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## **San Diego Real Estate Agent Among Finalists For National Good Neighbor Award**

(Denver, Colo., October 3, 2007) - REALTOR® magazine recently announced the nation's top finalists in the eighth annual *Good Neighbor Awards*, honoring realtors who are also dedicated community citizens, and a local San Diego agent made the list.

Ten national finalists, including Phil Landis of RE/MAX Ranch & Beach, were chosen from over 320 nominations and are being celebrated for their exceptional contributions to improve the quality of life for others.

"These finalists have made tremendous contributions to their communities," said Pamela Guerds Kabati who serves dual roles as Vice President of Publications for the National Association of Realtors (NAR) and as REALTOR® Magazine's Editorial Director. "Their stories inspire all of us. All of the more than 320 nominees - and particularly our ten finalists - exemplify the spirit of community service that is typical of Realtors."

Beyond a successful 20-year career as a real estate agent, Landis, a Vietnam veteran and native Californian, is Chairman of the Veterans' Village of San Diego (VVSD). The VVSD is an intensive rehab and training facility for homeless veterans of all eras. In Landis' 11 years of service with VVSD, the organization has evolved into multiple housing facilities with a \$6.2 million budget. He is also credited with raising \$9 million for the first iteration of a three-phase construction project that, when complete, will be a 368-bed facility with added amenities. Phase I was recently finished and includes a 112-bed housing unit, dining hall and counseling facility. Funding for the second phase is complete and construction has begun, while fundraising for phase III is underway.

"It is because of my service in combat in the US Army during the Vietnam war that I feel so passionately about honoring our veterans and assisting them in providing the life skills necessary to reintegrate into society," said Landis. "As a real estate agent for so many years, I realize the value of every member of our community."

If selected as a top five finalist of the Good Neighbor Awards, Landis would receive a \$10,000 grant for the VVSD or he could win one of five honorable mentions and a \$2,500 grant.

Finalists were selected based on the depth and impact of their volunteer contribution, the broadness of that impact, and their demonstrated leadership and initiative. The winners will be announced in the November edition of REALTOR® Magazine.