



## June 2023

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**Next meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 14, 401 S. Bridge St., Manawa**

### Dems rummage sale on Saturday, June 3

Set your GPS for Manawa on Saturday, June 3, and the city-wide rummage sale, with bargains included at the office of the Waupaca County Democratic Party, 401 S. Bridge St. A numbered map with start times will be available Thursday, June 1, on Facebook and at Manawa businesses.

Nearby are cafes, gift shops, and a gas station, plus two new businesses a few doors from the Dems office: Sunrise Cafe and Linda Mae's, an ice cream shop that also sells locally sourced meats and cheeses.

If this first rummage fund-raiser for the WCDP is a success, the intent is to participate in the fall city-wide sale, Sept. 30. All items that aren't sold will be donated to a thrift store.

While you're hunting for those special items, remember to drop off donations for the food-pantry bin and used ink cartridges to help to buy office supplies. (See page 5.)



WCDP Chair Stu Walter consults with a vendor during the DC8 convention April 29 in Sturgeon Bay. *Volunteer photo*

### Lively debates at CD8 meeting

The back-and-forth was lively, as 58 delegates debated nine resolutions on April 29 at the 8th Congressional District (CD8) conference in Sturgeon Bay, Wis.

Eight resolutions passed, including two from the Waupaca County Democratic Party (WCDP). The resolutions will be up for votes at the Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DPW) convention June 10-11 in Green Bay.

*Continued on page 3*

### *Paca Blue News* takes a break

After this June 2023 edition, *Paca Blue News* will pause for several months. Although the monthly print and email versions will be on hiatus, look for timely information at facebook/waupacacountydemocraticparty and announcements and news at the website, waupacademocrats.com.

### Inside:

- Calling all candidates – help is available, page 2
- Amanda Gorman's poem of unity brings restrictions in Florida, page 5

# Calling all candidates – help is available

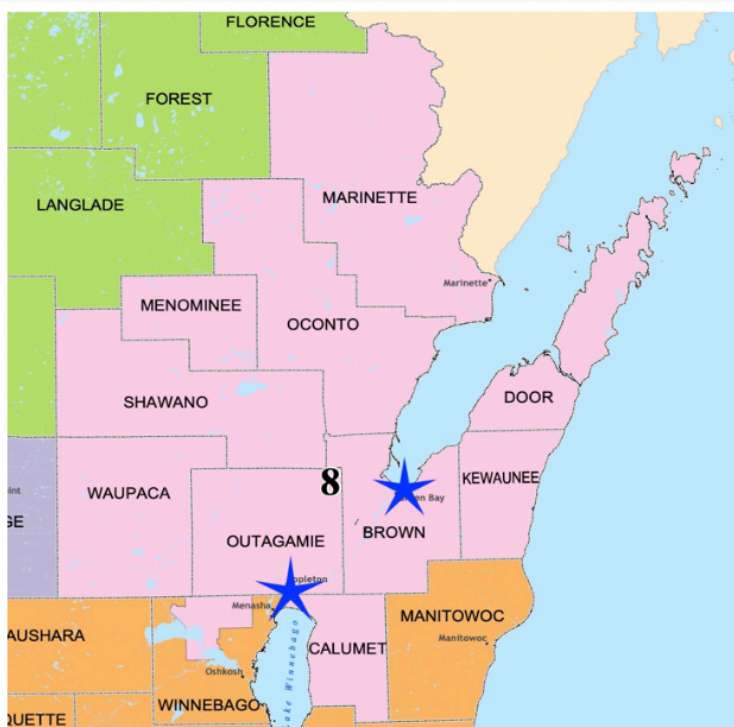
Not happy with people elected to represent you? A group called 23 for '24 from CD8 is ready to guide you through the process of becoming a candidate –in Waupaca County, for Senate District 14 and Assembly District

40, or for U.S. House. Kristin Lyerly, who is considering a CD8 run, is active in the effort (see page 4). And call the Waupaca County Democratic Party at 715-467-1541 for such local support as buttons and meeting space.

