

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- **Mayor Addresses Committee**
- **RPAC Q&A**
- **Local News**
- **O.A.R. Legislative Conference is March 2-3.**

INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:

- **County Gov't Task Force 2**
- **Beachwood 2**
- **OAR Leg. Conference 2**
- **RPAC Q&A 3**
- **NAR Public Policy 3**
- **Parma...Mayor DePiero 3**
- **Sponsors Needed! 4**

News You Can Use...

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2010

Walton Hills Mayor to Address CABOR Members

Under the direction of Chairman Dave Diffendal, the Government Affairs committee has increased outreach to the surrounding Cuyahoga County municipalities. Local mayors are being invited to address the Government Affairs Committee, City Hall Observers, as well as CABOR's REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC) trustees.

The first mayor scheduled to visit CABOR in 2010 is the Honorable Marlene Anielski, Mayor of the Village of Walton Hills.

In addition to her post as Mayor, Anielski serves as the Village Safety Director. Prior to becoming mayor, she served as a member of the village council.

According to her website,



Mayor Anielski of Walton Hills, is slated to meet with the Government Affairs & RPAC Committees on March 4th.

Mayor Anielski is active in numerous national, state and community organizations. She is a member of the steering committee of the Small Communities

Council of the National League of Cities, a steering member of the Mayor's and Municipalities Automotive Coalition (MMAC), a Junior Achievement volunteer and involved in Rotary International.

Mayor Anielski earned her MBA from Cleveland State University and her BA from the University of Akron. She also received her certification as an Ohio Certified Public Manager from CSU.

Last year, the mayor announced her candidacy for the seat of the 17th District of the Ohio House of Representatives.

CABOR and the Government Affairs Committee are honored to have Mayor Anielski meet with them.



CABOR held its first fundraiser of the year for the REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC) at Delmonico's Steakhouse in Independence.

A select group of CABOR REALTORS® were invited to the reception, dinner and fundraiser, which was hosted by CABOR's 2009 Major Donors, Jolyn Brown, Carla Roehl, and Paul Everson.

Special guest Christopher Nave (NAR) addressed the group regard-

ing the importance of PACs in the political process. Nave explained the impact a major donor can have.

OAR RPAC Chair Gloria Cannon also joined the crowd.

Special thanks to CABOR's 2010 Class of Sterling R's: Jolyn Brown, David Browning, Paul Everson, Dianna Hosta Stickney, Howard Lichtig, John Lynch, Carla Roehl, and Dennis Steed.

To be a 'Major Donor,' the CABOR member must contribute at least \$1,000 to the RPAC. Benefits include receiving a new pin each year to denote your contribution, a plaque (introductory year only), your name on an electronic banner at national events, recognition on REALTOR.org and in state REALTOR magazines, receive biannual RPAC Election Cycle Investors Report, and notice to donor's broker requesting office recognition.

Major Donors Gather for Reception

County Gov't Task Force

As 2009 came to close, the Government Affairs Committee voted to create a task force to take on monitoring the progress of the new Cuyahoga County government transition.

In an effort to determine what issues CABOR's membership has with the present county government offices, a survey was distributed and various requests for information were included the *Membership Press*.

As a result, four individuals, Lisa Cotten, Larry Frawley, Armin Guggenheim, and Dennis Troyan, were appointed to the County Government Task Force. Along with Government Affairs Committee Chair Dave Diffendal and Lobbyist Mike Caputo, the group is working to create a list of areas that CABOR will propose for the Cuyahoga County Charter Transition Advisory Group to consider.

Task Force Chair Larry Frawley commented that, "it's imperative that CABOR has an opportunity to voice real estate concerns that need changes in the new form of County Government"

Pending approval by CABOR's Board of Directors, the suggestions will be forwarded to the Cuyahoga County Charter Transition Advisory Group for review and consideration.

"...it's imperative that CABOR has an opportunity to voice real estate concerns ..."



Look for CABOR on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter!

