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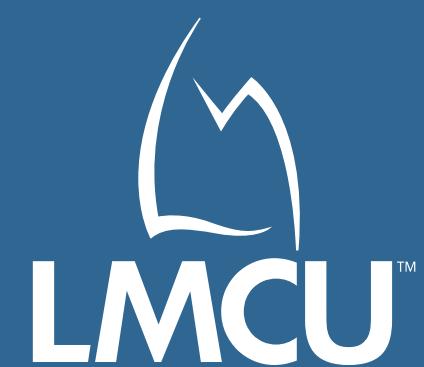
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TOMASZ PEDA

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From the moment Tomasz Peda enters the room, it's clear he's not the kind of guy who does anything halfway. Whether he's negotiating a deal, riding his bike on a mountain trail, or quoting lines from a classic 90s comedy, Tomasz brings passion, purpose, and a dash of fun to everything he does.

A real estate agent with Keller Williams Paint Creek, Tomasz has only been in the industry for four years — but he has already achieved a career sales volume of nearly \$17 million across 56 units, including nearly \$5 million in the past year alone. He has also racked up 10 awards and is a proud member of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR).

For all the success he has seen in a short time, Tomasz remains modest about the numbers. "My clients are not 'leads' but people," he said. "Knowing that I made a positive difference in someone's life is what keeps me going, and everything else comes second."

Before jumping into real estate, Tomasz was already well-versed in the world of business. "I was a project manager for a customer loyalty and sweepstakes company, managing clients such as Samsung, GAP, and Starbucks," he explained. "Before that, I was a sales engineer in the automotive field, supplying components to General Motors."



Despite his success in corporate life, Tomasz felt like something was missing. He realized early on that he loved helping people, and while his business background gave him the tools, it didn't feed his heart. "Sales quickly drew attention to me, but I wanted something where I made a meaningful impact in people's lives. I want to leave behind a legacy," he said. "Real estate hit me like a ton of bricks, and I couldn't look away."

Tomasz started in the industry part-time in May of 2021, juggling real estate with a full-time job. "I needed to be sure this was something I could do well — to not only support myself, but also my family," Tomasz said. That decision turned out to be the best risk he ever took.

Born in Detroit to Polish immigrant parents, Tomasz credits his upbringing for his drive and determination. "My parents taught me about having a strong work ethic, doing good, and being good," he said. "If you're not gonna do it right the first time, don't do it at all."

After earning his bachelor's degree in business and marketing from Wayne State University, Tomasz set out to find his calling. "I went through so many industries and career paths, searching for what I'm not only

good at but also happy doing," he said. "It's my experiences that got me here. My gut instinct finally told me that real estate is my home."

Today, Tomasz is part of In Network Real Estate Group, powered by Keller Williams Paint Creek — one of the top 1% of teams in the U.S. With 25 solo agents and a full in-house support staff, the team has served more than 3,000 clients. "The tools and continuous education they provide is one of the main reasons for my success in this industry," he said.

For Tomasz, every transaction is a chance to make an impact. He recalls one of his earliest clients — a woman who needed to sell her home fast and doubted she could get a reasonable offer. "I was determined to make a difference," he said. "We got a buyer in just five days after our consult. At the closing, she cried with joy and couldn't thank me enough."

"Right then and there, I decided I wasn't going to do just the minimum," Tomasz added. "Every transaction, I'll do what others say is 'above and beyond.'"

Tomasz admits that real estate hasn't always been smooth sailing. "My biggest challenge is the variety of business

styles and personalities in this industry," he said. "You never know who has what skill set, work ethic, or drive."

To navigate those challenges, Tomasz relies on adaptability. "I overcome challenges by understanding each person's communication style, drive, and end goal," he said.

Tomasz's advice for new agents is refreshingly honest. "This is not an easy industry to go into at all," he said. "You wear 20 different hats, and no one tells you what needs to be done. If you really want to succeed, you need a 'big why' for doing it. Be open to failing, learning, and grinding harder than stone against the axe."

When he's not helping clients or acquiring new skills, Tomasz enjoys time with his wife, Lauren, and their families. "Every weekend, we alternate visiting each other's families for dinner, hanging out, and catching up," he said. They also love traveling, camping, hiking, swimming, and snowboarding — anything outdoors.