Wisconsin's 8th Congressional District is shaking it up in 2024 with

## 23 for '24!

Strong, empowered Democratic candidates for EVERY seat



✓ U.S.  
Congress

✓ Senate District 2  
✓ Senate District 12  
✓ Senate District 14  
✓ Senate District 20  
✓ Senate District 30

✓ Assembly District 1  
✓ Assembly District 2  
✓ Assembly District 3  
✓ Assembly District 4  
✓ Assembly District 5  
✓ Assembly District 6  
✓ Assembly District 8  
✓ Assembly District 25  
✓ Assembly District 35  
✓ Assembly District 36  
✓ Assembly District 40  
✓ Assembly District 55  
✓ Assembly District 56  
✓ Assembly District 57  
✓ Assembly District 59  
✓ Assembly District 88  
✓ Assembly District 89  
✓ Assembly District 90

### RECRUIT

We all know those people in our communities who would be excellent leaders. As members of the 8th CD, we will work to identify and encourage those folks to step up and lead!

### CONNECT

Every candidate deserves a strong team. We will reach out to talent in each community and build individualized teams focused on the candidate's unique needs and resources.

### SUPPORT

Elections in Wisconsin draw local, regional, state, and national attention. We will create networks to share experiences, offer ideas, and target resources where they are needed most.

I want to hear from you! [KristinForWisconsin@gmail.com](mailto:KristinForWisconsin@gmail.com), 920-288-2685

# WCDP resolutions focus on youth involvement

*Continued from page 1*

The most support was offered for a resolution to form a youth coalition in the DPW. It includes a provision to establish a scholarship for the youth leader “seeking any college degree, a state certification of 100 hours or more, or a union or trade apprenticeship.”

The resolution, proposed by WCDP secretary Barb Kobs, passed with little discussion, said WCDP chair Stu Walter. “It was the easiest to understand, made perfect sense,” and could be easily added to the existing lineup of DPW coalitions, he said.

The second Waupaca County resolution that passed calls for establishing a vice-chair apprentice officer, age 16 to 24, for each county party. It was offered at the spring 2023 WCDP meetings by Walter.

A divisive provision for the CD8 delegates automatically adds the position to every county constitution. Nonetheless, the resolution as passed includes the automatic addition “until the county parties can hold individual votes to revise their Constitutions.”

CD8 Secretary Dottie LeClaire, noting that some Wisconsin county parties haven’t updated their constitution for more than 30 years, offered a constitution template. In autumn 2022, the WCDP had clarified and revised its constitution, but the vice-chair resolution hadn’t yet been proposed.

The Waupaca resolution that didn’t pass called for a flat membership fee of \$10 per person, eliminating the varying DPW criteria that range from life activity (veteran, student, etc.) to marital status (single, pairs, etc.). Originally proposed by WCDP member Trudi Hahn Pickett in spring 2022, the change was made for the WCDP by voice vote at its March 2023 meeting. The vote to forward it to CD8 passed at the April 2023 meeting.

Walter said there was support for the flat fee, but delegates were concerned about how it would affect the DPW budget. DPW financial information isn’t shared with county parties.

The CD8 consists of, clockwise from Waupaca County, the counties of Shawano, Menomonie, Oconto, Marinette, Door, Kewaunee, Brown, Calumet, Outagamie, and a northern section of Winnebago.

Walter said a streamlined resolution process is intended next year, with CD8 sending its counties all proposals about two weeks before the convention. This is intended to condense the discussion time and ease the process of changing wording, which has been done by handwriting during discussion.

Convention attendance was up considerably from 2022, when only 38 delegates attended. “It’s always nice to be in a room with people who are like-minded and are working hard to promote progressive values,” said Walter.

## For further political 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>  
 – [wispolitics.com](http://wispolitics.com)

## The work in 2023:

- register voters
- prepare to be a candidate
- promote progressive policy
- build community connections



## JUST THE FACTS

### More than 200 mass shootings in U.S.

More than 200 mass shootings have been counted across the United States so far in 2023, according to the Gun Violence Archive, reported by BBC.com on May 26, 2023. The report came 146 days into the year 2023.

The archive defines a mass shooting as an incident in which four or more people are injured or killed. *bbc.com; gunviolencearchive.org*

### Lyerly ponders CD8 run

DePere doctor Kristin Lyerly is considering a run in 2024 against incumbent Rep. Mike Gallagher, R-WI8, who was reelected to his fourth term in 2022 without a Democrat opposing him.



