May 2009

Volume 124 Number 5

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Member Services Forum of Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® Night at the Royals

Saturday, June 27th, 2009 Omaha Royals vs. Round Rock Express Game Time 7:05pm *Fireworks-Post Game!!!*

PICNIC: Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® will have use of the Stadium View Club for an All-You-Can-Eat menu of Omaha Steaks Burgers, Hebrew National Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Potato Chips, Cookies, Lemonade and Iced Tea. (Meal will start at 6:00pm and end at 7:30pm)

MASCOT APPEARANCE: Casey or Spike will appear at the picnic to entertain, take photos with the kids and sign autographs.

FIRST PITCH: An Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® representative will participate in the first pitch ceremony.

RECOGNITION: Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® will be recognized over the message center and public address system.

RESERVED SEATS: Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® will have a reserved ticket that will get you in the Stadium View Club and in the seating bowl.

Individual Name:			
Company:			
Mailing Address:			
City:			
Phone:	Email:		
Quantity of Tickets Ordered:	x \$10.00 each =	Total	
Visa / Master Card #:	E	xpiration Date: _	
Please make checks payable to the	Mailing Address: Omaha Area Board of		
<u>Ticket orders must be turned in b</u>	REALTORS® Donna Shipley		
Please call Donna Shipley at 493-2995 Ext 307 with any questions.		lestions.	11830 Nicholas St
			Omaha. NE 68154

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Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® 11830 Nicholas Street Omaha, NE 68154 (402) 493-2995 tel

(402) 493-7189 fax Office Hours:

Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. 8am- 4:45pm Wednesday 9am- 4:45pm



PERSONALS (CHE WEINS (O

CONGRATULATIONS to Cami Saathoff of State Farm Insurance and her husband Dan on the birth of their baby boy Lucas Jacob on March 11, 2009. Lucas weighed 7 lbs 8 oz and was 20 ³/₄" long.

CONGRATULATIONS to Jim Holmes, OABR Print Shop Coordinator and his wife Dawn on the birth of their baby girl Jordon Maureen on March 27, 2009. Jordon weighted 7 lbs 9 oz and was 20 ¹/₄ inches long.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES to OABR Print Shop Graphic Artist Pam Kane who will celebrate her birthday in May.

CONDOLENCES to Brenda Stuart of ServiceOne on the recent passing of her aunt.

CONDOLENCES to Tom and Trish Helligso of N P Dodge Company on the recent passing of his father/her grandfather.

CONDOLENCES to Bill Swanson of CBSHOME Real Estate on the recent passing of his mother.

CONDOLENCES to Kim Gehrman of Deeb Realty and husband Pat on the loss of their baby.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Fax (402) 493-7189, Email dshipley@oabr.com,

Phone: (402) 493-2995 x 307 or Snail Mail to 11830 Nicholas St., Omaha, NE 68154. We want to share in your professional and personal accomplishments, but we don't know if you don't tell us!

The Nebraska Real Estate Commission meeting will be held on May 21-22, 2009 at the Staybridge Room at the Staybridge Suites, located in Lincoln, Nebraska.

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Thanks to the May 2009 Sponsors Chip Monahan – Asset Strategies PK Kopun – Metro 1st Mortgage Alan Stoltenberg – SAC Federal Credit Union Dennis Meyer – TierOne Bank Cami Saathoff – State Farm Insurance The upcoming New Member Orientation is scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, 2009 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 3, 2009 from 8:30 a.m.

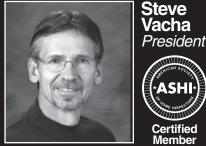
to 4:00 p.m. and Thursday,

June 4, 2009 from

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The OABR Bylaws require that every new member attend an Orientation Program upon application for membership in the Omaha Area Board of REALTORS[®]. 3





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Continued on Page 5

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Continued from Page 4

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AFFILIATE ADVOCATE

Submitted By: Patrick Casey Home Buyers Protection Company



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The role of the Affiliate Council of the Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® is to promote business relationships and services to REALTOR® members, actively solicit Affiliate membership in the OABR and promote ethical business practices of Affiliate Members.

