even when you have nothing to offer but honesty.

We're taking our creativity, too. The kind that shows up in unexpected places. In the way we decorate our spaces, plan our days, or reinvent what joy looks like. We're done asking for permission to take up space, to create, to dream out loud.

The past year reminded us that progress doesn't always look like movement; sometimes, it looks like stillness, reflection, or saying "no".

And maybe most importantly, we're taking hope. Not the naive kind, but the resilient kind that grows from experience. Hope that the effort is worth it. That healing is ongoing. That joy can be reclaimed, even after disappointment.

As we cross the threshold into a new year, may we resist the urge to start from scratch. Instead, let's continue with more grace, more gratitude, and a deeper sense of who we are becoming. The new year isn't about reinventing ourselves; it's about refining what's already there.

Here's to carrying forward what's good, what's true, and what's ours to keep.



With heartfelt appreciation,

Stacey Penrod
Publisher,
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We also regularly run “Giving Back” features on agents who are actively making a difference in the community and “Inspiration” features on agents who have a particularly inspiring story to share.

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PER AGENT



31



SALES
VOLUME

\$3.7 Billion



AVERAGE
SALES
VOLUME
PER AGENT

\$12.3 Million



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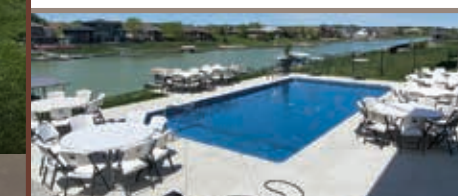


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Dani
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BY JESS WELLAR
PHOTOS BY NATALIE JENSEN



“Over the years, I’ve had many people tell me that they were impressed by my truthfulness,” Dani Schram begins. “But if someone is getting ready to walk into a Pandora’s Box, of course, I will tell them so instead of selling it and collecting my commission.”

“I’ll cut my own nose off to spite my face to make sure they’re not making a mistake,” she continues. “I like to sleep at night.”

Now with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Ambassador Real Estate in Omaha, Dani is a top producer with principles to match.

A Natural Fit
Dani’s love for the business is generational. She grew up watching her mother work as a real estate agent in North Platte, and it left a big impression.

After five years as a legal assistant, a move from Lincoln to Omaha — and

marriage — nudged the inevitable decision along in 2001.

“After spending many years watching my mom help others find their dream, it became mine,” she recalls. “And it just felt like a natural fit.”

Nearly 25 years later, that clarity shows up in results and reputation. In

“

Doing what you love and enjoying it is my idea of success — it doesn't have to come down to money, it's just living the life that you love.”

Dani Schram

2024, she closed \$17.6 million across 22 transactions and has picked up plenty of hardware along the way: Shooting Star Award for Production Top Individual (largest increase from 2023 to 2024), Big Deal Award (largest sales volume on one residential sale), and multiple years in Chairmen's Circle Gold.

Still, she waves off the spotlight and admits she doesn't even track her stats. “Doing what you love and enjoying it is my idea of success — it doesn't have to come down to money, it's just living the life that you love.”

Her Secret Sauce

Plenty of agents can price a cul-de-sac, but fewer can read a pasture. Dani prides herself on a vast knowledge of acreages and land, with agricultural roots that run deep: “My grandfather was a farmer, and my husband, Mike, is a sixth-generation farmer, so his family has a lot of knowledge, too. The Schrams came to the Papillion area back in the 1800s,” she explains. “And Mike and I also acquire farm land ourselves, so I've learned a great deal through living it.”

Clients feel that mix of competence and candor. That's why the referral machine keeps humming along year after year.

“Most clients say I'm easy to talk to and have a fun personality; but the biggest thing is that I don't pressure them and I'm honest,” she emphasizes. “I point out the positives and the negatives, and I'm vocal about both, but it's ultimately for my clients to decide.

“Even when I list properties, I'm very forthcoming with hurdles so people go into it fully educated to avoid surprises,” she adds.

In addition to her mother, Dani is quick to credit the person

who shaped her early years in the business: “Jim Warren was my broker when I first started,” she remembers, “and I attribute a huge part of my success to him.”

