



[www.manisteecountydemocrats.us](http://www.manisteecountydemocrats.us)

### Monthly Meetings

Next Meeting Date:

**JULY 25th**

(4th Thursday of month)

**7 pm - 9 pm**

**Dial-a Ride, Manistee**

Meeting Agenda includes  
Guest Speaker -

News from Lansing  
and District 101

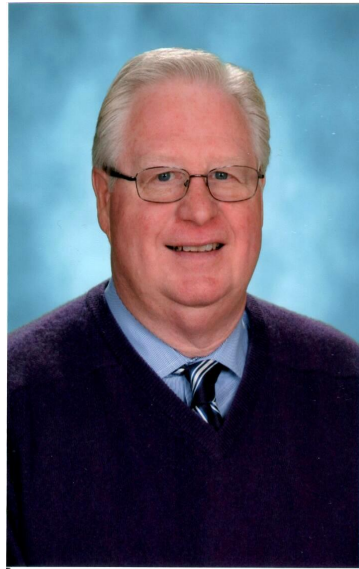
### Officers

Chair- Glen Lottie  
pglottie@kaltelnet.net

V. Chair-Laurel Mason  
laurele52@charter.net

Secretary-Peggy Raddatz  
peg.raddatz@gmail.com

Treasurer-Joanna Collins  
collij1946@yahoo.com



*Tom Stobie is currently the Superintendent of Frankfort-Elberta Area Schools. He recently declared himself a candidate for State Representative for the 101<sup>st</sup> District.*

*Tom is married to Marcia, an architect, and they have two married daughters. They have made Frankfort their home since 2004.*

*"Someone has to be willing to stand up and put it on the line."*

Tom Stobie is angry about the sizeable cuts to public education. As a Superintendent he knows the damage it is doing and found himself complaining – a lot.

But Stobie is a man of action so instead he is running for State Representative in the 2014 election. He announced his decision in Manistee as he introduced Barb Byrum at the May 23<sup>rd</sup> speaking event.

A former MEA member, teacher and coach, Stobie strongly supports collective bargaining and knows that teachers are on the front line.

He has lived all his life in Michigan and 14 years up north. He knows how vitally important it is to protect our Great Lakes, our environment, and promote renewable energy.

---

*Manistee, Mason, Benzie and Leelanau Counties invite you to a*

*Meet and Greet for Tom Stobie*

*Sunday, July 21, 3-5PM at the Lily Farm  
17745 Moore Rd, Thompsonville (off of N. County-Line Rd)*

*Sangria and appetizers provided*

*Suggested donation \$20*

*Contact Diane Wilbur 231-944-2666*

# COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR



**W**hy, why, why, why?

I keep asking myself why; why do people vote for bills that are bound to be hurtful to them? Why do they vote for candidates who will not really represent them? Why don't union people vote strictly democratic? Why are people willing to give up their civil liberties? Why aren't they willing to help their neighbors or people in need?

I could go on and on with numerous more questions because I have so many concerns that bother me. I agree that these are inherently complex questions because people have complex emotions and are varied in their thinking. Some would say that this is human nature. I don't entirely agree. I feel that they are possibly uninformed about the important issues and the true nature of the candidates.

Another question, why is that? (I know I am rambling on, but I keep searching for answers.) I guess what I am getting at is that we, as a democratic organization, must be well informed ourselves and ready to inform the public. We should not argue with people; but just give them substantiated facts. If we are consistent in our approach, we will convince more people about what is beneficial and important to them.

Have a great day and keep your faith in human nature.

Glenn Lottie

*"We like to think of ourselves as the rational species. But research shows that our thinking and behavior are often completely illogical."*

*Hal Herzog*

*"If we can but tear the blindfold of self-deception from our eyes and loosen the gag of self-denial from our voices, we can restore our country to greatness."*

*Theodore C Sorensen*

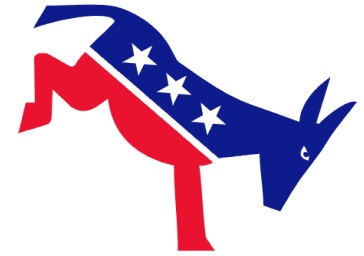
---

## THE 101<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT CREATES A PAC TO WIN

The 101<sup>st</sup> District is the district that elects our state representative, and includes Manistee, Mason, Benzie and Leelanau counties.

DEMS have come sooo close to winning the past two elections only to be defeated by a handful of votes. That is why these four counties have been working closely together since 2012. A better strategy is needed to win the next one – in 2014- and they say forming a PAC is vital to winning. Those handful of votes can be won if we had more resources and boots on the ground. We need a way to build reliable support for strong candidates so we can focus on winning.

