

THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

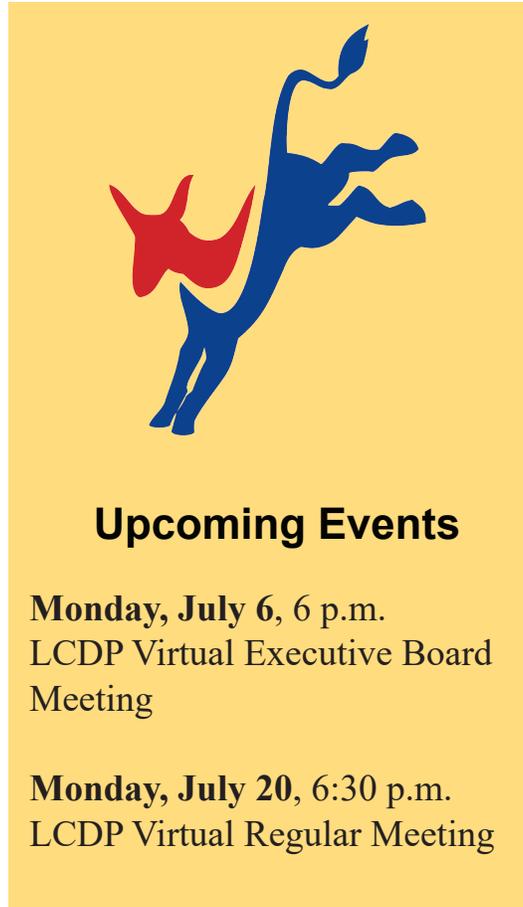
July 2020 Newsletter

Biden Yard Signs and Biden 4'x4' Road Signs



The La Crosse County Democratic Party now has Biden yard and fourteen 4'x4' road signs. If you would like a yard or road sign, please complete this form at <https://tinyurl.com/y8uxb4qh>. A donation of \$3 per Biden yard sign is suggested (no donation for Biden road signs placed along well-traveled roads). Information about how to donate via mail or ActBlue is at <https://laxdems.com/donate/>

We can deliver yard signs or you can pick them up at the LCDP office, 1323 Gillette St. Biden 4'x4' road signs must be picked up at the office. Although we hope to soon open the LCDP office with limited hours, please call 608-769-5286 or send an email to lcdpwi@gmail.com for an appointment.



Upcoming Events

Monday, July 6, 6 p.m.
LCDP Virtual Executive Board Meeting

Monday, July 20, 6:30 p.m.
LCDP Virtual Regular Meeting



Recap of DPW State Convention

The Democratic Party of Wisconsin held a virtual state Convention on the evening of Friday, June 12, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

You can watch the replay at <https://wisdems.org/news/2020-wisdems-virtual-state-convention-recap/>

Chair Ben Wikler and First Vice-Chair Felesia Martin started with commentary on the events and protests against systemic racism triggered by the death of George Floyd by Minneapolis police. Speakers at the convention included Democratic state and federal officeholders, Sen. Bernie Sanders, and the presumptive Democratic Party presidential nominee Vice President Joe Biden.

Janet Bewley, Martha Love, Khary Penebaker, and Andrew Werthman were elected to represent Wisconsin on the Democratic National Committee.



LCDP Office Update

We hope to open the LCDP office at 1323 Gillette St. in La Crosse in early July with limited hours and by appointment (608-769-5286) to pick up campaign signs. We will follow the La Crosse Health Department guidelines for office spaces. A plexiglass shield is installed by the reception desk, hand sanitizer is available, and signs will encourage safe social distancing of 6 feet. We also ask that if you come to the office that you wear a face mask.

Follow the LCDP on



@lacrossedems

and



Instagram

@lacrossedems

WISCONSINITES FOR

BIDEN

VOTE NOVEMBER 3

PAID FOR BY THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WISCONSIN, BEN WIKLER, CHAIR, WWW.WISDEMS.ORG

BLACK LIVES MATTER

A personal list of resources from the Chair and others

The continuing American (and global protests) in response to the recent deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Rayshard Brooks by police has started a much-needed conversation about race, the need for criminal justice reforms, and more importantly, systemic racism in America (and other nations as well). Here are some suggestions to engage in the conversation:

Opinion-editorials:

