

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**In celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fair Housing Act in 1968, the Harford County Association of REALTORS® Fair Housing Committee will host Shred-It Day on Saturday, November 10, 2018**

Bel Air — This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passing of the Fair Housing Act in 1968. The National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) was instrumental in the passing of the bill and, as a result, all members must adhere to a code of ethics that includes nondiscrimination.

“Fair Housing is integral to the ethical commitment of our members, as outlined in the REALTOR® Code of Ethics. While REALTORS® continue to work to ensure affordable and sustainable housing opportunities are available for Americans in every corner of this country, we must also commit ourselves to ensuring that all Americans, regardless of any physical or mental disability, have access to all services offered by REALTORS®,” said NAR President Elizabeth Mendenhall, a sixth-generation REALTOR® from Columbia, Missouri and CEO of RE/MAX Boone Realty.

Harford County Association of REALTORS® members must agree to a Fair Housing Declaration that states;

I agree to:

- Provide equal professional service without regard to the race, color, religion, gender (sex), disability (handicap), familial status, national origin, sexual orientation or gender identity, age, creed, occupation, personal appearance or political opinion of any prospective client, customer, or of the residents of any community;
- Keep informed about fair housing law and practices, improving my clients' and customers' opportunities and my business;
- Develop advertising that indicates that everyone is welcome, and no one is excluded, expanding my client's and customer's opportunities to see, buy, or lease property;
- Inform my clients and customers about their rights and responsibilities under the fair housing laws by providing brochures and other information;
- Document my efforts to provide professional service, which will assist me in becoming a more responsive and successful REALTOR®;
- Refuse to tolerate non-compliance;
- Learn about those who are different from me and celebrate those differences;

- Take a positive approach to fair housing practices and aspire to follow the spirit as well as the letter of the law and;
- Develop and implement fair housing practices for my firm to carry out the spirit of this declaration.

Harford County Association of REALTORS® Fair Housing Art Contest, “One America – Housing for All” is scheduled during April of 2019 for Fair Housing Month. **Materials for the art contest will be distributed during Shred-It Day this Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 9am and noon at the Association’s location 2227 Old Emmorton Road, Suite 117 in Bel Air.** Shred-It Day is hosted by Harford County Association of REALTORS® Fair Housing Committee. Additional information for homeowners will be available. Three bankers’ boxes of papers maximum please.

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**The National Association of REALTORS® is America’s largest trade association, representing 1.3 million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries.**

#### **About the Harford County Association of REALTORS®**

The Harford County Association of REALTORS® provides its members with resources that enable them to conduct business professionally while promoting the values and benefits for local communities to use the services of our REALTOR® members.