



Portage County DEMOCRAT

Getting Together, Moving Forward July 2020



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LOG ON, ZOOM IN, BE INFORMED

July 14, 2020 6:30 PM

Once again the July membership meeting for the Portage County Democratic Party will be via ZOOM to keep our members safe from the virus. Watch for your ZOOM log-on information at [PC Dems Updates](#) prior to the July 14th meeting date.

Our program will feature Meleesa Johnson explaining and providing history for the recent Portage County Board passage of the "Joint Declaration on Racism & Marginalized Communities in Central Wisconsin". Portage County Executive, Chris Holman, has asked us to sign on to this statement along with other community supporters. After Meleesa's presentation, we would like to hear what the membership has to say and advise us as to how we should proceed.

As per usual, we will hear from our elected officials, community leaders, candidates and our campaign coordinators. We are excited to finally have Marc Epstein, Field Organizer for Portage County join us here in Wisconsin.



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meeting
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PORTAGE COUNTY FALL PARTISAN PRIMARY ELECTION

Tuesday, Aug 11

There are two races in the August election where there are two Democrats each running for the same seat. Partisan means that you may only vote for candidates from one political party in that election. Primary means that the top-vote getter will then be on the November general ballot.

Race One: 3rd Congressional District

Incumbent Ron Kind is being challenged by Mark Neuman. Both are Democrats from the LaCrosse area. Please consider accessing their websites for more information on each: www.ronkind.org
www.markneumanforcongress.com

Race Two: Portage County Clerk

In January, Democrat Shirley Simonis retired from this position after decades of outstanding public service. The County Board then appointed Kayla Filen to serve out the remaining portion of Shirley's term. Interim County Clerk Kayla Filen is being challenged by Tammy Naczek. Both are running as Democrats. Both have face book pages (links below) open to the public. Both provided brief statements found on the next page.

Kayla	https://www.facebook.com/pg/FilenforPortageCountyClerk/about/
Tammy	https://www.facebook.com/Tammy-Naczek-for-Portage-County-Clerk-110871510668307

REQUEST ON BEHALF OF YOUR EXECUTIVE BOARD

Please sign up for absentee ballots for the partisan primary as well as the fall election now. The easiest way is to use the state website: myvote.wi.gov

If that is not what you choose, then visit the clerk of your municipality (call ahead as office hours vary). You can request absentee ballots be mailed to you or you can vote right at your clerk's office.

Please vote either of these ways early rather than at the polls on the days of the elections. It is safer for your health as well as the poll-workers. We want you around to vote in many future elections so please take care of yourself!

COUNTY CLERKS STATEMENTS

Incumbent **Kayla R. Filen** is up for election as the Portage County Clerk. Kayla started in the County Clerk's Office in November of 2019 before being appointed as County Clerk in January. Though Kayla has only been in office for a short time, she has already proven herself to be a strong leader and a knowledgeable Clerk. Kayla successfully led the County through the challenging April Election and in doing so has gained support from many municipal clerks throughout the County. As the chief election official for the County, Kayla serves as an advocate for secure, transparent, and fair elections.

Prior to coming to Portage County, Kayla served as the Deputy City Clerk and Election Clerk for the City of Appleton. Kayla has a B.A., M.A., has completed the Wisconsin Municipal Clerk's Institute, and is currently working towards her Certificate of Professional Development through the Wisconsin County Clerks Association.

Kayla carries out the statutory duties of the Office of the County Clerk with enthusiasm and attentiveness. She strives to ensure that the people of the community are informed and heard. Kayla and her team have brought new energy and innovation to the Office and look forward to serving the people of Portage County for the next four-year term and beyond.

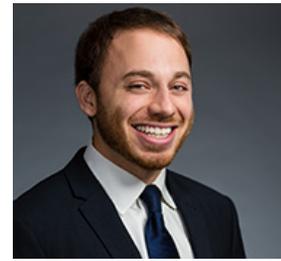
Vote experience. Vote knowledge. Vote **Kayla R. Filen** on August 11.

Tammy Naczek is seeking election as the Portage County Clerk. Tammy has been a resident of Portage County for over 35 years and during that time, she has worked for many Wisconsin State and County Agencies. Tammy started her career working for the Family Health La Clinica WIC Program out of Wild Rose which served people throughout Waushara, Green Lake, Adams, and Marquette counties. From 1994-1997, Tammy worked for the Department of Transportation – Division of Highways at the Wisconsin Rapids location. For the next two decades, Tammy held multiple positions at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Her last position was as a Purchasing Agent and Budget Manager for the College of Natural Resources and Department of Biology. In 2019, Tammy worked as a limited-term employee for the Portage County Treasurer's Office.

All of these experiences in the State of Wisconsin and County government have given her the skills to excel as Portage County Clerk. Tammy's mission in serving the public is to provide efficient and valuable service to the citizens of Portage County and to put the equality of community members first, understanding that even the smallest issue is important.

It would be a privilege and honor for Tammy to serve the residents of Portage County. Please vote **Tammy Naczek** for Portage County Clerk on August 11, 2020.

