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Omaha Area Board of RFALTORS®

402-619-5555 www.OABR.coм

11830 NICHOLAS STREET Omaha, Nebraska 68154

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The Social Events Forum of the Omaha Area Board of REALTORS®

UNO Mavericks Hockey Night

Saturday, January 15, 2011

Omaha Mavericks vs. Bemidji State Beavers 7:05 pm Game - Qwest Center 5:30 pm Dinner - Old Mattress Factory



\$15.00 per person

(includes reserved game ticket and dinner)

Enjoy dinner in the party room at the Old Mattress Factory, 501 N. 13th Street, with a smoked brisket sandwich buffet, served with BBQ beans and chips.

Win

Don't forget your Omaha Food Bank raffle tickets!

Win a signed UNO Hockey Helmet! Each raffle ticket is \$1.00 and all proceeds go to the Omaha Food Bank. You may buy your raffle ticket at the OABR Office or from an OABR Social Events Forum Member!



Limited Number Tickets Available

Payment must be received with order

Individual Name:			
Company:			
Mailing Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Phone:	Email:		
Quantity of Tickets Ordered:	x \$15.00 each =	Total	
Visa / Master Card #:	Expiration Date:		
Discover / American Express			
		Mailing Address:	

Make checks payable to the Omaha Area Board of REALTORS®. Ticket orders by Monday, December 27, 2010, please.

Call Donna Shipley at 619-5551 or Lisa Welch at 619-5552 with any questions.

Omaha Area Board of REALTORS' 11380 Nicholas St. Omaha, NE 68154



Omaha Area Board of REALTORS⁸ 11830 Nicholas Street Omaha, NE 68154 402-619-5555 tel 402-619-5559 fax

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The Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® is pledged to the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the community. The Board encourages and supports a marketplace in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, handicap, or familial status.

PRSMAS OF NEWS O

CONGRATULATIONS to Dave Smith of RE/MAX Commercial Midwest, for being elected to the post of Regional Vice President for the CCIM Institute's Region 5. Region 5 takes in the Minnesota, the Dakotas, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Kansas City Chapters. Dave's term began October 1, 2010.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!

Fax 402-619-5559,

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Thanks to the October 2010 Sponsors

Matt Thiel – DRI Title & Escrow Jody Smythe – MetLife Home Loans PK Kopun – Metro 1st Mortgage Scott Moore – Rels Title Debbie Kalina – Radon Protection Tech LLC

Thanks to the November 2010 Sponsors

Lori Bonnstetter – AmeriSpec Home Inspection Serv Cherie Casey – The Home Buyers Protection Co Sara Kelley – Great Western Bank Jim Murphy – Bank of the West Jody Smythe – MetLife Home Loans The upcoming New Member

Orientation is scheduled for

Tuesday, December 7, 2010 from

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,

Wednesday, December 8, 2010 from

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and

Thursday, December 9, 2010 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®.

ORIENTATION

REALTORS® GIVING BACK!! Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® Coat & Winter Clothing Drive

November 1st through 7th at area Real Estate Offices
Culminating with a City Wide REALTOR®
Open House Blitz on November 6th & 7th

The Social Events Committee would like to invite you to participate in the 1st Annual OABR Winter Coat & Clothing Drive with an area wide Open House blitz the first weekend in November. We have approximately 2400 members, let's see if we can collect 2400 coats! (and mittens, scarfs, hats, etc...)

Each OPEN HOUSE will be a drop off location for the 1st Annual OABR Winter Coat and Clothing Drive.

Donated clothing will be split among four local recipients:

- YWCA
- Open Door Mission
- Lydia House
- Sarpy County Community Services

You can drop off any donations that week at the OABR office but we will be having a reception/collection party at the OABR office on Wednesday afternoon November 10th from 1-5.

Signs to put in your listings yards that week will be available by the end of October. Watch for email updates soon!!!



open house traffic by advertising the event in advance for the neighborhood!

OABR Winter Coat & Clothing Drive DROPOFF site HERE at open house this weekend!



GREAT PLAINS REALTORS® MLS

The MLS Users Group has been hard at work! Some of the changes we have made over the past several months have been increasing the number of photos in the MLS from 10 to 35, making updates on the MLS input sheets, adding a price per square foot above grade field, adding REO to the RDesk and IDX smartframing, and doing some BETA testing with new features that will soon be available with Paragon 5.

The MLS Users Group (formerly known as the Computer Committee) is a group of agents that meets monthly to discuss changes or improvements that can be made to our current MLS system. The committee ideas are moved to the MLS Board of Directors for consideration.

If this sounds like something you would like to get involved with, we meet the second Tuesday of each month in the OABR conference room at 11 a.m. If you have something you would like the MLS Users Group to discuss, you can e-mail it to Denise Sabadka, DSabadka@oabr.com, and request it be included on the

User Group Update

agenda. We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas on how to make MLS better for all of us.

Check back here for announcements, changes and helpful hints in our new monthly column!

Gina Ogle MLS Users Group Chair





Equal Opportunity Task Force Ethnic Minority Outreach Scholarship Winner

I started following my dream back in October 2009 of becoming a REALTOR® and I have found that it is not exactly what I believed it would be, it has actually turned out to be an even better experience!

I have had the opportunity to meet and work with some agents that have a true desire to help others even if it meant not getting paid at the end of all their hard work and efforts. I have been priviledged to work with and to educate a handfull of people young and old in order to assist them with the purchase and or sale of their homes. The Real Estate industry has blessed me with the knowledge to help a family to keep their home that had fallen behind on their payments and they contacted me about listing it for sale because they weren't aware of the available programs.

I am truly ecstatic about my experience thus far and I am looking forward to many fruitfull years in the Real Estate industry.



CELEBRITY

MHOMES

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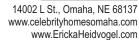
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AFFILIATE ADVOCATE

Submitted By: Brenda Stuart ServiceOne



If you own a home, you need to know this! about...

