

## **CANDIDATES FOR MVAR® BOARD OF DIRECTORS POSITIONS:**

### **ASHLEY CONTRERAS**

Ashley Contreras of REMAX Integrity has been working with residential real estate clients in Salem and the surrounding areas since spring of 2016. With over a decade spent in customer service, she thrives when working with others and enjoys the art of growing and fostering community. Ashley aims to serve her clients with integrity and authenticity, two things that make up the culture of her business.

Having lived in Oregon since 2012, Ashley considers herself to be a community advocate at heart and has always been enthusiastic about calling Salem home. When she is not running around with her real estate clients you might find her out supporting new local businesses, exploring Salem's green spaces, attending community events, or checking out live music downtown.

Ashley has volunteered at local events like TEDxSalem, On Your Feet Friday, and The Salem Art Fair. She serves as a member of the Integrity Foundation committee at REMAX and on the planning committee for Salem Art Association's Clay Ball. She is most proud of leading a grassroots group of local women to raise over \$10,000 for local women's advocacy organizations through benefit performances of the play *The Vagina Monologues*.

Ashley hopes to leave a positive lasting impact on her community and is energized by this opportunity to serve & grow as a real estate professional.

### **SABRINA JONES**

Sabrina has been actively involved with MVAR for several years and a Realtor since 2013. She just recently transitioned brokerages from Ned Baker Real Estate to RE/MAX Integrity. Since day one she has strived to make connections that will stabilize a lifelong career in real estate. For the past two years she has been the Chair of the MVAR Professional Development Committee. This committee organizes and networks with the community to confirm presenters for MVAR continuing education opportunities. Sabrina confirmed and introduced speakers for several MVAR presentations including this year's mayors' panel, lender panel, different attorneys for risk advisories etc. In addition, she often attends or volunteers for varying non-profit and community charity events.

Sabrina's passion for real estate spills over in the non-profit sector, as a current Board Director for the Willamette Valley Habitat for Humanity. This has been a great opportunity for her to couple her career skillset with giving back to the community. Habitat for Humanity partners with low income families that would otherwise not be able to afford homeownership and works with them to build modest homes at a reduced price. Sabrina has been the face of Habitat for several community fundraising events and recently worked to secure the lots being developed for the 2020 partner families.

A lifelong Salem local she is enthusiastic about her hometown - so many places to hike, kayak, drink wine and enjoy the scenery! In her spare time, she most often is working on home improvement projects, spending time with her family and socializing with friends. The thing she misses most in 2020 is concerts and music events. She also attended college locally and is a business graduate from Western Oregon University.

Sabrina's experience, high level of professionalism, and community involvement make her an ideal fit to represent you on the MVAR board!

## **IAN LEVIN**

Born in Salem, Oregon, Ian grew up around the real estate industry and began working on properties at the age of 5 years old and later was on the facilities maintenance crew for his father Nate Levin. After receiving a bachelor's degree from Colorado State University, Ian and his wife Laura transitioned back to Salem so that Ian could take over the property management portion of his father's business. After 13 years of property management, leasing broker, and an independent General Contractor, Ian transitioned to full time commercial brokerage activity. At the time Nate retired from the brokerage community, Ian's sister Sydney took over the property management aspect of the business and continues that today as an independent company. Ian is a CCIM Designee and a sitting Board member for the local CCIM—Oregon/ SW Washington Chapter. He has been a Realtor for over 15 years. His community involvement included a veteran role on the Salem Planning Commission, as well as several other Committee assignments for the PC.

## **RON LIEDKIE**

Ron has lived in Salem for the past 38 years and has a bachelor's degree from Western Oregon. He is the father of eight children and has eleven grandchildren. His grandkids live in Salem, Albany, and Newark, Delaware.

He is passionate about home ownership and is proud of the fact that five of his children own homes (so far).

Although he had a less than stellar career as a student athlete himself in high school, as a parent he played an active role in youth sports; particularly Little League Baseball, where he filled many volunteer roles over the decades, including board member and coach. Wonder who is responsible for our current generation of millennials? Ron Liedkie is proud to have given out dozens and dozens of participation trophies from the 80's until around 2010.

In recent years he has been mystified by his grandkids playing a European sport called soccer, leaving him to volunteer with foodbanks and serve on the MVAR Government Affairs Committee for the past four years.

