



Portage County DEMOCRAT

Getting Together, Moving Forward August 2020



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CAMPAIGN SIGNS AT HQs



Stop in to pick up your signs at Headquarters

It's also your chance to see our awesome "new" Headquarters!

Open Hours: Mon. Wed. Fri. 10 AM - 2 PM

Wed. evening 5 PM - 7 PM

or anytime the OPEN sign is on

Large 4'x4' BIDEN signs available if you have a highly visible spot

More candidate signs arriving soon - stop in weekly

Masks & social distancing required in HQs





Welcome Teddy

Hi! My name is Teddy Landis and I'm the new campus organizer at UW-Stevens Point. I've been involved in politics pretty much my entire life. I remember being in fifth grade and having a lemonade stand for Barack Obama in 2008. I've moved on from lemonade stands - but my interest in advocating for a more progressive, democratic future persists. This past spring, I graduated from Harvard College, where I started and led our university-wide initiative to increase voter participation

and have worked with students across the country to strengthen campus civic engagement programs. I also worked with the Elizabeth Warren campaign in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Young people in Wisconsin have the power to impact the future of not just our country, but the world - and I'm excited to be in partnership as we build an inclusive and powerful team. If you know any students or professors at UW-Stevens Point, they can join our team [here](#) or reach out to me at theodore@wisdems.org.

Teddy Landis ([he/him](#))

Campus Organizer, UW Stevens Point

Democrat I hope to see you on the next Zoom!



Mark Epstein is now working from HQs

Field Organizer, Portage County

marc@wisdems.org 914-261-1670

Hi everyone! We're officially fewer than 100 days from the November election! That means it's time for us to buckle down and hit those phones (doors are still a no go, unfortunately). If you've already joined us for one of our events, [thank you](#), [thank you](#), [thank you](#). You are the heart and soul of our get out the vote effort; I can't thank you enough. If you're still on the fence about getting involved, please reach out to me (marc@wisdems.org or (914) 261-1670)!

We have a bunch of events coming up, including Weekends of Action on August 8-9 and August 29-30, not to mention the DNC the week of the 17th. Let's get those Dems to the polls.



FOLLOW THE PCDP ON SOCIAL MEDIA Rick Christofferson – Twitter: @RickNorse

Facebook – Portage County Wisconsin Democrats

<https://www.facebook.com/PortageCountyWIDems/>

This is a page primarily for announcements.

Facebook – Portage County Democratic Party

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/66111771697/>

This is a group primarily for postings and discussions by group members. Ask to join!

Twitter – PortageCoWIDems

@portagecowidems

If you are not on Twitter you can follow our posts on our website's social media page:

<https://www.portagecountydems.org/>

PORTAGE COUNTY FALL PARTISAN PRIMARY ELECTION by Jack Allgaier

Tuesday, Aug 11

There are two races in the August election with two Democrats running for the same seat. **Partisan** means that you may only vote for candidates from one political party in that election.

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 webpage for more information on each:

Ron Kind's webpage (<https://www.ronkind.org>)

Mark Neuman's webpage (<https://www.markneumannforcongress.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 for more information.

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

PORTAGE COUNTY FALL ELECTION by Jack Allgaier

Tuesday, Nov 3

Besides the Presidential Election in November, the fall election is shaping up as something special for residents of Portage County. Our state senate seat AND the three assembly seats associated with that senate seat ALL have contested races, each of which could be won by a Democrat! This will be an exciting election cycle to watch as Portage County returns to the blue of yesteryears. Each of the Democrats running could use help financially in their campaigns. You may contribute via Act Blue on their website or by mail.

24th State Senate Paul Piotrowski (running against Pat Testin)
More info: www.piotrowskiforsenate.com
To contribute: Piotrowski for Senate
501 West St., Stevens Point, WI 54481

Dist. 70 Assembly* John Baldus (running against Nancy VanderMeer)
To contribute: Baldus for Assembly
5440 Oakwood Ave., Stevens Point, WI 54482

Dist. 71 Assembly* Katrina Shankland (Incumbent)
More Info: www.voteshankland.com
To contribute: Friends of Katrina Shankland
PO Box 531, Stevens Point, WI 54481

Dist. 72 Assembly * Criste Greening (running against Scott Krug)
More info: www.greeningforassembly.com
To contribute: Greening for Assembly
10031 Carousel Ct., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

You can only vote in one of the 3 assembly races dependent on your address

*Dist. 70: (north & west) Towns of Hull, Dewey, Eau Plaine & Carson plus the village of Junction City

*Dist. 72: (south & west) Towns of Almond, Pine Grove & the southern half of Grant plus the village of Almond

*Dist 71: the rest of Portage County

IMPORTANT DATES FOR VOTERS

DEADLINES:

August 7, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m. - Deadline to Register in Your Municipal Clerk's Office- Voters may register in-person in their municipal clerk's office during the clerk's business hours until 5:00 p.m. on August 7, 2020.

