

Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS®

Howland Place Suite 101 * 651 Orchard Street * New Bedford, MA 02744
(508) 993-0406 * Fax (508) 993-4386

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS® joins the ranks of Operation Clean Sweep volunteers

New Bedford, MA, August 6, 2006- The Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS® (GrNBAR) knows a good thing when it sees it. When Anne Whiting of Anne Whiting Real Estate and member of GrNBAR learned about Operation Clean Sweep, she brought it to the attention of GrNBAR's community service committee who quickly embraced the suggestion to get involved.

While the anti-litter campaign now known as Operation Clean Sweep is the brainchild of New Bedford resident Lynn Coish, it is the collaboration of many. She took her proposal for a cleaner New Bedford to Mayor Lang who immediately adopted it as a worthwhile strategy to clean up the city's neighborhoods. He appointed Jerry Pinto to co-chair the project with Ms. Coish and together they enlisted the help of hundreds of volunteers, including many city workers who volunteer their time. Marissa Perez-Dormitze, recycling co-ordinator for the city of New Bedford, is also a key player in the committee's efforts to realize its objectives.

Operation Clean Sweep's intent is to clean the city "one neighborhood at a time," to educate the community about the importance of a clean environment, and invites all of New Bedford to pitch in. According to Operation Clean Sweep's web page, 10 tons of trash have been picked up off the city's streets. Four neighborhood clean-ups have already taken place with two more scheduled for Ward 4 on August 19th and Ward 5 on September 16th.

GrNBAR volunteers are some of many volunteers turning out to clean up city streets and neighborhoods. Many of these volunteers do not restrict themselves to cleaning up only their little patch of the city. They show up for each event, presenting themselves as a community who cares about the health, welfare, and beauty of all New Bedford. To learn how you can be a part of this worthy endeavor, please call 508-979-1493.

About Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS®

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Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS® awards \$7,000 to area high school students

New Bedford, MA, May 23, 2006- The Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS® (GrNBAR) is pleased to announce winners of this year's Scholarship Program. This year, after many years of awarding scholarships to children of REALTORS® members, GrNBAR expanded its Scholarship Program to include other area high school students. In addition to the two \$1000 scholarships awarded to children of GrNBAR members, five \$1000 scholarships went to area high school students who have been accepted for enrollment at a college or university and will be entering their freshman year.

This year's scholarship awards went to GrNBAR member children Lauren McGlone and David "Mac" Stanton. Lauren is the daughter of Jeanne McGlone. She is a senior at Dartmouth High School in Dartmouth and will be attending Penn State in the fall. Mac is the son of Chris Stanton. He is a senior at St. Sebastian's School in Needham where his father is also a teacher. He plans to attend Providence College in the fall.

Scholarships to children from area high schools were awarded to Gracie Mullen-Thompson of Bishop Stang High School, entering Providence College or Salve Regina University; Blayne Lopes of New Bedford High School, entering Stonehill College; Jeremy Therrien of Fairhaven High School, entering Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Branden Pacheco of Westport High School, entering New York University; and Salina Duggan of Apponequet High School, entering Boston University or St. Joseph's University.

To mark the occasion, Awards Nights were held at the various high schools where scholarship recipients were presented with their prizes.

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New Bedford, MA, March 8, 2006- The Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS® (GrNBAR), after many years of awarding scholarships to children of REALTORS® members, has expanded its Scholarship Program to include other area graduates. This year, in addition to the two \$1000 scholarships to children of GrNBAR members, the GrNBAR will award five \$1000 awards to qualified candidates, young adults who are not children of REALTORS® members, and who are accepted at a college or university and entering their freshman year.

Westport H. S., Dartmouth H. S., Bishop Stang H. S., New Bedford H. S., Fairhaven H. S., Wareham H. S., Old Rochester Regional H. S., Apponequet Regional H. S., and Gr. New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical H. S. students interested in applying for the scholarship may see their guidance counselors for applications. Children of Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS® must apply at the office of the Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS®.

Official Association applications are now available. Deadline for application submission is Friday, April 7, 2006.

Please contact Robin L. Maccini, Executive Assistant, at (508) 993-0406 for further details and to request an application.

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Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS® rallies around Smart Growth

New Bedford, MA, March 28, 2006 - The Greater New Bedford Association of REALTORS® (GrNBAR) General Membership Meeting welcomed featured guest speaker David Wluka, 2006 president of the MA Association of REALTORS® (MAR) and chairman of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) Smart Growth Program Advisory Group. Mr. Wluka presented the concept of Smart Growth, an initiative supporting sustainable development. "Here in New Bedford and the SouthCoast, the time is ripe for such a concept," he emphasized. Smart Growth principals for towns and rural areas, as detailed in the current issue of NAR's biannual magazine *On Common Ground*, aim to identify and sustain green infrastructure, protect environmental systems, conserve resources, provide diverse housing types and opportunities, build centers of concentrated mixed use, deliver sustainable transportation choices, and preserve the character of our communities. Mr. Wluka stated that "with cooperation, we can achieve development *and* preserve quality of life."

At the meeting was special guest Mayor Scott Lang. "REALTORS® are ambassadors for New Bedford," he said, promoting the development of the city and Southeastern Massachusetts as a great place to live, work, go to school, and raise families. Mayor Lang vowed to support efforts to promote New Bedford and, furthermore, invited REALTORS® and their clients to his office to discuss quality of life in New Bedford, especially as it relates to public safety and education.

Nancy Dunning, Executive Vice President for GrNBAR and the Southeast MA Multiple Listing Service (MLS), also welcomed the opportunity REALTORS® have to learn more about Smart Growth. She said it is the aim of "REALTORS® to assist in the efficient planning of communities for the future." Monica Dupre, 2006 president of the GrNBAR, also applauded the opportunity for her association to become better acquainted with the principals of Smart Growth. Ms. Dupre noted that New Bedford is already on the way to incorporating Smart Growth concepts into its planning. Smart Growth can act as a "bridge," she said, "between developers and town planners." Mr. Wluka, who also served as a master land-use planner, also emphasized the connection Smart Growth can make between development and planning. To further support this nexus, he said, a Smart Growth Coalition Meeting is being organized for May.

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