David Saunders-Scott, "Black Lives Matter: It Does Not Go Without Saying," La Crosse Tribune, Sunday, June 21, 2020. David Saunders-Scott is a faculty member in the Psychology department at Viterbo University. https://lacrossetribune.com/opinion/columnists/david-saunders-scott-black-lives-matter-it-does-not-go-without-saying/article_4355ff7e-a20c-58ab-9b76-7500845d7a75.html

Jamelle Bouie, "We Need to Overturn White Supremacy," New York Times, Sunday, June 14, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/12/opinion/sunday/floyd-protests-white-supremacy.html>

Tiffany Drayton, "I'm a Black American Refugee – I Had to Get Out," New York Times, Sunday, June 14, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/12/opinion/sunday/black-america-racism-refugee.html>

Conversations and Interviews:

NPR On Point, "America Reckons with Racism: A Conversation with Michael Eric Dyson," Tuesday, June 22, 2020. Dyson is a sociology professor at Georgetown University and a Baptist minister. <https://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2020/06/22/america-reckons-with-racism-michael-eric-dyson>

Talk – "Jon Stewart Is Back to Weigh In" Sunday, June 15, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/06/15/magazine/jon-stewart-interview.html>

Panel Discussion: "Policing in America is Broken and Must Change. But How? A Discussion about How to Reform Policing" New York Times Magazine, June 21, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/06/13/magazine/police-reform.html>

Books:

Reflecting this new national conversation about race and systemic racism in America, eleven of the top fifteen best-sellers on the New York Times list of Combined Print and E-Book Nonfiction on June 21, 2020, examined various aspects of race and systemic racism. Titles included *How to Be an Antiracist*,

White Fragility, So You Want to Talk About Race, The Color of Law, The New Jim Crow.

Local Organizations:

BLACK (Black Leaders Acquiring Collective Knowledge) - a local non-profit organization working to elevate and empower the Black community in La Crosse <https://blacklax16.wixsite.com/blackinc>

AAMAN (African American Mutual Assistance Network) – a local non-profit that educates about issues of diversity and inclusion and provides housing and other assistance. <https://www.aaman.online/>

La Crosse Area SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) - Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) is a nationwide network of people, particularly calling in white people, organizing for racial justice. SURJ envisions a society where we struggle together with love for justice, human dignity, and a sustainable world. <https://www.facebook.com/lacrosseareaSURJ/>

Adrian Lipscombe's 40 Acres and a Mule project. Ms. Lipscombe is the owner of the Uptowne Cafe & Bakery on Caledonia Street In La Crosse. The proceeds of this campaign will purchase of land to guarantee farm to table resources for the food industry, serve to provide an outlet for Black foodways, and, establish a safe haven to secure the legacy of Black foodways. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/forty-acres-project>

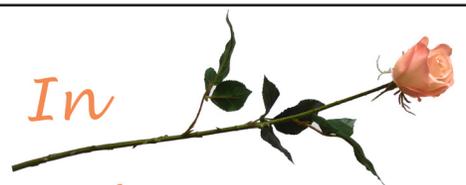
For list of other national African American organizations serving the Black community, go to http://www.blacknews.com/directory/black_african_american_organizations.shtml or <https://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/black-led-organizations.html>

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...”

~ Declaration of Independence, July 1776

“We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men and women are created equal...”

~ Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions – Seneca Falls (1848)



In

Memoriam

Susan Hessel, 1952-2020

Charles “Charlie” Marx, 1945-2020



August 11 Partisan Primary Election Information

The August Partisan Primary will take place on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 with candidates for La Crosse County offices, Wisconsin Assembly Districts 94 and 95, Wisconsin Senate District 32, and the 3rd Congressional District. My Vote Wisconsin <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/> is the one-stop site to find your polling place, see your sample ballot, double-check your voter registration or register to vote, update your name and/or address, and request an absentee ballot.

To request an absentee ballot, go to <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/VoteAbsentee>. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, The Democratic Party of Wisconsin and the La Crosse County Democratic Party strongly encourage Democrats to vote absentee in the August 11 partisan primary and the November 3 General Election.

You may also go to <http://www.co.la-crosse.wi.us/countyclerk/elections.asp> for similar information specific to La Crosse County, especially absentee voting (early voting) requirements and hours for La Crosse County municipalities.

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/>).

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.”



A Five-Minute Volunteer Activity

Neighborhood Team Leaders Carol Klitzke, Leanne Stokes, and Zana Darrow need your assistance for a quick and easy way to show support for their hard work.

