



General Membership Meeting



2025 REALTOR of the Year & Affiliate of the Year
Presentations



CE with Tim Reed

Date: **Wednesday, March 11, 2025 (please note day)**

Time: **11:30 a.m. CST**

Place: **Portofino Grill in La Porte**

Program: **2025 REALTOR of the Year and 2025 Affiliate of the Year Presentations**

CE with Instructor Tim Reed. Course: Purchase Agreements—2 CE Hours for all Indiana Brokers

Cost: **\$18 with Reservations/\$20 for Walk-ins**

For Reservations:

Those attending the meeting only may RSVP via email or phone! Please contact the Board office at 219-324-8120 or via email at lpicar@lpicar.comcastbiz.net no later than **Friday, March 6, 2026**. Please have your check ready for our meeting, made payable to LPCAR. Thank you. If you do plan on attending our CE session you will need to register online at:

<https://www.laportecountyrealtors.com/membershipmeetings>

CE Attendees **must** register online. Please provide COMPLETE information including Address, City, State and Zip Code. All Indiana License Numbers begin with **RB** and **MUST be included in the registration**. Please review your entries prior to submitting the form! CE is free of charge for all LPCAR members. \$20 for non-members.

Please review our reservation policy: *Reservation Policy: We strongly suggest you make reservations in advance. Any reservation made and **not cancelled 2 hours prior** to the start of our event will be charged for the cost of the meal. Our locations are very accommodating with our reservations but we are required to call in a reservation number ahead of time and pay for that number. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter!*



Letter from the Board President

We hope by now everyone received an email from the Indiana Association of Realtors regarding a **Call to Action for HB 1001**, which promotes new housing development and helps protect affordable homeownership. Please take a few moments to review the information and respond to this Call To Action! By responding, a personalized message to your state senator will be sent urging them to pass the bill.

Please also be reminded that this is a license renewal year. License renewals are due in June, and all continuing education requirements must be completed prior to submission. I urge you to ensure your

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2026 Scholarship Information

LPCAR is pleased to offer Scholarships in the amount of \$1000 each, to area students who plan on pursuing further education after graduation or are currently attending a college or trade school and who are related to a REALTOR or Affiliate member of LPCAR. There will be **4 (four)** Scholarships available. Three will be available to any student related to an LPCAR member—REALTOR or Affiliate member, and one scholarship is available with the same criteria but with one additional requirement—the family member must have served on the board of directors—either in the past or a current board member. This is our Board of Director Service Scholarship! Eligible applicants may apply to both scholarships but may only be selected for one.



This award will be given to a person demonstrating outstanding community involvement who is planning to pursue further education through an accredited college, university, or trade school or are currently attending college or a trade school.

Scholarship FAQs

1. **What is the eligibility criteria for the Scholarship?** To be eligible the student must be pursuing further education after graduation or must be currently enrolled in a college or trade school. Students must also be related to an LPCAR member—Affiliate of REALTOR—who is in active and in good standing. For our Board of Director Service Scholarship, the student must be related to a member who has served on the LPCAR board of directors—past or current and is a member in good standing.
2. **How does my student apply for the scholarship?** Applications are available for download on our website. Please make sure to provide the application to eligible students.
3. **What is the deadline for application submission?** The deadline to submit the application is April 30, 2026.
4. **How much money is awarded through the scholarship?** For 2026 each recipient will receive \$1000 for their further education costs.
5. **How many scholarships are awarded each year?** In 2026 there will be 4 (four) Scholarships available.
6. **How do I submit the application?** [Two copies must be sent to the board office via mail or may also be dropped off at the board office. \(please contact the office for drop off times/info\)](#)

The deadline for this year is **April 30, 2026**. Please make sure your student applies as soon as possible. The application also requires an essay of 200 words or less explaining why the scholarship should be awarded. Any application received without the essay will not be considered during the selection process. It is important for the student to complete all parts of the application

Please download the application and have your student complete and send the form back by the deadline. Students of family members of LPCAR are eligible for this scholarship so we encourage them to apply as soon as possible.

Mark Your Calendar!

Please mark your calendar for our upcoming CE Classes !

March 11, 2026 - 11:30 a. m. CST at Portofino Grill (following membership Meeting). Course: **Purchase Agreements for 2 CE Hours** approved for all Indiana Brokers.

April 22, 2026—Buffalo Wild Wings Giveback in La Porte for the Deserving Children Charity

April 26, 2026—Food drive Paddle Auction at Silver Palace

May 20, 2026—Buffalo Wild Wings Giveback in Michigan City

June 1-2, 2026 - IAR Summer Summit in **South Bend, Indiana** Registration is now open: <https://indianarealtors.com/events/summer-summit/>

June 9, 2026—General membership meeting and scholarship recipient presentation. Details will follow.

