**The Democratic Voice**

**March 2020**

**Upcoming Events**

Monday, March 16, 2020, 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. How to Be a Delegate Training Session, Ho-Chunk Nation Three Rivers House, 724 Main St., La Crosse

Monday, March 16, 2020, 6:30p.m. LCDP Regular Meeting, Ho-Chunk Nation Three Rivers House, 724 Main St., La Crosse

Saturday and Sunday, March 21-22, Days of Action in La Crosse and Onalaska

Saturday and Sunday, March 28-29, Days of Action in La roses and Onalaska

Monday, April 6, 2020, 6:00 p.m. LCDP Executive Board Meeting, LCDP Office, 1323 Gillette St., La Crosse

Tuesday, April 7, **Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary, April 7, 2020**

**Message from the Chair – the Spring and November General Elections – Get Involved!**

The Democratic primary election season is entering a critical phase with March primaries in key states as well as the spring election and presidential preference primary in Wisconsin on April 7, 2020. As you have heard repeatedly, Wisconsin will be a key state in the 2020 presidential election. Here’s one scenario: The Democrats flip Michigan and Pennsylvania from red to blue, but Trump holds the states he won in 2016, including Wisconsin by just 21,700 votes. The unimaginable result - he wins the Electoral College with the barest of minimums, 270 electoral votes and we have four more years of a president who is morally, intellectually, emotionally, and psychologically unfit to be president. We can’t let this happen, so we need to work as hard as possible over the next eight months to deny Wisconsin to Trump. The latest Marquette University poll, below, shows just how close is the race in Wisconsin <https://tinyurl.com/rza2n4q>. So, whoever is the Democratic nominee, we need to turn out the vote.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Pct. |  | Pct. |  | Pct. |
| Biden | 46 | Bloomberg | 44 | Buttigieg | 45 |
| Trump | 46 | Trump | 45 | Trump | 45 |
| Neither | 4 | Neither | 5 | Neither | 5 |
| Don’t know | 3 | Don’t know | 5 | Don’t know | 5 |
|  | Pct. |  | Pct. |  | Pct. |
| Klobuchar | 46 | Sanders | 48 | Warren | 44 |
| Trump | 46 | Trump | 46 | Trump | 47 |
| Neither | 4 | Neither | 3 | Neither | 4 |
| Don’t know | 4 | Don’t know | 3 | Don’t know | 4 |

Just as important are the state elections for the Wisconsin Assembly and Senate. It is imperative that State Senate Minority leader Jennifer Shilling (32nd Senate District) and Assembly Representative Steve Doyle (94th Assembly District) win re-election to prevent any chance of Republicans gaining a super-majority in the Wisconsin Senate and Assembly and be in the position to override Gov. Evers’ vetoes.

Local elections are also important. La Crosse County Democratic Party (LCDP) Members Who Are Candidates in the April 7 Election for La Crosse County Board of Supervisors include District 4-Maureen Freedland, District 8 -Peg Jerome Isola, District 15-Monica Kruse, District 17-Douglas Howard, District 20-Steve Doyle, and District 21-Vicki Burke. Diane Wulf is a candidate for the 2nd District Alderperson on the Onalaska Common Council.

On April 7, we have an opportunity to reject Daniel Kelly, a conservative partisan who Walker appointed, and restore fairness and impartiality to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. That’s why the Democratic Party of Wisconsin is fully behind [Judge Jill Karofsky](https://wisdems.us1.list-manage.com/track/click?u=5fdce0a26f89c28febc13998d&id=15c3ae9055&e=0a5c75555c) for Supreme Court because she cares about the integrity of our democracy. The Supreme Court has a tremendous amount of power to shape our state’s future; the results of the 4/7 election will have implications for a generation to come on issues such as gerrymandering, civil rights, and voting rights, to name a few.

So, find a way to assist in any way you are comfortable – canvass, phone banking, data entry, driving voters to the polls, talking to neighbors, writing letters to the editor, donating money to your candidate of choice, working at the LCDP office. You can sign up at <https://laxdems.com/volunteer/> .

**How to be a Delegate Training Session in La Crosse, March 16, 2020**

Monday, March 16, 2020

5:00 p.m.

