

# THE GAD REPORT

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## IDEAS FOR DOWNTOWN BLOCK 7

The two block area known as Block 7 in downtown Eau Claire has had a number of ideas on how and what to develop there for a few years. Most recently, it was a parking lot. With the completion of the nearby parking ramp, there is no need for a surface parking area.

Now, what exactly to put in there. Ideas are plentiful. From expansion for a new Eau Claire Children's Museum, to retail space, to all apartments to a mixed use development with underground parking, Block 7 has attracted plenty of interest.

But not the right fit in the eyes of the Eau Claire

Redevelopment Authority. In past presentations, developers are interested in developing the two blocks, but they want substantial help with the infrastructure thru TIF financing.

Some of the ideas that were presented were a mixed use development with retail on the first floor and apartments above, more retail space with a small green space that would house a skating rink in the winter months, a number of former shipping containers that would be assembled on site and used for small businesses as a start up or incubator, while others would have apartments and underground parking. Most of the plans

did include space for an expanded children's museum. A closed meeting occurred after the presentations, but members have not stated if any agreements with developers have been reached.

The two block area is the last to be developed under TIF 8 and the last two blocks in the development area.

Currently, there are only a couple of empty storefronts in the area, with one business, the former Mayo Pharmacy recently sold and is currently under renovation. Whichever project is selected, construction could begin next spring and be completed in 2020.

## RED CLIFF TRIBE SUES BAYFIELD COUNTY

The Red Cliff Tribe has filed a lawsuit on Bayfield County claiming that the county does not have the authority to impose or enforce zoning regulations on land owned by the reservation.

The county asserts that

they are within their legal rights to zoning authority on certain parcels of property within the Red Cliff reservation.

The lawsuit covers zoning authority on fee lands within the reservation, which the county says is

consistent with state and federal law. The tribe has tried and failed to resolve issues with the county regarding zoning of fee land, that comprises over 4900 acres of tribal lands.



**Use My Vote Wisconsin to know who is on your ballot. Go to <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/> to see who will be on your ballot November 6th.**

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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](mailto:bruce@ranww.org)).

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH.

## ALTOONA NAMES COMMITTEE TO WORK ON CONVENIENCE STORE PLAN

The Altoona City Council has assigned a six member panel to discuss with representatives of Casey's General Store to work thru differences with the company that wants to build a convenience store and car wash in a commercially zoned lot at the corner of Highway 12 and 10th Street in Altoona. The property is part of the former Hillcrest Country Club and is

now home to the Hillcrest Greens development.

Residents are objecting to the project citing concerns with increased traffic, noise and light pollution. The developer, Rooney Properties, says that the project meets the criteria set forth by the Altoona Plan Commission and that the project should be allowed to continue. The Plan Commission has denied the

plan, while the developer has threatened legal action if they are not allowed to move the project forward.

The newly formed committee will work with both sides to reach an agreement that will be sent to the Plan Commission and then on to the City Council, which will have the final say on the project.

## WERTHMANN ANNOUNCED RUN FOR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Acting Eau Claire City Council President Andrew Werthmann announced that he will run for the open City Council President seat next spring.

Should he be successful, he would have to run again in the spring of 2020 in order to win a full three year term.

Werthmann stepped into the role when longtime council President Kerry Kinkaid resigned earlier this year.

His platform includes working on poverty and community involvement, sustainability, and strengthening neighborhoods. He also wants to use zoning and community agree-

ments in order to increase housing density to help address a shortage of affordable housing.

Candidates for the five at large seats on the council will open on December 1st, and nomination forms are due back to the city clerk by 5pm on January 2nd.



