



Emily Levitt  
2026 STAR President

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# STAR Monthly News



Powering REALTORS® Across Stark, Carroll, and Trumbull Counties...

## President's Message

**2026 | February**

As we move into the second month of the new year, Stark Trumbull Area REALTORS® (STAR) and I, as your President, remain focused on creating meaningful opportunities for our members to learn, connect, and give back. Through engaging educational programs and impactful community involvement, STAR is proud to offer events that support both your professional growth and the communities we serve.

One of our upcoming events is the first STAR Shaker of the year, proudly brought to you by your STAR Affiliates! Join us on February 24th at Cork and Cap in Warren, Ohio for a fun-filled trivia night you won't want to miss. This exciting event is the perfect chance to network with local realtors®, make new connections, and enjoy a great night out. Grab your team, show off your trivia skills, and come mix, mingle, and have some fun with STAR!

In addition to our fun events, STAR remains committed to community engagement through the efforts of our Growth and Connection Committee. One upcoming opportunity to get involved is a volunteer event with Beacon Pharmacy on March 2nd. Volunteers will spend the morning assisting with tasks that directly support the pharmacy's mission of serving the community. This is a wonderful way to give back, connect with fellow REALTORS®, and make a positive impact locally. No special experience is required—just a willingness to help and a desire to be involved.

Being a STAR member offers tremendous value, and that value extends far beyond the local level. Your membership connects you to a powerful network of resources, advocacy efforts, and professional development opportunities at the state and national levels. Through the Ohio REALTORS® and the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR), members gain access to industry-leading research, legal guidance, continuing education, technology tools, and advocacy that protects private property rights and promotes homeownership. If you haven't explored these benefits recently, we encourage you to take a moment to review what's available to you at [ohiorealtors.org](http://ohiorealtors.org) and [nar.realtor](http://nar.realtor). You may be surprised by just how many tools and resources are included with your membership.

At STAR, our goal is to support you at every stage of your career—through education, connection, and advocacy. We invite you to take advantage of these upcoming opportunities, get involved with a committee, and continue making the most of your membership. Together, we are stronger, more connected, and better equipped to serve our clients and our community.

Emily Levitt  
2026 STAR President

# Classes & Events

## FEBRUARY

FEB 9 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
First Time Home Buyers Seminar  
STAR Office | 7110 Whipple Ave NW Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720

FEB 13 Affiliate Committee | Staff Liaison: [Collene Burgess](#) / [Maggie McAbier](#)

FEB 16 OFFICES CLOSED | Presidents Day

FEB 19 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
MLS NOW CE | My Matrix and More 1:30-3:30  
7110 Whipple Ave NW, Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720

FEB 24 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
TRUMBULL Shaker at Cork & Cap  
3225 Elm Rd NE Warren OH 44483

FEB 26 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
New Member Orientation 2:00-3:30  
7110 Whipple Ave NW, Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720

## MARCH

MAR 2 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
Beacon Pharmacy | 10:00 am - NOON  
2525 13<sup>th</sup> St NW, Canton, OH 44708

MAR 4 Leg. Affairs / RPAC Committee | Staff Liaison: [Rich Cosgrove](#)

MAR 10 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
STARK Shaker at M Bar  
5260 Dressler Rd, Canton OH 44718

MAR 13 Affiliate Committee | Staff Liaison: [Collene Burgess](#) / [Maggie McAbier](#)

MAR 16 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
Well & Septic | 1 Hour Elective CE 10:00 am - 11:00 am  
7110 Whipple Ave NW, Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720

MAR 17 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
Social Media and AI | 2 Hour Elective CE 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
7110 Whipple Ave NW, Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720

MAR 19 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
MLS NOW CE | Real Reports 1:30-3:30  
7110 Whipple Ave NW, Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720

## APRIL

APR 1 Leg. Affairs / RPAC Committee | Staff Liaison: [Rich Cosgrove](#)