Jim's influence sharpened a personal rule she still honors to this day. “I am hard-working and trustworthy. I feel that a person should be a man or woman of their word.”

Ask her for advice and you'll get the same steady, straight-shooting answer she gives her clients. “Aspiring agents need to be willing to put in the hours. This is not a job that is a 9-5,” she points out. “Your success depends a lot on your willingness to put in the time.”

Rodeo Family

Home is Springfield now, as Dani and her husband, Mike, celebrate 25 years of marriage this February — with a trip to Jamaica on deck to mark the milestone.

The couple has raised two wonderful sons, Gage (22) and Cade (19). A pair of Australian Shepherds, Cinch and Boone, and six horses round out the crew. There's also no question that rodeo is their family language.

“Gage is at UNL and on their rodeo team; he team ropes and steer wrestles,” Dani shares. “And Cade is at Southeast Community College in Beatrice and on their rodeo team. He also team ropes and is just getting started with steer wrestling. And my husband is a team roper as well. And when they're not hauling horses to the arena, the outdoors are calling. Dani's family loves to golf together, enjoy time at the lake, and any chance to go snow skiing. Faith anchors the calendar, too, with attendance at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Springfield.





“
Most clients say I’m easy to talk to and have a fun personality; but the biggest thing is that I don’t pressure them and *I’m honest.*”



Looking down the road, Dani’s future plans are rooted firmly in her top priorities: her loved ones and continuity.

“My personal dream is to just keep enjoying family and building on the farming business,” she offers. The door to mentorship remains open if and when the timing ever aligns as well.

“I’ve thought about forming a team for years, even before teams were in vogue,” she admits. “My boys want to come back and farm with their dad, so if it suits, I would be open to mentoring the next generation of agents and keeping it in the family with my future daughter-in-laws.”

As for another career after real estate, she gives her trademark radically honest answer. “No way! It’s either this or sitting on a beach!” she concludes with a laugh.



Cinch and Boone, the family’s beloved Australian Shepherds.



Dani and her husband, Mike, with their sons, Gage and Cade — a tight-knit rodeo family rooted in faith, hard work, and their shared love of the outdoors.

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MIKE STORY

LEADING the WAY

BY DAVE DANIELSON • PHOTOS BY STACY IDEUS



For Mike Story, real estate began as a side interest—but quickly became a calling. In 2008, while working as a regional manager for Midwest Airlines, Mike decided to earn his real estate license. “I thought I’d just play around with it,” he says with a laugh. “It was supposed to be a side gig.”

But only a few months later, everything changed. In February 2009, the airline was sold, and Mike was laid off. “It wasn’t a great time to jump into real estate,” he admits. “The housing market had crashed, and home sales were tough. But I just kept at it.”

That persistence paid off. Through grit and determination, Mike turned a challenging start into a thriving career with NP Dodge Real Estate. Seventeen years later, he’s not only a successful Realtor but also serves as a Managing Broker, helping guide and mentor the next generation of agents.

A Downtown Perspective

For many years, Mike and his husband, Chris, called Elkhorn home. Three years

ago, they decided to make a change—trading suburban life for the vibrant rhythm of downtown Omaha. “We love being in the middle of everything,” Mike says. “There’s so much energy and development happening here. Being able to walk everywhere—restaurants, events, the riverfront—that’s a big part of why we made the move.”

Their condo downtown has become a perfect reflection of their lifestyle—modern, connected, and full of opportunity. “It’s great to be part of the city’s growth,” he adds. “We’ve really enjoyed seeing how Omaha continues to evolve.”

Finding Purpose in Leadership

Though he began as a full-time agent, Mike eventually took on the role of managing broker—a position he’s now held for eight years. “I never thought I’d go back into management after leaving corporate life,” he admits. “But this is different. It’s incredibly rewarding.”

For Mike, the best part of his job is helping others succeed. “I love seeing

new agents come in with excitement and big goals,” he says. “Watching them grow, helping them through their first challenges, and celebrating their first closings—it’s so fulfilling.”