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Monthly meeting agendas, minutes, and financials can be found on the Affiliate website. The web address is www.oabraffiliates.com.



OABR/MLS Email to OABR/MLS Members

The OABR/MLS will periodically send informational e-mails to members. Please check your email address in the OABR roster. If it has changed please email the correct information to dpeterson@ oabr.com. The emails will show the from line as OABR/MLS Emails. It will have a subject line as eFlash from the OABR/MLS.

Reminder:

Participants must disclose potential short sales when reasonably known to the listing participants. All confidential disclosures and confidential information related to short sales must be communicated through the Great Plains REALTORS[®] Multiple Listing Services Agent Remarks field only.



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April Unscramble Words!!! Bill Bybee from DEEB Realty Won A \$50 Gift Certificate to the OABR Print Shop

From the following letters, many OABR Members unscrambled the letters provided. Here are the answers!

- 1. DSNAAPRT **SAND TRAP**
- 2. EDDNSU EHTAD **SUDDEN DEATH**
- 3. DEEGW WEDGE
- 4. DOWO WOOD
- 5. ELICS SLICE
- 6. YGNAIPL UHRGOHT PLAYING THROUGH
- 7. TPUNGIT ERNEG **PUTTING GREEN**
- 8. GNREA **RANGE**
- 9. ITPVO PIVOT
- 10. OGELCINUBVRB OVERCLUBBING

THEME GOLF TERMS

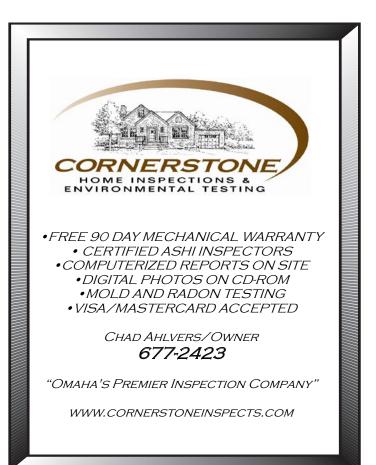
11. ОКОН
12. ARDAHZ HAZARD
13. PNIHADCA HANDICAP
14. USMREOOF FOURSOME
15. DERIRV DRIVER
16. DMELIP DIMPLE
17. BUODLE YOEBG DOUBLE BOGEY
18. IPCH OSTH CHIP SHOT
19. RNUKEB BUNKER
20. Apnkisbc BACKSPIN



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PARAGON PROPERTY INSPECTION Mike Frerichs Associate Member – 990-0898

Go to our website for a list of ASHI[®] professionals in the Omaha / Council Bluffs area. http://ashiomaha.com/

Unscramble Words!!! Win A \$50 Gift Certificate

From the following letters, unscramble the word. The OABR Member whose name will be drawn for all correct guesses will win a \$50 Gift Certificate to the OABR Print Shop. Fax your answers to Donna at the OABR, 493-7189 or mail to 11830 Nicholas St, Omaha, NE 68154. All correct guesses must be submitted to the OABR Office no later than May 15, 2009. Winner and answers will be in June 2009 Focus. Good luck!!!!

1. FCISCIREA
2. INOADDM
3. RCACHTE
4. TMDIAUS
5. EBOULD
6. DGIINSL
7. CTPEIRH
8. IEDFLRE
9. OEUFLDTI
10. PRUIEM
11. MEHO LAETP
12. UCREV ALLB
13. OERRR
14. NIINSNG
15. EIRKST
16. RG ADN ALSM
17. UUTDOG
18. ESBA ITH
19. TEABRT
20. LEITPR
THEME
Name:
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In The Market For A New Car

Did you know that REALTOR[®] members are eligible for a temporary tax incentive for the purchase of a new car, light truck, motor home, or motorcycle during 2009. The deduction is available for the cost of all state and local sales and excise taxes paid on up to \$49,500 of the purchase price. The amount of the deduction is phased out for taxpayers whose modified adjusted gross income is between \$125,000 and \$135,000 for individual filers and between \$250,000 and \$260,000 for joint filers. The vehicle must be purchased after Feb. 16 and before Jan. 1, 2010. The deduction is available regardless of whether a taxpayer itemizes deduc-



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tions on their return but can't be taken on 2008 tax returns. For more info contact Bob McNamara, 202/383-1268.

