



RANWW

Realtors® Association of
Northwestern Wisconsin

Making Your Membership Work For You

February Newsletter

Mark your Calendar

February 10

REALTOR® & Government Day

February 20-22

CVHBA Annual Home Show

February 26

RANWW February Mixer

April 21

New Member Orientation

MLS

- Matterport Tours on Zillow – FYI
- Reminder: City of Chippewa Falls – Real Estate Sign Requirements
- Forewarn: Reminder on Appropriate Use

ADVOCACY

- Register NOW: RGD February 10
- 2025 Wisconsin Act 69
- FINCEN Changes in March

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

- Make professional growth a priority

UPCOMING EVENTS

- REALTOR® & Government Day: February 10
- CVHBA Annual Home Show: February 20-22
- RANWW Mixer at the Sand Bar: February 26
- New Member Orientation: April 21

ASSOCIATION UPDATES

- Reminder: Please submit your Request to Withhold Listing forms to: staff@ranww.org

EMPOWERING REALTORS®, BUILDING COMMUNITIES.



Welcome Our Newest Members

Douglas Quenzer

Quenzer Appraisals

James Mann

Re/Max Results

Camryn Hickey

Elite Realty Group

Sara Ellis

Frandsen Bank & Trust

Sarah Holden

Charlie Tiffany Real Estate

Seth Miller

eXp Realty

Jennifer Schaidler

Area North Realty

Brody Markert

GRIP Realty

Mark Your Calendars

- REALTOR® and Government Day 2026: February 10
- CVHBA Annual Home Show: February 20-22
- RANWW Mixer at the Sand Bar: February 26
- New Member Orientation: April 21

Visit our [EVENTS CALENDAR](#) to learn more and register.



ranww

FEBRUARY MIXER

Sponsors:



Join us Thursday February 26th
5pm - 7pm
SandBar & Grill in Chippewa Falls



MLS
recent updates & info

Reminder: Please submit your *Request to Withhold Listing* forms to: staff@ranww.org

Matterport Tours on Zillow – FYI

Zillow has shared an update regarding the display of **Matterport** tours on their platform. At this time, Zillow is not displaying Matterport tours due to unresolved terms between Zillow and Matterport. Zillow has indicated they are seeking clearer, publicly defined terms before allowing Matterport tours to be shown.

What this means for listings:

- Matterport tours may not appear on Zillow
- No action is required by agents
- Matterport tours may continue to display on other websites

Zillow has indicated that if the situation changes, partners will be notified directly. This is provided as an FYI in case you notice Matterport tours not appearing on Zillow.

Reminder: City of Chippewa Falls – Real Estate Sign Requirements

The City of Chippewa Falls has provided the following reminders regarding real estate signs:

- **Signs may not be placed in the boulevard or public right-of-way**, including areas near streets or sidewalks.
- **Only one real estate sign is permitted per property.**
- **Real estate signs must be placed entirely on the property being offered for sale.**

Per the City, signs placed in the public right-of-way may be removed and disposed of by the City in accordance with state statute.

Members are encouraged to review sign placement carefully to remain compliant with City of Chippewa Falls regulations.

For more information or questions, please contact:

Paul Lasiewicz

City Inspector / Zoning Administrator
City of Chippewa Falls
30 West Central Street
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
(715) 726-2752 (Office)



Forewarn: Reminder on Appropriate Use

Forewarn is a valuable safety tool for REALTORS®, and it's important that it's used correctly.

Forewarn is intended for **professional use only**, specifically to help agents assess potential safety concerns with prospects who have initiated contact with you. It is not a general background check or prospecting tool.

Forewarn: A Quick Reminder on Proper Use



Please note: Forewarn activity is logged and auditable, and misuse may result in **suspension or loss of access** to the service.

Forewarn is meant to support agent safety and awareness. Using it appropriately helps ensure it remains available for everyone.

Government Affairs

RPAC

REALTORS® Political Action Committee



New Fin Cen Rules go into effect March 1, 2026

Starting March 1, 2026, a landmark rule issued by the FinCen expands anti-money-laundering oversight into the residential real estate sector.

For more information use the following link - <https://www.wra.org/WREM/Oct25/FinCEN/>



LAST CALL!!

Join us for one of the most important advocacy events of the year—REALTOR® & Government Day! This is your chance to make your voice heard on critical issues affecting real estate and property rights in Wisconsin.

- When: February 10, 2026
- Where: Monona Terrace and the State Capitol, Madison
- What's Included: **RANWW is organizing bus transportation** and providing a yummy lunch for attendees, making it easy and fun to participate!

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to connect with fellow REALTORS®, meet with legislators, and advocate for our industry.

Click or scan the QR code to register for the event

Email lan to register for the bus.



2025 Wisconsin Act 69

The 2025 Wisconsin Act 69, effective **January 1, 2027**, introduces significant changes to real estate practices in Wisconsin. Key points include:

- **Written Seller Opt-outs:** Sellers must provide written opt-outs for limited listings, ensuring transparency in marketing decisions.
- **New Disclosure Rules:** The law mandates specific disclosure requirements for sellers, enhancing consumer protection.
- **Public Marketing Default:** Listings must be marketed broadly online within one business day unless the seller opts out, emphasizing the importance of written consent in marketing decisions.

To read the full 2025 Wisconsin Act 69 - [69.pdf](#)

Section 3 speaks on changes to marketing and Section 7 and 8 speak on compensation.