Tomasz is also a self-proclaimed "home improvement junkie" and car enthusiast, with a passion for mountain biking and travel. His bookshelf features titles such as "Atomic Habits"



by James Clear, "Never Split the Difference" by Christopher Voss and Tahl Raz, and "The Greatest Salesman in the World" by Og Mandino.

When it comes to music, Tomasz listens to most genres. "It all depends on the mood of the day," he said. As for movies, he'll admit that he catches himself quoting movie lines from 1990s and early 2000s comedies in social settings.

As he looks ahead, Tomasz plans to invest in real estate himself, building wealth and stability for his family while continuing to serve others. His definition of success sums it up perfectly: "Success is the end result when one is able to turn a goal into reality. The journey may vary and is not meant to be easy, but if you are persistent and do not give up, you will achieve success."

At the core of Tomasz's work is a simple philosophy: "People ahead of money, and do the right thing — even when no one is watching," he said. "Be the example you want to see in others."

"The more experience I get in this profession, the prouder I am to be among my peers," Tomasz added. "The amount of 'magic' we pull off that the average client never sees is what makes real estate agents invaluable. We're a profession and a breed like no other."

For Tomasz, that's exactly what makes the journey worth it.



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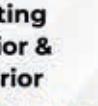
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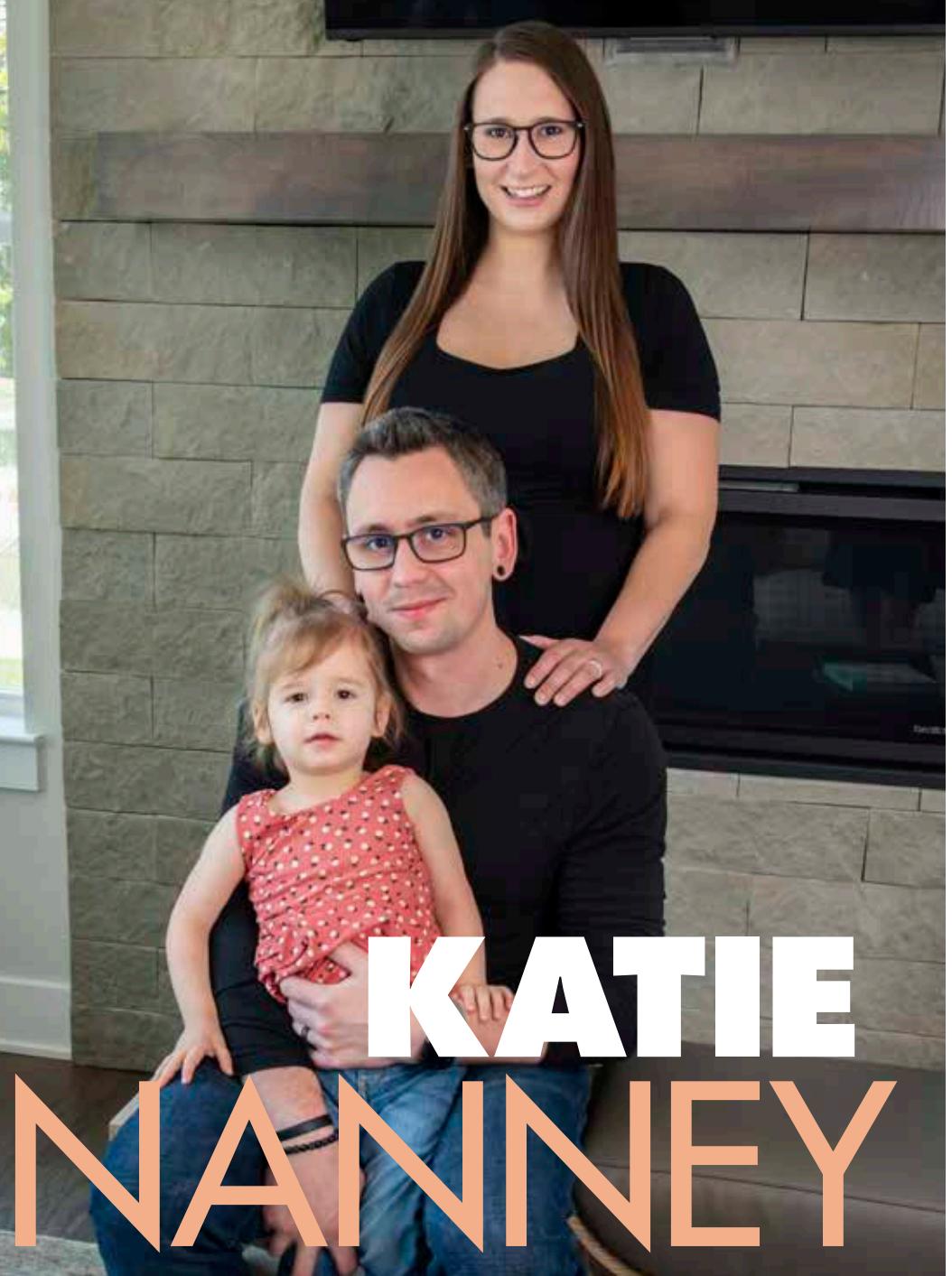
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KATIE NANNEY

