The Voice of the Washtenaw, Livingston, Monroe, and Lenawee County's Rental Housing Industry!

Volume 32, Issue I — January 2015

Always available at www.wa3hq.org

Vacancy Rates Hit Historic Lows

Digested from "Smaller Cities Led Way in Rent Increases in 2014" The Wall Street Journal (1/5/15)

Rents in the United States have continued to increase for the fifth consecutive year, rising an average 3.6 percent in 2014 because of high demand and short supply. The average national rent was \$1,124.38 per month — the highest since real-estate investment firm Reis started tracking the statistic in 1980. Meanwhile, vacancy rates dipped to 4.2 percent, their lowest point since 2000.

Although all 79 primary metro areas Reis tracks saw rent increases this past year, some of the largest jumps came in smaller and midsize metros where new construction was not as prevalent. For example, Denver saw rents rise 7.9 percent, while Boston saw rents rise 4.9 percent. Other notable jumps include Charleston, South Carolina (5.5 percent), Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina (4.8 percent) and Nashville, Tennessee (4.7 percent).

New construction will likely cause rent growth to slow some in 2015, as builders look to meet consumer demand. But National Association of Home Builders chief economist David Crowe anticipates that any significant slowing won't

occur until at least 2016.

The Extinction of the Bed Bugs?

Pest problems may become a thing of the past — at least when it comes to bedbugs — thanks to new research from Simon Freer University on helpful ways to detect and contain such issues.

Researchers at the university have discovered a pheromone bait, comprising five volatile components and one less-volatile component, to capture the troublesome pests. Apartment-community managers can use the safe, easily disposable lures to check for bedbug infestation as well as eliminate them from the premises.

The university's five-year study stems from a global bedbug resurgence over the past 15 years, following a lengthy period of dormancy that resulted from improvements in insecticides. Bedbug bites result in potentially severe dermal reactions, emotional distress and paranoia, and emergency-room visits in the United States soared from 21 to 15,945 during the first decade of the 21st century.

Based on the study results, the research team hopes to bring a bait and trap to market in the coming year to provide an affordable solution to this harmful pest issue.

Both of these articles are published on the NAA website and are digested from other sources. Follow all the "Industry Insider" digests at www.naahq.org.

Membership has it's BENEFITS

No Strings. No Tricks.
Just Honest Laundry Service.
Six-Month Trial on All New Leases



Since 1947, multifamily properties have trusted their laundry room operations to WASH. We professionally manage your laundry room, supply top-of-the-line, energy-efficient commercial washers and dryers, and expertly handle all service and maintenance.

WASH even offers a six-month trial with every new laundry lease. That means, you can try our services for six months without any obligation. If you don't love us, you can leave us. It's that simple. Plus, we offer month-by-month lease options.

There has never been a better time to try WASH. No Strings. No Tricks. Just Honest Laundry Service.



President's Message: by Amy Khan

Join an Interest Circle or Committee

Happy New Year WAAA Members! I hope that everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. I am personally very excited about what has been planned here at WA3 for 2015. Look at the calendar and be sure to plan on attending as many of this years events and education opportunities as you can. It is sure to be a great year.

As we settle in after the busy holidays its a good time to visit the new website and make sure that you can easily log



in and navigate thru all the features, update your profile and sign up for events. If you have any problems using the new site, please be sure to contact the office and let them know. If you have co-workers who are not getting the newsletter be sure to pass that on so that all of our members have the opportunity to receive the full benefits of membership and stay informed.

Before the holidays Terri with Valley Ranch Apartments hosted our year end Directors Retreat. It was a busy evening filled with lots of great ideas. This yearly event brings together current and past Board Members as well as committee members to talk about the past year as well as make plans for the future of the association. Notes from this years retreat can be found in this months newsletter. I welcome any input that any of you may have so please do not hesitate to reach out to me with your ideas and thoughts. Only together can we continue to grow the strength of our voice in the community and move the association forward. Our association is only as strong as the membership makes it.

