

# Alaska's Premier RADON Mitigators

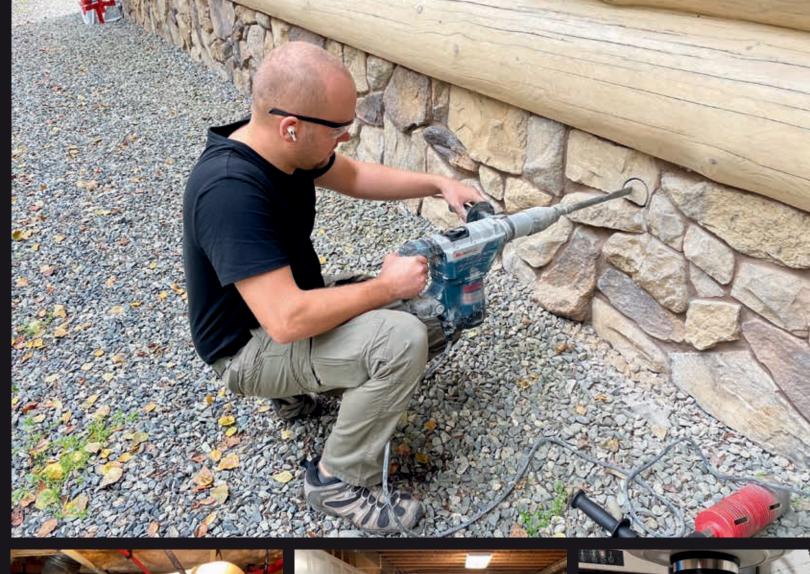
RESACTION OF THE PROPERTY OF T

RADON is the #1 cause of lung cancer next to smoking and Alaska has the highest average RADON levels in the country! We will test your client's home for radon... for free!

Guaranteed to keep Alaskans safe from RADON, one home at a time.

A healthy home is the BEST sale!







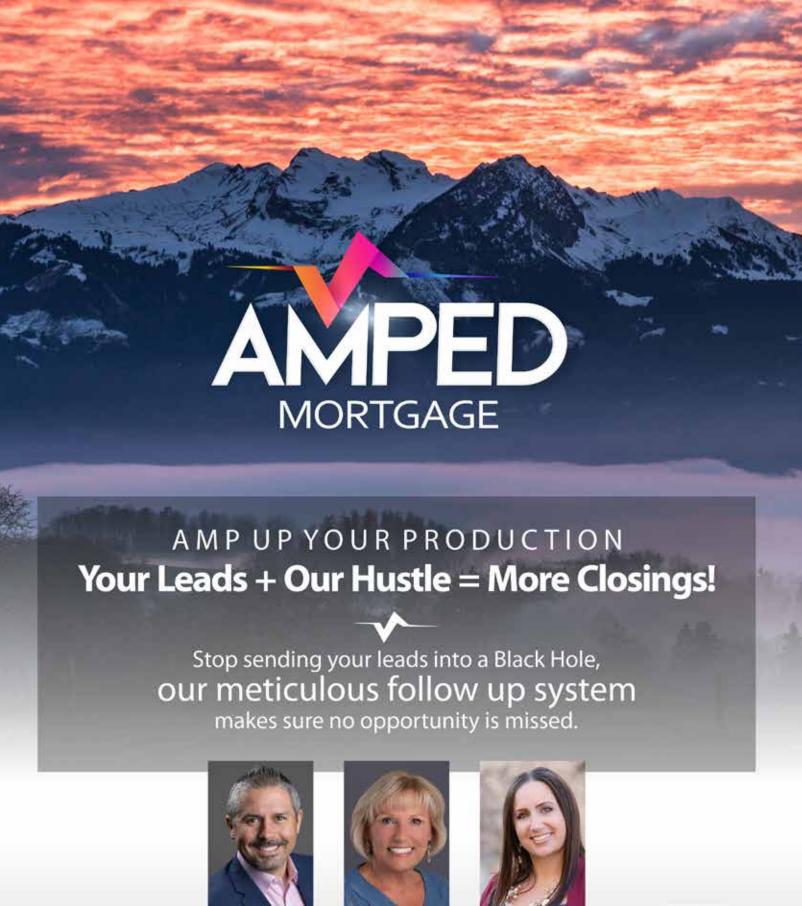


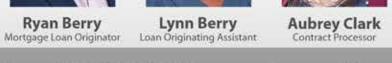


ALASKARADON.COM

RESTORE CONFIDENCE, RESTORE VALUE

**CALL OR TEXT TODAY!** 907.354.7250







# The Ultimate Home Inspection **Partner for Realtors**



#### Standard with every **Home Inspection:**

PTP360\*

Interactive 360° Visual **Inspection Summary** 



#### Also included with Premium and Prestige Packages:

**PTPFloorPlan** 

A measured floor plan of the entire home



#### **PTPEstimates** Powered by BOSSCAT

Cost estimate for Inspection **Summary items** 



### **PTPHomeManual**

The digital owner's manual for the home



#### **The Frontier Team** 907-521-7776

frontierteam@pillartopost.com frontierteam.pillartopost.com





Serving Alaska





Alaska Real Producers Holiday Event



#### IN THIS ISSUE

- 8 Preferred Partners
- 10 Meet The Team
- **14 Rising Star:** Emilie Cullison Elite Real Estate Group
- **20 Top Producer:** Bobby Desrochers Gold Standard Real Estate
- 28 Agent on the Rise: Taylor Holfield
- 32 Coaching Corner: Hero Nation Coaching
- 36 Partner Spotlight: Impakt Athletics
- 40 Alaska Real Producers Holiday Event
- 46 Cover Story Rewind from August 2023









**28** Taylor Holfield



36 Impakt Athletics







Katie Sindorf
Sr. Mortgage Loan Officer | NMLS 1205737
katie.sindorfemovement.com
907.242.3191

325 E. Palmer-Wasilla Highway Ste. 108 Wasilla, AX 99654 | AX-1205737, U.A. TX. WA-MIO-420415 | Movement Mortgage LC. All rights reserved. MMLS ID #39179 (For Dicessing information, go to: http://www.neisconcumeraccess.org/, Additional information available and may or may not be available at the time of team commitment or lock-in. Recreases made and the property of teams of teams and made to the property of teams of teams of teams of the property of teams.



# **Preferred Partners**

This section has been created to give you easier access when searching for a trusted real estate affiliate. Take a minute to familiarize yourself with the businesses sponsoring your magazine. These local businesses are proud to partner with you and make this magazine possible. Please support these businesses and thank them for supporting the REALTOR® community!

