

# News Release

**REALTOR® ASSOCIATION OF PIONEER VALLEY, INC.**  
The Western New England Center for Real Estate Services  
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## **REALTOR® ASSOCIATION AWARDS LONG TIME MEMBERS WITH NATIONAL EMERITUS AWARDS**

**Springfield, MA - June 16, 2010** - Nine members of the Realtor® Association of Pioneer Valley were awarded the National Emeritus Award at an awards banquet held Tuesday, June 8th at The Delaney House in Holyoke. The honorable award is given to those members who have 40 years of membership to The Association. The following is a list of the recipients:

**Eileen Burzdak of Grimaldi & Burzdak Realtors® in East Longmeadow.** Eileen has been a member of the Realtor® Association of Pioneer Valley since 1969 and a lifetime member since 2005. Over Eileen's 40 years with the Realtor® Association she has served on the Past President's Task Force, Professional Standards Committee, and served as President of RAPV in 1986. Eileen is an RPAC contributor and holds the Accredited Buyer Representative and Graduate of Realtor® Institute designations. One of Eileen's most generous contributions to RAPV is her devotion to teaching the Realtor® Association Bylaws to incoming members at orientation for over 30 years. She won Realtor® of the Year in 1984.

**Elizabeth "Betty" Grimaldi of Grimaldi & Burzdak Realtors® in Agawam.** Along with running a busy real estate company Betty has volunteered her time on many committees at the Association of Realtors®. Betty has been involved with the Commercial and Investment Group, the Membership Committee, Professional Standards Committee, Real Estate License school. Betty volunteers on the fundraising committee for the Agawam Senior center in which she holds the position of vice president.

**Dorothy "Dot" Lortie of Dot Lortie Realty, A Landmark Company in Springfield.** Dot has been an active member of Local, State and National REALTOR® Associations for 45 years. Her real estate career began in 1965 when she joined Marie Kane Real Estate. In 1989 she opened and managed her own agency, Dot Lortie Realty, with her husband Leo as a partner. Dot Lortie Realty/Landmark now consists of five offices with a local professional team of 80 Real Estate Agents. Dot has served on several committees as a member of the REALTOR® Association of Pioneer Valley including Government Affairs, Continuing Education and Risk Reduction. She was Secretary of the Greater Springfield Board of REALTORS®. Dot won Realtor® of the Year in 1987 and she received her local and state life membership status in 2005.

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**Dorothy “Dot” Dineen of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Longmeadow.** Dot has held a broker’s license since June, 1969. She joined the Greater Springfield Board of REALTORS® (now the RAPV) in July, 1969 and started her career at the Wilbraham office of Stearns & Yerrall. She was a top producer for Stearns & Yerrall for many years. She then joined Dewolfe and subsequently Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Longmeadow. Dot volunteered at Sacred Heart School where she taught English to non English speaking children. She was Head of Catholic Daughter’s at St. Michael’s in East Longmeadow and she is very involved with Cursillo Retreat movement. She has been a lifetime member of the REALTOR® Association of Pioneer Valley since 2005. She holds the CBR, GRI and CRS designations, and has been a member several committees at the RAPV.

**Jane Palmer of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Longmeadow.** Jane has been in real estate since September, 1964. She joined the Greater Springfield Association of REALTORS® now the REALTOR® Association of Pioneer Valley in November, 1964. She has been a life member since 2005. Not only has Jane done a wonderful Real Estate business, but she also found time to volunteer her time to the Executive Committee for Baystate Medical Center, Advisory Council for Bay Path College and the Red Cross of Somers, Connecticut. Jane was once named “YMCA Woman of the Year”. She volunteered her time to many of the REALTOR® Associations committees such as the Scholarship and Community Service Committees and spent many years working on the children’s Holiday Party at the RAPV. Jane holds the GRI and CRS designations.

**Paul Sears of Sears Real Estate in Springfield.** Paul received his real estate license in May of 1970 and joined the Greater Springfield Association of REALTORS® now the REALTOR® Association of Pioneer Valley in June of that same year. He has been a life member since 2005. During his membership he as chaired the Grievance Committee and has been a member of the International Task Force, Public Image, Nominating Committee, Past President’s Task Force, and MLS Technology Committee. Paul was the RAPV President in 1981 and REALTOR® of the Year in 1983. He is the broker owner of Sears Real Estate in Springfield and served as Springfield City Councilman for 3 years.

**Anne Naroff of Dot Lortie Realty, A Landmark Company in Springfield.** Anne joined the REALTOR® Association of Pioneer Valley in 1968. She was initially licensed to sell real estate in November, 1968, and then received her broker’s license in June of 1979. She was the broker owner of Prestige Realty in the 1980’s and joined Dot Lortie after selling her company in the 1990’s. She has been a lifetime member of the Association since 1994. She was a State Director for many years as well as serving and chairing several committees at the Association including Professional Standards, Membership/Marketing and Community Service. In the 1970’s she received the Million Dollar Sales Award.

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**Kathleen Flynn of Robert P. Molta Realty Associates d/b/a Carlson GMAC in Wilbraham.** Kathleen joined the REALTOR® Association in 1961, she was the second woman to join. She attended many lobbying “Days on the Hill” with the Massachusetts Association of Realtors® and served on various committees at RAPV.

**Patricia Scungio of Pace Real Estate in Springfield.** Pat joined RAPV in 1968. She served as chairperson of the President’s Award, Ethics and Scholarship committees throughout her years at the Association.