



# Portage County DEMOCRAT

Getting Together, Moving Forward November 2021

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## Meet Sabrina



“Sabrina is the new Regional Organizing Director for Portage County with the Democratic Party of Wisconsin. Her previous campaign experience includes the Elizabeth Warren campaign in rural Iowa, the Arizona Democratic Party for the 2020 General Election and small races in Connecticut and New York.

She is enthusiastic about reading horror novels, hiking and indie music.

Sabrina can be reached at [Sabrina.dirienzo@wisdems.org](mailto:Sabrina.dirienzo@wisdems.org)

Portage County Democrats,

Hello! We invite you to join us for a **fun Meet & Greet Event** welcoming Democratic Party of Wisconsin Regional Organizing Director, Sabina Dirienzo, to Portage County.

Sabina is working hard with us to support our local progressive representatives and candidates, as we prepare for April's elections. She will also be with us as we fight to keep Portage County and Wisconsin **Blue**, in November of 2022!

Feel free to come by and mingle with us next **Thursday, Nov 4th, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at Portage County Democratic Party Office**, as we gather to welcome her to Portage County!

We will also have **hot food and refreshments**, and look forward to seeing you there!! (COVID safety measures will be in place).

Thank You,

Rob Hofmann (he/him)  
Student Recruitment and Campaign Support Coordinator  
Democratic Party of Wisconsin  
[wisdems.org/donate](https://www.wisdems.org/donate)  
414-218-1605



**PORTAGE COUNTY SPRING ELECTIONS** compiled by Jack Allgaier

Primary: Tues, Feb 15, 2022

General: Tues, April 5, 2022

Listed below are offices up for re-election in Portage County this spring. The incumbents listed have not as-of-yet announced whether they are running again. ***Might you (or a friend) be interested?*** It certainly would be nice to see more Democrats elected to area seats.

**Stevens Point Area School Board**

Jeff Ebel  
Barb Portzen  
Ann Vang, and  
Rob Manzke - appointed to serve out Trish Baker's term.

The top three vote-getters will be elected to three year terms. The fourth top one will be elected to complete the remaining year left on the former Baker seat.

**Stevens Point alder seats**

Dist 2: David Shorr (D)  
Dist 4: Mykeerah Zarazua  
Dist 6: Jeremy Slowinski  
Dist 8: Thomas Leek (D)  
Dist 10: Keely Fisher (D)  
Dist 1: Mark Christianson – appointed to serve out the remainder of Tori Jenning's seat; a one-year position

**Village of Plover**

1st Ward Trustee: Adam Raabe  
2nd Ward Trustee: Orville Damrau  
3rd Ward Trustee: Al Tessmann

**Portage County**

Executive: Chris Holman

Supervisors: all twenty-five seats are up for re-election.

District 1: Vincent Miresse	District 10: Bob Gifford	District 19: Scott Soik
District 2: Chris Doubek	District 11: Stan Potocki	District 20: Charles Gussel
District 3: Meleesa Johnson(D)	District 12: Mike Splinter	District 21: Jeanne Dodge
District 4: David Medin	District 13: Don Jankowski	District 22: Matt Jacowski
District 5: Julie Morrow(D)	District 14: <i>Vacant</i>	District 23: Barry Jacowski
District 6: Mildred Neville*	District 15: Allen Haga, Jr	District 24: Gerry Zastrow(D)
District 7: Dave Ladick(D)	District 16: Daniel Martinson*	District 25: Ray Reser
District 8: Joan Honl	District 17: Dennis Raabe (D)	
District 9: Chai Moua*	District 18: Larry Raikowski	

If interested in running, please contact Sabina Dirienzo, our Regional DPW Organizing Director, at 617-899-5295 or [sabina.dirienzo@e.wisdems.org](mailto:sabina.dirienzo@e.wisdems.org) Sabina can help you with training on how to run a successful campaign. This request is also extended to any of your Democratic-leaning friends who might be interested. Nomination papers, if needed, will be circulated in December.

