The Newsletter of the Fredericksburg Area Association of REALTORS®

AUGUST 2023

FAARSIDE

The Voice of Real Estate

www.faarmembers.com



PRESIDENT'S **PERSPECTIVE**



CAROL SONDRINI 2023 PRESIDENT

Hello FAAR Family!

Summer is nearing an end and the second half of the year is well under way. I am looking forward to cooler weather and the beauty of autumn! FAAR has a lot of great plans for the coming months including our EXPO September 13th and it is FREE this year! We have an amazing panel scheduled and we will dig into our current market and a look at what the future may hold. Our annual Halloween Mixer returns in October, which is FREE!! And on November 1st we can enjoy a FREE day of education. If you are a golfer (or want to be) Par for FAAR is on October 13th and you can help our Realtors Foundation help our neighbors attain and retain housing.

Keep reading your Friday emails and checking the FAAR calendar so you are in the know about all of the benefits available to YOU our members.

@FAARMEMBERS











Connect with us!

Click on the phone to go to the social media channel on screen!

AGENTS WHO ARE

REALTORS® ARE HERE FOR IT.

Here to help you put down roots, set up shop or give you a soft place to land.

Here for the celebrations, the challenges and all the communication in between.

Here for heart-to-hearts and home-sweet-homes.

Here for the walk-through, the inspection, the closing, and a lifetime.

Here protecting your property rights, and advocating for the issues that affect your neighborhoods.

Here to strengthen our communities through volunteerism.

Here with the ethics, expertise and market insights that make a difference.

Here for it all. Here for you.



REALTORS® are members of the National Association of REALTORS®

CONTENT

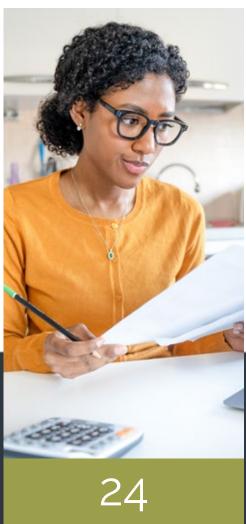
SAMPLE BALLOT FOR THE 2024 BOARD OF **DIRECTORS ELECTION**



Candidate ads	10
New members welcome	16
A letter from the CEO	18

Thank you RPAC Major Investors

ROLLBACK TAXES: WHAT REALTORS® SHOULD KNOW



22

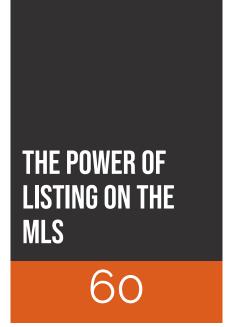
A DATA PLATFORM FOR REALTORS: TRY REALTORS PROPERTY RESOURCE (RPR) **TODAY**

OCTOBER CEREAL DRIVE SIGN UP





Calendar of Events and Classes 36 Instructors Wanted 38 2024 Education Schedule 39 How Real Estate Compensation Works 56



WE SHOW UP. WE SPEAK OUT. WE STAND FOR FAIR HOUSING.

The REALTOR® Code of Ethics takes a firm stance against discrimination.



REALTORS® are members of the National Association of REALTORS®

MEMBER COUNTS AS OF 7/31/2023

1876 REALTOR® Members

131

Affiliate Members



Sharing your pride in the "That's Who We R" campaign is easy! Use the new social media assets at nar.realtor/thats-who-we-r, or the *Photofy app* to personalize a selection of campaign content with your photo, logo, or contact information and share to your social media accounts.

Sign up at photofy.com/nar

Sample Ballot

Slate of Candidates- 2024 Leadership

Electronic Voting began August 11 and ends September 13 at noon.

Results will be announced on September 13, 3:00 PM, at the General Membership Meeting on the floor of the FAAR Expo (https://bit.ly/23faarexpo). The results will be communicated to the entire membership September 15.

Here are the candidates for your 2024 Board of Directors:

President Randy Walther

President-Elect Lauren Tate

Vice President Matthew Rathbun

Secretary Gary Gardiner

Treasurer Tamar Myers-Moffatt (year 1 of 2-year term)

Immediate Past President Carol Sondrini

REALTOR® Director Candidates: Two (2) positions open. You may select up to two (2) on this ballot.

Deanna Beltran

Dawn Curry

Denise Smith

Affiliate Director Candidate: One (1) position open. You may select one (1) on this ballot.

Nick Bohn

Returning Directors

LeAnn Black, term ends December 31, 2024

Abby Fitzsimmons, term ends December 31, 2024

Dawn Josemans, term ends December 31, 2024

Meghan Kala, term ends December 31, 2025

From Section 8a. of the Bylaws

"Additional candidates for the offices to be filled may be placed in nomination by signed petition of at least twenty percent* of the REALTOR® members. The petition shall be filed with the Secretary (via Chief Executive Officer phrowning@faarmembers.com) by August 30, 2023. The Secretary shall send notice of such additional nominations to all REALTOR® members before the election."

(As of 7/31/2023 there are 1876 REALTOR® members. 375 names are needed to complete the petition requirement and be sent to FAAR by August 30, 2023.)

Slate of Candidates

REALTOR® Directors—3 candidates for 2 positions—Select up to 2

Deanna Beltran



Deanna Joy Beltran's candidacy for the board of directors represents a unique opportunity to foster unity among realtors and brokers. With a strong commitment to collaboration and a vision for bringing professionals together, her leadership can help create a cohesive and supportive community within the real estate industry. By electing Deanna, we're choosing a candidate dedicated to strengthening our collective voice and enhancing the growth prospects for all realtors. She embodies the qualities of a true team player, evident through

her unwavering dedication, strong work ethic, and sincere commitment to her responsibilities. She cheers on everyone that crosses her path and sincerely wants the best for them. With a proven track record of prioritizing tasks and working diligently, she has consistently demonstrated her ability to contribute meaningfully to any endeavor. Her genuine dedication to fulfilling her duties is a testament to her character and the value she would bring to the board of directors.

Dawn Curry



Dawn Veronica Curry has been in Real Estate since 2016. She has an extensive background in contract negotiations as well as healthcare management and received her Master's in Organizational Development. When asked why Real Estate, she said, "I didn't know it at the time but it was the perfect marriage of all my past experiences." Real estate allows her to genuinely help those in

need, especially the Seniors. In her downtime, she loves on her 5 bassets and enjoys tending to her garden. Dawn has been the President of the Women's Council for two years. As a FAAR BOD, Dawn hopes to continue professionally elevating REALTORS in the community as business leaders.



"On Virginia is for Realtors, I interview top producing real estate agents in the local Northern Virginia Area to find out what they are doing to be successful."

SUBSCRIBE ON ITUNES OR SPOTIFY.



Denise Smith



Denise Smith is an Air Force veteran born and raised in Texas. She has been married for twenty-nine years with two kids, and has been in real estate for 18 years. Denise specializes in working with first time home buyers and difficult sales but can assist with any real estate need. She strives to go above and beyond for her clients and gets to know them on a personal

level so she can determine their wants and needs in a home, making the home buying and selling processes as enjoyable as possible! Denise is a firm believer in giving back to the community and helping those in need. She leads and serves on several committees that give back to the community.

Candidate | Affiliate Director

Affiliate Director—One candidate for 1 position—Select 1.

Nick Bohn



Nick Bohn is a nationally recognized top 1% mortgage loan originator in the US. Managing his own branch and business downtown Fredericksburg through Movement Mortgage. Nick Bohn is running for Affiliate Director to strengthen affiliate involvement in

FAAR while improving FAAR's reach and impact to its members. Nick's primary goals are to love and serve God, Family and Community. Thank you in advance for your vote for Nick Bohn!







REALTORS® Commitment to Excellence and YOU!

Exactly 3 years from your original endorsement date, your C2EX Endorsement runs its cycle.

Renewing your C2EX Endorsement lets you continue to show clients and colleagues your commitment to conducting your business at the highest professional standard.

Here's how to easily renew it (and BONUS...complete NAR's Code of Ethics training requirement!)



As your endorsement anniversary nears, the C2EX platform will automatically send you 90, 60, and 30-day notifications reminding you that it's time to work on your renewal and inviting you back to c2ex.realtor to work through any newly required Assessments, Learning Paths, and Tasks.

> You will have 180 days to renew your endorsement (90 days prior and 90 days after endorsement anniversary). For example, if your endorsement anniversary is May 1st. you can begin working on your renewal February 1st and will have until July 31st.

Did you know?

Completing and maintaining your C2EX Endorsement serves as an equivalency option for NAR's Code of Ethics training requirement*.