Marc Epstein
Field Organizer, PortageCounty
Wisconsin Democrats
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(914) 261-1670
wisdems.org/

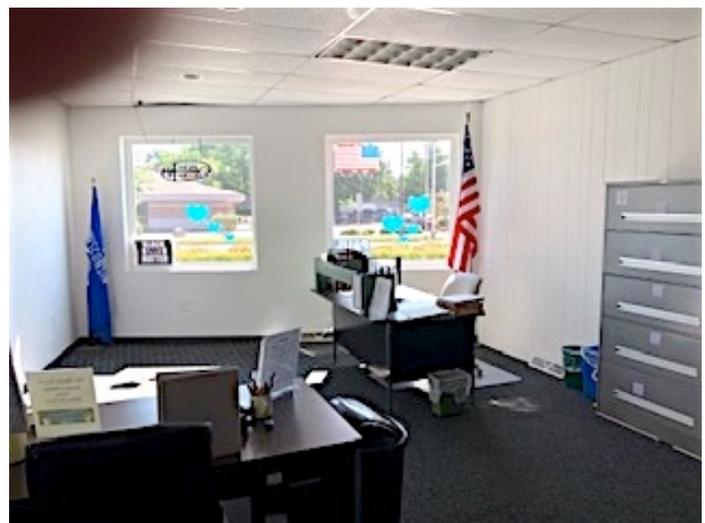


Hi everyone! We had a busy June--a large group of volunteers made phone calls throughout Portage County during our Week of Action, helping us expand our volunteer base so we can reach more voters in the summer and fall. As this letter is being written, our volunteers are calling and building connections with more voters during another Weekend of Action. We could use all the help we can get, both now and in upcoming events, which we'll have throughout July. Although November may seem like a long time away, we're already in crunch time: we don't have much time to reach voters before we need to get out the vote! So if you're even considering volunteering, please reach out to me so we can talk: (914) 261-1670, marc@wisdems.org. I hope to see you all soon!

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Thanks to these dedicated workers, we will welcome Marc to our newly remodeled, clean & organized Headquarters.

Thank you Jan Way, Lynn Wyman, Michele Bjella, Mary Vils & Trudy Pederson



Our bright, new office space

To be or not to be, that is the question!  
Will there be a Portage County Democratic Picnic in 2020?????  
Still to be decided

The PCDP Executive Board will take up the issue of whether to hold the annual picnic at their July meeting on the 7th. PCDP members will be notified as to their decision.

THE PICNIC (Maybe - Sun, Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> @ The Pffiffner Shelter)

In this strange time of the Covid-19 pandemic, we certainly cannot guarantee that the picnic will occur nor even what form it might take. **The raffle will occur.** It would be nice after this period of quarantine to be able to gather as Democrats, to hear some rousing speeches, to have some food and drink, and to enjoy one another. It may be impossible, just a dream, but it would be nice.

### THE RAFFLE

The Executive Board has decided that members should **NOT stop by** the headquarters this year to pick up their **raffle tickets**, due to COVID-19. Instead all raffle tickets will be hand-delivered to each member's door. Our awesome group of volunteers who will deliver the envelopes containing raffle tickets have received them and started delivery already. Everyone should receive their tickets by the end of July.

Our Annual Picnic is our most important fundraiser. A major share of that money comes from the sale of our raffle tickets. We need your help in selling them. **Ticket buyers need not be present to win.**

You need to return the sold stubs and a check:

- to our locked mailbox on our HQs; or
- via US mail to: PCDP  
2220 Division St.  
Stevens Point 54481; or
- to our picnic (should it occur) (**before 2 pm**).

In addition to fundraising by raffle ticket sales, **we also need quality items for our silent auction.** Contact Karyn Tank at 715-344-8009 for more information. **As you clean, remember us!**

# Portage County Democratic Party Dave Obey Award

This Award was initiated in 2004 to honor Congressman Dave Obey's thirty-fifth year as a US Representative. It is presented annually at the PCDP Picnic.

Excluded from consideration are publicly-elected officials and the current co-chairs of the PCDP. The selection committee – as appointed by the chair annually – shall contain no nominees for the award for that year. The selection committee has sole rights to select the award recipient (selection is not confirmed by the Executive Board nor the general membership).

PCDP Democrats can submit applications (copy below) for fellow Democrats. Requirements are that the nominee live in Portage County, be a current member of the PCDP and support the philosophies of the Democratic Party. In addition, a nominee should exhibit some of those traits that Dave Obey has demonstrated during his career in politics: hard-working, respected, caring about poor or disadvantaged, steadfast and conscientious. The nominee should make us proud that he/she is a Democrat. The award is based on activity in the Democratic Party over the last year.

## Dave Obey Award Recipients over the past decade

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2010 – Greg Ubbelohde &  
Laura Menting-  
Hauser  
2011 – Kent Hall  
2012 – Cindy Chelcun  
2013 – Leigh Allgaier  
Trudy Pederson  
Darlene Todd  
2014 – Carol Gawlik  
2015 - Jerry Ugland  
2016 – Glen Fink  
2017 - Ray Cal  
2018 - Karyn Tank  
2019 - Michele Bjella  
2020 - to be announced

## APPLICATION

Nominated Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2020

Please explain in less than 400 words or less why this person is deserving of this award. Include at least two specific examples of involvement of this person with the PCDP. Please return this by the **DEADLINE of Monday, July 27.**

For more information, feel free to contact Michele at 715-345-9779 or Jack at 715-341-5359.

Thank you.

**MAIL:** PCDP  
Dave Obey Award  
2220 Division St  
Stevens Point 54481

OR **E-mail:** [michelebje@yahoo.com](mailto:michelebje@yahoo.com)  
[allgaiers@gmail.com](mailto:allgaiers@gmail.com)

# BLACK LIVES MATTER

STEVENS POINT By Jan Way

Area citizens gathered in Stevens Point on June 7th to support the Black Lives Matter protest





Portage County Democratic Party  
2220 Division St  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

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

Facebook: PortageCountyWisconsinDemocrats

Twitter: PortageCo@PortagecountydemsWIdems



Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party