

# STATE NEWS

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[www.ndrealtors.com](http://www.ndrealtors.com)

March 2004

## ***FIRSTHOME CERTIFIED REALTOR® TRAINING COMING TO YOUR TOWN!***

NDAR in partnership with the ND Housing Finance Agency is presenting this 3-hour training session in a caravan style seminar March 15 through March 25 throughout the State. The goal of this training session is for real estate agents to achieve a better understanding of the NDHFA programs thereby increasing their proficiency in assisting clients, particularly clients considering homeownership for the first time. Completion of this course earns you to the designation of "FirstHome Certified REALTOR®"(FCR). This course has also been submitted to the MN Dept of Commerce for continuing education approval. **Register on line:** [www.ndrealtors.com](http://www.ndrealtors.com), click on "Register Online", click "Education" and select your course location.

## ***GOOD-BYE TO ERNIE GEHRKE***

Our condolences and sympathy goes out to **Judy Gehrke**, Fargo Moorhead Area Association Executive, and her family for the loss of Judy's husband Ernie. He passed away on Tuesday morning after a courageous battle with cancer. The world has lost a loving husband, father, grandfather, son, uncle, and friend.

Ernie is survived by his wife, Judy. Their 40th anniversary would have been on Thursday, March 4. He is also survived his mother, Gladys; by a son, Jack; a daughter, Amy; and four grandchildren.

There will be a viewing at West Funeral Home, located at 226 4th Ave W in West Fargo, ND, (58078) from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, followed by a prayer service at 7 p.m. The funeral is at St. Mary's Cathedral, located at 604 Broadway in Fargo, ND (58102) starting at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 5.

## ***FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER GREAT NEWS!!!***

The industrial commission has increased the purchase price and income limits for the North Dakota First time Homebuyer program. The new state-wide acquisition cost limits are now increased to **\$ 189,600**. The new income limits vary among counties and you can contact your lender or the Housing Finance Agency office at [www.ndhfa.org](http://www.ndhfa.org) click on "news".

## ***NEW MANDATORY DISCLOSURE FORM INCLUDES RADON INFO***

The FHA revised its Home Inspection Form to incorporate radon testing as one of the components homebuyers should consider at the time of purchase. The new form also clarifies the importance of and differences between an appraisal and a home inspection. Starting Feb. 22, HUD requires use of the revised form when lenders submit their package of information for FHA loan endorsement. Access the form at <http://www.realtor.org/appsourc.nsf/pages/FHARevisesHomeInspectionForm>

## ***READ REGIONAL REAL ESTATE NEWS***

Access REALTOR® Magazine Online's Regional Real Estate News at [www.realtor.org/rmodaily.nsf/RegionalNews03](http://www.realtor.org/rmodaily.nsf/RegionalNews03)

## ***CALL TO ACTION RESULTS***

The RESPA Call for Action was sent to all Action Center registrants on January 26, 2004 (see specific stats below). A second request was pushed out on February 5 to registrants who had not acted on the first Call for Action. This second "push" generated an additional 8,000 letters to Congress. Here are the final numbers for this Call for Action:

Dates of Call for Action: January 26 - February 17, 2004

Total number of Action Center users notified: 78,639

Total number of Action Center users who responded: 9,921

Total number of letters delivered to House & Senate: 29,693

**Thank you to all of you that responded to this Call to Action**

## ***NINETTA WANDLER APOINTED TO HFA ADVISORY BOARD***

The Industrial Commission (Governor Hoeven, Ag. Commissioner Johnson & Attorney General Stenejhem) recently appointed *Ninetta Wandler* (ABR, CRS, GRI) to serve as the Real Estate industry representative on the Housing Finance Agency Advisory Board. She replaces *Jan Gubrud*, Williston, who recently retired from this position.

Ninetta is affiliated with Everett Realty in Dickinson. At the Badlands Board of REALTORS® she served as the President in 1997 and 1998. She was also the 1997 and 2000 Badlands Board REALTOR® of the Year. On the State Association level she served as RPAC Fundraising Chair, Membership Chair, Education Chair and President for 2002-03. Congratulations Ninetta!

## ***DIANE LOUSER REAPPOINTED TO REC***

Governor Hoeven announced recently the reappointment of Diane Louser to a second 5-year term on the ND Real Estate Commission. Diane is an Attorney and practices law in Minot. She serves on the commission as the public member. The NDAR leadership appreciates Diane's great expertise and her willingness to continue service on the commission. Congratulations Diane!

## ***UPCOMING:***

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|-------|-------|--|
| March | 10    | Real Estate Commission meeting, Bismarck   |
|       | 15    | FirstHome Certified REALTOR® Training, Bismarck  |
|       | 16    | FirstHome Certified REALTOR® Training, Dickinson   |
|       | 17    | FirstHome Certified REALTOR® Training, Williston   |
|       | 18    | FirstHome Certified REALTOR® Training, Minot   |
|       | 18-23 | AE Institute Cincinnati ( <i>Jill Beck, Nancy Deichert, John Colter</i> )                    |
|       | 23    | FirstHome Certified REALTOR® Training, Jamestown   |
|       | 24    | FirstHome Certified REALTOR® Training, Grand Forks   |
|       | 24    | Mediation proposal meeting, Fargo (Claus Lembke, <i>Kim VanHal</i> and Kristine, UND)        |
|       | 25    | FirstHome Certified REALTOR® Training, Fargo   |
|       | 27    | <i>Scott Louser</i> (President Elect) and Christine Bywater Wedding, Clemsen, South Carolina |
| April | 1     | <i>Jill Beck</i> 's Birthday   |
|       | 5-8   | GRI 1 & 2 Fargo  |