The C2EX Endorsement does <u>not</u> qualify for Continuing Education credits through state licensing bodies. For more information on how to receive CE credit for individual licensing, please contact the applicable state and local association of REALTORS®.

If you have not already, please visit c2ex.realtor/users/profile and set your email preferences to ensure delivery of C2EX platform updates and notifications. In the Email Preferences section, toggle "Updates via email" to the On position.



If your C2EX Endorsement is not renewed within the 180day renewal period, you will be notified that you are no longer endorsed. Your NRDS record and REALTOR.com profile will be adjusted to reflect. Once you have again achieved Endorsement, you will then have a new endorsement date.

Visit c2ex.realtor today!

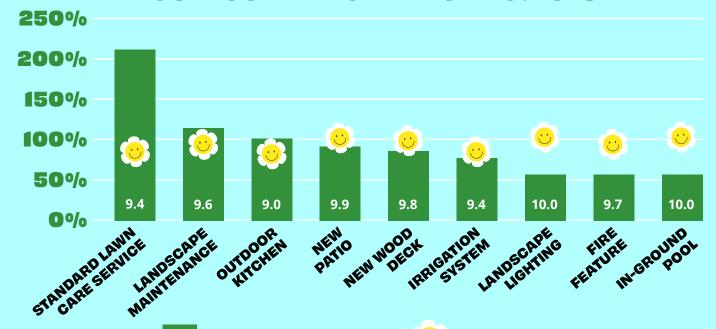




HINKING ABOUT OUTDOOR REMOI SEE HOW HOMEOWNERS SCORE COST VS. JOY.

As the summer months roll in, take a look at the Cost-Recovery and Joy Scores associated with popular outdoor remodeling projects. Notably, some projects with a lower cost recovery (e.g., In-Ground Pool Addition) still brought in a HIGH Joy Score!

OUTDOOR REMODELING PROJECTS



COST RECOVERY



JOY SCORE (1-10)

SOURCE: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® 2023 REMODELING IMPACT REPORT: OUTDOOR FEATURES





BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE VIRGINIA REALTORS® RESEARCH TEAM GET MORE RESEARCH AT -> virginiarealtors.org/research CHECK OUT OUR PODCAST! -> virginiarealtors.org/rooflines

DID YOU KNOW? UHM OFFERS UNIQUE SERVICES!

BENEFITS FOR YOU & YOUR CLIENTS



Fully underwritten & approved loan file pending appraisal & title. This is especially beneficial for Government (FHA, VA, USDA) borrowers to give assurance that your buyer is well-qualified.



Our app is a co-branded mobile platform with all of your contact information. You receive loan status updates and are alerted to all borrower activity. If a borrower runs a payment calculation on a new home they are interested in, you're the first to know!



In this volatile rate environment, borrowers are able to shop with confidence by locking in their interest rate for up to 90 days while they shop for a home. Particularly beneficial for borrowers with tight debt ratios.



Being a mortgage banker means we service nearly all of the loans we originate. This presents an added bonus to the MyUHM app. After closing, every month that the buyer uses the app to make their house payment, they will see your name, picture, and contact information. Free perpetual advertising!

This information is intended for professionals and referral sources and is not for distribution to consumers. Full details on all products are available on request. Information contained herein is subject to change without notice.

Lock and Shop Program ("Program") will lock your initial interest rate for up to 90 days. To be eligible for the Program, borrower must participate in the Ready, Set, Homel Certified pre-approval program with Union Home Mortgage ("UHM"). No property address is required when participating in the program. There is a \$1,000 required pre-payment of closing costs (Pire-Payment) associated with this Program due at time of lock. The \$1,000 will be applied as a credit to closing costs at the time of loan closing. The \$1,000 pre-payment will only be refunded if the loan does not originate with UHM. Subject to lender discretion.

Visit https://bit.ly/LockTandC for full terms and conditions



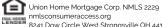


Scott Hine Producing Area Sales Manager

T/F: (540) 999-4437 C: (540) 429-2474 TeamHine@uhm.com www.uhm.com/shine

NMLS #475661 VA MLO-21619VA, FL LO71587, MI 475661, PA 67794, WV LO-34063, MD 28717. MO 475661

3006 Lafayette Blvd., Fredericksburg, VA 22408



services. This is not an advertisement or loan estimate. Current interest rates, loan programs and qualification criteria can change at any time. If you have questions or need assistance, we can be 8241 Dow Circle West Strongsville OH 44136 reached using the contact information above OH RMLA RM.802837.000.

SEVEN REASONS TO WORK WITH A REALTOR®

Buying and selling a home can be stressful. You need an agent who is a REALTOR®, a member of the National Association of REALTORS®, by your side. Here's why:

GET THE INSIDE SCOOP.

Real estate professionals have access to exclusive neighborhood and property information to make you a smarter buyer or seller.

SIMPLIFY YOUR SEARCH.

An agent can educate you on current market conditions and help you find homes that match your criteria using local broker marketplaces—known in the business as multiple listing services.

NAVIGATE A COMPLEX PROCESS.

A real estate professional can guide you on forms, disclosures, and the lending process to help you avoid costly mistakes and delays.

NEGOTIATE LIKE A PRO.

An agent has the expertise to negotiate terms, from price to repairs, on your behalf.

UP-TO-DATE.

You may have bought or sold a home before, but markets and transaction processes are always changing.

HAVE A TRUSTED ALLY.

Your agent can talk you through the pros and cons behind big decisions and share their network of trusted home inspectors, lenders. remodelers, and more.

DO THE RIGHT THING.

Make sure your agent is a REALTOR®. REALTORS® are bound by a strict Code of Ethics based on professionalism, consumer protection, and the golden rule.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN AGENT AND A REALTOR® IS REAL.

Visit: realtor.com/thats-who-we-r



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WELCOME NEW REALTOR® MEMBERS!

Duane Abrahamson

Jacob Adams

David Anderson

Mezhgan Anwari

Allen Apple

Patrick Baden

Samuel Barsana

Fred Bates

Phillip Baxter

Renzo Beltran

Denise Benedetto

Isaiah Benton

Julie Berrios

Susan Bixby

Lori Bonnell

Erin Brewer

Esther Camarotte

Robin Campbell

Kelly Canham

Devin Carter

Sheena Catlett

Bailey Ciufo

Emma Clatterbuck

Shawn Clifton

Gina Connell

James Crawford

Kyle Crawford

Madison Dahlke

James Darcy

Taylor Dees

Elizabeth Delgado

Erica Dillard

Jared Dix

Kelsey Dix

Matthew Donaldson

Megan Downham

Kara Drewry

Patrick Eagles

Kevin Edwards

Robert Egan

Jennifer Ellington

Shaun Evans

Kenneth Fagan

William Fairfax

Pamela Famiglietti

Yasmen Farag

Carmen Flores

Maylo Flores

Jennifer Fogleman

Shelly Ford

Steven Fowler

Heather Frye

Cristy Garcia-Kramer

Katie Geddes

Pamela Gray

Pia Gray

Jason Green

Taishma Greene

Phyllis Guasp

Rachel Hackett

Frankie Hannah

Kimberly Harrie

Alex Harris

LaDeva Harris

Michelle Harrison

Leslie Heflin

Vicki Hembrick

Steven Henshaw

Jennifer Hernandez

Brian Herndon

Olivia Hicks

Jordi Hili

Audrey Hitchcock

Lindsay Hoster

James Hoyle

Quortney Hudson

Ruth Ilboudo

Aeneaus Jameson

Hunter Janney

Chester Jenkins

Russell Johnson

Steven Jones

Daniel Keaton

Mary Kerns

David Kolakowski

Emma Labaran

Jessica LaCava

Kaitlin Lee



Check out the new members page at <u>faarmembers.com/newmember</u>

Sharon Lewis Jared Littlejohn **Evan Lomioan** Mercy

Lugo-Struthers Kadera Lyburn

Janelle Madison

Alice Maready

Monique Mariani

Tiffany Marshall

Amanda Martin

Kristian McClure

Jae McCrea

Christine McGowan

Oscar Melendez

Brittany Meyer

Glen Michael

Rodney Mims

Meghan Moon

Crystal Moore

Iliana Moreno

Melanie Mosher

Rebecca Muhleman

Maxine Myles

Lewis Nelson

Patricia Nicely

Trent Nickels

Caitlin Odom

Hailey Oliff

Avery-Lynn Osborne

Ileana Perez Ruiz

LaChrisa Pernell

Michele Phillips

Chasity Porter

Julian Potts

Michael Ramos

Theresa Ramsey

Madison Randall

Lila Riley

Freddy Rodriguez

Montillo

Amy Rowe

Marlice

Rucker-Hodge

Danielle Ruffino

Malinda Sands

Suzanne Sarhanis

Jaiden Schottel

Teresa Scott

Monay Seals

Christina Self

Charlene Serrano

Christy Shamblin

Alice Sheley

Travis Short

Kiranbir Singh

Catrina Slade

Jennifer Smith

Rob Smith

Kara Spears

LaTonya Stanard

Kayla Sullivan

Alexis Surman

Ely Terry

Isabella Thompson

Sheronica Thompson

Joshua Todd

Sergio Torres

Camacho

Kristina Torres

Kyle Traber

Sarah Truslow

Sheila Tyler

Christian Ulloa-Lam

Kelli Walker

Piper Walsh

Susan Walsh

Matrica Ware

Candace Wert

Jacob White

William Wiard IV

Amelia Wilks

Gregory Williams

Cecily Williamson

Brittany Willis

Douglas Woods

Yuping Yang

Lauren Zalasar

A LETTER FROM THE CEO...

