



## Industry Pulse



### Awards

The best professional community managers across the nation are com-



peting for national honors and a \$5,000 prize. **Assurant, Kevin Davis Insurance and Premier Property Banking** join **Association Reserves, Inc.**, the nation's leading provider of reserve study services for association-governed communities, recently announced the top 10 on-site and portfolio managers and selected the top three in each category for online voting.

The Top 3 On-site Managers are **Nickie Greco** of Palomino Park Owners Association (Highlands Ranch, CO), **Marcy Kravit** of 2600 Condominium (Weston, FL), and **Mystre' Van Horn** of Fairfield Harbour POA (New Bern, NC). The Top 3 Portfolio Managers are **Danielle Carbajal** of Prellis Property Management (Granada Hills, CA), **Catherine Holladay** of Management Specialists Services, LLC (Gainesville, FL) and **Jose Pazos** of Pazos, Robaina & Zapata Management Group (Miami, FL). The winners will be announced at a private reception at the Loews Royal Pacific in Orlando, FL on **May 14, 2014**.

The Top 3 in each category were determined by an independent **Council of Community Association Professionals (CCAP)**. This year's CCAP members include **Donna DiMaggio Berger, Esq.** of **Becker & Poliakoff**, **Howard Goldklang** of **Goldklang Group CPAs**, **Margey Meyer** of **CadrExperts**, **Clifford Treese** of **Association Information Services, Inc.**, **Edwin Latalladi** (2013 Onsite MOTY), and **Laura Lazar** (2013 Portfolio MOTY).

**HydroPoint Data Systems**, the established leader in smart water management solutions for the last mile, announced recently that it has received the "**Best Savings Impact**" vendor award from leading California real estate investment firm and master planner, **the Irvine Company**. HydroPoint was one of only six ven-

dors to receive awards in this first-of-its-kind event honoring vendors for exceptional products and service.

Currently **WeatherTRAK Pro™** smart controllers with supporting **WeatherTRAK Central™** cloud-based central management software are installed at 151 of the Irvine Company's office properties, 11 of their apartment communities, and at The Resort at Pelican Hill, providing water management with weather-adjusted irrigation, station-specific scheduling, and real-time email alerts to ensure maximum water conservation and operational savings. In 2013 alone, WeatherTRAK helped its thousands of commercial, retail, multifamily housing, government, and education subscribers save 20 billion gallons of water and 77 million kilowatt hours of power validating the numerous independent reports and EPA runoff studies stating the product's ability to save more than other solutions on the market.

For more information on WeatherTRAK including important customer success stories, please visit [www.hydropoint.com/products/outdoor-solutions](http://www.hydropoint.com/products/outdoor-solutions).

### Product & Technology News

Sump pump manufacturer **Wayne Water Systems** has introduced a new product featuring technology that allows the unit to text homeowners when water levels are rising or there is a power outage.

"Wayne Water Systems is offering homeowners peace of mind with **AdvanTEXT**, a sump pump with 2-way texting capability," said the Harrison, Ohio-based company. "It is the only sump pump system on the market today that uses cellular technology, not the Internet or landline, to send text messages instantly when there is a power outage or water problem."

The texting technology has been integrated into a ½-horsepower sump pump with a dual-float system. As water rises and lifts the lower float, the system sends a text message to the homeowner that it has detected a high water level. If the water keeps rising, it lifts the second float and sends the homeowner a second text. When the water goes back down, the system sends a third text message telling the homeowner the system is back to normal.

**PropertyU.net**, launched earlier this year in Illinois, is a new website and knowledge base that will bring

board members and property man-

**PropertyU.net**

agers together with experienced professionals to get qualified answers to the thousands of questions surrounding the serious business of running associations. PropertyU.net will soon be available in Wisconsin and other metro areas to follow.

**Mark Cantey** of **Cantey Associates, CPA's**, created **PropertyU.net** as a new resource for property managers, board members and homeowners to find information all in one place from trusted professionals in the association community. PropertyU.net's wealth of professional's knowledge includes lawyers, accountants, reserve specialists, insurance specialists, bankers, landscapers, painters, roofers, tree care, pools, managers and many more. In addition to the question and answer database, there are resourceful articles and videos too. Webinars with PropertyU.net professionals are being scheduled for 2014. For more information go to <http://propertyu.net/>.

**Law & Legislation**  
Deerfield attorney **Diane Silverberg** appeared before the **Illinois Supreme Court** in September 2013 to argue on behalf of her client, the **Spanish Court Two Condominium Association** in Highland Park, Illinois, that condominium unit owners should not be permitted to withhold payment of their assessments based on a dispute over the board of directors' performance of repair and maintenance obligations. The Supreme Court agreed, holding in the matter of *Spanish Court Two Condominium Association v. Lisa Carlson*, Case No. 115342, that a unit owner's claim that her association failed to repair and maintain its common elements is not a valid defense to payment of assessments. Rather, the Court observed, "a unit owner's liability for unpaid assessments is not contingent on the association's performance." Justice Theis wrote the majority decision in the recently decided case.

The Supreme Court's decision in *Spanish Court* largely reverses the Opinion and Order rendered by the Second District Court of Appeals (sitting in Elgin, Illinois) on November 9, 2012 and reinstates the judgment that had been entered in favor of the Spanish Court Two Condominium Association by Lake County Circuit

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## CALENDAR MAY-JUNE

2014



### THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2014

**ACTHA Seminar: 10 Things a Board Member Needs to Know**

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Aurora Public Library, 5555 Eola Rd., Aurora, IL**

Presenters: Patricia Keating of Exclusive Condominium Management and Doug Sury of Keay & Costello. Visit [www.actha.org](http://www.actha.org) for registration.

### TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014

**Meetings & Elections**

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**CAI Office - 1821 Walden Ofc Sq, Suite 100, Schaumburg, IL**

This course is part of the DCAL (Dedicated Community Association Leader) recognition course series. You may take this course as part of the recognition program, or as an individual course. The purpose of this course is to explain the types of meetings, terminology used, meeting requirements, documents needed, format, frequency and logistics of association board meetings. Visit [www.cai-illinois.org](http://www.cai-illinois.org) for registration.

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2014

**25th Annual CAI Golf Outing**

7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Cog Hill Golf & Country Club, Archer Ave, Lemont, IL**

Visit [www.cai-illinois.org](http://www.cai-illinois.org) for more information and registration.

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