



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **Special Recognition Awards Given to Local Members at Recent REALTOR® Luncheon**

(Shiloh, Ill.) – The REALTOR® Association of Southwestern Illinois (RASI) recently recognized members at its annual Awards Luncheon. The Association awarded the prestigious REALTOR® of the year, Affiliate of the Year, Professional Award, and Community Involvement. The members were announced and awarded at the Association's Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, March 7, 2018, at the Falls Conference Center in Columbia, IL.

**Brad Krueger, Broker with Century 21 Advantage Real Estate in Columbia, IL, received the 2018 REALTOR® of the Year award.** The REALTOR® of the Year award is a very high honor the Association bestows on a member. It is presented to an individual whose dedication to excellence has most profoundly enhanced the professional image of REALTORS®. The award recognizes the REALTOR® of the Year's personal leadership and service qualities, applied not only to the real estate industry, but also to the promotion of civic, community and charitable causes. The award, while not granted for a specific business accomplishment, is earned by REALTORS® who have made a mark in the real estate industry. Brad's complete dedication to the highest standard of professionalism, willingness to be involved in the Association governance, MLS leadership, and community involvement speaks volumes to his commitment to the real estate industry as a whole. His determined sense of diplomacy and respect for colleagues can be seen through every transaction, and there is nothing that he will not do to ensure that he provides quality service through his Association and leadership roles. Past and current involvement include numerous years as a Director on the REALTOR® Association's Board of Directors, service on numerous Association committees, and task forces, several years as a Board member for the MLS, President of the SIR/MLS, current Vice Chairman of MARIS (Mid-America Regional Information Systems) MLS, and an RPAC Major Investor. Besides the countless hours that Brad gives to the real estate industry, he finds time to be involved in his community, where he has helped raise over \$9000 for local families facing difficult situations and served food at the Ronald McDonald House.

**Angela Laskowski, Broker with RE/MAX Preferred in O'Fallon, IL, received the 2018 Professional Award.** Professionalism is the backbone of the REALTOR® Association of Southwestern Illinois. While the Code of Ethics establishes objective, enforceable standards governing the professional conduct of REALTORS®, it doesn't address issues of courtesy or etiquette. The Association believes that these are things that members should do on a daily basis. Angela radiates Professionalism with her cheerful, positive demeanor. She is a caring, thoughtful, and kind person, which has been shown throughout her career as a REALTOR®.

**The 2018 Affiliate of the Year award was given to Tim Garvey of Midlands State Bank.** The Affiliate of the Year award is the highest honor an affiliate member can receive. It is awarded to a dedicated individual who demonstrates an ongoing commitment to supporting the Association's activities. The 2018 Affiliate of the year is the epitome of a devoted, innovative, and gracious member who always takes time for the Association. Tim is always at the forefront of our industry and uses his knowledge and expertise to help bring new ideas that engage the REALTORS® and the Affiliates. The REALTOR® Association is incredibly grateful that this person is a loyal member and current Chairperson of the Affiliate Committee. He also currently serves on the Association's Board of Directors.

**Renee Wittenauer, Managing Broker of Cecil Management in O'Fallon, IL, was awarded the 2018 Community Achievement Award.** The Community Achievement Award is given to an Association member

who is making an exceptional impact on the community through volunteer work. Renee's middle name is "give." She goes to the Ronald McDonald house on a regular basis to cook meals for parents who have children who are hospitalized. Renee is a champion of children in Belleville who may not be getting regular meals during the summer months. She will deliver meals to these children in need. She also has packed and delivered blessing bags for kids in the Freeburg schools who receive the reduced lunch program. Renee went to Joplin and worked tirelessly after the devastating tornado hit, and her youth group made 790 cookies for the Scott Air Force cookie drop this year. Renee currently serves as the Chairperson for the RASI Community Involvement Committee.

The REALTOR® Association of Southwestern Illinois is proud of the award recipients and thanks them for their continued service.

*The REALTOR® Association of Southwestern Illinois (RASI) is the voice for real estate in Southwestern Illinois with over 950 members. Our mission is to empower members to succeed today and into the future.*

*For more information on RASI and real estate careers, please visit [www.618realtor.com](http://www.618realtor.com) or contact the office at (618) 277-1980 or [Membership@myRASI.com](mailto:Membership@myRASI.com). Like us at [www.facebook.com/myRASI](http://www.facebook.com/myRASI).*

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**Note: Photos of the award recipients are available upon request.**