Local News: Beachwood

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, April 5, 2010 at 7:15 p.m. local time, pursuant to Beachwood Codified Ordinance Section 1101.35, a Public Hearing will be held regarding Proposed Ordinance No. 2009-151, amending the Fee Schedule of BCO Sections 1329.03, 1329.04, 1329.05, 1329.06 1105.04, and 1105.05 to address building and zoning permit fees for items not pre-

viously addressed, revise fees and add fee adjustments and clarifications for the City of Beachwood, at the Beachwood Council Chambers, 25325 Fairmount Boulevard, Beachwood, Ohio.

The Proposed Ordinance No. 2009-151 is on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Clerk of Council, 25325 Fairmount Boulevard, Beachwood, Beach-

wood, Ohio 44122, Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M..

By order of the Council of the City of Beachwood on February 16, 2010.

Karen M. Navolanic
Clerk of Council
City of Beachwood
Beachwood, OH 44122

O.A.R. Legislative Conference, March 2-3

The OAR Legislative Conference is designed to provide an opportunity for leadership of Local Boards/Associations of REALTORS to become apprised and acquainted with the legislative process and gain a better understanding of the Association's involvement in various political issues.

Tuesday's highlights include:

the Honorable Thomas Moyer, Chief Justice, Ohio Supreme Court, will serve as the opening keynote speaker, a panel discussion on Ohio's budget and economic outlook. Jack Boyle, from the Estate Tax Initiative Campaign, will address "Should Ohio Repeal the Estate Tax," and

Kelly Davids, Superintendent,

Ohio Division of Real Estate & Professional Licensing will address conference participants.

REALTORS will then have the opportunity to visit with legislators from their districts during a legislative reception.

Wednesday's highlights include: the official kickoff of the

Cont. pg 4

RPAC Q&A?



Q: *I am considering making a contribution to the REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC), but I do not understand how my contribution will be used. Can you clarify how RPAC money is spent?*

A: Great question! Many members of CABOR may not be familiar with the RPAC and how that money is distributed.

100% of your contribution is used to elect pro-REALTOR® candidates: 70% remains in the state to be used in state and local elections. 30% of your contribution will be forwarded to National RPAC to fund key U.S. House and Senate races. Until your state PAC reaches its RPAC goal 30% is sent to Na-

tional RPAC to support federal candidates and is charged against your limits under 2 U.S.C. 441a; after the state PAC reaches its RPAC goal it may elect to retain your entire contribution for use in supporting state and local candidates.

RPAC is neither a Republican nor a Democratic organization. Your contribution to RPAC is a vote for a pro-REALTOR Congress, regardless of political party.

“...MID is a remarkably effective tool that facilitates homeownership...”

2010 NAR Public Policy: Mortgage Interest Deduction

On February 1, President Obama released his budget proposal for 2011. The Administration's again has recommended limiting the value of the mortgage interest deduction (MID) for upper income taxpayers by, in effect, converting the deduction to a 28% tax credit for those individuals currently in the 33% or 35% tax brackets.

The MID is a remarkably effective tool that facilitates homeownership. While only about 30% of all taxpayers in any given year itemize their deductions, more than 3/4 of homeowners utilize the deduction over the period they own their home. For this rea-

son, NAR is 100% opposed to the provision that modifies the MID and prepared to use its formidable array of resources against its enactment. In the past, most Members of Congress have supported our views and also opposed changes to the MID. Senator Max Baucus, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, and Representative Charles Rangel, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, along with their other colleagues, pointed out in 2009 that changes to itemized deductions were ill advised stating "some of the reforms and offsets contained or referenced in the budget, such as the

limitation on itemized deductions, raise concerns and will require more study as we determine the best policies for getting America back on track." Today's housing market, while improving, cannot absorb any negative signals, no matter what the income level of the taxpayer and no matter what market segment of housing might be affected. As we did in 2009, NAR will launch a multi-phase plan of action to eliminate this provision from the budget plan. NAR has already sent letters to Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate and will continue to protect the MID.