• • •

Most people never run far enough on their first wind to find out if they've got a second. Give all you've got and you'll be amazed at the energy that comes out of you.

— William James

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- Accurate and trustworthy home inspections



The company you want inspecting your home

11

How To Reduce Homeowner's Insurance Premiums

If insuring your home is taking a bigger bite out of your wallet each year, here are some ways to ease the pain.

* Increase the deductible from \$500 to \$1,000 for a 20 percent premium deduction.

* Combining auto and home policies could save you up to \$300 a year.

According to Money magazine, if your premium is \$2,000 a year, you could save:

* Up to \$400 by installing a central station burglar and fire alarm.

* \$300 by updating the plumbing, electrical and heating systems.

* \$200 by installing hurricane shutters or roof tie-downs.

* \$200 for deadbolt locks.

Owning a new home can result in a discount of up to \$400. The discount decreases with age.



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GE Security

ActiveKEY Battery Tips

Please read the following tips to get the most out of your ActiveKEY's battery and make sure your ActiveKEY is ready to go whenever you need it.

The ActiveKEY doesn't need a cradle to update — it updates automatically through a cell signal — but the ActiveKEY still needs to be plugged in to power to keep its battery charged.

- When you first receive your ActiveKEY, take it home and plug it in using the provided wall charger overnight to give it a full charge.
- If the battery becomes completely drained, a full charge takes approximately 8 hours.
- When you turn on your ActiveKEY, the battery level in your key is displayed on the screen. Keep an eye on the battery level when using your ActiveKEY and charge it when it gets low. The ActiveKEY will give you a low battery warning and buzz tones when the battery gets low.
- An ActiveKEY with a full charge should work without having to charge it for about 3 days.
- You can conserve battery by turning the radio off in the ActiveKEY. To turn the radio off, first press the On/Off button on the ActiveKEY to turn the key on. Then press and hold the On/Off button for 10 seconds or until the key says RADIO IS TURNED OFF. The next time you turn on your ActiveKEY, press 1 to turn the radio on. *Please note:* With the radio in the ActiveKEY off, you will not receive messages or showing notifications. For information about sending text showing alerts to your cell phone, please call 877-699-6787.
- Consider a car charger: You can leave your ActiveKEY in your car plugged in to a car charger when you're not using it. Your ActiveKEY will be on hand and ready to go whenever you need it. *Note:* Most vehicles only charge the ActiveKEY while the vehicle ignition is on. You can tell if your ActiveKEY is charging when the display will reads CHARGING and shows the current battery level in the key.
- Use only the provided wall charger or optional car charger. Using any other charger will void the warranty on your ActiveKEY and may damage your ActiveKEY. *Note:* Connecting your ActiveKEY to your computer with the USB cable will not adequately charge your key. Most computers do not pass enough charge through the USB cable to offset a cellular radio's consumption.
- Temperature extremes can affect battery performance. If the ActiveKEY is below 0° C (32° F) or above 40 ° C (104° F), it will not charge. During very cold or hot times of the year, bring your ActiveKEY in from your car at night and between showings.





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From Your MLS Chairman

Nominations are now being accepted for one Category 3 Representative to the MLS Board of Directors.

- Category 1: Designated as firms with more than 8% of the total MLS subscribers.
- Category 2: Designated as firms whose principal business is appraisal or real estate.
- Category 3: Designated as brokerage firms, with less than 8% of the total MLS subscribers.

If you are a participant or subscriber in Category 3 and you are interested in serving on the MLS Board of Directors, please send a letter to the MLS Chairman, Great Plains REALTORS[®] Multiple Listing Service, Inc., 11830 Nicholas Street, Omaha, NE 68154, advising of your interest.

