



October 2022

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Pick up campaign signs at office 1-4 Wednesdays, 11-2 Saturdays

Meet Fries at Dems' HQ

Please RSVP to waupacademocrats@gmail.com

All are invited to a reception for Independent Assembly/40 candidate Henry Fries from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, at the headquarters of the Waupaca County Democratic Party, 401 S. Bridge St., Manawa, Wis.

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

Enjoy refreshments, pick up lawn signs, and talk politics at the meet-and-greet with the first-time candidate, a resident of rural Waupaca. He seeks “to foster cooperation between the political party divide,” his website says. Among his other stands, he aims to preserve personal liberties and improve infrastructure.

The Manawa office is handicapped-accessible.

henryforassembly.com;
ballotpedia.org



Assembly 40 candidate Henry Fries (left), Gov. Tony Evers, and Fries' campaign manager, Logan Janssen, attended the picnic hosted by the Four-County Democratic Coalition on Sept. 11, 2022, in Montello, Wis.

Fries campaign

Pro-choice lawyer Hancock is Nov. 8 write-in

Julie Hancock is the name to write on the ballot for Congressional District 8 in the Nov. 8 general election, opposing incumbent GOP Rep. Mike Gallagher.

In the August primary, the Democrat's write-in effort gained about 5,000 votes, short of the 7,000 needed to have her name printed officially on the November ballot.

Where Hancock stands, according to her website:

Pro Choice. Keep the government out of our pregnancies, traumas, bedrooms, doctors offices, and significant life choices.

Pro Life. It matters what happens to the moms, the babies, AND to the living

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The quotable county fair



The people had things to say during the Waupaca County Fair, Aug. 25-28, 2022. Above left, farm animals conveyed a strong Democratic stance. Left, Targhee sheep were named after the Targhee National Forest, which surrounds the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station in Idaho. A young competitor's dad had this to say on his T-shirt: "Never hope for something harder than you're willing to work for it." Above, Executive Board members talked with a visitor at the booth in the Commercial Building. A favorite quote from a GOP visitor, when told that President Biden had won in November 2020: "We don't know that yet."

Volunteer photos, volunteer conversations, wikipedia.org

Monthly meeting highlights from Sept. 10, 2022

Summary of minutes, Sept. 10, 2022:

— Attendance at the Paca Blue booth was down during rainy days at the Waupaca County Fair, but people from across the state stopped to chat. No unpleasant talk from GOP supporters took place this year.

— Stu said that Waupaca is doing well in membership numbers compared to surrounding counties and gave credit to Bill's work at keeping membership recruitment in-house. Bill reported 16 renewals, two non-renewals.

— Signs: Thanks to Dave and helpers, 30 4x4-foot signs are in place around the county.

— Stu will bring signs from the Four-County Democratic Coalition picnic on Sept. 11 and from the Stevens Point Rural Caucus Sept. 13. Barb and crew have 22 signs prepped and ready for messaging.

— Stu will update the county party's constitution with agreed-upon changes. It is to be sent out 10 days before the October membership meeting, at which time the first reading will take place, followed by the 2nd reading and the vote on the changes.

Condensed from minutes by Secretary Barb Kobs

JUST THE FACTS

Godlewski starts PAC to support abortion rights

Women Win Wisconsin is a new political action committee aimed at preventing a GOP supermajority in the state legislature, which could override any governor's veto of an antiabortion bill. It was started by State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski, a former Senate candidate.

Republicans need to win only one extra seat in the state Senate and five more Republican seats in the Assembly to achieve the two-thirds supermajority.

Unseating GOP Sen. Ron Johnson is also a PAC aim. After U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham introduced a bill to ban abortion nationwide on Sept. 13, Johnson wouldn't say whether he would support it, but Johnson has cosponsored six versions of the same ban — in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2021.

Wisconsin clinics halted elective abortions after the Dobbs ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, which in 1973 made abortion legal in the United States. Abortion is still legal in Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois.

womenwinwi.com, wpr.org; Appleton Post-Crescent; wisconsinexaminer.com

Veterans in spotlight in Evers' commission

The Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Veteran Opportunity issued its final report on Sept. 1, 2022. The panel had been announced in Gov. Tony Evers' 2022 State of the State address.

The report focuses on "accessing jobs and skills training to join our workforce, supporting our veterans' homes, finding affordable housing, or making sure they can access the health care they need and deserve," Evers said. Wisconsin Veterans Home at King, Waupaca County, is one of three such homes in Wisconsin. In 2020, more than 300,000 veterans lived in Wisconsin.

"At its core, this report promotes relationship building, mentorship between older and younger veterans, resources and structures for families, and partnerships across veteran age groups in the workforce," the report said.

Gregg Duffek, Tribal Veteran Service Officer for the Stockbridge-Munsee Community and member of the commission, praised the ideas put forward by the commission, including marketing the services offered by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) and helping businesses recruit veterans to better understand how to mentor and serve veterans through employment.

dva.wi.gov; wispolitics.com; thecentersquare.com; 247wallst.com

Salute to service members

U.S. Navy Birthday, Oct. 13/ Navy Day, Oct. 27 — The "birthday," established when the Continental Congress named a national navy in 1775, celebrates the history of the U.S. Navy. The "day," sponsored by the Navy League of New York in 1922, is specifically about military service.

history.navy.mil; afd.defense.gov; veteran.com

Day of the Deployed, Oct. 26 — This day honors service members who have left their home station for somewhere outside the continental United States and its territories. The day also honors the sacrifices of military families. The first "deployed" day was in 2006, in North Dakota. By 2012, every state was observing this day.