Be on the lookout for education on Act 69 coming in late Spring early Summer. The new forms should be live between October and November 2026.

2026 Direct Giver Campaign

Why Become a Direct Giver?

- Make a personal impact.
- Invest in the future of your industry today!
- Retain full control of your Direct Giver investment.
- Contribute your Direct Giver investment to Local Elections.



Use the QR code to become a Direct Giver today!

Ian Gauger

Ian Gauger
RANWW Advocacy Coordinator



Professional Growth

Self-Study CE Available!

Get started on the 2025-26 CE biennium with the Wisconsin REALTORS® Association's Self-Study CE course!

The printed book is available and when you order, you'll also receive a complimentary electronic PDF version so you can study anytime, anywhere.

Wisconsin licensees are required to complete 18 one-hour CE courses to renew their real estate license. Don't wait until the last minute in 2026—knock it out early with content that's fresh, relevant, and tailored to today's market.



👉 [Click here to learn more and order your materials.](#)

On-Demand CE options available



Association Updates

Calling All RANWW Members!

Our friends at the **Chippewa Valley Home Builders Association** are looking for volunteers for their Annual Home Show, happening February 20–22, 2026!

This is a great opportunity to support a local partner, connect with the community, and be part of a well-loved regional event. Whether you're a REALTOR® or an affiliate, your time and support are truly appreciated! 🏠🌟

Event Dates: 2/20/26 – 2/22/26

Event Details: [HERE](#)

Volunteer Sign-Up: [HERE](#)

Thank you for showing up and supporting our local housing community!

The NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® has released its **2025 Annual Report**, offering a transparent and comprehensive look at the association's progress, priorities, and direction.

The report highlights how NAR delivered value for REALTORS® in 2025 while outlining clear priorities for 2026 and beyond. Organized around the 2026–2028 Strategic Plan, it reflects a strong focus on modernization, enhancing the member experience, financial discipline, and REALTOR® brand protection.

Key highlights include:

- A second consecutive balanced budget without raising dues
- Reduced expenses and strengthened reserves
- Proactive steps to mitigate legal risk and protect the REALTOR® trademark
- Clear, transparent communication about decisions and future priorities

This is the most transparent Annual Report NAR has produced and is designed to clearly explain what was done, why it matters, and what members can expect moving forward.

👉 Read the full 2025 NAR Annual Report [HERE](#)



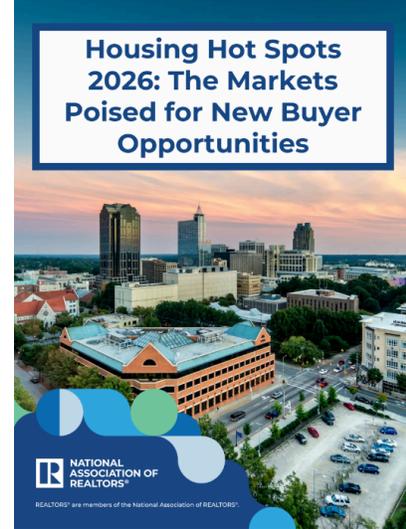
New from NAR: Housing Hot Spots for 2026

Curious where buyer opportunities are expected to grow next year? The National Association of REALTORS® just released its Housing Hot Spots 2026 report—highlighting the markets best positioned for improved affordability, stronger demand, and increased inventory alignment.

This [quick-read PDF](#) breaks down:

- The top 10 markets projected to outperform in 2026
- How lower mortgage rates may expand buyer eligibility
- Where inventory is finally matching what local incomes can support
- Key insights REALTORS® can use to guide clients in the year ahead

🔍 If you want a data-backed look at what's coming in 2026, take a moment to check it out [here!](#)



Affiliate Connection

In today's market, successful home purchases depend on more than rates—they depend on reliable partnerships and trusted guidance. **Security Financial Bank (SFB)** offers a local mortgage team that brings experience, responsiveness, and flexibility to every client relationship.



Because no two buyers are the same, Senior Mortgage Bankers Wendy Hollenbeck and Kim McNulty focus on helping clients identify the loan programs and features that best align with their financial goals. In addition to traditional loan options, SFB offers a variety of programs designed to expand opportunities for homebuyers, including:

- Downpayment Plus® grants of up to \$10,000.
- Portfolio loan options that provide flexibility beyond standard guidelines.
- VA loans for eligible veterans and service members.
- FHA and USDA loans with flexible qualifying features for eligible borrowers.
-

With local decision-making and a relationship-driven approach, SFB is committed to helping buyers and the Realtors® who support them move confidently from contract to closing.



Kim McNulty
kmcnulty@sfbank.com
715-670-0624

Wendy Hollenbeck
whollenbeck@sfbank.com 715-930-7028

Bankers Who Believe in you. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender. NMLS #409793.



Are you an RANWW Affiliate who wants to shine a little brighter? We'd love to feature you in an upcoming Affiliate Spotlight!

If you're interested, just email me at kristyn@ranww.org. I'll get you on the schedule and follow up with the details on what I'll need and when you'll be featured.

We love showing off the amazing businesses that support our Association—don't miss your chance to be in the spotlight!

[WRA Member Benefits](#)

[NAR Member Benefits](#)

Stay Up to Date with the State and National
REALTOR® News

[WRA Website](#)

[NAR Website](#)



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Top Notch Support is Just a Phone Call Away
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