Enjoy the rest of January and I look forward to seeing all of you at the February General Membership Meeting..

Best Regards, Amy

Office Message: By Alice Ehn and Melinda Kaus



Melinda has been making the rounds of all association members to introduce herself and to encourage our property management professionals to attend the February General Membership Lunch and March 4th Trade Show and Maintenance Mania. We are very excited to have a new way for



everyone to sign up for events and education. Our new integrated website is allowing you to sign into the member portal and update all your information and to sign up for every thing easily. Every property is a member and has a username and every person associated with that property can have their own username information and access. If you take a class and

Don't have time to serve on a committee? Join an interest circle. Receive information targeted to the information you want to hear about. Whether you are part of the Livingston County group or Independent Rental Owners. If they get together, you can hear about it and join. Specific information for specific interests.

Go to the Member's Only section of wa3hq.org and put in your username and password. (Don't know your username and password?? There is a button for that too). Click on the STAY INFORMED link and select what you are interested in. You can pick more than one. You can join a committee...even if you just have 1 hour per month. Every committee has one time things that can be done to help out. If you join a committee the chair will contact you to find a task that fits your schedule. Below is a list of committees and circles. Get involved to day and help move the association forward.

Inspection Task Force
Interest Circle for Affordable Housing Providers
Interest Circle for Business Partners
Interest Circle for Legislation and Advocacy
Interest Circle for Livingston County
Interest Circle for Maintenance Issues
Interest Circle of Owners of Rental Housing
Education Committee
Legislative Committee
Marketing the association to the community
Membership Committee
Newsletter Committee
Product and Service Council for Business Partners
Program Committee

The success of your Association is dependent on strong involvement. We need your voice TODAY!!!!!!!!

sign up online the new database is automatically updated with your history. Our business partners have a company username and a main contact person username. Companies can update all their information seamlessly and keep the information at the office coming to the right persons. As always, contact us at info@wa3hq.org with any questions, problems or comments. We would love to know what you think about our new improved website and processes.

Produced By: Washtenaw Area Apartment Association, 2008 S. State Street, Suite C, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

734/663-1200; FAX 734/821-0497 Email: info@wa3hq.org

Deadline: 15th of the month for next month's publication to newsletter@wa3hq.org. Submit all materials to Alice Ehn, Executive Officer

2015 Directors:

- •Amy Khan, President, Corner House Apartments, 734-216-5370
- •Kristine Siemieniak, VP and Program Chair, Wilson White Company, 734-995-0600
- •Michelle Foley, Secretary, Mill Creek Town Houses, 734-971-1730
- •Leslie Lemerand, Treasurer, Oxford Property Management, 734-995-9200
- •Michelle Milliken, Membership Chair, Paul Davis Restoration,734-930-0303
- •Jason Wilhoite, Marketing Chair, PPG, 734-417-4758
- •Bennett Borsuk, Legislative Chair, Cabrio Properties, 734-994-7374
- Christina Collings, Education Chair, Lockwood Management Company, 517-546-6567
- •Terri Neely, Newsletter and Philanthropy, Valley Ranch Apartments, 734-747-9050

PMAM REPRESENTATIVES: Melissa Seitz, Wilson White Company and Susan Horner, Timberland Partners

Property Mgmt. Assoc. of Michigan - Association Guidance, Denise McGinn, associationg93@aol.com

National Apartment Association - 4300 Wilson Blvd, Suite 400, Arlington, VA, 22203 - 703/518-6141, FAX 703/248-9440 - www.naahq.org

Sign up for a Marketing Package and get your business name out there all year long.