APR 3 Affiliate Committee | Staff Liaison: [Collene Burgess](#) / [Maggie McAbier](#)

APR 6 Growth & Connection Committee | Staff Liaison: [Maggie McAbier](#)

APR 16 [REGISTER NOW](#)  
MLS NOW CE | CMA 1:30-3:30  
7110 Whipple Ave NW, Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720



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<https://starrealtor.TheCEShop.com>

Stark Trumbull Area REALTORS® has established an agreement with The CE Shop to promote online course information to consumers and real estate licensees. Stark Trumbull Area REALTORS® is not the developer of these courses and is simply providing a referral. Any questions regarding course content or technology should be directed to The CE Shop.

# A Note from the CEO

## A New Year at STAR – Stronger Together

As we begin a new year at the Stark Trumbull Area REALTORS® (STAR), I want to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation for you – our members. Your professionalism, dedication, and commitment to excellence are what make STAR a strong and respected association.

Please know how much I value your membership. Because of you, STAR continues to serve as a trusted resource, a powerful advocate for our industry, and a place where real estate professionals can connect, grow, and succeed.

We are excited about the year ahead and remain committed to providing meaningful education, valuable networking opportunities, and engaging events designed to support your success. I truly look forward to seeing you at our many great events throughout the year and encourage you to take advantage of all that your association offers.

Our continued success also depends on member involvement. STAR's committees play an essential role in shaping programs and initiatives that benefit our entire membership. We are always looking for volunteers who are ready to share their ideas and talents.

If you have considered getting more involved, I invite you to reach out to me personally. Serving on a committee is one of the best ways to expand your network, grow professionally, and make a lasting impact on your association.

Thank you for your continued trust and membership. I look forward to working together and seeing you throughout what promises to be another successful year at STAR.

Collene Burgess, CEO



**Collene Burgess**

*Chief Executive Officer*

[cburgess@star.realtor](mailto:cburgess@star.realtor)

office: (330) 494-5630

A photograph showing several hands of different skin tones stacked together, symbolizing teamwork and involvement. The background is a soft-focus image of a group of people, possibly at a networking event. Overlaid on the image is a quote in a white, serif font and a large, bold, white text at the bottom.

***Committee involvement in your association is one of the best things you can do for your business. You will discover lifelong friends and mentors, and in many cases, do some good in your community along the way.***

**get INVOLVED with STAR**



# STAR *Shaker*

**5:00 pm - 7:30 pm**

**Complimentary Food & Drinks**

Join the STAR Affiliates for a Fun & Relaxing Networking Event!  
FREE for STAR REALTOR® Members \$20 for STAR Affiliates

## Rumble in Trumbull

**at Cork & Cap**

3225 Elm Rd NE  
Warren, OH 44483

**Tuesday, February 24:  
“Trivia Night”**

## After Dark in Stark

**at MBAR in Canton**

5260 Dressler Road  
Canton, OH 44718

**Tuesday, March 10  
Tuesday, October 27:  
“Halloween Karaoke”**



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www.MLSNow.com | (216) 485-4100

**1:30pm - 3:30pm**

**at Stark Trumbull Area REALTORS®**

7110 Whipple Avenue NW, Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720

### **January 22: Listing Input**

The Matrix Listing Input class should be taken by those who have broker permission to input listings. This class will go over how to properly use the input portion of Matrix while following MLS Now rules.

### **February 19: My Matrix and More**

Explore the My Matrix tools, including custom headers and grids, personalized email signatures with photos and links, speedbar shortcuts, team settings, hot sheets for market tracking, and portal notifications to monitor prospect activity.

### **March 19: Real Reports**

Real Reports consolidates tax records, public data, and property insights into a single platform—eliminating the need to jump between multiple systems. The AI-powered features help you translate raw data into client-ready insights, positioning you as the local expert.

### **April 16: CMA**

Learn how to find comps using radius or map searches and create a CMA package with customizable reports, cover pages, and stats—saved under the contact for easy editing, printing, or emailing anytime.

