



## *President's Message - Don Parsons*



The last several weeks have been chaotic for so many. Trying to help our clients during a pandemic is a challenge we all face. We must balance business with our societal responsibility of not contributing to the spread of COVID-19. We encourage you to follow Federal and State orders, including practicing social distancing. The health and well-being of our members and staff are a priority for us. To that end, our office is currently closed to visitors through 4/30, but we are accepting appointments for any urgent matters. Our staff is working at full capacity remotely and are still available to take your calls and emails, so do not hesitate to reach out. Our classes and meetings are being held with the use of technology.

I want to let you know how hard the REALTOR® Association is working on behalf of its members and home ownership. From advocating for benefits for self-employed and independent contractors in [Coronavirus emergency legislation](#) to providing resources on the [National](#) and [State](#) fronts to providing [discounted and free products](#), our business is organized around supporting your business. Every day brings a dizzying pace of new information and we dedicated to keeping you updated. Most recently a new Small Business Administration (SBA) loan program called the "Paycheck Protection Program" (PPP) was adopted. It provides small businesses with [zero-fee loans \(limits apply\) to cover payroll and other operating expenses, including for independent contractors](#). On Friday, the National Association of REALTORS® announced it is funding [TeleHealth](#) for two months at no cost to members who need it. Also on Friday, the RI Department of Business Regulation [released this advisory](#) to all real estate brokers and appraisers.

In closing, know that I, along with the leadership team and staff of the Greater Providence Board of REALTORS®, are here for you and are committed to your safety. Be safe. Be well.

### *In this newsletter:*

- [Free Webinar: How to Work Virtually in Today's Business Environment](#)
- [NAR Good Neighbor Awards 2020](#)
- [2021 Officers & Directors Nominations](#)
- [Professional Development Promotions](#)
- [GPBOR C.A.R.E. Welcome Basket Drive](#)
- [Fair Housing Month](#)



Did you miss our 3/27 webinar "How to work virtually in today's business environment?" Access the free, one-hour long webinar [here](#) or on the play button. Our Presenter, [John Mayfield](#), known as the real estate/business tech guy, guides you on how to work virtually at a time where most have to learn how to work from home.

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## *Are you a Good Neighbor?*

More than ever, we honor those who give back for the good of the community. NAR is seeking nominations for REALTORS® who make an extraordinary impact through volunteering. Five winners will receive \$10,000 grants and national publicity to benefit their cause. Do you know someone who is exceptional at giving back to their community or nationally? Then consider nominating them by 5/8 [here](#).



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## *Nominations for 2021 Officers & Directors Now Open*

Our nominating committee is seeking GPBOR REALTOR® members interested in serving in a leadership capacity in 2021. Nominate yourself or someone else. Access all details [here](#) by 5/15/2020.



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# Professional Development Promotions

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**Win a \$100 Gift Card!**

Complete the C2EX training by 5/31 and be entered into a drawing to win a \$100 Visa gift card.

All REALTORS® who complete the program will get recognition on our Facebook Page and our Awards page on [www.gpbor.realtor](http://www.gpbor.realtor).

Must provide certificate of completion to be entered, one entry per person. A winner will be randomly selected on June 10th and be contacted by phone and email. Completion of the C2EX endorsement will meet the Code of Ethics training requirement for the 6th biennial.

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**CONTACT US**  
(401) 274-8383  
[info@gpbor.realtor](mailto:info@gpbor.realtor)  
[www.gpbor.realtor](http://www.gpbor.realtor)

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## GPBOR C.A.R.E. Helping The Sojourner House

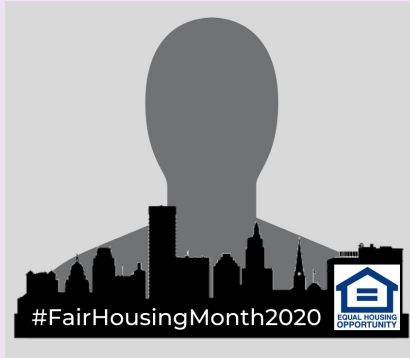
4/1/20 - 6/1/20

Please help local non-profit Sojourner House by donating new items for victims and survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. A list of new item needed are listed [here](#). Visit our [Amazon Wish](#) list to purchase items and ship them to our office.



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# April is Fair Housing Month



It's April and we have introduced a new #FairHousingMonth2020 Facebook frame you can add to your Facebook profile picture. It's easy - just click on your profile photo, select "add frame" and search by our page name (Greater Providence Board of REALTORS®).

Our Housing Opportunities Committee encourages all to take the [Fair Housing Declaration](#) and to display in their office.

This is also the perfect time to take NAR's **At Home With Diversity** (AHWD) certification program, designed to present a picture of the changing face of the real estate industry. This online program is usually \$99, but with NAR's *Right Tools Right Now*, it is only \$49 through 6/30 and offers many benefits upon achievement. [Click here](#) to learn more or start.

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