

I ❤️ Being a REALTOR®!!

The Voice for Real Estate

There is a lot going on in February! In addition for February being the month of ❤️, it is American Heart Month, Black History Month, National Weddings Month. Then there is Ground Hog Day, Super Bowl Sunday, Valentine's Day, Presidents Day... and most important, **Realtor® Day on the Hill!** On **February 8th**, Realtors® from all across the Commonwealth will be in Richmond meeting with our state legislators during the **Virginia Realtors Legislative Conference**. These are exciting times to see how Realtors® -- "**The Voice for Real Estate**" - advocate for home ownership, property rights and the real estate industry. As a member benefit, VPAR is providing a chartered bus to Richmond so there are no worries for travel and parking. There is also a lunch included if you register with VPAR for the trip. It is my hope that you make the time – 1 day out of this month – to spend the day visiting with your legislators and touring the Capital! But hurry!! Seating is limited and the bus is filling up quickly!! In case you've been missing what's going on in Richmond, be sure to check out Legislative Consultant Susan Gaston's "**Legislative Line #3**" or "**The Peninsula Monitor**" (in this digital magazine) where she updates the membership on Realtor® bills that will be game changers in a good way for our industry in Virginia.

VPAR is off to a fabulous start! In January, we held our first Lunch and Learn on Renovation and 203K financing. Many thanks to the *Professional Development Committee* for planning this event and to *Movement Mortgage* for sponsoring lunch and providing the education. We had an amazing membership breakfast meeting with **Dr. Lawrence Yun** from NAR speaking to a near packed room!! If you were not able to make it, no worries! Dr. Yun's power point presentation will be available at www.vpar.realtor the VPAR website. Many thanks to *VPAR staff* and *Susan Gaston* for planning this event and for *Atlantic Bay Mortgage* for sponsoring the breakfast and door prize. Congratulations to our door prize winner!!

We had our first social for 2017. It was great seeing my fellow Realtors®! All in attendance got a chance to wind down their day with appetizers and drinks while networking with each other and Affiliates. Many thanks to the *Member Relations Committee* for planning the social and to *Mares Exterminating* for the sponsorship and door prizes. Congratulations to our door prize winners!!

Additionally, we had our VPAR Chairs and Vice-Chairs Training. Lots of information was shared regarding the VPAR Strategic Plan and the roles each committee will play in executing the plan. The goal is that we are working together as a team to make this Association better and enhance our members. I am so excited to see committee meetings taking place and the enthusiasm of the members. The Banquet Committee has hit the ground running to plan the upcoming OSC Awards Banquet (on March 4th) with a pretty cool theme: "**Fire and Ice**"!! We have a really nice surprise for our award winners... but "mums the word" for now! The Awards Committee is working hard on vetting our prospective winners. VPAR Charitable Foundation, the Member Relations Committee, Budget and Finance Committee, Public Policy Committee and the Property Management Committee have met and are all off to a great start for this year. The YPN Committee met and I am super excited for them. This is a group of creative minds and I can't wait to see what they have in store for the




energy they are going to bring to this Association!! In the days to come this month, our other VPAR committees are geared up to meet and get things rolling!!

Also, VPAR welcomed **new Realtor® members** this month at our Indoctrination Class. Some have even joined committees!! VPAR volunteered for the Poquoson Food Bank Distribution where we had a great group of Realtors® giving of their time putting together food baskets for those in need.

As a part of VPAR outreach to the membership, the Board of Directors will be visiting Realtor® firms and offices this quarter keeping you informed of the member benefits, upcoming events, RPAC and the Charitable Foundation. Throughout the month, we have Peninsula Real Estate School classes, Lunch & Learn, meetings and our VPAR social on February 20th. Please click on the link to view the **VPAR calendar** to set your schedules accordingly: <http://bit.ly/2j4Drfl>

So as you can see, VPAR is busy at work and just know there is more to come!! Thank you for your membership and more importantly being a part of this wonderful organization!! This as well as many other

reasons are why I  being a Realtor®!! Have a great February!!! Be blessed!!!

*****Click this link to view this message on YouTube!!** <http://bit.ly/2ky3tb1>