



# PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRAT

Standing up for Democracy

September 2022

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

*2022 Co-Chair*

Gary Hawley

*2022 Co-Chair*

Jan Way

*1st Vice Chair*

Ned Grossnickle

*2nd Vice Chair*

Karyn Tank

*3rd Vice Chair*

David Pederson

*4th Vice Chair*

Joan Garski

*Statutory Chair*

Marian Trzebiatowski

*Treasurer*

Rick Wyman

*Secretary*

Kathy Celer

*Newsletter Editor*

Lynn Wyman

*3<sup>rd</sup> CD Rep*

Rick Christofferson

*At Large*

Collin McNamara

*At Large*

Trudy Pederson

*At Large*

Travis Slattery

*At Large*

Mary Vils

*At Large*

Mary Zinda

*At Large*

**OPEN**

*College Dems Pres*

Sarah Ashley

*College Dems Treas*

Ian Christie

HQ Phone 715-544-6323

Website:

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

**Thank you, everyone, for a very successful annual picnic...in spite of the rain!** We all stayed dry in the Pfiiffner Shelter 😊. **Our volunteers deserve an extra big “thank you” for all the work they put in getting everything organized and up and running during the event.** Pictures follow of attendees, volunteers and elected officials. Check Facebook for more. Opening entertainment was by *moogie*. We had many excellent speakers this year, a very popular “Silent Auction” (fermented beverages were especially popular 😊), a very successful bake sale with an assortment of homemade goodies, and a great variety of yummy food and beverages for sale! Joan Garski won the Dave Obey Award for her service. And then there was the raffle...Mayor Mike and Sheriff Mike made sure it was fair and safe 😊. We are off to a great start for this campaign season!

**FUNDRAISER FOR BRAD PFAFF, Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 5pm to 7pm at Stevens Point Brewery, 2617 Water St, Stevens Point.** This is being hosted by Jack Allgaier, Rick Christoferson, Liz McDonald, Dennis Raabe, Mary Vils, and Dave & Jan Way. Suggested contributions are: \$500 Host, \$250 Co-Host, \$100 Sponsor, \$50 Friend, \$25 Attend. **For more information or to RSVP, contact Sam Langheim at [sam@bradpfaff.com](mailto:sam@bradpfaff.com).**

**A SPECIAL PLEA:** Portage County is split into 3 State

Assembly Districts. All 3 of our candidates are being contested. Each of them could certainly use financial help with their campaigns. Please consider donating to them even if they are outside your voting district. **Remy Gomez is running against incumbent Nancy VanderMeer in District 70, incumbent Katrina Shankland is running against Scott Soik in District 71, and Criste Greening is running against incumbent Scott Krug in District 72.** **A list of Democrat candidates is included in the newsletter, along with a campaign website, if they have one, with information on how to donate.**

**Help is needed to paint signs!** No experience necessary!

Watch your email for dates and times. The address is: 3012 Post Rd. in Whiting. Contact Ray Cal for more information: 715-321-0329 or

[Raymond.cal@hotmail.com](mailto:Raymond.cal@hotmail.com).

**Coffee on Thursdays at 10:00.** Watch your email for location, either at Headquarters or Iverson Park by the playground. Let's talk!

**A special message from our Co-Chair Jan Way:** We have another year's picnic behind us and with that we have much to celebrate. We had special visits from Judges and candidates, and we had a chance to meet with both old and new friends. We can be proud of the strong support that Democrats have in our County and Stevens Point community.

**As chair of the food and refreshments work group, I would like to give a special shout-out to the many volunteers who contributed food and an hour or more of their time to help out in the serving area as servers and cashiers.** There were so many of you that I fear I will miss some names on my list, but please know you are all appreciated in helping to make the 2022 picnic a success.

**Thank you goes out to Marion Trebiatowski, Meleesa Johnson, Eric Way, Eric and Erin Olson, Mary Kneebone, Jen Burton, Danny Mercer, Dave Way, Suzanne Fee, Pat Dreeze, Fred Garski, Sherri Fay, Ed Morganroth Jr., Jackie DeKay, Joan Meeteer and a special thanks to Joan Garski, who provided the great pulled pork and much of her time. What a great crew you were!**

**Dave Obey Award** This award was established in 2004 by PCDP to honor Congressman Dave Obey's 35 years in Congress. It is presented annually at our picnic to a Democrat who exhibits the qualities Dave demonstrated throughout his prestigious career. This year's recipient is **Joan Garski**. Whenever volunteers are needed Joan is ready with a smile and a helping hand. She joined our party 5 years ago and has become more involved every year. She actively serves on the Executive Board. She has organized food and drink for scores of meetings, campaign events, canvassing projects, and Get-Out-The-Vote events. She is our lead person with the National Rural Power Lab, an initiative to become better involved with rural voters. Because of her efforts, PCDP is one of the few county parties to receive such a grant. During this past year she has stepped up and made us proud that she is a Democrat. For these, and many other reasons, Joan is a worthy recipient of this award.



## A few picnic photos:





# Here is your list of Democrats on the ballot, November 8, 2022:

Please consider donating to their campaigns. We need to elect Democrats to protect our rights.

