

May-June 2022

## **News from Paca County Blue**

Waupaca County Democratic Party (WCDP)

Next meeting: 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 11, 2022

at headquarters, 401 S. Bridge St., Manawa, WI 54949

Nonmembers and members welcome

### **Contact info:**

Website: [Waupacademocrats.com](http://Waupacademocrats.com)

Email: [Waupacademocrats@gmail.com](mailto:Waupacademocrats@gmail.com)

[facebook.com/WaupacaCountyDemocraticParty](https://www.facebook.com/WaupacaCountyDemocraticParty)

**Editor's note:** This newsletter has been designated for May and June. The next edition, due in late June, will be dated for July.

### **Contents in order as you scroll:**

Just the Facts: Evers' Bounceback plan benefits Waupaca County

Just the Facts: Gallagher votes against bill to fight domestic terrorism

Just the Facts: Judge criticizes Gableman, as Vos wants to move past 2020

Just the Facts: Native American boarding schools

Prep your summer vote

Giving back, locally and globally

Meeting highlights

Salute to Service Members

National days in May and June

Asian American Pacific Islander Month (EEOC)

Poem of the Month (LGBTQ+ Month, EEOC)

For further info

### **JUST THE FACTS**

#### **Evers' Bounceback plan benefits Waupaca County**

An additional \$25 million was added to the Main Street Bounceback Grant Program by Gov. Tony Evers, D-Wis., on May 10, his re-election campaign announced. The program, started last year with \$50 million to help new and existing small businesses that suffered during COVID, has awarded \$10,000 grants to more than 4,200 small businesses so far.

Among the recipients are 51 Waupaca County businesses, said Sara Gilbert, of Region 5, East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Among them, she said, are Village Vintage, Village of Embarrass; The Shack, Town of Fremont; One Ten Nutrition, Village of Iola; Marion's Hidden Treasure, Marion; Modern Cleaning Solutions LLC, Town of Mukwa; Bella Salon and Tessa's Krafty Kreations, both in New London; Shindig, Waupaca; and Main Street Popcorn and Picklebelly's Pub & Grill, both in Weyauwega.

The money, provided through the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, can be used for buying inventory, building a new brick-and-mortar location, paying rent, or investing in new services.

A deadline to apply for grants has been extended to Dec. 31, 2022. For Region 5, contact Sara Gilbert, [mainstreet@ecwrpc.org](mailto:mainstreet@ecwrpc.org) at the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.

*Summarized from Evers campaign; reporting by county party*

#### **JUST THE FACTS**

### **Gallagher votes against bill to fight domestic terrorism**

Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-Wis 8), along with all GOP colleagues but one, voted on May 18 against the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act of 2022 (H.R. 350). The bill, presented in response to the mass shooting May 14 at a supermarket in Buffalo, N.Y., passed and moved to the Senate. It would establish new requirements to expand the availability of information on domestic terrorism, as well as the relationship between domestic terrorism and hate crimes.

There is no law currently that makes domestic terrorism and federal crime, although acts by a domestic terrorist might be illegal. U.S. law does make it a crime to provide “material support” to a foreign terrorist group.

*congress.gov; voanews.com*

#### **JUST THE FACTS**

### **Judge criticizes Gableman, as Vos wants to move past 2020**

The judge in an open-records case used the words “run amok” and “gone rogue” on May 19, referring to former state Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman, who was hired in 2021 by Assembly Speaker Robin Vos to review the ballots in Wisconsin’s 2020 presidential election.

The liberal group American Oversight has sued for access to investigation records, which have remained closed to the public. Dane County Circuit Judge Valerie Bailey-Rihn said taxpayer-paid Gableman apparently “is flatly refusing to follow any of the court’s guidance” and that Vos has lost control over his employee.

Previous recounts, courts, and independent reviews have found that Joe Biden beat Donald Trump in Wisconsin by nearly 21,000 votes. At the state GOP convention, on May 21, Vos was booed when he told the group that the 2020 election results can’t be decertified.