### **May 21: Listing Input**

The Matrix Listing Input class should be taken by those who have broker permission to input listings. This class will go over how to properly use the input portion of Matrix while following MLS Now rules.

### **\*Rayse: Showcasing Your Value as a REALTOR®**

Rayse is the all-in-one platform that helps agents deliver the transparency and professionalism today's buyers and sellers expect. You've seen how it works for buyers—now discover the new seller experience with tools like the Seller Services Presentation, Seller Journey, and enhanced reporting. These features make it easy to demonstrate your value from listing to closing.

To learn more, please allow 15 minutes after your class for a brief lesson.

**FREE to Register  
Sign-Up TODAY!**

Register on MLS Now Website!

Each Class is Offered for  
2 Hours Elective CE Credit EXCEPT  
Listing Input.



MLS Now LEARNING



# Fall In **LOVE** with Your New Home

## First Time Home Buyers Seminar

### MONDAY February 9, 2026

**5:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the STAR Office**

**7110 Whipple Ave NW, Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720**

**Hear expert tips straight from Lenders,  
Local Realtors®, Title Companies, Home  
Inspectors and more — all in one place!**

**Bring a friend and enter to win  
a Raffle Basket filled with all  
the First Home Essentials!**



#### **Presented By:**

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Rural 1st, Fulton Title, KW Legacy Group,  
and Farmers National Bank**

**QUESTIONS? Contact Maggie McAbier  
[maggie@STAR.Realtor](mailto:maggie@STAR.Realtor) | 330-494-5630**

**Register at  
[www.STAR.Realtor](http://www.STAR.Realtor)**

WOMEN'S COUNCIL OF REALTORS STARK  
INVITES YOU TO A

*Speed Dating*  
LUNCH PARTY

WEAR PINK

WEDNESDAY

— FEBRUARY —

18

— 11AM-1PM —

STAR OFFICE

7110 WHIPPLE AVE SUITE B  
NORTH CANTON, OH



# VOLUNTEER with STAR!

Join the Stark Trumbull Area **REALTORS®**  
Growth & Connection Committee as we lend  
our time to Beacon Charitable Pharmacy!



**MON. March 2, 2026**

**10:00 am - NOON**

**BEACON CHARITABLE PHARMACY**

**2525 13th St. NW, Canton, OH 44708**

Give just a couple of hours to make a meaningful impact by supporting this vital Community Resource! It's an exciting chance to connect with fellow Agents and Affiliates while making a difference in your community. Lunch will be provided.

No special skills needed—if you know your ABCs, you're already qualified to help!

**Sign up on our Website TODAY!**

**www.STAR.Realtor**

Beacon Charitable Pharmacy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency providing prescription medication assistance to uninsured and underinsured residents of Stark and Carroll Counties who have a low to moderate income.

QUESTIONS? Contact Maggie McBier at [maggie@STAR.Realtor](mailto:maggie@STAR.Realtor) | 330.494.5630



STARK TRUMBULL  
AREA REALTORS®



# Well and Septics

## 1 Hour Continuing Education Course

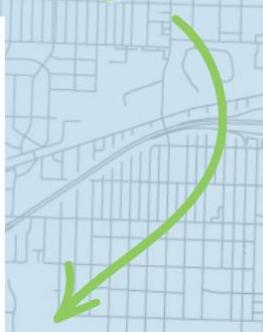
**MONDAY March 16, 2026**

**10:00 am to 11:00 am at the STAR Office**

**7110 Whipple Ave NW, Suite B, North Canton, OH 44720**

**Join Glenn Sanders and Pillar to Post to cover Well & Septics in the surrounding areas! Perfect elective CE for Realtors® who are wanting to learn more!**

