



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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2018-2019 Officers and Directors of the REALTOR® Association of Southwestern Illinois Installed & Local Community Charity Given Donation from the Association Members

(Shiloh, Ill.) – **Judy Ross** was installed as the 2018-2019 President of the REALTOR® Association of Southwestern Illinois at an Installation event held at the Estate at the main Street Abbey in Columbia, IL, on August 22, 2018.

After a long career in International Business with a subsidiary of Ralston Purina, Judy Ross obtained her real estate license and her appraiser license in 2009. Last year, Judy and Doug Payne became co-owners of their own brokerage Southern Illinois Realty, LLC. Judy holds the prestigious designations of ABR® (Accredited Buyer's Representative), ASR® (Accredited Seller's Representative), CLHMS® (Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist), AHS® (Accredited Home Stager), E-Pro®, and Broker. Judy also served as chair of the Community Involvement committee and serves on the RPAC and Government Affairs committee for the REALTOR® Association of Southwestern Illinois as well as on the Board of Directors. Before becoming President, Judy also served on the Board of Directors for many years.

Also joining the Association's Board of Directors are President-Elect, **Donna Baker** (RE/MAX Preferred, O'Fallon); Secretary/Treasurer, **Celeste Wheeler** (RE/MAX Preferred, O'Fallon); Immediate Past-President, **Angie Zahn** (Strano & Associates, New Baden); Affiliate Director, **Tim Garvey** (Midland States Bank, O'Fallon); and the following Directors: **Ashley Barud** (Coldwell Banker Brown REALTORS®, Belleville); **Barbara Davidson** (Coldwell Banker Brown REALTORS®, Belleville); **Steve Ellerbrake** (RE/MAX Preferred, O'Fallon); **Tanya Hawkins** (RE/MAX Preferred, O'Fallon); **Brad Kruger** (Century 21 Advantage, Columbia); **Sam Row** (Keller Williams Marquee); **Karen Sheesley** (Strano & Associates, O'Fallon); **Stan Sieron** (Stan Sieron & Co., Belleville); and **Renee Wittenauer** (Cecil Management Group, O'Fallon).

The Association also took the time to recognize Dede Strano, Owner and Managing Broker of Strano & Associates Real Estate, for her membership to the Association. Dede was awarded the REALTOR® Emeritus status from the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®. Members who hold this status have been a part of the Association for 40 or more years. The Association would like to congratulate Dede Strano on her dedication and involvement in the Association over the years.

During the program, members of the Association collected \$1,400 for the Habitat for Humanity, O'Fallon, IL Chapter! Habitat for Humanity partners with people all over the world to help them build or improve a place they can call home. Habitat homeowners help build their own homes alongside volunteers and pay an affordable mortgage. Habitat homeowners achieve the strength, stability and independence they need to build a better life for themselves and for their families. The REALTOR® Association is grateful for the work done by this amazing organization!

The Association sends its congratulations to the 2018-2019 Board of Directors and is looking forward to an exciting, progressive year ahead!

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

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Note: A picture is available upon request.