

WEST VALLEY

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FEATURE **JAN
LEIGHTON**

J.D. Campbell Realty
"True Grit: Spirit, Courage, and
Strength of Character"

ON THE RISE

Lisa Swanson
eXp Realty
"Blessed"

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Old Republic
Home Protection
"People Helping People"

TOP 150 STANDINGS

AUGUST 2020

Jan Leighton

“True Grit: Spirit, Courage, and Strength of Character”

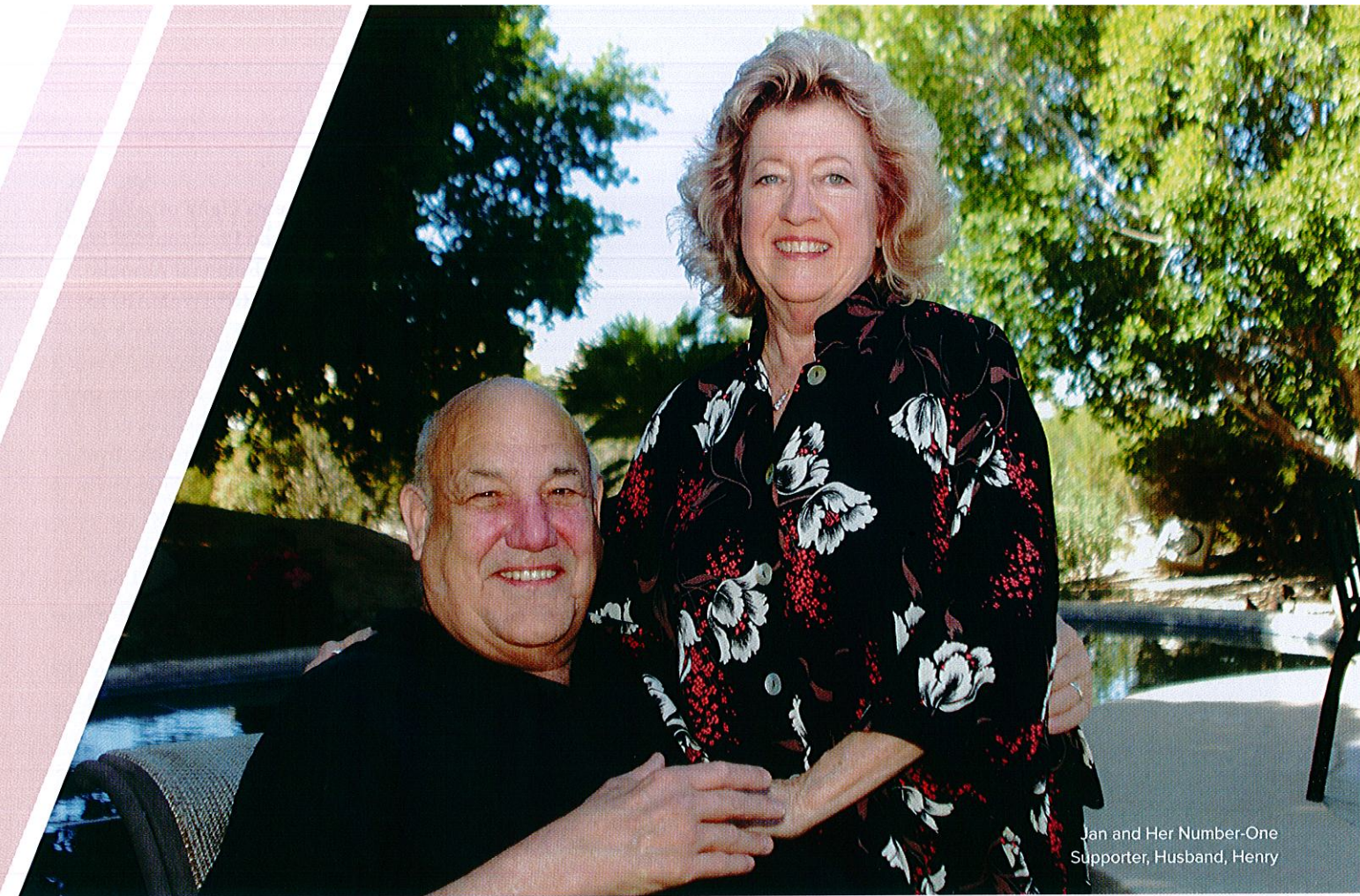
Jan Leighton doesn't back down from a challenge whether teaching seventh- and eighth-graders in the inter-city of Pittsburgh or bar-tending in Venice Beach where she became the first female General Manager for Grand American Fare Restaurant and Bar Corp. “I was told their bars were too rough for women,” scoffed Leighton. Now with over 24 years in the Real Estate industry in Arizona's West Valley, Jan Leighton is poised to begin her term as President of the Arizona Association of REALTORS® in 2021.

