

# THE GAD REPORT

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## HARSDORF RESIGNS, SPECIAL ELECTION CALLED

Senator Sheila Harsdorf has resigned her seat to take a position as secretary of the Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection effective immediately. Her term runs thru 2020.

Governor Walker, faced with two other open seats in the state Assembly has called for all three special elections to be held on Tuesday, January 16th.

With a very compressed timeframe to circulate nomination forms and get signatures back to Madison in order to get on the ballot, committees worked overtime to do so. The result was contested primaries for both Democratic and Republican candidates. Cur-

rent 30th Assembly representative Shannon Zimmerman of River Falls and 28th



district Representative Adam Jarchow will meet in the Republican primary. Democrats Reuben Herfindahl of River Falls, Patty Schnachter of Somerset and John Rocco Calabrese of Glenwood City will meet in the primary. Libertarian

candidate Brian Corriea of Wilson is unopposed.

The primary for Democrats and Republican candidates is Tuesday, December 19th, with the winners facing off on January 16th to fill Harsdorf's unexpired term.

WRA's executive team has endorsed Adam Jarchow for election. Jarchow has been the lead author or co-author of many pieces of legislation favorable to land owners and real estate professionals, and has been actively fundraising for him in the past weeks.

Jarchow has a 100% voting record on REALTOR® issues.



**Registration Open NOW**

**GOVERNMENT DAY**

**Wednesday, February 7, 2018**

**Concourse Hotel and State Capitol in Madison**

**R.S.V.P. to Brianne at: GADIntern@ranww.org**

## NEW HOME SALES INCREASE AGAIN

According to the Department of Housing and urban Development, new single-family homes rose in October by 6.2% to a rate of 685,000. Year to year, new home sales are up by 18.7% making the 12 month period the fastest increase in home sales in ten

years. Confidence in the marketplace is echoed by the National Association of Homebuilders as well as the National Association of REALTORS® and Wells Fargo, citing the second highest confidence level since July of 2005. The average price of a new home

sold was \$312,800 in October according to HUD. They also note that around 282,000 homes are for sale across the country for a supply of 4.9 months, with most sales coming at a \$200,000 to \$400,000 price point.

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## MINNESOTA CORPS OF ENGINEERS CHANGES PLAN

Due to overwhelming opposition on both sides of the Mississippi River over a dredging plan that would bury hundreds of acres of prime farmland under hundreds of thousands of tons of dredge materials from the river over the next 40 years, the Corps of Engineers are going back to the drawing board and rethinking the plan, reworking the details in hopes to achieve buy-in with local landowners. The original plan were to purchase land and

dump materials on it for the next 40 years as other storage areas along the river and with local sand and gravel companies were becoming full and there was nowhere else to go. Plans to truck sand to other locations on both sides of the river also were in peril.

Local ordinances in place in Pepin County, for example, only allow

trucks to carry 50 loads of sand a day thru the county. A plan is now in the works to build a facility in Wabasha to load and unload sand and put in on industrial land that can hold 11 million cubic yards of sand, with some of the sand available via rail to be hauled to other areas of the state or nation as needed, while other sand could be trucked away. The new plan will be available in early 2018.

## “A YEAR OF REPLENISHMENT” CAMPAIGN IN HOME STRETCH

Your investment in RPAC is needed right now!

Did you know that a portion of your \$35 RPAC investment on your dues billing statement stays right here in your Association? Its used to support local and state candidates and for required advocacy throughout our Association.

Did you know that with an

investment of \$100 or more, you have 100% control over where your investments go, to any local office, any state office or any federal office, you make the call.

Did you know we are the only state in the nation that has Direct Giver were anything over \$1000 invested allows 70% to be used by you? Now you do.



## ODDS AND ENDS

Longtime city of Chippewa Falls planner Jayson Smith announced his retirement effective January 8th. Smith has been a city planner for 36 years and helped shaped the current revitalization of downtown Chippewa Falls.