#### ACCOUNTING/BOOKKEEPING

Kelly's Office Essentials LLC (907) 892-6657

#### **AUTO SALES**

BMW Anchorage Phyllis Halverson, BMW Client Advisor

(907) 646-7553 www.BMWofAnchorage.com

#### AUTOMOBILE DETAILING

OCDetailing & Auto Reconditioning

(907) 357-6989

#### CARPET/UPHOLSTERY

Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning

(907) 622-6840 www.anchorageak. heavensbest.com

#### **CLEANING SERVICES**

Cleaning's A Breeze
Bre Tschilar

(907) 373-5100

www.cleaningsabreezeak.com

Happy Home House Cleaning (907) 232-9841

#### **CONTRACTOR / REMODELING**

Quality Builds Alaska (907) 671-8687

www.qualitybuildsak.com

Susitna Home Services
Dakoda Martin

(907) 795-0050 www.SusitnaHomeServices.com

Tru Built Construction LLC Kaulen Pevan

(907) 331-7074 www.trubuiltak.com

#### CRM

BONZO

(614) 357-2367 www.getbonzo.com

#### **ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR**

All Phase Electric, LLC

(907) 376-1200 www.allphaseelectricak.com Walker & Sons Services LLC Jed Walker (907) 373-3893

#### **FINANCIAL PROFESSIONAL**

NYLIFE Securities
Joy Fearn-Condon

(907) 357-4695 www.newyorklife.com/agent/ ifearncondon

### FITNESS/GYM/PERSONAL TRAINING/NUTRITION

Impakt Athletics (907) 315-6046 www.impaktgym.com

#### HOME BUILDER

**Hall Quality Homes** (907) 312-7900

www.hallhomes.com

Precision Homes LLC (907) 841-3426 www.PrecisionHomesAK.com

#### Cutting Edge Homes & Cabins LLC

(907) 354-1841 www.cuttingedgehomes cabins.com

#### HOME INSPECTION

A-1 Inspection Services LLC Steven Amidon

(907) 892-4444 www.a1inspections907.com

Discovery Home Inspection Services, LLC

(907) 243-4476 www.discoveryinspect.com

Pillar to Post Home Inspectors
- The Frontier Team

(907) 521-7776 www.frontierteam.pillartopost.com

#### **INSURANCE AGENCY**

Allie Hewitt - State Farm (907) 357-0727 www.allieinthevalley.com Chaila Tyner - GEICO Insurance Agent Chaila Turner

(907) 344-4411 www.geico.com/ insurance-agents/alaska/ anchorage/chaila-tyner/

COUNTRY Financial
Tearsa Nelson

(907) 726-3906 agents.countryfinancial.com/usa/ ak/anchorage/tearsa-nelson

#### LOCK & KEY

Shadow Mountain Locksmith Ryan Butcher

(907) 306-7878 www.shadowmtnlocksmith.com

#### MEAL PREPARATION

Karma Kafe

(907) 841-5005 www.karmakafeak.com

#### MORTGAGE LENDER

Amped Mortgage Ryan Berry NMLS #2160725

(907) 519-7000 www.AmpedMtg.com

First Rate Financial Eva Archuleta NMLS #911099

(907) 232-8018 www.alaskamortgagemomma.com

First Rate Financial Amanda Jensen NMLS #1251279

(907) 441-6223

www.amanda-akhomeloans.com

**Global Home Loans** (907) 921-2514

www.mytaccat.com

www.gcuhomewasilla.com

Movement Mortgage
Katie Sindorf NMLS #1205737

(907) 242-3191 www.ksindorfhomeloans.com

Nexa Mortgage Shawn Miller NMLS #1989873 (213) 259-5950 Prime Lending

chisholm

Chris Chisholm NMLS#190271 (907) 242-0531 lo.primelending.com/chris.

Prime Lending Misty Massie NMLS#515022

(907) 232-1063 lo.primelending.com/misty. massie

Residential Mortgage Adam Mee NMLS #906292

(907) 707-8821 www.AdamMeeHomeLoans.com

Six Pillar Lending LLC (907) 887-4245 www.sixpillarlending.com

#### NOTARY/CLOSING SERVICES

Mana Signings & Co. Vaosa Leifi

(907) 312-9357 www.manasignsco.com

#### **PAINTING CONTRACTOR**

**True Colors Painting LLC** (907) 354-6593 www.truecolorspaintingak.com

#### PEST CONTROL SERVICES

APEX Pest Control Solutions (661) 331-9354 www.apexpcsak.com

### PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER

DMD Real Estate Marketing

(907) 268-7701 www.dmdrealestatemarketing.com

#### PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Ambience Photography (907) 354-3460

www.ambienceak.com

#### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Alaska Property Managers LLC (907) 764-2193 www.AKPropertyManagers.com

#### **RADON MITIGATION**

Rapid Response Restoration LLC (907) 354-7250 www.alaskaradon.com

#### SEPTIC SERVICE, REPAIR TAX F & MAINTENANCE Robin

A-Two Septic Brenden Strom (907) 315-1477 www.A2Septic.com

#### SNOW PLOWING / REMOVAL

GPS Plowing & Sanding (907) 232-0799 www.GPSAlaska.net

#### TAX PROFESSIONAL/C.P.A.

Robinson & Ward, P.C. Kelly Ward (907) 474-4576 www.rwcpaak.com

#### TITLE COMPANY

Fidelity Title Agency Alaska (907) 277-6601 www.fidelitytitleagencyak.com/ **Stewart Title** (907) 274-2562

www.stewart.com/Anchorage

#### WATER, FIRE, MOLD RESTORATION

TCM Restoration & Cleaning (907) 373-7410 www.tcmrestoration.com/

#### WELL / SEPTIC INSPECTIONS

Pioneer Engineering Bill Klebesadel (907) 863-2455 www.akpioneerllc.com







- ~RADON TESTING
- ~REPORTS WITHIN 24 HRS
- ~LEVEL 1 THERMOGRAPHER
  ~SENTRI-LOCK PROPERTY ACCESS
- ~OVER 20 YEARS INSPECTION EXPERIENCE
- ~30 YEARS OF BUILDING EXPERIENCE



Preston Eakes got a chance to inspect two potential homes for us within a couple weeks and both times we had a fantastic experience! Very professional, very thorough, willing to educate us as much as we wanted to learn, great sense of humor and almost immediate turnaround on the report! Highly recommended

~Anastasia

8 • February 2025 Alaska Real Producers • 9

# Meet The Team



**Devon Dora** Owner/Publisher



Katrina Holder Social Media/ Communication Concierge



Maddie Fuller Writer



Lindsey Hardman Writer



**Zachary Cohen**Writer



Shannon Strawn Photographer



**Heather Dunn** *Photographer* 



DISCLAIMER: Any articles included in this publication and/or opinions expressed therein do not necessarily reflect the views of The N2 Company d/b/a Real Producers but remain solely those of the author(s). The paid advertisements contained within the magazine are not endorsed or recommended by The N2 Company or the publisher. Therefore, neither The N2 Company nor the publisher may be held liable or responsible for business practices of these companies.

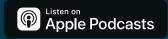




Inspiring conversations with the nation's top real estate agents.



Same Brand, New Reach – Tune in for free today





Listen on **amazon** music



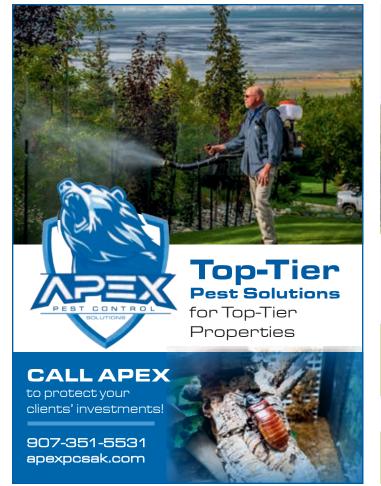






**10** • February 2025







#### A-1 INSPECTION SERVICES LLC

STEVE AMIDON, INSPECTOR
HIN 131 INSURED



www.a1inspections907.com | aone@mtaonline.net

CALL 907-892-4444



# ALASKA'S

### BEST BY YOUR SIDE



CHRIS CHISHOLM

Production Manager - NMLS: 190271

(907) 242-0531 chris.chisholm@primelending.com



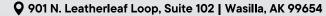


MISTY MASSIE

Sr. Loan Originator - NMLS: 515022

(907) 232-1063 misty.massie@primelending.com







SCOTT BLEEKER

Sr. Loan Originator - NMLS: 1252101

(907) 830-7138 scott.bleeker@primelending.com





AMY WASHINGTON

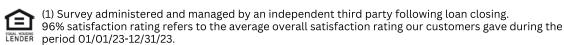
Assoc. Loan Originator - NMLS: 199748

(907) 205-3389

amy.washington@primelending.com







All loans subject to credit approval. Rates and fees subject to change. ©2025 PrimeLending, a PlainsCapital Company (PrimeLending). (NMLS: 13649). Equal Housing Lender. PrimeLending is a wholly owned subsidiary of a state-chartered bank and is an exempt lender in AK. v010918





STORY WRITTEN BY ZACHARY COHEN PHOTOGRAPHY BY HEATHER DUNN, AMBIENCE PHOTOGRAPHY

rom her unique upbringing in Wasilla, Alaska, to her rise as a top-producing REALTOR® with Elite Real Estate Group, Emilie Cullison has built a life and career defined by grit and grace.

