



www.manisteecountydemocrats.us

Monthly Meetings

Meeting Date:

September 24
(4th Thursday of month)
7 pm

Virtual ZOOM Meeting

Guest Speaker

Sarah Oleniczak
County Health District #10
"The Status of Covid-19 in
Manistee County"

NEXT MEETING: OCT. 22

"THE STATUS OF MAIL
DELIVERY IN
MANISTEE COUNTY"

Officers

Chair- Gary Madden
genie42br@gmail.com

Vice Chair-

Laurel Mason
laurele52@charter.net

Secretary- Peg Raddatz
peg.raddatz@gmail.com

Treasurer-

Judy Cunningham
jpc4466@gmail.com

Membership Chair

Shirley Madden
gspmadden@gmail.com

THE ELECTION 2020 ISSUE *a must read for voters*

SLATE CARD

Joseph R. Biden, President
Kamala D. Harris, Vice President
Gary Peters, U.S. Senator (Incumbent)
Dana Ferguson, 1st District Rep. to U.S. Congress
Beth McGill-Rizer, 101st District Rep. in State Legislature

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ellen Cogen Lipton

Jason Strayhorn

REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY of MICHIGAN

Mark Bernstein

Shauna Ryder Diggs

TRUSTEES OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Brian Mosallam

Rema Ella Vassar

GOVERNORS OF WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Eva Garza Dewaelsche

Shirley Stancato

JUSTICES FOR THE SUPREME COURT

Bridget Mary McCormack (Incumbent)

Elizabeth M. Welch

JUDGE 19th CIRCUIT COURT

David A. Thompson (Incumbent)

COUNTY COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES

Allan O'Shea – District 2

Gene Lagerquist – District 3

Rolf Wucherer – District 4

Karen Goodman – District 6

Margaret Batzer – District 7

MANISTEE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS

Marylynn Wrzesinski

MANISTEE COUNTY SHERIFF

Ken Falk

And over 40 Democratic Township Candidates

INFORMATION ABOUT PROPOSALS

PROPOSAL 20-1

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Allow the State Parks Endowment Fund to continue receiving money from sales of oil and gas from state-owned lands to improve, maintain and purchase land for State parks, and for Fund administration, until its balance reached \$800,000,000.
- Require subsequent oil and gas revenue from state-owned lands to go into the Natural Resources Trust Fund.
- Require at least 20% of Endowment Fund annual spending go toward State park improvement.
- Require at least 25% of Trust Fund annual spending go toward parks and public recreation areas and at least 25% toward land conservation.

Should this proposal be adopted? **YES**

PROPOSAL 20-2

This proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Prohibit unreasonable searches and seizures of a person's electronic data and electronic communications.
- Require a search warrant to access a person's electronic data or electronic communications, under the same conditions currently required for the government to obtain a search warrant to search a person's home or seize a person's things.

Should this proposal be adopted? **YES**

SERVICES FOR THE AGED PROVIDED THROUGH MANISTEE COUNCIL ON AGING

Manistee County Council on Aging is seeking a renewal of its milage 0.300 mills to provide services to Manistee County seniors 60 and over. Manistee County Council on Aging is also requesting a new additional milage to provide the Senior Nutrition Program (Meals on Wheels) to Manistee County homebound seniors and congregate meal sites in the amount of 0.178 mills. If approved the total milage in the amount of 0.475 would go to the Manistee Council of Aging for six (6) years.

Should this proposal be adopted? **YES**



Words from Our Chair, Gary Madden

I want to thank everyone who participated in our first ever virtual Don Jennings event. Considering the difficulty that some of us face with accessing Zoom meetings, our event was very well attended this year. It was personally so frustrating to so suddenly lose our internet connection in the middle of our program. Thanks to Meg Batzer for her quick thinking in inviting us down to her home and getting us back on. I was so honored to be this year's recipient of the Don Jennings award. It means a great deal to me to be recognized in this way.

Everything is running smoothly at our office on River Street. It is turning out to be a better location than we expected with lots of people coming in every day. Of course, everyone wants Biden/Harris yard signs. We are doing our best to keep them available. We have had many out-of-towners stopping in looking for signs. Apparently, everyone around the state is having trouble keeping up with demand. If the demand is any indication of how fired up people are then we are in for a very big blue wave in November. If you haven't stopped by, please do so soon. We have plenty of materials for all candidates including local candidates and others. In particular, pick up some materials about our MI Supreme Court candidates McCormack and Welch and share them with friends and family. They will, of course, appear on the non-partisan portion of the ballot, so don't forget to vote for them.

