

# NewsGazette Homes

The News-Gazette®

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## Agent SPOTLIGHT



**Alex Ruggieri**  
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**What designations do you have and what does that mean for the people you work with?**

I have several but two that I am especially proud of are the CCIM and the CRE. CCIM stands for Certified Commercial Investment Member of the National Association of Realtors. It is only achieved through rigorous classes followed by a six hour test and an examination of one's history and work (portfolio) in commercial real estate. The CRE stand for Counselor of Real Estate and it the highest commercial designation given by NAR. It is awarded by invitation only and based on peer review of one's commercial business and contribution to the industry. I have devoted myself to education in our trade because it allows me to better help my clients navigate the complex problems and decisions in commercial transactions. I also have an MBA from Illinois.

**What is your specialty?**

I work in only commercial real estate, but I also spend much of my time consulting with corporate clients on real estate issues. I also spend a lot of time counseling investors and high net worth individuals.

**Where did you grow up?**

I was born and raised in Rantoul on Chanute Air Force Base, but our family moved to Champaign when I was in high school. I graduated from Centennial High school and have stayed in the area ever since.

**What is the most challenging/gratifying aspect of what you do?**

I like the fact that my vocation gives me the privilege of making a difference. I know I have helped many of my clients prosper in the businesses and personal investments. I have also seen the landscape of my community change dramatically because of the work I do. Seeing new neighborhoods built, parklands donated, and hundreds of millions of dollars invested in our area due to projects I have been involved with is extremely gratifying.

**What do you enjoy doing when you're not working?**

I have five children and twelve grandchildren. I am very active in our church. Between church and family events we keep very busy. I also enjoy working in the media. I have hosted the Central Illinois Business radio show on WDWS NewsTalk 1400 AM for over eight years. I also host a commercial podcast for NAR and write articles for Illinois REALTOR Magazine.



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