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RAYAConnection

What's Inside

Calendar of Events

We're looking for great leaders to serve on RAYAC's Board of Directors! Find out the process and commitment by attending one of these informational sessions. Monday, May 16 Thursday, May 19

Who Wants to be a RAYAC Leader?

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Resources 6
Title Insurance Increase
in Effect 7

To RSVP, please contact Shanna Terroso at shanna@rayac.com or 843-7891 ext. 106.

9:00 am for breakfast

RAYAC office

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Education Event

Let a REALTOR Light the Way

Staff Contacts

MLS Statistics

MLS Classes

Unleash Your Leadership

Now accepting applications for leadership training programs.

<u>Leadership York</u> <u>Leadership Hanover</u>

If you would like to be considered for a leadership scholarship, please contact

Shanna Terroso at shanna@rayac.com or 843-7891 ext. 106 by June 1.

LEADERSHIP

12:00 noon for lunch

Altland House, Abbottstown

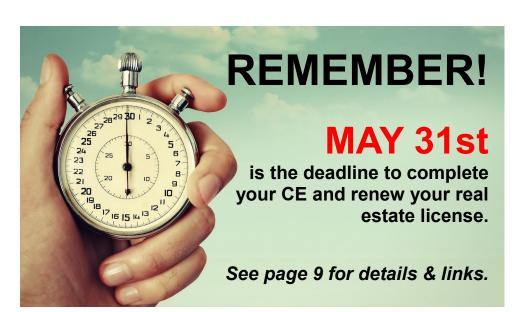
is the capacity to translate

VISION

into

REALITY

~ Warren Bennis



May

- Broker course, 9:00 am
- CE: Best of the Legal Hotline,
- 3 CE: 10 Costly Mistakes, 1:00 pm
- 3 Political Affairs Committee, 2:00 pm
- Lockbox training, 2:00 pm
- Program Social Committee. 9:30 am
- Golf Committee, 12:00 noon
- 9-13 NAR Legislative Meeting, DC
- MLS Contact Management class, 2:00 pm
- 10 Community Relations Committee, 1:00 pm
- 11 Broker course, 9:00 am
- 12 Hands on Helpers, 9:00 am, Asbury United Methodist Church, York
- 12 MLS Walk In, 2:00 pm
- 13 Hands on Helpers clean up at Renaissance Park. 9:00 am
- 16 Leadership information breakfast. 9:00 am
- 17 MLS CMA class, 2:00 pm
- 18 Broker course, 9:00 am
- 18 Affiliate Committee, 9:00 am
- 18 Lockbox training, 2:00 pm
- 19 MLS Committee, 8:30 am
- 19 Board of Directors, 9:00 am
- 19 Member Communications Committee, 10:00 am
- Leadership information luncheon, 12:00 noon, Altland House, Abbottstown
- Golf Committee, 12:00 noon
- Thirsty Thursday, 5:00-7:00 pm, John Wright Restaurant
- New Member Orientation-Module I, 8:30 am
- 23-25 PAR Business Meetings, Harrisburg
- 25 MLS Advanced class, 2:00 pm
- 26 Legislative Breakfast, 8:00 am, Out Door Country Club, York
- New Member Orientation-Module II, 8:30 am
- 30 RAYAC office closed for Memorial

lune

- Hands on Helpers, 9:00 am
- Bowlathon Committee, 11:00 am
- Lockbox training, 2:00 pm
- 2 Program Social Committee, 9:30 am
- Golf Committee, 12:00 noon 2
- 7 Political Affairs Committee, 2:00 pm
- 8 Board of Directors, 9:00 am
- RAYAC Charity Golf Outing & Pool Party. Hanover Country Club
- RAYAC office closes at noon

Meetings are held at the RAYAC Office, 901 Smile Way, unless otherwise noted.

Thirsty Thursday



Share some flip flop

love ~ bring new flip

flops to Thirsty

Thursday ~ any size or

color!

We are collecting flip

flops for Servants, Inc.

to take to Guatemala.

The person who

donates the most flip

flops will win a \$25 gift

card to John Wright.

