



Fairness  
Opportunity  
Community

# Portage County Democratic Party

March 2020

## **Paul Piotrowski Announces Democratic Campaign for 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District**

Paul Piotrowski of Stevens Point announced his campaign for the 24<sup>th</sup> State Senate District on February 28. Paul is a Stevens Point native who graduated from Stevens Point Area Senior High in 1982 and earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 1986. He served on the Stevens Point police department for nearly 30 years before retiring. More recently, he served as the Stevens Point city clerk before resigning to run for the State Senate.

"I'm running for the state Senate because we deserve a stronger voice than we have in Madison. Families in central Wisconsin need someone that they can rely on and trust. From my time serving in the Navy to protecting our community as a police officer right here in Stevens Point, I know how to fight for issues impacting families every single day."

Paul is the only Democrat to announce in the race. Patrick Testin, the Republican incumbent, has yet to announce his campaign for reelection, but he has a large campaign war chest and will have the support of Republican dark money groups. Democrats will have to work hard to take back this Senate seat that belongs in Democratic control.

## **February Spring Primary Election Results**

Jill Karofsky advanced to the April general election for state Supreme Court, along with incumbent Daniel Kelly. Ed Fallon, the other candidate in the race, finished third and does not advance to the April election. The combined votes of Karofsky and Fallon exceeded the votes for Kelly, both in Portage County and statewide, but the April election is likely to be close and we will have to work hard to get out the vote for Jill Karofsky.

## **April Elections – Presidential Primary, State Supreme Court, Local Elections**

The February primary was rather quiet. The April 7 election has more action:

# PORTAGE COUNTY SPRING ELECTIONS

## General and the Presidential Partisan Primary

### Tuesday, April 7, 2020

OFFICE	Incumbents	Candidates
Justice of the Supreme Court	Daniel Kelly – appointed by Gov. Scott Walker in 2016	Jill Karofsky
Wis Court of Appeals Dist 4	Rachel Graham- daughter of members Anne & Larry Graham; appointed by Gov. Tony Evers	<i>No Opposition!</i>
Stevens Point Area School Board	Trish Baker (D) Chris Scott Ed Morganroth – appointed	Robert Larson Gee Pope
Municipal Court Judge	Erik MacFarland	
Stevens Point alder seats Districts 2 and 6 will need to have an election	Dist 2: David Shorr (D) Dist 4: Mykeerah Zarazua Dist 6: Jeremy Slowinski Dist 8: Cathy Dugan (D; retiring) Dist 10: Keely Fisher (D) appointed	Corey Keahliher  Stephen Sawyer Thomas Leek (D)
Village of Plover Trustees	1 <sup>st</sup> Ward: Adam Raabe 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward: Orville Damrau 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward: Al Tessmann	
Town of Hull Supervisors	John Koshnick Dave Wills	
County Supervisors DISTRICT	<u>DIST</u>	<u>DIST</u>
1: Vincent Miresse 2: Chris Doubek 3: Meleesa Johnson (D) 4: David Medin 5: Julie Morrow (D) 6: Mildred Neville (D) 7: Dave Ladick (D) 8: Joan Honl 9: Chai Moua	10: Bob Gifford 11: Stan Potocki 12: Mike Splinter 13: Don Jankowski 14: James Gifford (D) (retiring) Anton Anday (D) 15: Allen Haga, Jr 16: Daniel Martinson 17: Dennis Raabe (D) 18: Larry Raikowski	19: Dale O'Brien (retiring) Scott Soik Melinda Osterberg (D) 20: Charles Gusse 21: Jeanne Dodge 22: Matt Jacowski 23: Barry Jacowski 24: Gerry Zastrow 25: James Zdroik (retiring) Ray Reser

This is also the Presidential Primary. These are the individuals (in alphabetical order) who will appear on Wisconsin's ballot for the Democratic Presidential Primary: *Michael Bennet, Joe Biden, Michael Bloomberg, Cory Booker, Pete Buttigieg, John Delaney, Tulsi Gabbard, Amy Klobuchar, Deval Patrick, Bernie Sanders, Tom Steyer, Elizabeth Warren, Marianne Williamson and Andrew Yang.* Please go to the polls and vote.

## A Letter from Supreme Court Candidate, Ed Fallon

Dear Friends,

I want to thank everyone who believed in me and believed in my campaign message that diversity matters in our courts. The election results were obviously not what we wanted or even expected, but that does not diminish the gratitude that I feel towards everyone across the state who supported my campaign. I am glad that I ran, honored to have had the support of so many kind, thoughtful and caring individuals, and more determined than ever to keep fighting for justice.

I am proud of the broad coalition of voters who came out and voted for me on Election Day. It begins with the working families of Wisconsin, who have so often been neglected and ignored in our legal system. It includes voters who reflect the rich diversity of Wisconsin: African American families, Muslim and Sikh immigrants, and our Native American community. And I am so proud of the outpouring of support that I received from mi familia, la comunidad Latina.

