

# THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

## July 2021 Newsletter

Note: if a link doesn't open, simply copy and paste in your browser.

### President Biden Visits La Crosse



The La Crosse County Democratic Party welcomed President Biden and US Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsak to La Crosse, Wisconsin to Rep. Ron Kind's district!

Biden spent much of the day in La Crosse, speaking at the Municipal Transit Utility facility about clean public transportation like the two new MTU electric buses purchased using federal grant funds. The current Infrastructure Framework allocates \$7.5 billion dollars in electric buses around the country, among many other public transportation improvements. After the speech, Biden grabbed an ice cream at The Pearl Ice Cream Parlor.

The LCDP is extremely excited President Biden selected La Crosse to tout his bipartisan Infrastructure plan, the largest investment in America's infrastructure in over a century. Joining him was Rep. Ron Kind, who has been fighting for rural Wisconsinites by presenting bill after bill intended to assist the American farmer and preserve the family farming way of life.

The infrastructure bill, which Biden has promised to sign as soon as it lands on his desk, includes many benefits to rural Americans and farmers, including better and faster broadband access, road and bridge improvements to facilitate getting crops and livestock to market,

### Upcoming Events



**LCDP Executive Board Monthly Meeting** moved to Tuesday since Monday, July 5 is a federal holiday.  
Time: TUESDAY, July 7, 2021, 6:30 PM Central Time

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/94686543184?pwd=RnRCVUdUVGVHhQ092VkJK2SXBMD0FCZz09>

By phone:  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
Meeting ID: 946 8654 3184  
Passcode: 991130

**LCDP Monthly Regular Meeting**  
Time: No meeting July 19.

**LCDP Exploration of Racism Book Club and Discussion Group**  
Time: July 26, 2021 6:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)  
Register at [www.laxdems.com/2021bookclub](http://www.laxdems.com/2021bookclub)

cleaner water, better waste management, and much more.

After four years of the GOP and President Trump using American farmers as leverage in ill-conceived trade wars with foreign powers, it is refreshing to have a President so focused on improving American lives and American wallets.

While some may be disappointed that the event was not open to an audience, the Biden Administration, together with state and local Democrats, are still very mindful of the COVID pandemic, especially as La Crosse County is still under 50% of all people fully vaccinated. This administration continues to put the safety and well-being of all Americans first.



**We need volunteers for the La Crosse Interstate Fair, July 14-18!!**

We need volunteers to work in two-hour shifts to staff our booth at the La Crosse Interstate Fair. This fair has always been an excellent way to reach out to voters, recruit members and let La Crosse County know that we are fighting for them. We need volunteers any time from 10:30 am - 10:30 pm Thursday, July 15 - Sunday July 18. All you need to do is greet visitors to the booth, talk with them about our important work, and help any elected officials that may be visiting the booth during your shift. We will be sending out specific information about the booth to those who volunteer. Just fill out the Interstate Fair Volunteer Form, found at <https://forms.gle/BSrRrALxHZKy1EFL6>  
Contact [chair@laxdems.com](mailto:chair@laxdems.com) or call 608-769-5286 for more information.

### There will be NO July meeting of LCDP!

Due to the long hours of volunteering for the La Crosse Interstate Fair and the member social on July 24, there will be no meeting of the LCDP on July 19.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all members who came by the LCDP booth at the Juneteenth celebration at Riverside Park. We had a wonderful time meeting people and discussing the ways Democrats are working to protect and support Black communities in Wisconsin and La Crosse. We are already looking forward to attending next year's festivities. It was especially wonderful to see Rep. Ron Kind, Senator Brad Pfaff and Mayor Mitch Reynolds drop by the booth.

# Democrats Win Big on Healthcare Access & Juneteenth Federal Holiday

By Ron Malzer

Thirty-one million Americans will continue to have healthcare access under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Thanks to a US Supreme Court ruling just issued on June 17, the ACA is here to stay.

Passed into law by a Democratic Congress and signed by President Obama in early 2010, Obamacare has been fought relentlessly by Republicans for eleven years. Republicans have spent massive amounts of time, on the taxpayer dollar, demonizing Obamacare, they have no replacement to offer.

The Supreme Court's ruling shuts down the latest GOP ploy against healthcare access for ordinary Americans. Red states had asked the US Supreme Court to throw out the ACA, based on the bizarre theory that a tax penalty, currently zero, made the ACA unconstitutional. Seven members of the Court had no trouble writing a legal ruling that can be summarized in one word: "Baloney!"

Governor Tony Evers and Attorney General Josh Kaul worked together to withdraw Wisconsin from this privilege-based lawsuit, one which had the full support of our GOP-controlled legislature. A big thanks to Governor Tony Evers and Attorney General Josh Kaul for being tireless champions of healthcare access for every American!

This decision is a huge relief for the hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites who'll continue to have access to affordable health insurance under the ACA.

The court's decision delivers a blow to Senator Ron Johnson and Republicans across Wisconsin, who've made it a top priority to strip health care away from millions of Americans, including Wisconsinites.

Going forward, the state GOP almost certainly will continue working to limit BadgerCare coverage. And so, healthcare will again be on the ballot in 2022. Gov. Evers remains committed to expanding BadgerCare to cover more Wisconsinites.