May 19, 2016

5:00-7:00 pm

John Wright Restaurant

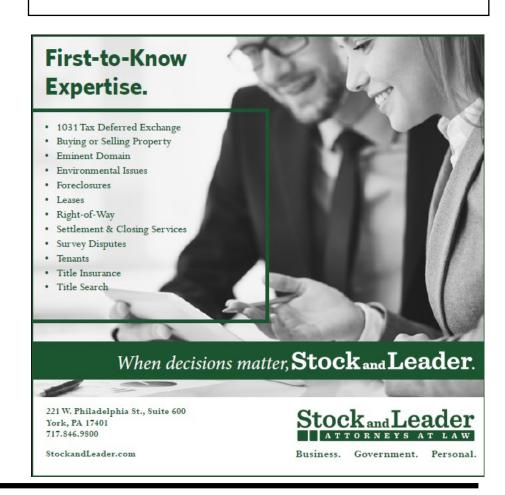
120 N. Front St., Wrightsville

Thank you to the host for generously providing free appetizers and a cash bar for this networking event.

> Sponsors: **ABCO**

American Property Examiners GMH Mortgage Open.Tours

> Thank you to our sponsors for generously providing gift card prizes.



Board of Directors Summary

April 14, 2016

Action Items

- Directors approved a resolution to move forward to the next phase of MLS merger discussions.
- Directors approved spending \$1,150 for the consultant fees to participate in the next phase of the MLS discussions.
- Directors approved signing the potential MLS merger Non Disclosure Agreement with an amendment prepared by Solicitor Bill Hast.

Reports

- Directors received an update on our current strategic plan.
- Directors received committee liaison reports.

RAYAC Office Closings

Monday, May 30 RAYAC office closed for Memorial Day

Thursday, June 9

RAYAC office closes at noon for Charity Golf Outing

Friday, June 17

RAYAC office closed for United Way Day of Action





From the Executive Officer

Your REALTOR Voice

by Shanna Terroso, RCE, e-PRO

My 6 month old baby boy has started to become quite the little chatter box. He coos and giggles with delight and knows how to get your attention with his high pitched squeal. He

also has begun to say "dada." My husband is convinced he actually knows who dada is. When that little voice came through the monitor this morning at 2:00 AM calling dada dada, my husband jumped up with delight declaring the baby was calling for him. I'll selfishly admit I won't be too disappointed if he takes a litter longer to say mama if it means getting to sleep through the 2:00 AM wake up calls.

My point of this story is my son is learning how to use his voice and the impact he can have with those few little phrases. As REALTORS you all have a voice and it is a powerful one. In York & Adams Counties it's a collective 1,000 voices, 32,000 voices in Pennsylvania and over a million voices across the country. Taking opportunities to use this REALTOR voice can have an impact on the greater good for our industry and community. This month at RAYAC we have a few opportunities for you to use your voice to have an impact on our industry and community.

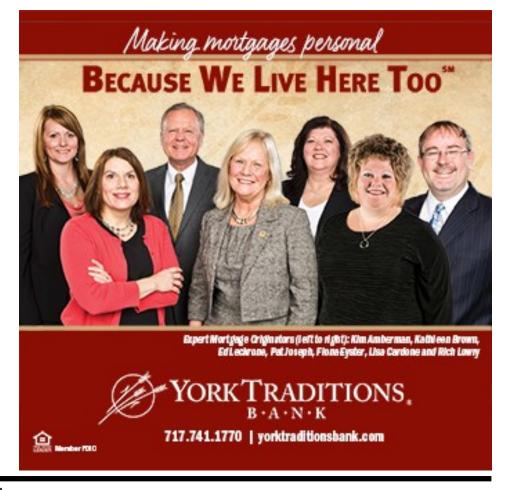
*Use your voice to speak with State House and State Senate members in York & Adams Counties at the Annual Legislative Breakfast on Thursday, May 26th. See page 15 for more details.

*Learn how you can use your voice to represent the RAYAC membership by attending informational sessions on

running for the Board of Directors. For more information, please visit page 1.

*Use your voice to have a greater leadership impact on our community by applying for the Leadership York and Leadership Hanover scholarship opportunities. More information can be found on page 1.

I hope you will take advantage of these opportunities to engage your REALTOR Voice.