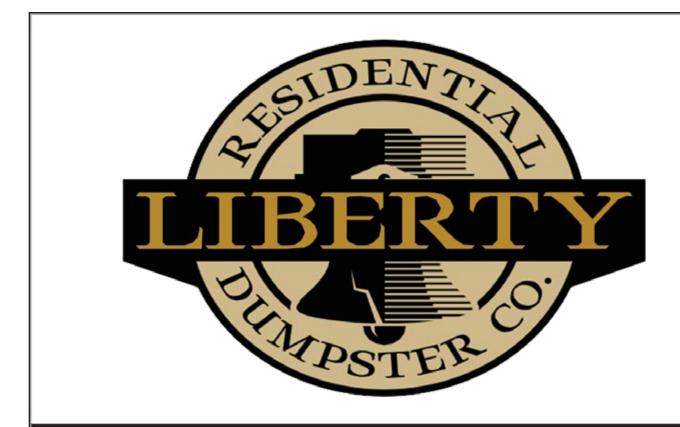
Dear FAAR Members:

After two short years, it continues to be my pleasure to work with the great leaders, members, and staff at FAAR. Our goal is to provide services that are helpful for you and your business. (Don't forget to fill out the recent member survey to let us know how we are doing!)

When we progress, we sometimes need to make changes. One such change this year is our dues renewal structure. For many years the deadline for dues

renewal has been September 30. A late fee was assessed after that date. This year, the Board of Directors has changed the deadline for 2024 dues to December 15. But please don't wait until the last minute! Not only do you want to beat the holiday rush, but if you pay after the 15th, you will receive a \$100 late fee on your account.

FAAR opens dues renewal August 1, giving you 4.5 months (over 1/3 of the year) to pay without a late fee. But you can plan for the expense much earlier than August 1 since it's a known annual cost. To that end,



WWW.DUMPSTERSFORANYTHING.COM

I want to draw your attention to the benefit that NAR offers: The Center for REALTOR® Financial Wellness. (www.financialwellness. realtor) This site gives tips on budgeting, taxes, business tips, checklists, and much more. Be sure to visit The Center and explore this benefit!

Thanks again for letting me and my colleagues at FAAR provide services to you.

Sincerely,

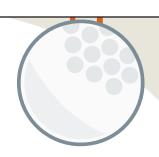
Page



Residential • Weekend Weekly Rentals • Driveway Friendly Move-Ins/Move-Outs • Interior/Exterior Clean-Ups







PAR FOR FOR FAAR REALTORS FOUNDATION October 13, 2023

Event Sponsor



Beer Sponsor

Golf Cart Sponsor



Beverage Cart Sponsor



Lunch Sponsor





Golf Clinic Sponsor

AVAILABLE!

Breakfast Sponsor

ATLANTIC BUILDERS

EASY AS 1,2,3!

Register

Register at faarmembers.com/parforfaar \$575 per foursome

2Show Up

Augustine Golf Club 76 Monument Drive Stafford, VA 22554

3 Win Prizes

Gift Cards, Memorabilia, and More!

Executive Hole Sponsor: Available!

Goodie Bag Sponsor: PRICE, RICH & ASSOC.

Tabletop Sponsor: VELLUM MORTGAGE
Putting Green Sponsor: NEST REALTY

Snack Sponsor: ALLISON GRAVES
Water Bottle Sponsor: CHARDEN

Driving Range Sponsor: Available!

Hole Sponsor: Available!

FAAR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK PRESENTS









OCTOBER 14TH, 2023 | 2-6:30 PM | DOWNTOWN FXBG







2 PM

324 WILLIAM STREET

525 CAROLINE STREET

4:30 PM

623 CAROLINE STREET

Join YPN for an afternoon of networking and fun, as REALTORS® take over downtown Fredericksburg—all while helping the community! The crawl will begin at Rebellion Whiskey Bar & Kitchen and end at Billiken's Smokehouse. Proceeds benefit the Fredericksburg REALTORS® Foundation (faarmembers.com/foundation).

MEMBER EARLY BIRD (ENDS 10/1): \$25 NON-MEMBER PRICE: \$35

MEMBER REGULAR PRICE: \$35

WALK-INS: \$40

Appetizers will be provided at each stop thanks to the generosity of our hosting establishments & all registrants will receive a pub crawl t-shirt!*

Thank you to our sponsors!

*while supplies last











REGISTRATION TABLE SPONSOR

RAFFLE SPONSOR

REGISTER TODAY AT FAARMEMBERS.COM/CALENDAR

OR EMAIL BELOW INFORMATION TO LZUZA@FAARMEMBERS.COM

+ 5	P	Н	R
Event			

Name		Company		
Phone		Email		
Credit Card		Zip	CVC	
Billing Address	s			
Total	Exp. Date	Signature		
Guest Names				

By attending this event, you authorize FAAR to use any photos or videos taken during the event in future media promotions.

Thank You RPA

























Major Investors























ROLLBACK TAXES: WHAT REALTORS® SHOULD KNOW

Founding Father Benjamin Franklin wrote. "Our new Constitution is now established, everything seems to promise it will be durable; but, in this world, nothing is certain except death and taxes." Finding ways to reduce one's taxable liability fuels an entire industry and one way to reduce a property's real estate taxes is to enroll undeveloped acreage into a jurisdiction's land use program. But Franklin's quote holds true as once that property comes out of land use, taxes must be paid back. How do Realtors® know whether a parcel is land use and how to you advise your clients to address any taxes owed whether you are working with buyers or sellers?

First, let's cover some basics. What is a "land use program"? Property owners can enroll their raw land in a county's land use program which allows the owner to reduce their taxable liability if certain conditions are met. The land needs to be used for agricultural, forestry, or other eligible working land designations and the owner agrees not to develop or subdivide the property for residential construction. Once enrolled in the program, the land is no longer assessed at its full, developable market rate, but receives a reduced assessed value. Once the property is taken out of

land use, the owner needs to pay rollback taxes for a period of five years from the date the land was removed from the program.

It can be tricky to get that information as some owners may not even know that past relatives who owned the property put it into land use. Land contracts will typically have an affirmative disclosure on whether rollback taxes are applicable and provide an opportunity for buyer and seller to agree on who will satisfy any rollback taxes that may be due. Land purchases often include a study period where this kind of work can be done to calculate the full cost burden well before closing.

For properties sold using a residential real estate contract, most contracts require that the structure and associated property be conveyed without any encumbrances on the title. While this doesn't specifically mention rollback taxes like the land contract, this clause still applies and protects the buyer from having to absorb the full responsibility of the potential financial burden.

The best tool for figuring out if a parcel is in land use is the tax record. Each jurisdiction will have a section on the current assessed value and a land use value, if applicable.

An example of a tax record from Stafford County appears below. In addition, working with your trusted settlement agent will ensure that issues such as the potential for

rollback taxes are addressed early in the transaction process to ensure a smooth settlement.



Name / Mailing Address:

Property Description

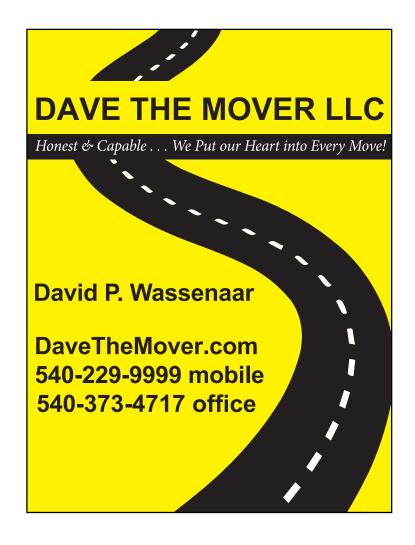
Map #: Alt. ID/PIN: Legal:



Current Assessment

Land Value: \$120,800 Improvment Value: Land Use Value: \$1,700 Total Taxable Value: \$1,700

View Real Estate Details





FAAR CLOSED?
PLACE DUES
PAYMENTS IN
NIGHT DEPOSIT
BOX OR PAY
ONLINE!



