



PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRAT

Getting Together - Moving Forward Together - March 2018

In This Issue

- * Meeting Change
- * Governor's Forum
- * Voting #s
- * HQs Use
- * APRIL 3 VOTE
- * PoDS Feb. program
- * March program
- * Isherwood update
- * Josh Kaul
- * Cty. Chairs meet
- * FORUM
- * Brats & Burgers
- * HELP ! HELP!
- * Book Sale
- * Grassroots Festival
- * City Council Resolution
- * Voter Alert

There were 4 meetings at HQs in January with 75 participants as reported by Karyn Tank. Our HQs continues to be a valuable asset for meetings and other Democratic activities.

MARCH PCDP MEETING DATE CHANGE TO WEDNESDAY MARCH 14, 2018

The PCDP Executive Board voted to move the March meeting date to allow and encourage members to attend the **Governor's Forum** on the UWSP Campus on the usual monthly meeting night.

The Gubernatorial Forum will take place on **Tuesday March 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Encore Room at the Lee Sherman Dreyfus University Center, on the UW campus. The event is open to the public free of charge and ample, free parking is available after 6 p.m. in campus lots.

As a follow-up from the Progressive Town Hall, hosted by Our Wisconsin Revolution in February, community members will have the opportunity to hear the Gubernatorial candidate's responses to questions related to our environment, the economy, health care and fairness in democracy as identified by participants at the town hall.

The Portage County chapter of Our Wisconsin Revolution in partnership with The Wisconsin Choice Project and the UWSP Women's Resource Center are co-sponsoring the event.

By the numbers

16 - Number of bills introduced in 8 states so far in 2018 that would restrict voting rights

144 - Number of bills introduced in 22 states so far that would expand voting access

16M - Number of Americans that experienced at least one problem voting in 2016- about 12 % of all voters

36.7% - Share of voting eligible US citizens who voted in mid-term elections in 2014, the lowest % since 1942.

Source: Sophie Kasakove February 26, 2018 The Nation

Change begins Spring 2018



Election Day – Tuesday April 3

(D) designates DPW members

OFFICE	Incumbent	Announced candidates
Justice of the Supreme Court	Mike Gableman (not seeking re-election)	Rebecca Dallet Michael Screneck
WI Court of Appeals	Joanne Kloppenburg	
Portage County, Branch 1	Thomas Eagon	
Portage County, Branch 3	Thomas Flugaur	
Stevens Point Area School Board	1) Meg Erler	
	2) Judy Rannow	
	3) Michael Wade (appointed)	
Portage Co Executive	Patty Dreier (D) (not seeking re-election)	Jami Gebert (D) Chris Holman
Plover Village Board	Ward 1 Andrew Timm Ward 2 Orville Damrau Ward 3 Al Tessmann	Steven Ransbottom
Even alder seats	Dist 2 David Shorr (D) Dist 4 Heidi Oberstadt (D) Dist 6 Jeremy Slowinski Dist 8 Cathy Dugan (D) Lynn Schulist, Dist 10 Mike Phillips	

All 25 Portage County District Supervisors

District 1: Vincent Miresse - incumbent
 District 2: Chris Doubek - incumbent
 District 3: Meleesa Johnson (D) – incumbent
 District 4: David Medin - incumbent
 District 5: Julie Morrow (D – incumbent

 District 6: Mildred Neville(D) - candidate
 District 7: Dave Ladick(D) - candidate
 District 8 Joan Honl - candidate
 District 9: Chai Moua - candidate
 District 10: Bob Gifford - incumbent

 District 11: Stan Potocki - incumbent
 District 12: Mike Splinter, candidate
 District 13: Don Jankowski – incumbent
 James Carpenter, candidate

District 14: James Gifford (D) - incumbent
 District 15: Allen Haga, Jr - incumbent
 District 16: open seat as of this printing

 District 17: Dennis Raabe, candidate
 District 18: Larry Raikowski - incumbent
 District 19: Dale O'Brien - incumbent
 Melinda Osterberg candidate
 District 20: Charles Gussel - incumbent
 Ron Becker (D), candidate
 District 21: Jeanne Dodge - incumbent
 Tim Corcoran (D), candidate
 District 22: Matthew Jacowski - incumbent
 Justin Isherwood (D), candidate
 District 23: Barry Jacowski - incumbent
 District 24: Gerry Zastrow (D) – incumbent
 District 25: James Zdroik – incumbent
 Anne Abbott (D), candidate



February Guest Speaker - Dan Lathrop, Principal of The Point of Discovery School, PoDS, was the guest speaker at the February 13th meeting. Mr. Lathrop explained that the Stevens Point Area Public School District chartered and supports the alternative learning center. The school was established 3 years ago after a group of Portage County citizens requested a different teaching model for students of Junior High age; grades 6-9th.