	5 Star Marketing		3 Star Marketing			1 Star Mar- keting Pack-		
Advertising Opportunity	Package	Value	Package	V	alue	age	V	alue
Attendance to 3 GMM	√	\$ 75	$\sqrt{}$	\$	75	V	\$	75
Trade Show Booth	$\sqrt{}$	\$ 265	$\sqrt{}$	\$	265			
Maintenance Mania Sponsorship	$\sqrt{}$	\$ 200						
Holiday Party Sponsorship	Drink Sponsor	\$ 350	Food Sponsor	\$	250	Game Sponsor	\$	150
Golf Outing includes 4 passes, 1 hole sponsorship and company logo on all flyers	V	\$ 600	V	\$	600			
Either Wine and Euchre Sponsor- ship, Education Sponsorship or Mixer (choice of one)						V	\$	100
Website banner ad	(banner ad for 12 consecutive mths plus en- hanced listing)	\$ 1,850	(banner ad for 6 consecutive mths plus enhanced listing)	\$	950	(banner ad for 3 months plus enhanced listing)	\$	500
Newsletter ad	12-1/4 page ads in newsletter plus 1 full page once	\$ 1,755	6 - 1/4 page ads every other month plus 1/2 page once	\$1	1,030	(6-1/8 page ads)	\$	450
Directory Ad	full page	\$ 275	1/2 page	\$	220	1/3 page	\$	170
Total Value		\$ 5,370		\$3	3,390		\$	1,445
Cost per package Quarterly installments	\$3,000 750		\$2,000 500			\$900 225		





Call us for all your floor covering needs.

Marc Nelson

248-359-3500, Ext. 213
Fax: 248-359-3722 • Cell: 248-417-0751
mnelson@scifloorcovering.com

John Farmer

248-359-3500, Ext. 216 • Cell: 248-770-4318 jfarmer@scifloorcovering.com 21440 Melrose Ave., Southfield, MI 48075-5631

CALCO RECOVERY CONSULTING, LLC

Receive a free, EMV-ready credit card terminal at each property location when you switch to us for credit card processing. We have month to month contracts to ensure we keep our promise of lower cc processing rates. Contact http:// calco.net/contactus.html or 248-225-3419.

LEWIS GREENSPOON ARCHITECTS

10% Discount on architectural services. Contact David Lewis at 734-786-3757.

PAUL DAVIS RESTORATION

- 1. Free Mold Inspection
- 2. 10% off any equipment rental
- 3. 10% off any emergency water mitigation* *off standard Xactimate billing rates

Lowe's Proservices

5% off of every thing every day when you use your Lowe's Accounts Receivable (LAR) account. 2% extra discount for prompt payment of your LAE purchases within terms.

COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE PROVIDER

- 1. No Application Fee
- 2. 10% discount on his brokerage fee

Business Partner members that want to participate in this discount program and have a coupon on our website contact Melinda Kaus at 734-730-4331 or email to mkaus@wa3hq.org.

Sign up Extended to January 31, 2015

Take advantage of a great new opportunity to make your rental properties more attractive to tenants. For a limited time, low-interest financing is available for energy upgrades to 1-4 unit rental properties.



CALLING ALL LANDLORDS: LOW-INTEREST FINANCING AVAILABLE FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY RETROFITS

LOAN FUND BASICS

- Financing for up to \$8,000 per property
- Interest rates between 2% and 3.5% reduced rates available for certain project types
- Terms between 12 and 36 months

ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES

- Contain 1-4 units
- Located in Washtenaw County
- Must complete an energy audit prior to performing work
- In compliance with local rental housing inspections

WHAT'S COVERED

- Insulation
- Air sealing
- HVAC upgrades
- Select ENERGY STAR products
- Other energy efficiency improvements—contact us for a full list of eligible measures

For more information and to see if you qualify, visit <u>a2gov.org/loanfund</u>.

Questions? Contact allison@cec-mi.org.

Trade Expo and Maintenance Mania - SIGN UP NOW

March 4, 2015
Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd, Ann Arbor
New format for all to come
Starting at 1:30 with an expanded Trade Show where you
can get new vendors for your business
Maintenance Mania starts practice at 3:00 pm

This years event has been revamped to allow for less time out of the office and more time with your team. Come at 1:30 and visit with Business Partners that can help improve your bottom line. Win some prizes including a \$100 cash prize all in attendance.