Emilie's childhood was shaped by the rich blend of cultures and values her parents instilled in her. Her mother's adventurous spirit and ability to adapt to a new environment

"Her spirit of adventure and adapting to a new environment and culture was admirable. She had a solution for every problem and solved them with no cares in this world and a smile on her face," Emilie shares.

Her father, embodying the true Alaskan spirit, taught her independence and resourcefulness. "He taught me how to follow your bliss, take responsibility for your actions when you have done wrong, and to be an independent thinker," Emilie says. "Resources were scarce in the valley in the 1980s, so you

> relied on your neighbor to have the spare part to fix your three-wheeler or traded fish for homegrown herbs. He demonstrated being resourceful and taught me thinking outside the box will almost always find a solution."

As she grew into adulthood, these forces shaped Emilie to become resilient and creative in her life endeavors.

#### **A New Beginning**

At 21, Emilie's life took an unexpected turn when she discovered she was pregnant. She sought a career that would provide both flexibility and fulfillment. That led her to briefly pursue real estate, taking in-person courses and discovering her passion for helping people navigate life's transitions.

"I realized that being a REALTOR® wasn't just about selling houses. It was about helping people through endings and new beginnings," Emilie says. However, with a young child to care for and a sense that she wasn't yet ready to fully commit, she put her real estate dreams

In the years that followed, Emilie juggled various jobs, including bookkeeping and managing a storage facility, all while raising three children. "There were toys scattered around me, Disney movies playing

**Returning to Real Estate: A Life-Changing Decision** 

Fast forward 17 years, and Emilie decided it was time to revisit her dream. By 2019, she was ready to embrace real estate with renewed purpose. "I wanted to contribute to the family income so my husband at the time could work closer to home and spend more time with us," she explains.

Little did she know, her life was about to take another dramatic turn. After 15 years of marriage, Emilie found herself navigating divorce and becoming the sole custodian of her three children. "Real estate saved my life in a way I didn't see coming," she reflects. "It gave me the means to support my family and the confidence to rebuild our lives."

#### **Thriving in Real Estate**

Emilie quickly made her mark in the industry. By her second year in real estate, she was the #2 producer at her brokerage, a distinction she has held nearly every year since. In 2023, she became the brokerage's top female producer unaffiliated with a team.

Emilie's approach to real estate is deeply personal. "A house is just a structure made of building materials," she says. "What I'm passionate about are the memories and love that fill those walls. Helping people find a space to live out their goals motivates me to do my best for every client."

Emilie's success is rooted in her ability to connect with people and understand their needs. "A house is just building materials put up into a structure," she says. To me, what happens in the house and the memories that can be created in the space are what I am passionate about. Walls are just a temporary place we all pass through; however, the love and memories that are created in

a space will always remain."

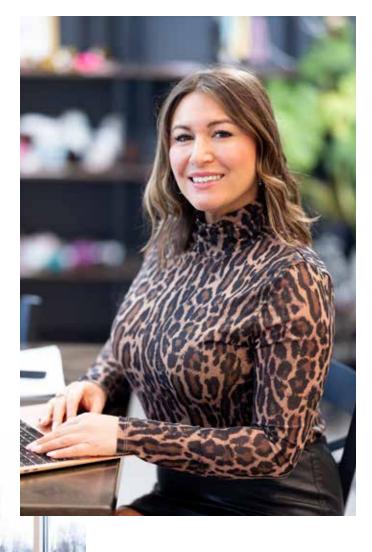
While Emilie's business has thrived through word-of-mouth referrals from friends and family, she's looking to expand her online presence. "I believe there's a need to connect with more people online," she says. "It's the next step in growing my business and helping even more clients."

Emilie's dedication to continuous improvement and adapting to changing circumstances reflects the lessons she learned from her parents. Whether it's exploring new ways to reach clients or staying current with industry trends, she's always ready to evolve.

#### **Balancing Work and Family**

Despite her busy schedule, Emilie prioritizes her family.

She shares her life with her significant other, Buzz Yohman, who helps maintain balance at home. Together, they navigate the demands of raising their blended family, which includes Emilie's children, Ellie (18), Ethan (16), and Elias (13), as well as Buzz's son, Nick (17), and their youngest, Mira (1).



When she's not working, Emilie enjoys working out, hiking, and country line dancing.

#### A Legacy of Service and Compassion

Emilie's early struggles and experiences have shaped her into a REALTOR® who approaches her work with empathy and a deep understanding of life's complexities. She hopes her clients see that she truly cares about their needs and goals. Real estate is more than a job to her—it's a way to help people through some of the most significant transitions in their lives.

With a thriving business, a supportive family, and a passion for making a difference, Emilie Cullison is a rising star in Alaska's real estate community. Her journey has been anything but ordinary, but it's a path she

wouldn't trade for anything.

As Emilie continues to grow her business and strengthen her ties to the community, she remains focused on the values that have guided her from the beginning: resourcefulness, compassion, and a commitment to helping others succeed.



# DEDICATED TO THOSE THAT SERVED OUR COUNTRY

ZERO DOWN VA WITH NO MAXIMUM LOAN LIMIT
NEW CONSTRUCTION LOANS 1-4 UNITS
RENOVATION LOANS

LET US SAVE YOUR CLIENTS MONEY AND HELP YOU CLOSE MORE DEALS



www.sixpillarlending.com (907)887-4245 NMLS# 2416155



MATHIEU FROHLICH | BROKER & OWNER | USMC VETERAN





# Your sweetheart deserves the best



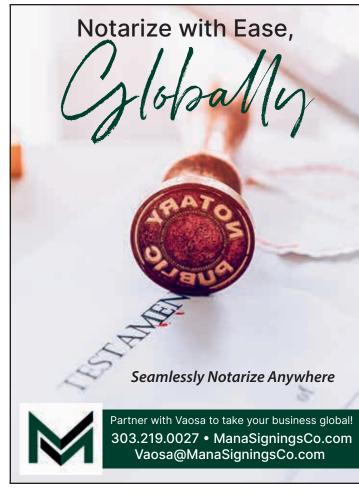
Tearsa Nelson
5431 E Mayflower Ln Ste 2
Wasilla, AK 99654
www.countryfinancial.com/tearsa.nelson
tearsa.nelson@countryfinancial.com
(907)205-3280

Insurance and Financial Services

"COUNTRY Financial®" is the marketing nan for the COUNTRY Financial family of affiliate companies (collectively, "COUNTRY"), which include COUNTRY Life Insurance Company®, and COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company®, and their respective subsidiaries, located in Bloominator II



Bloomington, IL. 1020-568HC\_29169-2/12/2024





www.dmdrealestatephotography.com









#### The DMD Difference

With over 20 years experience creating photography and video content in Alaska, the DMD Team will surely show your home in it's best light!

