



RANWW

Realtors® Association of
Northwestern Wisconsin

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The GAD Report

VOTE NOVEMBER 8

Election Day is near! All the ads, attacks and political flyers that have visited your mailboxes will end. The only thing that you need to do (if you haven't voted early) is to get out and vote.

To see who is on your ballot: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Whats-On-My-Ballot>



Papers for the 2023 spring election are available December 1st.

Make your RPAC Direct Give investment today and support those who support your business. WRA accepts Visa, Mastercard and American Express.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Invest in RPAC
- Time To Vote
- Ashland Housing
- Capitol Insights
- Legal Action Advocacy
- Plan To Go To The Polls
- Washburn Ad-Hoc Committee
- Invest In RPAC

HOUSING PROJECT IN ASHLAND CANCELLED, MARSHFIELD CLINIC EXPANSION ALSO CANCELLED

Two projects in Ashland both came to a screeching halt.

First, developer Scott Betting informed the city that he was withdrawing a plan to develop a \$4.1 million housing project.

His plan was to move two businesses onto the vacant lot he owns and then to construct two apartment buildings on the remaining portion of the lot.

The developer cited the need for the city to rebuild a road through the development, but negotiations fell apart.

The property that Betting owns and was looking to move his businesses was part of a deal that would have Marshfield Clinic purchase the site from himself and a partner.

Marshfield Clinic declined to follow thru with the purchase noting a possible merger with Es-sentia Health.

“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)

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services has approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to provide housing support for low-income Wisconsin families in need.

Those who are eligible include families with children 18 and younger and individuals who are pregnant who have low incomes (below 200% of the federal poverty level) and do not have housing.

Wisconsin is the first state to implement this type of housing benefit.

Contact the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for more information and application materials.

REFERENDUMS FEATURED ON MANY COMMUNITY BALLOTS

Both the City of Chippewa Falls and the City of Eau Claire have referendum questions on their ballots asking voters to support additional dollars in order to increase staffing for both departments.

In Chippewa Falls, the increase of \$1,227,791 would go toward increasing personnel in the police and fire departments and the Emergency Services Department. The increase in wages for existing personnel and hiring new officers with the increase ongoing each year.

In Eau Claire, the City is asking to exceed the levy limit by \$1,448,132 every year for the purpose of employing an additional six firefighter/paramedics and six additional police officers, two civilian community service officers and one civilian law enforcement associate to support the 911 dispatchers.

The Eau Claire School District is asking for permission to issue \$98,600,000 for the purpose of paying the costs building and facility upgrades at North, Memorial, South Middle and Putnam Heights, capital improvements at several elementary schools and furnishings and equipment at several locations in the district.

The Augusta School District has two questions on the ballot. The first is a \$10.5 question to address maintenance repairs and the second is a \$4.5 question to build a new elementary school gym.



This month's Capitol Insights highlights HOAs. HOAs have a lot of power. See what The WRA has done to create transparency between homeowners and prospective buyers here: <https://action.wra.org/homeowners-ass...> Cori Lamont is the Senior Director of Legal and Public Affairs at the WRA. Listen as she talks about what the WRA has done for your industry in Wisconsin.

https://youtu.be/dJ_bt4BSTkk

WRA LEGAL ACTION ADVOCACY

On September 21, 2022, the WRA filed an **amicus brief** with the United States Supreme Court supporting the Pacific Legal Foundation's petition to hear a consolidated case on the issue of foreclosure equity theft. The two cases the court may choose to consolidate and combine are *Continent Resources v. Fair* (Nebraska) and *Tyler v. Hennepin County* (Minnesota).

Under the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, the government is prohibited from taking property for a public purpose without just compensation. In 2022, the WRA helped enact a new law, 2021 Wis. Act 216, that eliminates the ability of counties in Wisconsin to keep the net proceeds in a property tax foreclosure sale.

While Act 216 ended the ability of counties in Wisconsin to keep the net proceeds in a property tax foreclosure sale, Wisconsin case law continues to state if the property owner received sufficient notice of a tax foreclosure action to satisfy due process requirements, a taking does not occur when the government retains any net proceeds. Therefore, the WRA submitted a brief to ensure both the common law and statutory rights of property owners are protected.

RPAC AND YOU

Did you know that you can make your RPAC investment securely online using your Visa, Mastercard and now American Express card? And, you can set up monthly payments!

Go to <https://secure.wra.org/donate>

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.



PLAN TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD AND VOTE NOVEMBER 8TH

Soon, as of 8pm Tuesday, November 8th, all the political ads will come to an end (at least for a few weeks). Voters who have not voted early will head to the polls to cast their ballots for the candidate(s) of their choice.

REALTORS® are one of the largest groups that consistently participate in the process and it is very important that, whether voting early, or in person, you participate. There are dozens of polls that give you a very small snapshot on what might happen or who has a lead in their contest.

But there remains only one way for you to assure your voice is heard. Go to the polls and vote November 8th. Polls open at 7am and close at 8pm.



"We in America do not have government by the majority, we have government by the majority who participate" - Thomas Jefferson

WASHBURN COUNTY REVIEWS CAMPING ORDINANCES, FORMS AD-HOC COMMITTEE

The Washburn County Board has formed an ad hoc committee to look at changes that would be needed to the county's campground ordinance.

The committee formation was in response to a number of county residents that were concerned in local impacts of a large RV park being constructed near Spooner Lake.

Many citizens were of the opinion that the current regulations were more aligned with older, existing campgrounds and would not address a large RV park.

The citizens have asked the county for a six-month moratorium of the issuance of any new permits until the current regula-

tions are revised.

Citizens stated that while they are not opposed to the RV park, they have concerns that the current regulations do not meet the needs of a large park.

The committee membership is still being decided, but the group, once formed will have about three months to do its work, review current zoning laws and permit processes and come up with recommendations to the county board for review and adoption prior to the next camping season.

The 2022 RPAC campaign is in the home stretch.

Three levels of investment...dues billing, Direct Giver and Large Donor Council.

Several ways to pay: personal or LLC check, debit card, Visa, Mastercard or American Express.

Have questions? Contact Bruce (bruce@ranww.org) or Sandy at WRA (sandy@wra.org)

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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, southern Ashland to the north. We are the fourth largest of the 19 Associations in terms of membership. Your Association covers 395 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 42 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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