

THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

May 2022 Newsletter

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

Western Wisconsin Voters Turn Back Venomous Attacks April 5

By Ron Malzer

A voter submits a ballot in the November 2020 election at University of Wisconsin La Crosse's Mitchell Hall as others fill theirs out. Peter Thomson, La Crosse Tribune

Imagine this. You wake up one morning, and find that your picture is being distributed widely, with the words "REPEAT OFFENDER" in bold capital letters just above your head. Or you serve your community as a school board member and receive this email: "I am going to kill you and shoot up your next school-board meeting for promoting the horrific, radical transgender agenda."

Both these happened recently to public servants in western Wisconsin. They brushed off these venomous attacks and continued with their reelection campaigns. They won decisive victories. They deserve a heartfelt thank you.

In La Crosse County, targeted by a mailed flyer was our incumbent County Board President Monica Kruse. The flyer stated: "Visit lacrosseGOP.org for more information." The key messaging on page one was highlighted aggressively through the use of all capital letters: "Should Police Be Handcuffed by An Anti-Cop Political Activist and a Repeat Offender?"

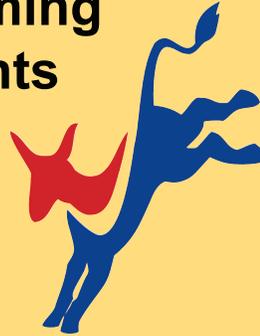
What is Monica Kruse's crime? Reading the fine print, she is being blasted for advocacy of an important principle: That we, the citizens and taxpayers of La Crosse County, should have some oversight over our police department, assuring that its work is fully consistent with its mission to serve and protect us all.

There is an important issue here, but it's one that the attack ad completely turns around.

On Feb. 4, Ronna McDaniel, chair of the Republican National Committee,

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Upcoming Events



LCDP Monthly Executive Board Meeting

Time: May 2, 2022 12:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/95948945791?pwd=YVJOd2ZGWlZhSm01QU5nM1lr00zUT09>

LCDP Monthly Membership Meeting

Time: May 16, 2022 12:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

<https://zoom.us/j/91879624296?pwd=Yi9uYTJmZHQ2YlBGVW96eUJiVGRKQT09>

Meeting ID: 918 7962 4296

Passcode: 893733

One tap mobile: 312-626-6799

May Meeting Speakers



Alexia Sabor



David Bowen

Visit with Alexia Sabor, Chair of the Dane County Democrats and candidate for Wisconsin Secretary of State. <https://saborforwi.com/>
Rep. David Bowen is a candidate for Lt. Governor

NOMINATION PAPERS



For the next three weeks, the LCDP and other community members will be collecting signatures for nomination papers. Collecting enough signatures is the ONLY way our candidates can get on the ballot.

We have nomination forms for ALL Democratic candidates in our office, so drop by from 2-4pm Monday - Friday or from 10am-2pm on Saturday to fill out forms for your preferred candidates.

This is a stressful time for candidates as this is such an important part of the process, so we want to get these signatures back to the candidates as soon as possible.

How to sign up for monthly contributions

Did you know that you can easily set up a monthly donation to LCDP? This is a fast and easy way to help our party, our candidates and our volunteers. Just go to <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/lcdp2022office> and select Yes, Count Me In! under the Make It Monthly tab on the donation page. Even \$5 a month is of real help as we work to win in 2022.

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labeled the investigation into the violent Capitol insurrection on Jan. 6 as “persecution of ordinary citizens who engaged in legitimate political discourse.”

The brutal siege, aimed at taking hostage the vice president of the United States and the speaker of the House, was definitely violent; it was a violent coup attempting to replace democracy with autocracy. Among its impacts was the killing of one Capitol Police officer and the wounding of more than 100 others. Four police suicides occurred within months of the mob violence.

Wisconsin Sen. Ron Johnson has served as an apologist for this violence. After publicly reading a piece claiming that the violent insurrection was carried out by Trump opponents, Johnson later reversed course and received a spot to PolitiFact’s 2021 “Lies of the Year” with a “Pants on Fire” declaration that the insurrectionists were mostly “people that love this country, that truly respect law enforcement, would never do anything to break a law”.