#### Services

- Photography
- ✓ Videography
- ✓ 3D Tours
- Drone
- ✓ Floor Plans
- Social Media

DMD Real Estate Photography (907) 268-7701



View our website to learn more





Some individuals are simply born to shine in their careers, combining passion, determination, and a knack for connecting with people. For Bobby Desrochers, real estate wasn't just another career choice—it was the perfect outlet for his innate salesmanship, leadership skills, and desire to help others achieve monumental milestones in their lives. His inspiring story of overcoming challenges, building a thriving business, and leaving a legacy in the real estate world is one worth celebrating.

### From Sales Beginnings to Real Estate Dreams

Selling has always come naturally to Bobby. Long before he became one of Alaska's top producing REALTORS®, his business prowess shined, "I always was the top salesman for all the school fundraiser whether it was wrapping paper sales, boy scout popcorn, or any sort of raffle tickets, I was always determined to sell the most and I was never afraid to put myself out there and chat with anyone." That early competitive drive turned into a lifelong passion for sales.

After exploring other industries like car sales and roles such as managing a café and coordinating sales for Indian Valley Meats, he realized that something was missing. Bobby craved a career that would keep him on his feet—a thrilling, dynamic profession where no day was the same.

That opportunity came in 2014 just after Bobby graduated from UAF, when a family friend suggested real estate. Intrigued after meeting with a broker,

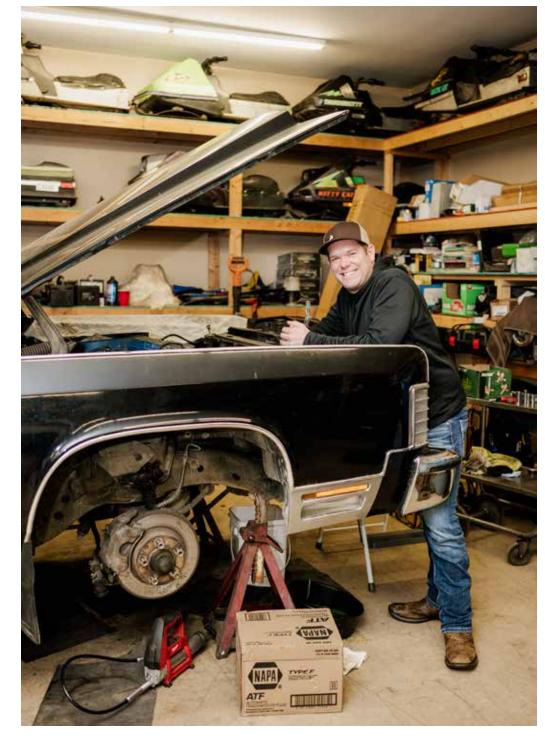
Bobby didn't waste any time and started the process of earning his real estate license, which he completed in July of that year.

#### **Leadership in Real Estate**

Just a few years into his career, success came knocking - in 2017 alone, he

was honored with the GFBR Rookie of the Year, and the GFBR Affiliates REALTOR® of the Year. The latter is voted on and granted by affiliate members of the Greater Fairbanks Board of REALTORS®, making it an even greater honor. Some short years later, he was

named GFBR REALTOR® of the Year in 2020. But success without community involvement proved unfulfilling. Feeling stagnant after being in business for a few years, Bobby was drawn into leadership when he began attending local GFBR events.



These pivotal events led to some of his first interactions with others in the industry outside of his own brokerage, and proved to be inspiring. After being asked to help on the public relations and community outreach committee, his involvement grew from there. "I saw that the individuals who were so involved were the movers and shakers in this industry and were so successful and well respected. The following year I ended up chairing the committee and my leadership journey just kept growing from there."

Through various roles at local, state, and even national levels, Bobby's leadership influence expanded, leaving a profound mark on shaping the real estate community.



#### A Brokerage Built for Success

When Bobby co-founded a brokerage in 2016, his career skyrocketed. His success is reflected in the numbers—76 transactions and \$19 million in volume in 2023 alone—but Bobby finds fulfillment beyond the figures. "I love looking back and seeing the success of my friends and clients. I'm always pushing for the goal of homeownership and investing and being

able to look back and see them buying and selling and growing is really rewarding."

#### Living by Example

What truly separates
Bobby from their peers is
not just their professional
achievements but his
vibrant, authentic approach
to life and business. His
mantra? "Don't be too
serious—it's okay to laugh
and have fun. Know when
to be professional but also
remember we're all here for
our clients' best interests."

This mindset resonates with both their clients and colleagues. Bobby's experience in real estate investing—buying, flipping, selling, and managing rental properties—gives them a competitive edge. He proudly "practices what he preaches," using personal expertise to guide clients in making savvy, informed decisions.

His personal life is equally rich. A lifelong passion for adventure and community underpins everything he does. Whether racing snowmachines, fixing up classic cars in the family shop, or giving back as part of the Catholic Schools of Fairbanks fundraising committee, Bobby embodies the spirit of teamwork and drive. "I have a passion for cars new and old and speed! I spend time on a few local dart teams as well and giving back to my community where I can," he says.

Whenever possible, Bobby enjoys traveling with friends and family and exploring everything Alaska has to offer. If he is not working in his real estate or his thriving vacation rental business, you can find him out adventuring or "tinkering" with his dad or brother! His competitive





nature also shines through in his hobbies, as he raced dirtbikes, snowmachines, and even cars growing up. As an adult, he is the proud owner of a collection of older cars.

#### **Thriving Through Challenges**

The path to success isn't without obstacles. For Bobby, 2020 was one of the most challenging years of their leadership career. Serving as president of the local association amid the COVID-19 pandemic, he had to adapt quickly to keep operations running and ensure the real estate industry continued to thrive.

Yet even through difficult times, he stayed focused on one core principle: success isn't achieved alone. "The people I've met and the connections I've made are the highlights of my career. We look out for one another—this industry truly feels like family to me."

### Giving Back and Building a Legacy

But perhaps the most remarkable aspect of Bobby's career is their commitment to giving back. From mentoring aspiring leaders to major investments in RPAC advocacy, he focuses on building others up and ensuring the industry's long-term success.

Evelyn Arnott and Joni Schneider, two mentors who shaped Bobby's path, remain guiding lights in their career. "Most importantly is Evelyn Arnott. She took me into her Brokerage in 2018 and encouraged me to step up and volunteer. She has always been the voice of reason and shaped me to be the best I can be in life." Joni not only contributed to Bobby's sales success, referring him business as she began to retire, but encouraged

"HARD WORK PAYS OFF AND YOU HAVE TO HAVE THE DETERMINATION TO STAY IN IT."

him to invest personally in the industry by selling him some of her own lucrative investment properties. Carrying forward their insight and encouragement, he continues to inspire the next generation of realtors to chase big dreams and stay resilient.

His advice to aspiring agents? Self care and collaboration are key. "The best part of this industry is that you can be as busy as you want to....but don't let that burn you out. You have to remember to take time for yourself and your families to keep you energized and positive in everything that you do. Also, don't burn bridges. We all are working together and will most likely be working together on another transaction."

#### **A Bright Vision for the Future**

For Bobby, the ultimate goal isn't just personal growth—it's creating opportunities for others. He hopes to leave a legacy of resilience, hard work, and inclusivity. "No matter your age or where you come from, anything is achievable. Hard work pays off and you have to have the determination to stay in it."

Today, he continues to lead by example, showing that with grit, passion, and a focus on people, it's possible to thrive not only in real estate but in life.







24 · February 2025

Alaska Real Producers • 25





### **Expert** Title & Escrow Services from your LOCAL title companies

We are industry leaders, specializing in commercial and residential transactions. throughout the great state of Alaska.

Our expert staff is experienced in all phases of title and escrow services.

LOCATIONS: WASILLA - 907-376-5294



of Alaska, LLC



www.fidelitytitleagencyak.com







FROM GIRDWOOD TO THE VALLEY!





