



*May 2026, Newsletter*



Your presence at the Siren  
Senor Center, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 6-8  
pm is essential!

(Please disregard the Inter-County Leader's announcement for a May 1st  
meeting, our meetings are the 1st Thursdays of the Month. This is a

Why is this meeting so essential? As Democrats, we're fortunate to have candidates willing to step up and run for office to represent us. To get on the ballot, they need our signatures—at least 200 for State Assembly, but because of expected challenges from Republicans, they're being asked to aim for the maximum of 400. That's a tough goal for Paul Johnson (AD-74 in Burnett County: Webb Lake, Blaine, and Swiss), Keith Mogel (AD-75 covering the rest of Burnett and all of Polk Counties), and Charly Ray, our State Senate candidate (minimum 400, ideally 800), especially when collecting signatures door-to-door across long distances. The challenge grows when the same thirty people attend all our events. With over 660 newsletter subscribers, if everyone came to our meeting on the 7th, these candidates could wrap up signature gathering and focus on the next stage—convincing independents and dissatisfied Republicans to vote for them this fall.

During our meeting, we'll kick off preparations for the fall election by asking people to become town captains and then to form teams in their townships to put up signs and knock on neighbors' doors. We'll also work with the State to create a phone bank list for calls on behalf of local candidates in September and October. To make this easier, we have a county map to help you see how close you live to other Democrats in your area. Once you see there are Democrats nearby, you might be more inclined to connect with neighbors in between who are likely independents.

I'm leading an effort focusing on small local groups, that is not initiated by the state, to Get Out The Vote (GOTV). I think Covid, technology, the news we consume, and even long cold winters can make it seem like there's a big divide between neighbors politically. In reality, we've just forgotten how to talk to each other about local issues—like school taxes, the impact of unaffordable healthcare and insurance, and the poor condition of our roads.

This election season offers us a vital opportunity to make our voices heard by mentioning intelligent truths to our neighbors, i.e. Did you know Keith Mogel for State Assembly has gone to our local school board and town hall meetings to understand how he can help our communities? When was the last time you saw a candidate actually show up to these meetings? By the way, here is his information. No one cares if the pamphlet has been sitting in your back pocket or purse and is wrinkled. It is more important that you share locally as a neighbor what you know than all the mailed flyers we will be seeing from the opposition and their PACS.

As an fyi, using the numbers from the April 7th election and the town of Anderson as an example let's play with numbers as a neighbor: There are 306 registered voters in Anderson of which 104 voted in the last election. Thirty-two people voted for Chris Taylor and seventy voted for Lazar, two did not vote for judge but voted in the election. That means just over one-in-three is or leans Democrat who voted. There were 202 people who did not vote. If people had been willing to talk to their neighbors, would have seen a change in Anderson's participation in the election--if their neighbor had knocked on their door?

With your help let's build a stronger, more unified neighborly team and ensure that our message resonates locally. Please prioritize attending on May 7th—your commitment and energy are the foundation of our success. Together, let's bring community back to Burnett County while mobilizing for a powerful, successful campaign this fall!

We will also have Charly Ray, Paul Johnson, Keith Mogel, and Ginger Murray at our meeting.

Best wishes to all!

Brenda Vinall-Mogel  
Burnett County Democrats, Chair

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## State Assembly District 74 Has a Candidate!



Paul Johnson, a Democrat from Spooner, has announced his campaign for Wisconsin's 74th Assembly District, emphasizing his background in law enforcement, local governance, and small business experience.

High School Members may join the BCDems

We are looking for High School Students to join our meetings. Since the high schools do not as of now have a Young Dems Club, any high school student 14 and over may join our local Dems party as a voting member with paid dues. This would be a great opportunity to learn about government at the grass roots level.

## You could help with Social Media needs

We are also looking for social media gurus. While you are attending our meetings and other events, we would very much appreciate it if you would take photos, video clips, etc. and post them to social media sites.

If you would be interested in doing this, please introduce yourself to our Chair or Media Chair

## President Jimmy Carter Memorial Scholarship

The essays for the scholarships have been read and the winners have been picked. Stop back next month to see who our winners are.

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## It is time to start thinking about this year's Bean and Brat Raffle

Mary Bjorgaard and Nancy Moe are collecting clean, gently used books that you've loved and are ready to pass along.

Their team will then bundle the donated books with related items to create fun, themed packages. For example:

- A noir mystery bundle might include a bottle of Pinot Noir 🍷
- A Scandinavian bundle could feature a Danish mystery, a travel book, a smorgasbord cookbook, and a small cutting board
- A mystery bundle might include a jigsaw puzzle

Because the bundles will depend on the books they receive, they will not know exactly how they'll come together until donations are in. Please think broadly about genres—mystery, self-help, children's books, young adult, biographies, nature, gardening, poetry, and more—whatever you enjoy reading.