OFFICE	DEMOCRAT RUNNING
Governor	Tony Evers (INCUMBENT) <a href="https://tonyevers.com">https://tonyevers.com</a>
Lieutenant Governor	Sara Rodriguez <a href="https://www.saraforwi.com/">https://www.saraforwi.com/</a>
Attorney General	Josh Kaul (INCUMBENT) <a href="https://www.joshkaul.org">https://www.joshkaul.org</a>
Secretary of State	Doug La Follette (INCUMBENT) <a href="https://douglafollette.com">https://douglafollette.com</a>
State Treasurer	Aaron Richardson <a href="https://aaronforwi.com">https://aaronforwi.com</a>
US Senator	Mandella Barnes <a href="https://mandelabarnes.com">https://mandelabarnes.com</a>
US Representative: 3 <sup>rd</sup> CD	Brad Pfaff <a href="https://bradpfaff.com">https://bradpfaff.com</a>
There is no State Senate	race in Portage Co. this year.
District 70 Assembly	Remberto (Remy) Gomez <a href="https://remy4the70th.com">https://remy4the70th.com</a>
District 71 Assembly	Katrina Shankland (INCUMBENT) <a href="https://www.voteshankland.com">https://www.voteshankland.com</a>
District 72 Assembly	Criste Greening <a href="https://greeningforassembly.com">https://greeningforassembly.com</a>
Portage Co Sheriff	Mike Lukas (INCUMBENT) (no campaign website)
Clerk of Circuit Courts	Lisa Roth (INCUMBENT) (no campaign website)



## Ed Morganroth, Jr. an Independent, has some thoughts for PCDP to consider:

As someone who is not a member of the PCDP, and considers themselves an independent with many progressive values, I have some ideas on how the PCDP can expand its reach to other than its traditional base here, and engage with and energize more voters. Here goes:

**Need to coordinate with and work with other like-minded local political/civic engagement organizations** like Progressives of Central WI, CW Stop the Spread, environmental groups, LGBTQ+ groups, etc. Engage with more community groups like Kiwanis, law enforcement, Lions, PCBC, PABA, and large businesses. **Offer to speak, and answer questions.**

**Need to support more "mainstream" voter concerns like taxes, inflation, election security, respect for law enforcement,** etc. We don't have to abandon or even downplay the traditional Democratic issues, maybe just reframe some.

**Need better organized and coordinated local candidate recruitment process.** Also need to provide better/different campaign assistance to local candidates.

**Engage and communicate with Dem/progressive leaning folks that are NOT at present (or maybe ever) official PCDP members.** Not even the smallest local office can be won with only the 300 or so official PCDP member votes!

**Stop seeing Portage County as destined to be blue and shake things up a bit!** Think (and do) outside of the box! Lassa lost 6 years ago; we have a Republican County Exec now. And we need to focus on the whole county - not just the downtown portion of Stevens Point.

**Need to engage people between the ages of college students and Medicare recipients.** PCDP coffee looks like a Medicare convention (me included). Maybe need all or at least some coffees when most of the world is not working for a living. Slogan – “We’re not your father’s/parents’ Democratic party!”. When I ran this spring for county board I was struck by the huge percentage of strong and leaning Dem voters who were 60’s, 70’s and yes, 80’s. These folks will be aging out, to put it politely, very soon. Need to engage and energize more young voters and families with kids, who the issues above resonate with.

**Covid 19 – Is PCDP for or against future business and school closures?** A statement that we recognize the importance of keeping both schools and businesses open full-time, if possible, while also emphasizing the importance of taking appropriate public health measures to keep things open, would be great.

**Need to use social media more effectively.**

**Need to engage with WI state Dem/progressive groups, and tap into their membership.**

**Ed is interested in your comments and ideas. Please contact him at: [edmorganroth@gmail.com](mailto:edmorganroth@gmail.com)**

**Kirk Bangstad has announced** the Minocqua Brewing Company’s partnership with two new progressive talk radio stations opening up in Central Wisconsin, and potentially even more around Northern Wisconsin very soon. According to Kirk Bangstad:

“On August 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, WXCO 1230AM/98.9FM, which will be called Bull Falls Radio,” will be launched in Wausau. The Stevens Point/Wisconsin Rapids station, WFRH 1320 AM/97.5 FM, otherwise known as “Locally Grown Radio,” will also be under the same new ownership and is coming soon. **These stations are the outcropping of a new progressive radio conglomerate called Civic Media** which sprang from Wisconsin’s first progressive talk radio station in Madison, WTTN 1580AM/92.7 FM, Devil Radio.” For those of us in rural areas, small TV markets have tiny budgets, and most of our newspapers are owned by large corporations. “Until about six months ago, there was only 1 progressive talk radio station in Madison.” Meanwhile, Northern and rural Wisconsin have become more and more “Red”. Now we are no longer overlooked...we will have radio stations in the Northwoods that view politics through a progressive lens.





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

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

Facebook: PortageCountyWIDems

Twitter: PortageCoWIDems@portagecountywidems

HELP SPREAD THE WORD THAT  
WE'RE GOING TO **ROE THE VOTE**



**PCDP** General Meeting September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**Guest Speaker:**

**Nate Timm, DPW Rural Caucus Chair,  
and Devil Radio Host, 92.7 FM & 1580 AM**

**Brad Pfaff for Congress Fundraiser**

**Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 5pm – 7pm**

Stevens Point Brewery

2617 Water St, Stevens Point, WI 54481

RSVP: Sam Langheim at [sam@BradPfaff.com](mailto:sam@BradPfaff.com)

**SIGN PAINTING:** watch email for dates & times

**COFFEE on Thursdays at 10:00am:**

HQ or Iverson Park: watch email for place

*Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party*