



PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRAT

GETTING TOGETHER, MOVING FORWARD

APRIL 2016

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Karyn Tank, Executive Board member and our HQs use tracker, reports there were 9 meetings with 135 persons taking part in February.

Wisconsin Primary April 5th

The Nation's attention will be focused on Wisconsin in the near future as the Wisconsin Primary date approaches. Democrats in Portage County have opportunities to actively get involved in their party and
GET OUT THE VOTE.

March 31 - Phone Bank for Kloppenburg and GOTV
at PCDP 2220 Division St. – 5:30 PM – 8 PM

April 5 – Phone Bank & Canvassing to Get Out The Vote
at PCDP 9 AM – 8 PM
If you are not already helping at the voting polls, this is an opportunity to encourage voters to exercise their voting privilege.

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**Early (absentee) voting begins March 21 and ends April 1st**

### **IMPORTANT INFO for APRIL 5th**

Wisconsin Voting Polls are open from 7 AM – 8 PM  
An acceptable photo ID is required to cast a ballot  
Proof of current address required if different from ID  
Same Day Registration is available at the Polls

If you are not sure of any of the changes or need additional information about what is required to vote in Wisconsin, the Government Accountability Board has this website to answer your questions.

**[myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov)**

Ignore your rights, and they will go away!

Third Congressional District Convention  
**Saturday April 2, 2016**

Best Western Plus Campus Inn – 100 Spring St. - River Falls, WI.

Registration 9:30 – 11 AM/ Call to order 10:30 AM promptly

Early Registration is appreciated - \$25/person prior to March 23 or \$30/person at the door.

The convention will hold elections for the Platform and Resolution Committee Alternate. A Secretary for the Congressional District and the Eastern Section Vice Chair position will need to be filled. The Eastern Section includes Portage, Wood, Adams and Juneau Counties.

The Convention will vote to recommend Democratic Party Platform resolutions to be forwarded to the State Convention.

In addition, many of our Democratic elected officials will be on hand to speak to the group and offer their insight on the issues affecting Wisconsin and our nation. The day is packed with inspiration and information you won't want to miss.

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Democratic Annual Party at [wisdoms.org/2016-state-convention](http://wisdoms.org/2016-state-convention)

**June 3-4, 2016**  
Radisson Hotel &  
Convention Center

2014 Airport Dr., Green Bay

Fri. June 3

2 PM Unity fair

3 PM Registration

4 PM New Delegate Orientation

5 PM Hall Doors open

6 PM Speaking program begins

8 PM Registration closes

9 PM Hospitality suites

Saturday June 4

8AM Registration/hall opens

8:30AM Resolution Debate

10AM Convention Report

10:30AM Candidate Speeches

11AM Registration closes

12:30PM Voting Begins

2PM Voting Ends

2:30PM Convention Ends

## SPECIAL NOTICE

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION TO THE PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY EXECUTIVE BOARD APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – APRIL 12, PCDP HEADQUARTERS

Jody Hurrish has resigned from the executive board. We thank Jody for her service to the party.

The PCDP will hold an election at the April 12<sup>th</sup> general membership meeting to fill the vacant at-large position, in accordance with Section 3a of the PCDP constitution:

“Elected officers shall be replaced at the first regular meeting for which it is possible to give written notice ten days in advance to each member entitled to vote. Nominations shall be made from the floor by a member. The nominee must be present or submit a written letter of acceptance.”

This newsletter item constitutes the written notice required by our constitution.

If you are interested in serving on the board, please attend the meeting and have your name placed in nomination or submit the written letter of acceptance before the meeting.



Chris Villarreal, a student at Mid-State Technical College was the featured speaker at the March 8 general membership meeting at the Headquarters.

Chris has been involved with student government for years and is currently Vice President in the WSG group. Chris discussed legislative bills affecting students as well as the citizens of Wisconsin.

His work in the WSG involves budgeting. He is also working for a change to allow students to do their general course work at Tech schools and then transfer to a 4-year college. He told of the waste in time and money when students transfer and find out Universities will not accept the Tech class credits and the student then has to repeat those classes.