Maintenance Mania (not just for maintenance....anyone can play and win..)

(Is your company up to the challenge????)

Cash prizes—Sign up now

Overall National Qualifier prize — \$100 plus chance at NAA June Conference Trip

Second place NQ — \$50 — Third place NQ — \$25

All seven games have prizes 1st, 2nd and 3rd of \$25, \$15 and \$10 respectively.

A2 IPMC UPDATE!

The first meeting with the City of Ann Arbor Rental

Housing Inspection Department was very informative and productive. Those attending were Chris Heaton, Ann Howard, Lisha Turner-Tolbert, Terry Root, Pete Deiniger, Michelle Foley, and Alice Ehn.

The City of Ann Arbor would like to have the review of the Housing Code and all proposed amendments compiled for the city attorneys office by April 10th. There will be 6 more meetings prior to this time by all stakeholders to ensure a proper review. Subsequent meeting dates and time were determined.

Lisha indicated that this revision of the code needed to be done at this time. The current code was put into place in 1986. and the fledgling apartment association was part of the process back then. However, since that time, the advancements in housing and technology have necessitated a long overdue update. The International collection of codes have been reviewed to be in compliance with each other and are designed to be adopted at the local level.

One of the concerns at the outset of the code was the overreaching tone that not only would include rental housing, but also owner occupied. The expansion of not only looking at Health and Safety of the residents, but also the increase in looking at the economic welfare of the community. The committee participants will be cognoscente of this tone throughout the review process and make every effort to limit the scope of inspections to what they should be. More will be coming in the next few months. You can join the Legislative and Advocacy interest Circle to keep informed on this progress.



SOLAR CONTRACT CARPET

FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS,

SOLAR CONTRACT CARPET HAS BEEEN A SUCCESSFUL VENDOR TO THE MULTIFAMILY HOUSING INDUSTRY BY BUILDING STRONG CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIPS, FURNISHING QUALITY PRODUCTS AND PROVIDING OUTSTANDING SERVICES.

WE TAKE PRIDE IN BEING RELIABLE. COST EFFECTIVE AND QUALITY ORIENTED -- THE KIND OF COMPANY WITH WHICH CUSTOMERS WANT TO DO BUSINESS.

- INSTALLATION NEXT DAY
- QUALITY CONTROL FIELD INSPECTORS
- PERSONALIZED CUSTOMER SERVICE
- **EMERGENCY, SAME DAY SERVICE**
- **EXPECT MORE FROM OUR INSTALLERS**

(248) 352-4400 (734) 971-4400 WWW.SOLARCONTRACTCARPET.COM

House Bill 5230 passed—PA 387

A new Public Act passed in the lame duck session of the 97th Legislature that would expand the definition of nuisance to include: a dangerous building; or a building, vehicle, boat, aircraft, or other place where human trafficking; or the unlawful use of a firearm or dangerous weapon is conducted. Then it goes on to increase the maximum fine amounts, the time to file a nuisance complaint, and allows for the seizure and sale of personal property in which certain crimes have been committed.

If the existence of the nuisance is established in an action under this chapter, the court can enter an order of abatement that could include the removal and sale of the furniture, fixtures and contents, the effectual closing of the building or place for use up to a 1 year period.

The Property Management Association of Michigan's legislative committee and your lobbyist Mia McNeil at Kelley Cawthorne worked with the Attorney General's office to ensure that an amendment to have increased notice of abatement was included in the final version of the bill.

Get Involved — **New Benefits Every Day**





2015 Calendar Meetings and Education to SAVE THE DATE and SPONSOR

February 11, 2015 Capitol Day in Lansing

Be a part of the legislative efforts by visiting your state representative to discuss rental housing issues

February 19, 2015 — Mayor's Lunch Weber's Inn General Membership Lunch

Join all members for this lunch with all invited Mayor's and Township Officials

Cost to sponsor: \$150 per meeting. Get 5 minute presentation, name in all publications and links in newsletter, logo tent cards on all tables, and exclusive rights to dispense literature.