2024 REALTOR® Dues Renewal

August 1
REALTOR® Dues
available

December 16Payment & \$100
late fee due

December 31st
Last chance to submit
payment & \$100 late fee

December 15Payment due

January 1
Reapplication fee
of \$275 assessed

RPAC is like insurance for your business

An investment in RPAC is an investment in your business. RPAC enables the REALTOR® organization at all levels to advocate for policies that support the real estate industry and fight against those that don't. The new "That's Who We R" campaign builds a strong connection for elected officials in Washington, Richmond, and here at home about the value of homeownership to the health of our economy and our communities.

Member Benefits

From discounted education and networking opportunities to professional standards and market statistics, visit *faarmembers.com/member-benefits* for ways to put your membership in action!



Pay via cash, check, or online at faarmembers.com/my-account







FREDERICKSBURG.TODAY 540.440.1218



A DATA PLATFORM BUILT FOR REALTORS®: TRY REALTORS PROPERTY RESOURCE® (RPR) TODAY

Realtors Property Resource® (RPR) is free for members. And it's a painless way to share property and market data with your clients.

RPR provides REALTORS® with data, tools and reports to help clients and

close more deals. Access the nation's largest property database, exclusively for REALTORS® and clear up market confusion by providing local data and trends showing what's really happening in any local market. Beautifully presented, RPR reports give your clients a complete





and accurate picture for any real estate situation.

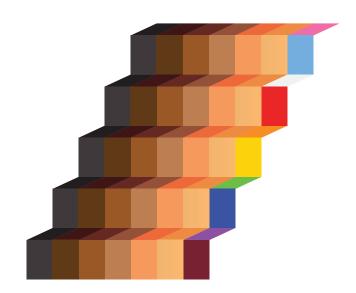
. Highlights of the service include

- 24-7 Customer Service.
- 100% NAR Member Benefit.
- Exclusively for Realtors.
- Free webinars, walkthroughs, and tutorials on a wide range of topics critical to your real estate business.
- Mobile app

Boost your productivity by taking the RPR Mobile[™] app with you to create reports and answer client questions—anytime, anywhere.



WE'RE REALTORS, 1.4 MILLION STRONG, STEPPING UP FOR WHAT'S RIGHT.



REALTORS® are members of the National Association of REALTORS®

If recent events have taught us anything, it's this: we have more work to do. Racism is real. tragically so. Discrimination, in all its forms, still casts a long shadow in this country, and too many are being denied the opportunities that all Americans deserve. Our commitment to the diverse communities we serve starts with a Code of Ethics. Our code sets a higher standard for fairness in housing than any federal law, it's backed by a culture of member accountability, and it extends to our work on Capitol Hill, where we continue to advocate for meaningful change.

At the National Association of REALTORS® we believe that fairness is worth fighting for, and we won't stop until the fight is won. Because that's who we are.

If you experience or witness discrimination in real estate, we urge you to report it.

Visit hud.gov/fairhousing to file a complaint with the Department of Housing and Urban Development.



Printable: RPR app

Swipe the RPR home screen to reveal 3 sections:

- 1) View properties within a set radius of your current location.
- View local market conditions.
- Search an area or address, including advanced options like searching by your listings and owner name.



PRO TIP

Download the RPR app on your phone through the Google Play or App Store.







How do I view the details of a property from the map view?

- 6 From the *Map*, tap the icon of the property you wish to view.
- Tap em for quick options on the property, i.e., saving the property, calling the agent, taking notes, or running a report.
- Tap the property to view full property details.
- At the bottom of the screen, tap to call the agent, take notes (photo or text), run a report, or save the property.

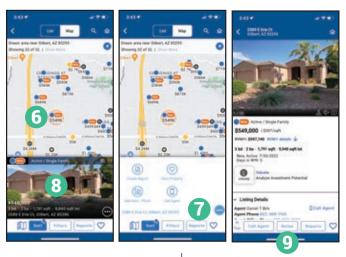






How do I search for a property using my current location?

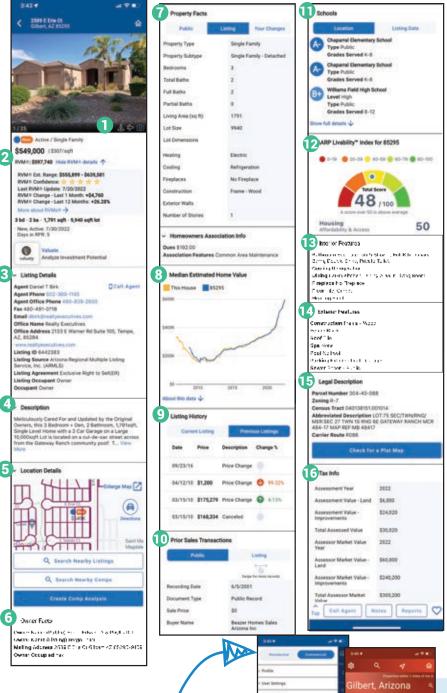
- 4 Tap your location on the homepage.
 - a Choose For Sale, For Lease, New For Sale, New For Lease, Open House, Recently Closed Sales, or Distressed to narrow your results. Note: Distressed and Open House properties appear only when available.
- 5 A map of your area will appear with icons showing properties.
 - **b** Select *Map Actions* to view all map options.
 - C Select *Parcels* to view parcel boundaries on map.
- Press Redo Search in this Area.







What Property Details can I view on the RPR app?



- 1 Listing Photos (turn phone into landscape mode to view in fullscreen)
 - **Google Street View Aerial Overhead**
- 2 Basic property information including the Realtors Valuation Model (RVM®) and its confidence score
- 3 Listing Details (if available)

Agent

Phone / Email Address

Office Address

Listina ID

Listing Source

Agent Remarks

- 4 Description
- 6 Location Details

Directions to Property

Area Description

Flood Zone

Subdivision

Walkability Score

6 Owner Facts

Owner Name

Mailing Address

- **Property Facts**
- 8 Median Estimated Home Value
- 9 Listing History
- 10 Prior Sales Transactions
- Schools
- 12 AARP Livability Index
- 13 Interior Features
- 14 Exterior Features
- 15 Legal Description
- 16 Mortgage Records (if available) & Tax Info

PRO TIPS

RPR Commercial

Access RPR Commercial by clicking the gear icon on the upper left corner of the app. At the top of the screen, toggle from Residential to Commercial.



Access Properties Anywhere

When you save a property on the narrpr.com website, it also appears in your saved properties in the RPR app, and vice-versa. Access your saved properties from any device.





VELLUM MORTGAGE Our Experts. Your Advantage.

MISSION

Vellum Mortgage is a home mortgage lender created to elevate the entire mortgage experience. This benefits not only our clients but also our employees as well as business partners. In addition, our mission is to provide a completely transparent loan process, backed by quality and integrity. These are the

WHY VELLUM + THE LEYDIG TEAM?

- *Same Day Approval
- *In-House Team
- *Quick Closings
- *Top Notch Service + Knowledge of Various Loan Programs + Options

principles of the name we're founded on. We're redefining the experience, making it easier and more enjoyable.

MEET SHANNON LEYDIG

Licensed in:

Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington D.C., & West Virginia



VP. SENIOR LOAN OFFICER NMLS ID# 197958

Shannon brings more than 20 years of experience and a specialized skill set to your home loan experience. Shannon has successfully helped to arrange almost \$1 billion in mortgages, helping tens of thousands of clients in the Washington DC Metro area and many other states along the East Coast, achieve their goal of home ownership or refinancing to achieve their financial goals. With experience in many facets of the home loan process, from processing to underwriting to loan origination, Shannon has significant insight and knowledge of mortgage lending servicing. Shannon's clients range from first-time homebuyers to investors purchasing multiple properties. She also specializes in new construction and VA loans and is a huge supporter of our everyday heroes and First responders.

The Leydig Team has partnered with top local real estate agents, financial planners,

builders and other real estate and financial service professionals to provide you with the best mortgage experience customized for your personal financial story.

STAY IN TOUCH!

