



# PORTAGE COUNTY **DEMOCRAT**

Getting Together, Moving Forward Together April 2019

---

### In This Issue

- \* **VOTE**
- \* **NUMBERS**
- \* Meet & Greet
- \* Local Elections
- \* Resolutions
- \* April 9 meeting
- \* *Walk for Earth*
- \* **PLASTIC** 🗑️
- \* **Ex. Board**
- \* Meet Chris
- \* Events
- \* Parking

According to Karyn Tank the person keeping track, there were 5 gatherings with 79 people in attendance at our HQs in February.



## THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU DO ON APRIL 2

# VOTE



### FAIR IMPARTIAL INDEPENDENT

Chief Judge Neubauer has the qualifications, experience and character Wisconsin needs on the Supreme Court.

[www.judgeneubauer.com/](http://www.judgeneubauer.com/)

"Judge Neubauer will be an outstanding Supreme Court Justice"... Cap Times Editorial

Judge Neubauer's opponent was our former Governor's sidekick and was appointed to the bench by him. Need we say more?!

## MEET & GREET AT THE POINT BREWERY

Judge Neubauer was greeted by a large crowd at the Point Brewery on March 12th. She then joined the Portage County Dems at their March meeting where she shared her personal story about why she studied law.



Of course there was food!



Judge Neubauer



## LOCAL ELECTIONS APRIL 2 - A PARTIAL LISTING

PORTAGE COUNTY TOWNS & VILLAGES ALSO HAVE ELECTIONS ON APRIL 2

### Stevens Point Area Public School Board

Voters will choose 3 from the following candidates:

Jeff Ebel     Barb Portzen     Gee Pope     Kurt Pulvermacher     Jodi Rentfrow     Ann Vang

### City of Stevens Point

Mayor     Mike Wiza     unopposed

City Clerk     Paul Piotrowski     unopposed

### Stevens Point Alder seats

#### Candidate (Incumbent)

#### Opposition

Dist. 1	Tori Jennings (D)	Shannon Semmerling
Dist. 3	Cindy Nebel	Unopposed
Dist. 5	Meleesa Johnson (D)	Brian Jurgella
Dist. 7	Mary Kneebone (D)	Unopposed
Dist. 9	Mary McComb (D)	Polly Dalton
Dist. 11	Shaun Morrow (D)	Unopposed

## March meeting highlights Resolutions:

At the March membership meeting on March 12, in addition to the visit by Judge Neubauer and comments by Representative Shankland, the meeting featured the approval of several resolutions to be forwarded to the 3 RD CD convention for consideration as additions to the Wisconsin Democratic Platform.

### Green New Deal (88 words)

Jack Allgaier

WHEREAS, Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) has garnered support for her proposal that sets a goal of getting 100% of the nation's electricity from renewable energy sources;

WHEREAS, her plan is mostly a draft resolution for the House to create a special committee to work out the specifics;

WHEREAS, the plan is meant to be the United States' response to the urgent need to slash greenhouse gas emissions within ten years;

THEREFORE RESOLVED, the DPW use all means at its disposal to educate members on the Green New Deal.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CAUCUS-SPONSORED PLATFORM RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, environmental issues have captured the attention of voters at all levels of politics;

WHEREAS, studies have shown that voters increasingly favor candidates endorsing pro-environmental policies;

WHEREAS, environmental protection plays a major role in all aspects of policymaking and is central to the health and economic wellbeing of all persons;

WHEREAS, concern for the environment is a key qualification for all state and local elected officials and a strong competitive advantage for Democrats, therefore;

RESOLVED, that all Democratic candidates and parties in Wisconsin should make environmental protection and stewardship a central part of their platform and messaging in every campaign.

### Stop the Monopolization of America (98 words) Jack Allgaier

WHEREAS, Verizon and AT&T control 69% of the cell phone service;

WHEREAS, Facebook and You Tube have 64% of the social network visits;

WHEREAS, Android and Apple control 99% of the smartphone operating systems;

WHEREAS, five Wall Street banks control nearly half of all US financial assets;

WHEREAS, three US airlines control 50% of US flights;

WHEREAS, six mass media giants control 90% of the US market;

WHEREAS, Walgreens and CVS control 60% of their market;

WHEREAS, Lowe's and Home Depot control 55% of their market;

THEREFORE RESOLVED, that DPW revitalize efforts to stop the monopolization of America.

