



PAAR August 2026 NEWSLETTER



President's Message-Looking Ahead to Fall

As we welcome fall, I'd like to highlight a few exciting developments within our REALTOR® community.

September is REALTOR® Safety Month! Please take time to prioritize personal safety in your daily business, from showings and open houses to meeting new clients.

The **2026 WVAR Convention** has wrapped up, and congratulations to **2027 WVAR President Melissa Hornbeck**, along with the newly installed Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and State Directors.

We are also proud to share that **PAAR received a WVAR Community Services Award** recognizing the volunteer work completed by our association under the leadership of **Community Services Chair Jamie Kirk**. We are grateful to Jamie and everyone who has given their time and energy to serving our community.

PAAR's Broker Roundtable

PAAR recently held its first **Broker Roundtable**, bringing together representatives from multiple brokerages to discuss brokerage concerns, local and state market statistics, and ways to better utilize the benefits of being a REALTOR®.

We were honored to welcome **WVAR CEO Ray Joseph**, who provided valuable state-level real estate insight.



Moving forward, **PAAR will host a Quarterly Broker Roundtable**, creating an ongoing opportunity for brokers to connect, share ideas, address challenges, and strengthen our association.

Thank you to everyone who continues to invest their time and energy in PAAR. **Together, we strengthen our profession and our community.**

Wishing everyone a safe, successful, and productive fall!

Stephanie Walls, 2026-2027 PAAR President, ABR, PSA, SRS

304-941-4121

Welcome new members:

New Affiliate members: Guild Mortgage

Upcoming Events

October 4th Bingo has been cancelled

October 13th PR Committee Meeting PAAR Office at 10AM

October 14th-Community Service Spaghetti Dinner at Latrobe Street-4PM

October 29th-Halloween at the Landing Community Trunk or Treat 5PM

RSVP here if you wish to participate with a car for Trunk or Treat

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1I8uVNFaM4CkIN2I28eFKdoz9JxWGRyOoS8IJ7E2RK2k/edit>

November 19th-Christmas Dinner Auction-5PM at Grand Pointe Conference Center

The PR Committee is working hard to make our 3rd Annual Christmas Dinner Auction even bigger and better than last year!

We are now accepting donations for this year's auction and would love your help in making it a success. Whether you have a gift basket, service, product, or another item to contribute, your donation will help make this special event even more exciting for everyone!

If you would like to donate, please contact Tara Gerber at 304-210-8775 **or** Kim Wilson at 304-615-1527.

🎄 **All donations must be submitted by November 3, 2026.**



Thank you for helping us make this year's Christmas Dinner Auction one to remember!



RSVP for the Christmas Dinner Auction here:

Make sure to check the PAAR website for the affiliate list when you need a variety of different services from our approved affiliates at

<https://www.parkersburgareaassociationofrealtorswv.com/2025-list-of-affiliates>



INSTANT REACTION

Jobs, August 7, 2026

Dr. Lawrence Yun

Chief Economist & Senior Vice President of NAR Research

“Overall employment fell by 23,000 in July due to a sizable reduction in educational services by local governments. The private sector squeaked out more jobs. Federal government jobs, after a big reduction in the past year, are stabilizing. Year-to-date is showing a positive 426,000 more jobs.

The 3.1% wage growth would be the slowest gain in 5 years. Consumer price inflation is running faster, so wage gains are wiped out at gas stations and grocery stores. The wage gain is still outpacing home price growth, as has been the case for the past 18 months. The bond market is liking the lower wage pressure, and mortgage rates look to take a decimal-point dip.

What is concerning is the tight labor market despite the weak job additions. The unemployment rate is super low at 4.1% and “help wanted” signs abound. With the southern border crossings effectively shut down and legal immigration at near historic lows, more Americans need to step into the job market. Yet labor force participation has been falling and has hit a new low in modern times (aside from the few months during the COVID lockdown). Sadly, too many Americans are not even searching for a job.”



Important Numbers to Have:

Supra Help Line: 877-699-6787

MLS Now: 216-485-4100 ext. 412

CoreLogic Answerlink (help with Matrix Related questions on weekends for MLS) 8:30AM-3:30PM
888-549-5003

PAAR Board Office: 304-485-6626