



For Immediate Release  
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### **REALTORS® Install Officers/Directors; Recognize Outstanding Members**

Members and guests of the Greater Tampa Association of REALTORS® (GTAR) gathered December 16<sup>th</sup> at The University Club for its 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Installation and Awards Banquet. Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio attended this gala event and presented a proclamation to honor the 100 year celebration of the association. Also in attendance were National Association of REALTORS® 2011 President, Ron Phipps and Florida REALTORS® 2011 President, Patricia “Patti” Fitzgerald.

In addition to installing the leadership team for 2011, members who made a significant contribution to the association in 2010 were recognized.

Former Hillsborough County Commissioner James D. “Big Jim” Selvey (Keller Williams Realty) was installed as the association’s 2011 President along with the 2011 officers and directors by the National Association of REALTORS® 2011 President, Ron Phipps. The officers installed are: President-elect Sally McFolling (Keller Williams Realty South Shore); Vice President Julia Stander (Coldwell Banker Residential); Secretary Janet Swilley (Realty 2000pa.com, Inc.) and Treasurer Barbara Jordan (Coldwell Banker Residential). The directors are: Dee Adams (Dee Adams REALTOR®); Linda Calebro-Kuder (Calebro & Associates); Norma Minardi Cohen (South Tampa Realty Group); Jeff Daniels (Keller Williams Realty); Darlene Hutton (Century 21 Shaw Realty Group); Elsa Knouse (People’s Choice Realty Service LLC); Mary McCall (RE/MAX ACR Elite Group, Inc.); Joe Perez (Keller Williams Tampa Properties); Sandy Streit (SandyRae Realty); Nancy Wingate (McGrath Poppell & Co., Inc.) and Ex-Officio Members: Carlos Fuentes, District Six Vice President (Keller Williams Tampa Properties); Donald Kuder, Women’s Council of REALTORS® (WCR) 2011 President, (Calebro & Associates); Fred Procise, Affiliate Director (Pro-Motions Plus) and Vernon Taylor, Immediate Past President (VET Realty).

Several GTAR members who made a significant contribution to the association were recognized.

The association’s top award, the 2010 REALTOR® of the Year, was presented to Norma Minardi Cohen (South Tampa Realty Group). Cohen has previously served as a director for GTAR, Florida REALTORS® and the REALTORS® Care Foundation of GTAR. She has chaired GTAR Grievance, Professional Standards and REALTOR®/Attorney Committees and currently serves on the Governmental Affairs Committee. In the community, Cohen is a founding member of Rebuilding Together Tampa Bay and served as their president two consecutive years. She also does volunteer work at Christ the King Catholic School.

Brenda Rider of Florida Executive Realty received the C. Ed Owings Award for Community Service. Rider has supported Moffitt Cancer Center for years, and is an active participant with the hospital. When the staff at Moffit has new people coming to Tampa Bay area the agent that comes to their mind is Brenda Rider. She never thought she would be a cancer survivor herself, but was diagnosed with breast cancer several years ago, and has been cancer free for 8 years.

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*REALTOR® Awards/Add 1*

Rider participated in the cancer walk about three years ago raising money for cancer research. Within Rider is a heart of love and mercy for those she works with, clients and the public in general. She always stands ready with a helping hand and listening ear.

The Edward T. Starr Award, given to the GTAR committee chair who exhibit outstanding leadership and service to the association, was presented to Elsa Knouse with People's Choice Realty Service LLC. Knouse chaired the Professional Development Committee, working numerous hours with the committee on various association educational programs.

Deborah Farmer, StarLight Realty, Inc., is this year's recipient of the LaBarbera & Associates Meritorious Service Award. The award recognizes a GTAR member who has a record of exemplary service to the association over an extended period of time. Farmer joined the association in 1998 and served as president in 2008. She chaired the 2010 Nominating Committee. Farmer has previously served as director for GTAR, Florida REALTORS® and the National Association of REALTORS®. She has served the community as a Judicial 13<sup>th</sup> District court appointed Guardian ad Litem since 2001 advocating for abused and neglected children in the state and foster care system. Farmer also is a trained certified responder for the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief Program and served with the Salvation Army and Red Cross disaster and hurricane response programs.

On March 18, 2011 the association will celebrate 100 years of serving the community.

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