He still sells homes himself, keeping a pulse on the market and staying connected with clients, but mentoring has become a defining part of his professional identity. “Real estate is such a relationship business,” he says. “And that applies to the people you work with, not just the clients you serve.”

Advice for the Next Generation

When new agents join NP Dodge, Mike always shares the same advice he received when he started. “You’re an independent contractor, so you can technically do what you want,” he says. “But if you want to make this a full-time, income-producing career, you have to treat it like a job. Show up every day, put in the time, and don’t wait for the phone to ring—you’ve got to make it ring.”

That philosophy, rooted in consistency and professionalism, has guided Mike



“

I just want people to see me as genuine and trustworthy—someone who’s honest, who does the right thing, and who helps others find success.”
— Mike Story



Over the years, that mindset has earned him a loyal following of clients and colleagues alike—people who appreciate his integrity, steadiness, and warmth.

Life Beyond the Office

Outside of work, Mike enjoys a well-earned balance between career and relaxation. He and Chris love to travel and spend weekends during the summer at their cabin at Woodcliff Lake. “It’s our getaway,” Mike says. “There’s nothing like being by the water—it’s peaceful and it helps us recharge.”

Though real estate keeps him busy, he believes downtime is essential for long-term success. “When you’re in this

business, it’s easy to be on 24/7,” he says. “But you have to take time for yourself and the people who matter most.”

Loyalty, Gratitude, and Growth

One of the constants throughout Mike’s 17-year career has been his loyalty to NP Dodge. “I’ve been with the same brokerage my entire career,” he says proudly. “They’ve supported me every step of the way. The leadership team, especially our President of Residential Sales, Jill Anderson, has been incredible. I’ve always felt encouraged to grow and take on new challenges.”

He also credits Chris for standing by him from the beginning. “My husband has

throughout his career. “There’s no shortcut,” he says. “The agents who treat it like a business are the ones who make it.”

A Foundation of Trust

If there’s one quality Mike values above all else, it’s honesty. “You can never approach a sale like you have to have it,” he explains. “When you start thinking about your paycheck instead of your client’s best interest, that’s where things go wrong.”

Instead, Mike focuses on transparency and trust. “My goal is for clients to always feel informed and comfortable,” he says. “Deals will fall apart sometimes—that’s just part of real estate. But if you walk people through every step and they know you’re looking out for them, they’ll remember that. That’s how you build a referral-based business.”



Mike and his husband, Chris, the foundation behind a career built on integrity and heart.

supported me through everything—even when I wasn’t making any money early on,” he says. “That kind of belief from someone you love—it means the world.”

Building a Legacy of Integrity

From navigating one of the toughest markets in history to leading agents toward their own success, Mike Story’s journey is a testament to perseverance, adaptability, and heart. He’s built a career defined not just by sales or titles, but by relationships and reputation.

“I just want people to see me as genuine and trustworthy,” he says. “Someone who’s honest, who does the right thing, and who helps others find success.”

For Mike, real estate isn’t just a job—it’s a commitment to people, purpose, and the place he’s proud to call home.



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A close-up photograph of a dark grey shingled roof. A white roof vent is visible on the left side of the frame. The shingles are arranged in a traditional pattern, and the lighting highlights their texture.

MY GOLDEN BRICK

The AI Company
Helping Agents Work
Smarter, Not Harder

BY DAVE DANIELSON



When Mike Bjork talks about My Golden Brick, his enthusiasm is unmistakable. The founder of the fast-growing AI and automation company speaks with the conviction of someone who’s already lived one successful career—and is well on his way to building another. With a background in real estate and an appetite for learning, Mike’s entrepreneurial journey has quickly evolved into something bigger than he ever expected.

His real estate career took off almost immediately after he became licensed in April 2019. Within just three years, he had grown a team of 20 agents, producing more than \$100 million in annual volume. But as he continued to push himself and explore new areas of growth, a different passion began to take root: the rapidly accelerating world of artificial intelligence.

From Curiosity to Creation

“It all started with me spending a couple of hours a day studying AI systems,” Mike explains. He dove into the mechanics—how different platforms work, the importance of strong prompting, and the ways AI could streamline familiar processes. The deeper he went, the more he saw opportunity.