Ron has been awarded HomeSmart's Agent Impact Award, an award that was voted on by his fellow real estate agents.

## **A J NASH**

Born in Whitefish Montana, I grew up with a soccer ball at my feet and a fly rod in my hand chasing trout. I came to Willamette University on scholarship to play soccer (and lacrosse) and graduated with a degree in economics and an MBA from Atkinson Graduate School at Willamette.

My work experience started in marketing with a boutique CPA/Investment firm, where I first began to see the benefits of commercial property through the clients we served. I spent another four years learning commercial real estate through the lens of commercial banking with Willamette Valley Bank, and then Title and Escrow with Fidelity National Title before becoming a commercial broker.

I am skilled in identifying opportunity, qualifying needs, trust building, negotiating, cultivating meaningful relationships quickly, and closing deals. Creative/dynamic thinking and the ability to execute outside the box ideas are a consistent contributor to team success.

Within the community I have been fortunate to be involved in some great groups, with some great people. Some highlights include running an AM radio show, being a broadcast announcer for Willamette and Timbers U-23 soccer programs, head coach of McNary Varsity Girls soccer, part of the launch team for Salem Sharks, Divine Foundation, The Great Salem Race, and Lemonade Day Salem. The group that has had the greatest influence on my life is Rotary, and I will be a Rotarian for life.

### **CANDIDATES FOR MVAR® BOARD OF DIRECTORS COUNCIL CHAIR**

#### **TRUDI SCHMIDT**

Trudi has been in Real Estate for over 13 years. She is the past president of North Willamette Association of Realtors and has served on the board of the Oregon Association of Realtors for over 6 years. She is a trained Mediator/Ombudsman and currently serves on the Professional Development Key Committee and Business Issues Key Committee for OAR.

#### **DREW JOHNSON**

Drew Johnson works with both buyers and sellers. Drew grew up in the small town of Kamiah, Idaho on the Clearwater River but now resides in Lyons. He worked in IT in the medical field for twelve years, teaching doctors the wonders of the internet. Drew's wife Cassi is a registered nurse and has been in the healthcare field for the last eight+ years. Keeping life busy at home are their two active daughters Haddie and Piper. Drew spends his spare time tackling home improvement projects that Cassi comes up with and working on the family farm. He runs a mean chainsaw, enjoys golfing & bow-hunting, and good-naturedly put away his motorcycle when the kids arrived. Life is good and he shows it with his ready smile and steady knowledgeable manner!

## **CANDIDATES FOR MVAR® BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS**

### **CHAD HARVEY**

Chad Harvey, Owner and Principal Broker with Harvey Realty Group, is an experienced Real Estate Broker with a background in community and organizational advancement.

While he has enjoyed success in his real estate career, he is most proud of the opportunity it has provided for him to invest in the community. He has worked with a number of organizations throughout the Willamette Valley and currently serves as the President-Elect for the Mid Valley Association of REALTORS®, along with his role as a Director on the Oregon Association of REALTORS® board.

Chad founded his company with the goal of helping people answer the question, “Where do you want to be?” This question now guides his conversations with not just his clients, but also fellow brokers, community and organization leaders, and anyone looking to positively impact their sphere.

When he is not out changing the world one real estate transaction at a time, you will find him hanging out with his wife and their three daughters. They enjoy exploring the PNW, driving all over the state for youth soccer games, and supporting local businesses and non-profits.

### **ASHLEIGH FORDHAM**

Ashleigh began her career in the Real Estate industry in 2008 with a small brokerage that specialized in Property Management & Residential Sales. Ashleigh has begun selling in 2010 and has been a passionate, full time member of the industry ever since. Ashleigh has an extensive and diverse background in Real Estate, and until the end of September served as the Vice Chair for the OREF Forms Committee and previously managed a large broker in Salem from 2017 to 2019. Ashleigh is a graduate of the 2017 OAR Leadership Academy, previously served as the chair for YPN and Vice President of the Mid Valley Association of Realtors. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, Ryan and two Children, Nicholas & Isla.

### **HEIDI HAZEL**

I have been an active part of my community selling real estate in the canyon since 2014. I have served on the Stayton Planning commission for the past four years. I am an active member of the Mid-Valley Association of REALTORS® and have served on the board of directors since 2015, currently as

secretary. I also am a director on the Oregon Association of REALTORS® and have completed OAR's Leadership Academy. I was honored to be awarded the REALTOR® of the Year for 2019 for MVAR.