The new PAC is called Northwestern Michigan Values. To get it going they have to have 25 contributors and 3 candidates. They have the candidates, but need more contributors. If you'd like to help kick it off, send a check to Allan O'Shea made out to Northwestern Michigan Values - PAC# 516404-1. Mail to 10156 Wiitala Rd, Copemish, MI 49625 or contact Allan at 231-362-3425 for more information about this PAC.



**THE PURPOSE OF  
THE PAC  
IS TO ELECT  
GOOD,  
ENVIRONMENTALLY  
SOUND  
CANDIDATES –  
AND WIN!**

---

## NEWS FROM LANSING

from Frank Greco, our Lansing correspondent

### *The Battle over Medicaid Expansion*

Would it surprise you that the Medicaid Expansion bill had enough votes in the State Senate to pass but the Republican Majority Leader refused to bring it up for a vote? The legislature even adjourned for summer recess without any action on the bill.

From the Lansing State Journal:

Now the future of the expansion — the shape it will take, whether it occurs at all — rests with a bipartisan workgroup of eight state senators who begin meeting this week to review the proposal to provide health insurance to 320,000 low-income Michigan residents.

As of now, Michigan almost certainly will not be able to enroll these people in a Medicaid expansion beginning Oct. 1, which prepares for the program's start Jan. 1. That's because the state House already has passed their own version of a Medicaid expansion that needs a 90-day federal review process, and Senate Republicans want to develop their own version of an expanded Medicaid.

“The Republicans, by their inaction, are putting Michigan behind an eight ball,” said Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer, an East Lansing Democrat who backs the expansion.

## Gretchen Whitmer to Keynote Don Jennings Award Dinner



Our outspoken upcoming speaker is the current Senate Minority Leader and is said to be the “Voice of the Democratic Party in Michigan”. She has earned this title by being both bold and very articulate.

If you go to her website you will see a revolving banner that says: “Senate Republicans - Take a vote, not a vacation” referring to the fact that Michigan’s

legislature went on summer recess without voting on the Medicaid expansion bill, thereby preventing 320,000 low income residents from getting affordable healthcare in 2014.

Another page on the banner says, “The fight over right to work is far from over”. She is a strong progressive voice as you can see from the bills she sponsors. The MICHIGAN 2020 bill would provide all graduating high school students with an opportunity for a free college education. Her reasoning: You can’t build a strong Michigan and leave Michigan’s children behind. Michigan must have a highly educated workforce ready for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy.

On Women’s Health, she says, “with continuing their attacks on contraception and women’s healthcare, treating women as second class citizens has become a policy platform for the Republican Party”.

She is also leading the fight to protect our kids against cyberbullying and was the creator of the “Matt’s Safe Schools Law”. The Republicans tried to amend this bill to include an exemption on religious grounds, which she was able to prevent.

Senator Whitmer graduated from Michigan State University with her law degree in 1998, graduating magna cum laude. She lives in East Lansing with her, husband Marc, her two daughters: Sherry (9), Sydney (7) and his three sons: Mason (18), Alex (18) and Winston (13).



*Don Jennings with President John F. Kennedy*

## THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL DON JENNINGS AWARD NOMINATIONS BALLOT

**PLEASE PRINT:**

I nominate: \_\_\_\_\_

Because: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail your Nomination to: Don Jennings Award Nomination**

**C/O Manistee DEMS, P.O. Box 65, Manistee, Michigan 49660 by August 15.**

**The Award Winner will be chosen by those Party Members in attendance at the August monthly meeting, on August 22<sup>nd</sup> by popular vote. You must be a dues paid member in order to cast your vote. Please attend this very important meeting and vote for your choice!**



## Don Jennings Award Dinner

**October 5, 2013**  
**Manistee Country Club**  
**Social Hour at 6:00 PM**  
**Dinner at 7:00 PM**

### Keynote Speaker

### Gretchen Whitmer

Senate Democratic Leader



Senator Whitmer made national headlines when she led the fight against Republican efforts to create a loophole in an anti-bullying bill that would have told Michigan's students it was ok to bully other kids as long as it was based on "religious beliefs or moral convictions."

Tickets Available at the  
on the Manistee County Democratic Party Website  
[www.manisteecountydemocrats.us](http://www.manisteecountydemocrats.us)

**For Information Phone:**  
**(231) 887-4467** between 10 am and 6 pm  
or email: [donjenningsdinner@gmail.com](mailto:donjenningsdinner@gmail.com)

*BLUE TIGER COOKING SCHOOL AND  
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER  
Vintage Italian Fiesta Class*

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_

Zip\_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Questions about the Menu, please contact Chef Gary at: 231-887-7748

Questions about Registration, please contact Peggy Raddatz 231-510-3726

Mail Registration Form along with your Check for \$100 to:

Blue Tiger Cooking School c/o Manistee County Dems

P.O. Box 65 Manistee, Michigan 49660

For more Italian Recipes from Gary Macchioni, visit his blog from his time in Hersey,  
PA. [blog.pennlive/Italian Kitchen](http://blog.pennlive/Italian Kitchen)

# *Blue Tiger Vintage Italian Fiesta Cooking Class*

## COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

A day of fun and cooking vintage Italian meals with your favorite group of friends.