O: 571-830-2814 C: 703-675-9942

SLEYDIG@VELLUMMORTGAGE.COM

APPLY ONLINE: WWW.LENDWITHLEYDIG.COM

THE LEYDIG MORTGAGES SIMPLIFIED







Par for FAAR Golf Clinic

Friday, October 13th | 10 AM

Join the Foundation for a putting and driving lesson and mimosas on the greens taught by the Country Club's Golf Pro! It's guaranteed to be a good time!

Mimosas, gift bag, and lesson included

\$40 PER PERSON

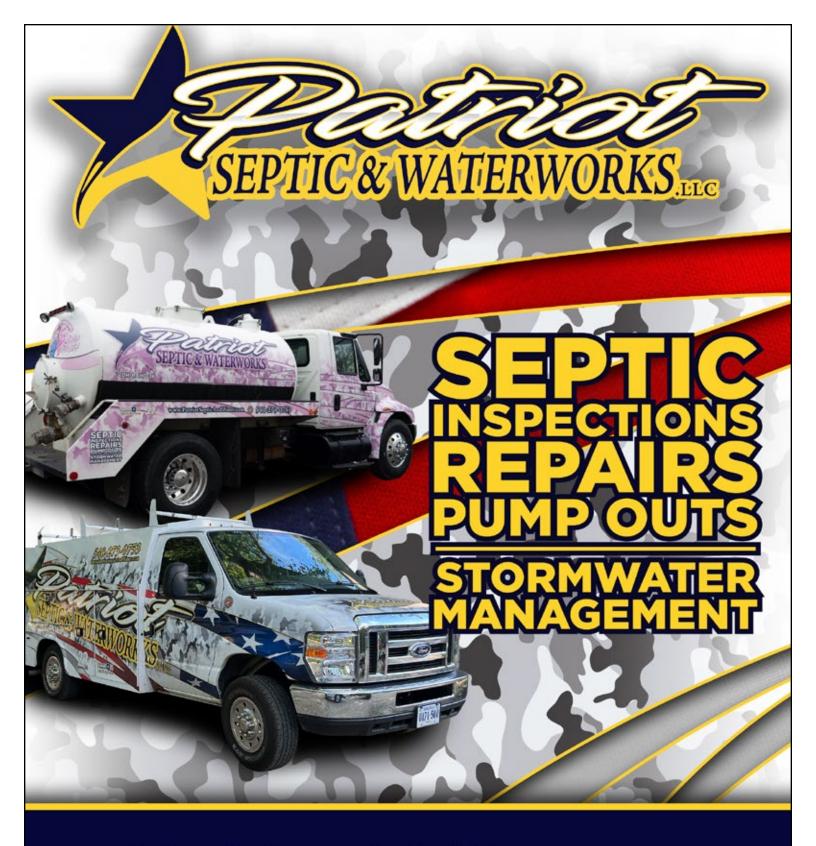
Register at bit.ly/23golfclinic

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Your business name here!

PUT ON YOUR GOLF GAME FACE, THERE ARE PRIZES TO BE WON!





540.695.4019



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www.patriotsepticandwater.com

Do you really need to put 20% down?

WHAT DO DOWN PAYMENTS LOOK LIKE IN VA?



Many first-time buyers assume they need a down payment of at least 20% to purchase a home. But what does this trend REALLY look like?

In Virginia, approx: 1 in 4

In Virginia, approx: 1 in 4 first-time buyers did not put any money toward the down payment and financed the entire purchase price with a mortgage in 2022.

Virginia

PERCENT OF DOWN PAYMENT BY FIRST-TIME & REPEAT BUYERS

Source: National Association of REALTORS® 2022 State/Local Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers

	First-time Buyers	Repeat Buyers
More than 50%	7%	6%
41% to 50%	*	9%
31% to 40%	*	5%
21% to 30%	11%	17%
11% to 20%	16%	27%
6% to 10%	21%	6%
1% to 5%	23%	13%
0%**	23%	18%
Median percent financed	91%	76%

Virginia



BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE VIRGINIA REALTORS® RESEARCH TEAM

GET MORE RESEARCH AT -> virginiarealtors.org/research

CHECK OUT OUR PODCAST! -> virginiarealtors.org/rooflines

^{*} Less than 1 percent

^{**} Financed the entire purchase price with a mortgage



Calendar of Events and Classes

2023 Scheduled Events*

*Dates and times subject to change. Confirm at <u>faarmembers.com/calendar</u>

Ready to register? Head to faarmembers. com/calendar

Date Event

9/6 RI 502: Sales Contracts Day 1

9/7 RI 502: Sales Contracts Day 2

9/8 Ethics for Property Managers Class

9/11 The Productive REALTOR®

9/13 FAAR EXPO

9/15 Latte and Learn

9/13 Shelter Dinner

9/26 Broker Management

9/27 Marketing the Listing Certificate Course

9/28 Major Investor Dinner

10/4 RI 507: Ethics and Professional Responsibility Day 1

10/5 RI 507: Ethics and Professional Responsibility Day 2

10/10 CE/PL Seminar Day 1

10/11 Latte and Learn

10/12 CE/PL Seminar Day 2

10/13 Par for FAAR Golf Tourney

10/14 YPN Pub Crawl

10/17 PL Seminar Day 3

10/18 Working With Investors

10/19 PL Seminar Day 4

10/24 RI 508: Virginia Law and Regulations Day 1

10/25 RI 508: Virginia Law and Regulations Day 2

10/26 Halloween Mixer

11/2 Latte and Learn

11/2 RE Roundtable: Spotsylvania

11/7 Real Estate Negotiation RENE Certification Day 1

11/8 Real Estate Negotiation RENE Certification Day 2

11/8 RI 503: Business Planning Day 1

11/9 RI 503: Business Planning Day 2

Nov. 12-17 NAR NXT Annual Conference

11/27 Managing Broker Network

12/1 Latte and Learn

12/7 RI 501: Agency in Virginia Day 1

12/7 Installation

12/8 RI 501: Agency in Virginia Day 2

12/12 CE/PL Seminar Day 1

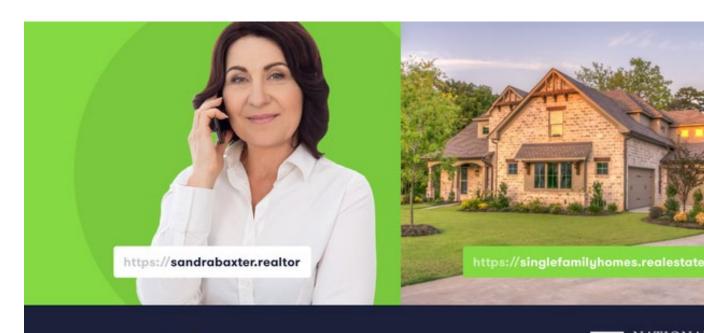
12/13 YPN Panel

12/14 CE/PL Seminar Day 2

12/19 PL Seminar Day 3

12/19 Shelter Dinner

12/21 PL Seminar Day 4









INTERESTED? EMAIL BARBARA AT BCASTILLO@FAARMEMBERS.COM

FAAR is an equal opportunity employer. We consider applicants for all positions without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital or veteran status, disability, or any other legally protected status.

2024 is your year to earn a designation or certification!

January 29



Military Relocation Professional

August 7



Military Relocation Professional via Zoom

February 22



Pricing Strategy Advisor

September 25 & 26 (ABR)



Accredited Buyer Representative

March 7



November 12

Investing Strategies

At Home with Diversity

April 17

New Home Construction via Zoom

July 17

Short Sale Foreclosure Certification via Zoom



2024 Continuing Education Schedule

CE (16-hours)

PL (30-hours)

Broker Management (8-hours on Zoom)

April 9, 11

June 11, 13 August 6, 8

October 8, 10

December 10, 12

February 6, 8 (Zoom) February 6, 8, 13, 15 (Zoom)

April 9, 11, 16, 18

June 11, 13, 18, 20

August 6, 8, 13, 15

October 8, 10, 16, 17

December 10, 12, 17 19

January 25

May 16

September 24

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BY GRAHAM & ASSOCIATES

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Since our inception in 2013, we have been instrumental in streamlining real estate processes and empowering agents to focus on their business. With a wide range of services including real estate marketing, listing coordination, transaction coordination, and client care services, Transaction Management Services continues to deliver exceptional support to the industry.

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www.transactionmanagement.services



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- Over 250,000 residential settlements performed
- 8 Convenient Locations: Fredericksburg, Reston, McLean, Vienna, Arlington, Ashburn, Prince William & Centreville

EKKO Title Fredericksburg 1931 Plank Road, Suite 208 540-899-1992 ~ Fredericksburg@EKKOTitle.com

ETHICS

FOR PROPERTY MANAGERS

SEPTEMBER 8, 2023 | 9 AM - 12 PM | ON ZOOM





zoom Earn 3 hours Ethics CE or PL!