\***UPDATES:** Dist. 6 Mildred Neville has been drawn out of her district **Dist 9 Chai Moua** is moving to Madison **Dist 16 Dan Martinson** is building out of the district & is not running

# We can't have an election without Poll Workers



My name is Marian Trzebiatowski and I have been selected to be the acting Statutory Chairperson responsible for nominating Election Officials affiliated with the Democratic Party and submitting our names to the municipal clerks in Portage County.

First, I would like to thank all of you who have previously worked at the election polls. I know it has been especially hard these past two years and we have had to make decisions about our safety during the pandemic. I truly respect whatever decisions you've made.

Second, I would like to thank all of you who have responded to my calls to be nominated for the upcoming election cycle that runs from January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2023.

The dates of the elections are 2/15/22, 4/5/22, 8/9/22, 11/8/22, 2/21/23 and 4/4/23.

**If I wasn't able to reach you, or you are now interested in working as a Poll Worker, please contact me as soon as possible. I will be submitting our nominees in early November.**

**Please respond by November 5, 2021 at [mtrebs6@gmail.com](mailto:mtrebs6@gmail.com) or 715/321-0324**

Again, thank you for all that you do to support the values and hope the Democratic Party represents.

Marian Trzebiatowski



The World is ruled by those that show up!





## College Dems are Active(ists)..



Women's March is able to organize and mobilize millions of everyday women because Women's March is built, funded and led by everyday women



UWSP College Dems, students and community members held a Women's Rally on October 2. The event was a rally rather than a march because it was at UWSP's DeBot field.

UWSP Dem President, Madeline Miner and Landon Vosters, UWSP Dem Vice President organized the event as part of the national Women's March.

## Portage County Democratic Party Ex Board "WELCOMES UWSP DEMS"

A small group of UWSP Dems were welcomed and shown around our Dem HQs on October 7th. Prior to touring their new official UWSP Dem office on the 2nd floor, the young students shared refreshments and chatted with the board members present.

Karyn Tank donated items for the students to take with them.

With the students and board members safety in mind the number of participants was limited. Future plans are being discussed to include more participants



Our October meeting featured 2 presenters.



Kayla Filen, Portage County Clerk, spoke about the recent county redistricting and how it affects the Supervisory districts. She also talked about the “bogus” Republican “investigation” into the Wisconsin 2020 election. She stated that she has not been asked to provide election documents, but officials in Milwaukee, Dane counties and the city of Green Bay and other officials have. It was noted in the discussion that the attorney, Michael Gabelman, appointed by the Republican legislature to head the investigation, is an avowed Republican. He is further not qualified as he has proven during the proceedings that he does not know how elections work.



**Meleesa Johnson, Portage County Supervisor & Stevens Point City Council President, was our second guest speaker.**

Meleesa expanded on the Council’s recent vote to approve the recommendation by AECOM’s, the civil engineering firm tasked with redesigning the Bus. 51 corridor through Stevens Point. Meleesa explained that the project has been put off for several years and that the federal funds available for the project carry certain regulations that need to be met. The plan now under consideration, has the lesser impact to residences along the route, is the least costly as compared to a 4 lane option and provides the main objective which is safety; slowing traffic to allow bikers, pedestrians and other users a safer byway.



**November 9th Guest speaker is Bob Wolensky, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at UWSP and Adjunct Professor of History at King’s College.**

Professor Wolensky has titled his presentation “What’s Wrong with Republican Economic Policy, and the Democratic alternative”.

This program sounds very timely as politics in Washington DC are currently focused on legislation involving billions of dollars that affect all of us for years to come.