Membership News

New Members

Rebecca Brown, BH Homesale (H)
Thomas Coyne, BH Homesale (H)
Tina Craumer, BH Homesale (W)
Jared Gates, CB Res. Brok (YorkM)
Erin Honsermyer, Country Home RE
Advantage
Christina Kauffman, CB Res Brok
(YorkQ)

Andrew Kopp, KW Keystone Robert McGuire, KW Keystone Nikki Miller, C21 Dale (Y) Penny Nash, Southern Management Rentals

Whitney Shaeffer, BH Homesale (D)

Member Changes

Kim Burton, RE/MAX of Gettysburg Vickie Butler, Brokersrealty.com (Y) Michelle Gardner, RE/MAX Quality Service

Philip Hersey Jr., CB Res Brok (YorkQ) Heather Lighty, RE/MAX Quality Service

Clay Lupton, RE/MAX of Gettysburg Katharine Prebula, C21 Core Partners Jackie Robertson, KW Keystone Christopher Sites, RE/MAX of Gettysburg

Member Drops

Donna Harbold James Yannatelli Sally Glock Jason Heckert Judith Perago

New Office/Brokerage

Brokersrealty.com 2575 Eastern Blvd. York, PA 17402 Phone 717-476-4142 Fax 888-774-8488 John Rainville john@brokersrealty.com

Sammons Appraisal

3611 Middleboro Road Dover, PA 17315 Phone 717-568-1528 Andrew Benton Sammons andrewsammons00@yaho.com

Office Changes

None

Office Drops

Pinnacle Real Estate Sales

New Affiliates

Bleecker St. Development LLC 1500 Farm Cross Way York, PA 17408 Phone 717-577-5300 Jason Bleecker jjbleecker@comcast.net bsdyork.com

Woodside Home Inspections

Home Improvement/Repairs

175 Woodsview Drive Red Lion, PA 17536 Phone 717-309-7757 Jerry Weaver jnweaver25@yahoo.com Inspectors

717.880.9945

Membership Stats								
(as of 4/20)								
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>						
Designated REALTORS	123	120						
REALTORS	921	818						
Pending Applicants	19	17						
Total REALTORS	1063	955						
Affiliates	93	85						
Total Members	1156	1040						

Affiliate Changes

BB&T Mortgage 3421 Carlisle Road Dover, PA 17315

Affiliate Drops

None





717.870.3195

bhoyer@unioncommunitybank.com jaugustyniak@unioncommunitybank.com

717.698.2452

fbaber@unioncommunitybank.com

Valuable State and National Resources

Pennsylvania Association of REALTORS

► Sign up to receive daily real estate emails

Click here to receive a wide variety of real estate emails from PARJustListed.

► Attend the PAR Spring Business Meetings - May 23-25

Great networking and educational components with REALTORS from all over Pennsylvania. The spring meetings take place at the Harrisburg Hilton. <u>Click here for details.</u>

▶ Join a PAR Committee

PAR is looking for committee members, check out the options here.

National Association of REALTORS

► Mid Year Legislative Meetings - May 9-14

Thousands of REALTORS from all over the country come to Washington, DC to attend these outstanding educational and networking opportunities and visit the large trade expo. It's FREE and only a short drive. Make it a day trip or stay overnight to enjoy sightseeing or DC nightlife. See more information.

▶ Voice of Real Estate Videos

Subscribe to NAR's Voice of Real Estate video channel on Youtube. <u>Watch this month's video</u> that explains renting or selling to persons with criminal records, rural loans and reverse mortgages.



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- Water Testing
- Mold/Air Quality Testing



REMINDERS!

Title Insurance Rate Hikes Now in Effect

Pennsylvania's title insurance rates increased by 12.1% on May 1, 2016. The last increase from the Title Insurance Rating Bureau of Pennsylvania was nearly four years ago. The new rates will be included in Paragon's closing cost estimator.

Expired Listings

When contacting expired listings, please check first to make sure it hasn't been relisted or isn't showing active under a different MLS number.

City Inspections

Qdot Engineering is responsible for all plan review and building inspections associated to building permits in the City of York.

- To request a permit inspection, call 717-744-8315.
- To request a property maintenance inspection, call 717-744-8385.
- Contact them at info@qdotengineering.com.





Practicing Professionalism

Ombudsman Q&A

What is the difference between the ombudsman process and mediation?

The ombudsman process usually involves parties who have not filed an ethics complaint or arbitration request, but have experienced a breakdown in communication requiring informal resolution (although an ombudsman may also be used where a complaint has been filed). Often the ombudsman functions as an intermediary who communicates the concerns of one party to the other over the phone, so a positive relationship can be restored.