February 23 through 27 — CAM/CAS

Certified Apartment Manager and Certified Apartment Supplier class. February 23rd through 27th. New format. CAS candidates must take December Supplier Success online to qualify.

Cost to sponsor: \$100 per class. Get 3 minute presentation time.

March 4 , 2015 Trade Expo and Maintenance Mania Weber's Inn

All sign ups are on the new website

Trade Expo from 1:30 to 3:30 and Maintenance Mania 3:30 to 5:30 - Come for this FREE afternoon and find interesting new vendors for you to improve your bottom line and then cheer on your Maintenance Team for cash prizes and complimentary trip to the NAA June Conference competition for the overall MM 1st place Region III winner.

Sign Up HERE

Cost for booth space: \$265 member

Cost to sponsor mania game: \$200 per class.

April 16, 2015— Legislative Update Lunch With Mia McNeil, David Gregory and Greg Brown, Senior VP Government Affairs for NAA

Cost to sponsor: \$150 per meeting. Get 5 minute presentation, name in all publications and links in newsletter, logo tent cards on all tables, and exclusive rights to dispense literature.

From March to May

CAMT — Hands on training for maintenance. March 10 to 13—Electrical March 25 and 26—Plumbing April 14 to 16 — HVAC May — Appliance Repair and Int/Ext Maintenance.

May 13 — Meet the Buyer/Reverse Trade Show At All About Furniture on Jackson Rd.

Come and meet those persons you have been wanting to get a meeting with but are too busy to meet with you. Or don't return your calls.

Real Estate Con Ed for Property management — April or October– qualifies for 6 CEC's for designations.

June 5—Annual Golf Outing at Ann Arbor Country Club.

After Hours Summer Mixers — June 11th, June23rd (<u>sponsored by Solar Contract Carpet</u>) and August 13th.

September 15th, 17th, 22nd and 1/2 day 24th NALP, National Apartment Leasing Professional Designation.

September 17, 2015- General Membership Networking Pub Crawl? (this event not confirmed)

October 8th and 9th - GLAStar Education and Awards Event. Lansing

October 15, 2015 - Wine and Euchre Night at All About Furniture

Lessons available...Super Fun Networking event

November 19, 2015 - Annual General Membership Lunch voting for 2016 Directors

Cost to sponsor: \$150 per meeting. Get 5 minute presentation, name in all publications and links in newsletter, logo tent cards on all tables, and exclusive rights to dispense literature.

December 3, 2015 - Holiday Awards Evening at Aubree's for pool and shuffleboard

Print this page 6 for a list of all events scheduled this year Go to www.wa3hq.org to confirm and sign up.

TRIA still looms



Gregory Brown, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, and his staff, track and report on state and local government trends across the country.

Visit http://www.naahq.org/learn/government-affairs/federal-state-local-issues for more information.

Apartment Industry Colleagues,

Happy New Year! I hope this message finds you safe and healthy so far in 2015.

The new Congress has been sworn in, freshmen are figuring out where the cafeteria, the WC and Committee chambers are located (not necessarily in that order) and the party caucuses are organizing for many battles to take place over the next two years. For the GOP, the hope was to start fresh with no extraneous baggage from the last Congress getting in the way of their goals as they take control of both chambers. Alas, it was not to be. Congress left the reauthorization of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (TRIA) undone before the end of the 113th Congress so now they must dispense with that before they can dig into other priorities.

As you know by now, former Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Okla.), in his final act of contrarianism, refused to allow the TRIA reauthorization go forward in an expedited manor. Senate Democratic leadership would not take the additional week it would require to run out the clock on Senator Coburn (which would have kept the Senate in almost to Christmas) and therefore TRIA expired on Dec. 31, 2014. The reaction from a broad coalition of industries, trade associations and private companies was shock, disappointment and anger and it was not long before House Republicans issued not one but two statements committing them to the immediate reauthorization of TRIA when the 114th Congress opened for business in January.

