

A Message from the President of the Youngstown Columbiana Association of REALTORS®

REALTORS® Giving Back

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REALTORS® put in long hours and work hard day-in and day-out guiding their clients as they buy and sell their homes. Every transaction is different. Every client has different needs and wants. And sometimes, unfortunately, transactions dissolve when both parties can't agree. Although some days are tougher than others as they coordinate every aspect of a transaction and negotiate on behalf of their clients each step of the way, it is one of the most rewarding careers out there. Guiding clients, building lasting friendships, and developing a deep appreciation for their community are some of the reasons why REALTORS® love what they do!

As a REALTOR® meets new clients and gains a greater sense of "community" along the way, REALTORS® often feel the want to give back to the community that supports them in their profession. They become involved in supporting many different non-profit organizations, whether it be through their local Real Estate Board or through the connections they make out in the community. In their spare time, you will find them volunteering to clean up the community, building houses, or hosting fundraising events to raise money for several charities. From the local level to the state and national levels, REALTORS® alike are dedicated to giving back in so many ways.

On an annual basis, our local real estate board raises tens of thousands of dollars for local charities so our members, REALTORS®, and affiliates dedicate their time to doing so. Each year, the newly elected President of the Youngstown Columbiana Association of REALTORS® (YCAR) chooses a charity that the organization will support and raise funds for throughout the year. This year I chose to support Veteran's Haven, a non-profit organization whose mission is to support homeless veterans in our community in their efforts to achieve greater self-sufficiency, including the ability to secure and maintain permanent housing. Through various fundraising activities, YCAR members and affiliates will commit to raising awareness and funds for Veteran's Haven.

This past Friday we held our **Annual Youngstown Columbiana Association of REALTORS (YCAR) & Beaver Creek Area Association of REALTORS (BCAAR) Golf Outing**. Affiliates, members, Veteran's Haven volunteers, and many other generous sponsors joined together and took part in this monumental event. As I looked around, I saw smiling faces everywhere, but most importantly I witnessed a group of amazing individuals pulling together and having FUN in supporting an awesome Veteran organization. An organization who values HOME - the same way us REALTORS® do. We are extremely grateful for all the support and thankful for the committee who made the day a huge success. Stay tuned as we tally the total amount raised for Veteran's Haven through this fundraising golf outing.

Next time you see a REALTOR®, thank them for the work they do in the community. Their ambition to service the area you live and work in goes far beyond the commission. They service their clients and the community with dedication, commitment, sacrifice, and most importantly PASSION!

Michael Stevens is the 2023 President of the Youngstown Columbiana Association of REALTORS®