**Register Here Today!**



**QUESTIONS? Contact Maggie McAbier**  
**maggie@STAR.Realtor | 330-494-5630**

**Glenn Sanders**  
**Team Lead & Home Inspector**

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- Social Media Best Practices
- Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X
- Stories and Reels
- Facebook Advertising
- Video Marketing
- SEO, Blogging for Success & More

### **WHEN:**

**Tue, Mar 17, 2026, 10AM EST**

Check-In Opens at 9:30am

### **WHERE:**

**Stark Trumbull Area REALTORS®  
7110 Whipple Ave NW, Suite B  
North Canton OH 44720**

**REGISTER NOW**



## February 2026 GAD Report

**Ohio Property Tax Reforms Will Offer Lower Taxes Starting In Second Half Of 2026:** Just before Christmas, Ohio lawmakers gave property owners an early gift in the form of property tax reform. The changes could eventually lower tax bills, but residents will need to be patient before seeing the impact. Five bills signed into law by Gov. Mike DeWine on Dec. 19 are designed to reduce property taxes statewide. The new laws are scheduled to take effect in March. Lawmakers also approved an increase in the owner-occupancy credit, raising it from 2.5% to more than 15% over the next four years. Property owners may also see relief through changes in how school district millage is calculated. House Bill 186 created some school reform and how inside millage is calculated. This will cap inside millage at inflation instead of seeing the huge increases we have seen in years past.

**Ohio Supreme Court Hears Case Impacting Standard Used To Inspect Rental Homes And Properties:** The Ohio

Supreme Court is considering the meaning of probable cause when it comes to inspections of rental homes, in a case that could have major impacts to Ohio tenants and landlords alike. The state's highest court heard arguments last week from CF Homes, LLC, and the Department of Development Services for the **City of North Canton**, on an appeal from the Fifth District Court of Appeals. The city enacted laws in 2022 establishing a rental registry, which it argues is a way to keep rental properties in compliance with health and safety standards, including the presence of things like smoke detectors and proper ventilation. We will share the outcome of the case once it has been decided.



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Dave Dennison NMLS# 2242206

Lucy Staten NMLS# 62943  
Christine Schell NMLS# 293206

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**Rich Cosgrove**  
**Government Affairs Director**

Contact for: Legislative Affairs, RPAC

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## Monthly Market STATS

December 2025

[CLICK HERE](#) to check out our Blog for shareable assets and watch social media for January STATS soon!

## Market UPDATE

### STARK COUNTY

Stark Trumbull Area REALTORS®  
Single-Family & TownHome Listing  
Analysis of Stark, Trumbull, & Carroll Counties

**NEW Listings**  
264

**SOLD Listings**  
359

**Average SALE Price**  
\$253,842

**Average MARKET TIME**  
38 Days

### DECEMBER 2025

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## Market UPDATE

### TRUMBULL COUNTY

Stark Trumbull Area REALTORS®  
Single-Family & TownHome Listing  
Analysis of Stark, Trumbull, & Carroll Counties

**NEW Listings**  
114

**SOLD Listings**  
162

**Average SALE Price**  
\$181,399

**Average MARKET TIME**  
54 Days

### DECEMBER 2025

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## Market UPDATE

### CARROLL COUNTY

Stark Trumbull Area REALTORS®  
Single-Family & TownHome Listing  
Analysis of Stark, Trumbull, & Carroll Counties

**NEW Listings**  
17

**SOLD Listings**  
20

**Average SALE Price**  
\$420,815

**Average MARKET TIME**  
49 Days

### DECEMBER 2025

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# Membership Report January 2026