Kristin Lyerly

In an email, Lyerly said she is “still considering options. If we do announce, it will likely be in September.” She is active in 23 for 24, the Democrats’ efforts to recruit candidates.

Her medical specialty is obstetrics and gynecology. She is one of three Wisconsin doctors who joined Atty. Gen. Josh Kaul in a challenge to the 1849 law that bans most abortions. Dane County Circuit Judge Diane Schlipper heard arguments May 4; it is unclear when she will issue a ruling.

*postcrescent.com; apnews.com*

### NAACP travel advisory against Florida

The NAACP on May 20, 2023, issued a formal travel advisory for the state of Florida in response to Gov. Ron DeSantis’ aggressive attempts to erase Black history and to restrict diversity, equity, and inclusion programs in Florida schools.

“Florida is openly hostile toward African Americans, people of color, and LGBTQ+ individuals,” it said.

NAACP, which says it “advocates, agitates, and litigates for the civil rights due to Black America,” issued its first travel advisory in August 2017 against the state of Missouri after the state passed a law that Missouri’s NAACP conference said allows for legal discrimination. The warning cited several discriminatory incidents in Missouri as examples of “looming danger” in the state.

*NAACP.org; cnn.com*



## Salute to service members

**Army birthday, June 14** — In the colonial revolt that became a shooting war in April 1775, militiamen stood fast against British regulars at Lexington and Concord, Mass. But they weren’t trained for a long siege. On June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress passed a resolution forming the Continental Army. “Resolved, That six companies of expert riflemen, be immediately raised in Pennsylvania, two in Maryland, and two in Virginia ... [and] as soon as completed, shall march and join the army near Boston...” *military.com*

## Cultural Days

**Flag Day, June 14, Appleton parade June 10** — The annual Flag Day parade in Appleton is always the second Saturday in June, this year at 2 p.m. June 10. Fox Cities citizens have honored “Old Glory” since 1950, making the Appleton Flag Day Parade the nation’s oldest. The Stars and Stripes design was adopted by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. Many people urged that the date become a national holiday, but it wasn’t until August 3, 1949, that Congress approved the national observance. President Harry Truman signed it into law.

*va.gov; appleton.org*

**Juneteenth, June 19** — President Joe Biden signed Juneteenth into law on June 17, 2021. It is the 11th federal U.S. holiday and the first new federal holiday since Martin Luther King Day was designated in 1983. It celebrates the final end of U.S. slavery on June 19, 1865, when Union Army Gen. Gordon Granger brought word of freedom for slaves to Galveston in Texas, the last state of the Confederacy with institutional slavery. *calendarpedia.com*

## School restricts Gorman poem after “hate messages” claimed

A poem of unity read at President Biden’s 2021 inauguration has upset a lone parent in Florida, resulting in students from K-5 at one school being barred from reading or reciting the work.

On Twitter, poet Amanda Gorman said she wrote “The Hill We Climb” “so that all young people could see themselves in a historical moment,” at the inauguration just weeks after now-convicted seditious conspirators tried to stop the certification of Biden as the 2020 winner on Jan. 6, 2021.

Daily Salinas, mother of two children in the Bob Graham Education Center in Miami Lakes, wrote on her March complaint form that specific passages are “not educational and have indirectly [sic] hate messages.”

The passages, tweeted by Gorman, begin and end with these lines:

*We’ve braved the belly of the beast ...  
Somehow, we’ve weathered and witnessed  
A nation that isn’t broken, but simply  
unfinished.*

The parent, who says she is of Cuban heritage and hasn’t read the entire poem, further wrote that the function of the work is to “cause confusion and indoctrinate students.”

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported that a group called Miami Against Fascism shared video of Salinas at events with the Proud Boys, some of whom are among the convicted seditious conspirators, and Moms For Liberty, “a ‘parents’ rights’ group active in pushing for book removals across the country.” Salinas told the Jewish news organization that she was not a member of either group.

*common dreams.org; variety.com;  
nytimes.com; jta.org*

## Poem of the month: EEO series —LGBT

The Stonewall Uprising of June 1969 in New York City triggered a start toward ending the hatred of the LGBT community, although it wasn’t until 1998 that an Executive Order from President Clinton prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation in federal-government employment. In June 2009, President Obama signed the proclamation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month. It and other months that feature marginalized communities are promoted by the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) section of the Department of Commerce.