When political leaders declare as legitimate a violent attack directed at public servants and the police, the lives of both our nation’s police and our public servants are seriously at risk.

Now let’s turn to Eau Claire. The email with the threat of lethal violence at a School Board meeting was received by School Board President Tim Nordin. It came from an email account called “Kill All Marxist Teachers.”

The Wisconsin Examiner reports: “In Eau Claire, all three school board candidates who ran on anti-LGBT platforms lost to the incumbents and their allies. The three conservative candidates stoked controversy about a teacher training program they claimed excludes parents from conversations about their children’s gender identity or sexual orientation. The issue became a topic of national news stories and outraged commentary on Fox News.” Nordin responded: “This is Eau Claire’s election. Others want to control this election by inciting fear in you and driving votes with outside money and news coverage. They, quite literally, are trying to threaten us into submission. I remain unbowed.”

Voters in western Wisconsin turned back character assassination, targeted mailings and a gruesome death threat on April 5. We all have more work to do.

For advocates of police oversight, and for teachers, need to talk sensibly about gender or identity, we need to offer protection. Speaking out publicly will deter the hate and fear mongers from trying to silence public servants with death threats and personal attack ads against a few targeted individuals.

We need to let both our public servants and our police officers know that those who believe in democracy stand with them and have their backs.

Ron Malzer is a freelance writer who lives in La Crosse and believes we all have work to do to save our republic.

Volunteer with the LCDP



The LCDP invites you to participate in one (or more) of our committees as we energize the county for 2022. Working on a committee is a wonderful way to get engaged with the party and to have fun with our wonderful volunteers.

Candidate Recruitment: The third Saturday of the month at 10am. To join, contact William Garcia at chair@laxdems.com.

Communications: The second Monday of the month from 7pm - 8pm. To join, contact Ron Malzer at ronsaturday@gmail.com.

Community Outreach (including Labor): Fourth Monday of every Month at 6pm. To join, contact Ed Burgess at edwburgess@gmail.com.

Fundraising: To join, contact David Wulf at treasurer@laxdems.com.

Events: Fourth Monday of every Month at 6pm. To join, contact Terry Benson at tltree1921@gmail.com

Membership: Meets Quarterly on the third Thursday of the month (March, June, September, December). To join, contact Diane Wulf at secretary@laxdems.com.



We have lots of events coming up, so be sure to mark your calendars!

June 19: Juneteenth Celebration at Riverside Park

June 20: 6:30 - 8:00 PM Summer Social at Copeland Park

June 25-26: DPW State Convention in La Crosse.

July 20-24: La Crosse Interstate Fair

October 22: LCDP Fall Dinner and Fundraiser



UPCOMING ELECTIONS:

**August 9, 2022:
Primary**

**November 8, 2022:
General Election**



Vacancy on the Executive Board

Due to a small error in dues, we have a vacancy in the Exec Board. If you are interested in joining the board for the remainder of 2022, please email Ron Malzer at ronsaturday@gmail.com by May 15th. Ron is leading the three-person committee to make recommendations to the board on filling the vacancy. The Board will decide on a replacement at the June Exec Board meeting, and membership will ratify the decision at the June Summer Social.

Doing
What's Right
for Wisconsin

WISDEM S 2022 CONVENTION

Volunteers needed for the DPW State Convention!

LCDP has been asked by the state party to help find volunteers for the DOW State Convention, June 25 & 26. There will be a variety of opportunities, from helping people register to directing people around the convention center and the city.

Please contact our Volunteer Coordination KC Cayo at kccayo231@gmail.com for more information or to sign up.

WISDEM S
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WISCONSIN

WisDems 3rd CD Nominee Fund

Democrat Ron Kind is retiring this year, and the WisGOP is working overtime to replace him with a January 6th extremist who wants to interfere with democracy and make it harder to vote. They already dumped thousands of dollars into local races earlier this month and are continuing to prop up a Big Lie extremist in WI-03.

That's why we're investing early into this race. But right now, **WisDems is the only line of defense between a Democratic victory and a WisGOP takeover.**

Every dollar you chip in, half will go to WisDems' organizing program in WI-03, mobilizing voters and protecting the seat. The other half will directly benefit the eventual WI-03 nominee, so they can hit the ground running.