Soon, he began building his own applications. Not long after, he partnered with Suda Garikapati, whose impressive background includes leadership roles in AI and technology at companies such as Union Pacific and Walmart International. Together, they saw both the gaps and the potential in the market—and realized they could build something better. Another partner that Mike appreciates teaming up with is Mandy Visty, who has a strong background in design and marketing.

What My Golden Brick Delivers

Though the company is newly formed, officially launching on January 1, My Golden Brick is already attracting users from across the country. The platform is designed to serve real estate professionals, but it isn’t limited to that industry. Its flexible architecture allows My Golden Brick to offer tailored AI tools, automation systems, and even custom-built applications for businesses of all types.

“We specialize in AI automation solutions,” Mike says. “It can do about anything you want. It’s not just one platform for real estate.”

The company’s offerings include AI-powered website templates, CRM tools, automated social media systems, CMA tools, video editing technology, role-play apps, and a growing suite of smart utilities designed to save time, enhance branding, and simplify business operations.

Building at Lightning Speed

Even before the official launch, growth has been rapid. “We just hired three or four more processors,” Mike notes. Demand is already high enough that a full support team is needed to keep up. As adoption spreads, the company is working on securing data vendor licenses for multiple MLSs nationwide and has already onboarded new users in markets like Tucson.

Their long-range goal is to reach 1,000 active subscribers—a fraction of the 1.5 million licensed agents in the U.S., yet an achievement that would validate the platform’s value and staying power.

What Makes the Platform Different

Mike believes My Golden Brick stands apart because it provides a comprehensive toolkit at a price point significantly lower than competitors. “It’s a great website template with a CRM and automated social media system built into the back—at a cheaper price than what you can get from any other competitor,” he says.

Another major advantage is adaptability. Because the platform is built on multiple layers of AI systems, it can easily integrate or swap technologies as new models emerge. “As AI improves or changes, it’s pretty easily interchangeable,” Mike explains. That flexibility ensures long-term relevance in an industry where tools can become outdated almost overnight.

Just as important as the technology itself is the individuality it allows. Not all posts, templates, or videos look the same. Users can customize their content to maintain their own brand identity—something many agents struggle with when relying on cookie-cutter marketing solutions.

The Power of Digital Avatars

One of the most innovative features comes through a partnership with HeyGen, an AI company whose hyper-realistic digital avatars allow users to create video content using a lifelike virtual version of themselves. On the My Golden Brick platform, these avatars can be used for walkthroughs, listing videos, commercials, and more.

“It looks just like you,” Mike says. “You can just put in prompts to do videos.” The technology opens up new possibilities for agents who want to scale their presence without spending hours filming.

A Platform That Evolves With Its Users

As My Golden Brick continues to grow, Mike’s hope is that users experience not only a powerful system—but a continually evolving one. “We keep realizing we can do more and more,” he says. With a support team working around the clock and a development pipeline that expands by the week, the platform is positioned to evolve in step with its audience.



For Mike, this journey isn’t just about launching another tech product. It’s about building something that empowers professionals, adapts to change, and elevates the way business gets done.



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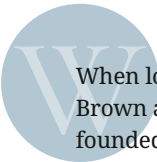
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SUPREME  LENDING

SIMPLY SORTED

Enhancing Clarity and Flow in Every Space

BY DAVE DANIELSON
PHOTOS BY STACY IDEUS



When longtime friends Allison Brown and Megan Fraber founded Simply Sorted Omaha in early 2024, it wasn't a spur-of-the-moment decision. The two had spent nearly a decade joking about starting an organizing business together—between careers, kids, and the daily juggle of working motherhood.

"We'd talk about it all the time," Megan says with a laugh. "Then one day, we realized we weren't joking anymore."

Both women brought years of professional experience to the table—Allison as a teacher and Megan in healthcare—but they felt pulled toward something that would blend their strengths in problem-solving, empathy, and connection. "We loved our previous careers," Allison says, "but we wanted to do something that really reflected who we are—helping people in a tangible, meaningful way." In February 2024, they launched Simply Sorted Omaha—and haven't looked back.