In the coming weeks we will be asking for volunteers to help out in various ways. Look for volunteer notices as they come out. We must all do our part to defend our Democracy against this assault from extremists who are playing on fear and division and even, in recent days, sowing the seeds for civil war. Simply making financial contributions, while very helpful, is not enough in these troubled times. We all need to stand up and not be afraid to express our opinions, however and whenever we can. We need to write letters, make calls, demonstrate, attend rallies, and make some noise. If we fail to fight for our principles, our freedoms can easily slip away, as they did in Germany in the 1930's.

We are all saddened by the death of Justice Ginsberg this week. She was a real giant in the defense of human rights and the cause of justice. She will be terribly missed by our country. We all know what is now at stake. We know how Republicans treated President Obama's nominee to the Supreme Court, how they blocked his appointment during the final year of President Obama's term in office. They have already declared that their past behavior should not apply to filling Justice Ginsberg's position. We cannot allow this president another Supreme Court nomination so close to the election. Be prepared to take action to stop such a move!

Finally, I want to again thank Paul Glaser for his consistent service to our party and congratulate him on receiving this year's Chairman's Service Award. Speaking of service to the party, in November, we will be selecting the various officers of our Executive Committee. The current officers have been serving for four years and some are growing weary. Please consider serving in one of these capacities. Members of the nominating committee will be contacting everyone, asking party members to step up to the plate. New energy will keep our party healthy.

Meister challenges Franz for Onekama Township Supervisor

For 18 years, David A. Meister has been the supervisor of Onekama Township running on the Republican ticket. This year he ran as a write-in candidate in the August Democratic Primary. He will be on the November ballot as a Democrat. His Republican challenger is Ray Franz.

One of Meister's major goals has been to provide a sewage treatment system for homes and businesses around Portage Lake to protect the lake and expand business opportunities. Finally, in 2017, the township joined with Bear Lake to launch the Two-Lakes Sewage Treatment Project. This project will be funded through US Rural Development grants and loans.

Meister was planning to retire this year, but the pandemic put a hold on the Sewage Project and he rethought retirement. He wants to make sure the Sewage Project is completed, and feels a strong need to stay involved to make sure that happens.

Being a Pierport resident, I can attest that as Supervisor Meister defended public access to Lake Michigan against a great deal of pressure from wealthy landowners. My respect for David Meister's leadership grew from that point. Knowing what I know about Ray Franz, the darling of the tea party Republicans, I am thrilled that he is running again. Onekama residents!! Please support David A. Meister for Township Supervisor.

-- Judy Cunningham



VOTING IN THE ERA OF COVID AND TRUMP



Even amongst challenges to campaigning, we must do our part to return our country to a safe and sane federal government. Don't underestimate Trump! He is hitting Michigan hard. Here's how you can help turn out every Democratic voter and secure Michigan's electoral college for Biden.

Rick Schrock, Al Frye and Jon Showalter are amassing large numbers of volunteers to call local inconsistent Democratic voters THAT YOU KNOW. To volunteer call Rick Schrock: 630-699-4030 or email - wildlone@gmail.com

The One Campaign from the Michigan Democratic Party are asking for volunteers to make calls for Biden and Peters campaigns. To volunteer call ELI JUDGE - 608-332-3940 or email - ejudge@1campaignmi.com

Beth has volunteers calling voters between 30-50 yrs old - also inconsistent voters. To volunteer for her campaign, call Peggy Raddatz- 231-510-3726 or email peg.raddatz@gmail.com.

We also have volunteers going door to door to hang Beth flyers within the city of Manistee. (no knocking required). To volunteer, call Judy Cunningham-231-794-0005.

Slate Card: Use the slate card information on the front page to help you complete your ballot. Some of the candidates run as non-partisans; i.e., judges, boards, trustees, etc.. However, the Democratic Party still supports these candidates. Please turn your ballot over to complete the proposals on the back. All the proposals are recommended, so please vote YES. For more information, go to www.VOTE411.org where the League of Women Voters has all the election information you need: views of the candidates on issues and explanations of ballot proposals.