PLUMBING



Shawn Nelson:

Plumbing Technician and Expert Drain Cleaner

Bacterial type drain cleaners can be used for maintenance purposes being poured through a clear drain. Once the drain is clogged, please don't use drain cleaners to attempt to unclog. The toxic ones are harsh on pipes and can splash back when someone is attempting to clear the drain. If you know you have an issue with tree roots in your neighborhood, don't wait for a backup to occur, schedule preventative drain cleanings.

DON'T DO IT. Many drain issues are self-created through neglect or ignorance. You should NEVER flush sanitary products, wet wipes, paper towels or nose tissue down your toilet.

Shawn came to ServiceOne 3 years ago, bringing over 10 years of experience in drain cleaning. He was born in California, but graduated from Papillion and now lives in Bennington with his family. He enjoys the customer relations part of his job and appreciates how ServiceOne takes care of their customers and their employees.

Lorin Loch:

Senior Plumbing Technician

Water softeners are worth the investment. Once you have had a water softener, you will always want one. Water softeners have so many benefits and they don't require much maintenance, they just need to be continuously used. If you have dry skin, a water softener will help you, as well as with being less harsh on your clothes.

DON'T WAIT. If you have dripping faucets or running toilets, you need to get them taken care of and not linger on unresolved. They can lead to corrosion, calcium buildup, leaking and damage to your floor or countertop.



Lorin is currently in his 5th year at ServiceOne and in the plumbing trade for 30 years. He carries a journeyman license in Omaha, Lincoln, and Blair and a master's license in Bellevue. He learned the plumbing trade at SCC in Lincoln, where he has lived most of his life. Lorin loves meeting people and solving problems.

APPLIANCES

Bob Wezorek:

Appliance Expert

Key components to keeping your refrigerator running efficiently are cleaning the door seal and vacuuming your condenser coil and rear cover. Based on the model, the condenser coil could be at the front bottom behind the grill or in the back. It will greatly extend the lifetime of your appliance.

Make sure you regularly use rinse aid in your dishwasher and run a dishwasher cleaner in it quarterly. It will greatly improve your dishwasher's ability to clean your dishes and prevent water spots.



Bob has been with ServiceOne for 13 years and working on appliances for 30 years. He attended Metro Tech for HVAC and over the years has become skilled in both trades. He is a South Omaha boy, living here all his life. He gets satisfaction through fixing things and taking on new challenges.

Fred celebrated 5 years with ServiceOne this year. He is a career appliance technician, with 25 years experience. He was born in Omaha and has lived here most of his life. Fred maintains the certification to work with Freon and is one of the refrigeration experts on our team.

Fred West:

Appliance Expert

If you have a 2nd floor laundry, make sure there is a floor drain. Also, make sure you have stainless steel "burst-free" washer hoses.

Sometimes your refrigerator filter light may not work correctly. Ideally, you should change your filter every 6-8 months. If it's been longer than a year, change it. Writing a date on the filter helps you remember.

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING



Ed joined the ServiceOne team 9 years ago. He was born in Council Bluffs and stills lives there with his family. He is NATE certified and carries mechanical licenses in Omaha, Council Bluffs and Blair. He graduated from UTI. Ed enjoys educating customers and helping fellow technicians with challenging calls.

Ed Haats:

Senior HVAC Technician

The first thing a homeowner should know is where the main fuse panel is located, where the water main shut off is located and how to change their furnace filter. Every homeowner should know how important a yearly safety check is for their heating equipment. Just because you are getting heat, doesn't mean it is operating safely and efficiently.

AIRFLOW. AIRFLOW. 1-INCH furnace filters need to be changed every month. You don't need to purchase the expensive \$20 filters, in fact they can actually restrict airflow. Buy pleated filters that under \$5 each or buy in a pack, so that you have them ready to replace as needed. If you have allergies, consider having a filter or filtration system professionally installed.

Erich Runte:

Heating & Air Conditioning Technician

During the winter months, if you have a heatpump, make sure to keep snow/ ice away from the unit. Also, make sure the coils are kept clean. Don't be concerned if you see your outside unit "steaming", a heatpump will go into a defrost cycle at least once per day depending on the weather.

If you have a 90%+ efficient furnace, you will have an intake pipe open to the outside of your home. If this pipe is blocked, with snow, leaves, bird nests, etc...the furnace will not come on. During last years heavy snow and drifting snow, this was the cause of many furnace calls and customer's appreciated being able to get heat back into their home by resolving this



Erich just celebrated 10 years with ServiceOne. He came to us from Vatterott College where he earned a AA Degree in HVAC. He currently carries mechanical journeyman licenses in Omaha, lowa, Bellevue and Blair. Erich was born and raised in Omaha, and currently lives in Millard with his family.

For more information, please contact Brenda Stuart at ServiceOne – 306-6319.



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.

Affiliate Members listed below attended the October 2010 meeting.

Regi Powell (President) – Farmers Insurance/ Powell Insurance

Deb Martin (President-Elect) – Northwest Bank

Wendy Walker (Secretary) – Omaha Title & Escrow Inc

Brenda Stuart (Treasurer) – ServiceOne Inc

John Angus – Basics and Beyond Computer Specialists

Laura Bambino – Great Western Bank

Lori Bonnstetter – AmeriSpec Home Inspection Serv

Cherie Casey – The Home Buyers Protection Co

Chuck Current – American National Bank

Jeff Kalina - Radon Protection Tech LLC

Sara Kelley – Great Western Bank

PK Kopun – Metro 1st Mortgage

Chip Monahan – Monahan Financial Inc

Scott Moore – Rels Title

John Ponec – Security National Bank

Ruth Smith - Norm's Door Service

Jody Smythe – MetLife Homes Loans

Matt Thiel - DRI Title & Escrow

Dawn Zaller – Team USA Mortgage

The Affiliate Council web address is www.oabraffiliates.com.

Are You a Fan?

The Omaha Area Board of REALTORS® is now on Facebook. Become a fan and network with fellow members of the OABR and stay up-to-date on OABR activities and the industry. www.facebook.com/OMArealtors.

Member Records

Is your contact information correct? Check your information at www.Members.OABR.com, and forward changes to dpeterson@oabr.com. Thank you!