August 11, 2020 from 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. - Register to Vote at Your Polling Place- Voters can register to vote at their polling place on Election Day, August 11, 2020.

August 9, 2020 - *Deadline for In-Person Absentee* - Voters can possibly request and vote an absentee ballot in-person in their municipal clerk's office through August 9, 2020. **Office hours vary by municipality** [Please contact your municipal clerk for absentee voting hours.](#)

August 11, 2020 @ 8:00 p.m. - *Deadline to Return Absentee Ballot* - You must return your absentee ballot by mail or delivery to your [municipal clerk](#), your polling place, or a local dropbox established by your clerk. Your ballot must be received by your municipal clerk no later than 8:00 p.m on August 11, 2020.

More information about voting at www.myvote.wi.gov



Thank you Meleesa Johnson for explaining and providing the history behind Portage County's passage of the "Joint Declaration on Racism & Marginalized Communities in Central Wisconsin" at the July meeting of the PCDP membership.

After Meleesa's presentation and the following discussion, the membership present voted to sign on to support this countywide initiative.

You can read the Declaration in it's entirety at www.co.portage.wi.us "Joint Ceclaration on Rasism and Marganilized Communities" in Portage County Wisconsin.

Our Elections Administrators Need Your Help! submitted by Jerod Barkley

The stakes could not be higher in 2020. In order for us to defeat Donald Trump, every eligible voter in Wisconsin must have an opportunity to vote. That's why we're encouraging our advocates and volunteers to not only vote but to go the extra mile and serve as a poll worker. The partisan primary election is Tuesday, August 11th, and the general election is on Tuesday, November 3rd.

We must ensure this election runs smoothly, with every eligible voter able to cast a ballot that counts. That takes election workers who:

- Provide a positive voting experience
- Check in and register voters
- Assist with the voting equipment
- Answer questions

Will you serve as an election worker?

- No experience necessary
- Training provided
- You will be paid!
- Pay rate varies according to municipality.

We need YOU to step up, if you're healthy and have checked with your doctor about risk factors. Municipalities are struggling to retain their veteran poll workers, many of whom are over the age of 65, and, without a new generation of poll workers to step up, they will not be able to keep polling places open. We know it's an uncertain time and many of us are trying to keep our distance socially. We understand if you have concerns and respect whatever decision you make. However, the state elections commission and local clerks are all working with public health officials to develop strong protocols that will ensure our polling places are as safe as possible for voters and election workers. They're purchasing PPE, sanitization supplies, and single-use implements for marking ballots.

Will you serve as a poll worker? You can sign up here and the DPW Voter Protection Team will follow up with trainings and application information:

<https://wisdems.org/voter-protection/#Worker>

If you are unable to be a poll worker, we also are looking for volunteers to be poll observers. Poll observers are the eyes and ears for Wisconsin Democrats' Voter Protection team at an assigned polling location and the first line of defense against any concerted efforts to confuse and deter voters. Go to the following website to sign up to be a poll observer:

<https://wisdems.org/voter-protection/#Observer>

For anyone who cannot volunteer in person, you can also sign up to be a remote voter protection volunteer here:

<https://wisdems.org/voter-protection/#Observer>

Thank you for your commitment to your community and democracy!

PCDP 2020



WITH A



2020 PCDP PICNIC GOES VIRTUAL 8/23/2020

Rick Christofferson

The Portage County Democratic Party picnic is an event that goes back decades. Every fourth Sunday in August Democrats and progressives have gathered at a local park for good times together – food and drink, a bake sale, a silent auction, a raffle and to hear from Democratic officeholders and candidates.

This year, we reached a difficult decision that we could not hold our traditional picnic in the building at Pfiffner Park. We worked with the City of Stevens Point and determined that under the reasonable safety guidelines the city proposed we could not have a picnic with sustainable social distancing and other safety measures.

So, we are going virtual this year. The 2020 Portage County Democratic Party picnic will still be on the fourth Sunday in August – August 23 – but it will be online via Zoom. Zoom is an online platform that supports audio and video and we have used it successfully for executive board and general membership meetings.