<u>Mediation</u>, on the other hand, normally involves monetary disputes where an arbitration request may have been filed. Parties generally meet face-to-face at a prearranged time with their mediator, who encourages both parties to come to a mutually satisfactory resolution of their dispute.

Ombudsmen and mediators often have the same skill set: impartiality, the ability to listen carefully, and the desire to identify and resolve misunderstandings.

Is the ombudsman process just for consumers?

No. Boards and associations have considerable latitude in determining how and when ombudsmen will be utilized. If the complaint is the type of case the association's ombudsman process handles, ombudsman services must be offered to members, clients, and consumers consistent with Professional Standards Policy Statement #59, Associations to Provide Ombudsman Services, Code of Ethics and Arbitration Manual.

The ombudsman process can be beneficial for both consumers and REALTOR® members who need an immediate, informal resolution to common misunderstandings. For example, ombudsmen can field and respond to a wide variety of inquiries and complaints, including general questions about real estate practice, transaction details, ethical practice, and enforcement issues. Ombudsmen can also receive and respond to questions and complaints about members, can contact members to inform them that a client or customer has raised a question or issue, and can contact members to obtain information necessary to provide an informed response.

Does the ombudsman decide who is right or wrong?

No. Ombudsmen do not determine whether ethics violations have occurred, rather they anticipate, identify, and resolve misunderstandings and disagreements.



KNOW MORE. DO MORE.



MAY 31 IS THE DEADLINE TO COMPLETE CE & RENEW LICENSE!

Classroom Courses

These are the LAST classes at RAYAC for this CE cycle. For more details on the classes and to register, go to https://mdweb.mmsi2.com/york/

May 3, 8:30am-12:00pm: Best of the (Legal) Hotline, 3.5 hours real estate CE. (Location: RAYAC)

May 3, 1:00pm-4:30pm: Top 10 Common Costly Mistakes in a Residential Agreement of Sale, 3.5 hours real estate CE. (Location: RAYAC)

Online Courses

Click here for online course options.

Renewal Links

Online license renewal. Paper renewal form.



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John Henry 717-487-4934



Sharon Palma 717-654-7568

www.peoplesbanknet.com

Member FDIC



Spring Blossomed for RAYAC Foundation



■ Spring Fling Committee members shown left to right are Brandy Shope, Kim Zeigler, Melinda Eppolito, Marilu Beier, Jennifer Augustiniak, Michele Jones, Petula Yingling, Karen Alwine and Jennifer Weaver. Seated left to right are Marissa Bankert, Wendy Landis, Stacey Trimmer, Ken Worley and Cindy Portner.

Each year there are several fundraisers to aid the RAYAC Foundation which benefits a wide variety of non-profit housing organizations. This year's RAYAC Spring Fling social raised \$8,200 for the association's foundation. "Our sponsors, event participants and volunteers are so generous," said Rob Myers, 2016 RAYAC Foundation President.

"Last year the RAYAC Foundation donated nearly \$36,000 to community housing groups," said Myers. He added, "We are grateful for all of our donors. Thanks to them, we can help housing-related charities make critical repairs and upgrades to their facilities."

In June, RAYAC hosts its next fundraiser, its 21st annual charity golf outing and pool party at Hanover Country Club. See page 11 for complete details and to sign up.



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RAYAC Leadership

President

Tony Thomas, York City Savvy CB Residential Brokerage, 854-9242

Vice President

Deborah Goodling, York City Savvy, YCLC CB Residential Brokerage, 757-2717

Secretary

Heather Kreiger ROCK Commercial, 854-5357

Treasurer

Cindy Mann, CDPE CB Residential Brokerage, 757-2717

Solicitor

William Hast, Esq. Stock & Leader, 846-9800

Directors

Jerry Austin, '17, GRI Comm/Ind Appraisers, 741-5264

Brian Berkheimer '16, SRES ERA Preferred Properties, 633-6261

Judy Givens, '16 BH Homesale, 757-7811

Ray Hoover, '18, SRES RE/MAX Quality Service, 632-5111

Seth Hueter, '16, York City Savvy, YCLC

BH Homesale, 757-7811

Kim Moyer, 17, GRI BH Homesale, 757-7811

Tamra Peroni, '18, York City Savvy, SRES BH Homesale, 757-7811

Dianne Redding, '16, GRI BH Homesale, 633-7300

Karen Tavenner, '17, ABR, SRES Re/Max Quality Service, 632-5111

Ken Worley, '18 BH Homesale, 757-7811

RAYAC's 21st Annual Charity

GOLF OUTING and POOL PARTY

Thursday, June 9

For years the outing has been a favorite, sell-out event for golfers, now non-golfers can share the fun with a pool party at the Hanover Country Club! And the best part, it's all tax deductible. Money raised benefits the RAYAC Foundation to help local housing-related non-profit organizations.