Absentee Voting: Please know that ballots should be mailed out by September 24-25th to voters that have applied for them. If you haven't applied for an absentee ballot do so now by going online to complete an application at www.mi.gov/vote or call your township or city clerk to request one. Once you have applied for a ballot, the ballot will be mailed to you. REMEMBER TO SIGN YOUR NAME TO OUTER SIDE OF THE ABSENTEE BALLOT. **You can check your ballot status at:** www.mvic.sos.state.mi.us/voter

Your ballot must be returned to your township or city clerk by November 3rd. Be sure to mail your ballot no later than October 20th. Another option is to return your ballot directly to the clerk or put it in a secure drop box or mail slot. See locations below:

TOWNSHIP	ADDRESS	CLERK	PHONE #	DROP BOX AVAILABILTY
ARCADIA	3422 LAKE ST 49613	PATTY WILSON	231-889-4463	24/7 @ TWP OFFICE
BEAR LAKE	7771 LAKE ST 49614	DEANNA PATTISON	231-864-3620	24/7 @TWP OFFICE
BROWN	9763 COATES HWY 49660	PAMELA TOMPKKE	231-889-5785	24/7 @TWP OFFICE
CLEON	16505 IMOFF DR 49625	MELISSA KALINA	231-378-2616	24/7 @ MAIL SLOT @ TWP OFFICE
DICKSON	14270 BRETHERN BLVD 49619	WENDAY MAIER	231-477-5885	24/7 @TWP OFFICE
FILER	2505 FILER ST 49660	SHIRLEY BALL	231-723-3138	24/7 @ TWP OFFICE
MANISTEE TWP	410 HOLDEN ST 49660	DIANE TAYLOR	231-723-6507	24/7 @ MAIL SLOT @ TWP OFFICE
MANISTEE CITY	70 MAPLE ST 49660	HEATHER PEFLEY	231-398-2803	24/7 @ CITY HALL
MAPLE GROVE	9213 AURA ST 49645	AMANDA FERWERDA	231-362-3825	24/7 MAIL SLOT AT TWP OFFICE
MARILLA	9991 MARILLA RD 49625	BETTY BUDA JOY	231-434-2856	24/7 @ TWP OFFICE
NORMAN	1273 S SEAMAN ST 49689	MARY SOULE	231-859-4337	24/7 MAIL SLOT AT TWP OFFICE
ONEKAMA	5435 MAIN ST 49675	MICHELLE JOHNSON	231-889-3308	24/7 @ MAIL SLOT @ TWP OFFICE
PLEASANTON	8958 LUMLEY RD 49614	AMY CROSS	231-864-3238	USE Bear Lake Post Office
SPRINGDALE	PO BOX 117 49625	PENNY NELSON	231-378-2252	NO BOX/ AVAIL SAT BEFORE ELEC
STRONACH	2471 MAIN ST 49660	BARBARA RISHEL	231-398-9025	24/7 @ TWP OFFICE



I'm Beth McGill-Rizer and I'm Running for Michigan State House District 101

★ Beth's Top 10 ★



- Get Michigan's economy back on the road to recovery by creating Union jobs with benefits
- Raise the minimum wage to a living wage
- Expand family and medical leave



- Health care is a human right, not a privilege for the few
- Keep rural hospitals open
- Recruit and cultivate tomorrow's health care providers
- Reduce drug costs
- Address the opioid crisis



- Provide quality public education that meets national standards and reflects our communities' culture and values
- Recruit new teachers
- Increase educator compensation and support



- Transition to clean energy
- Protect the water we drink and the air we breathe
- Hold polluters accountable



- Fix Michigan's roads, bridges, dams, water and sewer systems
- Expand cellular and broadband networks



- Preserve farmland
- Slow targeted growth
- Protect animal welfare
- Strengthen the food supply chain
- Prioritize conservation and sustainability



- Honor and empower Tribal Nations and indigenous peoples
- Protect the rights and equality of people with disabilities
- Advance the rights of the LGBTQ+ community



- Provide access to opportunity, networks, resources, and support to reduce poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity



- Protect our communities from gun violence
- Protect our rights to hunt and self-defense



- Require state office holders to file financial disclosure forms
- Subject the legislature and Governor to Freedom of Information Act
- Get money out of politics - no more free lunches

Beth
M C G I L L • R I Z E R

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Created and printed by volunteers

RE-ELECTU.S. SENATOR GARY PETERS!