More Than Just Organizing
At its heart, Simply Sorted Omaha is about transformation—creating

systems that make daily life more peaceful and sustainable. "We like to say that everyone can use an organizer," Megan explains. "Sometimes people know exactly what they want but don't have the time to make it happen. Other times, they're overwhelmed and don't know where to start. That's where we come in."

The duo offers a wide range of services, including home organizing, decluttering, home transitions, packing and unpacking for moves, and even

seasonal decor setup. They also specialize in life transitions, like downsizing or combining households after marriage. "There's no one-size-fits-all approach," Allison says. "Every client, every space, every situation is unique. We listen first and build a plan that fits their goals."

Their work often goes beyond boxes and bins. "We laugh with our clients, we cry with them," Allison adds. "When someone invites you into their home—sometimes into their most private spaces—it takes trust. We take that seriously."

Helping Families Breathe Easier
As working moms of three each, Allison and Megan understand firsthand how the pressures of home life can pile up. "Your house shouldn't be a source of constant stress," Megan says. "We've been there—trying to juggle kids, work, and all the 'stuff' that comes with family life. That's why we're passionate about creating spaces that support families rather than overwhelm them."

Their empathy resonates deeply with clients. "You can literally see the relief on their faces halfway





Before



After



Before



After

through a project,” Allison says. “It’s like a weight is lifted. We want every person we work with to walk into their home and feel peace again.”

From Teaching and Healthcare to Hands-On Healing

Though they’ve shifted careers, their educational backgrounds still influence their approach. Allison, a former math teacher with a master’s degree in mathematics, loves the problem-

solving side of organizing. “I can’t help it—I geek out over systems and efficiency,” she admits. “It’s math and logic applied to real life.”

Megan, who holds a master’s degree in exercise science, brings a focus on wellness and functionality. “In healthcare, I learned how much our environment affects our stress levels and wellbeing,” she explains. “We’re not just making spaces look nice—we’re improving how people feel in their homes.”

Teamwork Makes the Transformation

What started as a two-person operation has quickly expanded. Simply Sorted Omaha now includes a growing team of trained organizers who

share Allison and Megan’s values of empathy, integrity, and efficiency. “We’re really proud of our team,” Allison says. “They understand the importance of confidentiality, respect, and compassion. We can have up to ten people working on a large project, which lets us complete big transformations quickly and effectively.”

Every project begins with a complimentary consultation. “It’s important to us that clients feel comfortable from the start,” Megan explains. “We come in without judgment—just solutions.”

Building Trust Through Connection

One of the things that sets Simply Sorted Omaha apart is its personal connection with clients and other professionals in the community. “We’ve built amazing relationships through networking and collaborations,” Allison says. “We also partner with real estate agents, helping declutter and stage homes before they go on the market or assisting families with packing and unpacking during moves.”

Trust is at the center of everything they do. “If

A former math teacher with a love for systems and structure, Allison Brown brings a logical yet warm approach to organizing. She thrives on creating spaces that make life simpler and more peaceful.

we refer someone to another service provider—like movers or cleaners—it’s because we trust them completely,” Megan adds. “We’d never send someone to a vendor we wouldn’t use ourselves.”

Faith, Family, and Fulfillment

Behind their business success lies a foundation of family support. Allison’s husband, Alex, and children—Piper, Austin, and Kendall—cheer her on every step of the way. Megan’s husband, Drew, and their kids—Caleb, Avery, and Skylar—do the

same. Between the two families, they cover nearly every sport under the sun, from volleyball and basketball to camping and boating adventures.

“Running a business and raising six kids between us isn’t easy,” Allison says, “but it’s worth it. We’re showing our kids what it looks like to follow your passion and work hard for something meaningful.”

Finding Joy in Every Project

While they take their work seriously, Allison and Megan also believe in keeping things lighthearted. “We think we’re pretty funny,” Allison says with a grin. “We like to make our clients laugh and feel at ease. Organization doesn’t have to be stiff—it can actually be really fun.”

That mix of professionalism, humor, and heart has earned Simply Sorted Omaha a loyal following in the community. “We’re not just creating tidy homes,” Megan says. “We’re helping people reclaim time, peace, and joy. That’s the best part.”