### Keeping Public Services Public (84 words) David Pederson

WHEREAS, public moneys are being diverted to private non-profit organizations, for profit companies, and religious organizations to provide services the public is obligated to provide;

WHEREAS, this is happening in education, corrections, and emergency services;

WHEREAS, proper oversight is often overlooked;

WHEREAS, these private companies and organizations are not publicly accountable;

WHEREAS, the separation of church and state is basic to our democracy;

THEREFORE RESOLVED, public services provided by and paid for by the public shall be managed, staffed and delivered by public employees.

Stop the Use of Plastic Campaign Signs (88 words) David Pederson & Gary Hawley

WHEREAS, plastic waste is now found throughout the earth's environment from the highest mountains to the bottom of our deepest oceans;

WHEREAS, plastic waste is being consumed by organisms throughout the food chain;

WHEREAS, animals are becoming entangled in plastic waste and dying;

WHEREAS, single use plastic is difficult and often impossible to recycle;

WHEREAS, plastic campaign signs are single use plastic without a market;

THEREFORE RESOLVED, DPW discourage the use of plastic campaign signs and take steps to remove plastic of all types from our waste stream.

## Sign up to be a Delegate to the 3RD CD Convention

Please contact Gary (715-321-0111) or Jan Way (715-572-5802) to be included on the list for delegates to the 3RD CD Convention to be held in LaCrosse on Saturday, May 4th at the Western Technical College Lunda Center - 319 7th St. N.

Registration is at will begin at 9AM. The business meeting, speakers and the vetting of resolutions begins at 10 AM.

Delegates to the CD Convention are automatically delegates to the State Convention in Milwaukee, June 1 & 2.



THE WORLD IS RULED BY THOSE THAT SHOW UP



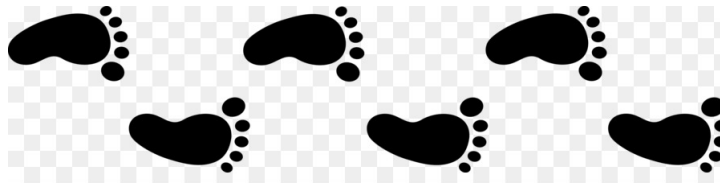
## April 9th Meeting Program

Bob Wolensky, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at UWSP and currently Acting Co-Chair for the Small City, will speak to the membership at the April meeting.

His talk is titled “What is Socialism Anyway, and Why It Should not be a Factor in the 2020 Election”.

In his biographical introduction, Professor Wolensky states, he is an author of several books dealing with labor and working class history. He further offers he is following in the footsteps of his coal mining father and garment working mother and has been a life-long Democrat-but not an uncritical one.

# APRIL 22 “ WALK FOR THE EARTH”



Dems are invited to join in the upcoming “Walk for the Earth” in order to amplify concern and raise awareness for Climate Change. The ROUTE will start at 5 PM at UWSP’s Sundial and proceed to the Downtown Farmers Market.

### **The Idea for the first Earth Day**

The idea for a national day to focus on the environment came to Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California.

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies. Thousands of colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment. Groups that had been fighting against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife suddenly realized they shared common values.

### **2019 50 Years Later And Still We Walk!!!**



#### **A Plastic Bag Epiphany** by Gary Fedora for Daily Kos Community

I had mine a few years ago.

I bought a candy bar which I was going to eat immediately. The cashier absentmindedly tossed the candy bar in to a plastic bag and I walked out of the store. I took the candy out of the bag, tossed the bag into a trash receptacle and popped the candy bar into my mouth.

The bag was in my possession for thirty-seconds...and will take a thousand years to decompose in a landfill.

We are not going to save the planet just with reusable bags, but actions become habits and habits become character and character becomes destiny.

If we all do our part by making an effort to be conscious of how we are impacting the future of our planet, we can save it for the generations that will follow us.