This course will give an overview of the NAR Code of Ethics while working through case studies where property managers were charged with unethical conduct and address what steps property managers can take to avoid them.

INSTRUCTED BY

Santiago Montalvo and Sean Olk of Virginia Realtors Legal Team

COST TO ATTEND

\$15

+5PHR Education

REGISTER ONLINE AT FAARMEMBERS.COM/CALENDAR

OR EMAIL BELOW INFO TO EDUCATION@FAARMEMBERS.COM

Name			Company		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Phone			_Email		
Credit Card				CVC	
Billing Address_					
Total	Zip	Exp. Date	Signature		

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FAAR Classroom, 2nd Floor, 2050 Gordon W. Shelton Blvd., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

ACCREDITED BUYER'S REPRESENTATIVE DESIGNATION COURSE

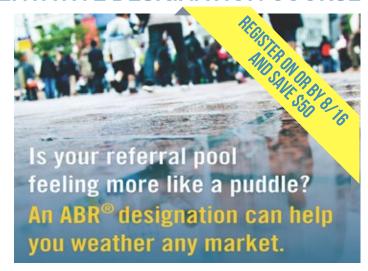
GAIN A UNIQUE UNDERSTANDING OF HOME BUYERS' NEEDS AND **HOW TO BEST SERVE THEM**

RECEIVE SPECIALIZED INFORMATION TO STAY ON TOP OF HOME **BUYING ISSUES AND TRENDS**

GAIN ACCESS TO EXCLUSIVE RESOURCES TO SHARE WITH YOUR CLIENTS AND GIVE YOU EVEN MORE OF A COMPETITIVE EDGE

Ready to represent buyer-clients in real estate transactions and provide the quality of service and degree of fidelity to buyers that sellers have customarily enjoyed? This course will offer ideas and methods for building a successful buyer representation business.

Did you know REALTORS® with a certification or designation earn up to 82% more than those without?



August 22 & 23 | 9 AM - 5 PM

in the FAAR classroom Instructor: Matthew Rathbun

Credits: 2 hours PL Current Industry Issues & Trends or 16 hours CE including

3 hours Ethics 2 hours Fair Housing

1 hour Contracts

1 hour Agency

1 hour Legal Updates with Flood 8 hours Electives-RE Related

Want loyalty from Buyers? KEEP THEM FROM STRAYING WITH THE ABR DESIGNATION





Advance registration required. Fee includes a 1-year membership to REBAC*

Class Fee* Members Non-membe	Early Bird ends 8/16 \$199 ers\$249	Regular \$249 \$299	faa coi infe
Name		Com	pany
Dhono		Ema	il .

Register online at rmembers.com/calendar or mplete the registration ormation below & email to ucation@faarmembers.com

Phone CVC Credit Card Billing Address Zip Exp. Date Signature

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FAAR Address: 2050 Gordon W. Shelton Blvd. Fredericksburg, VA 22401



BACK IN THE CLASSROOM!

Early Bird saves \$25.00 on entire seminar! Ends 10/6/2023

Why take CE at FAAR Academy?

- Experienced Instructors
- Instant Q&A
- More engaging than an online class
- Convenient location in Central Park

The CE Seminar is designed to ensure the 16-hour requirement of DPOR for relicensing are met.

These classes will be held in person in the FAAR classroom. Cancellations must be received 24 hours in advance to receive a refund.

"I take continuing education and other classes at FAAR Academy because I know I'll be getting the most updated information." - Chip Taylor

Day 1 / October 10, 2023

8:00–11:00 Ethics (3 Hrs Ethics)

12:00–3:00 Agency (3 Hrs Agency)

3:00—5:00 Fair Housing (2 Hrs Housing)

Day 2 / October 12, 2023

8:00–11:00 Contracts (3 Hrs contracts)

12:00–3:00 Addenda (2 Hrs contracts, 1 Hr legal updates with Flood Instruction)

3:00–5:00 ☐ Finance for REALTORS® (2 Hrs electives)

Register at faarmembers.com/calendar or email education@faarmembers.com

CE Cost*	Entire Seminar	3 Hr Classes	2 Hr Classes
Members	\$180	\$35	\$25
Non-Members	\$205	\$45	\$35



Please select	Entire Seminar Specific Classes (check classes above)	Please select	Ī	
Name	Company			
Phone	Email		_Total (\$)	
Credit Card #		_CVC	EXP. Date	
Billing Address_				



Authorized Signature

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SECOND FLOOR CLASSROOM, 2050 GORDON SHELTON BLVD, FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22401



Early Bird saves \$50.00 on entire seminar! Ends 10/6/2023

Why take PL at FAAR Academy?

- Experienced Instructors
- Instant Q&A
- More engaging than an online class
- Convenient location in Central Park

The CE Seminar is designed to ensure the 16-hour requirement of DPOR for relicensing are met.

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"I take continuing education and other classes at FAAR Academy because I know I'll be getting the most updated information." - Chip Taylor

Day	1 / October 10, 2023
8:00–11:00	Ethics (3 Hrs Ethics)

12:00–3:00 | Agency (3 Hrs Agency)

5:00	⊦aır	Housing	(2 Hrs	Housing

Day 3	L	م ما	17	nnnnn
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Advertising Regulations (2 Hrs 9:00-11:00 Current Industry Issues and Trends) 11:00-5:00 Real Estate Law and Board Regulations

Day 2 / October 12, 2023

8:00–3:00 Contract Writing (6 Hrs contracts)

3:00–5:00 Finance (2 Hrs Finance)

Day 4 / October 19, 2023

9:00-Noon Escrow (3 Hrs Escrow)

12:00–3:00 Risk Management (3 Hrs Risk)

Register at faarmembers.com/calendar or email education@faarmembers.com

	PL Cost	Entire Seminar	2 Hr Classes	3 Hr Classes	6 Hr Classes	8 Hr Classes	SPONSORED BY
	Members	\$255	\$25	\$35	\$70	\$99	LINION I LONG
	Non-Members	\$305	\$35	\$45	\$80	\$120	UNIONHOME MORTGAGE
2 6	ease select Er	ntire Seminar	Specific C	lasses(check	classes abo	ove)	

Name Company Phone Total (\$) Credit Card # CVC EXP. Date

Billing Address Zip Authorized Signature



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Summer Law Series

THE 4 MAIN VIRGINIA CONTRACTS & THEIR DIFFERENCES

Nov. 2, 2023 | 9-11 AM In the FAAR classroom

Credits:

2 hrs CE RE Related or PL Current Industry Issues & Trends

Instructors:

John McLaurin

Class Cost:

\$25 for FAAR members \$35 for non-Members

REGISTER NOW AT FAARMEMBERS.COM









- NVAR: Northern Virginia Association of Realtors Residential Contract
- VAR: Virginia Association of Realtors
- REIN: Residential Contract Real Estate Information Network
 - CVR: Central Virginia Regional

SPONSORED BY



Contract Differences will cover basic contract law and compare the differences of the four main contracts used in Virginia.

Attendees will learn the differences between these contracts in regard to the Earnest Money Deposit, the Settlement Date and Timing, Possession, the Financing Contingency, Home Inspection Contingency, and Appraisal Contingency. It also goes over the differences between the contracts when there is a title defect as well as some local customs particular to certain regions in Virginia

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED*

REGISTER ONLINE AT FAARMEMBERS.COM/CALENDAR OR EMAIL BELOW INFO TO BCASTILLO@FAARMEMBERS.COM



Name		Company		
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Total	Exp. Date	Signature		

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9-10 AM WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2024?

MODERATOR CAROL SONDRINI, 2023 FAAR PRESIDENT PANELIST LISA STURTEVANT, CHIEF ECONOMIST, BRIGHT MLS PANELIST DAN SANDOVAL, NAHB, REPUBLIC HOME BUILDERS **MEET YOUR** PANELIST KATRINA SMITH, VIRGINIA REALTORS® PRESIDENT **REALTOR® STATE**

> Discover the future of real estate—Gain insights, strategies, and a dash of humor to stay ahead in the ever-changing housing market. Home is where the heart is, and we'll help you find where the profits THERS are too!



LISA STURTEVANT, CHIEF ECONOMIST, BRIGHT MLS

How did we get here? Let's take a deep-dive into the various factors such as a shortage of available land, high construction costs, labor shortages, interest rates, and limited housing production that got us here, and look for a way out!