All letters of nomination must be received by the MLS office by Friday May 15, 2009. The MLS Director for Category 3 is Gary Stoneburg until September 1, 2009.

Gary Stoneburg MLS Chairman



Regi & Lisa Powell (402) 614-4633

www.PowellInsuranceAgents.com

ttoment to live their

Often people attempt to live their lives backwards. They try to have more things, or more money, in order to do more of what they want so they will be happier. The way it actually works is the reverse. You must first be who you really are, then, do what you need to do in order to have what you want.

— Margaret Young

Never miss a chance to keep your mouth shut. — *Robert Newton Peck*

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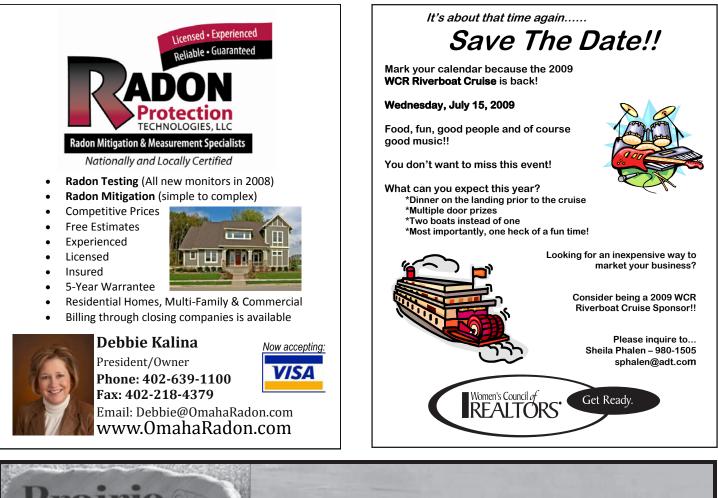
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What it means Housing Affordability Level Is Highest Since 1988

A new index by the National Association of Realtors shows that many more people can afford

to buy a home today, more people, in fact, than in about the previous 20 years. It recently set the affordability index at 158.8.

That means a household earning the median family income of \$61,058 would have 158.8 percent of the qualifying income to purchase the median-priced existing single-family home (\$174,700) with a 20 percent down payment.

When buying that particular home, after the 20 percent down payment, the monthly cost of a 30year mortgage at 5 percent interest would be about \$750 per month.

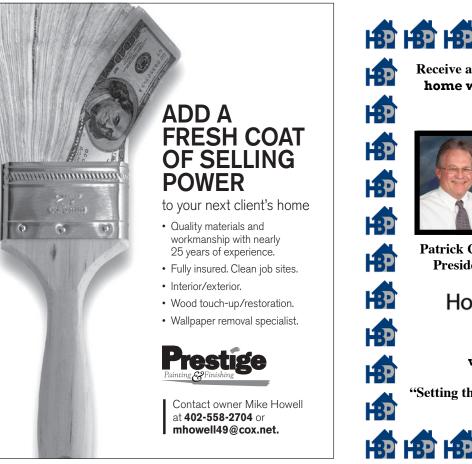
When buying a home for \$100,000 with a 20 percent down payment, the monthly payment on

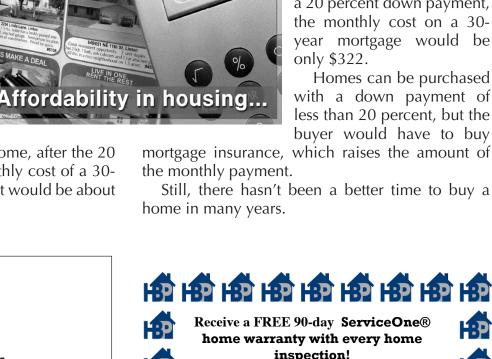
> a 30-year mortgage at 5 percent interest would be about \$430 a month.

> Many homes in various parts of the country could be purchased for \$75,000. With a 20 percent down payment, the monthly cost on a 30year mortgage would be only \$322.