OABR Membership Statistics

Designated REALTOR®	Sept 2010 216	Sept 2009 222
Designated REALTOR®- Secondary	2	5
REALTOR®	1974	2033
REALTOR®-Secondary	1	0
TOTAL	2193	2260
Emeritus (we have 6 included		
in REALTOR® count))	0	2
Institute Affiliate	71	73
Affiliate	174	175
Retired	0	0
Student	0	0
Public Service	4	1
Honorary	0	0
Boards Goods & Services	244	239
TOTAL	2686	2750
	Sept 2010	
New	19	
Reinstate	6	
Drop	83	

MLS Membership Statistics

	Sept 2010
Participants (Primary)	206
Participants (Secondary)	61
Subscribers (Primary)	1945
Subscribers (Secondary)	181
Exempt	31
TOTAL	2424



2011 RPAC Office Challenge is Here!

Do you want bragging rights that your office raised more money than any other office your size? Now is your time to soar.

Challenge Rules

- 1. Only real estate sales offices with at least 4 REALTORS® can compete.
- 2. Challenge will be based on three office size categories:
 - Small offices 4-15 members
 - Medium offices 16-45 members
 - Large offices 46+ members
- 3. Office counts will be based on OABR records as of January 1, 2011 (corresponds to 2011 Membership Roster).
- 4. Winning offices will be based on percentage of participation.
- 5. Participant is based on a minimum \$25 contribution.
- 6. In the event of a percentage tie, the office with the highest average per person contribution will be the winner for that category. Contributions from Owners will not be included.
- 7. Contest begins immediately and will conclude July 31, 2011.
- 8. Three trophies will be presented to the winning offices. These trophies are traveling trophies... transferring to winning offices in future years.

Rules for Collection of Contributions

- 1. All monies received must be delivered to the OABR Office with 5 business days from receipt.
- 2. Any pledges need to be paid in full by July 31, 2011 to be included in the total.

NOTE: Timeframes are very important. If the monies are not received in Washington, D.C. within a specified time, they must be refunded back to the donor.



eKey for Android



Using eKey software along with the key fob, you can use your Android phone as your real estate key. Since eKey updates wirelessly you can do business anywhere.

eKey Basic will be available for Android November/December 2010

What does eKey Basic offer?

- Wireless updates and alerts
- Open KeyBoxes and release shackles
- Track your KeyBoxes from your phone
- Assign and unassign listings directly from your phone
- Change your own shackle codes
- Program your KeyBoxes

How much is a key fob and where can I get one?

The key fob is \$49.95 + tax and is available at the OABR office.

What Android phones will support the eKey software?

eKey for Android will run on *most* phones with Android OS 2.1 or greater.

Is there a service fee to use the eKey on my Android?

Yes, the monthly service fee for eKey Basic is \$14.45 + tax. The service fee can be paid with an 'auto withdrawal monthly only' from Visa, MasterCard, Amex, Discover or checking account.



How do I get eKey for Android?

eKey Basic for Android will be issued like all other eKey's through the OABR office.

- If you are currently using the ActiveKey (aKey), you would return the aKey and power cord to the OABR office and get setup with eKey Basic on your Android phone. We would cancel your lease with the aKey and refund any deposit if applicable. Supra would also issue a credit for any unused portion of the lease from the aKey. Bring with on your visit; aKey, power cord, payment method and your Android phone.
- If you are using eKey basic along with the key fob currently, and are switching to the Android phone; simply call 402-619-5552 and we will email you the instructions to download the software.
- If you are using eKey and do not have a key fob you will need to stop by the OABR office to purchase the key fob and get the download instructions.

If you have further questions you can contact Supra at 1-877-699-6787 or 402-619-5552.

RPAC Check Presentations



Left to Right: Doug Rotthaus, Joe Gehrki, Sen. Gwen Howard, Bobbi Schoettle, Jerry Ahlvers

On October 6, 2010, Nebraska RPAC checks were presented to three incumbent candidates for the Nebraska Legislature. Sen. Gwen Howard (District 9), Sen. Heath Mello (District 5) and Sen. Abbie Cornett (District 45).

Senator Gwen Howard, District 9, who has a background in Social Work and an adoption specialist; learned about child advocacy when her parents, who already had four children, adopted a foster child. Howard said her parents' "commitment to the greater good" inspired her to pursue a career in child welfare and raise a foster child after her two daughters, Carrie and Sara, were grown.

Now she hopes to bring that personal experience to the Legislature. The Omaha senator was an adoption specialist with the state Department of Health and Human Services for 34 years, up until the day before she took office. Howard started considering a run for the Legislature two years ago after a meeting with other HHS caseworkers. Employees felt overwhelmed by large caseloads and wanted an overhaul of the child welfare system. The best way to do that, Howard said, was to elect a caseworker to the Legislature.

Senator Heath Mello, District 5, with a background as a Community development specialist. After spending time with Mello, one suspects that scrappy also might describe his approach to lawmaking. The key, he said, is to work hard and do the basic things well. The end result may not be the limelight, but others will recognize your contribution. "You don't get the glory, but others want you on the team," he said. It's a mindset that Mello learned from his hard-working parents while growing up in the Omaha area. He said his father was a machinist and union man, his mother a self-described "blue collar" worker.



