



Portage County DEMOCRAT

Getting Together, Moving Forward December 2021

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## In This Issue

- ~ Holiday Party
- ~ Sabina Welcome
- ~ One Year to Win Kickoff
- ~ Social Economics
- ~ Ex Board Elections
- ~ Justice?
- ~ So Long



Please join us for our Holiday Gathering at  
Democratic Headquarters

Tuesday, December 14, 2021  
6 PM

Watch for further details that will be shared at PCDem Updates  
as we get closer to the date.

We will be joined virtually, by Lieutenant Governor,  
Mandela Barnes, candidate for US Senator





Portage County Dems Welcomed Sabina Dirienzo,  
Regional Organizing Director for Portage County

Hello,

Thank you all so much for gathering at the office this past Thursday night to welcome Sabina to Portage County. Special thanks to Wood County's Jay Jackson and Tim Zander for making their way to join us for great food and conversation. Madeline, Landon and Zach, you did a great job representing the UWSP Dems and we love the energy you bring!

And speaking of food, Joan Garski delivered again by providing us with a fantastic meal and tasty dessert. Thanks again Joan!

Thanks everyone and keep an eye out for information about December's Holiday Party.

Rob Hofmann(he/him/his)  
Student Recruitment and Campaign Coordinator, Democratic Party of Wisconsin  
[wisdems.org/donate](http://wisdems.org/donate)

Democratic Assembly Representative Katrina Shankland,  
was at Portage County Democratic Headquarters on Saturday  
November 4th to Kick off "One Year To Win".



Katrina was on hand to energize canvassers and phone bankers for the all important midterm elections in 2022.

WisDems issued the following statement in their press release:

"In the coming year WisDems will remind voter in every corner of the state that Wisconsin families are benefiting from more affordable child care and health care, tax cuts for working parents and critical pandemic relief all thanks to President Biden, Governor Evers and Wisconsin Democrats in Congress."



Robert Wolensky, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at UWSP  
was our featured guest at the November Dem meeting.

During his presentation, Professor Wolensky explained the difference between the economic philosophies of the Republican and Democratic party.

While the Republicans focus is on corporation's continued growth and retaining the wealth of their members, the Democratic philosophy works toward economic liberty, equality and justice. Instead of maximizing profit for the 1%, it strives for the betterment of all of society.

Professor Wolensky answered questions and received "thumbs up" from the members attending the virtual meeting.

The following slate for Executive Board members for 2022 was presented to the membership at the November meeting. A vote to approve this slate will be taken at the December 14th general meeting.

| <u>Position</u>   | <u>2022 Nominee</u> |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Co-Chair          | Gary Hawley         |
| Co-Chair          | Jan Way             |
| 1st Vice Chair    | Jerod Barkley       |
| 2nd Vice Chair    | Ned Grossnickle     |
| 3rd Vice Chair    | Karyn Tank          |
| 4th Vice Chair    | David Pederson      |
| Statutory Chair   | Marian Tzebiatowski |
| Treasurer         | Rick Wyman          |
| Secretary         | OPEN                |
| Newsletter Editor | Lynn Wyman          |
| CD Rep            | Rick Christofferson |
| At Large 1        | Joan Garski         |
| AT Large 2        | Colin McNamara      |
| At Large 3        | Trudy Pederson      |
| At Large 4        | Travis Slattery     |
| At Large 5        | Mary Vils           |
| At Large 6        | Mary Zinda          |

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Response to recent acquittal & a demand for more stringent gun laws - by Trudy

Excerpt from an Independent Media Institute (IndependentMediaInstitute.com) article 6/2019.

“When a man has a gun, he literally holds the power of life and death in his hand. That kind of power is extraordinarily seductive. The power over life and death is greater and more intoxicating than any other power and why some men are specifically drawn to professions that hold that power. This is largely a male problem because men commit 85.3 % of all homicides and 97 % of all homicides where the shooter and the victim know each other.

Firing a gun, or simply handling a gun, in addition to raising testosterone levels, actually produces a feeling similar to intoxication and measurably increases aggressive behavior. Shooting guns triggers high levels of adrenaline and endorphins producing a high like riding in a roller coaster.”

Is there any wonder why a 17 year old youth with a powerful rifle felt empowered in Kenosha that August night?

There are ways to reduce gun violence in the United States without outlawing guns. The verdict by the jury in Kenosha this week only complicated and reduced that possibility in the foreseeable future.

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My last newsletter...After 114 monthly and one special issue, I'm ceding my editor responsibilities to Lynn Wyman.

I've learned much since my first issue in September 2012; how the party operates, who are the movers and shakers and I learned a-lot about my computer! I've worked on issues in a State Park in NW Minnesota, on the road to Florida, in a stuffy house in North Carolina & at HQs during a power outage at our home.

Many thanks to Jack & Leigh Allgaier who "proofed" before publication, helped with distribution and provided articles over the years. Trudy



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### PCDP December 2021 Holiday Gathering

6 PM Doors open for socialization - watch PCDems for further details

6:30 Call to order

Mandela Barnes - Lt. Governor & candidate for US Senate joins us virtually

Elected Officials & Candidates/Business Meeting

Holiday Socialization

Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party