With a background in healthcare and a heart for helping others, Megan Fraber blends wellness and organization to create balance at home. She believes every space should support joy, calm, and connection.



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Omaha Real Producers • 45



BY JESS WELLAR
PHOTOS BY STACY IDEUS

Andrea OSTER

Caring Still Wins The Day

Andrea Oster’s path from cardiac nurse to trusted luxury advisor tracks with who she is at her core — calm under pressure, relentlessly prepared, and tuned in to people.

“I use my compassion every day in real estate and truly feel like my clients are my patients,” Andrea reflects. “There’s still a checklist to be completed while always listening to their needs.”

Andrea earned her BSN from Methodist College of Nursing and spent six years on the cardiac floor at Methodist before transitioning into a remote Director of Nursing role with TotalWellness to be home with her kids.

Real estate arrived organically. “Being with my husband, Kenny, and knowing him for so long — we met in middle

school — his family has been building houses for 50 years. So I heard about the business all the time!” she laughs.

Andrea joined her mother-in-law, Diane, at CBSHome in 2014 (CBSHome later merged with BHHS), and credits her mother-in-law for her quick start in the business: “Diane was a wonderful mentor to me when I joined her, and is very well respected in the real estate community,” she acknowledges gratefully.

The awards came early and haven’t slowed. Andrea was the #1 top new agent company-wide at CBSHome her first year. In 2022, she ranked #10 at BHHS with \$22 million closed that year, and she’s maintained a steady production of approximately \$10 million annually ever since — largely in the high-end sector.

“

I TREAT EVERY CLIENT AND EVERY HOME THAT I LIST AS IF IT IS MY OWN. I AM ALSO A PERFECTIONIST, AND I TRY TO IDENTIFY EVERY OBSTACLE BEFORE IT HAPPENS. **I HATE SURPRISES!”**



Still, it's an innate drive to help people and her family that keeps Andrea hustling.

"I define success by making the people in my life happy," she states. "Also, just knowing that my family is happy and healthy, that is another sign of success for me."

Built On Compassion

Andrea's style is incredibly personal and hands-on by design. She works individually and methodically to handle every last detail during the transaction.

"You work with me and only me," she states. "I treat every client and every home that I list as if it is my own. I am also a perfectionist, and I try to identify every obstacle before it happens. I hate surprises!"

That carries into prep and presentation. "I sell all price points and types of properties, but I specialize in luxury homes," she offers. "And even though my husband builds high-end, custom homes, the truth is, I don't typically represent the customers during the construction process. Where I step in is usually when the homeowner decides to sell."

She stages every listing and is present on site as well: "I like everything to be in its place and the house to be de-cluttered and organized. I want the buyer to be able to envision themselves in the space without feeling overwhelmed," she notes.

Andrea has added a little horsepower recently, too: "In the last year, I hired a social media director to help me build my online exposure," she elaborates. "I also hired an amazing videographer for when I list a house. But transaction-wise, it's just me from A to Z."



Andrea and her husband, Kenny, have been married for 19 years and share three sons — Nick (19), Max (16), and Chase (9)

The Home Team

Andrea is Omaha through and through. She's a proud Millard South alum back when they were still the Indians, and her family keeps her on her toes more than ever these days.

She and Kenny, her husband of 19 years, have three sons: Nick (19), Max (16), and Chase (9), as well as her "little princess," a 6-pound Shih Tzu named Coco.



“I TREAT EVERY CLIENT AND EVERY HOME THAT I LIST AS IF IT IS MY OWN,” ANDREA SAYS. “I’M A PERFECTIONIST AND TRY TO IDENTIFY EVERY OBSTACLE BEFORE IT HAPPENS.”
ANDREA OSTER

Weekends usually mean cheering on her boys from the sidelines of a soccer field. But when time allows, the entire brood loves to pack up and head to the beaches of Mexico. Their favorite spot? Akumal.

"It has a nice reef so it's calm for swimming and lots of sea turtles," she offers.