Left to Right: Doug Rotthaus, Sen. Heath Mello, Joe Gehrki

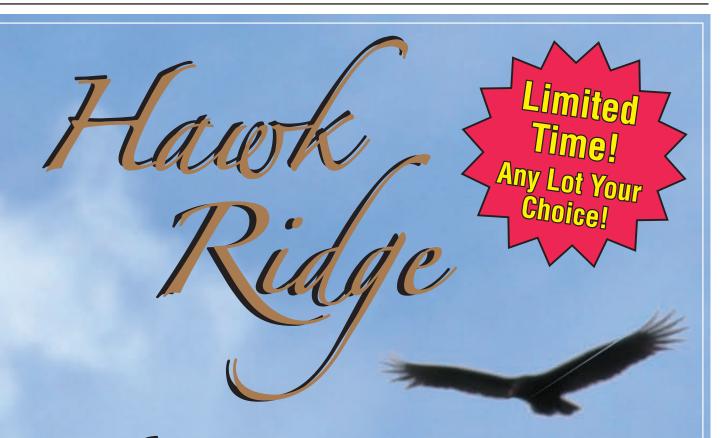
Senator Abby Cornett, District 45, with a background in law enforcement. Shortly after moving into her State Capitol office, Bellevue Sen. Abbie Cornett posted a quote from Laurel Thatcher Ulrich on her door: "Wellbehaved women rarely make history." Those who meet the District 45 senator discover that Cornett is well-mannered, but loves adventure and takes risks that would cause most men and women to shudder. "Honestly, I'm an adrenaline junkie," she said. Cornett spent most of her career as an officer for the Omaha Police Department. In addition to her duties as an officer, Cornett was a certified handguns instructor and taught classes on enforcing DUI laws. "I always enjoyed helping people, but it's also a really exciting job," Cornett said.

Did You Know?

Irrespective of local dialect and custom, the term REALTOR® has but one pronunciation:

REAL' TOR

That's two syllables. Industry professionals pronounce it correctly! REALTOR® FO(U) 11



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Test Your Knowledge on FHA

A few years ago, the FHA had all but disappeared from the mortgage lending market as lenders aggressively courted low- and moderate-income households and those with impaired credit. But in the aftermath of the economic collapse of September 2008, the FHA has risen to an unprecedented level of importance. How well do you know the FHA? Take this quiz to test your expertise!

- 1. In what year was the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) created?
 - **1**934
 - **1**946
 - **1**965
 - **1**968
- 2. Which of the following is NOT a requirement for someone applying for an FHA loan?
 - ☐ Proof of stable income over a two-year period.
 - ☐ Fewer than two 30-days-past-due payments on a credit report over the past two years.
 - ☐ A mortgage payment of 30 percent or less of monthly gross income.
 - ☐ No history of bankruptcy or foreclosure.
 - What you don't know about radon can hurt you. And your clients.
 - Educate yourself, and your clients about radon.
 - Free Consultations
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- NEHA Certified
- Radon Mitigation
- Competitive Prices

Debbie Kalina President



Phone: 402-639-1100 Email: Debbie@OmahaRadon.com www.OmahaRadon.com

- 3. What is FHA current, standard downpayment requirement?
 - ☐ 3 percent
 - □ 3.5 percent
 - ☐ 5 percent
 - ☐ 10 percent
- 4. Borrowers who have FICO scores lower than 580 must put up a ____ percent downpayment to qualify for an FHA loan.
 - **3.5**
 - **5**
 - **1**0
 - **2**0
- 5. Right now, the FHA accounts for ____ percent of the mortgage market.
 - **5-15**
 - **□** 15-25
 - **25-40**
 - **G** 66-75

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Dennis Ritter **402-680-3458**

dritter@1ststatebank.com

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CONSTRUCTION LOANS

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MAIN LOCATION

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www.dennisritter.com

6. The FHA does NOT offer which of the following?

- Adjustable-rate mortgages
- ☐ Reverse mortgages
- ☐ Energy efficient mortgages
- ☐ The FHA offers all of these

7. What is the limit for the amount of an FHA loan?

- **\$250,000**
- □ \$400,000
- \$500,000
- □ Depends on the market of the property being purchased

8. How much of a building's condo units must be owner-occupied for buyers to qualify for a loan to purchase in that building?

- ☐ 33 percent
- ☐ 50 percent
- ☐ 75 percent
- ☐ 90 percent

(Answers on Page 20)

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ASK THE HOME INSPECTOR!

By Patrick Casey, President
The Home Buyers Protection Company

Home & Building Inspections • Radon & Mold Testing

The following article is intended to provide pertinent home and building inspection information to the readers. Your input is welcome by emailing your questions to <u>pat@hbponline.com</u>.

Question: We had our furnace serviced this week and the technician told us it has a cracked heat exchanger and it is unsafe to operate. What is a cracked heat exchanger, and can it be fixed?

Answer: You were wise to have your furnace serviced before winter. Furnaces can create safety risks if they are not properly maintained.

A cracked heat exchanger is a major safety concern with gas furnaces. The heat exchanger is the part of the furnace that separates the heated air from the exhaust gases.

If it becomes damaged (cracks, holes, blockage, etc.), then these gases, which can contain high levels of deadly carbon monoxide, enter the home.

If the furnace is newer, the heat exchanger can usually be replaced and may be covered under a manufacturer's warranty. But if the furnace is old, replacement parts may not be available and the entire furnace will need to be replaced.

We recommend furnaces be serviced and safety-checked every year before the heating season begins. They can last longer and run more efficiently.

Go to our website at www.hbponline.com for more information about furnaces, see our specials and order an inspection online.



Home Buyers

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Word Search!!! Win A \$50 Gift Certificate

From the following word search, find the words. The OABR Member whose name will be drawn from 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 November 15, 2010. Winner and answers will be in December 2010 Focus. Good luck!!!!

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Whenever possible, please contact a staff member directly.

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Donna Shipley Programs Director

Board of Directors, governmental affairs, association events, education, ethics, equal opportunity and fair housing, other committees, forums and programs. 402-619-5551 / DShipley@OABR.com

Debbie Peterson

Membership & Accounting Manager

New membership, member accounts, dues billing, accounts receivable / payments.
402-619-5553 / DPeterson@OABR.com

Lisa Welch Systems Administrator Supra electronic keys and keyboxes. 402-619-5552 / LWelch@OABR.com

Denise Sabadka MLS Administrator

MLS operations, MLS Users Group, MLS Rules, MLS Board of Directors, data entry, complaints. **402-619-5554 / DSabadka@OABR.com**

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NAR Says Families Will Suffer if Foreclosure Freeze Continues

Washington, October 12, 2010 (realtor.org)

Thousands of first-time and move-up buyers who hoped to make a foreclosed property their new home now face uncertainty, anxiety and possibly remorse as they worry that closing on their desired property could be in jeopardy.