We may have fallen short in the voting, but we proved something. We proved that a campaign built on diversity can win votes across the entire state of Wisconsin. The fight to elect more diverse candidates to office will continue. It doesn't end tonight, and it doesn't end with me. I promise to you that I will keep fighting to elect qualified candidates of color in future judicial elections, future statewide elections and future local elections throughout Wisconsin.

In the meantime, our work in this race is not done. We cannot rest until we defeat Daniel Kelly on April 7.

Across the state, voters are demanding change on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Our veterans in Wisconsin want more Veterans Courts that provide treatment and mentoring to veterans struggling to adjust to civilian life, not a Supreme Court justice who dismisses diversion programs as 'social activism.' Small business owners in our state want a stable legal environment that promotes fair competition, not a Supreme Court justice who protects big business at the expense of small entrepreneurs. And the members of the practicing bar want a Supreme Court justice who will respect established legal precedent, not someone with a personal agenda to remake the law.

Daniel Kelly has always had an agenda. He had an agenda when he chose to attend the Christian Broadcasting Network University School of Law, which assigned Bibles as required legal textbooks. He had an agenda when he chose to pursue a career representing the rich and the politically powerful. Dan Kelly had an agenda when he applied to Governor Walker for an appointment to the Supreme Court, and he chose to include a writing sample that compared Affirmative Action to slavery and that said precedent permitting same sex marriage will rob the institution of marriage of all meaning.

Dan Kelly's agenda is to overturn any prior precedent that he personally disagrees with, and to leave us with Dan Kelly's Constitution, where our rights are defined according to Dan Kelly's morality. This cannot stand.

We must unite to defeat Dan Kelly on April 7. I am ready to do everything that I can to back Judge Jill Karofsky. I urge all of my supporters, across the state, to do the same.

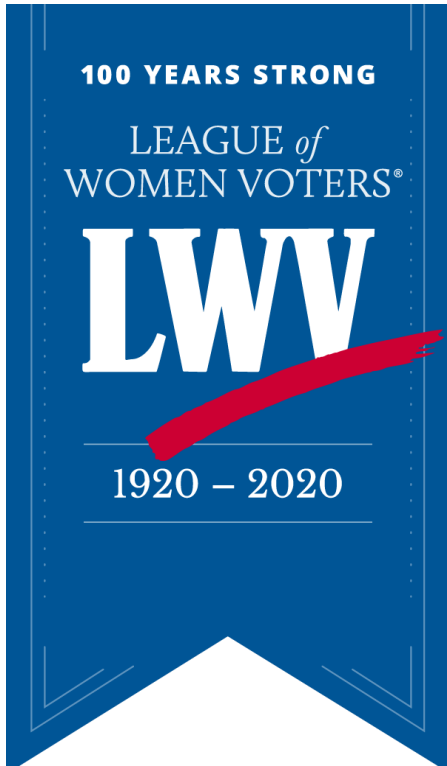
Thank you so much for believing in my campaign. I am truly grateful. Heidi and I will never forget your support for our cause.

Forward,

Ed Fallon

## League of Women Voters Celebration

From the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin [Note: LWV is a non-partisan organization]



Happy Birthday League of Women Voters of Wisconsin!

Today marks the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin. Months before the certification of the 19th Amendment on August 26, 1920, Ripon-born Carrie Chapman Catt, President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, called for the formation of a new organization, a national League of Women Voters, to “finish the fight” for women’s suffrage. On February 14, 1920 the national League of Women Voters was established and Wisconsin quickly followed suit changing the name of the Wisconsin Woman Suffrage Association to the Wisconsin League of Women Voters.

Since February 20th 1920, the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin has endured as a nonpartisan, grassroots civic organization that encourages active and informed participation in government, advocates on public policy issues, and fights to improve our government and engage all citizens in decisions that impact our daily lives.

Today, the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin is comprised of 20 Leagues across the state, each powered by local volunteers, who continue to educate and empower voters in our democratic process and fight for free and fair access to the polls without barriers or discrimination.

On this special day, we embark on our second century of defending democracy. Your support enables the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin to continue to fight voter suppression, ensure fair elections through our statewide election observation program, bring candidate information to voters across the state through Vote411, champion a fair and ethical judicial system, fight for the preservation and integrity of our natural resources, and advocate in the State Capitol for all of our well-studied League policy positions.

Democracy requires the active participation of informed voters. For the past 100 years, the League has been instrumental in making democracy work. The donation you make today, empowers us to continue our work for the next 100 years.

## Conventions and Caucuses

Watch for more information on the 3<sup>rd</sup> CD convention and the delegate selection caucuses – these are separate events – in our weekly calendar emails. And attend our March meeting to discuss resolutions!

