

THE GAD REPORT

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 2 JANUARY, 2019

NAR HELPS SECURE FEMA NEW FLOOD POLICIES

With the recent government partial shutdown, one of the shutdown victims was FEMA, notably the issuance of new flood insurance policies. This came only days after another extension of the National Flood Insurance Program was approved by Congress.

ing the partial shutdown.

Members and GADs across the nation contacted NAR, who in turn reached out to groups such as the Property Casualty Association of America and the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of

adversely affected by the lack of available flood insurance.

The response was swift and overwhelming. Within two days of the original announcement, FEMA had backtracked on the decision and informed NAR that

When word of this circulated, NAR, its Government Affairs division and GADs across the nation sprung into action. On December 26th, FEMA announced that it couldn't allow insurers to issue and renew federal policies dur-



America. These groups reached members of Congress who were also concerned about the lapse in policy granting, which NAR research has shown that 40,000 home sales could be

they would again issue policies. To learn more about the decision and how implementation will be done, go to www.nar.realtor with information expected in a few days.

TERRY WELD RUNS FOR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

REALTOR® Terry Weld, who currently serves on the Eau Claire City Council, recently announced that he will run for the open Council President position, made available when Kerry Kincaid resigned last year. Current Council vice-president An-

drew Werthmann serves as acting President and is running for the position.

The winner will serve for one year, and will have to run again in 2020 for a full three year term as Council President.

This means that Weld

will not be able to run for another term as an at large Council member. There are 5 at large seats up in April. Fellow REALTOR® John Lor is seeking one of the at large seats.

Candidates for the other seats include (*on Page 2*)

You are invited to the annual RPAC Appreciation event. This year, it's a casual breakfast at the RANWW Conference Center. SAVE THE DATE Monday, January 21 from 7:30 to 9am. Our special guest will be Tom Larson from WRA who will be available to answer your questions on the new Legislative session. FREE admission if you invested in 2018, or \$35 at the door.

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Tom Larson
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WANTED: 50 LARGE DONOR COUNCIL MEMBERS IN 2019

To mark the 50th anniversary of RPAC (and the 40th anniversary of RANWW’s PAC), we are looking to recruit 50 current and new Large Donor Council members in 2019.

The Association has been among the top three in terms of Large Donor Council membership the past four years, and wants to involve as many of our members as possible to assure that our Association has the means to sup-

port candidates and incumbents for both local and state office.

To help with budgeting, we are providing a twelve month investment at only \$85 per month, set up on the day of your choosing with WRA. Large Donor Council membership is a minimum \$1000 investment, at \$85 a month, you’ll be recognized as an LDC

immediately, and will be eligible for all the benefits of participation as soon as you agree to be an LDC. You will have \$700 to invest in local or state candidates and \$300 will go to RPAC...40% of that \$300 comes to your Associations PAC to support candidates and other advocacy programming.

To set up your LDC investment for 2019, contact Bruce (bruce@ranww.org).

12 CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL

You have to go back 15 years in order to find a spring election for Eau Claire City Council that had 12 candidates for 5 at-large seats, necessitating a February 19th primary to eliminate two of them.

In addition to that, acting President Andrew Werthmann will be challenged by current councilman and

REALTOR® Terry Weld. Werthmann was appointed acting President after Kerry Kincaid resigned last year. If Werthmann wins, he must run again next spring, if Werthmann loses, he still retains his District 5 seat on the council, if Weld wins, he too must run again, but if he loses, he also loses his at-large council seat as he can’t run for two positions at once.

Others that are running include REALTOR® John Lor, Kirk Ausman, Laura Benjamin, former Councilman Dave Klinkhammer, Chandler Lorenz, Kate Martin, Don Motzing, Dale Poynter, Kyle Woodman, Echo Reardon and incumbents Kate Beaton and Catherine Emmanuelle.

Dave Strobel and Michael Xiong are not running for re-election.

NO CHANGES TO CHIPPEWA FALLS COUNCIL

All of the incumbents that are up for re-election to the Chippewa Falls City Council will return.

Mayor Greg Hoffman, who has served as Mayor for ten years, will serve another term as Mayor and will mark 20 years of council service at the end of the upcoming

term. In addition, all four council seats are up and all four will be returned. They include John Monarski, CW King, Paul Olson and Bob Hoekstra.

The Chippewa Falls school board won’t see any changes in their board governance as board President David Czech and board members Jennifer

Heinz and Kathy Strecker have filed for re-election and are running unopposed.

In addition to local races, there will be one statewide race for a seat on the Wisconsin Supreme Court to replace longtime justice Shirley Abrahamson, who is retiring due to health.

SAVE THE DATE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2019



Once again REALTOR® & Government Day will be held at the Concourse Hotel in downtown Madison. This year, our jurisdiction will have a few new faces representing them at the capitol as well as a couple of familiar faces in new offices. We'll be in the capitol as work begins on the state budget, and with a new Governor in the east wing, working together will be paramount to getting the people's work done. SAVE THE DATE and plan to join us in Madison. More information will be coming after the first of the year.

Questions? Contact Bruce King, Government Affairs Director via email:
bruce@ranww.org



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FEW CHANGES IN SCHOOL BOARDS

The Eau Claire School Board will feature one long time board member retiring and four candidates, including two incumbents running for three seats on the board.

Former board President Chris Hambuch-Boyle is not running for another three year term.

Vice-President Aaron Harder and Eric Torres are running for re-election and will be joined by Erica Zerr

and Tim Nordin. In Altoona, Brad Poquette will not seek another term. Taylor Neff has filed to run for Poquette's position. Other incumbents Dan Gluch and David Rowe will run unopposed.