Some parts of the picnic have been retained for the virtual world. We will still hear from Democratic officeholders and candidates and local officials. We will still hold the raffle drawing from Pfiffner Park and present the Dave Obey Award to a worthy recipient. We will talk about the fall campaign and the work it will take to win in November.

We did have to drop a few of our traditions for the virtual event. We obviously will not be able to sell food and beverages and the bake sale has also been dropped for this year.

After some discussion, we also decided to forego the silent auction for this year. The restrictions and safety precautions we are observing were going to present challenges in collecting auction items, collecting payments, and distributing the items out to the successful bidders.

We hope to bring these picnic events back next year at the park.

The loss of the food and beverage, the bake sale and the silent auction means we will take a bit of a revenue hit this year (acknowledging some of our costs will be a little lower too). But our campaign work will not stop and our need for ongoing revenue to support that work will continue.

We encourage you to donate to the Portage County Democratic Party. You can mail checks to the PCDP, 2220 Division St., Stevens Point, WI. 54481-3661.

Speaking of revenue! The raffle is still on and the drawing will be held at 3:00 p.m. If you have been selling raffle tickets or are buying raffle tickets, please get your tickets and money to headquarters as soon as you can.

We will be sending out more information on our virtual picnic through the weekly emails. We recognize that some of our members might not be able to join us virtually on August 23 and we regret that we will not be able to connect with everyone that day. We still value your membership and support in our shared progressive values and goals.

Stay healthy everyone and Vote Blue!

PICNIC RAFFLE TICKETS

by Jack Allgaier

Even though the picnic is virtual, the raffle is on! We will hold the drawing (as printed on the ticket) in Pfiffner Pioneer Park at 3 pm on Sunday, Aug 23rd. Please join us if you wish to watch the drawing, but remember to social distance and wear a mask.

The raffle tickets have all been delivered. My deepest thanks go out to this fine group of volunteers who personally delivered the tickets to members throughout Portage County: Trish Baker, Jerod Barkley, Santha Bickford, Michele & Steve Bjella, Darlene & Jim Jakusz, Valerie Landowski, Trudy & Dave Pederson, Janice & Bill Seybold, Karyn Tank, Jan Way and Lynn & Rick Wyman. If you did not receive raffle tickets and would like a packet – or **if you want more raffle tickets to sell** - contact me at 341-5359 or allgaiers@gmail.com I will even deliver them to you!

Ways to Return your Sold Raffle Tickets: You may:

- 1) drop the sold stubs and payment in our locked mailbox at our HQ. We check our mailbox daily so your stubs & money will be safe. **DEADLINE: SUN, AUG 23, NOON**
- 2) drop them at the HQ during office hours. Do this only if you want to pick up a yard-sign, or to ask questions about volunteering. Otherwise, please use our mailbox.
- 3) mail the sold stubs and a check to our HQs at
PCDP, 2220 Division St., Stevens Point, 54481
- 4) contact me for personal pick-up. Thanks.

The raffle is extremely important this year in that your Party does not have any other major income events this year. We don't have the income from the sales at the picnic nor Ray's Brat & Hamburger sale at Trigs nor Liz & Darlene's rummage sale. Fortunately, many members have been including an extra donation with their membership renewals. My deepest thanks go out to each of you to keep us solvent.

Can't Sell your Tickets? That's all right. Really! Your membership and involvement is so much more important. If you don't want to have tickets delivered next year, please let me know to put you on our No Raffle Tickets list. This saves us the time and effort needed to personally deliver the tickets as well as the expenses involved. Thanks.



Meeting Date Changed to Wednesday, August 12th



PCDP's membership meeting for will be the evening of August 12 so as not to compete with the Partisan primary.

Our program will be a presentation by Stevens Point Public School officials discussing the current plans for the re-opening of the 2020-21 school year.

Members will have an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the program



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

www.PortageCountyDems.org

Facebook: PortageCountyWisconsinDemocrats

Twitter: PortageCo@Portagecountydemswidems

August ZOOM Member Meeting Date Wednesday, August 12th - 6:30 PM

so as not to compete with the Wisconsin Partisan Primary

School opening is of great concern to parents, teachers and community members nationwide. We have scheduled a ZOOM presentation by officials of the Stevens Point Public School to discuss current plans for the opening of public schools this fall. Members will have an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the program.

Please watch for your ZOOM log on information that will be shared via email at PC Dem Updates prior to the August 12th date.

We will also hear from our elected officials, community leaders, candidates and our campaign coordinators.

Please join us for this timely and informational meeting.

Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party