GOLF OUTING

- Limited sponsorships and foursomes remain. Don't wait, this will sell out!
- Still accepting door prizes and goody bag items.

Click here for the outing brochure.

POOL PARTY

- Beer and wine samples
- Lawn games
- Music
- Photo booth fun
- Dinner

Click here for pool party details.

Contact Marissa Bankert at Marissa@rayac.com or 843-7891 ext. 108 with any questions or to sign up!

Real Estate is on the MOVE!

Get your

SOLD Signs

at the RAYAC Store.



May RAYAC Store Promo

Anyone who makes a purchase at the RAYAC Store during May will be entered to win a

\$10 gift certificate to the store.

RAYAC Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *

Friday

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

* On Tuesday mornings the office opens at 10:00 a.m. because of a staff meeting.

Phone

(717) 843-7891

Fax

(717) 854-0720

Association Staff

Shanna Terroso

RCE, e-PRO, Executive Officer Ext. 106, shanna@rayac.com

Marissa Bankert

Membership Services Director Ext. 108, marissa@rayac.com

Doug Clark

Business & Finance Director Ext. 111, doug@rayac.com

Rhonda Elliott

RCE, GRI, GREEN, e-PRO MLS Systems Manager Ext. 102, rhonda@rayac.com

Lori Foltz

IT Coordinator & Lockbox Administrator Ext. 103, lori@rayac.com

Beth Izzo

Public Relations Director Ext. 110, beth@rayac.com

Stephanie Kennedy

Director of Professional Development Ext. 109, stephanie@rayac.com

Deb Kottmyer

Clerk (PT) deb@rayac.com

Great Spring Networking and Education Event

Special thanks to our Affiliate members and appraisal panel of Steve Brown, Vicki Forrester, Melinda Eppolito and Vince Anderson for sharing their wealth of knowledge at the Spring Networking and Education Event at the Out Door Country Club, York. The event was a great way for REALTORS, Appraisers and Affiliate members to learn new things, make new



contacts and focus on providing the best possible service to buyers and sellers.

Photos from the event can be found on RAYAC Facebook Group Page. If you're not already a member of the group, please ask to join. Watch for details on the Fall Networking and Education Event.

Thank you to the following Affiliate members for participating in the event!

360 Tours **ABCO**

American Property Examiners BB&T

Community Settlement Freedmont Mortgage First Amer. Homebuyers Prot.

First National Bank **GMH Mortgage**

Homebridge Financial Homesale Settlements M&T Bank

MYclosing NicMar PeoplesBank Pillar to Post

S.A.F.E. Home Inspections Stock and Leader

The Glatfelter Agency Tricia Melnichak State Farm Union Community Bank White Rose Settlement Serv. York Traditions Bank

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Contact: Duane "Silver" Wilson 717-577-8740