**Take Care of the Earth**

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>MEMBER</b>
Co-Chair	Gary Hawley
Co-Chair	Jan Way
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair	Jerod Barkley
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair	Ned Grossnickle
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice Chair	Karyn Tank
4 <sup>th</sup> Vice Chair	Dave Pederson
Statutory Chair	Michele Bjella
Treasurer	Jack Allgaier
Secretary	Hilary Landowski
Newsletter Editor	Trudy Pederson
3 <sup>rd</sup> CD Rep	Rick Christofferson
At Large	Andrew Boden
At Large	Marlo Fields
At Large	Joan Garski
At Large	Chris McLaughlin
At Large	Travis Slattery
At Large	Lynn Wyman
At Large	Rick Wyman
<b>UWSP College</b>	<b>Dems</b>
President	Josh Norman
Vice-President	Mitchell Knight
Treasurer	Haley Hartman

Future generations are not going to ask us what political party you were in. They are going to ask you what did you do about it when you knew the glaciers were melting.  
Martin Sheen



Meet **Chris McLaughlin**, one of our new 2019 Executive Board members.

Chris was born and raised in a small town in upper New York near the Thousand Islands region in the St. Lawrence River area.

As an adult Chris has lived in many places including Boston where he attended Boston University, Burlington, VT., Abilene, TX., New Orleans, during hurricane Katrina, and in New York City.

He earned his degree in sociology at University of Buffalo and during that time studied and worked an internship in London. After graduation he moved to St. Louis to be with his girlfriend, Amanda and completed 2 years of service in AmeriCorp working as a literacy tutor in the St. Louis Public Schools.

He then worked for 5 years in the St. Louis Public Library. After Amanda earned her PHD in industrial-organizational psychology she was offered a job at Sentry which brought Chris and Amanda to Central Wisconsin where Chris currently works at the Portage County Library as a Library Specialist in the reference department.

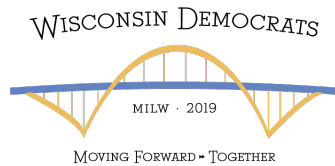
Chris relates during the 2018 midterm election he and Amanda canvassed for the PCDP ("no small feat for a couple of introverts"). Chris was elected to the Ex. Board this year and is currently on the Database Committee.

Chris states, "Our democracy isn't broken, it's fixed. Getting money out of politics and reforming our democracy must be our first principle, it's the foundation that all of our laws are built upon. Money is not free speech. Corporations are not people. We are." Chris McLaughlin

## Upcoming Events of Interest

3RD Congressional District Convention: **May 4** at Western Technical College-Lunda Center 319 7th St. N., LaCrosse, WI. Registration 9 AM, Meeting 10 AM.

For more info contact Lisa Herman at [3rddemsWI@gmail.com](mailto:3rddemsWI@gmail.com) or contact Gary Hawley to add your name as a delegate 715-321-0111.



Democratic Party of Wisconsin 2019 State Convention  
**June 1-2** Potawatomi Hotel & Casino 1721 W Canal St, Milwaukee, WI

<http://www.wisdems.org/stateconvention> or 608-255-5172



WI DEMS Founders Day Dinner & Gala, **April 13** Hyatt Regency Milwaukee, 323 Kilbourn Ave.

Featured speaker is Governor Tony Evers  
 more information at [WisDems.org/founders](http://WisDems.org/founders)

### Closer to Portage County:

Wisconsin Conservation Congress Monday, **April 8, 7 PM**  
 Ben Franklin Jr. High, 2000 Polk St., Stevens Point

Individuals interested in natural resource management have an opportunity to provide their input on proposed rule changes and advisory questions.  
 More information and proposed management changes and advisory questions at [www.dnr.wi.gov/](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/)

SPARTA Book sale **May 1-4** at the Children’s Museum in downtown Stevens Point.  
 Also, take-in of used books for donation is the 4th Monday of the month from 10 AM to 3 PM at the museum.

~~~~~  
 Watch for PCDems emails for updates and notices of all events of interest to PCDDP members  
 ~~~~~



With spring weather comes the opening of Belt’s and often a full parking lot north of the PCDDP Hq. on meeting nights.  
 A reminder that there is parking in the lot south around the corner on Park St. & Strong Ave. that is about the same distance to walk.



**PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
2220 DIVISION ST.  
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481**

[www.PortageCountyDems.org](http://www.PortageCountyDems.org)

Facebook: PortageCountyWisconsinDemocrats

Twitter: PortageCoWiDems@portagecowidems

## **PCDP APRIL 9, 2019 MEETING**

**6 PM Socialization**

**6:30 PM Call to Order**

**Introduction of guests & officials**

**Program - Professor Bob Wolensky**

***“What is Socialism Anyway, and Why it Should not be a  
Factor in the 2020 Election”***

***Announcements***

***Socialization & Refreshments***

*Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party*