FINDING POWER IN AUTHENTICITY & PURPOSE

In a world where success is often tied to appearances and expectations, Katie Nanney has built a real estate career by doing the opposite — staying true to herself. An agent at Brookstone, REALTORS®, Katie stepped

into the industry during one of the most unstable times in recent history, but what began as a pivot born out of hardship quickly became a purpose-driven career rooted in connection and authenticity.

Katie began her real estate journey in February of 2021, after years of working as a nanny and personal shopper. Her turning point came when she suffered a sports injury right before the pandemic hit, and as her health care access

was shut down, Katie's injury worsened while she found herself out of work indefinitely. "I needed to find a new career that wasn't as physically demanding," she recalled. "I had flipped a property before, so I always had an interest in real estate — and I knew it was the right time to jump in."

Katie's career transition was supported by a small, loyal circle of people who believed in her when others didn't. Her husband gave her the space and support to heal and start over, and her best friend, Jennifer, encouraged her to pursue a career that fit her empathetic nature. An industry peer, Nick Bowers, was also instrumental in guiding Katie before she ever signed her first contract. "His kindness helped shape the start of my real estate career," she said. "He became a mentor, and later, a good friend."

According to Katie, her favorite part of being a real estate agent is being able to connect with people. "Establishing friendships, educating others — especially on something as complex as real estate — is what I truly love," she shared.

Katie's business at Brookstone, REALTORS® is powered almost entirely by referrals and social media, a reflection of the genuine relationships she forms with her clients. "Most of my clients become lifelong connections," she said. "They feel empowered and informed — and that naturally brings more people to me."

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When it comes to her career, Katie will admit that one of her biggest challenges has been self-accountability. "Being your own boss can be hard. There are no consequences if you don't show up to work — other than not making money — but my mindset has shifted," she explained. "I'm not just working for myself anymore — I'm working for my family's present and future financial security."

As a mother, Katie balances her thriving career with full-time parenting. "Real estate

has given me the flexibility to be a stay-at-home mom while also working full time," she said. "I can provide for my family while giving them the presence and love they deserve." Katie's ability to maintain that balance is also thanks to the steady support of her own mother, whose involvement and encouragement throughout Katie's life and in caring for her daughters have played a vital role in her success.

When she's not working, Katie and her family spend their weekends exploring parks, beaches, and the zoo. "We try to enjoy the little things, like weekly date nights," Katie said. She and her husband, Kyle, have two daughters: Monroe and Zoey — who was born on October 15, 2025.

To new agents, Katie wants to remind them that they can find success by still being themselves. "You don't have to fit a mold or sacrifice your values or time with your family to win in this business," she explained. "You can be a fully involved mom and still provide high-

“
Being your own boss can be hard. There are no consequences if you don't show up to work — other than not making money — but my mindset has shifted. I'M NOT JUST WORKING FOR MYSELF ANYMORE
— I'm working for my family's present and future financial security.”

quality real estate services. You can be your own brand and still succeed."

For Katie, the idea of embracing authenticity in business came after a difficult lesson early on in her career. She had joined a team that pressured her to change her appearance and daily routines to "fit the part," but when she left that structure behind, her career flourished. "My best year was as a solo agent, working from home, in clothes I'm comfortable in, and without doing my makeup every day," Katie said. "You don't need to look or act a certain way to be successful. You just need to be authentic."