11:30 AM EXPO FLOOR OPENS | MEET RE RELATED VENDORS TOUR THE "SEPTIC ADVENTURE" | GET A NEW HEADSHOT

11:30 AM - 1 PM LUNCH

3-4PM HAPPY HOUR | FOUNDATION DUES RAFFLE DRAWING **BOARD ELECTION RESULTS**

*Thanks to the 2023 FAAR Board of Directors, the \$50 admittance fee is waived for FAAR REALTORS® who register on or by 9/5. Registered attendees who cannot attend must cancel their reservation by midnight on 9/11. No shows will be charged \$50

KEYNOTE PANEL

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Team

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BEVERAGE



LOUNGE

5Pr. Event PHR

COST

FREE FAAR

REALTOR® REGISTRATION

ENDS 9/5*

FAAR REALTORS® AFTER 9/5 \$50

GUESTS \$50

NO SHOW FEE:

\$50*













REGISTER AT FAARMEMBERS.			$\mathbf{r} \in \mathbf{com}$
REGISTER AT FAARMEMBERS.	CUM/CALENDAR OR EMAIL	JSACNZWEAARWENDE	3.60 0

Name		Company	<i>y</i>		
Phone		Email			
Credit Card				CVC	
Total	Exp. Date	Zip	Signature		
Guest Names					

By attending this event, you authorize FAAR to use any photos or videos taken during the event in future media promotions.



Broker Management Seminar

Sep. 26, 2023 | 9 AM - 5 PM | Zoom

In addition to the required 16 hours of continuing education courses Brokers must complete 6 hours of broker management courses and 2 hours of broker management supervision. The Broker Seminar focuses on real estate management and safe company policies and procedure, while meeting the course requirements for license renewal in just 1 day!

9-11 AM	Broker Management Basics
An overview of rol	Broker Management es and responsibilities of broker management with an management issues
11 AM-1 PM	Broker Case Studies
	Broker Management ractive case studies of sticky scenarios to navigate
1 - 3 PM	Broker Advertising Regulations
	Broker Management ook at advertising regulations that affect print, digital, communications.
3 - 5 PM	Broker Management Supervision
cover an overview of Virginia and the	Broker Mgmt. Supervision of the broker supervision requirements under the Code Real Estate Board Regulations. This course satisfies on for 2 hours Broker Supervision credits.



NON-BROKERS

Receive 8 hours of **Real Estate Related CE for** these classes!

*Students missing more than 10 minutes of class, cannot be given credit.





Registration required—Check one or more classes above.

Class Fee**	Entire Seminar	Single Class
Members	\$99	\$25
Non-Members	\$120	\$35

REGISTER ONLINE AT FAARMEMBERS.COM/CALENDAR

OR EMAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION INFORMATION TO EDUCATION@FAARMEMBERS.COM

Name	Company				
Phone		Email			
Credit Card			CVC	Zip	
Total	Exp. Date	Signature			

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Webinar instructions will be sent to registered attendees before the class

WHAT DOES YOUR SETTLEMENT AGENT DO FOR YOUR TRANSACTION?

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 | 10 AM - 12 PM | FAAR CLASSROOM

INCLUDES 2 HOURS CE REAL ESTATE
RELATED OR 2 HOURS PL CURRENT
INDUSTRY ISSUES & TRENDS

REGISTER TODAY AT
FAARMEMBERS.COM/CALENDAR!

TAKE A BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOUR FROM RATIFICATION TO CLOSING!

\$10 FOR FAAR MEMBERS | \$20 FOR NON-FAAR MEMBERS

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Name	Company			
Phone	Email		_Total (\$)	
Credit Card #		CVC	EXP. Date	
Billing Address				
Zip	Authorized Signature			

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HOA RULES AND LAWS YOU **NEED TO KNOW!**

OCTOBER 18, 2023 | 10 AM - 12 PM | FAAR CLASSROOM

INCLUDES 2 HOURS CE REAL ESTATE RELATED OR 2 HOURS PL CURRENT

INDUSTRY ISSUES & TRENDS

DON'T LET THE **NEWEST LAWS CONFUSE YOU!**

REGISTER TODAY AT FAARMEMBERS.COM/CALENDAR! **INSTRUCTED BY** MICHELE FREEMYERS

Association Association Association Association Association Association Association

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JOIN MICHELE FOR A 2 HOUR DEEP-DIVE INTO EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO PROTECT CLIENTS IN A TRANSACTION INVOLVING A HOME WITH AN HOA.

\$10 FOR FAAR MEMBERS | \$20 FOR NON-FAAR MEMBERS

REGISTER AT FAARMEMBERS.COM/CALENDAR OR EMAIL BELOW INFO TO EDUCATION@FAARMEMBERS.COM

Name_____Company____ Phone CVC ___EXP. Date____ Credit Card # Billing Address___





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NEW HOME CONTRACTS

DECEMBER 7, 2023 | 10 AM - 12 PM | FAAR CLASSROOM

INCLUDES 2 HOURS CE REAL ESTATE RELATED OR 2 HOURS PL CURRENT INDUSTRY ISSUES & TRENDS

INSTRUCTED BY
MICHELE FREEMYERS



register at faarmembers.com/calendar or email below info to education@faarmembers.com

Name	Company		
Phone	Email	Total (\$)	
Credit Card #		CVCEXP.	Date
Billing Address			
7in	Authorized Signature		



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WHY CHOOSE US?

2 home purchases and a refinance later, Sandy and her team have been my go-to for a seamless lending experience since 2018. They are knowledgeable, prompt, and seem to always have the lowest rate around. I highly recommend them to any one who is in the market for a top-notch, no-nonsense lending experience!

* * * a month ago

Americas Choice Mortgage company is the best in the business! Sandra and her team have gone over and beyond to make sure me and my family understand step by step to these loan processes and made sure to lock us in on the best rate possible! Not once but twice she has delivered us with an outstanding interest rate on our new home loan! Thank you Americas choice mortgage!

This was our second time working with America's Choice Mortgage and have never had any issues. They definitely work for their customers! They answered all my questions and constantly kept us in the loop. Thanks to

CONTACT US



MORTGAGE **BROKERS WE WORK FOR YOU**

America's Choice Mortgage Company is family owned and operated in the state of Virginia since 2014. Our goal is to make our clients feel that they are top priority by delivering excellent customer service and our vast knowledge in this industry to make the home-buying process an enjoyable experience, because buying your home should be exciting!

We strive to go above and beyond in making the process of buying a home as stress free and positive as possible.



@ 540-720-2916

America's Choice mission is simple, we are here to ensure that our clients feel they are valued and that we select the best program and services to fit their specific needs. Whether you are a current, past, or new homeowner our focus is to provide education and guidance to allow all clients to feel empowered to make the best lifelong financial decisions.

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Negotiate effectively face-to-face, on the phone, or through email and other media

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FAAR Classroom, 2nd Floor, 2050 Gordon W. Shelton Blvd., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

HOMEBUYING PROCESS PRIMER

Buying a home is for many the most complex and important transaction they'll ever do. Key steps involved in the homebuying process include:

Check your credit

Your credit score plays a huge part in your ability to secure a mortgage and improving your credit score can take months of healthy spending habits and paying down debt. Check your credit with your credit card company, online, or with a major credit bureau such as Equifax or Experian. Typically, if your score is below 700, you will likely pay more for your mortgage1.

Figure out what you can afford

You need to sit down and decide how much you can afford to spend on a down payment, monthly payments and expenses. A mortgage lending rule of thumb is that your total monthly home payment should be at or below 28% of your total monthly income before taxes. However, lenders still have the ability to provide you more or less depending on your overall financial history.

Hire a professional

Having an expert, local professional to manage the process is more important than ever before. The internet only does so much--real estate agents help people traverse complicated, data-<u>heavy</u> and voluminous information, details and decisions.

Find your dream home

Through local broker marketplaces, REALTORS® have instant exposure and access to the largest, centralized database of residential real estate listings in your area to find the perfect home for you within your budget. Local broker marketplaces make it possible for all kinds of brokerage services to compete on a level playing field because they all have access to the same information. This gives consumers a lot of different choices about what broker they want to work with in terms of everything from the commission model to their particular expertise to their customer service approach.

Choose a lender and mortgage type

In a typical year, most buyers take out a mortgage to finance their home purchase, most commonly 30-year, fixed-rate financing using a conforming loan. However, there are other options including an adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM), where your payments often start out lower, but could increase over time. When choosing your mortgage you need to acknowledge and be aware of the risks you are taking on when making this decision.

Make an offer

Once you've found the right home and financing option, the next step is to make an offer to purchase your new home.

Home inspections

To ensure that the home is safe and won't incur large, unexpected expenses in the future, be sure to get a home inspection before closing on your new home.