It is up for debate as to whether Congress can move as quickly as it would have us believe to reauthorize TRIA. Moreover, there are elements in both the House and the Senate who did not like the reauthorization proposal that was on the table last year and would love to start over and get the product they much prefer. Undoubtedly, that product would significantly reduce the federal government's role in insuring the availability of terrorism insurance coverage placing in question the ability of members of the apartment industry (and other industries) to get coverage at all, let alone at affordable rates. Regardless, NAA and our coalition partners are working hard to impress upon Congress the critical need for them to move fast on a reauthorization of TRIA.

Signals have been mixed from insurers to this point as to how they will deal with the expiration of TRIA. Some are taking the hard line and notifying policyholders that without TRIA they (a) cannot continue to provide coverage at all or (b) cannot continue to provide it at present rates. Other providers are taking a "wait-and-see" approach and extending their current coverage for some limited period in anticipation that Congress will act quickly to reauthorize the program. What is your provider telling you? I'm interested in your experience so please drop me a line (my email address is at the end of this column) and give me your story.

Setting aside the TRIA debacle for the moment, Congress will spend the next 30 days or so getting organized both within the respective political parties and within individual committees, setting their agendas for the year. Soon after that, Committee Chairmen will release their draft schedules for hearings and perhaps even markup of relevant legislation. At the same time, individual Congressmen will be moving bills of their own through the process. Some will reintroduce bills from the 113th Congress that did not pass the finish line (most of the bills introduced) and others will craft new pieces of legislation reflecting their particular policy priorities. We will be sifting through all of these for the good, the bad and the...well you get the point.

The apartment industry will have issues of its own to bring before Congress in March during the 2015 NAA Capitol Conference. Those issues are being determined now and will be announced right around the beginning of February. I hope everyone reading this plans to attend the conference and

make their voice heard. We need your support! I encourage you to register now – hotel rooms are subject to availability after Feb. 20.

There are more than 70 new members of Congress, many of whom likely do not know much about the apartment industry. Whether it's at the Capitol Conference or at home, we need you to meet these leaders and make them smart on our business. If you already know that you have a relationship with one of these new members of Congress, please let us know. If you don't, but want to develop that relationship, let us know that too and we will help you make that connection. If you're not sure who the new members are, contact me and I will get you a list of those members in your community or state

That's it for now. As always, you can give me a proper thrashing over the content of this column by email me at greg@naahq.org. I also welcome accolades and shameless pandering.

Have a great month and once again, Happy New Year! Greq

Update on TRIA January 8, 2015 from Greg

This afternoon the Senate voted 93-4 to pass a reauthorization of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act. The House of Representatives passed this same legislative yesterday by a 416-5 vote. The bill under consideration is the same bill that was approved by the House in December but which the Senate could not get passed before adjourning for the year.

All that remains is for the President to sign the bill which it seems very likely he will do. There is an extraneous measure included in the legislation related to derivatives trading under the Dodd-Frank law which is opposed by Democrats and the President. That provision, however, does not appear to be significant enough for him to yet this bill.

As you know, NAA and NMHC members, working with a long list of real estate and other industry organizations, worked hard last year to get a reauthorization of TRIA. We came close in December but were stymied. The fact that the House and Senate rallied this quickly and on the third day of business in the 114th Congress got a reauthorization passed is a testament to that hard work. You as members of the apartment industry should be proud of that.



It takes the biggest laundry service company to make the littlest residents happy.

When it comes to laundry services it's the littlest residents that demand the

most. And when it comes to business, it's always the little things that make a big difference. That's how Coinmach, the nation's leading provider of quality laundry services, delivers the most effective solutions for every property's needs.

Discover how life can be more *profitable* for your properties and more *pleasurable* for your residents. Call Staci Andrade at (800).852.9274.



