



NEWSLETTER

June 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dinner Meetings are held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, North Charleston
- Check-in is at 5:30 p.m. for Networking and 6:30 p.m. is the Dinner & Program
- The remaining dates for Dinner Meetings are:
 - Tuesday, June 11
 - Tuesday, August 28
 - Tuesday, September 17
 - Tuesday, November 19

- Other remaining events include:

June 19-22

NAA Education Conference

San Diego, CA

July 14

Summer Family Fun Day

2-5pm

Founder's Hall at Charles Towne Landing

October 15

Charity Golf Tournament and PAC Fundraiser

Daniel Island Club

November 6-8

NAA Assembly of Delegates

Dallas, TX

December 13

Oyster Roast

Sweetgrass Pavilion - Mt. Pleasant



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CAA!!!

- The CAA won an award from the NAA and will be recognized at this month's NAA conference. It's the 2013 Pusateri Apartment Career Promotions Award from the National Apartment Association. A special shout out to Wendy Tucker, Christy Dukes and Kara Coville for making it possible by their participation in last year's career fair.



CAA AND THE POST AND COURIER

- The Charleston Apartment Association is pleased to report a busy and prosperous springtime. A slew of events were held each with a record number of attendees and favorable feedback. In April, the local industry was highlighted in the largest newspaper in the state, the *Post & Courier* on April 6, 2013. Click the link to read the article below.

The Post and Courier

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130406/PC2110/130409515/1145/going-up-local-apartment-trade-benefiting-from-new-complexes-rising-rates-heightened-demand>



DIAMOND AWARDS

- The 2013 Charleston Apartment Association Diamond Awards celebration was held on March 22. Individuals and properties within the industry were nominated and voted on in a number of categories from maintenance to management to beautification and more. The Diamond Awards, a yearly celebration, is designed to spotlight excellence within the industry over the past year. This year's ceremony was such a success that a member in attendance from SealMaster took it upon himself to highlight the entire event in the company's blog on March 27, 2013:

<http://sealmastercarolinas.wordpress.com/2013/03/27/night-of-celebration-for-charleston-apartment-association/>



MAY LEGISLATIVE PULSE

- **On-Demand Webinar: Navigating HUD's "Disparate Impact" Rule**
- On April 30, NAA/NMHC sponsored a webinar exploring HUD's final "disparate impact" rule, which sets uniform standards for determining whether activities violate the Fair Housing Act. At issue are policies and practices that while neutral on their face, disproportionately impact a member of a protected class. The rule will force the apartment industry to review rental policies and practices, especially in the areas of occupancy limitations, resident screening and policies on Section 8 vouchers.
- *Source: National Apartment Association.
- **HUD Clarifies "Assistance Animals" versus "Service Animals"**
- On April 25, HUD published new guidance clarifying the distinctions between "assistance animals" and "service animals" for purposes of compliance with the Fair Housing Act, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Specifically, the notice indicates that the recently amended ADA's more narrow definition of a "service animal" - "a dog trained to do work or perform tasks," does not apply when determining compliance with the Fair Housing Act or Section 504. The latter two require apartments with a "no-pets" policy to make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who have a disability-related need for an assistance animal. The more broadly defined assistance animal is most commonly a dog but it can also be other another animal.
- *Source: National Apartment Association.
- **From Charleston Police Chief Mullen:**
- The SC Senate passed S. 19 with a vote of 42-0 sending it to the House for consideration. This important change to the current bond provisions has the potential to immediately impact the safety of every community in South Carolina by keeping repeat, violent offenders from being released on multiple bonds. The version which passed the Senate requires offenders who are on bond for serious or most serious offenses and commit another serious crime to have their bond for the new charge heard by a Circuit Court judge. The substantial benefit of this change to the community's safety is that the Circuit Court judge can determine that no conditions of bond will ensure the person will not pose a danger to the community and set bond accordingly. Additionally, if the Circuit judge finds that no conditions will ensure that the person is unlikely to flee or not pose a danger to the community, the bond for the previous charges must be revoked. This prevents the long and difficult process that is currently required for bond revocation. We have been working on this change for many years and we are now very close to implementing a process that will address a significant problem facing law enforcement and communities as we work to enhance safety. This legislation has garnered broad support. It is part of the 2013 law enforcement agenda and has the support of solicitors, sheriffs, police chiefs, the state law enforcement officers association, SLED, and the Attorney General. It is supported by local elected officials, business organizations, and community members. This legislation will provide a substantial tool in the fight against violent crime in South Carolina and we need the community's support to get this legislation passed and enacted this year. With your help, we know it can be done.
- Many thought it would not be possible to get this accomplished this year; however, we are half way there. Please take a moment and communicate with the following legislator by phone or email and let them know we need their support:
- Speaker Bobby Harrell (hspeaker@schouse.gov)
- Rep. Leon Stavrinakis (leonstav@schouse.gov)
- Rep. Wendell Gilliard (wendellgilliard@schouse.gov)
- Rep. Peter McCoy (petermccoy@schouse.gov)
- Rep. Eddie Tallon (eddietallon@schouse.gov)
- Rep. Chip Limehouse (chiplimehouse@schouse.gov)



MAINTENANCE MANIA

- The Charleston Apartment Association recently held Maintenance Mania at BELFOR Property Restoration in North Charleston on April 11, 2013. The celebration of local maintenance professionals extended the opportunity to compete for \$1,300 in cash prizes and possible national recognition. Especially thrilling this year was the all-time record of 33 registered maintenance professionals and approximately 100 Charleston Apartment Association members in attendance. To add to the excitement, the event was pitched and picked-up by the *Post & Courier* on April 20:

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20130420/PC2110/130429999/1268/real-estate-news-x2014-carolina-one-adds-realtor-from-x201c-small-town-usa-x201d-green-experts-to-talk-in-kiawah&source=RSS>



TRADE SHOW

On May 7th, the Charleston Apartment Association hosted its annual trade show at the Omar Shrine Temple in Mt. Pleasant. The successful event boasted a 50% uptick in attendance over last year with 160 attendees. New this year was a pre-event VIP reception and \$2,000 in cash and gift card giveaways.





