

<p><b>Paca Blue News</b></p>	<p><b>Waupaca County Democratic Party</b></p>	
	<p>P.O. Box 123 401 S. Bridge Street Manawa, WI 54949</p>	
	<p>(715) 316-3165</p>	
	<p><b>Next meeting: 10:30 a.m. Nov. 12</b></p>	

## November 2022

Copyright 2022 Waupaca County Democratic Party  
Pick up campaign signs at office 1-4 Wednesdays, 11-2 Saturdays

### Where they stand

Evers vs. Michels for governor, Page 6

Barnes vs. Johnson for U.S. Senate, page 2

Fries vs. Peterson for State Assembly 40, page 3

### Vote on WCDP constitution

The process to change the Waupaca County Democratic Party constitution is nearly complete. The first reading took place at the October monthly meeting; the second will be at the November meeting at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 12.

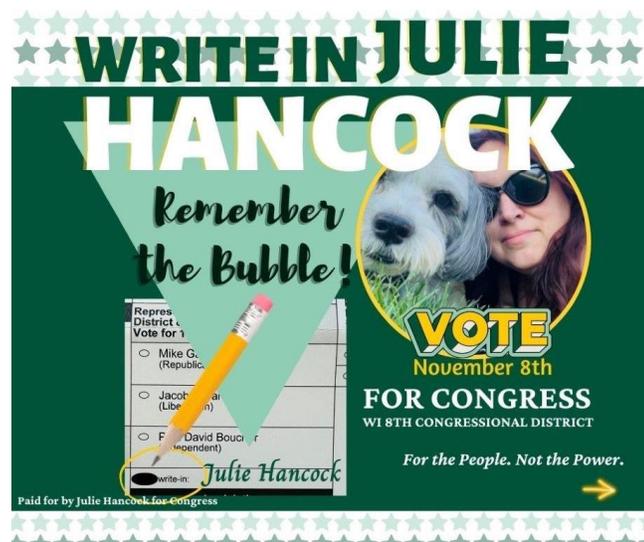
A final vote will follow the second reading. Pending approval by the state party, the constitution will then change to a two-year election cycle with a chair and vice chair instead of a past chair, chair, and vice chair rotating each year. Another change would involve the appointment of at-large board members.

### Help prioritize activities for 2023

Chairman Stu Walter is asking for a one-time planning committee to set priorities for outreach activities in calendar 2023.

Covid, departures, and deaths brought most activities to a halt since 2020. The committee will build a list of events to promote the Democratic Party.

The commitment is short: one meeting before the end of 2022, time to be determined. If interested, or to offer ideas, email [waupacademocrats.com](mailto:waupacademocrats.com).



Green Bay native Julie Hancock is running a write-in campaign against incumbent GOP Rep. Mike Gallagher for U.S. Congressional District 8. The lawyer says online: “Let’s not let allow [the GOP] to show short-term memory loss” about taking away the rights of women to a safe, legal abortion. A correctly spelled name will assure that a vote for her is counted.

[electjuliehancock.com](http://electjuliehancock.com)

## For U.S. Senate: Mandela Barnes (D)

On Oct. 7 and Oct. 13, Democratic challenger Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes and incumbent GOP Sen. Ron Johnson traded opinions in televised debates about matters of importance to Wisconsin voters. Summaries of some are here.

The candidates took turns giving answers, and they are presented in the order given. Some answers seem unrelated to the questions, but that is how they answered. Both debates can be seen at [c-span.org](http://c-span.org).

**Climate change — Barnes:** “The climate crisis is already here” ... disruptions and floods from storms are wiping out farming infrastructure. He supports clean energy — “we could be building solar panels in Wisconsin.”

**Johnson:** “How can you really do anything about climate change when China and India, they’re going to be burning fossil fuels? America’s going to have to burn fossil fuels ... wind and solar are unreliable.” We need to use fossil fuels responsibly. “We can’t afford spending hundreds of millions of dollars trying to solve a problem that’s not solvable.”

**What can Congress do to close the racial wealth gap? Barnes:** When industrial opportunities dried up, black men suffered. It “led to a rise in crime, led to a rise in incarceration.” He wants to do more to provide good-paying jobs, have low-income schools fully funded, make sure that every person has health care. **Johnson:** “My Joseph Project” [a faith-based initiative connecting people to job opportunities] gives prisoner re-training ... “that’s how you do it. You don’t do it by spending money...” And “you don’t let loose 87,000 IRS agents on middle-class families.” [See Page 5.]