-NAR Washington Report, 2/19/2010



Mayor Dean DePiero has served the constituents of Parma since 2004.

Spotlight on: Parma

From the desk of Mayor Dean DePiero...

“What you see is what you get.” My parents have said that from the time they brought me home in September of 1968 following my birth at Parma Community Hospital.

And yes, the same can be said today about my hometown of Parma, Ohio – one of the best locations in

the nation.

Our secret to success is progress through partnerships. It works every time.

What you see is a progressive city with tremendous potential for residents and families, wonderful opportunities for business and industry. I am proud to say what you get from Ohio's seventh largest city is a user-friendly commu-

nity. Our city is building its future through partnerships with a wide array of businesses, providing a solid economic base for strong housing stock fueled by a “can do” attitude and a visionary city government.

A recent article in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* states the following:

“Cleveland and the surrounding area remain attractive to industrial



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**CABOR is the voice for real estate in
Northeast Ohio.**



**The mission of the
Cleveland Area Board of REALTORS®
(CABOR) is to be the leading resource and
advocate for the real estate
community, to enhance the ability, conduct
and image of its members and to protect and
promote real property rights.**

RPAC contributions are not deductible for income tax purposes. Contributions to RPAC are voluntary and are used for political purposes. The amount suggested is merely a guideline and you may contribute more or less than the suggested amount. You may refuse to contribute without reprisal and the National Association of REALTORS® or any of its state associations or local boards will not favor or disfavor any member because of the amount contributed. 70% of each contribution is used by your state PAC to support state and local political candidates. Until your state PAC reaches its RPAC goal 30% is sent to National RPAC to support federal candidates and is charged against your limits under 2 U.S.C. 441a; after the state PAC reaches its RPAC goal it may elect to retain your entire contribution for use in supporting state and local candidates.

Looking for a Few Good Sponsors...

CABOR's REALTORS® Political Action Committee Trustees are seeking sponsors to help make the annual RPAC Auction a success.

There are various sponsorship levels available for your company's consideration including:

- **\$500—Entertainment Sponsor**—Your banner will hang above the entertainment table, company name/logo will appear in event marketing pieces; a link to your website will appear in our e-newsletter, the Membership Press, for 4 months.
- **\$500—Live Auction Sponsor**—Address the auction attendees prior to the start of the live auction. Your banner will hang in the live auction room, company name/logo will appear in event marketing pieces; a link to your website will appear in our e-newsletter, the Membership Press, for 4 months.
- **\$200—Tiki Sponsor**—Your company name/logo will appear in event marketing pieces; receive verbal recognition of your support at the event; a link to your website will appear in our e-newsletter, the Membership Press, for 1 month.

For more information and additional sponsor levels, contact Jamie McMillen at (216) 901-0130.

OAR Conf., cont.

2010 RPAC Campaign, the Honorable Kevin DeWine, Chairman, Ohio Republican Party and the Honorable Chris Redfern, Chairman, Ohio Democratic Party, will present a preview of the 2010 national and state election, the Honorable Armond Budish, Speaker, Ohio House of Representatives and the Honorable Bill Harris, President, Ohio Senate, will conduct an overview of the issues being considered during the 128th General Assembly.

OAR's Legislative Conference is open to all OAR Local Board/ Association presidents, REALTORS' Political Action Committee chairs, Local Board/Association executive officers/secretaries, federal coordinators and any other REALTOR interested in the political process.

Parma, cont.

companies and investors, with communities such as Solon, Twinsburg, Glenwillow, Strongsville and Parma leading the way."

Our city is a pro-active city, nurturing and sustaining a comfortable home style, easy-going approach that aggressively breeds success for business, industry and our residential neighborhoods.

Yes, what you see is what you get – a dynamic city on the move. We invite you to go along for an exciting ride that promises a prosperous future. Become a witness to your own success, one being shared by residents, families and business partners alike.

For more information about Parma, call (440) 885-8000 or visit www.cityofparma-oh.gov.