## New Salespersons

Jeffrey Sampson, *The Agency Cleveland*  
Emilee Bobo, *EXP Realty*  
Ryan Berry, *High Point Real Estate Group*  
Barbara Figueroa, *KW Legacy Group*  
Chandra Carlile, *KW Legacy Group*  
Jordan Chumney, *KW Legacy Group*  
George Taylor, *KW Chervenic Realty*  
Heather Ford, *Re/Max Crossroads Prop*  
Amy Vaughn, *KW Legacy Group*  
Caitlyn Petros, *The Agency Cleveland Northcoast*  
Jason Franklin, *KW Chervenic Realty*  
Emma Petrone, *KW Legacy Group*  
McKenzie Fogle, *Re/Max Infinity*  
Ethan Uslick, *Cutler Real Estate*  
David Poyer, *McDowell Homes*  
David Thompson, *KW Legacy Group*  
Sierra Marlowe, *KW Greater Metropolitan*  
Renay Heslop, *EXP Realty*

## New Secondary Office

Kyle Oberlin, *Selling Ohio*

## Office Transfers

Dustin Ivey, *Selling Ohio*  
Monique Rankins, *Selling Ohio*  
Sabrina Reskey, *Selling Ohio*  
Matt Sipos, *Selling Ohio*  
Jesse Wood, *Selling Ohio*  
Michael Lynn Blackburn, *Selling Ohio*  
Shawna Russell, *Selling Ohio*  
Bryan Daily, *Selling Ohio*  
Lucas Chasteen, *Selling Ohio*  
Danielle McLean, *Selling Ohio*  
Alexis Coombes, *Selling Ohio*

## Office Transfers Cont.

Madelyn Peterson, *Selling Ohio*  
Toynette Tavares, *Selling Ohio*  
Heather Lindsey, *Selling Ohio*  
Ashley Mostoller, *Market & Main Realty*  
Elyse Coker, *Market & Main Realty*  
Evan Hamilton, *KW Legacy Group*  
Isabella Leek, *KW Legacy Group*  
Sonja Ezzo, *KW Chervenic Realty*  
Christina Hoff, *Re/max Edge*  
Milena Hunt, *Re/max Edge*  
Michael Walls, *Re/max Edge*  
Laszlo Marsi, *XRE Realty*  
Karalynn Sasbon, *BHHS*  
Lamont Hall, *KW Legacy Group*  
Christopher Hofmann, *EXP Realty*  
Madelyn Peterson, *EXP Realty*  
Katie Bloom, *Kelly Warren & Associates*  
Stewart Shankel, *KW Greater Metropolitan*

## Transfers from Another Board Cont.

Anastasia Atallah  
Catherine Ferrell  
Patrick Traynham  
Joshua Lovinger  
Jeffrey Whitaker  
Adin Homoelle  
ReAnna Nowak  
Megan Holland  
Howard Winland  
Roy Gass

## Dropped Members

William Gill  
Melissa Elrod  
Annette Buchanan Phillips  
Lynette Fulmer

## Dropped Members Cont.

Eric Good  
Scott Day  
Michelle Tschantz  
Karla Kettler  
Joshua Cayson  
Glenna Wilson  
Kathy Rainieri  
Willie Palma  
Brittany Carlone  
Stephanie Marinos  
MacKenna Perrin  
Scott McDonald  
Meghan McDonald  
Peter Holman  
Thomas Petry  
Samuel Shaheen  
Michael Rossi  
Andrew Donohoe  
Carmesha Hightower  
Scott Postlewaite  
Blake Ward  
April Watson  
Traci Kleve  
Sasha Dye



## **Candice Likely, Administrative Assistant**

Contact for: Membership & Dues Inquiries,  
FOREWARN, Supra

[Membership@STAR.Realtor](mailto:Membership@STAR.Realtor)



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An advertisement for Rural 1st featuring Taylor Bake, a Rural Lending Expert. The background shows a scenic rural landscape with a barn and rolling hills at sunset. Taylor is smiling and wearing a dark blue polo shirt with the "RURAL 1<sup>st</sup>" logo. The text includes "RURAL 1<sup>st</sup>", "Taylor Bake", "Rural Lending Expert", "Land Loans", "Construction Loans", "Homes on Acreage", "330-206-1398", and an email address "Taylor.bake@rural1st.com". The Equal Housing Opportunity logo is also present.