For many, the dream of homeownership could turn into agony if their home purchase is indefinitely delayed by a moratorium on foreclosures declared by some banks, the National Association of REALTORS® said today. The moratoriums are needed, banks say, to review all of the foreclosures in their portfolios to make sure they're in compliance with the law and that titles are clear.

NAR warned that a prolonged review process would have a damaging impact on many communities and hinder the nation's economic recovery.

"As the leading advocate for homeownership issues, we understand that many lenders need a time-out to review their actions to ensure that homeowners are not improperly foreclosed on and that the lenders are following regulations and state laws. After that, the foreclosure process must resume quickly to return stability to families, the housing market and the economy," said NAR President Vicki Cox Golder, owner of Vicki L. Cox & Associates, Tucson, Ariz.



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Over the past few months NAR has met with officials of top banks to discuss market issues. NAR urged banking leaders to seek resolution quickly through loan modifications and the short-sale process rather than through foreclosure. "We stand ready to help lenders develop better short-sale procedures," Golder said.

"There are valid foreclosures that should move ahead quickly, and we shouldn't lump them in with mortgages that are suspect. That would cause deep problems in an already fragile market and throw many families into uncertainty," Golder said.

Golder said that she is receiving reports from REAL-TORS® that the moratorium is already creating some anxiety among purchasers as transactions are being delayed and that some foreclosure listings are being removed from the market.

Compounding the problem is that the requirements for foreclosure vary by state, and practices to meet these requirements vary by firm. NAR is working with regulators, such as the Federal Housing Finance Agency; and encouraging them to identify and quickly address process problems.

In a letter today to the U.S Treasury Department, the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Federal Housing Finance Agency, NAR stated the hope that banks would complete their foreclosure review expeditiously to assure that the rights of borrowers are protected and remove doubt that buyers will receive clear title to their purchase.

"NAR has long urged the lending industry to take every feasible action to keep families in their homes with a loan modification and, if that is not possible, to give them a 'graceful exit' through a short sale. These options are far better than a foreclosure, and nothing has driven this point home more clearly than the questions being raised about foreclosures. Lenders should place additional resources into processing loan modifications and short sales," NAR wrote.

A year ago, NAR instituted a special short sale training program for its REALTOR® members to work more closely with banks in expediting mortgages at risk by resolving them through short sales and loan modifications. More than 51,000 REALTORS® have been certified in the program.

The National Association of REALTORS®, "The Voice for Real Estate," is America's largest trade association, representing 1.1 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.

Model Behavior for Staying Safe at Model Homes

Showing a model home can put you in a very vulnerable situation. You are, most likely, all alone in an uninhabited residence—and everyone who cares to stop in will be aware of this. So follow these four tips to help stay safe:

- 1. If possible, always try to have at least one other person working with you at the home.
- 2. When a person comes through the office to view a model home, have them complete a guest register that includes their full name, address, phone number, e-mail, and vehicle information.
- 3. Keep your cell phone and your car keys with you at all times. Keep your handbag locked in the trunk of your vehicle.
- 4. When closing the model homes for the night, never assume that the home is vacant. Check the interior of the house prior to locking the doors, working from the top floor to the bottom, back of the house to the front, locking the doors behind you. Be familiar enough with each home to know the exits. Be aware of your surroundings. Be prepared to protect yourself.

(Sources: City of Mesa, AZ)

Visit NAR's REALTOR® Safety Web site at www.REALTOR.org/Safety

This article is part of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® / REALTOR® Safety Resources Kit.

Treat all disasters as if they were trivialities but never treat a triviality as if it were a disaster.

— Quentin Crisp



Know the Code of Ethics ...

Standard of Practice 1-12

When entering into listing contracts, REALTORS® must advise sellers/landlords of:

- 1. the REALTOR®'s company policies regarding cooperation and the amount(s) of any compensation that will be offered to subagents, buyer/tenant agents, and/or brokers acting in legally recognized non-agency capacities;
- the fact that buyer/tenant agents or brokers, even if compensated by listing brokers, or by sellers/ landlords may represent the interests of buyers/ tenants; and
- 3. any potential for listing brokers to act as disclosed dual agents, e.g. buyer/tenant agents. (Adopted 1/93, Renumbered 1/98, Amended 1/03)

To download the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice, go to http://www.realtor.org/mempolweb.nsf/pages/printable2010Code.

WCR Program Luncheon

A Desire To Inspire

For more than 11 years, Andy has been mentoring and motivating people, both formally and informally. From casual conversations with friends and colleagues to official presentations at large businesses and associations, Andy's desire to inspire is far-reaching.

Andy's love of counsel was not born professionally; it grew organically. He is passionate about people and relationships, and it shows. People are drawn to his natural enthusiasm and find his desire to live life to the fullest nothing short of inspirational.

Andy also enjoys travel (he's been to 62 countries!). His devotion



Andy Greenberg

to cultural and spiritual exploration feeds his motivational style. He wisely and naturally finds connections between different customs, philosophies and societies – taking common beliefs and turning them into opportunities to teach personal and professional growth.

To speak to Andy, send him an email at: speakingofandygreenberg@cox.net or call him at 402-250-3895.

Please join us to hear motivational speaker Andy Greenberg!

November 11, 2010 11:30 a.m.

(Doors open at 11:15 a.m. for networking)

Georgetowne Club 2440 S. 141st Circle

Lunch - \$13.00 (advance payment on PayPal) \$14.00 (pay at the door) See You There!



Social Benefits of Homeownership

Research has consistently shown the importance of the housing sector on the economy and the long-term social and financial benefits to individual homeowners. The economic benefits of the housing market and homeownership are immense and well documented. The housing sector directly accounted for approximately 14 percent of total economic activity in 2009. Household real estate holdings totaled \$16.5 trillion in the first quarter of 2010. After subtracting mortgage liabilities, net real estate household equity totaled \$6.3 trillion.

In addition to tangible financial benefits, homeownership brings substantial social benefits for families, communities, and the country as a whole. Because of these societal benefits, policy makers have promoted homeownership through a number of channels. Homeownership has been an essential element of the American Dream for decades and continues to be so even today.