Mr. Villarreal was rewarded with a round of applause from the audience.

# PCDP HOSTS DEMOCRATIC WISCONSIN COUNTY CHAIRS CONFERENCE

By Gerald Ugland

The County Chairs Association (CCA) of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin met in Stevens Point at the EconoLodge on March 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> this year. This is an annual meeting for county party leaders and interested party members. We depend on the gathering for training and some issue decision making.

The Government Accountability Board provided personnel to explain the current status of state regulation and changes in the governing law.

Other training on Saturday was on voter analysis, election integrity, messaging, community service, fundraising techniques & tools and gaining members. On Sunday we heard from state senate candidates, there was a mock caucus, a communications roundtable, website creation, rural strategies and a business meeting.

By Cindy Chelcun

The Portage Democratic Party provided meals and snacks for more than 113 people during the weekend. The culinary skills and generosity of PCDP member Robyn Van Laanen once again combined to create home-cooked lunches and delicious coffee break treats for hard working County Party officers.

A great team of PCDP volunteers coordinated by Cindy Chelcun set-up and served the food. Many thanks to Darlene Todd, Karyn Tank, Jerry Ugland, Nancy Chojnacki, Jan Seybold, Rick Christofferson, Jan Way, Mary Ann & Glen Fink, Tim Zimmerman, Denise VanDen Heuvel and Mary Jo Patton. An extra thank you to Darlene and Karyn for helping Cindy with preparations before and after the event.

Democrats in Portage County always come together when there is a need and the positive results were evident from the appreciation that was received from those present.

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Resolutions Passed at March 8 Meeting

Three resolutions to the Wisconsin Democratic Platform were debated and forwarded on to the 3rd CD Convention on April 2nd in River Falls. Resolutions submitted by all the counties in the 3rd CD will be considered at the convention to be passed on to the State Convention for voting.

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING JUSTICE, HUMAN CONCERNS AND DEMOCRACY

16-JHD-1 ELECTION DAY AS A FEDERAL HOLIDAY (Scott Preuss)

WHEREAS, the ability to vote is crucial to an effective democratic society; and
WHEREAS, citizens may be forced to work during their state's voting period;
THEREFORE RESOLVED, the DPW supports that Election Day should become a federal holiday.

RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

16-AGE-1 NO TAX ON RENEWABLE ENERGY (Jerry Ugland)

WHEREAS, a Governor Walker appointed WPS Commission member suggested that WE Energy ask the Commission to be able to tax private solar installations connected to the utility; and
WHEREAS, the commission approved that tax, later overturned by a Dane County court; and
WHEREAS, fossil fuels must be imported to Wisconsin and they cause health and environmental costs; and

(continued on Page 5)

WHEREAS, fossil fuel exploration is subsidized with tax payer funds; and
WHEREAS, solar installations do not cause health or environmental costs and there is no cost for the fuel;
THEREFORE RESOLVED, the DPW opposes any tax on private solar power installations.

16-AGE-2 CARBON FEE AND DIVIDEND (Scott Preuss)

WHEREAS, climate change is already causing serious problems, and
WHEREAS, we do not currently possess the technology required to decarbonize our economy in a quick or pragmatic manner; and
WHEREAS, climate change will have significant economic impacts on vulnerable areas if we do not act; and
WHEREAS, an attempt to prematurely switch to more expensive forms of energy could have a more profound effect on the lower classes;
THEREFORE RESOLVED, the DPW supports a revenue neutral carbon fee and dividend on each metric ton of CO2.

16-AGE-3 STAND AGAINST SUGAR (Scott Preuss)

WHEREAS, research shows that sugar is a serious health and diet concern; and
WHEREAS, obesity and diabetes are at epidemic levels in our country; and
WHEREAS, healthcare costs have become a burden on our national debt; and
WHEREAS, food labels do not provide the recommended daily value percentage of sugar; and
WHEREAS, sugary foods are often marketed to children;
THEREFORE RESOLVED, the DPW supports a national program educating parents and citizens about sugar and its potential for harm and calls for the FDA to require companies to put the daily recommended values on their food labels.