**Partner with a Team full** of Experts! Call now.

> 907.743.2576 AKPropertyManagers.com



Connect with us to help fundraise or donate to Alaskan Animal Rescue Friends!

26 • February 2025 Alaska Real Producers • 27

# Taylor Holfel

STORY WRITTEN BY MADDIE FULLER PHOTOGRAPHY BY SHANNON STRAWN, DMD REAL ESTATE PHOTOGRAPHY

In the heart of Alaska's real estate landscape, Taylor has carved out a unique and inspiring path, blending resilience, passion, and a commitment to leaving a lasting impact on the community. With a background that spans from competitive shotgun shooting to conservation efforts in the Amazon rainforest, his journey into real estate is as diverse as the state he calls home.





#### **Finding Strength Through Challenge**

Born and raised in Alaska, Taylor grew up immersed in the adventurous spirit of the Last Frontier. His father, an avid fisherman, and his grandfather, a true pioneer, instilled in him a deep respect for nature and a knack for problem-solving. However, it was the encouragement of his mother and the spirited rivalry with his sister that added layers of love and humor to his upbringing. "I grew up with a great balance of love from my mother, adventure from my dad, and annoyance from my sister."

But life wasn't always smooth sailing. A tragic Boy Scout trip in his youth left Taylor grappling with anxiety and post-traumatic stress, challenges he would carry into adulthood. "We were offered support and counseling, but you have to accept help for it to work," he reflects. Instead, he turned to substance use to cope, a journey that spanned years before sobriety became a pivotal chapter in his life.

"I've been sober for eight years now," he shares. "It's given me the clarity to focus on what really matters—family, community, and making a difference." Though he has an impressive range of interesting hobbies, he notes that his sobriety is one of the things people are most surprised to learn about him.

#### **Discovering Real Estate**

Though real estate wasn't initially on his radar, Taylor eventually found his way to the profession in 2014. After trying various career paths, including working in sporting goods and restoring classic cars, he realized he needed something more fulfilling. Having unique interests, he found that classes in foreign languages, geology and criminology didn't fit neatly into a singular career.

"Real estate wasn't high on my list," he admits. "I thought I might become a sloper at some point. But having grown up

surrounded by appraisers, it became a natural fallback. Once I started. I never looked back."

"Honestly I was just out of ideas," he laughs, "There was no glorious moment, I just gave it a shot. And I ended up loving it." Joining Nate Baer and Kylie Wyze at Keller Williams marked the beginning of his journey. Despite early challenges, he quickly found a sense of camaraderie that made the industry feel like home. "One of my fondest early memories was a call day with RMG. Michael King looked over and said, 'Somebody help this guy; he's got \$60k of leads on his sheet.' That moment reinforced the importance of teamwork for me."

#### **Leadership Through Humility**

As Taylor established himself in real estate, his role in the community expanded. Whether mentoring new agents or supporting peers, he's always ready to lend a helping hand.

28 • February 2025

Alaska Real Producers • 29



"I don't think I'm a great leader," he says modestly. "But if someone needs help, I'll do my best to be there. Leadership, for me, is about making others better."

For Taylor, success isn't measured by sales numbers or awards but by the impact he leaves on the lives of others. "In 50 years, no one will care how many homes I sold. What matters is the state of the world I left behind and whether I helped create a better future."

Though reluctant to brag, Taylor closed just over 5 million dollars in sales volume in 2024. He also looks to his peers for inspiration, marveling at the diverse talents within the real estate space—artists, athletes, musicians, writers, and more—all pursuing dreams beyond their primary careers. This collective energy propels them to aim higher and believe in the power of perseverance. He says, "My side passion for the last 6 years now happens to be exotic animal keeping and conservation. But that as a whole was developed through belief that I could make it happen watching other people around me succeed with their projects. My peers add a lot of color to my life."

#### **Passions Beyond Real Estate**

Outside of work, Taylor channels his energy into some extraordinary hobbies. His fascination with exotic animal conservation has led him to maintain over 5,000 gallons of aquariums housing rare freshwater stingrays and fish from the Amazon. His travels have taken him to the heart of the rainforest, collaborating with zoologists and conservationists to understand humanity's impact on nature.

"It all started with a 20-gallon fish tank," he laughs. "Now, I have stingrays larger than pizzas and fish so rare they exist in single digits in the country." That 20-gallon fish tank grew



to 2,000 gallons within the year, which then led to his current impressive aquarium system. He even purchased his home with the specific intent of housing this extraordinary hobby in a dedicated space. "I bought my home specifically because it had a shop to house my fish and reptiles in, not for the red laminate countertops and linoleum."

His passion for conservation is rooted in a broader desire to create balance—both in the natural world and his own life. "Conservation is about more than saving species. It's about addressing greed, humanitarian issues, and unbalanced economics."

Additionally, in 2019, Taylor won the national championship for shotgun shooting in Texas, and he earned his Eagle Scout with Troop 82 locally in Anchorage.

#### A Vision for the Future

Having built a strong foundation in residential real estate, Taylor is now exploring the world of commercial real estate.



"Learning about people's business plans and motivations has been fascinating," he says. "A well-oriented commercial agent can have a major positive impact on the community, and that's where I see my career heading."

#### Legacy and Advice

As he continues to grow his business and explore new opportunities, Taylor remains focused on the legacy he wants to leave behind.

"If I can improve a few families' legacies or help a business owner achieve their dream, that's all the positive impact I need from this career," he says.

For aspiring agents, his advice is simple yet profound: "If you feel at home here, don't quit. Reach out to your peers, and if you don't have any, reach out to me." When it comes to setting goals, Taylor utilizes Gary Keller's book, The One Thing, saying "The last few years of doing that has changed my productivity slowly but surely. It's definitely something that has made my

intended future more clear with every new iteration."

Taylor considers his eight years of sobriety to be his most important achievement. By focusing on clarity and productivity, he's shaping a future filled with purpose. One of his key aspirations? Earning the ABR Community Enrichment Award. "It's a great benchmark for measuring positive impact in the community," he notes.

#### **Balancing Work and Life**

Despite his busy schedule, Taylor makes time for his family and personal passions. His home, chosen specifically for its ability to house his extensive aquariums, is a sanctuary where he finds peace and creativity. Video games and international travel—when time permits—are other outlets that keep him balanced and energized.

"One of my favorite trips was backpacking through Southeast Asia for six months. It helped me grow so much as a person and gave me a deep appreciation for different cultures and perspectives," he says.

#### **A Story Worth Telling**

Taylor's journey is a testament to the power of resilience, community, and the human spirit. From overcoming personal challenges to making a meaningful impact in real estate and beyond, he exemplifies what it means to lead with heart and purpose. As he looks to the future, one thing is certain: his story is far from over.



30 · February 2025



## HOW TO SPOT THE RIGHT HIRE:

# THE 5 TRAITS THAT MATTER MOST

BY WAYNE SALMANS, FOUNDER OF HERO NATION COACHING

Hiring the right people is the ultimate business hack.

As business owners, we often hesitate to pull the trigger when it comes to hiring—and for good reason. The cost of a bad hire is astronomical, not just financially, but in energy, momentum, and team morale.

Let's put it into perspective:

- The U.S. Department of Labor estimates that a bad hire can cost up to 30% of the employee's first-year earnings.
- The Undercover Recruiter reports that the total expenses of a poor hire can soar to

- \$240,000 when you consider hiring, training, and retention costs.
- CareerBuilder found that 74% of companies who made a poor hire lost an average of \$14,900 per bad hire (Source: HR Exchange Network).