A display for Democrats and an Independent filled the lawn of a Waupaca house.

Volunteer photo

At least two debates set for Barnes, Johnson

Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes, a candidate for the U.S. Senate seat held by incumbent GOP Sen. Ron Johnson, has announced he will participate in two televised debates:

— The Wisconsin Broadcast Association’s debate at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, in Milwaukee.

—The debate hosted by TMJ4 television station at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, sponsored by Wispolitics.com, 620 WTMJ radio, and *Milwaukee Business Journal*.

The campaign press release on Sept. 23 noted that Barnes continues to push his opponent, incumbent GOP Sen. Ron Johnson, for a forum on Monday, Oct. 24, in Oshkosh, Wis., hosted by the Wisconsin Farmers Union and Main Street Alliance.

Among Barnes’ policy priorities are reproductive justice, empowering family farms, and boosting Wisconsin manufacturing while strengthening unions and investing.

Barnes campaign manager Kory Kozloski said that Barnes “looks forward to holding” Johnson “accountable for his record of putting himself and his wealthy donors first.”

As of Sept. 16, the Johnson campaign said he also has a debate invitation from WISN-TV in Milwaukee.

Barnes’ main competitors — Sarah Godlewski, Alex Lasry and Tom Nelson — dropped out over three days, shortly before the primary. mandelabarnes.com; jsonline.com

Damage reports

About Sept. 14: Three roadside signs were damaged on Hwy. 45 south of New London, apparently by an ATV. They have been repaired.

Sept. 20: On Jennings Rd. in New London, a Democrat reported campaign signs stolen from his lawn.

Eyewitnesses;
Waupaca County Sheriff’s Dept.

Poems of the months

Since April, *Paca Blue News* has been honoring the Special Emphasis Programs designated by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. For October, two segments of society are honored: National Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, and October's National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Ada Limón is a California native (1976-) of Mexican-American descent. She was named the 24th Poet Laureate of the United States in July 2022. She can be rueful about her minority status, as in this excerpt from "The Contract Says: We'd Like the Conversation to Be Bilingual," collected in *The Carrying* (2018):

*When you come, bring your brown-
ness so we can be sure to please*

*the funders. Will you check this
box; we're applying for a grant.*

But she is straight up about her respect for nature, as in "The Saving Tree," which explores suicide, collected in *Bright Dead Things* (2015):

*... That tree,
that one willowy thing over there,
can save a life, you know?... a leaf ...
a small live letter that says only, Stay.*

poetryfoundation.org; wikipedia.org

The quotable politician

"If more politicians knew poetry, and more poets knew politics, I am convinced the world would be a little better place in which to live." — John F. Kennedy

Remarks of Senator John F. Kennedy, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., June 14, 1956, Box 895, Senate Speech Files, John F. Kennedy Papers, Pre-Presidential Papers, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library.

libquotes.com [a literary site]

Kate Wolfe-Jenson (1961-) is a writer and artist who lives with quadriplegia. Because her blog, *journeydancing.com*, accepts donations, she qualifies for Minnesota state funds to pay for her healthcare aides. Kindness is a theme of her work. This excerpt from "Step in Streams of Wisdom," is from her free April newsletter for subscribers, reprinted by permission of the author. (Full disclosure: Wolfe-Jenson is a relative of a Waupaca Dems volunteer.)

*Step into streams of wisdom
(Kind Promise: I will live with my heart wide
open.)*

*It's easy
in these dark times
to feel the weightiness
pulling us under
dragging us down
to familiar depths
don't lose heart
streams of wisdom
are available to us
passed down by sages
generations of teachers
clouds of witnesses
choirs of saints
feel them around you
pulling you up
into the light*

journeydancing.com

Pro-choice lawyer Hancock for CD8

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humans once born.

Pro Gun Responsibility Laws. Keep our schools, malls, movie theaters, churches, concerts, parades, and everywhere else safe by making guns harder to obtain. Less guns, not more.

Pro Support for Small Businesses — Entrepreneurs and small businesses are the backbone of the U.S. economy. It's time we treated them as much. Access to capital, affordable health insurance, and stronger anti-trust laws are needed.

Pro Supreme Court Reform. Expand the court, term limits, judicial-ethics reform to include mandatory recusal under the law, and a clear procedure to remove a sitting judge for impropriety.

Pro People's Lives, Not Power. I'll be an advocate for the People of Northeast Wisconsin in Washington, not an advocate for higher political aspirations, my personal political agenda or the quest for power.

"It's time to demand accountability from Mike Gallagher for his voting record in Congress for failing to align with the people of our congressional district," she says online.

*electjuliehancock.com,
www.facebook.com/ElectJulieHancock*



A highly visible sign was mounted in September on the upper storefront of the WCDP office at 401 S. Bridge St., Manawa.

Volunteer photo

Winter is coming; the needs are great

Food pantries — Food items, hygiene supplies, and cleaning products were recently delivered to the Marion food pantry after 60 to 70 items had been collected at the Manawa headquarters. Volunteers are needed to deliver to locations in these communities: Bear Creek (Outagamie County), Clintonville, Dale (Outagamie County), Iola and Scandinavia, and Weymont in Weyauwega. Contact waupacademocrats@gmail.com for locations and contact info. For a list of food items, see 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 — Putin's war to possess Ukraine grinds on. 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. The nonprofit USO supplies links from home to the U.S. troops who have been sent to Europe in response to the current invasion, which started Feb. 24, 2022.