

February 10, 2007

# REAL ESTATE PEOPLE

## O'Leary joins Preferred Properties

Preferred Properties of Asheville has announced that Vicki O'Leary has joined the company at the South Asheville office.

O'Leary has a degree in business administration from the University of Southern Maine. She has been a real estate agent in Asheville for more than two years, specializing in residential sales and relocation.

## Realty World gets new owners

Realty World-Heritage Realty is under new ownership. New owners Tom and Christine Mallette bring diverse backgrounds and education with them. The company will continue to be at 1986 Soco Road in Maggie Valley.

The Mallettes moved into real estate careers at Realty World-Heritage from positions at Western Carolina University. They came into the real estate business with an eye on future ownership of their own company.

## Pressley graduates from Institute

Richard Pressley, owner/broker of John Carroll Realtors, recently earned the professional designation of Graduate, Realtor Institute.

Graduation from the program requires completion of more than 90 hours of course work and 12 examinations on various aspects of the courses taken.

The Realtor Institute is co-sponsored by the North Carolina Real Estate Educational Foundation and the North Carolina Association of Realtors.

## Metcalf wins holiday sweepstakes

Seth Metcalf, a broker associate with Beverly-Hanks & Associates, won the holiday sweepstakes for realtors held at the Biltmore Farms main office in South Asheville.

## Ward awarded ABR designation

Cindy Ward, co-owner and broker of Weaverville Realty, recently received the accredited buyer representative designation from REBAC and the National Association of Realtors.

ABR is the benchmark of excellence in buyer representation; designees must complete a comprehensive course in buyer representation and an elective course focusing on a buyer representation specialty, as well as verify professional experience.

## Harrison given award by firm

Sperry Van Ness, a commercial real estate investment brokerage firm, has recognized Tim Harrison as a Sperry Van Ness Achiever Award for closing 17 transactions in 2006.

## From staff reports

Kicking off on Nov. 1 of last year, the contest challenged agents to make a sale of any of Biltmore Lake's existing inventory of homes. Realtors able to close their sales before New Year's received a "Christmas bonus" of a \$1,000 American Express gift certificate and were entered in a drawing for a trip for two to Hawaii.