An advertisement for Ohio Real Title featuring Mary Hogue-Scott, Territory Manager. The background shows a portrait of Mary Hogue-Scott. The text includes "YOUR NORTHEAST OHIO TITLE COMPANY", "MARY HOGUE-SCOTT", "TERRITORY MANAGER", "4512 DRESSLER ROAD NW", "CANTON, OHIO 44718", "Mobile: 330-204-6087", and an email address "maryhoguescott@ohiorealtile.com". The website "www.ohiorealtile.com" is also mentioned at the bottom.



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Association**

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Step of  
the Way



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are you NEW  
to STAR?



**don't be NEW  
& Confused...**

**JOIN US for a FUN  
and Informative  
NEW Member  
Orientation,  
and take the  
guesswork out  
of getting started!**

**Orientation Dates**

Thursday, February 26

Thursday, June 4

Thursday, September 24

Thursday, November 12



**STAR**  
**AFFILIATES**  
Your Partners in Business

**Sign-Up TODAY!**

# **NAR and .RealEstate Unveil All-New Digital Experience for Real Estate Professionals**

Published January 27, 2026 | NAR Newsroom

CHICAGO (January 27, 2026) - .RealEstate, an official partner of the National Association of REALTORS®, today announced a major product evolution, unveiling a new unified digital platform that helps real estate professionals build, launch and manage their online presence in one place. The launch follows the company's August 2025 rebrand from Get.Realtor to .RealEstate and reflects its shift from domains to a broader digital branding and marketing ecosystem.

"When we originally began our business, we were known primarily for domains," said Colleen Doyle, vice president, RIN and strategic initiatives at the National Association of REALTORS®. "Over the last five years, we've expanded into a more complete digital branding solution, and this refresh under .RealEstate better reflects what we've become and where we're headed."

Alongside the brand refresh, .RealEstate is launching an all-new digital experience with updated website technology, new tools, and a more intuitive onboarding process, helping professionals establish a polished presence quickly.

Key features include:

- New website packages for all stages of business, from new agents to multi-office brokerages.
- More than 45 professionally designed website templates, including options for luxury, commercial, property management, teams, farms and land, and more.
- AI-powered website and SEO tools to generate on-brand copy, support optimization, and streamline content creation.
- Integrated CRM to manage contacts, track leads, and follow up from one dashboard.
- Professional email with exclusive .realtor and .realestate addresses to reinforce credibility and alignment with the industry.
- Mobile-optimized, SEO-ready setup designed to get professionals online fast with minimal technical friction.
- Transparent pricing and 30-day free trials on all website packages.

"We want more real estate professionals to own their digital space," Doyle said. "Our solutions are built to be mobile-ready and SEO-ready so professionals can get online quickly and focus on serving clients."

As an official partner of the National Association of REALTORS®, .RealEstate combines modern technology with industry insight, helping ensure its tools evolve alongside the profession and remain aligned with what real estate professionals need to succeed online.

To learn more and explore available solutions, visit <https://get.realestate>.

## **About .RealEstate**

.RealEstate (formerly Get.Realtor) is dedicated to empowering real estate professionals to own their online real estate brand. Backed by The National Association of REALTORS®. .RealEstate provides comprehensive digital branding solutions, including exclusive .realtor and .realestate domains, customizable websites, and integrated marketing tools. Our mission is to help real estate professionals work smarter, not harder, by offering innovative, easy-to-use, and cost-effective solutions backed by industry expertise.

**About the National Association of Realtors®**  
As America's largest trade association, the National Association of Realtors® is involved in all aspects of residential and commercial real estate. The term Realtor® is a registered collective membership mark that identifies a real estate professional who is a member of the National Association of Realtors® and subscribes to its strict Code of Ethics. For free consumer guides about navigating the homebuying and selling transaction processes - from written buyer agreements to negotiating compensation - visit [facts.realtor](http://facts.realtor).

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