



Fairness
Opportunity
Community

Portage County Democratic Party

January 2020

2020 Can Be a Great Year for Democrats – If We Work Hard and Make It So

2020 – IT’S NEW, LET’S MAKE IT BLUE!

2018 was a good year – Democrats retook several state legislative houses and governors mansions. In Wisconsin, we won all five state constitutional offices and re-elected Senator Tammy Baldwin.

In 2019, Democrats won governors races in Kentucky and Louisiana, and took control of both houses of the Virginia legislature.

This year – 2020 – we have the most important presidential election of our lifetimes. If Donald Trump wins reelection our nation will suffer damage that might not be reversible. If we win the presidential election and take the U.S. Senate, our nation can turn around and move forward again.

There is so much happening and so much to do between now and November. There is an important state supreme court race. In April, we can knock out Scott Walker’s appointee and replace him with someone who is ethical and committed to impartial justice for the people.

In May, our friends and neighbors in the 7th CD can elect Tricia Zunker to replace Sean Duffy. We can volunteer to help.

The annual state convention will be in early June. It will probably be overshadowed this year. You might have heard the Democratic National Convention will be in Milwaukee in July! It’s very difficult to become a convention delegate, but we all can be volunteers and be part of the scene.

All of this leads up to November and all the elections up and down the ballot. Re-electing Katrina Shankland in the 71st Assembly District. Electing Democrats to the 70th and 72nd Assembly Districts. Re-taking the 24th Senate District. These will be tough races because of the Republican gerrymandering. We have to work hard to win.

We must retain the 3rd Congressional District seat and help our neighbors to win the 7th again.

And we must beat Trump.

We are fortunate to own our own headquarters. That space is always there for us to meet, to have discussions and to work.

Please volunteer to work at the HQ this year, starting now. We have more canvassing and phone calling to do, data entry and maintenance and a variety of other tasks that must be completed for us to be successful.

Volunteer!

Phone HQ at (715) 544-6323

Ed Fallone, Candidate for State Supreme Court, Spoke at the December General Membership Meeting



Ed Fallone, candidate for the state supreme court, spoke at the December general membership meeting. Fallone is a lawyer and law professor at Marquette University.

Fallone spoke of his experience as an attorney and as a law professor. He would be the first Latino to serve on the court and the only member of the court who has not served as a judge, providing some diversity of background and experience.

Fallone is one of two candidates challenging Daniel Kelly. Kelly was appointed by Scott Walker. Kelly had little relevant experience and no qualifications to be on the supreme court and was a political appointment. He is one of five conservative justices on the seven-member court.

The other candidate, Dane County Circuit Judge, Jill Karofsky, has been invited to speak to the general membership and might be at the February meeting.

Learn more about Ed Fallone at his website: <https://www.falloneforjustice.com/>



Ed Fallone stayed for our holiday party and spoke with members.

Tricia Zunker, Democratic Candidate for the 7th CD



Before the Republican gerrymandering of the early 2010s, Portage County was part of the 7th Congressional District. For decades the 7th CD was represented by Dave Obey, a progressive voice for northern Wisconsin and the nation. The redrawn district protected reality-TV star Sean Duffy after he was elected in the 2010 wave election.

Duffy resigned and the 7th CD has a chance to elect a Democrat.

Tricia Zunker is the Democratic candidate for the 7th CD. She is a lawyer, a member of the Wausau school board and has served as an associate justice for the Ho-Chunk Nation Supreme Court since 2013.

Two Republicans, including State Senator Tom Tiffany, aka “Toxic Tom Tiffany,” are running. Both Republican candidates are extreme conservatives and Tiffany has proved himself to be an enemy of the environment.

The primary for the 7th CD special election will be on February 18. The general election will be on May 12.

Tricia Zunker will provide a progressive voice in Congress that the 7th CD has not had in a decade. Her campaign is willing to accept volunteers from outside the district. A link to a volunteer form is available on the campaign Facebook page:

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

More information about Tricia Zunker and the campaign is available on the campaign website:

<https://triciaforwisconsin.com/>

Please consider volunteering and contributing to the campaign. Our northern neighbors deserve to have a progressive champion.

Democratic Debate, General Membership Meeting – Same Great Night! Tuesday, January 14

Join us at the Headquarters (2220 Division Street, Stevens Point) for our general membership meeting. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m., after social time that starts at 6:00 p.m.

The business meeting will be kept short so we can watch the debate on the big screen.

Five candidates have qualified based on the criteria -- at least 5 percent support in four DNC-approved national polls or 7 percent support in two early primary voting state polls, and they must have at least 225,000 donors.

The qualifiers are: Vice President Joe Biden, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg and Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn.

Impeachment Update

There is a small chance that Senators Klobuchar, Sanders and Warren will have to be in Washington, D.C. on the scheduled debate night, if Mitch McConnell schedules an impeachment trial in the Senate.

The House adopted two articles of impeachment for abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. Congressman Ron Kind voted for both articles.

“Nobody Is Above the Law: Impeach and Remove”



Local Democrats joined an Impeach and Remove demonstration in Stevens Point on December 16. The event was organized by Indivisible. It was a little cool, as it usually is on a December night, but a good crowd showed up to support impeachment and to defend democracy.





We have a dedicated group of data workers. They have been entering and updating data in the VAN database that the Democratic Party uses and our local database that helps us maintain contact with our volunteer network. Thanks to them for all that they do!

Coffee and Conversation is every Wednesday at the Olympic Restaurant. We meet in the back at “our” table to talk politics and discuss progressive ideas. Please join us!





2020 DEMOCRATIC CALENDAR

January 14	General Membership Meeting & Democratic Debate
February 11	General Membership Meeting
February 18	Spring Primary
February 18	Special Primary Election for the 7 th CD
March 10	General Membership Meeting
April 7	Spring General Election & Presidential Preference Primary
April 14	General Membership Meeting
April 26	County Caucuses for Delegate Selection
May 17	Congressional District Caucuses for Delegate Selection
May 12	General Membership Meeting
May 12	Special General Election for the 7 th CD
June	DPW State Convention
June 9	General Membership Meeting
July 13-16	Democratic National Convention in Milwaukee
July 14	General Membership Meeting
August 11	Partisan Primary
August 11	General Membership Meeting
August 23	PICNIC
September 8	General Membership Meeting
October 13	General Membership Meeting
November 3	General and Presidential Election
November 10	General Membership Meeting
December 8	General Membership Meeting & Holiday Party