June 17, 2026—Culver's Give Back (La Porte Location)

Letter from Board President—Continued

(Continued from page 1)

CE credits are fulfilled in a timely manner to avoid any delays. Visit <https://mylicense.in.gov> to make sure you are able to log in and view your current completed CE courses.

You are cordially invited to attend our General Membership Meeting on **Wednesday, March 11, 2026**, at 11:30 a.m. at Portofino. During this meeting, we will recognize the recipients of the 2025 Realtor of the Year and 2025 Affiliate Member of the Year awards. Tim Reed will also be present to provide continuing education which is a free member benefit for all LPCAR members. We look forward to your attendance and participation.

A reminder that the LPCAR Scholarships are now available online to download for your student. The deadline for submission is April 30, 2026. Please make sure your student submits their application before the deadline, many applicants missed out last year due to missing the deadline. There are a total of 4 scholarships available, each for \$1000. Please read the information in this newsletter and also in our website: www.laportecoutnyrealtors.com.

Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour on Saturday, March 7, 2026!

Stay warm and stay safe. Thank you.

Julie Wagner
2026 Board President

Member Benefit



FOREWARN®

FOREWARN is a revolutionary application that allows agents to have instant due diligence on prospects. In seconds, with as little information as a phone number or name, LPCAR members can verify a prospect's identity, criminal records, bankruptcies, liens, judgments, address history and property records (state laws vary) all in one place, leading to safer and more productive interactions.



This is not only critical for your personal safety and efficiency, but also a benefit to your listing homeowners, providing an added layer of protection for their homes and families through your vetting of prospective buyers. Haven't set up your account yet? Please contact the board office for more information at 219-324-8120.



LaPorte County Association of REALTORS

Food Drive Fundraiser

Quarter Paddle Auction

For Tickets Contact

Amy Blind 219- 608-4213 Randi Webber 219-246-1672
 Robin Umphrey: 219-363-9330 Laura Robbins 219-346-3399

April 26, 2026

Doors Open at Noon

Auction begins at 1pm

\$5 entry fee

includes 1 paddle

***Ask about our limited
 VIP tables***



Location:

Silver Palace

1719 State St Suite C

LaPorte, IN 46350

**Additional paddles
 available for
 purchase for \$5**

All proceeds will go directly to
 our 2026 LPCAR Annual Food
 Drive Campaign

- Ticket needed to enter
- Plenty of Parking
- Cash Bar
- Food available for purchase

What to bring:

- ✓ Money to buy a paddle
- ✓ Money to buy food
- ✓ Quarters for bidding
- ✓ Friends and Neighbors
- ✓ Desire to have fun!

The La Porte County Association of REALTORS is a 501(c)6 not-for-profit membership organization.



La Porte County Association of REALTORS
 P.O. Box 248
 La Porte, Indiana 46352
 Phone: 219-324-8120

Welcome to the Annual La Porte County Association of REALTORS Food Drive! This endeavor is to help the local pantries replenish their supplies for the less fortunate. No one wants a child or anyone in our community to go to bed hungry.

We are requesting monetary donations for this year's drive. Any amount is appreciated. Every cent of your donation goes toward buying food and all contributions stay in our community.

We will once again partner with a local grocery store and will be able to purchase our food at a reduced rate. This simple act of kindness helps so many!

Donations are being accepted through May 2026! Please make all checks payable to "La Porte County Association of REALTORS." You may use our GoFundMe page too... *(Please note the following if using GoFundMe link: It will ask a donor for a "tip" to offset costs. You may elect to bypass the tip by entering "0" as the percentage amount. This is an optional feature added by GoFundMe but not required).*

Please feel free to call anyone on our committee if you would like any additional information or if you would like someone to pick up your donation.

Thank you for your support and, as always, we are so grateful for each of you!

Food Drive Committee Chairs

Amy Blind	Robin Umphrey
Pine Lake Realty	RE/MAX County Wide 1 st
219-608-4213	219-363-9330

Committee Members:

Lyz Lukac/REMAX County Wide 1st: 219-851-4911
 Jordin Agemy/C21 Circle: 219-877-8127
 Verna McAlister/McColly Real Estate: 219-380-9584
 Angie Carr/Blackrock Real Estate: 574-806-0117
 Ashlan Siford/MTM Realty: 219-363-6315
 Julie Wagner/McColly Real Estate: 219-608-5614
 Mike Bilek/McColly Real Estate: 219-898-0342
 Joy Pawlak/McColly Real Estate: 219-861-9992
 Randi Webber/Rural 1st: 219-246-1672
 Tommy Sunn/Coldwell Banker 1st Choice: 219-575-0881
 Laura Robbins/Metropolitan Title: 219-346-3399
 Brad Ellett/Ruoff Mortgage: 574-315-7010
 Jeff Miles/MTM Realty: 219-367-2255



QR Code for GoFundMe

La Porte County Association of REALTORS Food Drive Committee

Have confidence in a professional – see a REALTOR®

REALTOR® is a registered mark which identifies a professional in real estate who subscribes to a strict Code of Ethics as a member of the National Association of REALTORS®

National Association of REALTORS®

Estate Planning Session: presented by Metropolitan Title Company and Ruoff Mortgage!