Leighton and her business partner and broker, Debbie Wahl, have worked for family-owned J.D. Campbell Realty in Peoria for over 22 years, and consider themselves experts in the Northwest Phoenix, Peoria, and Glendale real estate market. Their shared work ethic and friendship has made them a multi-million dollar production team, but numbers aren't their driving force.

Forthright, Leighton jokingly attributes her success to “persistence and stupidity,” but her



Jan Leighton, Arizona Association of REALTORS® President-Elect



Jan and Her Number-One Supporter, Husband, Henry



Henry, Jan, and their three Rescue Babies Razzy, Lucy, and Jack

feature story
By Daisy Brady



Partners, Debbie Wahl and Jan Leighton, of J.D. Campbell Realty

accomplishments claim otherwise. Leighton was the President of the West Maricopa Regional Association of REALTORS® (WeMAR) in 2008, the Arizona Association of REALTORS® (AAR) Region 2 Vice President from 2009-2012, and the WeMAR National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) Director from 2010-2012. She received the 2012 George Watrous Association Leadership Award, the 2016 AAR Arthur G Crozier Distinguished Service Award, and has been a Major Investor in REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC) since 2007 and a member of President's Circle of that Committee since 2014. Not only is she the 2020 Arizona Association of REALTORS®, President-Elect, but Leighton is also the Federal Political Coordinator (FPC), NAR for Congresswoman Debbie Lesko of Arizona's 8th Congressional District which oversees Glendale, Surprise, Sun City, Peoria, and parts of Western Phoenix. As the FPC, Leighton represents "the face" of area real estate and keeps the Congresswoman up to date on important issues facing the real estate industry. "I stand for professionalism in Real Estate and respect for my fellow REALTORS®," said Leighton.

How does Leighton best approach a problem? "Like eating an elephant – one piece at a time," she said. "We are fortunate that real estate is an

“We are fortunate that real estate is an essential business here in Arizona.”

“We have no idea what 2021 will bring.”



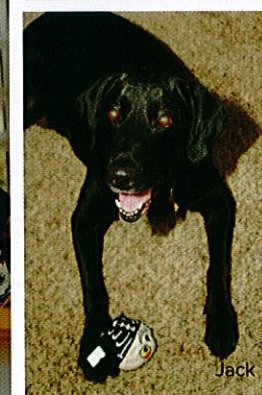
Jan and Her Well Earned Arthur G. Crozier Distinguished Service Award



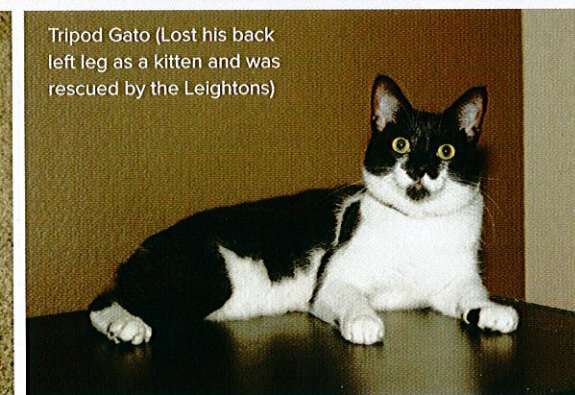
Lucy



Razzy



Jack



Tripod Gato (Lost his back left leg as a kitten and was rescued by the Leightons)

essential business here in Arizona. Our market had a huge lack of inventory prior to COVID-19 and has continued to do so. It is currently a strong seller's market and very robust in certain price ranges. As REALTORS®, we are part of our communities. Look across any street, any store, any church, any gathering...you will see REALTORS® [getting involved],” she proudly proclaims. Many REALTORS® have started using Virtual Open Houses and other safety protocols in response to the pandemic, and continue community outreach programs. “Arizona has a homeless population,” added Leighton. “In order to assist in getting people off the street, we have an Escrow Donation Form whereby an agent, buyer, or seller can contribute

an amount directly through a closing to the Arizona Housing Fund. One hundred percent of the donation goes to building affordable housing. Through the Arizona REALTORS® Disaster Assistance Foundation (ARDAF), we contribute to both Arizona communities and other states hit by disaster.” REALTORS® across the Valley continue to support community outreach with blood drives, food drives, Habitat for Humanity, and The Arizona REALTORS® Totes for Hope campaign, which collects bags of donated toiletries, socks, water bottles, and nonperishable food items for homeless youths. Leighton is also an advocate for animal rescues. She and her husband, Henry, have three dogs and one three-legged cat, all rescues.

Leighton credits her mother-in-law for her continuous motivation. “She raised three kids under the age of three while her husband became a quadriplegic. Never complained. She graduated from the Chicago Conservatory of Music before she was married, but gave it up except for practicing, to care for her husband and family. After her husband passed in the ‘70s, she was able to return to her beloved music. She auditioned for the symphony and played Second Violin in the Palomar Symphony orchestra until a couple years before she passed away at 89.”

“We have no idea what 2021 will bring,” Leighton weighed. “I hope to be a source of information and encouragement for our fellow REALTORS®.”