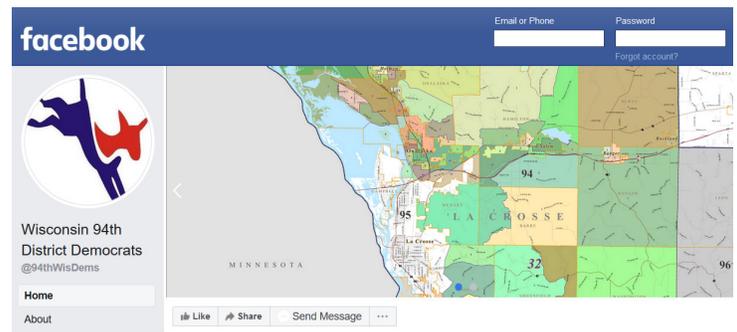
Due to COVID and the reliance on absentee ballots in the August 11 and November 3 elections, our campaign will ramp up earlier than usual - just after the 4th of July. We all have many stressors right now and it can be hard to find time to volunteer, so here is an action you can do in 5 minutes:

Search for the Facebook page called "Wisconsin 94th District Democrats" and like it.

If you hold the thumbs up symbol down for a while you can "love" the page with a heart (loves have a stronger influence on visibility than likes).

By liking the "Wisconsin 94th District Democrats" page, it will result in more visibility for our events and volunteer opportunities. Even if you are not living in Assembly District 94, your like will help us to be known in the community.

Take five minutes to volunteer - then relax and savor a job well done!



- To the team leaders and members of neighborhood teams for their virtual phone banking to identify Democratic voters in La Crosse County.
- To the LCDP Executive Board members who moved LCDP possessions from Steve Doyle's law office garage to the LCDP office at 1323 Gillette St.



VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

Attend virtual town hall on Jobs creation with U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin Tuesday July 8th at 11 AM

Citizen Action of Wisconsin will be hosting a major statewide Town Hall, hosted virtually over Zoom, with Senator Tammy Baldwin on July 8th. This very special event will outline what we can do to create millions of jobs AND expand the federal unemployment benefit through the end of 2020. RSVP for this event with this link: https://secure.everyaction.com/t84k96LMwEGfPcs1_pBTfA2?emci=1eb10d17-e6b7-ea11-9b05-00155d039e74&emdi=0cb9d105-01b8-ea11-9b05-00155d039e74&ceid=11804

The Zoom link will be sent to your email after you RSVP.



The COVID-19 pandemic has provided an opportunity for those of us sheltering safely at home to participate in citizen lobbying. Here are two action you can take to express your support for positive action on the existential threat of climate change.

Grow Solar La Crosse (<https://www.growsolar.org/lacrosse/>) is a 2020 solar group buy program for La Crosse County residents and small-scale solar. It is managed by the Midwest Renewable Energy Association and sponsored by the City and County of La Crosse. The Grow Solar program pools the buying power of homeowners to gain significant discounts

to make solar more affordable. Grow Solar is offering free one-hour virtual information sessions throughout the months of July and August. To register for a session, go to <https://www.growsolar.org/lacrosse/>.

La Crosse County Carbon Zero/100% Renewable Resolution. The Sustainable La Crosse Commission forwarded to the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors a resolution similar to the one the City of La Crosse passed in July 2019 that would commit La Crosse County to reduce its carbon footprint to zero and transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050 or sooner. The Sierra Club, Wisconsin Conservation Voters, Citizen Action, and NextGenWisconsin are working now to encourage La Crosse County board members to pass a resolution this year. There is strong support on the County Board including the chair, Monica Kruse, LCDP member. To sign a petition in support of this resolution, go to <https://secure.everyaction.com/nUGDTffDOE2ozun60WaMQQ2?emci=773892ea-deb0-ea11-9b05-00155d039e74&emdi=215398e2-c4b4-ea11-9b05-00155d039e74&ceid=751210>

When you sign the petition, a webpage will open that provides an opportunity for you to also send a pre-drafted email to the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors.