**Gay marriage — Johnson:** He supports civil unions. The Supreme court law won’t be overturned, so “we don’t need a federal law.”

**Barnes:** It’s “right for people to marry who they love.”

**Social Security — Johnson:** “I want to save Social Security. I want to save Medicare.” The 8.7 percent increase coming in 2023 for

Social Security recipients “only keeps them equal with what they lost because of Biden’s inflation. The greatest threat to any government program is the massive, out-of-control deficit spending and our growing debt.” **Barnes:** “When Senator Johnson talks about making Social Security discretionary, that means he’s coming for your retirement ... It’s odd that he would talk about inflation and how costs are increasing but not support the minimum wage.”

**Legalize marijuana — Johnson:** “Those druggies are loaded with illicit cash.”

**Barnes:** Marijuana should be legal, which would bring in tax dollars.

**Gun Control — Johnson:** We have something like 10,000 gun-control laws on the books. “Renew faith, strengthen families, support communities” rather than add more laws. **Barnes:** He supports background checks. Johnson gets funds from the gun lobby. “The ATF doesn’t even have searchable databases” to do research for the laws on the books. [Ed. note: The gun-control answers are a blend from both debates.]

*[mandelabarnes.com](http://mandelabarnes.com); [josephprojectwi.org](http://josephprojectwi.org); [c-span.org](http://c-span.org); Paca Blue News reporting*

### Evers

*continued from Page 6*

**Worker shortage — Evers:** More childcare would make workers available. [Ed. note: Henry Fries, page 3, gives more info about the childcare need.] **Michels:** One, get people off their couches. Two, tax reform to make Wisconsin a more attractive place to live.

**Undocumented immigrants — Michels:** He would refuse driver’s licenses for them. **Evers:** “We don’t have lazy people in Wisconsin.” He would give driver’s licenses to undocumented workers. “We depend on those workers.”

*[pbswisconsin.org](http://pbswisconsin.org); [jsonline.com](http://jsonline.com); [youtube.com](http://youtube.com); [tonyjevers.com](http://tonyjevers.com); Paca Blue News reporting*

---

**You're invited:**

Join candidate Fries at 6 p.m. on Election Day at the office of the Waupaca County Democratic Party, 401 S. Bridge St., Manawa.

**Please RSVP** to  
[henryforassembly@gmail.com](mailto:henryforassembly@gmail.com)

---

## For State Assembly District 40: Henry Fries (I)

Henry Fries wants moms and dads to have quality, affordable childcare available so they can get back to work to boost local economies with less strain on family budgets.

Fries (say *freeze*) is running for the District 40 seat in the Wisconsin State Assembly that is held by incumbent GOP Rep. Kevin Petersen, in office for 15 years.

Petersen “is out of touch with the needs and desires of our community,” Fries said in response to a questionnaire by the *Appleton Post-Crescent*. Petersen didn’t respond to the requests for answers, the newspaper said in a story on Oct. 12.

Fries, 18, said he wants “to give the young people of District 40, and, indeed, the state, a voice in their Wisconsin government.” He has been endorsed by SMART, the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers — Transportation Division, and by the Wisconsin AFL-CIO.

Fries notes the national difficulty of attracting young people to law enforcement, and says he wants to fully fund police offices “while also providing access to community-based organizations that can step up” to help with emergency calls in mostly domestic situations that police are not trained to resolve. Among his proposals, Fries advocates for protecting natural resources, supporting elder citizens and family caregivers, bringing nuclear



Henry Fries talked with a guest at a meet-and-greet Oct. 1 at the Manawa office of the Waupaca County Democratic Party.

*Volunteer photo*

power for clean energy, and lowering the payroll tax rate for small businesses for the first five years of business so business owners can keep more of what they earn.

### Statistics about childcare need

Fries’ concerns about childcare are well-founded. The Center for American Progress found in a 2018 analysis that 51% of Americans live in a childcare desert, where the number of children outnumber licensed care slots at least three to one, said *businessinsider.com*.

Waupaca and most of the eastern half of Waushara Counties are in District 40, which Fries wants to represent. Online, he said that 73% of ZIP codes in Waupaca County and 63% of ZIP codes in all of Waushara County are defined as childcare deserts. For comparison, 25% of ZIP codes in nearby Winnebago County are defined as childcare deserts, he said.