A recent report from the National Association of REALTORS® reviews the existing academic literature that documents the social benefits of homeownership. Furthermore, the report examines not only the ownership of homes, but also the impact of stable housing – as

opposed to transitory housing and homelessness – on social outcomes, looking specifically at the following outcome measures:

- Educational achievement;
- Civic participation;
- Health benefits;
- Crime;
- Public assistance; and
- Property maintenance and improvement.

For more, go to:

http://www.Realtor.org/Topics/Homeownership

• • •

Winning doesn't always mean being first. Winning means you're doing better than you've ever done before.

— Bonnie Blair, Olympic speed skater

• • •

You can have it all, just not all at once.

— Oprah Winfrey, inspirational TV host



Answers to FHA Quiz

1. In what year was the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) created?

Correct Answer: 1934

The National Housing Act of 1934 established the FHA and the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation laying the foundation for today's mortgage and home building industries. In 1965, the FHA became part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, where it remains to this day.

2. Which of the following is NOT a requirement for someone applying for an FHA loan?

Correct Answer: No history of bankruptcy or fore-closure.

The FHA requires borrowers to have no foreclosures in the past three years, and no bankruptcies in the past two years. About borrower requirements for more information, go to http://fha-guidelines.com/

3. What is FHA current, standard downpayment requirement?

Correct Answer: 3.5 percent

FHA's current downpayment requirement (cash investment) is 3.5 percent. Although there have been recent attempts to raise that level, NAR has been working to retain the 3.5 percent requirement.

4. Borrowers who have FICO scores lower than 580 must put up a __ percent downpayment to qualify for an FHA loan.

Correct Answer: 10

Under the old FHA rules, every borrower was required to put down a minimum of 3.5 percent to qualify for a loan. However, this year the organization raised that amount to 10 percent for borrowers who had a FICO score lower than 580 in order to protect its financial reserves.



5. Right now, the FHA accounts for __ percent of the mortgage market.

Correct Answer: 25-40

Before the subprime mortgage crisis started in late 2007 in 2008, the FHA accounted for less than 5 percent of the market. Today, it holds a much larger share, because there aren't any other public or private institutions that can fulfill even the diminished public demand for mortgage lending. However, FHA Commissioner David Stevens has said this share will go down as financial markets stabilize and credit becomes more widely available.

6. The FHA does NOT offer which of the following?

Correct Answer: The FHA offers all of these

In addition to conventional loans, the FHA offers ARMs through its Section 251 program to help low- to moderate-income families; mortgages that allow borrowers to incorporate the cost of energy efficiency improvements to their homes into the loans; and reverse mortgages for borrowers over the age of 62 who meet certain requirements related to credit and property value.

7. What is the limit for the amount of an FHA loan?

Correct Answer: Depends on the market of the property being purchased

FHA limits are set on the basis of local area median home price. In low-cost areas, the limit is \$271,050 – but can go up as high as \$729,750 in high cost areas. You can find the FHA's loan limits for your market at http://www.fha.com/lending_limits.cfm.

8. How much of a building's condo units must be owner-occupied for buyers to qualify for a loan to purchase in that building?

Correct Answer: 50 percent

Half of the units in a condo building must be occupied by their owners for buyers to get FHA financing to purchase a unit there (but vacant and REO property are not considered in the calculation of the owner-occupancy percentage). The condo must also be the borrower's primary residence. Additionally, the building must meet FHA and HUD standards. To find out if a development has been approved, go to: https://entp.hud.gov/idapp/html/condlook.cfm.

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Lot Locator - Additional Lot Inventory throughout the Omaha Metro Area



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Upcoming Events

November 2010

- 2, 3, 4 OABR Orientation 8:30am-4:30pm
- 3 Affiliate Turkey Shoot Bowling 11:00am (Sempecks)
 - 4 Advanced Paragon Training 12:30pm-2:00pm
- 3-8 NAR Meetings in New Orleans
 - 11 Holiday, OABR Office Closed
 - 18 KIP Microsoft Outlook at 10:00 am
- 25-26 Holiday, OABR Office Closed

December 2010

- 7, 8, 9 OABR Orientation 8:30am-4:30pm
- 9 Advanced Paragon Training 12:30pm-2:00pm
- 9 WCR Holiday Tea & Installation 3:00pm-5:00pm (Regency Lake & Tennis)
- 23 Holiday, OABR Office Closed at 3:00pm
- 24 Holiday, OABR Office Closed
 - 30 Holiday, OABR Office Closed at 3:00pm
- 31 Holiday, OABR Office Closed



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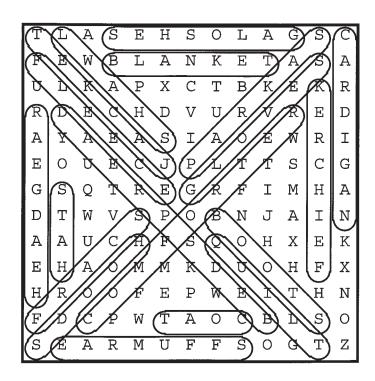
Brent Simmerman, President (402) 630-6555 Info@MidlandsHI.com www.MidlandsHI.com



October Word Search!!!

Diane Evans from NP Dodge Company Won A \$50 Gift Certificate to the OABR Print Shop

Here are the answers to last month's puzzle!



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Real Estate Terms to Know

Deed – Written document that when executed and delivered conveys title to real property.

Credit report – A past history of debt repayment used by creditors as an indicator of future readiness to responsibly repay debt.

Counteroffer – An offer made in response to an earlier, unacceptable one; it terminates the original offer.

Cooperative – Land and building owned or leased by a corporation which in turn leases space to its shareholders, who are also part owners of the building and have a proprietary lease. In lieu of rent, they each pay a proportionate monthly or quarterly fixed rate to cover operating costs, mortgage payments, taxes, etc.

Conveyance – Document used to transfer title. A deed is a conveyance.

Convey – To transfer property from one person to another.