No wonder so many leaders delay or dread the hiring process! But here's the truth: a strong team isn't built on chance—it's built with intention.

While Patrick Lencioni's "The Ideal Team Player" highlights three key virtues of a great hire—Hungry, Humble, and Smart—I believe there are five indispensable virtues every business owner must look for.

#### The 5 Traits That Matter Most

#### . Hungry

A hungry hire has an insatiable desire to grow, achieve, and contribute more. You can teach skills, but you can't teach someone to want it. Trying to motivate an unmotivated team member is exhausting—and unsustainable. On the flip side, someone with innate drive and ambition keeps the business in momentum and raises the bar for everyone.

Key question: Do they have a fire in their belly that fuels them?

#### 2. Humble

Humility is not about a lack of confidence—it's about having confidence without ego. A humble hire is coachable, self-aware, and ready to learn. They own their mistakes, value collaboration, and strive to elevate those around them.

My father always said, "High confidence, low ego—that's the magic mix."

Key question: Are they open to feedback and growth?

#### 3. Smart

This isn't just about book smarts—it's about emotional intelligence. A smart hire understands how to manage emotions, build strong relationships, and navigate interpersonal dynamics with empathy and grace.

Emotional intelligence, as Oxford defines it, is "the capacity to be aware of, control, and express one's emotions, and to handle interpersonal relationships judiciously and empathetically."

No matter how talented someone is, if they lack emotional intelligence, they'll drag the team down.

Key question: Do they have the emotional maturity to thrive in a team setting?

#### 4. Cultural Fit

Your ideal hire must align with the values, beliefs, and vision of your organization. Skills can be taught; culture cannot. The best hires don't just perform

well—they elevate the culture, amplify your mission, and feel like a natural extension of the team.

Key question: Do they align with "who we are" and "what we stand for"?

#### 5. Role Alignment

It's not just about getting the right person—it's about putting them in the right seat. Their natural talents, behaviors, and strengths must align with the specific demands of the role. For example, hiring a sales rockstar to handle paperwork is a recipe for frustration—on both sides.

Key question: Are their natural gifts aligned with the role's requirements?

#### Three Keys to Remember

#### 1. Hire slow, fire fast.

Even with the best hiring process, you won't truly know someone until they're on the team. If, after 30 days, they prove they aren't who you thought they were, have the courage to part ways quickly.

#### 2. Culture beats strategy.

As Keith Cunningham says, "Culture eats strategy for breakfast." A bad hire can poison even the best strategy, but a great culture can overcome almost anything.

#### 3. Leadership requires courage.

At the root of every leadership failure is a lack of courage—courage to hire, fire, and hold the line for the standard you expect.

#### **Become Unstoppable**

When you hire team members who embody the five indispensable virtues—Hungry, Humble, Smart, Cultural Fit, and Role Alignment—you create unstoppable momentum.

It's not just about building a team—it's about building a legacy.

PS: As my coach says, "Your first hire should be a great coach to make sure you make the right hires."



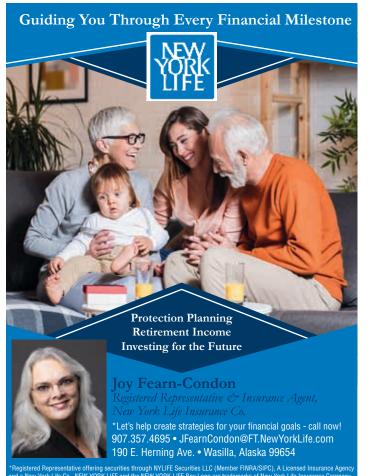
Wayne Salmans is an author, speaker, and business coach. Over the past decade, he has trained and coached more than 7,000 entrepreneurs. Wayne was recognized as a "30 Under 30" honoree by Realtor Magazine and is ranked among the top coaches in the world. His passion is helping real estate business owners build, grow, and scale their businesses—faster and with fewer bruises. Learn more at www.TheHeroNation.com.

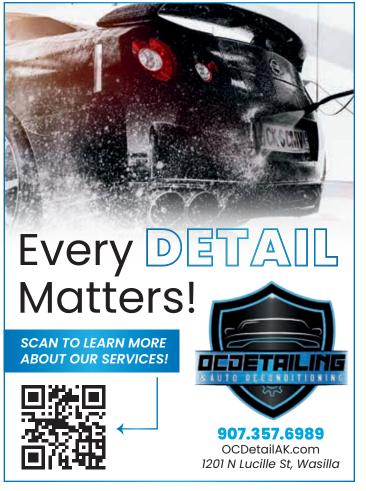




32 • February 2025
Alaska Real Producers • 33











• February 2025



# IMPAKT ATHIETICS IMBAKT ATHIETICS

From Elite Competitors to Transformative Coaches

STORY WRITTEN BY MADDIE FULLER PHOTOGRAPHY BY

Tiffiny Wohlers and Ryan Childers, co-founders of Impakt Athletics, are more than just coaches and business owners; they're a dynamic duo driven by a passion for empowering individuals through movement, sport, and personal growth. With decades of combined experience in coaching, business management, and elite athletic competition, Tiffiny and Ryan have created a space that goes beyond fitness—it's a hub for physical excellence, mental fortitude, and community impact.

#### The Foundation of a Champion

Tiffiny's journey began as an underprivileged child who found solace and opportunity in sports. A full-ride athletic and academic scholarship to Hawaii Pacific University for competitive cheerleading was her gateway to a lifelong passion for discipline, hard work, and teamwork.

After a shoulder surgery during her time as a cheerleader, Tiffiny discovered CrossFit as part of her rehabilitation. What began as a recovery method soon became a new passion, leading her to powerlifting and eventually earning her a spot on the international stage in weightlifting. Over the years, Tiffiny achieved remarkable accolades, including multiple first-place finishes in national competitions, a third-place podium at the South American IberoAmerican

Championship, and recognition as Best Female Lifter at the 2019 Arnold Sports Festival. These achievements reflect not only her physical prowess but also her mental grit and relentless pursuit of excellence.

#### The Expertise of Ryan Childers

Ryan Childers is a lifelong Alaskan, born in Hatchers Pass in an area homesteaded by his grandparents. He credits their example with instilling in him the values of grit and perseverance. Ryan brings over 28 years of experience in professional coaching and business management to Impakt Athletics. Before joining forces with Tiffiny, Ryan had a distinguished career in elite-level gymnastics coaching and fitness operations. He currently serves as the Alaska State Chair for Men's USA Gymnastics and has been honored with awards for his contributions to the sport and fitness community, including service awards from USA Gymnastics and accolades for fitness competitions, Jiu Jitsu tournaments, and MMA.

"I saw a gap in fitness spaces that balance professionalism, community, and cleanliness," Ryan explains. "When Tiffiny encouraged me to join her in building Impakt Athletics, it was the perfect opportunity to bring our shared vision to life."