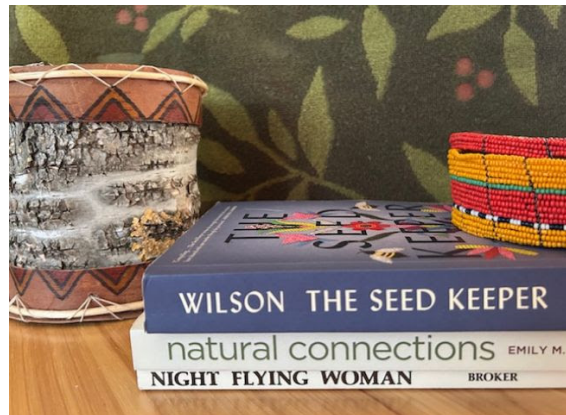
Nancy Moe will be collecting the books. To give their team give time to create the bundles, **she would appreciate receiving books by July**. Please include a note to help us determine what kind of book it is, otherwise, they might have to read them all.

Also, if you would be kind enough to give us an estimated value of the books you are donating, it would help us pass on this information to our Treasurer so she can list them as an in-kind donation for financial reporting purposes.

If you have questions, feel free to reach out to Nancy Moe at [bnancymoe@gmail.com](mailto:bnancymoe@gmail.com) and Mary Bjorgaard at [mbjorgaard@centurytel.net](mailto:mbjorgaard@centurytel.net)

Thank you for helping make this year's silent auction thoughtful, creative, and fun!!!!

Below are a few example pictures.



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**Acclaimed social justice artist  
Ricardo Levins Morales  
to speak at St. Croix Unitarian  
Universalist Fellowship  
10:00 a.m., Sunday, May 10**



Levins Morales has been creating art in social justice movements since arriving in Chicago from Puerto Rico in the late 1960s. His activism has included working in solidarity with farmers, environmental, labor, racial justice, antiwar and other struggles for people's empowerment. He draws on

knowledge of history and ecology to understand the political ebbs, flows and currents within which we live. Levins Morales works out a collectively managed storefront studio in south Minneapolis.

“Ricardo’s art and writing support individual and collective healing by identifying our place in the cycles of nature and history so we can best make sense of the turbulent time we live in,” said singer-songwriter Barbara McAfee a friend of Morales. McAfee will also share her music at the May 10 service.

***Public is welcome to attend the Sunday service located at the Main Stage of The Historic Auditorium located at 210 N. Washington St. in St. Croix Falls.***

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# Upcoming Events

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## May

- **5th Progressives Coffee (Pour House) 10:00 am**
- **7th Burnett County Dems Monthly Meeting (Siren Senior Community Center)**
  - **6:00 pm Social**
  - **6:30 business meeting**
  - **Get to know your neighbors and sign ups**
- **14th Steering Committee, 4:00-6:00, must be a paid member.**
- **16-17 Weekend of Action-Please go out and get signatures for those candidates you want to see on the Fall mid-term ballot**
- **19th Progressives Coffee (Pour House) 10:00 am**
- **21st Dining with Dems Whiskey Joe's Bar and Grill 5:30-7:00 pm. You do not have to be a member to join us.**
- **23rd Arts and Crafts Extravaganza 9-4, at the Webster High School Soccer Field. Volunteer to pass out our brochures and encourage new members to join us. Very last weekend to get signature for candidate also.**

# June

- **2nd Progressives Coffee (Pour House) 10:00 am**
- **4th Burnett County Dems Monthly Meeting (Siren Senior Community Center)**
  - **6:00 pm Social**
  - **6:30 business meeting**
  - **Get to know your neighbors and sign ups**
- **11th Steering Committee, 4:00-6:00, must be a paid member.**
- **13th-14th WisDems Convention Monona Terrace, Madison. Members in good standing are welcome to be a delegate. ction-Please go out and get signatures for those candidates you want to see on the Fall mid-term ballot**
- **16th Progressives Coffee (Pour House) 10:00 am**
- **18th Dining with Dems--Charles Tollander Park (Potluck, bring your own drink and table service), 5:30-7:00 pm. You do not have to be a member to join us.**

# July

- **2<sup>nd</sup> (No BC Dems Main Meeting) Work on Float for 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade (more info coming)**
- **4<sup>th</sup> Parades Siren 11:00, and Webster 1:00 to line up.**
- **7th Progressives Coffee (Pour House) 10:00 am**
- **9<sup>th</sup> Steering/Strategy Committee, 4-6:00 Webster Library**
- **16<sup>th</sup> Dining with Dems- Wood Lake American Legion Park, aka Thoreson Park (Potluck, bring your own drink and table service,), 5:30-7:00 pm**
- **19<sup>th</sup> Kayaking/Canoeing with Dems, St. Croix (the boat landings we will be paddling between will be determined closer to the event)**
- **21st Progressives Coffee (Pour House) 10:00 am**

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