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Realtor of the Year always on the move

By Buddy Moorehouse
DAILY PRESS & ARGUS

Not many kids grow up dreaming of selling real estate. Todd Buckley admits he was a little different.

"I've just always been interested in the process of buying and selling houses," said Buckley, the co-owner of the Buckley Jolley Real Estate Team in Brighton. "I lived in six different houses before I graduated from high school. My parents were always building houses, selling them, and then building again. I really got to learn a lot about the process."

Fast-forward a few years, and Green Oak Township resident Buckley, 33, is now the co-owner of a real-estate company in his hometown and the reigning Realtor of the Year in Livingston County (as chosen by the Livingston Association of Realtors).

Despite the tight housing market, he loves the job.

"Seeing the smiles on my client's faces when they close on a new house — that makes it all worthwhile," Buckley said. "Every day is different in this business. I really enjoy that. I also like enjoy the marketing and the negotiating — all of it."

Buckley grew up in Brighton and graduated from Detroit Catholic Central. He received a degree in park planning from Michigan State University in 1996, and upon graduation, spent a year building golf courses in the Chelsea area.

Then an opportunity came up to work in real estate, and Buckley jumped at it.

"I met my wife (Natalie) at Michigan State, and her degree was in construction management," he said. "Going into real estate just seemed like a good fit."

After working for a couple other real-estate companies in Livingston County, Buckley branched out in late 2004 and co-founded the Buckley Jolley Real Estate Team. His partner is Karen Jolley, with whom he had worked at another agency.

"We shared a lot of the same values, and we both have the same approach when it comes to service," Buckley said. "It's been great. We have 10 people working on our team full-time now, and things are going really well."

Part of their unique customer service, he said, includes a Buckley Jolley Real Estate Team "community van" that can be used free of charge by community groups and clients. It's a large moving truck that can be used by any nonprofit group in the county (as well as the company's real-estate customers).

"It's just a neat way we can help out," he said. "A lot of groups are able to take advantage of this, and that's great."

Buckley has also served on the Livingston Association of Realtors Board of Directors. Outside of work, Buckley enjoys spending time with his wife and three kids: Ty, 7, Cooper, 5, and Miles, 2.

"I coach both Ty and Cooper in soccer, and they're on two different teams, so that keeps me busy," he said.

He also keeps busy playing soccer and golf, as well as following his beloved MSU Spartans in a variety of sports.

Contact Buddy Moorehouse, metro editor-features, at (517) 548-7081 or at bmoorehouse@gannett.com.

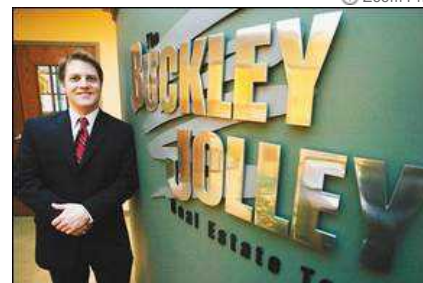


Photo by GILLIS BENEDICT/DAILY PRESS & ARGUS

Todd Buckley of the Buckley Jolley Real Estate Team was named Livingston County Realtor of the Year.

ABOUT TODD BUCKLEY

- How you know him: Co-owner of the Buckley Jolley Real Estate Team in Brighton and the current Realtor of the Year in Livingston County
- Age: 33
- Resides: Green Oak Township
- Family: Wife, Natalie. Children Ty, 7, Cooper, 5, and Miles, 2
- Hobbies: Coaching his kids in soccer; playing golf; following Michigan State sports

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