Gary Peters knows that our economy like the one he grew up in, and he have to stand up for small businesses. every three jobs, and Gary believes strengthening the backbone of our

is powered by middle-class families knows to keep our state strong, we Small businesses create two out of that protecting them means state.

After working for over 20 years in business, Gary understands the unique challenges that small businesses face. During his time in the Senate, he has cut red tape and fought to ensure small businesses have the resources to thrive.

Gary knows that Michigan has the greatest workforce in the world, and we have to expand their opportunities for our state to thrive. That's why he's working to create jobs by fighting to ensure Michigan is a manufacturing hub, and is expanding access to workforce training and skilled trades programs that have literally built our state's economy. Gary knows that for many families, a certificate that leads to a good job can mean just as much as any four-year degree and has passed bipartisan legislation to expand career and technical education, apprenticeship programs and trade school opportunities for high school students and veterans.

Gary knows that no one should have to make the impossible decision between paying their medical bills and putting food on the table. That's why he was proud to vote for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and has opposed attempts to repeal it to protect the 1.7 million Michiganders with pre-existing conditions who depend on the ACA for protections.

Gary knows that far too many seniors and others who rely on prescription medications are struggling to keep up with their skyrocketing costs. That's why he helped lead and pass bills to get generic versions of insulin into the market more quickly, expand access to more affordable generic drugs and prevent big pharmaceutical companies from monopolizing the generic drug market. In addition, Gary helped introduce legislation that would allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices to keep costs low and make sure more Michiganders can afford their life-saving medications.

Most recently, Gary was named one of the most effective Senators by the non-partisan Center for Effective Lawmaking. He was ranked the fourth-most effective Senator of the minority-party in advancing and enacting legislation the last session of Congress – all while serving in his first term in the Senate under a Republican-controlled White House and Congress.

On the Senate Armed Services Committee – and as Ranking Member of the Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee – Gary is focused on creating a strong and innovative military that is prepared for the rapidly changing nature of warfare.

Gary knows that protecting our natural resources for future generations from threats like climate change will benefit both our environment and America's economy. President Obama signed into law his legislation to strengthen oversight of oil and gas pipelines and help prevent disastrous oil spills.

Benson: Michigan could see up to 70% percent turnout in November

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson on Wednesday predicted more than 5 million Michiganders will vote in the presidential election and said she expects more than 3 million will do so by absentee ballot.

That would nearly double the record 1.6 million absentee ballots cast in the August primary and rival total turnout from the 2008 presidential election. Already, 2.3 million Michigan registered voters have requested absentee ballots, said Benson, adding she expects about 60 percent to 70 percent of the state's 7.5 million voters to cast ballots.

Michiganders voted to expand absentee voting in 2018, and the coronavirus pandemic has likely spurred additional interest in the option. But voters can still cast ballots in-person on Nov. 3, Benson reminded.

"When you do show up on Election Day at your local precinct, you will be greeted by workers wearing masks, gloves and face shields," she said in a COVID-19 news conference with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. "You will find the precinct to be sanitized with social distancing guidelines in place."

Benson, Michigan's top election official, thanked the Senate for approving legislation on Tuesday, September 15, that would allow clerks to open absentee ballot mail envelopes a day early to prepare them for counting on Election Day. If approved by the House, clerks hope the pre-processing will help them report election night results in a timely fashion.

But Benson wants to give clerks more time and implored the Legislature to do more to ensure every vote is counted, such as allowing absentee ballots that are postmarked by Election Day to be tabulated even if they arrive by mail a day or two late.

Benson has repeatedly rebutted President Donald Trump's claim that mail-in voting is unreliable and will lead to voter fraud. On Wednesday, she warned that the state is expecting efforts to mislead or misinform Michiganders about their legal voting options and announced a new reporting email address: misinformation@michigan.gov.

"If you see or hear anything suspicious, anything that sounds wrong or that is just plain confusing about your right to vote this year, report it to my office," Benson said.

— Jonathan Oosting *Bridge Magazine*

Second All Solar – Manistee County Democrats **Country Picnic**



Sunday, October 11 – 3-6 PM

Wanda and Tim Joseph's Farm – 11171 Kerry Road – Brethren

Bring a dish to pass, place settings, and your favorite beverage.

Social Distancing, and masks are a must.

Designated Servers will serve your dish.

Brats will be on the grill, music in the air, and apples in the cider mill!