I live in Stayton with my husband, a Lutheran pastor for 26 years, Navy reserve chaplain and Stayton police chaplain. I have two adult children living at home and attending Oregon State University. My eldest is married and acting like a grown up in Tualatin. I come from a large northwest family with roots in Vancouver, Washington and love traveling with my six sisters---hopefully someday soon!!

### **CANDIDATES FOR MVAR® BOARD OF DIRECTORS AFFILIATE**

#### **TRACI BENJAMIN**

Traci Benjamin Branch Manager of Churchill Mortgage in Salem has been in the Salem Keizer Community for 26 years. She has been assisting people with homeownership for the past 24 years. She is a top producer in her field receiving many awards for production. In addition to originating and managing a branch office, over the past 15 years she has actively volunteered her time and resources into the Willamette Valley Realtor associations and non-profits in the Salem Keizer Community. In those years she has served on the Professional Development committee, special events committee, SARCF board and currently serves as its board treasurer. She has been nominated 2 consecutive years for affiliate of the year award with the Mid Valley Association of Realtors. Traci holds a BA in Psychology from the Seattle Pacific University. She has raised her 2 children in Salem/Keizer as a single mom being active in their activities. She served several years on Keizer Soccer club board, Salem Youth Symphony Board and was team manager for several years for their soccer teams. Now that her kids are grown, she enjoys spending time with her husband of 2 years and her grandchildren.

#### **CYNITHIA JOHNSON**

Having been a tennis professional for many years and working for a company called All American Sports out of New York City, my positions were located at Amherst College, Stowe, Vermont and South Hampton, Long Island. After returning to the West Coast, I was hired on to coach, teach and recruit at Willamette University. I then became an independent wholesale flower grower and designer on the side. In the 90's, I was hit by a drunk driver going 80 MPH and spent multiple years with surgeries and had to find my new norm. Having come from a family where my parents were in real estate and having

lived in multiple houses during my adolescence: I grew to see and love the character of an older home. I understood the dedication and determination it would take to become a realtor and in 2006, I received my REALTOR® license. After 13+ years in this field, I recognized the need for teachers in the warranty field and how I could be of service and teach about warranties all while helping client's, protecting realtor's, as well as, helping my fellow realtor's referral base grow. While in real estate, I received the honor of Rookie of the Year and eventually while on the board of the Northwest Association of Realtors, received the "George Haitt Award," from my peers. I desire to help those that I can and look forward to giving of my time and talent's, to the best of my ability. I understand the time and dedication that is necessary to fulfill this position and am asking for your vote.

### **NELSON LOMAX**

I Have worked in the Mortgage Industry for over 21yrs all with Landmark Professional Mortgage the first 17yrs as a Loan Originator and 4yrs ago I moved into the Business Development and Productions roll with the company.

Born and raised in New Orleans La. I moved to Oregon 31yrs ago for college where I attended Willamette University, I met my wife Carrie who is from Turner Or. while she was going to Oregon St. I am proud father of two boys Jalen & Mason Lomax. Jalen is senior at OSU and Mason is a freshman at Lane CC and is on the basketball team. In my spare time I enjoy jogging, playing golf and spending with my family.

### **LISA MCCORMICK**

First and foremost, I am a mother and grandmother. I have worked my entire adult life first working for the State of Oregon; then owning a small business for more than 20 years. While owning a manufactured home dealership, I became a loan officer so I could help our company with construction loans and provide customer service for our buyers. When I fell into lending, I had no idea I would love it so much. It will be my career for the rest of my work life. I have been a loan originator since January 1, 2001, specializing in manufactured home lending. Some call me the "Queen of the Double-wide." 😊

I have been a member of our association since 2007. I wanted to be involved and have since become a member of the Special Events Committee; eventually becoming the co-chairman; I am the Vice-President of the association's charitable foundation and was awarded the Affiliate of the Year by this

association in 2019. My experience in servant leadership with the committees and Foundation Board feel like they lead me to being part of the Board serving our realtor and affiliate members. Thank you so much for your consideration. I would consider it an honor to be part of the MVAR Board of Directors representing our affiliates.