Katie serves as a reminder that strength often grows from struggle, and that staying true to yourself is a powerful path to success. She's redefining what it means to thrive in real estate by leading with heart and purpose. "Be relentless in the life you want to build," she concluded.



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Amy TREMBLAY

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Turning Hope Into a New Beginning

When Amy Tremblay walked out of a toxic job in April of 2018 with just enough savings to last five months, she faced a stark reality: succeed in real estate or fail. Almost eight years later, she has become a respected agent at RE/MAX First with \$74 million in career volume.

Growing up in Utica, Michigan, Amy took an unconventional path to become a real estate agent. After graduating from Central Michigan University with dual majors in marketing with a concentration in communications and logistics management, she worked at Ford Motor Company's hired advertising company, freelanced as a wedding makeup artist, taught at a makeup school, and flipped houses on the side.

Amy's introduction to real estate came through her late husband, James Martin, who was a successful real estate agent. During their countless car rides together, she absorbed his client conversations. After he unexpectedly passed away, Amy contemplated the career





Photo by Steve Gabrail

for three years before finally enrolling in an online real estate course the day she quit her job.

"I was stuck," Amy explained. "It was either switch careers to make the living I wanted or fail. I also knew I needed to love my career, so I took a leap of faith."

Since launching her real estate career in June of 2018, Amy has earned five RE/MAX 100% Club awards, two RE/MAX Platinum Club awards, and the RE/MAX Hall of Fame designation for surpassing \$1 million in career commissions. In 2024, she achieved the Platinum Club award that James had been just \$7,000 shy

of earning when he passed away. Amy's most treasured recognition, however, is broker Rob Shaffers' Kick Ass Award, which is given to just one agent annually from the entire brokerage.

Despite her career achievements, Amy will admit that her success is never only just about the commission checks. "The Kick Ass Award is my favorite, because it is an award that stands behind how hard I've worked, with everything else I had going on during the time I made my money. It's a recognition for who you are in the industry and what you are known for — that's a far more meaningful

award than a plaque that states the commission you made," she said.

For Amy, understanding clients is an important factor of her success. She credits her parents — successful business owners who are beloved by their clients — and her former father-in-law Ed Martin, who was her first team leader, for showing her how to build both success and a solid reputation.

"I like to get to know my clients to the core," Amy said. "I want to understand how I can help them truly instead of just selling them a house. What is the best option for them? It's not always about the sale but about them referring you — whether the sale makes it to the closing table or not."

Amy finds referrals as the most rewarding aspect of her business, but her favorite moments come when skeptical clients who initially dislike agents choose her and then become enthusiastic advocates.

Like many other agents, Amy will acknowledge that time management is her biggest professional challenge, particularly when she has to balance daily office responsibilities while maintaining her client's schedule. Beyond business hurdles, Amy navigated the profound personal challenge of remarrying after loss. This past year, she married David Tremblay, a licensed agent and associate broker who calls her his "bulldog" and believes she can move mountains.

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I like to get to know my clients to the core. I want to understand how I can help them truly instead of just selling them a house."



"I don't know what I did to deserve him," Amy said. "It was a big deal for me to get married again after my first husband passed away, but I can't see my life without David."

Amy and David share their Romeo home with three rescued dogs: Lacy, her original companion through triumphs and tragedies; Kona, David's husky that she loves and adores; and Rocco, their spirited puppy. Together, the couple enjoys morning walks, evening golf cart rides, summer boating on Lake St. Clair, and their annual chili cook-off.

For agents building their careers, Amy wants to remind them that persistence trumps perfection. "You make what you put in," she explained. "If you post a few things on Facebook for a few months then stop, so will your career. Clients take time to come to you, so don't give up. If you fail, try it again. Sometimes, the same exact thing you failed at three times will work a fourth time."

Ultimately, Amy hopes to be known for how she conducted her business honestly and ethically. "I want people to see me as being successful but getting there the right way," she said.

From a leap of faith to a thriving career built on honesty and heart, Amy has proven what persistence can achieve. As she looks ahead, she hopes her journey encourages others to trust the process and never give up on what's possible.



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