When the Osters are home, relaxation by the pool usually wins out, or spending time at her in-laws' lakehouse to boat and watch her sons fish. But in her precious spare time, Andrea enjoys a good shopping spree.

Faith and community are woven into her busy calendar, too. "We belong to St. Wenceslaus and my boys attend St. Wenceslaus Catholic School, Skutt Catholic High School, and Wayne State College," she says, "so I try to be as involved with their schools as my schedule allows."

Many Adventures Ahead

This year brought an exciting new chapter for Andrea and her husband: ownership of Ken Oster Homes. Professionally, her goal is to help Kenny grow the family business while continuing to build her own. Globetrotting waits patiently in the wings as well.



"We have some exciting adventures ahead! We are approaching 50 and have a 9-year-old (a surprise blessing!), so it will be a little while before we will be empty nesters who travel more," she smiles, "but for now we are paying for schooling and our travel revolves around soccer, with Arizona and Florida up next."

From the cardiac floor to closing day, Andrea's caring nature and calm precision continue to define her success in Omaha's luxury real estate market.

Italy sits at the top of Andrea's bucket list, perhaps for their 25th wedding anniversary, as well as a return trip to Costa Rica.

Given her previous experience hiring and training nurses, she's also seriously considered the possibility of paying forward the impactful mentoring she once received from her mother-in-

law by forming a team down the road. But for now, Andrea's content is continuing to fly solo while staying close to the work she loves.

"When I let my nursing license lapse, I thought, 'I hope I don't regret this!' Andrea concludes frankly, "And I never have."



“
WE HAVE SOME EXCITING
ADVENTURES AHEAD! WE
ARE APPROACHING 50
AND HAVE A 9-YEAR-OLD
(A SURPRISE BLESSING!),
SO IT WILL BE A LITTLE
WHILE BEFORE **WE WILL
BE EMPTY NESTERS
WHO TRAVEL MORE.**”



Coco, Andrea's 6-pound Shih Tzu, is the queen of the house and always by her side.



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OMAHA REALTORS® GIVING BACK

Written by **Melissa McElroy**

There's a magic in the air this time of year. The sweet aroma of freshly baked goods fills homes and hearts, reminding us of fond memories from holidays past while we create new ones. The warmth from a crackling fire invites you to sip hot cocoa and watch holiday classics on a loop.

The Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® Foundation embraces that spirit of the season all year round by giving to people in need. Charitable donations to the OABR Foundation help fund critical housing-related requests, educational scholarships, and other community needs. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, allowing you to make a tax-deductible, year-end contribution that benefits the community under the local REALTOR® banner.

OABR President Brad Fricke said, "The Foundation supports charities and organizations that follow the mission of OABR that supports our community and promotes homeownership."

Among other worthy investments, the OABR Foundation supports students at Metropolitan Community College's Construction and Building Sciences Program and the Builders of the Future high school program in Nebraska. Both programs are wise investments that benefit the community by developing needed workers for skilled construction trades. The Foundation also provides scholarships for UNO students pursuing a career in real estate. This year, the OABR Foundation also supported Heartland Hope Mission, a nonprofit organization that provides essential programs and resources to local low-income families.

OABR Foundation President Jessica Sawyer said,

"I enjoy how the OABR Foundation keeps their eyes and ears open on how to be impactful for our greater Omaha community, like the support given to Builders of the Future. The people involved in that program are people we don't meet every day as REALTORS®, but they are leading in every avenue of the construction of a house and doing the ground-up work by encouraging the next generation of contractors that our world desperately needs."



The OABR Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® absorbs all administrative and overhead expenses, which allows 100 percent of Foundation donations to go directly toward:

1. Critical needs for shelter, including local disasters and emergencies, the REALTOR® Relief Foundation, and the Nebraska Home Buyer's Assistance Foundation.
2. Educational scholarships for UNO students and other post-secondary students working toward a career in real estate.
3. Newer members who are pursuing a REALTOR® Designation or Certification.
4. The Metro Community College's Construction and Building Science program and the Nebraska Builders of the Future High School program for individuals drawn toward the construction trades.
5. Financial support for other special needs in the greater Omaha community.

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