Participants will learn to cook Old World Vintage Italian dishes.

Hands-on instruction and recipes will be provided

by Gary Macchioni and the Blue Tigers Culinary Staff.

*Vintage Italian Fiesta* to be served after instructions.

**When: Saturday, August 24, 2013**

**Where: First Congregational Church, 412 Third Street, Manistee, Michigan**

**Donation: \$100 per person. 12 -15 participants needed.**

### **Menu**

#### **Appetizers - Anti Pasti**

Bruschetta con Pomodori - Made in advance

Antipasti Platters - Assembled by guests

Tomato & Fresh Mozzarella Platters - Made in advance

#### **Soups - Zuppa**

Stracciatelle - Made by Guests

Italian Wedding Soup - Made in advance & assembled by Guests

#### **Pasta**

Fettuccini, Egg - Mostly made in advance. Guest will make additional pasta.

Tomato Basil Fettuccini - Made in advance. We will cook all pasta.

#### **Pasta Sauces**

Basic Tomato - Made in advance

Blush Tomato. Basic Tomato with seasoned Ricotta - Made in advance

Alfredo - Made by Guests

#### **Vegetables - Contorno**

Green Beans and Tomatoes - Made in advance

Spaghetti Squash - Partially made in advance & finished by guests. Vegetarian alternative for meat dishes.

#### **Meat - Primo**

Porchetta - Made in advance

Sausage & Peppers - Made in advance

#### **Desserts**

Tiramisu - Individual servings made in advance

Filled Dessert Crepes - Crepes and Fillings made in advance & assembled by Guests

We will provide Bread/Rolls, Coffee, Tea, and other non-alcoholic beverages. Guests may bring their own wine and/or beverages.



## *2013 Manistee DEMS Membership Year*

January – December 2013

- Your membership will keep you informed of events through email, newsletters and phone.
- Your membership will help us build an organization of volunteers as we prepare to win with our 2-year election cycle.
- The Manistee County Democratic Party will support our local county candidates with know how and funds to win.
- Your paid membership will help Democrats win. *Please join today.*

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Other joining members in same household \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### 2013 Membership Levels Per Individual

100 Club - \$100.00 per Person  
 Gold Club - \$50.00 per Person  
 Silver Club - \$25.00 per Person  
 Supporter - \$10.00 per Person

\_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Enclosed Check

Please make checks payable to  
 Manistee County Democratic Party

Send this completed form along  
 with your check to:  
 Manistee County Dems  
 P.O. Box 65  
 Manistee, MI 49660

See what we are doing:  
 Go to our WEBSITE at [manisteecountydemocrats.us](http://manisteecountydemocrats.us)

Join us on FACEBOOK : [facebook.com/groups/210484709015534](https://facebook.com/groups/210484709015534)  
 Or on Twitter <https://twitter.com/manisteedems>  
 Join our discussion group by signing up on our website.

## Who Are the Blue Tigers?

*By Josh Swenson, Manistee County Blue Tigers Chair*



Many people do not believe either party cares much about them. Our goal is to regain respect for the Democratic Party and for the political process. The Manistee County Democratic Party is committed to making civic engagement an integral part of our organization. By giving Democrats things to do between elections and providing meaningful services we Democrats can show citizens that our party wants to engage them more than just on election day."

The Michigan Democratic Party and Blue Tiger Democrats perceive the lack of respect and credibility for politicians and political parties to be a paramount problem. Consider this:

- \* Membership in state and local political organizations has been cut in half over the past forty years while financial contributions have increasingly replaced time commitment;
- \* 70% of all funds raised go to television advertisements that generally hurt the credibility of political parties; and
- \* \$1.6 billion in 2004 campaign contributions went to political advertisements while nearly nothing went to local civic engagement.

Collectively these facts have led to a trend where citizens' alienation from the political parties and elected officials is at a high water mark.

In addition to civic engagement helping to regain trust for the party in communities, we believe that community projects will provide young, idealistic people enormous opportunities to enter the world of public service.

Blue Tiger's approach of civic engagement can go a long way to helping address the respect gap between people and party. It's time to put the self back in self-government.

Blue Tiger Weeding Crew  
Manistee Blossom Boulevard