Coinmach's Quality Services help residents clean over 1,000,000 loads of laundry each and every day. www.Coinmach.com



New Members to Welcome

PROPERTY PROFESSIONAL MEMBER

Tasawar Properties Ambreen Tasawar

BUSINESS PARTNER MEMBER

Minol

Larry Condon

15280 Addison Rd, #100, Addison, TX 75001

Phone: 517~403~5000

Email: lcondon@minolusa.com

Statewide Member

Universal Utilities Greg Popilek

P.O. Box 190539, Burton, MI 48519~0539

Phone: 810~233~3112

Email: sales@universalutilities.com

Statewide Member

CONNECT TO BUSINESS PARTNERS AT THE NEW SEARCHABLE ONLINE DIRECTORY MEMBERS USING MEMBERS

Help grow the association

and Like Us on Facebook



Flickr Account "MY WA3 FACES" Click double dots for all Event Pixs

In Remembrance

It is with much sorrow that we announce the passing of Nick Contaxes on November 30, 2014 after an extended illness. Nick was from Cincinnati. Ohio and attended Rockford College in Rockford, Illinois and Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, Illinois. After his studies he moved to Ann Arbor to work at Bendix Aerospace Systems Division and lived in Ann Arbor until he died. He was a success-



ful landlord with several rental properties. Nick could be seen riding his bicycle to collect rents and talk with his residents.

Nick was an active part of the legislative committee and participated in most of the events the association offered. He is pictured here at a legislative reception held at Woodland Mews Apartment community. As a member of the Libertarian Party, he was always available to meet with legislators on behalf of all our members to affect what ever change we could to better the rental housing industry locally.

Member News — Cribspot

Crain's Detroit Business announced in September 22, 2014 that one of our members, off-campus housing matchmaker Cribspot was successful in raising \$660,000 with help from Ann Arbor Based Huron River Ventures and Detroit based First Step Fund.

According to the article, Jason Okrasinski, Tim Jones and Evan Dancer, grew the business from a business class idea to helping 56,000 renters find a place to call home at the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, the University of Iowa, the University of Cincinnati, the University of Wisconsin and Ohio State University.

Congratulations goes out to this group for their forward thinking ideas. To read the full announcement go to CRAIN"S.



housing the EXT generation



The Washtenaw Area Apartment Association disclaims any liability for information or legal advice contained in this Newsletter. Members who may have questions regarding issues contained in the newsletter should contact their own accountants, attorneys, or other professional advisors before relying upon any information conveyed herein. This newsletter is provided as a service by the Washtenaw Area Apartment Association and is intended for the exclusive use of its members. None of the articles or other information contained in this newsletter may be reproduced without the express written permission of the Washtenaw Area Apartment Association.

Holiday Award Event Paparazzi

The Holiday Award event at Aubree's in Depot Town turned out to be a wonderful place for a get together during this busy holiday time. So wonderful that the program committee has decided to host the event there next year. Make sure you get the first Thursday in December on your calendar. Come and join everyone there for a festive event with awards to kick off the end of the year season. Better yet, become a committee member or enter NOVA and get an award yourself.





Board Members that have completed a term in office

- Kristine Siemieniak
- Christy Collings
- Russ Egerton (retiring)
- Mark Hannaford (retiring)



• Drink Sponsor: Apartments.

com with their signature appletini drink

- Food Sponsor: Midwest Cabinet and Counter
- Game Sponsor: CORT



NOVA winners:

Holiday Award Event

Midwest Cabinet and Counter

Apartments.com

Manager of the Year Tie - Sarah Rutter, The Pines of Cloverlane & Nellie Klug, Westbury Apartments, Howell



Pictured with Jamie Schmunk and

Pictured with Jamie Schmunk and Andy Copp owners of Wilson White Company



Not pictured:

Best Maintenance Person
Andrew Purman, Oakhaven Manor
Best Leasing Person

Theresa McDevitt, Lakeshore Village Best Community Support Person Carri Peddicord, Lakeshore Village