> Homes can be purchased with a down payment of less than 20 percent, but the buyer would have to buy

Still, there hasn't been a better time to buy a





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MAY 2009	Chec all n www	k Out ou: ew websi .moba.co	r te m!	Spring ION	rade AES	May 10-17, 2009 Noon-6 pm weekends 5-8 pm weekdays Free to the public!
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
RSVP by phr upcoming MOE 333-2000, c	A EVENIS					2
3	4 11:00 am Membership Committee at Fire Barn Bar & Grill	9:30 am Executive Board at MOBA	6 10:00am New Member Orientation at M0BA 12:00 Women's Co. Board at Millard Lumber	7 11:00 am Government Affairs Committee at MOBA 11:30 am MOBA PAC at MOBA	8	9
10 Pring Parade Begins May 10-17 Meather's Day	11	10:00 am Board of Directors at MOBA	13 11:00 am Green Building Council at MOBA 11:30 am Women's Council at Oak Hills	14 6 pm - Cocktails 7 pm - Dinner Meeting at Champions Run	15	16
17 Spring HOMES Last Day! May 10-17	18	19 11:00am Sales & Marketing Council at MOBA 12:00 Associates Council National Membership Day	20 MOBA Golf Outing 12:00 Deer Creek 1:00 pm Indian Creek	21 11:30 am Remodelers Council at MOBA	22	23
24 / 31	25 MOBA Office Closed Memorial Day Obaserved	26	27	28	29	30 Metro Omaha Builders Association Four Kry To Quality Hones Horn Mode Cost



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Radon gas is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in America and is present at dangerous levels in over 50 percent of homes in Nebraska and Iowa.

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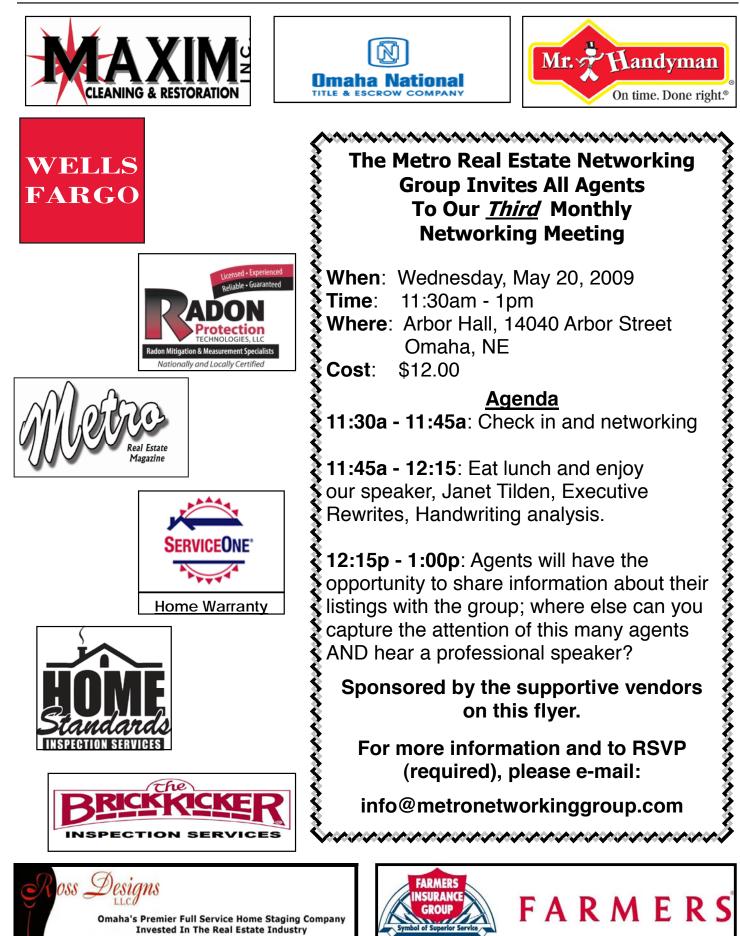
... the radon is gone.



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NEW MEMBERS, CORRECTIONS & CHANGES!