Email: silverwilson@comcast.net

March Sold 2016 MLS Statistics by School District

School District	School District # Sold		Avg. Sale Price	Median Sale Price	
York County					
Central	49	\$8,505,247	\$173,576	\$145,000	
Dallastown	35	\$6,293,910	\$179,826	\$164,000	
Dover	24	\$3,433,410	\$143,059	\$134,950	
Eastern	21	\$3,333,951	\$158,760	\$159,000	
Hanover	17	\$2,269,100	\$133,476	\$135,000	
Northeastern	29	\$4,342,826	\$149,753	\$138,250	
Northern	18	\$2,319,422	\$178,417	\$133,000	
Red Lion	39	\$5,447,015	\$139,667	\$129,900	
South Eastern	13	\$2,051,201	\$157,785	\$185,000	
South Western	30	\$5,629,137	\$187,638	\$172,000	
Southern	14	\$3,180,728	\$227,195	\$212,500	
Spring Grove	17	\$3,072,387	\$180,729	\$174,900	
West Shore	20	\$2,877,904	\$191,860	\$192,900	
West York	29	\$3,816,000	\$131,586	\$121,000	
York City	28	\$1,120,808	\$40,029	\$38,450	
York Suburban	26	\$5,083,300	\$195,512	\$173,450	
York Total	399	\$62,776,346	\$157,334	\$145,000	
Adams County					
Bermudian Springs	13	\$2,306,700	\$177,438	\$189,900	
Conewago Valley	18	\$3,307,425	\$183,746	\$192,500	
Fairfield	7	\$1,048,575	\$149,796	\$162,000	
Gettysburg	24	\$4,218,577	\$175,774	\$153,500	
Littlestown	14	\$2,839,999	\$202,857	\$176,700	
Upper Adams	8	\$1,051,200	\$131,400	\$145,250	
Adams Total	84	\$14,772,476	\$175,863	\$169,500	

York County MLS Statistics Monthly Comparison

YORK CO. Monthly Comparison	3/15 TOTAL	3/16 TOTAL	15-16 % CHANGE	3/15 MEDIAN SOLD PRICE	3/16 MEDIAN SOLD PRICE	15-16 % CHANGE	3/15 AVG. SOLD PRICE	3/16 AVG. SOLD PRICE	15-16 % CHANGE
Total sold/ settle	378	399	+6%	\$145,750	\$145,000	-1%	\$158,653	\$157,334	-1%
Co-broke	287	307	+7%	\$149,900	\$148,000	-1%	\$160,155	\$158,729	-1%
In house	91	92	+1%	\$137,000	\$140,000	+2%	\$154,016	\$152,679	-1%
New	758	880	+16%			Active	2,015	1,848	-8%

York County MLS Statistics Year to Date Comparison

YORK CO. Year to Date Comparison	1-3/15 TOTAL	1-3/16 TOTAL	15-16 % CHANGE	1-3/15 MEDIAN SOLD PRICE	1-3/16 MEDIAN SOLD PRICE	15-16 % CHANGE	1-3/15 AVG. SOLD PRICE	1-3/16 AVG. SOLD PRICE	15-16 % CHANGE
Total sold/ settle	933	1,038	+11%	\$140,000	\$144,900	+4%	\$153,632	\$155,695	+1%
Co-broke	709	790	+11%	\$145,000	\$144,950	0%	\$155,040	\$155,537	0%
In house	224	248	+11%	\$130,000	\$144,450	+11%	\$149,176	\$156,199	+5%

Adams County MLS Statistics Monthly Comparison

ADAMS CO. Monthly Comparison	3/15 TOTAL	3/16 TOTAL	15-16 % CHANGE	3/15 MEDIAN SOLD PRICE	3/16 MEDIAN SOLD PRICE	15-16 % CHANGE	3/15 AVG. SOLD PRICE	3/16 AVG. SOLD PRICE	15-16 % CHANGE
Total sold/ settle	66	84	+27%	\$150,000	\$169,500	+13%	\$166,356	\$175,863	+6%
Co-broke	41	61	+49%	\$146,000	\$170,000	+16%	\$152,220	\$170,386	+12%
In house	25	23	-8%	\$167,500	\$164,500	-2%	\$189,540	\$190,387	0%
New	171	189	+11%			Active	565	510	-10%

Adams County MLS Statistics Year to Date Comparison

ADAMS CO. Year to Date Comparison	1-3/15 TOTAL	1-3/16 TOTAL	15-16 % CHANGE	1-3/15 MEDIAN SOLD PRICE	1-3/16 MEDIAN SOLD PRICE	15-16 % CHANGE	1-3/15 AVG. SOLD PRICE	1-3/16 AVG. SOLD PRICE	15-16 % CHANGE
Total sold/ settle	182	197	+8%	\$161,000	\$160,000	-1%	\$183,422	\$169,011	-8%
Co-broke	111	139	+25%	\$162,000	\$159,000	-2%	\$172,341	\$165,960	-4%
In house	71	58	+18%	\$157,500	\$164,750	+5%	\$200,747	\$176,323	-12%

FREE Paragon Training

MLS Contact Management

Monday, May 9

2:00-3:30 pm

Registration required. Enter your client's information into the MLS; create saved searches that meet your client's criteria, create automatic email notifications, and set up a webpage through Paragon's Client Connect.