Pool Tables......Shuffleboard......and Prizes







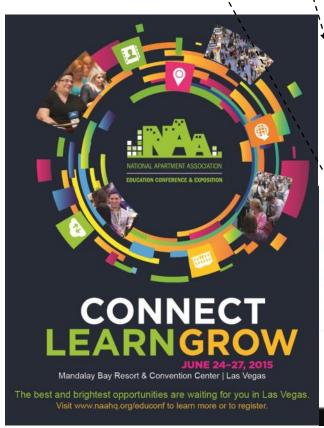
You have a new website to keep you up to date on all information coming from the association. Along with the newsletter (which is now available to all members under the **CONNECT** tab) will keep you up to date on legislation, events and education you and your staff need to be experts in rental housing. Hopefully this article will help you understand where to go and how to find what you need.

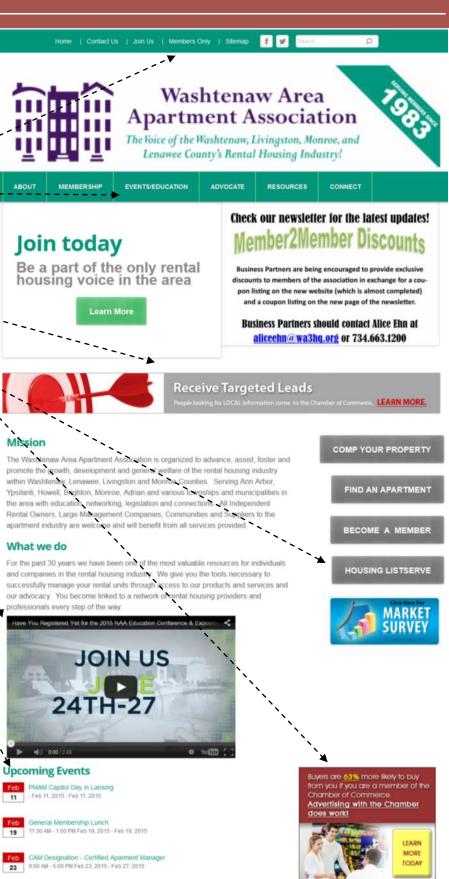
First there is a new members only area. Sign on when you want to register for a class or event under the **EVENTS/EDUCATION** tab. You can also find the next upcoming events at the bottom of the page and click on the event you want. It will take you to a page that has all the details of the event or education and you can hit register.

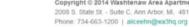
We have two new banner ad areas for Business Partners to get their name out more. Just call the office for a flyer to let you know how to advertises. Or go to **CONNECT** for more information.

New tags have been set up to help you, get the most of your membership dollars. The Property Professional email communication network **HOUSING LISTSERVE** is now a button on the home page. Just click on it and type in your question for your peers. Remember, this is a private email network but everyone on that network can see what you post and what you answer.

Finally, we now have videos on the front page of the website. The one there right now is about the upcoming June Education Conference and Exposition in Vegas. Jump online and play around. Next month, we will post a picture of the members only area to help you navigate that.







View All Events

f ¥



January 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
19 Martin Luther	20 Program Committee	21 Education Committee	22	23		
King Day	27 PMAM Board Meeting	28	29	30		

February 2015

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday					
2	3	4	5	6					
9	10 Membership Committee Legislative Committee	PROPERTY MANAGER ASSOCIATION OF MIC PMAM Capitol Day—Lansi	HIGAN	13					
16 President's Day	17 Program Committee	18 Education Committee	19 BOD Meeting GMM Lunch Weber's Inn Mayor's and Elected Official	20 al Invited					
23	24 PMAM Lansing	25	26	27					
	CAM Class Full Days all week								

CAM Class — Full Days all week

March Preview

4 — Trade Show and Maintenance Mania

10, 11 and 12 — CAMT—Certified Apartment Maintenance Technician Electrical Class

14 through 18 — NAA Capitol Conference, Washington DC

19 — Board of Directors Meeting

24 — PMAM Meeting Lansing

25 and 26 — CAMT Plumbing Class