Our Elected Officials

Governor Tony Evers

Office of the Governor
115 East State Capital
Madison, WI 53702
Ph: 608-266-1212

Senator Tammy Baldwin

717 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
Ph: 202-224-5653, Fax: 202-224-9787

Senator Ron Johnson (R)

328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. Office Building
Ph: 202-224-5323

Congressman Ron Kind

1406 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Ph: 202-225-5506, Fax: 202-225-5739

State Senator Jennifer Shilling

State Capitol 106 South
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53703-7882
Ph: 608-266-5490, Local: 608-782-2785

94th Assembly District Representative Steve Doyle

Room 124 North, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708
Ph: 608-266-0631 or 888-534-0094
Fax: 608-282-3694

95th Assembly District Representative Jill Billings

Room 4 West, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708
Ph: 608-266-5780

LCDP Executive Board Officers

Chair: Michael Smuksta

608-769-5286

Vice Chair: Ed Burgess

608-799-1944

Treasurer: Cathy Van Maren

608-315-2693

Secretary: David Wulf

608-799-8977

At-Large Board Members:

William Garcia

Obbie King

Peter Klitzke

Ralph Knudson

Avery Van Gaard

College Representative: Savannah Zuzick (UW-L)

Posting of Unapproved Minutes

A couple of LCDP members have expressed an interest in receiving regular minutes prior to the next regular LCP meeting. If you want to receive the minutes early, please contact the LCDP secretary, David Wulf, at davidpwulf@aol.com or 608-799-8977. He will mail them as a PDF with an UNAPPROVED watermark. No hard copies will be sent.

Some Facts On Your LCDP Membership

The best and easiest way to renew your La Crosse County Democratic Party membership is through your local county treasurer. Once you are a member of the county, you are automatically a member of the 3rd Congressional District (3rd CD) and the Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DPW). You need to submit membership dues only once a year to be a member of all three. It is unnecessary to submit duplicate memberships through the county and also through the state. If you have questions about your membership, please contact Cathy Van Maren, your current LCDP treasurer, at 608-315-2693, or at treasurer@laxdems.com

We Welcome Your Input

Any thoughts or suggestions you may have for your Executive Board are greatly appreciated. You can express them by contacting any board member, either by phone or email.

Renewing Your Membership!

You can renew your membership using the membership form found at the end of this newsletter. If you are receiving this newsletter via mail, please look at your mailing label to see when your membership expires. Thank you for your continued support!

If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail and would prefer to receive it via email instead, please contact David Wulf at 608-799-8977 or davidpwulf@aol.com.



La Crosse County Democratic Party
 P. O. Box 1861
 La Crosse, WI 54602 -1861

Paid for by the La Crosse County Democratic Party. The contents herein are not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.

For the LCDP to build upon its success in 2019 and continue activities into 2020, we are going to need volunteers and funding. The party is only as strong as the engagement of its members and friends. And that is where you come in. We have many opportunities for you to volunteer your skills. Also, please consider a contribution of any amount to help support activities and events to broaden our base.

You may send a contribution to:
 LCDP, P. O. Box 1861, La Crosse, WI, 54602-1861.
 For online contributions go to our website www.laxdems.com.

Thank you.

There are three ways to join through the LCDP:

1. Print and mail your check and the form (available also at tinyurl.com/lcdpmbform)
2. Visit laxdems.com/join-the-party and complete your application and payment online.
3. Come to a LCDP event and complete the process and payment in person.

Please check the dues structure that applies:

- ___ \$10 Senior, Student, Limited Income
- ___ \$25 General Membership (1 member)
- ___ \$35 Pairs (up to two members)
- ___ \$45 yearly Activist (up to 3 members)
- ___ \$75 yearly (family)
- ___ \$120 Supporting Membership
- ___ \$240 Friend
- ___ \$600 Patron

I would like to support the LCDP with a donation of \$ _____

Total Amount Paid \$ _____

Make checks payable to:

La Crosse County Democratic Party
 P. O. Box 1861
 La Crosse, WI 54602-1861

You may also donate online: www.laxdems.com.

Paid for by the La Crosse County Democratic Party.

Received _____
 Renewal Month _____

Name(s) _____
 Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone () _____
 Email _____
 *Occupation _____

*Contributions are not tax deductible for federal tax purposes. State law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, and occupation of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.

I'm interested in learning more about DPW caucuses:

- American Indian Caucus
- Black Caucus
- Environmental Caucus
- Labor Caucus
- Latinx Caucus
- LGBT Caucus
- Progressive Caucus
- Rural Caucus
- Veterans' Caucus
- Women's Caucus