

news release

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Iowa Association of REALTORS® Names Jo Jenkins of Newton as 2009 REALTOR® of the Year

CLIVE, IOWA (Oct. 9, 2009) – The Iowa Association of REALTORS® (IAR) recently announced Jo Jenkins of Newton as the 2009 REALTOR® of the Year. The IAR presented the honor and other special awards at its Inaugural Gala on Sept. 23 in Council Bluffs.

Jenkins has been a licensed REALTOR® in Iowa for more than 22 years and the broker at Prudential First Realty of Newton since 1995. Jenkins has earned four of the field's highest professional designations, including the GRI (Graduate REALTOR® Institute), CRS (Certified Residential Specialist), ABR (Accredited Buyer's Representative) and CRB (Certified Real Estate Brokerage Manager).

Carey Jensen, president of the IAR, says Jenkins is a great asset to the IAR team. "Jo has made so many contributions to the IAR over the years," explains Jensen. "She is dedicated to helping other people, including her clients, her REALTOR® colleagues and those in her community. If she sees a need, she helps out in any way she can. She steps up and makes a difference in Newton and across the state. She is very deserving of this prestigious IAR award."

Jenkins was surprised but excited to receive the honor. "I am indeed honored to belong to two great families - my immediate family and my REALTOR® family," states Jenkins.

Jenkins has been a member of the IAR since 1987 and served as president in 2006. She currently chairs the Coaching and Mentoring Task Force, is an RPAC Trustee, and serves on the executive, legal action and public policy committees. She was inducted into the Omega Tau Rho Fraternity in 2008. In addition, she has held several leadership positions with the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) and is running for 2012 regional vice president.

Jenkins is also active on her local board, serving as its president, vice president and in other

leadership roles. She is a two-time recipient of the Newton REALTOR® of the Year Award and received the Prudential Realty Top Producer Award in 2007. She is a Prudential Leading Edge Society Member.

Jenkins contributes a great deal of time and energy to her community as well. She is the chair of the Kiwanis' Youth Committee and serves on the executive committee for Newton Development Corporation. She is the past chair of the Newton Chamber of Commerce as well as the Newton United Way. Jenkins is a graduate of Leadership Newton and the Citizen's Police Academy, and also volunteers for Newton Community Schools and Sacred Heart Church.

The Iowa Association of REALTORS® is the state's largest real estate professional organization representing more than 7,000 members and affiliates. For more information about IAR visit www.iowarealtors.com

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