

# THE GAD REPORT

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## ANNEXATION HEARD BY SUPREME COURT

The Trempealeau County town of Lincoln has had its differences with the city of Whitehall for some time regarding the annexation of 1248 acres of land that the city wanted to annex in order to develop and open a frac sand mine in 2015.

The township contends that the city erred in how the process was done in order to annex the land to the city.

After months and months of back and forth, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has agreed to hear the case of the township. The town's challenge to Whitehall's position will be filed my the middle of the

month. The township's action comes after the state appeals court ruled in April that the city of Whitehall acted properly in its annexation action..

Justices will need to answer will be whether there was unanimous consent from property owners in the township to the annexation, was the land contiguous to the city of Whitehall, did city officials inflict undue influence on the boundaries of the area to be annexed and does Wisconsin statutes limit what the township can legally appeal an annexation attempt.

Last year, a Trempealeau County circuit court judge affirmed the city of White-

hall's position , and that position was supported by the appeals court earlier this year.

The area of contention is north of Highway 121 between Independence and Whitehall. The company that wanted to develop the mine and rail transfer center has since gone out of business, but with demand for both frac sand and trans-load facilities still quite high, other mining interests may want to establish a mine on the property.

Arguments before the court will like take place later this winter or early spring with a decision soon afterward.

## EAU CLAIRE CAFO PLAN DELAYED

The Eau Claire County board has been working on a plan to adopt a one year moratorium on Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations, joining other area counties that have either adopted a moratorium or are in the process of writing and adopting such a morato-

rium. In Eau Claire County, agricultural interests and farmers stated that the current livestock siting law adopted by the legislature takes precedence of local government.

The county Land Conservation Commission vot-

ed against the proposal but the county Planning and Development committee recommended that the plan go to the county board, who did not act on it, but intend to take it up in October.



**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.**

## E.C. CITY COUNCIL HAS LISTENING SESSION ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Eau Claire City Council held a listening session on affordable housing of all kinds for all ages in the Eau Claire community.

Many people stepped forward to speak about personal experiences and impediments toward finding a home to buy or an apartment to rent in the city. Other spoke about experiences with landlords both

pro and con. Others discussed the necessity to increase the amount of housing for seniors that can live without assistance at home.

Builders like Cody Filipcak of C & M Home Builders spoke of affordability, the shortage of available housing and the demand for new construction. One of the impediments toward getting more developments approved is

often opposition of the neighbors.

Scott Rogers, Government Affairs Director for the Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce says that a comprehensive look at all of the factors affecting housing supply and affordability need to be addressed in order to find the correct solutions to the needs of the city.

## MENOMONIE APPROVES HOUSING PROGRAM

The City of Menomonie adopted a program that is a public/private partnership that will hopefully attract new homeowners to the city.

Called Home Sweet Menomonie, the program is designed to provide down payment assistance for a person buying a single family home.

Employees from participating businesses will be eligible to borrow up to \$10,000 for a down payment on a home in the city.

Funding for the program comes from both public and private dollars and nonprofit groups. The city of Menomonie has a number of fund-

ing options available to it and the group is soliciting donations to the fund that will begin assisting home buyers on January 1st.

The concept from the Dunn County Economic Development Corp was intended to raise awareness of workforce shortages in the city.



**Do you know where to vote?**

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

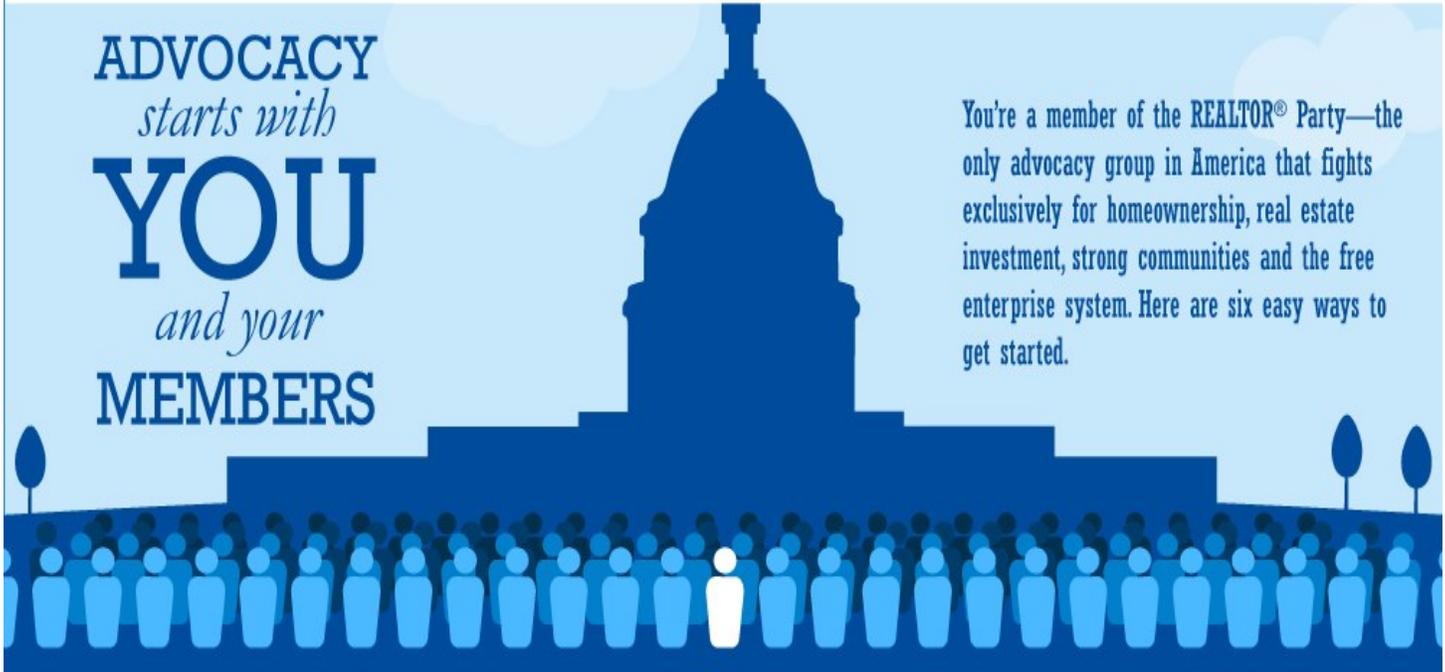
**Are there any referendum questions?**

**Go to MyVoteWisconsin and obtain a sample ballot simple by entering your address. You 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**

If you are a Direct Giver or Large Donor Council member, you likely have had an email or two (or more) from me asking you to invest in candidates and incumbents for the fall election.

The incumbents that I ask you to support have either 100% voting records on real estate issues or have a record that WRA feels is good enough to warrant your continued support.

Candidates from both sides of the aisle for open seats in the Senate or Assembly have been vetted and those selected for support will support real estate and

land use issues if they are elected. Other seats may have no endorsed candidate meaning that whoever wins will work with us in the best interest of our members and landowners.

The (temporary) end of the fall campaign season is in sight. Election day is November 6th.

The spring election cycle will begin December 1, with the first day of nomination papers being available for local races, and a statewide race for an open Supreme Court justice.

On a personal note, I am humbled to receive the

RANWW Distinguished Service Award this year.



I again want to thank the RANWW Board of Directors for nominating me for this award. I keep it next to me at my desk to remind me daily that I need to do my level best to serve you at a professional level that is reflective of this recognition.



Commemorating 50 Years  
of the Fair Housing Act