Currently the school has a diverse learning population of 100 students from all areas of the county and 5 full time teachers plus the Principal. Any student in the Stevens Point Area School District can apply and be assured of acceptance according to Mr. Lathrop.

The learning model is full immersion into any of a diverse variety of subjects and includes all aspects of traditional studies. The example Mr. Lathrop gave was a group is currently studying cancer and all of the manifestations and impacts of the disease, including patient, family, medical involvement, insurance and everything and everyone caught up in the disease.

Mr. Lathrop took several questions from the audience and received a round of applause.



March 14th, 2018 meeting program will be a discussion of the previous evenings candidate forum at UWSP. Even if you do not attend the forum, you will want to attend the **March 14th meeting** to hear what your fellow Dems that did attend the forum learned about and from the participating candidates.



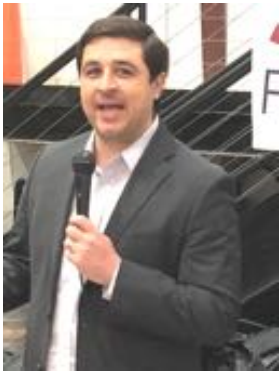
Special Guest Lynn Isherwood

Lynn Isherwood attended the February meeting to update the members on her and her husband's recent court case regarding their dispute with the Portage County Drainage Board. The dispute arose when the Isherwoods began improving the trout habitat in the agricultural ditch/trout stream that borders their property. The Drainage Board argued the woody debris the Isherwoods added to the ditch could result in flooding of the surrounding agricultural land. The Isherwoods demonstrated that their efforts improved the trout habitat and populations and in fact resulted in an increase in the draining properties of the ditch.



Lynn reported that the judge ruled in favor of the Isherwood's and ordered the Drainage Board to reimburse the Isherwoods the cost of reestablishing the trout habitat that the Drainage Board had removed last summer. She said that the Drainage Board has stated they will appeal the judge's decision.

Ms. Isherwood also told us that members of the Drainage Board are appointed by Portage County Judges based on recommendations by the Portage County Agricultural & Extension Committee, who in the past, have recommended only persons who support large agriculture.



Josh Kaul, candidate for Wisconsin Attorney General.

An enthusiastic, vocal and engaged crowd welcomed Mr. Kaul to Stevens Point recently. Josh is traveling around the state bringing his progressive message to voters.

Josh, who grew up in the Oshkosh area, returned to Wisconsin from the East Coast to raise a family. He also returned to take on a new challenge: going to court to fight back against Wisconsin laws that make it harder for law-abiding citizens to vote. Previously Josh has been involved in challenges to restrictive voting measures in North Carolina and other states.

Josh told the crowd that the job of attorney general has never been more important or more complex. He's running because he believes the Attorney General needs to focus on protecting Wisconsin families, not Walker's rich donors as the current Attorney General has spent the last years doing.

Wisconsin Democratic leaders meet in Central Wisconsin



The Wisconsin Democratic County Chairs Winter meeting was held recently in Plover.

Panelists are pictured here: Jami Gebert, candidate for Portage County Executive, Marlo Fields, a new member of PCDP and Portage County resident, Matt Lowe, Waukesha County Chair, Valerie Landowski, PCDP Executive Board member and Chris Walton, Chair of the Milwaukee Democratic Party.

The Saturday program featured a panel discussion by these younger Dem leaders. The panel discussed activism in our state and nation and their thoughts on efforts to engage Millennial and the younger generation in local leadership and government roles. Many in the audience agreed that this was the best panel they had ever witnessed.



Gary & Jan huddle to coordinate the agenda
Photos by Jan Way

Forty Counties were represented at the meeting.

PCDP Members provided and served lunch to the Democratic Party Chairs PHOTOS BY TRUDY



Leigh & Karyn serve



Karyn Tank & Nancy Chojnacki, coordinated the food committee that provided the lunches for the County Chair's meeting.

They would like to thank these persons for preparing the food and for all of their help: Leigh & Jack Allgaier, Mary Ann Fink, Darlene Todd, Trudy Pederson, Jan Way, Konrad Chojnacki and Robin Vanlannen.