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Berglund, Allen – 803/NP Dodge VI LLC Bodady, Heidi – 7900/DEEB Realty Braun, Mark – 779/NP Dodge IV LLC Coughran, Kathleen – 380/GTRSALES Giardino, Beverly – 23/CBSHOME Real Estate

Hervert, Laura – 530/CENTURY 21 Century Real Estate

Kay, Leslie – 100255/Americas Realty Team

Kirk, Kelly – 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

Kuhlmeyer, Sarah – 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

Nwinye II, Chinwendu – 380/GTRSALES Shanahan, Cindy – 770/NP Dodge V LLC Shipley, Brenda – 23/CBSHOME Real Estate

Smart, Tamara – 5000/Celebrity Homes Inc Torres-Lopez, Karla – 100544/Vision Casa Real Estate PC

Wallitsch, Tori – 100385/Alliance Real Estate LLC

Welchert, Andrew – 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Spidle, Nancy – 100880/Mold Solutions Szczepanek, Peter – 100891/Millard Remodeling & Restoration

NEW MEMBER CANDIDATES

Bundren, Ioshua – 4300/Prudential

Ambassador Real Estate
Christensen, Carrie – 4300/Prudential
Ambassador Real Estate
Freeman, Aimee – 777/NP Dodge I LLC
Hodge, Tiffany – 20/CBSHOME Real Estate
Hogan, Lenice – 23/CBSHOME Real Estate
Horacek, Mickal – 803/NP Dodge VI LLC
Jacupke, Jenna – 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

Opiyo, Boss – 100609/NP Dodge IX LLC Pierce, Kris – 6620/PJ Morgan Real Estate Robb, Christopher – 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate Rohde, Jenifer – 770/NP Dodge V LLC

Rohde, Jenifer – 770/NP Dodge V LLC Sadofsky, Paul – 100385/Alliance Real Estate LLC Scott, Alexis – 100609/NP Dodge IX LLC Shannon Jr, Jessie – 771/NP Dodge III LLC Skradski, Rachel – 20/CBSHOME Real Estate

Strunk, Erin – 803/NP Dodge VI LLC Troshynski, Jason – 24/CBSHOME Real Estate

NEW AFFILIATE CANDIDATES

Krof, Tim – 100734/Home Standards Inspection Serv

Meester, Evan – 100900/Pets Solutions 365

MEMBER TRANSFERS

Briggs, Diane From 24/CBSHOME Real Estate To 710/CBSHOME Real Estate Brown, Jill From 100268/Maloy Real Estate To 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha

Danielson, John From 7900/DEEB Realty To 100895/Havenmakers Inc

Detavernier, Brandi From 100374/ CBSHOME Real Estate To 7900/DEEB Realty

Detavernier, Mitzi From 100374/ CBSHOME Real Estate To 7900/DEEB Realty

Elliott, Sallie From 771/NP Dodge III LLC To 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

Hanna, Kenneth From 7900/DEEB Realty To 100862/Regents Real Estate & Property Dev

Hansen, Mark From 100374/CBSHOME Real Estate To 7900/DEEB Realty

Jaspers, Megan From 100658/RE/MAX Professionals To 7900/DEEB Realty

Johnson, Lois From 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha To 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

Johnson, Richard From 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha To 4300/ Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

Kelley, Sara From 6370/First Westroads Bank To 132/Great Western Bank

Larson, Dean From 7900/DEEB Realty To 100522/CBSHOME Real Estate Fremont

Lauver, Steven From 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha To 7900/DEEB Realty May, Julie From 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate To 771/NP Dodge III LLC

Pawloski, Cheryl From 23/CBSHOME Real Estate To 770/NP Dodge V LLC

Robb, Cass From 5490/Realcorp To 100903/Metro Appraisers & Consultants

Turnipseed, Sarah From 5490/Realcorp To 100903/Metro Appraisers & Consultants

Wikoff, Darryl From 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate To 4301/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

Young, Scott From 5000/Celebrity Homes Inc To 770/NP Dodge V LLC

MEMBER REINSTATES

Draucker, Brian – 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

LaCroix, Karen – 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha

McDonald, Janice – 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

Sophir, James – 6620/PJ Morgan Real Estate

Todero, Gina – 100263/CENTURY 21 Hansen Realty

Weis, Galen - 7900/DEEB Realty

NEW COMPANY

#100902/Alison Frazier Appraiser – 6239 S 82nd St, Lincoln, NE, 68516 BSG/Secondary MLS Only Phone: 326-3192 Fax: 888-682-7555 Designated Realtor: Alison Frazie

#100903/Metro Appraisers & Consultants
– 1229 Golden Gate Dr, Papillion,
NE, 68046

OABR/MLS Phone: 884-2660

Fax: 884-2663

Designated Realtor: Cass Robb

NEW BRANCH OFFICE

#100901/CBSHOME Real Estate – 8216 S 109th St, Omaha, NE, 68128 OABR/MLS Phone: 614-2369 Fax: 614-2369 Manager: Bryan Fraser

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)
- #100770/A Plus Home Inspections LLC 20231 Nina St, Omaha, NE, 68130
- #6690/First Commercial Realty 11126 O St, Omaha, NE, 68137 Phone: 706-8800
- #100422/United Mgt & Valuation 781 Ave P, Carter Lake, IA, 51501 Phone: 578-7355
- #100818/Gail Lens Appraiser Phone: 933-0128 Fax: 933-0128

COMPANY NAME CHANGE

#7940/Expert Real Estate Group LLC (Formerly Expert Real Estate) #100353/Expert Real Estate Team (Formerly Expert Real Estate)

CHANGE OF DESIGNATED REALTOR

All Offices/CBSHOME Real Estate – Joseph Valenti (Formerly Larry Melichar) #100320/Pinnacle Bank – Jesse Ostdiek (Formerly Richard Towne)