The state convention will be held on June 12-13 at the Wilderness Resort in the Wisconsin Dells.

The Democratic National Convention will be held in Milwaukee, July 13-16.

## Membership – What Makes You a Member of the Portage County Democratic Party?

We appreciate your membership in the Portage County Democratic Party. Your dues help us to promote progressive causes and candidates and to maintain our headquarters.

Your dues are annual. Many of you pay \$25 or \$10, some pay \$35 for \$45 for couples or households. We split the membership dues with the Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DPW). You can renew with PCDP or the DPW.

You might also be getting mailings or emails from the Democratic National Committee (DNC), claiming your membership is due. **THIS IS NOT A MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FROM US.** If you give money to the DNC, it does not renew your local and state membership.

Please remember to renew your membership with us or with the DPW.

## Telephone Scams

Beware of telephone calls that claim to be from candidates or campaigns. Scammers are beginning to call claiming to be from campaigns. Consider contributing to candidates through their websites or through ActBlue.

## Trivia

WWSP's annual trivia contest is on April 17, 18 and 19<sup>th</sup>. This year's theme is "Raid on Trivia 51." A crew of PCDP members will be staffing the phones for a shift. We also buy an ad in the contest booklet. It's fun and it gives us more local exposure.

## PCDP on Social Media

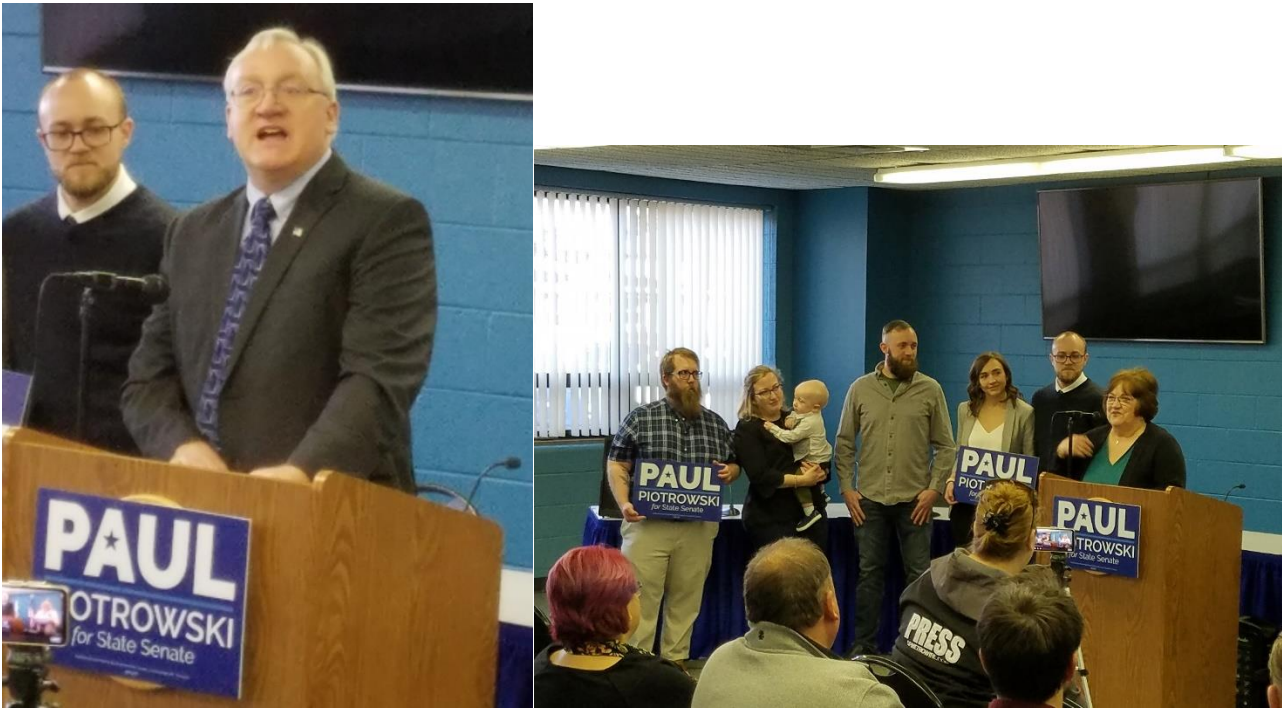
The Portage County Democratic Party is on social media!

Facebook – Announcements/Events: @PortageCountyWIDems

Facebook – Discussion Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/66111771697/>

Twitter -- @portagecowidems | Instagram -- portagecountydems

## Photos



PCDP Chair, Jan Way (right photo), introduces State Senate candidate Paul Piotrowski.



Supreme Court candidate Judge Jill Karofsky with Trish Baker. There was a good crowd that night.