Fries would push for access to affordable, quality, licensed daycare centers, government support to pay for care, minimum wages for workers, and more.

*Appleton Post-Crescent;*  
[henryforassembly.com](mailto:henryforassembly.com); *businessinsider.com*

**Earn your right  
 to gripe —  
 vote!**

## Give until it helps

**From soup to tuna to toilet paper** — Food pantries are ready to accept your donations of shelf-stable food items, hygiene supplies, and cleaning products. They can be donated directly or at WCDP headquarters in Manawa.

New Democratic volunteers recently delivered to Marion and to Weymont in Weyauwega. Since 2021, other deliveries have gone twice to New London and Manawa, and once to Waupaca. The next binful, if volunteers can be found for delivery, would go to one of these locations: Bear Creek (Outagamie County), Clintonville, Dale (Outagamie County), Iola, or Scandinavia.

A list of pantries is available at [waupacademocrats.com](http://waupacademocrats.com) (*give back*). Or contact [waupacademocrats@gmail.com](mailto:waupacademocrats@gmail.com) for locations and pantry contact info. For a list of food items, see [waupacacounty-wi.gov](http://waupacacounty-wi.gov) (*community resources*).

**Ink and toner** — Empty printer cartridges donated at 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.

**Devastation** — Ukrainian troops are pressing against Putin's war to possess Ukraine but are finding destroyed cities as they advance. Refugees, residents, and military need help as winter approaches. Two long-established charities that offer aid are the Red Cross and Doctors Without Borders. The nonprofit USO serves the American troops who were sent to Europe in response to the current invasion, which started Feb. 24, 2022.

## Salute to service members

**U.S. Marine Corps Birthday, Nov. 10** — The Second Continental Congress established the Marine Corps on Nov. 10, 1775; it was abolished after the Treaty of Paris (April 1783), which officially ended the hostilities with Great Britain; on July 11, 1798, Congress reestablished the fighting force.

[marines.mil](http://marines.mil); [archives.gov](http://archives.gov)

## National Days

**Daylight Saving Time ends, Nov 6.** — At 2 a.m., the time becomes 1 a.m., as Standard Time returns. In March 2022, the Senate passed the Sunshine Protection Act, which would keep clocks permanently on “daylight time” starting in 2023.

The House Energy and Commerce committee is considering the bill. [reuters.com](http://reuters.com)

### **Election Day, Nov. 8**

**Thanksgiving, Nov. 24** — Remember the scene in the 1942 movie *Holiday Inn* when the turkey hops around on a November calendar? U.S. presidents had been shifting the holiday from the third Thursday to the first to the fourth since 1863, when Abraham Lincoln declared the first national day of thanks. In 1942, Franklin Roosevelt finally settled on the fourth Thursday, and Congress made sure it stayed there.

[loc.gov](http://loc.gov) (*wise guide*)

**GivingTuesday, 29 Nov.** — Started in 2012, the day is a global movement “unleashing the power of radical generosity.”

[givingtuesday.org](http://givingtuesday.org)



**Veterans Day, Nov. 11** — A splash of autumn color on Oct. 22 accented graves at Central Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery in King, Wis. Veterans Day honors all American veterans, living or deceased.

*Volunteer photo*

**More political information**  
 — 8th Congressional District, [www.facebook.com/groups/8thcddemgroup](http://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)  
 — [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov)

## Poem of the Month

November honors National American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month, as designated in the Special Emphasis Programs of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. First proclaimed in 1990 by President George H.W. Bush, the month celebrates the history, tradition, and values of American Indians — or is it Native Americans, or Indigenous or First Nations?

The Smithsonian Institute weighs in: Most Native people prefer to be called by their tribal name; “Native American” is falling out of favor; “American Indian” or “Indigenous American” are preferred by many Native people.

Poet Joy Harjo (1951-), of the Muscogee (Creek) nation, was the first Native named Poet Laureate of the United States by the Library of Congress. She was only the second laureate to serve three terms, 2019-2021.

Her signature project, launched deep in the Covid period in November 2020, is “Living Nations, Living Words,” which collects a sampling of work by 47 contemporary Native poets from across the country.

“I feel strongly that I have a responsibility to all the sources that I am ... to all voices, all women, all of my tribe, all people, all earth, and beyond that to all beginnings and endings,” she is quoted as saying by the Poetry Foundation.

