



RANWW

Realtors® Association of
Northwestern Wisconsin

June 2020
Volume 13, Issue 9

The GAD Report

THE PANDEMIC AND POLITICS—RPAC EDITION

Welcome to June!

Nothing about the last three months has been simple or fun. Quite the opposite. There has been a bonus on stress, uncertainty and trying to figure out social distancing, shortages in essentials and how to home school our children.

One constant is that in even numbered years, all 99 members of the Wisconsin Assembly will be up for election, all eight United States House of Representatives seats are up and even numbered districts in the Wisconsin Senate will be contested.

By 5pm on June 1st, we will know who will be on the ballot for these seats, along with District Attorneys in all 72 counties. For some of these races, there will be a primary on Tuesday, August 11th, for others, it will be on to the general election on Tuesday, November 3rd. The modality for voting in this election is yet to be decided, a combination of in-person and absentee voting or a mail-in ballot for everyone. Turnout will be high with the Presidential election on the top of the ticket.

The other constant is that I will be spending the summer asking many of you to renew your commitment in RPAC, whether at the Large Donor Council level, Direct Giver level or Dues Billing level. WRA is planning on doing that as well, with a mailing coming to everyone who has invested \$100 or more over the last year. It is vitally important that we support elected officials and vetted candidates at all levels of governance. These are the people we are at the table with when policy discussions are held, policy decisions are made and to the best of our ability, good laws are passed, and bad laws are defeated.

The word “unprecedented” has been used ad nauseum in describing the current state of our world. How can we ask for RPAC investments during a pandemic?

It is not about being unprecedented, it is about doing what is necessary, familiar, and required to meet our promise of being politically involved. I hope you will support RPAC.

Some things really do stay the same.

Bruce

With the slow transition to reopening business, stay up-to-date on the latest orders from the county health departments in our jurisdiction:

www.ranww.org

You will find updates at the local, state and national level regarding the coronavirus.

I'll continue to update the GADabouts Facebook page with new information as it occurs.

Stay safe, and stay informed with your Association.

Bruce King

***Government Affairs
Director***

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Fundraising in a Pandemic.....	1
Route To Recovery Program.....	2
Running For Office	3
Open 75th Assembly Seat	4
District Attorneys on the Ballot	5
Primary in the 3rd CD.....	6
In Brief.....	7

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Fundraising & COVID
- WRA New Podcast
- Primary in 3rd CD
- Who's On Your Ballot
- 75th Assembly Open Seat
- Contact My Legislator

WRA OFFERS NEW PODCAST—EPISODE 1: REAL ESTATE IS ESSENTIAL

Go to:

<https://www.wra.org/CapitolInsights/Episode1/>

To listen to the podcast



“Just Because You Do Not Take An Interest In Politics, Doesn’t Mean That Politics Won’t Take An Interest In You.” —Pericles (430 B.C)

WISCONSIN ELECTION COMMISSION TO SEND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS

The state would mail to 2.7 million Wisconsin households an application for an absentee ballot for the fall general election.

The \$2.3 million cost would be covered by federal election funds as part of the corona response bill passed by Congress this spring.

The commission is made up of three Democrats and three Republicans and the vote was 6 to 0 to draft a letter to voters by June 10th explaining the form.

GOVERNOR EVERS ANNOUNCES ROUTE TO RECOVERY PROGRAM

Governor Evers announced a \$200 million program to provide local governments with unbudgeted expenses associated with the coronavirus lockdown of the state. The Department of Administration will oversee the program that will provide both counties and municipalities with needed funding.

The funding will cover emergency operations, purchase of personal protective equipment, cleaning and sanitizing supplies and services, temporary isolation housing for at-risk individuals, testing and contact tracing costs, and meeting local match requirements for expenses submitted for reimbursement by FEMA.