THE FIRST DUTY OF GOVERNMENT IS TO  
PROTECT THE POWERLESS AGAINST THE POWERFUL

CODE OF HAMMURABI



Hi Everyone, my name is Colin McNamara and I am proud to sit on the PCDP Ex. Board as well as be the co-chair of the volunteer outreach committee. I am what many would call a life long Democrat. I joined the party at age 14 and began my work serving on Ex. Boards in Waupaca County. I held several roles from a student organizer to being Co-Vice Chair of the party. I moved to Portage County before college in 2018 and am honored to continue my role in the party. I am also a former President of the student body at UWSP and a former student senator. It was recently pointed out to me that I have served in an elected position since age 14. I want to thank you for the opportunity to give back to the community that I call home. I look forward to getting to know all of you and working with you.

Editors note: Colin was appointed to the Ex. Board of PCDP this past summer to fill the position of Secretary. Colin is running for an At Large member position in 2022.

## 2022 Executive Board Election in December - Jack Allgaier

Per our constitution, the Portage County Democratic Party will be holding an election for members wishing to serve on the 2022 Executive Board. At this moment, there is only one position (Secretary) that has not been filled. If you have ever considered serving on our Board, please contact current co-chair Jan Way or Gary Hawley for more information. We are hoping to have an exact match between open seats and members wishing to serve so as to avoid an actual paper ballot election.



## No Double Standard – Trudy, Editorial (original author unknown)

I've wanted to share this article for some time. With the fate of a women's right to choose to carry a fetus or not in the hands of the Supreme Court, and the trial for the 17 year old vigilante in Kenosha about to begin, now seems to be the perfect time.

How about we treat every young man who wants to buy a gun like every woman who wants an abortion the same?

Require a mandatory 48-hour waiting period, require parental permission, a note from his doctor proving he understands what he is about to do, require he watch a video about the effects of gun violence and require an ultrasound (just because).

Let's close down all but one gun shop in every state and make him travel hundreds of miles, take time off work and stay overnight in a strange town to get a gun. Then make him walk through a gauntlet of angry people holding photos of loved ones who were shot to death, people shouting at him calling him a murderer and begging him not to buy a gun.

It makes more sense to require this of men who want to buy a gun than it does for a government to legislate what should be a women's decision about her health care. No woman getting an abortion has killed a room full of people in seconds!





## Save the Date - WAVE - Virtual Day of Action November 9

Join your neighbors and friends asking Wisconsin legislators to support the life saving gun violence prevention bills that were recently introduced, including background checks on all gun sales and a process for obtaining extreme risk orders.

Likewise, it is your chance to demand that they reject the series of dangerous, pro-gun bills that have been introduced that put us in ever more danger.

Sign up now at [admin@waveedfund.org](mailto:admin@waveedfund.org) (Wisconsin Anti-Violence Effort)



Just in case you haven't heard about the progressive brewery and brewer in Wisconsin's Northwoods...



Introducing you to the Minocqua Brewing Company and Kirk Bangstad, Progressive ACTIVIST.

“Located in Minocqua Wisconsin, MBC started making #progressivebeer after closing our brewpub because Donald Trump played politics with Covid-19 and Mitch McConnell let

restaurants twist in the wind. We hung a Biden sign in the reddest part of Wisconsin in defiance of our Republican County Board's threat to fine us. We won the battle and are now focused on brewing awesome beer for people who care about lifting those up that are less fortunate and making politics in Wisconsin as clean as the lakes and streams “Up North.”

Recently, MBC Super Pac and Kirk have initiated a lawsuit against school boards that refuse to protect kids by following Public Health guidelines regarding COVID protections.

Find Kirk on Facebook or on the Minocqua Brewing Company website and subscribe to his newsletter to see what progressive effort he is working on. We all benefit from his efforts to “make politics in Wisconsin as clean as the lakes and streams ‘Up North’ “.



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Stevens Point, WI 54481

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

Facebook: PortageCountyWIDems

Twitter: PortageCoWIDems@portagecountywidems



### PCDP November 9th Meeting

6 PM Doors (open?) watch for announcement on  
PCDems Updates for possible virtual meeting

6:30 Call to Order

Program Dr. Wolensky on Economic Policy

Elected Officials & Candidates

Business Meeting

Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party