



September 2022

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All are welcome. Next meeting:
10:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 10, 2022
Manawa headquarters

Email: waupacademocrats@gmail.com
Website: waupacademocrats.com
facebook: [WaupacaCountyDemocraticParty](https://www.facebook.com/WaupacaCountyDemocraticParty)

Vital votes in November

With the Wisconsin legislature firmly in the hands of Republicans, the Nov. 8 general election needs Democratic voters to elect Democrats in vital state offices that will decide election results, reproductive health care, and more. If your request for an absentee ballot is already on file with your municipal clerk, it will be sent by Sept. 22. For complete instructions about registering for absentee and early voting, go to myvote.wi.gov.

JUST THE FACTS

Democrats vote it forward

“Every single Republican in Congress voted against this bill,” said President Joe Biden during remarks on Aug. 16, 2022, at the White House signing of H.R. 5376, the Inflation Reduction Act.

That means that Republicans who represent Waupaca County, including Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., and Rep. Mike Gallagher, R-Wis. 8, voted against the provisions for “lowering prescription drug prices, against lowering healthcare costs, against a fairer tax system ... against tackling the climate crisis,” the president said.

Just the Facts, continued on Page 3



A bench honoring a former chair of the county Democratic Party was placed Aug. 13 at Eco Park, Waupaca.

Get signs at HQ two days a week

Pick up campaign signs and literature at Manawa HQ 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays through the November elections. Donations are welcome for signs.

Bonus for visit: Regular unleaded gas at The Store across the street runs 10 to 20 cents cheaper per gallon than many other gas stations in Waupaca County.

Give until it helps

Groceries — Donations of food, hygiene items, and cleaning supplies will be delivered to area food banks. When 60 to 70 items have been assembled in the blue tub at the front of the headquarters office in Manawa, they will be delivered.

The deliveries from the Paca Dems, started last year with 700 items delivered — twice to New London, twice to Manawa, and once each to Marion and Waupaca. They are well received at the pantries, county Chair Stu Walter said.

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 for location and contact info.

waupacacounty-wi.gov (community resources)

Ink and toner — Empty 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.

Ukraine — The Kyiv government has begun attacking Russian targets in Crimea, which Russia annexed in 2014. Putin's current invasion started six months ago, on Feb. 24. Ukrainian refugees, residents, and military need help as winter approaches. 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 additional American troops who have been sent to

Monthly meeting highlights from Aug. 13, 2022

—The treasurer's report will be upgraded to include monthly revenue and expense vs. a budget report. Discussion also included establishing a fund for potential building costs.

— Tracy Walter and Cece Hutchinson have made the newsletter, sent to 400 people, into PDF form to ease posting to the website. The Facebook page has 607 followers.

—A booth has been reserved at the Waupaca County Fair, August 25-28. Set-up will be Aug. 24. Please email Stu to work at the booth: swalter53@tds.net.

—Discussion was started about the need to update the group's constitution. Among the areas that would be changed include election of officers and appointment of at-large board members. The initial goal: confirm the wording and vote at the September meeting.

From minutes by secretary Barb Kobs



Headquarters, at 401 S. Bridge St., Manawa, needs volunteers to greet visitors.

**Democrats win when
Democrats vote.
Get out the vote!**

Henry Fries opposes Petersen in Assembly/40

Henry Fries of Waupaca decided to run as an independent because he wants to be an assemblyman who can help connect the gaps between the Republican and Democrat sides of the aisle.

The first-time candidate for public office opposes incumbent GOP Rep. Kevin Petersen, who has been in the state Assembly since 2007.

Fries (say *freeze*), has stated his mission in part as taking money out of politics to ensure government works for the people, and to preserve personal liberties.