Counties in our jurisdiction will receive funds based on their population, including Ashland County, \$259,243, Bayfield County, \$249,309, Barron County, \$755,520, Buffalo County, \$222,842, Burnett County, \$252,382, Chippewa County, \$1,054,805, Dunn County, \$725,428, Eau Claire County, \$1,677,111, Jackson County, \$338,677, Pepin County, \$120,810, Rusk County, \$242,546, Sawyer County, \$274,639, Trempealeau County, \$487,141 and Washburn County receives \$260,560.

Every municipality will get no less than \$5,000, regardless of population. Tribal Partners will receive \$10 million.



Start Your C2EX Journey Today!

RUNNING FOR OFFICE

29th Assembly: One Democrat and three Republicans will be on the ballot. Democrat John Rocco Calabrese will be able to wait until November to meet the winner of the GOP primary. The three candidates that were placed on the ballot include Ryan Sherley from New Richmond, Neil Kline from New Richmond and Clint Moses from Menomonie. Incumbent Rob Stafsholt is running for the 10th Senate

74th Assembly: James Bolen, who is a member of the Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation and a resort owner and former Director of the Cable Area Chamber of Commerce has announced that he will run against incumbent Representative Beth Meyers for the 74th Assembly seat this fall.

The 74th Assembly District covers parts of Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Iron, Sawyer and Vilas Counties.

10th Senate: Senator Patty Schachter is running for a full four year term after winning a special election to fill the seat that was vacated by Sheila Harsdorf. Rob Stafsholt has elected to run on the GOP ticket, leaving his seat in the 29th Assembly. A possible primary in August will be determined when Republican Cherie Link has her valid signatures certified (in process as the GAD Report went to press).

RPAC AND YOU

In the ever changing, ever evolving political climate we now must navigate together, REALTORS® must be politically active. If not, who will take on the responsibility of protecting the values and rights of homeowners and private property owners?

The “who” may very well be someone that may not value wise business planning and could threaten property owners and their rights.

If REALTORS® do not speak out, get involved and help shape the discussion, someone else will.

Nobody knows a community better than a REALTOR®. You are on the front line as defenders of real estate issues.

Investing in RPAC assures you a seat at the table when critical decisions are made for homeowners and private property owners.

Supporting candidates and incumbents at all levels of elective governance is part of what RPAC is about.





Start Your C2EX Journey Today!

RUNNING FOR OFFICE

67th Assembly: One Democrat and incumbent Rob Summerfield will be on the ballot in November. The Democrat running is Chris Kapsner of Boyceville. A doctor and farmer in Dunn County, Kapsner ran unsuccessfully for office in 2018.

68th Assembly: Freshman state Representative Jesse James is running for another two-year seat in the Assembly. He will meet current Eau Claire City Councilperson Emily Berge, who got in to the race late but filed the required number of signatures to appear on the November 3rd ballot.

75th Assembly: This is an open seat as Representative (and REALTOR®) Romaine Quinn declined to run for another term in office. Instead, he will be the campaign treasurer for first-time candidate Dave Armstrong of Rice Lake. Armstrong is the current Barron County Economic Development Director. He will be challenged by John Ellenson of Shell Lake. Ellenson works in the Barron school district.

91st Assembly: Freshman legislator Jodi Emerson will run again for her seat that represents the city of Eau Claire. Her opponent on the GOP side will be Charlie Walker of Eau Claire running for his first elected office.

87th Assembly: Long-time Republican legislator James Edming will run for re-election in November. He is being challenged by Democrat Richard Pulcher of Lublin.

RPAC AND YOU

Did you know that you can make your RPAC investment securely online using your Visa, Mastercard and now American Express card?

Go to <https://www.wra.org/dgcontribution/>

If REALTORS® do not speak out, get involved and help shape the discussion, someone else will.

Nobody knows a community better than a REALTOR®. You are on the front line as defenders of real estate issues.

Investing in RPAC assures you a seat at the table when critical decisions are made for homeowners and private property owners.

Supporting vetted candidates and incumbents at all levels of elective governance is part of what RPAC is about.