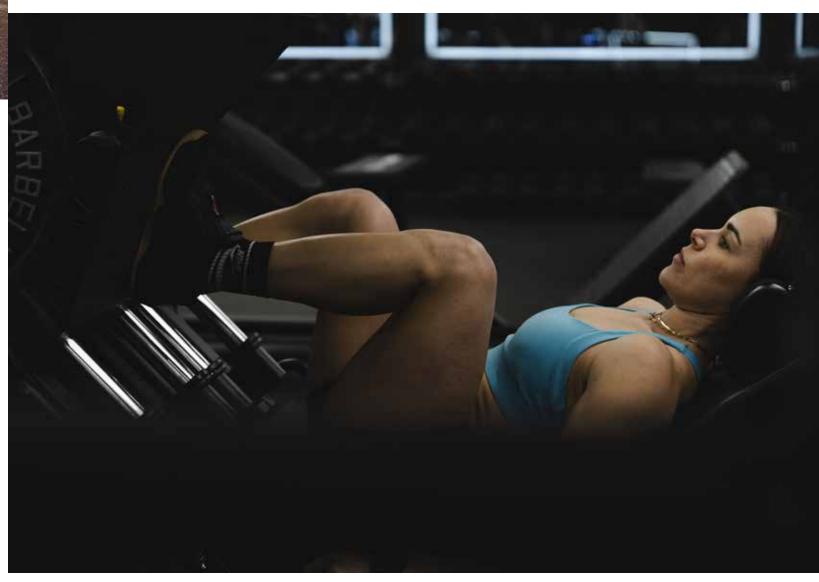
#### The Birth of Impakt Athletics

After retiring from competition, Tiffiny dedicated several years to coaching and mentoring others. These experiences, combined

with her training under elite coaches such as the President of USA Powerlifting and the Vice President of the International Weightlifting Federation, inspired her vision for Impakt Athletics. Partnering with Ryan, she opened the doors to a gym that embodies her philosophy of holistic growth—a place where physical performance and mental resilience converge.

"I wanted to create a space where athletes of all backgrounds could train in an elite environment, focusing not just on physical performance but on developing mental resilience," Tiffiny shares.

Ryan adds, "Impakt Athletics isn't just a gym—it's a lifestyle hub. We prioritize human connection, cleanliness, and a personalized member experience, ensuring every person feels valued."



**36** • February 2025

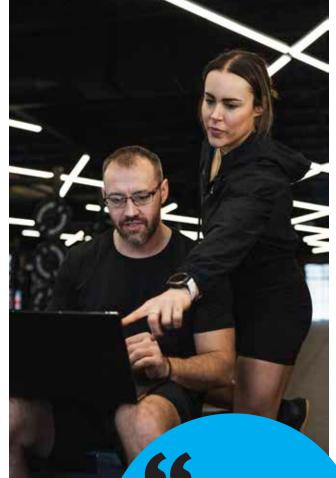
#### A Commitment to Community and Excellence

What sets Impakt Athletics apart is its unwavering commitment to fostering a culture of empowerment and inclusion. Tiffiny and Ryan are passionate about creating opportunities for others, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds. "Sport, movement, and coaches saved my life," Tiffiny says. "I'm deeply driven to provide the same opportunities to others, using athletics as a platform for positive change."

Their community ties include partnerships with non-profits such as Presbyterian Hospitality House and their own EmpowerFit Foundation, which supports underprivileged youth. These initiatives make Impakt Athletics a beacon of hope and transformation in the local community.

#### Innovating the Fitness Landscape

Tiffiny's relentless pursuit of excellence is evident in every aspect of Impakt Athletics. From personalized training programs to fostering a supportive and inspiring environment, she ensures that each client—whether an elite athlete or a beginner—receives the tools they need to succeed. Her certifications, which include a Bachelor's in Sports Management, WAG Nutrition, CrossFit Level 1 & 2, and USA Men's Gymnastics Coaching, underscore her commitment to staying at the forefront of the fitness industry.



"Sport, movement, and coaches saved my life. I want to provide others with the same opportunity to grow, succeed, and thrive." – Tiffiny Wohlers

Ryan's decades of experience in coaching and managing fitness operations further strengthen their leadership team. "What separates us from our peers is our strong leadership and commitment to creating a transformative space where people achieve their best," Ryan says.

#### **Beyond the Business**

When they're not leading the charge at Impakt Athletics, Tiffiny enjoys hiking, exploring new cities, reading, and spending time with her dogs. A self described "Swiftie", she finds inspiration in her favorite artist, Taylor Swift (look closely around the gym for a few easter eggs, if you know). Ryan, on the other hand, finds joy in fitness, music, outdoor exploration, and youth development initiatives. Ryan additionally acknowledges the importance of time spent with his family, his wife Amy, and their three children. Their shared commitment to personal growth and giving back to the community reflects their holistic approach to life and business.

#### **Defining Success and Legacy**

For Tiffiny and Ryan, success is about more than just financial gain; it's about creating meaningful impact and leaving a

lasting legacy. "There's room for all of us at the top," Tiffiny says. "Clapping for others doesn't take away from your success—it creates a platform for everyone to rise."

Ryan adds, "Success is about creating meaningful impact for both clients and the community. It's about leaving a legacy of integrity, resilience, and positive change."

Their vision for the business community in Alaska is one of collaboration, inclusivity, and growth. By prioritizing people alongside profits, they aim to inspire others to build a thriving community where opportunities are abundant, and success is shared.

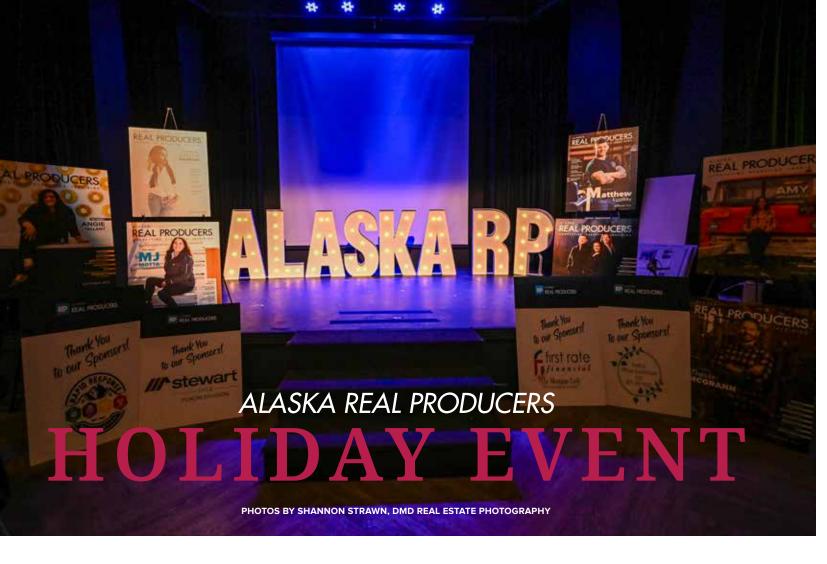
#### Looking Ahead

As Impakt Athletics continues to grow, Tiffiny and Ryan's focus remains on empowering individuals to reach their highest potential—physically, mentally, and emotionally. Their drive, resilience, and strategic vision make them true leaders in Alaska's fitness and business landscape.

For more information about Tiffiny Wohlers, Ryan Childers, and Impakt Athletics, visit www.impaktgym.com.