There will be a few changes to the makeup of the Menomonie school board. Two incumbents are not seeking re-

election. Tanya Husby and REALTOR® John Sobota are leaving the board.

Dave Styer is running for another term. He will be joined by Chris Freeman, Bayard Godsave, Urs Haltinner, Neil Heifner-Johnson and Clint Moses.

Other races for school boards will be in next month's report.

ALTOONA AND MENOMONIE CITY COUNCIL RACES

A member of the Altoona City Council is not running for re-election, but he found someone to succeed him...his wife.

David Rowe is not running again for his District 6 seat, but his wife, Susan is running for the position.

Matt Biren and Tim Sexton are running again and are running unopposed. In Me-

nomonie, only one of six City Council seatholders will not run again. Hector Cruz is not running again for his Ward 9 seat, in his place, Chad Schlough has filed and will run unopposed.

The other five incumbents will all run unopposed as well.

They are incumbents Jeff Luther in Ward 1, Eric Suth-

erland in Ward 3, Faith Bullcock in Ward 5, Nathan Merrill in Ward 7 and Randy Sommerfeld in Ward 11.

Other City Council races within the Association's jurisdiction will be included in the February report.

JCAP ANNOUNCES SOUTH BARSTOW DEVELOPMENT

The south end of the downtown area will be getting a new mixed use development.

JCap Real Estate is developing plans for a mix of houses and office space contained within a five story 120 unit senior housing complex. There would be a grocery

store and deli in part of the space designated for offices.

The project, subject to city approval, would facilitate the razing of three businesses and two existing homes to make way for the property, which will have underground parking and will be over 146,000 square feet. The housing would

also feature 12 memory care apartments along with other senior living facilities and amenities.

If approved, construction would begin with clearing properties, then construction with a possible completion date of summer 2020.

2019 marks the 50th Anniversary of RPAC. It also marks the 40th Anniversary of RANWWs PAC. To mark the occasion, we are looking for 40 of our members to join the Large Donor Council for 2019. To help make this as budget friendly as possible, we are offering you the opportunity to spread your investment out for the entire year, but receiving the benefits of membership from day one. It's an investment of \$85 a month to your credit or debit card. With the 2018 election season behind us, our members had a huge impact on candidates on both sides of the aisle. Local elections occur on April 2, candidates for those offices need support from our members. Contact Bruce to set up your investment and to learn more about the benefits of LDC membership!



RANWW

**Realtors® Association of
Northwestern Wisconsin**

Contributions are not deductible for income tax purposes. Contributions to RPAC are voluntary and are used for political purposes. You may refuse to contribute without reprisal and the National Association of REALTORS® or any of its state associations or local boards will not favor or disfavor any member because of the amount contributed. 70% of each investment of \$1000 or more is available for your use, 30% of your investment is retained by RPAC for use to support state and national candidates, of that, 40% is returned to RANWW for use in its PAC after WRA reaches its fundraising goal, until then, 30% is sent to the National PAC to support federal candidates and is charged against your limits under 2 U.S.C. 447a.

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
Register To Vote	REALTOR® Party Mobile Alerts	Follow Us	Visit Us Online	Check Your Email	Do Your Research
Our goal is to have as many of our members registered and at their polling place on Election Day as possible	Text REALTOR to 30644 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 www.realtoractioncenter.com 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



RANWW

Realtors® Association of Northwestern Wisconsin



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40th Anniversary 1979-2019

In recognition of the 40th Anniversary of your Association's Political Action Committee and the 50th Anniversary of RPAC, we are offering an opportunity to members to invest in RPAC thru the Direct Giver Program. This program will give you **100% control** of your Direct Giver dollars to invest in *local and state candidates.*

The investment is \$50 per month, charged to your credit or debit card for 12 months, giving you up to \$600 to invest in candidates for partisan and non-partisan offices. With local elections in April and 2020 being a huge year for local, state and national offices, now is the time to begin building Direct Giver dollars and supporting those individuals that support real estate and land use issues.

Have questions? Get answers by contacting Bruce King (bruce@ranww.org) or to signup.



**REALTORS® ASSOCIATION
OF NORTHWESTERN
WISCONSIN**

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Government Affairs Director

WWW.RANWW.ORG

“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 central Bayfield and southern Ashland county to the north. We are the fourth largest of the 19 Associations in terms of membership. Your Association covers 375 units of local government, monitoring a wide variety of issues that can and do affect you. In addition to local government, your GAD also monitors 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 40 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!!



MY THOUGHTS—BY BRUCE KING

I had the pleasure of serving on the Chippewa Valley Housing Task Force alongside 40 plus members of the community, gathering information on the need for more affordable housing in the area, what that housing should look like, who will build it, how it will be financed.

The final report is due out shortly, the report will make recommendations to elected leaders on a course of action.

After a raucous 2018 election season, we now slide into a more tranquil 2019 spring cycle. For the first

time in over 15 years, there will be a primary for the Eau Claire City Council, which will narrow the spring election field from 12 to 10. REALTOR® John Lor is running for a council seat and REALTOR® Terry Weld is running for Council President.

If you are so inclined, ask them questions, and if you like their answers, consider an investment from your Direct Giver account.

Speaking of which, 2019 marks two RPAC anniversaries. First, it’s the 50th Anniversary of RPAC, and second, it’s the 40th Anni-

versary of your Association’s PAC. Our PAC was formed on January 19, 1979, and continues to support local and state candidates for office and other advocacy activities such as get out the vote.

You’ll see in the report we have two programs that will be running this year. First is an \$85 a month investment to become a Large Donor Council member. We are consistently among the top in terms of LDC participation. The second is a \$50 a month investment in the Direct Giver program where 100% of that investment can be used for local and state candidates.