Now more than ever, we need your financial investment in RPAC thru the Large Donor Council or Direct Giver.





June is Homeownership Month! Go to <https://homeownershipmatters.realtor/homeownership-month-2020/> to learn more.

RUNNING FOR OFFICE

92nd Assembly: State Representative Treig Pronschinske will run for re-election to his seat that covers parts of Jackson, Buffalo and Trempealeau counties. He will be challenged by newcomer Amanda WhiteEagle from Black River Falls.

93rd Assembly: This will be a rematch from 2018 with long time incumbent Warren Petryk facing off against Charlene Warner from Mondovi. The district stretches across southern Eau Claire county westward thru Pepin, southern Dunn and most of Pierce counties.

District Attorney: All district attorney positions are up for election in November, none in our jurisdiction are contested. Appearing on the ballot: Ashland County, David Meany, Bayfield County, Kimberly Lawton, Barron County, Brian Wright, Buffalo County, Thomas Bilski, Burnett County, James Jay Rennie, Chippewa County, Wade Newell Dunn County, Andrea Nodolf, Eau Claire County, Gary King, Jackson County, Daniel Diehn, Pepin County, Jon Seifert, Rusk County, Annette Barna, Sawyer County, Bruce Poquette, Trempealeau County, John Saccia and Washburn County, Aaron Marcoux

RPAC AND YOU

Did you know that you can make your RPAC investment securely online using your Visa, Mastercard and now American Express card?

Go to <https://www.wra.org/dgcontribution/>

If REALTORS® do not speak out, get involved and help shape the discussion, someone else will.

Nobody knows a community better than a REALTOR®. You are on the front line as defenders of real estate issues.

Investing in RPAC assures you a seat at the table when critical decisions are made for homeowners and private property owners.

Supporting vetted candidates and incumbents at all levels of elective governance is part of what RPAC is about.

Now more than ever, we need your financial investment in RPAC thru the Large Donor Council or Direct Giver.



WHO'S ON YOUR BALLOT?

All 99 Assembly seats, the 10th Senate District and President of the United States as well as election of the 3rd and 7th Congressional Districts are on the November ballot. Will you know who is running? To find out who is on your ballot, go to:

www.myvote.wi.gov

Enter your home address and see your ballot 21 days prior to the election.



EAU CLAIRE EXTENDS THEIR EMERGENCY ORDER

The city of Eau Claire has extended its emergency powers for several more weeks. The council voted 11-0 to extend emergency powers until June 23rd.

Council members wanted to give city manager Dale Peters broad authority to act in the city and public's behalf should another crisis arise during the pandemic.

The number of emergency orders has decreased over the past few weeks, but local health officials are following the situation and updating

the public on nearly a daily basis as the virus spread has slowed locally.

Businesses have been slow to reopen and those that have are taking an abundance of caution with their reopening. Larger chain stores in Oakwood Mall are still not open, while sit down dining are limiting the number of seats both indoors and outdoors.

The county Government Center is open on an appointment basis at this time.

7TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT REMATCH IN NOVEMBER

After the special election on May 12th to fill the vacant 7th Congressional seat, won by Senator Tom Tiffany, both Tiffany and his opponent, Tricia Zunker of Wausau filed to run for the full two-year seat on November 3rd.

Tiffany defeated Zunker by 14 points in the heavy Republican district, with Zunker picking up wins in Douglas, Bayfield and Ashland counties and Tiffany winning all the others.

Prior to taking the oath of office for Congress, Tiffany resigned his state Senate seat in the 12th Senate District. That open seat will be contested in November.

PRIMARY NEEDED IN 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

For the first time in several years, long time 3rd District Congressman Ron Kind will face a Democratic challenger in an August primary. Retired doctor Mark Neumann of La Crosse will challenge Kind for his seat.

On the GOP side, Eau Claire public relations professional Jessi Ebben and retired Navy SEAL Derrick Van Orden will meet in August.

The winners of the primary will meet on the ballot on November 3rd.