MEMBERSHIP DELETES

- Addison, Scott 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- Alley, Shawnelle 100884/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- Auten, Lisa 100786/Don Peterson & Associates
- Betts, Linda 100263/CENTURY 21 Hansen Realty
- Bianco, Robert 200/CENTURY 21 Wear Company
- Blankenship, Jason 803/NP Dodge VI LLC
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- Brookstein, Jeffery 7940/Expert Real Estate
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- Caffery, Timothy 6990/CENTURY 21 Hansen Realty
- Carlisle, Darrell 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- Chase, Joe 100811/InfoGROUP
- Christensen, Timothy 8170/Landmark Group
- Christenson, Charles 777/NP Dodge I LLC
- Cody, Robert 771/NP Dodge I LLC

- Colby, Jeffrey 100867/OmniQuest Media Labs
- Coombes, Robert 777/NP Dodge I LLC Crane, Marianne – 100374/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Delgado, Cecil 7900/DEEB Realty Dolinsky, Jackie – 24/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Dunn, Teri 100829/Teri L. Dunn Broker Easdale, William – 779/NP Dodge IV LLC Engler, Debra – 200/CENTURY 21 Wear Company
- Esch, James 777/NP Dodge I LLC Faeth, Gregory – 530/CENTURY 21 Century Real Estate
- Fili, Allison 100237/GEM Real Estate Friend, Jacqueline – 24/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Garvis, Heather 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- George, Jeanie 100783/Blue Jay Termite & Pest Control
- Getwan-Eddy, Mary 777/NP Dodge I LLC Hagan, Ashley – 8170/Landmark Group Hageman, Laura – 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Hall, Ralph 779/NP Dodge IV LLC Harper, Jeffrey – 21/CBSHOME Real Estate Heaston, John – 100861/Neighborhood News
- Heatherington, Katie 530/CENTURY 21 Century Real Estate
- Holstein, Erica 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- Horak, Robert 3000/First National Bank Horton, Kallana – 803/NP Dodge VI LLC Huddleston, Vicki – 6990/CENTURY 21 Hansen Realty
- Johnson, Jerry 100858/Pillar Financial Inc
- Kahland, Karen 800/NP Dodge IV LLC Keathley, Catherine – 21/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Kirwan, Kim 803/NP Dodge VI LLC Kluver, Shannon – 24/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Lehman, Edward 100752/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- McKeighan, Chad 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Maurer, Rhonda 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Millie, Thomas 6212/RE/MAX Real Estate Group
- Motley, Todd 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Murray, Jeremy 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate

- Musk, David 100283/Pavilion Capital Group
- Mustard, Kimberly 7900/DEEB Realty Mutfwang, Nanfwang – 4301/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Niebur, Jeff 100668/Apollo Pest Control Inc
- Perrin, Stephanie 530/CENTURY 21 Century Real Estate
- Prinz, Lauren 100417/Solution Realty Inc Randone, Karyn – 100782/TierOne Bank Rayer, Rebekah – 21/CBSHOME Real Estate
- Richins, Scott 100683/First State Realty Rodgriguez, Henry – 779/NP Dodge IV LLC
- Samway, Carol 803/NP Dodge VI LLC Schademann, Jared – 5110/Real Estate Associates Inc
- Schrader, Steve 100678/Schrader Inspections
- Sell, Kathy 100053/Rels National Sales Shindel, Penny – 779/NP Dodge IV LLC
- Shupe, James 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Sladek, Burnice 6930/Farmers Insurance Group
- Sladek, Ron 6930/Farmers Insurance Group
- Stednitz, Melissa 100883/Keller Williams Greater Omaha
- Stevens, Robert 100852/Robert Stevens Real Estate Bkr
- Stienblock, Tiffany 3380/Midlands Real Estate
- Story, Brian 100865/American Pride Home Inspection
- Thiessen, Dale 3670/RE/MAX The Producers
- Thomas, Phillip 779/NP Dodge IV LLC Togbey, Kodjo – 6931/Farmers Insurance Group
- Towne, Richard 100320/Pinnacle Bank Tuma, Dana – 100485/Husker Pest & Termite Mgmt
- Uhing, Kimberly 5000/Celebrity Homes Inc
- Weaver, Chris 100864/Prudential Insurance
- Williams Richard 1880/Dundee Realty Company
- Willis, Stacy 4300/Prudential Ambassador Real Estate
- Wilson, Jon 100883/Keller Williams Greater Omaha



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Cale	ENDAR (of Even	NTS FOR	NOVE	mber 2	010
SUNDAY	MONDAY 1	Affiliate Council 9:00 am-1:30 pm at OABR New Member Orientation 8:30 am-4:00 pm at OABR	NAR Annual Meetings Affiliate Turkey Shoot Bowling / Toys for Toys 11:00 am at Sempeck's Bowling New Member Orientation 8:30 am-4:00 pm at OABR	THURSDAY NAR Annual Meetings Education Forum 10:00 am at OABR Advanced Paragon Training 12:30-2:00 pm at OABR New Member Orientation 8:30 am-12:00 pm	FRIDAY NAR Annual Meetings Toastmasters 7:15-8:30 am at OABR	SATURDAY NAR Annual Meetings
NAR Annual Meetings	NAR Annual Meetings	Equal Opportunity Task Force 11:00 am at OABR	Social Events Forum 8:00 am-5:00 pm at OABR Social Events Forum 10:00 am at OABR MLS Users Group 11:00 am at OABR	at OABR HOLIDAY Office Closed WCR Business Luncheon Meeting 11:00 am-1:00 pm at Georgetowne Club	Toastmasters 7:15-8:30 am at OABR CCIM 8:30 am-12:00 pm at OABR	13
14	15	16	Governmental Affairs Committee 12:00 pm at OABR	KIP Seminar 10:00 am-12:00 pm at OABR	Toastmasters 7:15-8:30 am at OABR WCR Executive Comm. 8:30-9:30 am at OABR YPN 10:00-11:00 am at OABR	20
21	22	23 IREM 8:30-10:00 am at OABR MLS Executive Comm. 9:30 am at OABR MLS Directors 10:15 am at OABR	OABR Executive Comm. 9:30 am at OABR OABR Directors 10:15 am at OABR	25 HOLIDAY Office Closed	Toastmasters 7:15-8:30 am at OABR Office Closed	27
28	29	30				