Nancy & Darlene

The League of Women Voters held a candidate forum prior to the February 14th Primary

Photos Mary Ann Krembs



Portage County Executive
Jami Gebert, Chris Holman, Matt Jacowski



Stevens Point City Council Dist. 8
Cathy Dugan, Allen Prosser, Lynn Schulist



County Supervisor: District 25
Anne Abbott, Robert Lord, James Zdroik

NOTE: Candidates Matt Jacowski, Allen Prosser & Robert Lord were eliminated in the Primary

**Coming Soon SPRING and the PCDP Food Cookout at Trigs
MARK YOUR CALENDARS**



Our annual food sales (freshly grilled brats, hot dogs and hamburgers – with homemade bars and cookies) at Trig’s Grocery Store on the north side of Stevens Point will be held this year on Sat, **March 31st** (the FIRST Saturday sale of the year) and on **Sat, April 28th**. Mark your calendars to remind you to buy lunch for yourself and your friends or co-workers that day. Also, volunteers are needed to work at the booth as well as bake treats. Contact Ray Cal at Raymond.Cal@hotmail.com or 715-321-0329

~~~~~

**Additional Ways You Can Help Your Party**

City, Town and Village Clerks are always looking for POLL Workers. If you can volunteer to help provide this VITAL service that assures our DEMOCRACY is strong, PLEASE consider becoming a POLL WORKER.

Contact Michele Bjella to volunteer: [michelebj@yahoo.com](mailto:michelebj@yahoo.com) 715-345-9779

And THANK YOU to ALL POLL WORKERS for their service!

**SUPPLIES:** PCDP is always looking for basic supplies and the need will be greater once the campaign workers begin to staff the HQ.

Items we could use: paper products – plates, cups, paper towels (NOT Dixie brand), dish and hand soap, hand sanitizer, toilet paper and cleaning supplies. If you are not sure what to offer, contact Leigh Allgaier at 715-341-5359 or Trudy Pederson 715-341-6195.

~~~~~

2018 SPARTA BOOK SALE

Wednesday April 25 through Saturday April 28

Hours: Wed. Noon to 7 PM

Thursday & Friday 9 AM - 7 PM

Saturday 9 AM - 2 PM

Books to donate can be dropped off at the Children’s Museum on Monday March 26 and April 9th from 10 AM - 3 PM Please enter through the back from the parking lot.

*Most hard cover books are \$1.00 and paperbacks are \$.50.
Proceeds support various youth oriented community charities.*

Stevens Point Retired Teachers THANK YOU for your continued support.

'10 TH ' ANNUAL WISCONSIN GRASSROOTS FESTIVAL

PEOPLE ORGANIZING FOR SOLUTIONS

SATURDAY MARCH 24, 2018

Wisconsin Heights High School
Mazomanie, WI.

Guest Speakers include:

Lisa Graves

John Nichols

Matt Rothschild

With Lunch- time speaker:

Tammy Baldwin

21 Breakout sessions include:

- Progressive agenda for Criminal Justice reform
- Environmental Options in Election Year
- Collaboration for Unity & Power
- Youth Involvement in Political Action
- Industrial Ag vs. WI. Ground Water
- Pipes, People & Property Rights
- Fascism & Antifascism in the Trump Age
- Coalition Building in the Wisconsin Democratic Party
- Elders/Retirement Age Civic Engagement
- Grow Your Progressive Power
- Raise Your Volunteer IQ to New Heights
- The Coming Driverless Revolution: Should we enjoy, Accept, Question or Resist

And More

www.wisconsingrassroots.net/festival

The ultimate test of man's conscience
may be his willingness to sacrifice today
for future generations whose words of
thanks will not be heard

Gaylord Nelson

Stevens Point Passes Resolution on Carbon Fee and Dividend

On February 9th the Stevens Point City Council passed a Resolution on Global Warming (Revenue Neutral, Carbon Fee & Dividend). Mayor Mike Wiza sent the Resolution on to Senators Tammy Baldwin & Ron Johnson and Representative Ron Kind.

Kent Hall (Democrat) organized a meeting with Mayor Wiza (Democrat) after Dan Dieterich obtained a copy of a similar resolution, which Mayor Wiza re-wrote for the Stevens Point City Council.

People speaking in support of the Resolution before the City Council, included Darlene Todd (Democrat), Kent Hall (Democrat), Kathy Brazaitis, Jeff Vaughter & Pat Greese.

The final vote on the Council was 7 yes and 3 no. Those alders voting for the Resolution who are affiliated with the Portage County Democratic Party included, Shawn Morrow, Tori Jennings, Mary McComb, Mary Kneebone, Meleesa Johnson & Cathy Dugan.

ALERT! ALERT! ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!

THIS From Katrina

If you were removed from the voter registration rolls but haven't moved, the Elections Commission wants to hear from you.

To understand what happened, commission officials are asking anyone who encountered this problem at the polls on February 20th to contact them.

You can email the commission at elections@wi.gov or call 608-261-2028

PLEASE SHARE WIDELY



**PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
2220 DIVISION ST
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481**

WWW.PORTAGECOUNTYDEMS.ORG

Like us on Facebook: PortageCountyWisconsinDemocrats

NOTICE THE MARCH MEETING DATE CHANGE



**MARCH MEETING DATE
WEDNESDAY MARCH 14, 2018**

6 PM Socialization

6:30 Call to Order

Program: Discussion – Governor Candidate Forum

Elected Officials & Candidates Comments

Meeting

Socialization & Refreshments

Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party