Ho-Chunk Nation Three Rivers House
724 Main St., La Crosse WI

Interested in running to be a National Convention Delegate or just want more information on the process?
The La Crosse Delegate Training Session is free to attend and open to the public.

Please note that space is often limited, and preference will be given to those who RSVP.

RSVP HERE: [https://forms.gle/Z75xspMuGd3LLgMT8](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://forms.gle/Z75xspMuGd3LLgMT8&sa=D&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw3flobXzB00zKBHJ6PEhZnV)

**Who can be a Delegate?**

Anyone 18 years or older on or before November 3, 2020.

A resident of Wisconsin and citizen of the United States.

A registered voter in the district which they are running.

Someone who supports the values of the Democratic Party

Note: Democratic Party of Wisconsin Membership is not required but is suggested.

**At the La Crosse County Caucus on Sunday, April 26, 2020,** participants will be asked to sign in and affirm that they:

Are eligible to vote in the caucus;

Consider themselves a supporter of the Democratic Party and are not a member of another political party;

Agree with the principles of the Democratic Party; and

Intend to vote for the Democratic candidates in the November General Election.

**3rd Congressional Caucus**

Sunday May 17th: 2nd Tier Congressional District Caucuses for the Democratic National Convention

Washington Elementary School, 3500 Praise St., Steven’s Point, WI, 54481.

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Note: Statement of Intent forms are due to the State Party Headquarters by Friday, April 17, 2020 by 5:00pm for anyone wishing to run as a District Level Delegate. <https://wisdems.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/2020-Statement-of-Intent-Form_FINAL.pdf>

**Planning to attend the La Crosse County Caucus on Sunday, April 26, 2020**

As a delegate to the 3rd Congressional District and National Convention

or

As an individual who wants to vote at the 3rd CD level, whether or not you want to be a Delegate

Please send an email to lcdpwi@gmail.com with the subject line La Crosse County Caucus.

Please include your contact information – name, email or phone number.

**LCDP Regular Meeting, Monday, March 16, 2020, 6:30 p.m.** **Ho-Chunk Nation Three Rivers House, 724 Main St., La Crosse**

**Program:** In March, we celebrate Women's History Month and the struggles and victories of our foremothers. We know there are still many challenges facing women and families. Join us on March 16 to hear from three Women on the Front Lines about their work and priorities and how we can help and support them. Erin Karsten is the local Staff Representative and Union Organizer with SEIU Healthcare Wisconsin. Marie Lindberg is the local Campaign Organizer for Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin. Vandali Vang is the Community Empowerment Coordinator with Cia Siab, Inc. a La Crosse based non-profit whose mission is to support a vibrant, healthy Hmong community.

"Well-behaved women seldom make history." - Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, historian.

**Business: Discussion and Vote on two resolutions for the 3rd CD Convention, April 25, 2020 at UW-Stout in Menomonie**

**IN SUPPORT OF THE ABOLITION OF THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE (83 Words)**

WHEREAS, every elected office in the United States, except for the President and Vice-President, is based on the popular vote; and

WHEREAS, two of the last five presidential elections resulted in the election of candidates who lost the popular vote but won the electoral college; and

WHEREAS, the Electoral College violates the principle of “one person, one vote”;

THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the DPW support a constitutional amendment to abolish the Electoral College and elect the president and vice-president by a majority of the popular vote.

**IN SUPPOPRT OF THE NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE INTERSTATE COMPACT (92 Words)**

WHEREAS, the Electoral College does not weigh the votes of all Americans equally; and

WHEREAS, this is a violation of the principle of “one person, one vote”; and

WHEREAS the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact would ensure that the Electoral College elects the candidates for president and vice president who won the majority of the national popular vote; and

WHEREAS, this is a state-level solution until abolishing the Electoral College becomes feasible at the national level;
THERFORE RESOLVED that the DPW demand legislation to have Wisconsin become part of the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

**March Fridays at the LCDP Office, 13232 Gillette St., La Crosse, WI**

RSVP to attend any or all of the events at <https://tinyurl.com/lcdpfebfri>.

Free and Open to All!