Wisconsinites need to build a strong voter turnout to turn out of office those GOP legislators who are working to limit healthcare access.

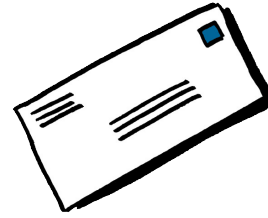
Runaway medical costs are locked in place by the GOP. Democrats have been and will continue working to lower health care and prescription drug costs. Thanks to Democratic leadership and President Biden's American Rescue Plan, more Americans than ever are now covered under the ACA.

And on Thursday, President Joseph Biden signed into law a bill that never would have seen the light of day with a Republican president or a Republican congress. It was a

bill that is a symbol of progress on America's reckoning with systematic racial injustice, and symbols are important. Starting next June 19th the day in which slavery was finally ended by an 1865 decree, Juneteenth will be celebrated as a federal holiday.

Let us make every day a day to reflect on the 244-year American genocide, and our failure as a country to address the severe long-term impact of white supremacy. And let us pledge to work tirelessly between now and Election Day 2022 to work toward healthcare access for all!

## Letter Writing Initiative



LCDP Executive Board Member Ron Malzer is spearheading an Op-Ed/Letter to the Editor initiative with LCDP. We will be having weekly (at a minimum) articles that discuss news and opinions about La Crosse and Wisconsin politics. See the articles on our social networks or at <https://laxdems.com/category/news>.



## LCDP Podcast

Have you checked out The LCDP podcast, The Democratic Voice, produced in conjunction with WIZM news? Listen and subscribe for opinions and updates of what is happening in La Crosse. <https://www.wizmnews.com/the-democratic-voice-with-william-garcia/>



## The LCDP Exploration of Racism Discussion Group

The LCDP Exploration of Racism Discussion Group and Book Club continues meeting the fourth Friday of every month. Our next meeting will be held virtually on Monday, July 26th at 6:30 pm. We will be discussing chapters 10 - 18 of *How to Be An Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. Visit [www.laxdems.com/2021bookclub](http://www.laxdems.com/2021bookclub) for more information and to register to attend.

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities



As we begin to slowly (and safely) reopen this summer, we have some upcoming opportunities to help the LCDP get the word out in our community. Please contact William Garcia at [chair@laxdems.com](mailto:chair@laxdems.com) or call 608-769-5286 for more information.

### La Crosse Interstate Fair: July 14-18

We need volunteers to work the LCDP booth, pass out information on LCDP and the Democratic Party, and assist our elected officials during meet-and-greets.

### Marchers needed for parades!

**The Holmen Korn Fest parade:** Saturday, August 21 at 11a.m.

## 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

**32nd District State Senator Brad Pfaff**  
State Capitol 22 South  
PO Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707  
Ph: 608-266-5490, Sen.Pfaff@legis.wisconsin.gov

**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

**La Crosse County Clerk**  
Ginny Dankmeyer (Democrat)  
(608) 785-9581

**La Crosse County District Attorney**  
Tim Gruenke (Democrat)  
(608) 785-9604

**La Crosse County Treasurer**  
Amy Twitchell (Democrat)  
(608) 785-9711

## LCDP Executive Board Officers

**Chair: William Garcia**  
608-769-5286

**Vice Chair: David Wulf**  
608-799-8977

**Treasurer: Merry Kocar**  
608-512-5253

**Secretary: Diane Wulf**  
608-780-7007

**Past Chair: Michael Smuksta**

**At-Large Board Members:**  
**Terry Benson**  
**Ed Burgess**  
**Fred Giese**  
**Ralph Knudson**  
**Ron Malzer**

**College Representative: Jenna Dinkel (UW-L)**  
dinkel4642@uwlax.edu

## Follow the LCDP on



twitter

@lacrossedems

and



Instagram

@lacrossedems

## 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 [lcdpwi@gmail.com](mailto:lcdpwi@gmail.com) or 608-769-5286. A PDF of the minutes with an UNAPPROVED watermark will be sent to you. 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 [lcdpwi@gmail.com](mailto:lcdpwi@gmail.com) or 608-769-5286.

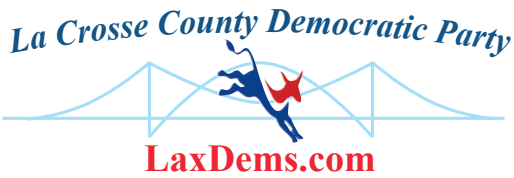
## We Welcome Your Input

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 [lcdpwi@gmail.com](mailto:lcdpwi@gmail.com) or 608-769-5286.



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.

As the LCDP prepares for 2021 and beyond, your membership and participation are more important than ever. Your membership fees help fund the LCDP office and infrastructure, community outreach, candidate recruitment and campaign assistance up and down the ballot. Membership also gives you a voice in the operations and policy of the Wisconsin Democratic Party and the National Democratic Party platform. There is always a need for volunteers, and we can always find a way for you to help.

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](http://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](http://tinyurl.com/lcdpmbform))
2. Visit [laxdems.com/join-the-party](http://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.

Received \_\_\_\_\_  
 Renewal Month \_\_\_\_\_

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

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 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](http://www.laxdems.com).  
 Paid for by the La Crosse County Democratic Party.

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