FIND OUT WHO IS ON YOUR BALLOT

There will be a primary in the 3rd Congressional district on both the Democratic and Republican tickets, a primary for the 29th Assembly seat and a possible primary for the 10th Senate seat. Those occur in August, then its on to the general election in November.

Up in the air is how the votes will be administered, you will likely get an application for an absentee ballot late summer if you do not want to go to the polls.

What is important is to know the positions of each candidate, and who is on your ballot. Check with MyVote Wisconsin 21 days prior to an election to know.



[Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it everywhere, diagnosing it incorrectly and applying the wrong remedies.](#) - Groucho Marx

IN BRIEF

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation will begin accepting applications online for the \$75 million We're All In Small Business Grant program on June 15th.

The program will provide \$2500 grants to 30,000 small businesses to help them get back on their feet and encouraging them to adopt best practices to keep employees, customers and communities safe.

Funded by the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act, the grants will help small businesses with the costs of business interruption or health and safety improvements, wages and salaries, rent, mortgages and inventory.

Go to wedc.org/WAI-Small-

Business-Grant for information on the grant and for an application. The online grant will be accessible from 8am June 15 thru 11:59pm on Sunday, June 21st.

The Town of Cable will have a public forum on Wednesday, June 3rd from 6 to 8pm at the Cable Town Park to learn more about the American Birkebeiner Ski Foundations plan to redevelop the Telemark Resort property and use a Idle Site grant fund for the property.

The forum will be outdoors to allow better social distancing, in case of rain, the pavilion will be the alternate site.

Do you know how easy it is to make an RPAC investment?

Go to www.wra.org/dgcontribution, fill in your information and credit/debit card number (Visa, Mastercard and American Express) and enter a one-time amount or set up monthly payments.

No corporate cards allowed, but LLCs are permitted.

Representatives in the Wisconsin Legislature

29th Assembly

Rob Stafsholt

608-266-7683

Rep.Stafsholt@legis.wisconsin.gov

67th Assembly

Rob Summerfield

608-266-1194

Rep.Summerfield@legis.wisconsin.gov

68th Assembly

Jesse James

608-266-9172

Rep.James@legis.wisconsin.gov

73rd Assembly

Nick Milroy

608-266-0640

Rep.Milroy@legis.wisconsin.gov

74th Assembly

Beth Meyers

608-266-7690

Rep.Meyers@legis.wisconsin.gov

75th Assembly

Romaine Quinn

608-266-2519

Rep.Quinn@legis.wisconsin.gov

87th Assembly

James Edming

608-266-7506

Rep.Edming@legis.wisconsin.gov

91st Assembly

Jodi Emerson

608-266-7461

Rep.Emerson@legis.wisconsin.gov

92nd Assembly

Treig Pronschinske

608-266-7015

Rep.Pronschinske@legis.wisconsin.gov

93rd Assembly

Warren Petryk

608-266-0660

Rep.Petryk@legis.wisconsin.gov

State Senators

23rd Senate

Kathy Bernier

608-266-7511

Sen.Bernier@legis.wisconsin.gov

25th Senate

Janet Bewley

608-266-3510

Sen.Bewley@legis.wisconsin.gov

31st Senate

Jeff Smith

608-266-8546

Sen.Smith@legis.wisconsin.gov



OUR MISSION:

“RANWW/
NWWMLS UNITE
TO ADVOCATE FOR
REAL PROPERTY
RIGHTS, ADVANCE
PROFESSIONALISM
AND CONNECT MEM-
BERS WITH OUR
COMMUNITIES.”

RANWW GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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 385 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 41 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!!

**Bruce King, C2EX, e-PRO®
Government Affairs Director**

**RANWW
3460 Mall Drive
Suite 5A
Eau Claire, WI 54701
715.828.1976 home office/
text
715.835.0923 RANWW
Office**



C2EX
COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

**Enhance your skills.
Empower your future.**



**NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION of
REALTORS®**