**Friday, March 6, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**  **Letters for Progress** - We'll write to our local newspapers, our neighbors, and to potential Democratic voters to educate and motivate. Pizza provided. For more details, contact: treasurer@laxdems.com or 608-315-2693.

**Friday, March 13, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Program - Is there a better way? Primaries, Caucuses, Ranked Choice Voting**. What options are there to improve the ways in which candidates in primaries and general elections are chosen?For more details, contact: treasurer@laxdems.com or 608-315-2693.

**Friday, March 20, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**  **Letters for Progress** - We'll write to our local newspapers, our neighbors, and to potential Democratic voters to educate and motivate. Pizza provided. For more details, contact: treasurer@laxdems.com or 608-315-2693.

**Friday, March 28, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Program - Brave New Films - Suppressed: The Fight to Vote.** Although examining voter suppression in Georgia in 2018, the issues of polling place closures, voter purges, and a host of voter ID issues are relevant to Wisconsin. For more details, contact: treasurer@laxdems.com or 608-315-2693.

RSVP to attend any or all of the events at <https://tinyurl.com/lcdpfebfri>.

**April 7 Spring Election Information**

The Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary is Tuesday, April 7, 2020.

To double-check your voter registration, find your polling place, see your April sample ballot, or request an absentee ballot, go to <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-US/MyVoterInformation>

Provide your name and birth date and click “Search.”

For various election-related links, go to <http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/countyclerk/elections.asp>

Click on the appropriate links to see sample ballots, absentee voting (early voting) requirements and hours for La Crosse County municipalities, and candidates registered for office.

Instructions to request an Absentee Ballot are also available at <https://elections.wi.gov/voters/absentee>

Information on other voting topics is available at <https://elections.wi.gov/voters>

**Voter Photo ID Required!!**A photo ID is required to receive a ballot in all elections.  Learn more about photo ID and voting by visiting the Bring It to the Ballot website (<https://bringit.wi.gov/> ).

If you are not registered to vote, you have several options before the April 7 election.

**By Mail:** Your voter registration form, along with [proof of residence](https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/ProofofResidence) must be postmarked to your municipal clerk no later than March 18, 2020.

**Online:** For information and instructions, go to<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/RegisterOnline>The deadline to register to vote online is March 18, 2020.

**In Person:** Register in the municipal clerk's office up to 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election.Proof of Residence is required for any elector, who is not a military or permanent overseas elector, who registers in person at the Municipal Clerk's Office.

**At the Polling Place on Election Day:** If you wish to register to vote at your polling place, you must bring proof of your residency.

Examples of proof of residency include Wisconsin Driver License or ID, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government documentation or lease with your name on it at your current address.

**Time Off for Voting.** Wisconsin statute requires every employer to give employees three consecutive hours off for voting on election days even if you have time to vote before or after work. <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/6/III/76>

“Any person entitled to vote at an election is entitled to be absent from work while the polls are open for a period not to exceed 3 successive hours to vote. The elector shall notify the affected employer before election day of the intended absence. The employer may designate the time of day for the absence. No penalty, other than a deduction for time lost, may be imposed upon an elector by his or her employer by reason of the absence authorized by this section. “

**DPW Winter Retreat, Feb.29-March 1, 2020**

The County Chairs Association/Democratic Party of Wisconsin Winter Retreat was held at the Glacier Canyon Lodge and Conference Center at the Wilderness Resort in the Wisconsin Dells on Saturday, February 29 and Sunday, March 1, 2020. Governor Evers greeted the County Chairs and retreat participants. DPW Chair Ben Wikler talked about the importance of Wisconsin in the 2020 presidential election and how we will make Wisconsin blue because of our grassroots organizing.

Breakout sessions included tips and advice on increasing the visibility of county parties, growing membership, and using socialmedia. Other sessions were devoted to training for county officers, including chairs and treasurers, as well as the upcoming county caucuses on April 26. At the Saturday afternoon plenary session, lead researcher for the Midwest Race Class Gender Narrative Project shared results of new opinion research and message testing from Wisconsin to both engage the Democratic base and persuade the middle for progressive issues and candidates.

**In Memoriam**

Jean M. Helliesen

November 17, 1926-February 16, 2020

Jean was a long-time citizen activist in local and state Democratic politics.