*Summarized from Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 19 May 2022/ npr.org*

#### **JUST THE FACTS**

### **Native American boarding schools identified in Interior report**

Phase 1 of a report ordered last year about federal Native American boarding schools was released May 11, 2022. Ordered by Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, the “Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative” details the location of such schools, which operated from 1819 to the

1970's. Physical and emotional abuse, and death in some cases, resulted when American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children were forcibly removed from their families, communities, languages, religions, and cultural beliefs.

The next phase will be addressing the intergenerational trauma created by the assimilation policies. In the 8th Congressional District, the following federal facilities were named:

1) Zoar Mission Boarding School, also known as Menominee (Zoar Mission) School in "Green Bay Reservation." 2) Menomonie Boarding School in Keshena, Wis., also known as Green Bay Boarding School; Keshena School; Keshena; Menomonee Industrial School; Menominee Tribal School. 3) St. Joseph Industrial School in Keshena, Wis., also known as Menominee (St. Joseph's); St. Joseph's Boarding; Green Bay. 4) Oneida Boarding and Day School in Oneida, Wis.

*bia.gov, doi.gov*

## **Prep your summer vote**

Remember to plan your "vote" as well as "vacation" on your summer calendar to be sure your voice is heard in the Aug. 9 partisan primary election. At least five Democratic candidates have been collecting signatures, due June 1, to ensure the chance to oppose GOP incumbent Sen. Ron Johnson for the office of U.S. senator.

The Waupaca County Democratic Party will make no endorsement before the primary for U.S. Senate or for state offices.

An absentee ballot can be requested at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov), available in English and Spanish. Voting can be done by mail or in person at your municipal clerk's office.

Wisconsin early voting for the primary election in 2022 begins no earlier than July 26, 14 days before Election Day, and ends Aug. 7, no later than the Sunday before Election Day.

*vote.org; myvote.wi.gov*

## **Giving back locally and globally**

### **1. Paca Dems support food banks**

Continuing a community-service project that began in 2021, the Paca Dems are seeking donations of food and hygiene and cleaning supplies for area food banks. When at least 100 items have been dropped in the blue tub at the front of the headquarters office in Manawa, they will be delivered. So far, 700 items have been distributed twice to New London, twice to Manawa, and once each to Marion and Waupaca.

The deliveries from the Paca Dems are well received at the pantries, said county Chair Stu Walter.

Volunteers are needed to deliver to additional locations in these communities: Bear Creek (Outagamie County), Clintonville, Dale (Outagamie County), Iola, Scandinavia and Weymont in Weyauwega. Contact [waupacademocrats@gmail.com](mailto:waupacademocrats@gmail.com) for location and contact info, or see [waupacacounty-wi.gov](http://waupacacounty-wi.gov) and click on "community resources."

Requested supplies for food pantries:

Food: Peanut Butter, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Cereal, Baked Beans, Cake Mixes, Ramen Noodles, Mac & Cheese, Dry Pastas, Rice, Soup, Tuna, Manwich, Juices (Apple/Cranberry), Applesauce, Popcorn, Spices, Relish/Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Sugar, Pam/cooking spray.

Personal hygiene: Deodorant, Shampoo, Diapers, Toothpaste, Soap, Bodywash, Toilet Paper.

House Cleaning Supplies, Laundry Detergent.

## **2. Empty ink cartridges can buy office goods**

Ink and toner cartridges donated at Paca County Dems HQ in Manawa will be recycled at Staples by a rewards member. The proceeds, \$2 per cartridge, will be used to buy office supplies. The office will be open 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays through the November elections.

## **3. Needs continue for Ukraine, USO**

Mariopol has fallen to Russia, as heated fighting continues in Ukraine's eastern. Meanwhile, surrounding countries need help for the millions of refugees who crossed into their borders. Two long-established charities that are offering aid are the Red Cross and Doctors Without Borders.

A donation to the nonprofit USO would help bring links from home to the American troops who have been sent to Europe in response to Russia's latest invasion of Ukraine, which started Feb. 24, 2022.

## **Meeting highlights, May 14, 2022**

— A motion was approved to use \$4,000 in the building fund to pay down the mortgage on the headquarters building in Manawa, acquired in 2021.

—Chair Stu Walter introduced Henry Fries, a student at Waupaca High School, who is a candidate running as an Independent for the state's 40th Assembly District against Kevin Petersen. Website: [henryforassembly.com](http://henryforassembly.com)

— A discussion centered on volunteer security when at booths at this summer's events to promote candidates and our office. Some visitors become quite confrontational.