NEW MEMBERS

- Arney, Jeffrey 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Auten, Lisa 100786/Don Peterson & Associates
- Bayliss, Lisa 770/NP Dodge V LLC
- Boot, Sherry 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Jones, Brandon 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Philbin, Kristina 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- Redlinger, Joshua 7900/DEEB Realty
- Richardson, Josh 710/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Schumacher, Traci 100628/Premier One Real Estate LLC
- Sparacino, Valerie 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Vachal, Eva 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- Winter, Jessica 770/NP Dodge V LLC

NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERS

- Bambino, Laura 100782/TierOne Bank
- Howell, Michael 100814/Prestige Painting & Finishing
- Kurtenbach, Steven 100819/Kurt's Radon Testing

NEW MEMBER CANDIDATES

- Abboud, Nicholas 5110/Real Estate Associates Inc
- Becker, Charlene 771/NP Dodge III LLC
- Beehner, Teena 20/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Burki, Lora 22/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Buschelman, Alvin 23/CBSHOME Real Estate Hagan, Ashley – 8170/Landmark Management Group Inc
- Hartzell, Cindy 5000/Celebrity Homes Inc
- Kearney, Justyn 7900/DEEB Realty
- Kenzy, Hayli 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- Kim, Hasook 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Kontz, Kelly 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Linden, Kari 20/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Lowndes, Timothy 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Maiwald, Susan 711/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Murray, Jeremy 770/NP Dodge V LLC
- Nebuda, Ryan 8170/Landmark Management Group Inc
- Nikodym, Shelly 710/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Pohlad, Julie 7900/DEEB Realty Pohlad, Sara – 7900/DEEB Realty
- Powell, Ryan 711/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Rensch, Michael 777/NP Dodge I LLC
- Thomas, Kathleen 380/GTRSALES
- Wiebusch, Vaughn 770/NP Dodge V LLC

NEW AFFILIATE CANDIDATES

- Carter, Bob 100823/Total Home Inspection Co McGinn, Mark – 9010/AmeriSpec Home
- Inspection Serv
- Moore, Scott 2430/Rels Title Tuma, Dana – 100485/Omaha Pest & Termite

MEMBER TRANSFERS

- Blackmon, Michael From 100221/Diamond Realty Inc To 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Brechwald, Mardee From 777/NP Dodge I LLC To 770/NP Dodge V LLC
- Brown, Timothy From 100442/A Advanced Home Insp Inc To 9010/AmeriSpec Home Inspection Serv
- Colburn, Stephen From 20/CBSHOME Real Estate To 24/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Curtis, Tracy From 6212/RE/MAX Real Estate Group To 100374/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Dooley, Judith From 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate To 7900/DEEB Realty
- Gilreath, Rith From 100658/RE/MAX Professionals To 5000/Celebrity Homes Inc
- Hansen, Michael From 777/Celebrity Homes Inc To 777/NP Dodge I LLC
- Hehn, Sarah From 5110/Real Estate Associates Inc To 23/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Kempenar, Jon From 6211/RE/MAX Real Estate Group To 5000/Celebrity Homes Inc
- Kinder, Ann From 20/CBSHOME Real Estate To 24/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Kinser, Karen From 200/Century 21 Wear Company To 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- Konz, Lynn From 100644/Moray & Associates To 20/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Mitchell, Debra From 7900/DEEB Realty To 100739/ASHAR Realty
- Moray, Brenna From 100644/Moray & Associates To 20/CBSHOME Real Estate

Mumgaard, James From 20/CBSHOME Real Estate To 24/CBSHOME Real Estate

Mumgaard, Kathleen From 20/CBSHOME Real Estate To 24/CBSHOME Real Estate

- Rimington, Douglas From 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate To 100825/Home-Sense Realty Corporation
- Sutton, Lisa From 779/NP Dodge IV LLC To 6211/RE/MAX Real Estate Group
- Torczon, Joannie From 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha To 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Tu, Jeff From 530/Century 21 Century Real Estate To 779/NP Dodge IV LLC
- Vrtiska, Dawn From 23/CBSHOME Real Estate To 6211/RE/MAX Real Estate Group
- Weinstein, Rhonda From 770/NP Dodge V LLC To 6211/RE/MAX Real Estate Group
- Wurgler, James From 20/CBSHOME Real Estate
 - To 777/NP Dodge I LLC