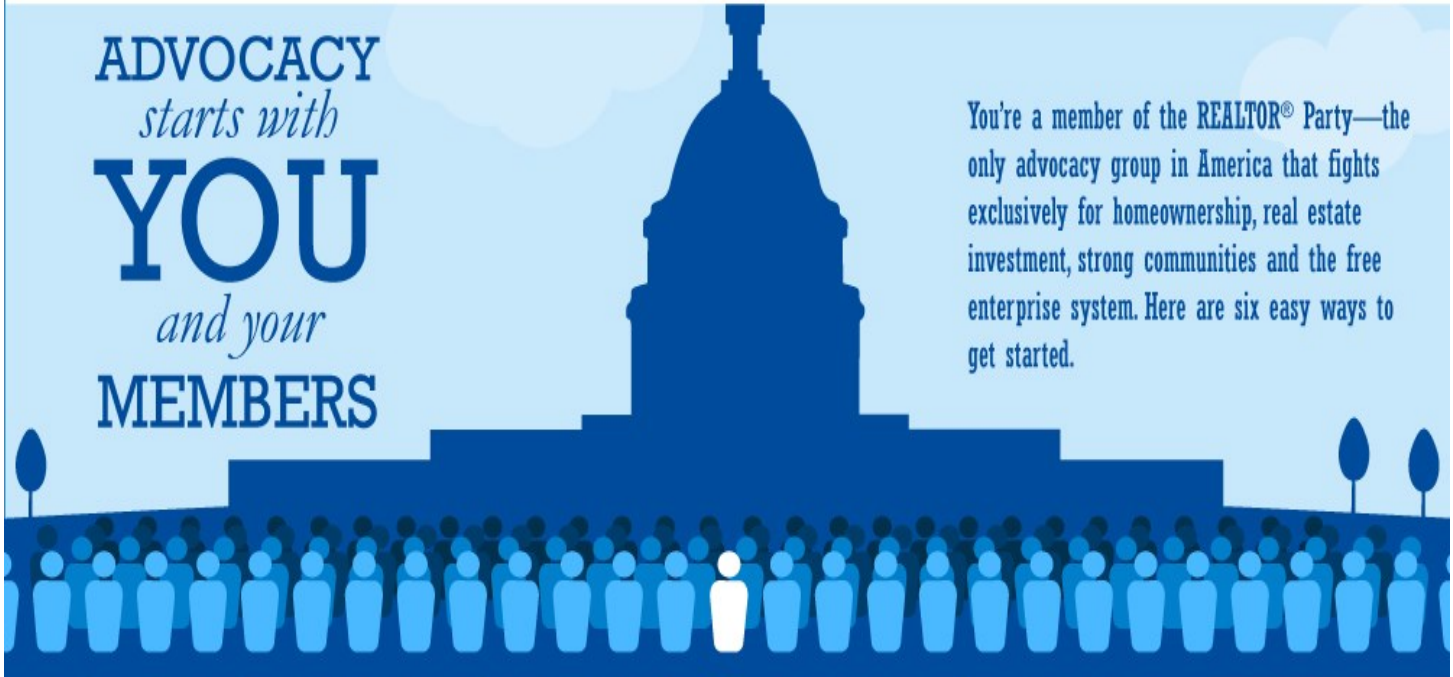
Longtime Pepin County board chairman Pete Adler passed away November 25th at age 86. Adler, originally from Eau Claire had a 35 year coaching career in Durand and Plum City, then after retirement, turned to a 28 year career as a public servant with a decade as county board chairman before retiring in 2016.

Retired Army Col. Steve Toft of Osseo announced that he would run against Congressman Ron Kind next year. Kind, who is in his 10th term as the 3rd District representative, had no opponent last year.

No other opponents have stepped forward so far for the seat.

ADVOCACY  
*starts with*  
**YOU**  
*and your*  
MEMBERS

You're a member of the REALTOR® Party—the only advocacy group in America that fights exclusively for homeownership, real estate investment, strong communities and the free enterprise system. Here are six easy ways to get started.



STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6
<b>Register To Vote</b>	<b>REALTOR® Party Mobile Alerts</b>	<b>Follow Us</b>	<b>Visit Us Online</b>	<b>Check Your Email</b>	<b>Do Your Research</b>
Our goal is to have as many of our members registered and at their polling place on Election Day as possible	Text <b>REALTOR</b> to <b>30644</b> to have national and state calls for action sent directly to your phone	Follow the REALTOR® Party on Facebook and Twitter. Use #REALTORParty in your posts.	Stay tuned to <a href="http://www.realtoractioncenter.com">www.realtoractioncenter.com</a> for the latest news and information	The REALTOR® Party News newsletter is sent the 2nd Thursday of the month	Learn who your elected officials are and where they stand on real estate issues

[www.realtoractioncenter.com](http://www.realtoractioncenter.com)



# RANWW

**Realtors® Association of Northwestern Wisconsin**

## REGISTER FOR REALTOR® & GOVERNMENT DAY

There are some changes coming to this year's REALTOR® & Government Day.

First, the location is different. We will be at the Madison Concourse Hotel, just a short walk from the capitol. Second, the date is earlier than in year's past. The date is Wednesday, February 7th from 12:30 until 5:30pm.

Registration will begin at the Concourse at 12:30. At 1pm, the program will begin with an overview of the day, followed by

an address by Governor Scott Walker (invited). After the Governor's remarks, we move into an issues briefing, those issues that WRA needs your participation and help with legislators and their staffs to get traction to set the table for the next legislative schedule.

Once the briefing is done, we'll move to the capitol and meet in Room 201SE (the same room we have used for the past sever-

al years.) Members of the Lake Superior Area REALTORS® have been invited to again join us for our meeting with legislators and their staffs.