But hatred of the community persists. One of the worst crimes against LGBT people came on June 12, 2016, when a gunman with a Sig Sauer MCX assault-style rifle and a handgun killed 49 people and injured dozens at Pulse, a well-known gay nightclub in Orlando, Fla. The gunman’s father said his son had become angered recently at the sight of two men kissing in Miami.

The poet Jameson Fitzpatrick (birth unknown, possibly in the 1980’s) responded with “A Poem for Pulse” (2017), which the transgender woman posted on Facebook. When *Newsweek* reprinted it, she told the magazine, “I found that I couldn’t step away and feel like it was some big, exceptional thing that didn’t touch me.”

In this excerpt, the clinical associate professor at New York University contemplates the lives of LGBT people and the kiss she shared with a man who walked her home on a busy street in a different city just hours before the Pulse massacre in Orlando:

*... here we are  
getting kissed on stoops, getting married some of us,  
some of us getting killed.  
We must love one another whether or not we die ...  
Anywhere you run in this world, love will be there to greet you,  
Around any corner, there might be two men. Kissing.*

*archives.gov; arts.gov; npr.org; poetryfoundation.org; newsweek.com*

## ‘Bakhmut is only in our hearts’ – please donate

**Ukraine needs help, as do U.S. troops** — “For today, Bakhmut is only in our hearts,” said Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on May 21 in Hiroshima, Japan, about the Ukrainian city devastated by Russian bombing. We can help by donating to such well-established charities as Red Cross, Doctors Without Borders, and World Food Kitchens. The nonprofit USO serves many American troops.

*washingtonpost.com; uso.org; thesoldiersproject.org*

**The food/supplies donation bin** — At the county-party headquarters in Manawa, the bin needs shelf-stable food items, hygiene supplies, and cleaning products for area food pantries.

Deliveries since 2021 have gone to New London, Manawa, Marion, Waupaca, and Weymont.

A list of pantries is available at [waupacademocrats.com](http://waupacademocrats.com) — click “give back.” Or go online to [waupacacounty-wi.gov](http://waupacacounty-wi.gov), search for “food pantries,” then scroll down to “community resources” to see many ways the county can help. (Also available is the pantry in the Waupaca Area Public Library.)

**Ink and toner** — Empty printer cartridges donated at Dems HQ in Manawa will be recycled at Staples for \$2 per cartridge, which is used to pay for office supplies.

## At CD8: Rural support, updating bylaws and constitutions, punishing child labor, plus WCDP’s youth involvement

Eight resolutions from the CD8 convention will be up for votes at the convention of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DPW) on June 10-11 in Green Bay.

Marinette County proposed two of the resolutions that passed, one about messaging for rural Wisconsin and the other about planning winning support strategies for rural Wisconsin.

Brown County also had two resolutions that passed, one that urges criminal prosecution for food-processing companies that illegally employ child labor and the other urging the DPW to encourage and support Democratic candidates in every race.

CD8 had two successful resolutions, one to update the DPW Bylaws and the other to support Democratic county parties in the updating of their Constitutions.

Two resolutions from the Waupaca County Democratic Party (WCDP) that passed at the CD8 convention April 29 in Green Bay:

### **1) Establish Vice-Chair Apprentice Officer**

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DWP) seeks the perspectives of young voters while involving them in its principles and policies,

WHEREAS, counties presently may not have a Vice-Chair Apprentice Officer,

Therefore, Be it RESOLVED, the DPW will encourage its county parties to establish a new officer position, Vice-Chair Apprentice, to be held by a person 16-24 years old, with the same voting rights as other officers,

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, each county party Constitution be considered as amended to include the additional officer until the county parties can hold individual votes to revise their Constitutions.

### **2) Establish a Youth Coalition Function and Scholarship Program**

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DPW) seeks the perspective of young voters while involving them in its principles and policies,

WHEREAS, the DPW does not have a Youth Coalition and Outreach function,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the DPW will establish a Youth Coalition and Outreach function.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, the DPW will now establish a scholarship fund to aid the youth leader in seeking any college degree, a state certification of 100 hours or more, or a union or trade apprenticeship.