**Do you know where to vote?**

**Do you know who is on the ballot?**

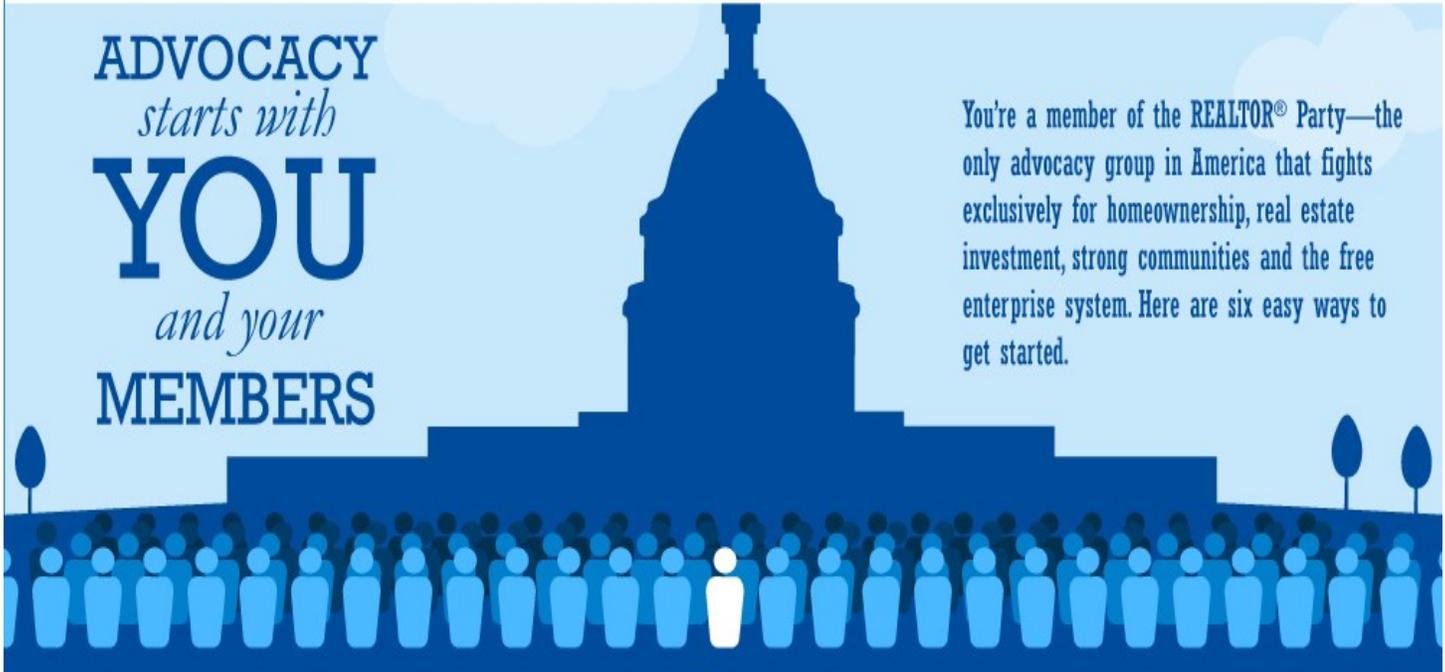
**Are there any referendum questions?**

**Go to MyVoteWisconsin and obtain a sample ballot simply by entering your address. You will learn who is running, any referendum questions, where your polling place is and how to get there. Its easy and gives you everything you need so you know who is on the ballot November 6th.**

**<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>**

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**



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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 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 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 39 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 2018 elections are November 6th. Do you know who you are going to vote for? Do you know the issues? All current indications are that voter turnout will be strong across Wisconsin and around the nation.

If polls are to be believed, many races from the Governor to many Assembly and state Senate will be close, some may not be decided until all absentee votes are counted. If you don’t know who is on your ballot, or whether there is a referendum question on the ballot, go to My Vote Wisconsin

and enter your address. You will be able to find out what and who is on your ballot, where your polling place is and how to get there.

Now, all you have to do is go and vote.

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If you are a business owner, a morning seminar dealing with risk management and reducing exposure to loss is for you. The fall seminar is presented by Disaster Ready Chippewa Valley and will be held on November 13th from 8:30 until noon at RCU in downtown Eau Claire. Registration is \$10. Presenters include Martha

Lester, Risk Management & Insurance Program Instructor at Madison Area Technical College and Joshua Cotillier, Manager of MATCs Risk Management Program. They will discuss steps you can take to reduce risk, insurance policies business can take and catastrophic losses you can be exposed to & how to reduce such loss.

Registration is open until November 9. You can go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/DRCVNov2018](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DRCVNov2018) to register for this seminar.

And don’t forget to vote on Tuesday November 6th!!



Commemorating 50 Years  
of the Fair Housing Act