Among his goals: Preserve natural resources to keep District 40 a hub for tourism; improve infrastructure by repairing roads and bridges; expand broadband internet access; and end childcare deserts.

ballotpedia.org, henryforassembly.com, candidate interview



Just the facts

Continued from Page 1

“This administration began amid a dark time in America — as Jim [Clyburn, D-S.C.] said, “a once-in-a-century pandemic” — devastating joblessness, clear and present threats to democracy and the rule of law, doubts about America’s future itself,” Biden said.

“We didn’t tear down; we built up,” he continued. “We didn’t look back; we looked forward.”

whitehouse.gov; washingtonpost.com

Taxes, tasks for gun makers

Two proposed House bills would tax manufacturers of AR-style assault weapons at 20% of total revenue, and would require manufacturers to track and analyze crimes committed with such firearms that they sell.

Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y. 12, chair of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, announced on Aug. 19 that she will introduce the Firearm Industry Fairness Act and the Firearm Industry Crime and Trafficking Accountability Act.

maloney.house.gov; washingtonpost.com

PACT, from Vietnam forward

The PACT Act, signed on Aug. 10 by President Joe Biden, expands Veterans Administration health care for survivors of toxic burn pits in Afghanistan. But “The Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act” (PACT) goes well beyond that, said Vince Alcazar of the Red River Valley Association (RRVA) in the 14 Aug. edition of the group’s newsletter, RATNET Digest.

The White House called the bill “the most significant expansion of benefits and services for toxic exposed veterans in more than 30 years.” The burn pits, in addition to trash, were also used to incinerate chemicals, hazardous materials and weaponry at military bases outside the United States.

Alcazar, director of the Aviator Medical Issues Committee of the RRVA, said the bill also contains provisions for Southeast Asia vets exposed to Agent Orange during the Vietnam era, provisions for vets who had low-dose radiation exposures while performing site cleanup in several places in the 1970’s, and extended time for Desert Storm vets “to submit claims for conditions associated with ... service in/over Iraq and surrounding countries.”

RRVA.org; whitehouse.gov; usatoday.com

Salute to service members

V-J Day, Sept. 2 — Although President Harry Truman announced Japan's surrender in World War II on Aug. 14, 1945, Victory over Japan Day is celebrated on Sept. 2. That day in 1945 marked the formal signing of the Instrument of Surrender aboard the battleship USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

uso.org; defense.gov

U.S. Air Force Birthday, 18 Sept. — On September 18, 1947, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Fred Vinson swore in Stuart Symington as the first secretary of the Air Force, officially separating the new branch of the U.S. military from the U.S. Army.

cfr.org



National Days in September

Labor Day, Sept. 5 — On June 28, 1894, Congress passed an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday. The action followed labor activists' push in the late nineteenth century, for a federal holiday to recognize the many contributions workers have made to America's strength, prosperity, and well-being.

dol.gov

Patriot Day, Sept. 11 — Commonly known as Patriot Day since an act of Congress in December 2001, in 2009 the day officially became the National Day of Service and Remembrance to honor those killed on 9/11 during terrorist attacks in New York, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C. "Americans are encouraged to participate in community service in honor of those our Nation lost," says the website of the Department of Defense Education Activity.

dodea.edu

Poem of the Month

Continuing the "Paca Blue News" series about inaugural poets, the next president after Jimmy Carter (1977-1981) to invite a poet to his first day in office was President Bill Clinton (1993-2001). The Commander-in-Chief gap between Carter and Clinton was filled by Republicans Ronald Reagan, (1981-1989) and George H.W. Bush (1989-1993), neither of whom invited a poet.

Maya Angelou (1928-2014), a multi-phased talent nominated for a Pulitzer, a Tony and three Grammys, wrote for Clinton's day about the span of America from mastodons to immigrants of her time and offered this counsel to those who felt the weight of the wrenching pain of history:

*The horizon leans forward,
Offering you space to place new steps of change.*

From *On The Pulse of Morning* (2014).

poets.org; wikipedia.org

For further information

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

Democratic Party of Wisconsin, www.wisdems.org

National Democratic Committee, www.democrats.org

www.ballotpedia.org

<https://myvote.wi.gov>