MEMBER REINSTATES

- Brookstein, Jeffery 5110/Real Estate Associates Inc
- Kreifels, John 7900/DEEB Realty
- Leslie, Julie 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Nisi, Jack 100425/Guardian Real Estate LLC Wilson, Mark – 710/CBSHOME Real Estate Zgoda, Eugene – 7900/DEEB Realty

NEW COMPANY

- #100206/Blackthorne Real Estate Development Co Inc, 11725 Arbor St Ste 135, Omaha, NE, 68144 OABR/MLS Phone: 884-6205 Fax: 884-6201
 - Designated Realtor: David Davis
- #100825/HomeSense Realty Corporation, 601 Carlson Pkwy Ste 1050, Minnetonka, MN, 55305
 - Realtor Secondary/MLS Secondary will
 - have primary agents
 - Phone: 800-330-2001

Fax: 866-449-5589 Designated Realtor: Jess McClellan

#100322/Michael D Slatten Broker, 8421 Keystone Dr, Omaha, NE, 68134
 OABR/MLS Phone: 657-3721
 Fax: 397-0667
 Designated Realtor: Michael Slatten

NEW BRANCH OFFICE

#713/CBSHOME Real Estate, 1221 E Pierce St Ste 300 Office B
BSG/MLS Secondary
Phone: 712-256-5516
Fax: Same

Designated Realtor: Joseph Hamling

COMPANY ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER UPDATES

- (If your firm address and/or telephone number changes, fax the information to 493-7189 to ensure our records are accurate)
- #100433/CI Appraisal Analytics 2905 Westcorp Blvd Ste 119, Huntsville, AL, 35801 Phone: 256-428-4545 Fax: 256-428-4564
- #713/CBSHOME Real Estate -
- Phone: 712-256-5516
- #999963/Nebraska Title Co 14680 W Dodge Rd Ste 1, Omaha, NE, 68154

COMPANY NAME CHANGE

#100433/CI Appraisal Analytics (Formerly Banton Valuation Div - Transunion)

CHANGE OF MANAGER

#7901,7902,7904/DEEB Realty – Paul Vojchehoske (Formerly Steven Alloway)



Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® 11830 Nicholas Street Omaha, Nebraska 68154

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Calendar of Events for May 2009							
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					1	2	
					Toastmasters 7:15-8:30 am at OABR		
3	4	Affiliates 9:00 am-1:30 pm at OABR Equal Opportunity 1:00-5:00 pm at OABR	Equal Opportunity 11:00 am-12:00 pm at OABR	WCR Executive Comm. 8:30-10:00 am at OABR Ed Comm. 10:00-11:00 am at OABR AFFILIATE GOLF	8	9	
		New Member Orientation 8:30 am-4:00 pm at OABR	New Member Orientation 8:30 am-4:00 pm at OABR	New Member Orientation 8:30 am-12:00 pm at OABR	Toastmasters 7:15-8:30 am at OABR		
10	11	12	13	14	15 Toastmasters 7:15-8:30 am at OABR	16	
	NAR CONVENTION Washington, DC	NAR CONVENTION Washington, DC	NAR CONVENTION Washington, DC	NAR CONVENTION Washington, DC	NAR CONVENTION Washington, DC	NAR CONVENTION Washington, DC	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
	OABR Executive Comm. 9:00-10:00 am at OABR	MLS Executive Comm. 10:15-11:15 am at OABR	Member Services 10:00-11:00 am at OABR	KIP Seminar 9:00-11:30 am at OABR	Toastmasters 7:15-8:30 am at OABR		
24	25	26 _{IREM} 8:30-10:00 am at OABR	27	28	29	30	
31	MEMORIAL DAY Office Closed	MLS Directors 10:15-11:15 am at OABR	OABR Directors 9:00-10:00 am at OABR		Toastmasters 7:15-8:30 am at OABR		