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Greetings, Three Rivers!

Here we are in the thick of summer. Our members continue to serve clients in the midst of a difficult market, which ensures that your Government Affairs Director stays busy. First up, a hearty congratulations to the Three Rivers Association of REALTORS® staff and Golf Outing Committee for hosting a great day of golf at Heritage Bluffs on June 22. Great turnout, perfect weather, and a wonderful day of team building. Thank you so much for your hard work, team!

While our Government Affairs Committee has identified local communities to work with on grant opportunities, this year has created an unusual surge in grant applications across the nation. If your community has a grant idea, please reach out so we can begin the process of preparing to apply as soon as the new year turns! Discussion continues with Joliet Mayor Terry D'Arcy and his staff to identify some exciting opportunities to help the City of Joliet address the housing crisis in Illinois' third largest city. Stay tuned for updates!

As we all know, the housing crisis impacts everyone. We were so pleased to connect with the Joliet Fire Department to hear more about how their Community Risk Reduction program is partnering with organizations and agencies across the county to address the growing population of people experiencing homelessness in the area. They presented their work to our Board of Directors and we look forward to them offering an update to the Government Affairs Committee at our August meeting. Ultimately, our hope is that REALTORS® will join in the effort to help JFD's team identify rental vacancies and housing providers who are willing to work with employed and qualified members of their program who will receive financial and social work assistance as they make their way toward independence. More information on that to follow.

Speaking of housing providers and rental properties, we are working closely with the City of Joliet and the Will County Land Use Department to host a landlord resource program on Friday, October 13 from 9 - 12 at the Clarion in Joliet. We will welcome members from the entire Three Rivers Association of REALTORS® service area, outlining resources available for housing providers in the region. This promises to be a very informative and interesting program, so please save the date.

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to attend the Three Rivers Association of REALTORS® Annual Membership Meeting at Mistwood Golf Course on Wednesday, July 19. Doors open at 8:30 AM for registration and to allow members to cast their ballots for the following year's leadership. The breakfast starts at 9 AM and includes the best little waffles this side of Belgium. This event is FREE, and exclusive to, Three Rivers members. I will be in Detroit at the National Association of REALTORS® annual GAD Conference, where I will learn ever more skills to make me the ultimate GAD in your service.

Is it just me or is 2023 cruising by at maximum velocity? Let's make the second half of this year the best ever. As always, please reach out to me with issues, concerns, questions, or just good old information that I can utilize to make your professional lives operate smoothly.

Your GAD,
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