Closing

Once the inspection is complete and you've come to an agreement with the seller, you will then close on the deal and sign all of the necessary paperwork. It typically takes a couple of days for your loan to be funded.

² https://homeownershipmatters.realtor/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/201503_cfpb_your-home-loan-toolkit-web.pdf



https://homeownershipmatters.realtor/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/201503_cfpb_your-home-loan-toolkit-web.pdf

HOW REAL ESTATE COMPENSATION WORKS

It's important for home buyers and sellers to understand how real estate agents are paid for the services they provide. Here are seven things you need to know. (For more information check out realestatecommissionfacts.com.)

Compensation is always negotiable.

Compensation is negotiable and can be negotiated at the outset or as agreed to by the parties at any time before the transaction closes. Sellers decide what fee they are willing to pay for their broker's services and how much that listing broker should offer a broker who finds someone who wants to buy their home.

2. There are different compensation models to choose from.

Buyers have many different choices about which broker they want to work, how much they will pay and what kind of service they will get. In the full-service approach, compensation is negotiable and can be negotiated at the outset or as agreed to by the parties at any time before the transaction closes. The reduced service/discounted fee model allows for flexible offerings and pricing. The flat fee approach allows buyers to negotiate a set price per service.

3. Commission rates are set by the market.

The free market organically establishes compensation costs within local real estate markets based on service, consumer preference and what the market can bear, among other things. Commissions fluctuate over time and have notably decreased steadily in recent years, having fallen to a new low of 4.94%.

4. Compensation cannot be included as part of a mortgage.

The vast majority of mortgage lenders do not allow commissions to be added to home loans. Listing brokers' offers of compensation to buyer brokers gives first-tome and low- and middle-income homebuyers a better shot at affording a home and professional representation in the home-buying process. For many buyers, saving for a down payment is difficult enough. If buyers had to pay real estate commissions out-of-pocket on top of closing costs, it would push the dream of homeownership even further out of reach for countless people.

5. REALTORS® are bound by a strict code of ethics in the home buying process.

REALTORS® are bound by National Association of REALTORS®'s Code of Ethics to always further clients' best interests, including showing homes that meet buyers' needs regardless of compensation offered. Additionally, NAR has a Fair House Action Plan, abbreviated 'ACT,' which emphasizes (A)ccountability, (C)ulture Change and (T)raining in order to ensure REALTORS® are doing everything possible to protect housing rights in America.

6. The practice of listing brokers' offering compensation to buyer brokers keep local broker marketplaces from fracturing.

Because of this practice, buyer and seller brokers are incentivized to share their information in their local, independent broker data hub. Without it, lack of complete, transparent and accessible data for all would mean smaller brokerages and new entrants have to piecemeal information and couldn't offer as many options to sellers and buyers, and larger brokerages would dominate.

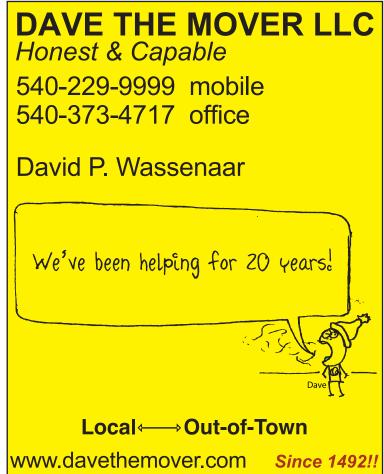
7. The U.S. real estate industry is the world standard.

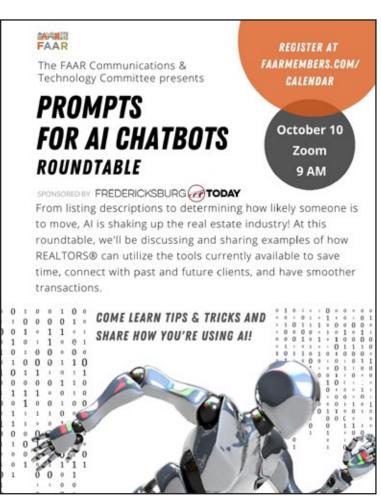
The U.S. model has long been - and is still - viewed as the best option for consumers around the world. Buyers abroad are forced to wade through a complex and fragmented market where they have to work with multiple brokerages and there is no exclusivity so sales can fall through. It's also common for there to be many hidden costs and for brokers to charge fees and taxes in other countries that add up to the equivalent or greater of costs associated with buying and selling property in the U.S., yet only provide a fraction of the services consumers receive here.

REALTORS* are members of the National Association of REALTORS*













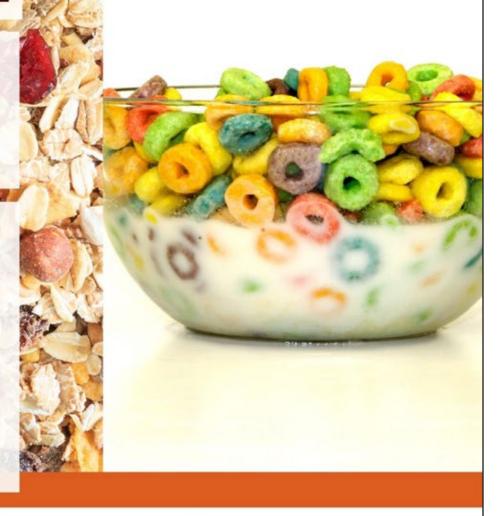
2023 REALTOR® CEREAL BOX DRIVE



OCTOBER ALL MONTH

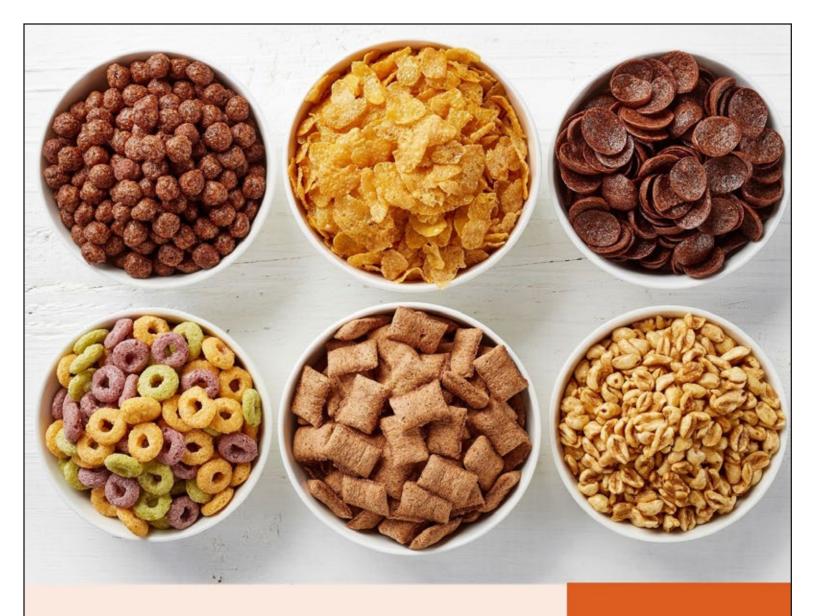
THE GOAL: 20,000 BOXES

The REALTOR® annual cereal drive is back! Look for REALTOR® - branded marketing pieces to enhance efforts of collecting cereal from clients and your sphere of influence! Drop off October 26th at the FAAR Halloween Mixer. Check out the great prizes on the back!



Register for the challenge by October 3rd by filling out the form at bit.ly/cerealdrive23 or emailing Barbara at bcastillo@faarmembers.com with the info below

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The Power of Listing on the MLS

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Lisa Sturtevant, PhD, Chief Economist at Bright MLS



Savvy Sellers List On-MLS

The vast majority of sellers list their homes on the MLS, with numbers trending upward in the post-pandemic market.



The Price Is Right

Homes listed on the MLS sell for more. Better yet? The price premium for on-MLS listings has increased in recent years.*

Sellers who list on-MLS get better offers! In 2022, the typical on-MLS seller received \$53,890 more than someone selling a similar property off-MLS.

The Benefits of Full Exposure

Because properties listed on the MLS are seen by more people, they're more likely to bring in better offers—fast.

Pro Tip for Buyers & Sellers

Work with a local real estate pro and use the MLS to list, market, and view available homes.

*On-MLS increase based on the 2023 average sale price of homes marketed through Bright MLS compared to other similar homes in the same area, as reported in the Bright MLS On-MLS Study [BrightMLS.com/OnMLSStudy]. Every home is unique and the best of the property of the p



Visit BrightMLS.com/OnMLSStudy to access the full study.







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