— Stu learned at the 8th Congressional District convention that Waupaca Dems would have free access to billboard advertising being designed for Outagamie and Brown counties. Discussion: Will Paca Dems rent billboards along Hwy. 10 to use the free designs?

## **Salute to Service Members**

— **Armed Forces Day**, May 21. It was created in 1949 to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days, after the separate branches were unified under one agency, the Department of Defense. [www.military.com](http://www.military.com)

— **Memorial Day**, May 30. Honoring the nation’s war dead, a ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, May 30, at the Central Wisconsin Veterans’ Memorial Cemetery, N2266 County Rd. QQ, King.

— **D-Day**, June 6, honoring the Allied invasion of Nazi-occupied France in 1944.

— **U.S. Army Birthday**, June 14 — The Continental Congress authorized enlistment of expert riflemen on June 14, 1775, to serve the United Colonies for one year. *U.S. Army Center of Military History (history.army.mil)*

### **National days in late May and June**

— **National Maritime Day**, May 22 — Congress declared this date in 1933 to commemorate the American steamship *Savannah*’s voyage in 1819 from the United States to England, marking the first successful crossing of the Atlantic Ocean with steam propulsion.

*U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration*

— **Flag Day**, June 14. The Second Continental Congress passed a resolution on June 14, 1777, stating that “the flag of the United States be 13 stripes, alternate red and white,” and that “the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.” In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson officially established June 14 as Flag Day.

*history.com*

— **Father’s Day**, June 19

— **Juneteenth**, June 19. Congress passed and President Biden signed a bill in June 2021 making the long-running African-American celebration a federal holiday. It marks June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers landed in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and that all slaves were free. This was 2 ½ years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which became official on January 1, 1863. Because June 19 falls on a Sunday this year, the federal holiday will be celebrated on June 20.

*Society for Public Health Education (sophe.org); National Public Radio (npr.org); Office of Personnel Management (ops.gov)*

### **Asian American Pacific Islander Month (EEOC)**

To draw attention to minority groups who may suffer from employment discrimination, the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission (EEOC) designates certain months for these groups. Waupaca County is recorded in the 2020 census as being 96.8% white out of 50,169 people. But it enjoys some cultural diversity with this month’s featured groups: Asian, alone or in combination, 409 people (0.8% of the county), and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders alone or in combination, 44 people (0.1% of the county).

County residents can support our Asian neighbors by dining at their restaurants and shopping at local farmers’ markets for Hmong produce.

*census.gov; eeoc.gov*

### **Poem of the Month (LGBTQ+, EEOC)**

May is designated by the EEOC for attention to the LGBTQ+ community. Some in that community are rights activists, but some “simply want to be what they are and live as they wish, and love whom they love and not be mistreated because of it,” said EEOC Chair Janet Dhillon in her message for May 2021.

A popular American anthem was penned in 1893 by a woman who lived that reality: Katherine Anne Bates, a lesbian Wellesley college professor (1859-1929). Her poem, “America the Beautiful” is so beloved that it was considered for the national anthem before “The Star-Spangled Banner” was chosen in 1931.

Bates wrote it after a trip to Pike’s Peak in Colorado with her life partner, Katherine Coman, a Wellesley economist whose field was the development of the American West.

The first verse is familiar — spacious skies, amber waves of grain. Verse 2 doesn’t fare well in 21st century sensibilities — pilgrim feet beating a road of freedom across the wilderness. Verse 3 is the poem for this month:

O beautiful for heroes proved  
In liberating strife,  
Who more than self their country loved,  
And mercy more than life.  
America, America ...

*The Golden Book of Favorite Songs, 1923; Minneapolis Star Tribune, Dec. 15, 2002; eeoc.gov*

### **For further information**

8th Congressional District, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/8thcddemgroup>

Democratic Party of Wisconsin, [www.wisdems.org](http://www.wisdems.org)

National Democratic Committee, [www.democrats.org](http://www.democrats.org)

[www.ballotpedia.org](http://www.ballotpedia.org)

<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>

**Newsletter copyright 2022, Waupaca County Democratic Party**