Copy and paste the following URL to chip in whatever you can to support our WI-03 Nominee Fund: <https://bit.ly/3kvH9fK>

Hate Will Not Win

By Ed Burgess

This past week I watched a video of Mallory McMorrow, a Michigan State senator, responding to an attack, by a Republican senator who branded her Democratic colleague as a “social media troll” and a “snowflake” who was “outraged” at not being able to “groom and sexualize kindergarteners”.

She was additionally accused of wanting to make children feel responsible for slavery, to feel bad about themselves because they are white. McMorrow’s subsequent speech went viral and is well worth watching.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLWo8B1R0MY>

Quite a few pundits have said that this should serve as a model for Democrats on how to respond to Republican attempts at character assassination. Republicans try to hide behind the label ‘Christian’, while engaging in hateful attacks that are antithetical to the morality espoused by their church. Senator McMorrow after forcefully pushing back ends with the statement “we will not let hate win”.

Rachel Maddow, on her show, reflected on Putin’s use of false charges of pedophilia to destroy many standing in his way. Trump cult members of the far right have harnessed that same kind eliminationist rhetoric to vilify their opponents in the worst way.

A good example of this is the confirmation hearing of Ketanji Brown Jackson for a seat on the Supreme Court. She was accused of being soft on pedophiles. The persistence of their personal attacks is equaled only by their attempts to sow distrust in our institutions of government. In both they are playing with fire, threatening the future of our democracy.

While this kind of behavior is in vogue with Republicans in the news, I don’t often meet people who are this extreme. I was working in the Democratic office recently and someone that I hadn’t met before popped in. He asked me what I thought of Biden. I replied that I thought that he was doing a great job. He then proceeded to attack him, claiming that he was destroying the country by having an open border in the South.

I thought, here we go, a real fire breather spouting a typical right-wing meme. I sparred with him for a while and got a little worked up before I decided that I was spitting into the wind. I told him that as he seemed locked in to his opinions that I saw no purpose in talking to him further.

After he left, I was steeped in anger, wishing that I had a quicker wit so as to cause him to reflect on the error of his ways. I went to bed angry and had trouble falling asleep. I

just don’t understand people who spend their lives hating those different from themselves, going to extremes to vilify these people who they perceive as their enemies. I finally had to let go of my anger because in the end I was only hurting myself and I don’t want to inhabit that mind space.

If we don’t want hate it starts with the good will of each one of us. That doesn’t mean that we can’t look them in the eye and remind them that we will stand our ground. We will not let hate win. We will vote in massive numbers this November!

Verify Your Registration and Use Same Day Voter Registration If You Are Not Yet Registered

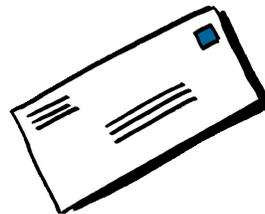
You can check your voter registration at <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Register-To-Vote>. Just fill out your name and birthday and you will see your registration status. If you are NOT registered, Wisconsin allows same day voter registration with a picture ID and proof of residence. If you go to this website (<https://myvote.wi.gov/DesktopModules/GabMyVoteModules/api/document/getproofofresidence>) it will download a PDF to your computer with a checklist to ensure you have the right documents to register.

Volunteer Canvassers and Drivers Needed for Upcoming Elections

Want to help out with local elections? We have LCDP members and (soon-to-be) endorsed candidates who need help with door knocking and, especially in this cold weather, driving candidates to knock on doors themselves.

If you would like to help, please contact Chair William Garcia at chair@laxdems.com or call 608-769-5286.

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/>

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: Ed Burgess

608-799-1944

Treasurer: David Wulf

608-799-8977

Secretary: Diane Wulf

608-780-7007

At-Large Board Members:

Terry Benson

Fred Giese

Ralph Knudson

Ron Maizer

College Representative: Grace Florence (UW-L)

Follow the LCDP on



twitter

@lacrossedems

and



Instagram

@lacrossedems

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 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! Or just visit <https://laxdems.com/join-the-party/> and fill out the form (it is the same form to join or renew) and pay online.

If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail and would prefer to receive it via email instead, please contact lcdpwi@gmail.com or 608-769-5286.

La Crosse County Democratic Party



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

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As the LCDP prepares for 2022 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.

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.

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.

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