Thursday, May 12

2:00-3:00 pm

No registration required. Get your MLS questions answered. Bring your laptop, smartphone or tablet - or use our equipment for hands-on help.



Call the RAYAC office at (717) 843-7891 or register online (under events tab) to sign up for these classes.

MLS CMA - Comparative Market Analysis

Tuesday, May 17

2:00 - 3:30 pm

Registration required. This class will show you how to create a CMA brochure including a CMA search, create reports, add a subject property, insert adjustments to comparables, graphs, etc.

MLS Advanced

Wednesday, May 25

2:00 - 3:30 pm

Registration required. This class will teach you advanced searching, tax records, Geojet and more.

Register for Legislative **Breakfast**

Come hear the latest news and updates from York and Adams area legislators at RAYAC's Legislative Breakfast. We are partnering with our friends from the York Builders Association again this year.

Thursday, May 26th

8:00 a.m. **Out Door Country Club**

1157 Detwiler Drive, York

The event is free for anyone who has contributed \$99 or above to RPAC. Cost is \$25 for non-\$99 club members. To register, contact Shanna Terroso at shanna@rayac.com or (717) 843-7891.

Share RAYAC's Let a REALTOR Light the Way Campaign

Now you can access all six messages and designs from RAYAC's Let a REALTOR Light the Way marketing campaign to use on your website or social media.

- Go to www.rayac.com, log in to the member page (using your MLS user name and password).
- Scroll down and click on Let a REALTOR Light the Way.
- Choose from six full color jpeg images.
- Choose from six 10 second videos (be patient, these take a while to load).





If you have any questions, please contact Beth Izzo at beth@rayac.com or 843-7891 ext. 110.



Leaders of the PAC!

Thank you to all members who support RPAC especially these RPAC leaders. So far in 2016, RPAC raised \$21,227. Our goal is \$28,000.

Governor's Club

(\$500-\$999.99)

Steve Brown

Capitol Club

(\$250-\$499.99)

Bob Aldinger **Dolly Bailey**

Christine Barrick

Peggy Fink

Bridget Floyd

Lee Garlin Ken Worley

\$99 Club (\$99-\$249.99)

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Example 2 Legislative Link



Santora Amendment Passes House

Nearly 4,300 Pennsylvania REALTORS sent a clear message to every member of the House to vote 'yes' to an amendment to House Bill 1437 (R-Goodman). The amendment passed the House (194-0) in April and will have third consideration after the primary election, after which it will move to the Senate for approval. The amendment more clearly defines "unfit for habitation" to provide better guidance to local code enforcement officials.

In many parts of the state, especially in the southeast, before a property can transfer hands the property needs to pass a point of sale inspection. During the point of sale inspection the municipality inspects the property looking for code/maintenance violations. Act 99 of 2000 allows municipalities to inspect "for-sale" homes but it also requires that certificate of occupancy be issued unless the property is "unfit for habitation." The intent of the act was to allow private negotiations to take place between buyers and sellers regarding which party would pay for necessary coderelated repairs. Unfortunately some municipalities have defined unfit for habitation as any property maintenance violation, no matter how minor. Things like a cracked sidewalk or missing house numbers have held up a property being given an occupancy permit and ultimately a transfer of property.

We are fortunate in York and Adams Counties that only two of the 106 municipalities in our market area require a point of sale inspection. Shrewsbury

Township and Peach Bottom Township require a point of sale septic certification but not a property inspection. While this issue has not been prevalent in our market place, RAYAC wholeheartedly supported this amendment. We know too often that activities as described above can spread to other municipalities very quickly.

The Santora amendment to House Bill 1437 would require that certificates be issued by municipalities who choose to conduct resale code inspections, regardless of the nature of code violation found. The amendment creates a new category of "Temporary Access" certificate that would allow a sale to move forward even if a home is determined to be unfit for habitation, but require that substantial code violations be corrected prior to the new owner inhabiting the property. It would also require that all other minor code violations be corrected within a certain time frame, with financial and other penalties left in place for failure to comply.



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<u>Title/Settlement Co.</u>

Abstracting Co. of York County

Community Settlement LLC-ad on pa. 3

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<u>Title/Settlement Co. - continued</u>

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