Her work sometimes reflects the weight of social justice denied to Native peoples. Her global vision led her to link Pol Pot to Andrew Jackson. Pol Pot (1925-1998) was the Khmer Rouge leader responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands in Cambodia in the late 1970’s. President Jackson (1767-1845) signed the Indian Removal Act of 1830 with ensuing misery for tribes forced to relocate, including the Muscogee. (That is the spelling that appears on her web page; in her writing she sometimes spells it “Mvskoke”; some Oklahoma maps spell it “Muskogee.”)

In her prose poem, “Compassionate

Fire,” collected in *A Map to the Next World* (2000), she ponders politics and power:

*In this age leaders seem to be chosen according to the ability to acquire power and money, not because of their outstanding gifts of service, compassion and love for the community ... There is an exact address of compassion and in this place even Pol Pot and Andrew Jackson will one day open their eyes.*

*joyharjo.com; poetryfoundation.org; loc.gov; archives.gov; americanindian.si.edu*

## JUST THE OPINIONS

Journal-Sentinel board tells  
Sen. Johnson: Move on out

In a scorching editorial on Oct. 12, 2022, the editorial board of the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* urged voters to “send him packing this November.”

Among the points: He wants to put Medicare and Social Security in annual budget deliberations. [See Page 2.] For several weeks after the 2020 election, he refused to admit that Biden beat Trump. And, instead of touting his accomplishments, he and supporters attack his opponent — a Black man — as “different” and “dangerous.”

*jsonline.com*

GOP telling lies about crime,  
inflation and taxes — Robert Reich

In *The Guardian* on Oct. 16, Robert Reich skewered the GOP for

1) claiming crime is rising because of “soft” Democrats. No, it’s because of so many guns, which “Republicans refuse to control.” 2) Inflation is due to Biden’s spending. No, the major cause is the global post-pandemic shortages plus Putin’s war in Ukraine. 3) New IRS agents will harass the middle class. No, they will hunt wealthy tax cheats. [See Page 2.]

## For a second term: Gov. Tony Evers (D)

In a lone debate on Oct. 14, incumbent Democratic Gov. Tony Evers and GOP challenger Tim Michels exchanged views about top concerns to Wisconsin voters, including inflation, abortion, immigration, and the state budget surplus.

The following are summaries of the positions. The categories are not in the order the questions were asked. The candidates took turns giving answers, and the answers are given in the order the candidates gave them.

For additional information, see the news organizations listed at the end. The one-hour debate can be seen on YouTube.



Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers made a campaign stop at the Get Out The Vote rally Oct. 19 at the Family and Community Engagement Center in Keshena, encouraging Menominee voters to cast their ballot in the November 8 election.

*P. Delabruue/Menominee Nation News*

**Inflation — Evers:** He would reduce taxes on the middle class by 10%, get rid of Wisconsin’s minimum mark-up law on gas, and offer parents a childcare tax credit. **Michels** blamed the Biden and Evers administrations for rising prices, including the cancellation of the Keystone XL pipeline, for an increase in gas prices. Michels also said he would oversee massive tax reform to put more money in pockets.

**Abortion — Michels:** “I’m pro-life.” If morning-after abortion pills are legal, OK. He would have to think about allowing Wisconsin residents to cross a state border to get an abortion. **Evers:** A woman should have the ability and right to make decisions about healthcare.

**Education — Michels:** Every parent is a taxpayer, so they should have universal school choice — “and stop CRT” (critical race theory). **Evers:** “CRT isn’t taught in schools ... Our districts don’t have enough money.”

**How should race be taught? — Evers:** “Of course, we should talk about things like the Japanese internment” [during World War II]. **Michels:** “Parents are screaming right now.” He would empower parents to decide.

**Crime prevention — Michels:** “I stand with law enforcement.” **Evers:** He would provide resources and training for law enforcement. He said the GOP legislature “zeroed out” his plans in two past budgets to give municipalities more shared revenue from the state government to properly fund law enforcement and social services, among other things.

**\$5 billion state surplus — Evers:** We “have a surplus because we did the right thing during the pandemic,” including a 10% tax cut. **Michels:** “The people of Wisconsin were overtaxed.”

**Climate change — Michels:** “I want a clean environment ... I’m gonna provide the leadership. By the way, the DNR has a lot of problems.” **Evers:** “Instead of blah, blah, I’ll talk clean energy,” such as solar.

**Evers continued on Page 2**