Learn about estate planning essentials not only for your clients but for yourself! Includes live Q&A with an estate planning attorney.



ESTATE PLANNING CLASS

EXPAND YOUR EXPERTISE & EMPOWER YOUR CLIENTS!

Join us for a professional estate planning seminar tailored for Realtors and Lenders.

Friday, March 27, 2026 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

La Porte County Library - Main Branch, Meeting Room B
904 Indiana Ave., La Porte, IN 46360

WHAT TO EXPECT

- ✓ Estate planning essentials for your clients
- ✓ Strategies to grow your business value
- ✓ Live Q&A with a local estate attorney

Light refreshments will be provided.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS CLASS FOR REALTORS & LENDERS!

Questions? Contact Laura Robbins | lrobbins@metrotci.com

Presented by



Laura Robbins
Account Executive/Business Development, La Porte

Metropolitan Title



Brad Ellet
Branch Manager, La Porte

Ruoff Mortgage



Brody Shoffner
Estate Attorney

Shoffner & Shoffner, LLP

NAR Legislative Meetings in Washing DC

Promoting Pro-Real Estate Policies & Protecting Property Rights

The REALTORS® Legislative Meetings in Washington, D.C., bring together thousands of members to conduct the business of NAR and unite for a common cause—advancing the real estate profession through powerful, impactful policy advocacy.



Washington, DC • June 13 – 18, 2026 • Walter E. Washington Convention Center

Registration opens March 11, 2026 at 12 noon CST. Visit: <https://legislative.realtor/> to register

2026 Annual Food Drive—Ways to help!!

As we begin our Food Drive community outreach project we are often asked how can members help.

Item Donations—Item donations are needed for the Quarter Paddle Auction. Small items, baskets, gift cards, etc are welcomed.

Monetary Donations—Contributions may be sent to the board office or you may contribute online at our GoFundMe page.

Time—Volunteers are always needed during our Distribution Day. Contact any of the co-chairs for more information.



2024 Food Drive Distribution Day

Membership Update

Please help us welcome our newest LPCAR members.

Brian Blackman - MTM Realty Group

Managing Brokers—please remember to notify

the board office with any changes at 219-324-8120 or via email: lpcar@lpcar.com or castbiz.net

New members are invited to attend their first general membership meeting on us to be inducted and meet your colleagues. Please contact the board office for more information.



RPAC: Your Best Investment in Real Estate

Since 1969, the REALTORS® Political Action Committee (RPAC) has promoted the election of pro-REALTOR® candidates across the United States. The purpose of RPAC is clear: REALTORS® raise and spend money to elect candidates who understand and support their interests. The money to accomplish this comes from voluntary contributions made by REALTORS®. These are not members' dues; this is money given freely by REALTORS® in recognition of how important campaign fundraising is to the political process. RPAC doesn't buy votes. RPAC enables REALTORS® to support candidates that support the issues that are important to their profession and livelihood.



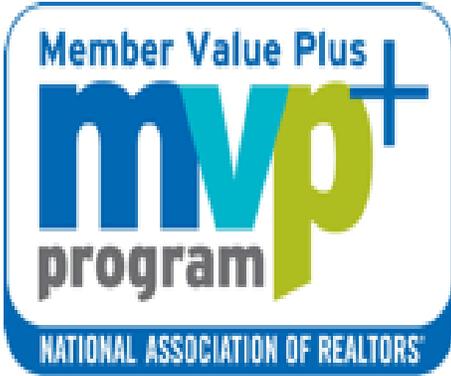
Like us on Facebook:
La Porte Co. Assoc. of REALTORS, Inc.



Follow us on Twitter:
[@LP_Assoc.REALTORS](https://twitter.com/LP_Assoc.REALTORS)



Follow us on Instagram
[laportecountyrealtors](https://www.instagram.com/laportecountyrealtors)



Contact Us



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PO Box 248
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Fax: 219-363-9323
lpcar@lpcar.com lpcar@frontier.com Visit us on the web at www.laportecountyrealtors.com

March 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Board of Director Meeting at 11:30 a.m.	Board office Closed March 3-7, 2026				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			March Membership Meeting and CE. Portofinos @ 11:30 a.m.			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
					Office Closed	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
					Estate Planning Session 12:30 p.m.	
29	30	31	The board office will be operating remotely. In-person office visits by appointment only! Please contact the office via email. Lockbox requests must be initiated through NIRA and appointment for pickup at board office must be made.			