making a difference

John Lucero, Maddox REALTORS®

By Faerl Torre



John Lucero of Maddox REALTORS® rises at 4:30 each morning to ensure adequate time for his full-time work as a REALTOR®, triathlon training, kickboxing, and campaigning for change.



With Congressman Ben Ray Lujan, Federal Political Coordinator & Northern NM REALTOR® Lela Holmes, & Federal Political Coordinator Jim Maddox

"I love being a REALTOR" more than anything in the world. Helping people achieve their dreams and goals is the biggest satisfaction I can get," he said, with passion that earned him the GAAR Salesperson of The Year Award in 2018. But "helping" isn't limited to his clients; he's closely involved in advocating for agents, buyers, and sellers

It started after witnessing how exploitive HOAs could be; extorting sellers and buyers. John took his HOA issue to city council and was encouraged to join the REALTORS* party. Since then, he's joined the Greater Albuquerque Association of REALTORS* (GAAR) board of directors, become a trustee for the

New Mexico Association of REALTORS* (NMAR) and the federal political coordinator for the National Association of REALTORS* (NAR). All three nonpartisan groups concentrate on property, consumer, and REALTOR* rights and issues at the local, state, and national levels.

vocating for agents, buyers, and sellers. "One of the most important things," John said, "...is that my personal beliefs are put aside...When I represent REALTORS*, exploitive HOAs could be; extorting

John's ability to set aside his opinions means promoting beneficial legislation regardless of current politics. Locally, that legislation includes paid sick leave and health insurance for agents, and in 2020, two laws will take effect thanks in part to John's work and Governor Lujan Grisham's signature. The Home Inspector Licensing Act regulates, supervises, and requires all home inspectors be licensed. The Homeowner Associations Changes Bill provides a cap on HOA disclosure fees.

Like triathlon training, making change isn't easy or quick—the previous governor vetoed both bills. But the race is never over and along with NAR, John is currently working on fair housing and flood insurance legislation.

As you'd expect, John is focused and competitive, but maintains he's a resource to more than just legislators and congresspeople. "Anyone can call me and I'll help them get involved," he said, encouraging interested agents to contact GAAR and show up to meetings. "There are so many opportunities to contribute, and anyone can get involved based on what they're passionate about."

An unknown triathlete said, "Triathlon doesn't build character. It reveals it." True to form and practice, John Lucero has revealed a character that propels change and is worthy of aspiration.