Once the meeting is done, its back to the Concourse for a reception before we return to Eau Claire and points north.

This is a very important function of your Association, please register (its free). GADintern@ranww.org

### SAVE THE DATES:

*February 7—REALTOR® & Government Day in Madison*

*May 3 — 3rd Annual RPAC Auction at Horizon's in Tilden*

*May 22 — Phone A Friend For RPAC at the board office*

**The success of these events depends on YOUR participation and is a GREAT way for new members to be involved in their Association!!**

## TELEMARK RESORT PURCHASE COMPLETE

A purchase agreement has been inked between HK Hospitality Management and Telemark Development Partners LLC and Mt. Telemark Partners, LLC, the seller of the property.

Closing will be complete in January and the long closed resort property will be rehabilitated and returned to a premiere destination in the

north woods. Current plans for the facility to be a year-round destination, utilizing all of the properties 1500 acres. The downhill ski facilities and cross-country ski course will be fixed, for summer recreation, the lake areas will be improved along with the golf course.

The rooms will be brought up to a high standard, other facilities including the confer-

ence center and training facilities will improve and will be billed as a destination.

The new owners of the property envision a state-of-the-art facility with all the amenities of a large metro hotel but with all the outside attractions on one property to attract visitors from across the United States.

## WANTED: 50 MEMBERS TO JOIN LDC IN 2018

Your Association has had great success in recent years with participation in the Large Donor Council. An investment of \$1000 or more (\$700 to Direct Giver/\$300 to RPAC). We are among the top 3 in Wisconsin in participation and we want to increase that number while making it budget friendly.

Beginning in January, using your Visa or Mastercard credit or debit card, WRA will deduct \$85 a month for 12 months. That will raise \$1020, giving you funds to support candidates for local races in the

spring and state races in November. We currently have 30 LDCs and we want to add 50 more next year. You will have the opportunity to renew your participation every November. You set the date the funds come out each month.

Politics will be huge next you, we need your participation in the LDC!!!!



# save THE DATE



2018 RPAC Auction

Thursday, May 3rd Reception 5:30pm — Auction 6:30pm

Horizons Conference Center — Tilden

Register via email: [bruce@ranww.org](mailto:bruce@ranww.org)



**REALTORS® ASSOCIATION  
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WISCONSIN**

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**Bruce King**  
**Government Affairs Director**

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**WWW.RANWW.ORG**

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“OUR MISSION IS TO HELP OUR  
MEMBERS BE MORE SUCCESSFUL IN  
REAL ESTATE”

The REALTORS® Association of Northwestern Wisconsin is the largest association in terms of area, stretching from Millston, Whitehall and Fountain City to the south all the way to Cable in Bayfield County to the north. We are the fourth largest of the 19 Associations in terms of membership. Your Association covers 355 units of local government, monitoring a wide variety of issues that can and do affect you. In addition to local government, your GAD also monitor issues at the state and national level that will have a direct or indirect impact on housing and the industry, as well as legislation that can affect the consumer. Your Government Affairs Director works with members and affiliates to raise investment dollars for RPAC that help to support elected officials that support your business. RANWW is one of only three REALTOR® Association's in Wisconsin that have their own PAC, which was started 38 years ago to support candidates at the local and state level. We maintain a Facebook page, called “The GADabouts”, that aims to keep you up to date on political issues that will affect your business. Your GAD also produces a periodic government affairs program posted on our YouTube channel, RANWWTV!!



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## MY THOUGHTS—BY BRUCE KING

The end of the year approaches, and for your GAD, the work picks up from here. December 1st marks the beginning of the election season, this year with the added work of a special election for the 10th Senate district, vacated by Sheila Harsdorf. Part of the 10th falls under RANWW's jurisdiction, so we will be involved in this special election. All across Wisconsin, nomination papers will be taken out to run for city council, county board, village board, school board, district attorney, register of deeds, sheriff, circuit court judge, clerk of court and town board po-

sitions. The spring election will have an open seat to fill for a ten year vacancy on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. There will also be a smattering of school and community referendums as well. Once that is done, we move immediately into the fall election. All of the state constitutional offices (Governor, Lt. Governor, Treasurer, Secretary of State and Attorney General) are up. All 99 state Assembly seats are up and the odd numbered state Senate seats are up, including the 23rd, 25th and 31st Senate seats in our jurisdiction, the 31st will be an open seat as Senator Vinehout is running

for Governor. The 91st Assembly seat in the city of Eau Claire is also open as Representative Dana Wachs is also running for Governor. There will be a US Senate race statewide for Tammy Baldwin's seat. 3rd District Congressman Ron Kind is running for an eleventh term and 7th Congressional District representative Sean Duffy is running as well.

I'll be starting RPAC fundraising right after the new year...and I mean right after, namely January 2nd at 6am with a push for new Large Donor Council members. All hands will need to be on deck next year.