JUST ARRIVED



YOU WANT 'EM! WE'VE GOT 'EM!

RUSS FOR U.S. SENATE YARD SIGNS (\$5)
& BUMPER STICKERS (\$1).

We also have bumper stickers for Hillary and Bernie as well as a selection of signs and campaign literature for local spring election candidates.

Best time to get your campaign signs and other materials is at the regular monthly meeting. Join us on April 12th and pick up a sign or bumper sticker.



Jon Greendeer will be our speaker for the April 12th member's meeting.

Mr. Greendeer will share with us what he has come to know with regards to native nations in Contemporary American politics.

Jon is a 2004 graduate of UWSP, a former President of Wisconsin's Ho-Chunk Nation, a student of the Ho-Chunk language and their traditional way of life.

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**League of Women Voters of the Stevens Point Area  
Candidate Forum**

**Wednesday, March 30**

**5 – 5:30 PM Circuit Court Judge Candidates**

Trish Baker                  Robert Shannon

**5:40 – 6:30 PM Portage County Supervisor Candidates**

District 3: Meleesa Johnson                  Perry Pazdernik  
District 4: Samuel Levin                      David Medin  
District 5: Julie Morrow                    Jeff Presley  
District 19: Dale O'Brien                    Robert Leroy Steinke

**6:40 – 7:30 PM Portage County Supervisor Candidates**

District 20: Ron Becker                      Charles Gussel  
District 21: Tim Corcoran                    Jeanne Dodge  
District 22: Mary Devine-Giese              Gerry Zastrow

**Wednesday March 30, 2016  
PORTAGE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
1000 Main St., Stevens Point**

Central Wisconsin has experienced first-hand the results of prescription drug abuse and heroin overdose in recent months. This program provides a safe way to rid our homes of some of the danger.

Taking a stand sometimes means standing alone!

**Portage County Prescription Drug Take Back**

Tuesday April 26, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ROSHOLT

Thursday April 28, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

VILLAGE PARK LODGE  
JUNCTION CITY

Friday April 29, 11:30 AM – 1 PM

JENSEN CENTER  
AMHERST

Saturday April 30, 10 AM - Noon

LINCOLN CENTER  
STEVENS POINT

Saturday April 30, 12:30 – 2 PM

COMMUNITY CENTER  
ALMOND-BANCROFT

Bring all unwanted, unneeded or outdated prescriptions and over the counter medicines. Please leave the medications in their original containers. Please remove the patient's name, but leave the identity of the medication intact.

Senator Julie Lassa sends this notice:

Public presentation of the  
LITTLE PLOVER RIVER STUDY and  
ORGANIZATIONAL MODEL

Tuesday April 12, 2016 6 - 8 PM  
Noel Fine Arts Center, Michelsen Hall  
UWSP.

Hosted by WI. Dept. of Natural History &  
WI. Geological & Natural History Survey

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TRIVIA IS COMING

April 15, 16, 17, 2016

“IT’S NOT YOUR FATHER’S CONTEST”

Portage County Democratic Party members will answer phones at the “worlds largest trivia contest” on Sat. night April 16 from 6-10PM. Want to join the fun? Contact Jan Way at jmway@gmail.com or 715-572-5802

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If you have an event or an article you would like considered for inclusion in a future PCDP Newsletter, please send it in WORD format to

[graniteridgefarm@gmail.com](mailto:graniteridgefarm@gmail.com).

Deadline is 20<sup>th</sup> of the previous month.  
Trudy Pederson, PCDP Editor

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

**PCDP General Meeting April 12, 2016**

Socialization begins at 6 PM

Meeting begins at 6:30 PM

Program begins approx. 6:45 PM

Presenter: Jon Greendeer

Former President of the Ho-Chunk Nation will share his views on native nations in Contemporary American politics.