38 • February 2025
Alaska Real Producers • 39



**Lanyard Sponsor:**Rapid Response
Restoration

Food Sponsor: Amanda Jensen First Rate Financial Cocktail Sponsor: Kelly's Office Essentials **Photo Booth Sponsor:**Stewart Title

















40 • February 2025





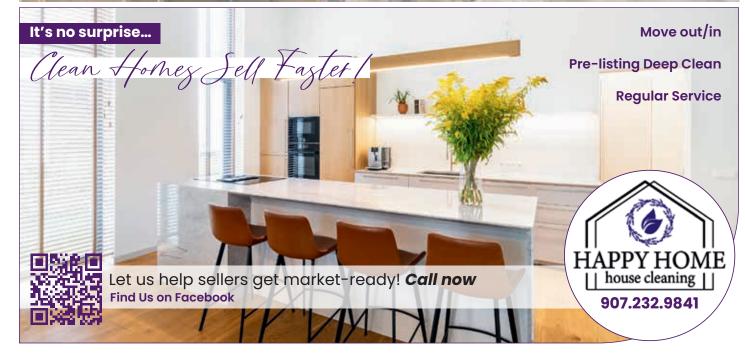


# Exceptional Service Picture Perfect Results

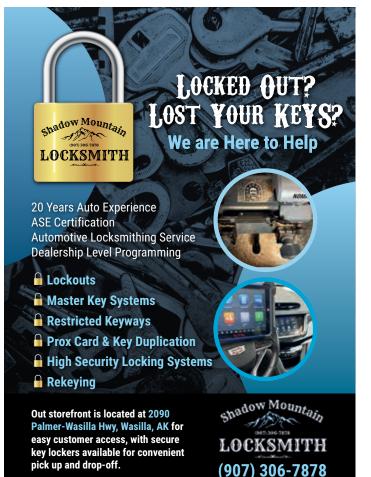
Call to get started today!
907.795.0050
SusitnaHomeServices.com

@Susitna.Home.Services















Allie@AllieInTheValley.com



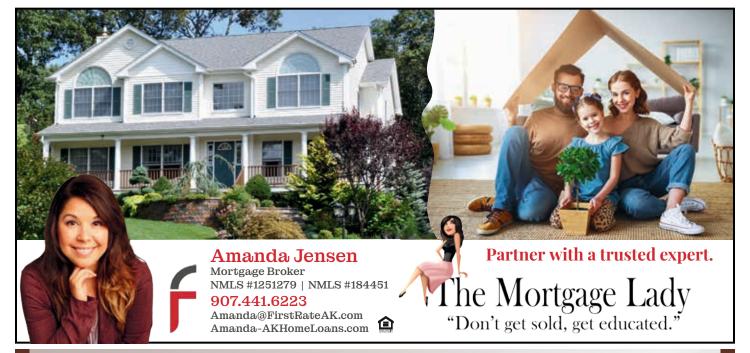
#### Carrying a Legacy of Service and Excellence

Kelly Griebel is a household name in Alaska real estate, though her humility belies her success. Following in the footsteps of her father, Dave Keating, and grandfather, Donald Keating, Kelly has built a career rooted in integrity, exceptional service, and community involvement. Starting as a secretary in her father's office, she eventually transitioned into real estate full-time, becoming a top-producing agent. With her daughter Hayley and son-in-law Forrest on her small but mighty team, Kelly closed 142 units in 2022, all while prioritizing personal connections, mentorship, and giving back to her community.

#### **Passion for People and Animals**

Kelly's commitment to service extends beyond real estate. As co-founder of KPAL Rescue, she dedicates countless hours to rescuing, fostering, and rehoming dogs, a mission driven by her love for animals and her community. Her work promoting spay/neuter initiatives through the Peninsula Spay Neuter Fund reflects her grassroots approach to solving overpopulation. Despite her busy life, Kelly finds joy in family, her animals, and her sanctuary in Hawaii. Inspired by her father's wisdom to "leave everything better than you found it," Kelly continues to leave an indelible mark—both in real estate and in the lives she touches.









Tax Preparation Tax Strategy Payroll Bookkeeping

Do you feel like you are paying too much in taxes? Are you confident in your tax strategy?

Kelly Ward CPA, CTC, CGMA

Using a relationship based approach to understand your unique needs and to take the overwhelm out of the numbers.

(907) 474-4576 www.rwcpaak.com kelly@rwcpaak.com 🚱 kellywardcpa



# NO RUSH FEES, NO DELAYS -

Pioneer Your Home Sale Today!

WELL FLOW AND WATER TEST • SEPTIC ADEQUACY TESTING **SEPTIC DESIGN • PERCOLATION TESTS** 



For fast reliable septic inspections, email today.

pioneerLLC@hotmail.com 907.863.2455



With an unwavering focus on quality, Hall Quality Homes has been helping dients achieve the dream of homeownership for over 45 years.

On your lot or ours, we have a plan for everyone!

To see all our plans, Quick Move In Homes, and Pricing - Get Our App! Ask about our Realtor Partner Program!



907.312.7900 www.hallhomes.com sales@hallhomes.com





Your Best Face





# Fall in love with options

That chill in the air means one thing—homebuyers are anxious to say 'yes' before the first snow falls. When opportunity knocks, give us a call. We've got loan options to help you close the deal, no matter how unique the situation seems.

VA | FHA | Conventional | AHFC | HUD Section 184

Jumbo Loans | Lot and Recreational Property Loans

Zero Down Portfolio | And more

Rebecca Scott NMLS #1216459 907-232-0173 **Mandi Stone-Mercer** NMLS #1676665 907-715-9579 Tammy Hull NMLS #203533 907-841-2354 Kirsten Forbess NMLS #203706 907-841-5951

Let's work together. Call today!



LENDER NMLS #157293

Global Credit Union Home Loans' operations, products and/or services do not originate from, and are not endorsed by the Veterans Administration (VA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or Federal Housing Administration (FHA).



Home Loans

# **SAVE THE DATE**

# eviale

# SEPTEMBER 29 & 30, 2025 **LOEWS ARLINGTON HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER**

Join real estate leaders and the top 5% of agents from across the country for a two-day experience packed with industry insights, cutting-edge strategies, and powerful networking opportunities designed to help you succeed in the ever-evolving real estate market.



#### **MOLLY BLOOM**

Oscar-nominated for "Molly's Game," the movie tells Bloom's journey from US skier to waitress to high-stakes poker game fame



**RORY VADEN** 

New York Times bestselling author of "Take the Stairs"



**REMINGTON RAMSEY** 

Creator of Real Producers, host of Real Producers Podcast

Tickets are limited! Reserve your spot today at rpelevate.com.



# Alaska RPAC



Alaska REALTORS® advocates on behalf of its members at federal, state and local levels of government to promote policies that protect private property rights, advance industry professionalism for consumers and REALTORS® and home ownership. Advocacy is achieved through member investment and a variety of people and programs. Contact your local RPAC representative to see how you can make a difference.

The generous investment moves our mission forward -

"The Voice of Real Estate in Alaska"

# **Hall of Fame**

- Larry Burke
- Febra Hensley
- Vickie Gartley
- Scott Mever
- Angie Tallant
- Uli Johnson
- PeggyAnn McConniche
- Janet Strong
- Eva Loken



#### 2024 Major Investors

- Angie Newby
- Anaie Tallant
- Ava Anderson
- Bethany Weiser
- Bobby Desrochers
- Brittany Burke
- Butch Currier
- David Somers
- Denise Ashman
- D'Ette Owen
- Devon Doran
- Elise Buchholz
- Elizabeth Schok
- Emma Shibe
- Erin Eker
- Evelyn Arnott
- Febra Hensley
- Frank Zellers
- Fred Braun
- Grace Minder
- Gwen Place
- Heather Brakes
- Heather Ferguson
- Heather Iacobson
- Hunter Burton
- Javme Harris
- IoAnn Wallace
- John Thompson
- Julie Erickson

- Kathy Petty
- Kaitlin Hotchkiss
- Kelly Griebel
- Kristen Brown
- Kristie Smithers
- Larry Burke
- Lonnie Logan
- MI Motta
- Margaret Billinger
- Marjorie Pellegrini
- Mark Masley
- Marna McGonegal
- Marty McKeown
- McKenzie Burgess
- Melissa Flint • Michelle Glaves
- Naomi Louvier
- Paddy Coan • Pevton Earnest-Tilton
- Philip Loseby
- Rachel Lopez
- Randal Work
- Rvlieh Bodvfelt
- Stacie Krause
- Tiffany Coleman
- Tiffany Ischinger
- Ulrike "Uli" Iohnson
- Vickie Gartley
- William Logan

4205 Minnesota Drive (O) Anchorage, AK 99503







