

**NEWAYGO COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
NEWSLETTER, DECEMBER 2009**

Produced and edited by
Sarah Miller, Secretary



Newaygo County Democratic Party

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Newaygo, MI

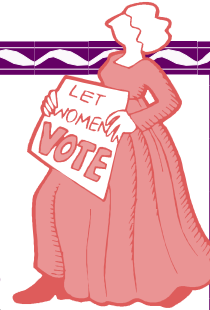
On the web at newaygodems.com!

Upcoming Events

General Meeting: 7:00pm, December 9th
Democratic Headquarters, 65 State Street
Newaygo MI

Democratic Women's Club: 1:00 pm, December 14,
Democratic Headquarters, State Street
Newaygo MI

We are women—Hear us ROAR!



The Newaygo County Democratic Women's Club has resumed meeting. We are an integral force of the Democratic agenda for Newaygo County and are not taken lightly within the local Democratic Party.

Our mission statement is as follows:

- To educate women on political issues and teach them how to become effective political workers.
- To help elect Democratic candidates to public office.
- To support activities that will benefit the Democratic Party.
- To attract the uninitiated into Democratic politics.

Any woman with liberal leanings is encouraged to attend. Those whose interests may differ from our own, but seek to understand that which makes us roar, are encouraged to attend.

We meet the second Monday of the month. The next meeting date is August 10th. It will be held at 1:00 pm inside the Democratic Headquarters. The location is 65 N State Street in Newaygo.

Welcome and Thank you!

We would like to welcome Patty Becker to the Newaygo County Democratic Executive Board. She has filled the Trustee position recently vacated by our friend, John Traxler. Patty has proven to be more than a benefit to the Executive Board for two months now. Thank you, Patty, so much for your enthusiasm for and commitment to our Party



DATE _____ AMOUNT _____

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES _____

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

NEWAYGO COUNTY DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB

HOME ADDRESS: _____

POST OFFICE BOX: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

HOME TELEPHONE _____

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE NOT U.S. TAX DEDUCTIBLE.
Paid for by the Newaygo County Democratic Women's Club , BOX 545, Newaygo, MI 49337. Your contribution may be used in connection with federal elections and is subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the Federal Elections Campaign Act. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200.00 in a calendar year.

HOME FAX _____

HOME E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

INDICATE CITY OR TOWNSHIP WHERE REGISTERED TO VOTE _____

MEMBERSHIP FEE \$2.00

PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND GIVE IT TO:
THE CLUB TREASURER



*The PRESIDENT'S
HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM
GUARANTEES*

**1. NO DISCRIMINATION FOR PRE-EXISTING
CONDITIONS**

Insurance companies will be prohibited from refusing you coverage because of your medical history.

**2. NO EXORBITANT OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES,
DEDUCTIBLES OR CO-PAYS**

Insurance companies will have to abide by yearly caps on how much they can charge for out-of-pocket expenses.

3. NO COST-SHARING FOR PREVENTIVE CARE

Insurance companies must fully cover, without charge, regular checkups and tests that help you prevent illness, such as mammograms or eye and foot exams for diabetics.

**4. NO DROPPING OF COVERAGE FOR SERIOUSLY
ILL**

Insurance companies will be prohibited from dropping or watering down insurance coverage for those who become seriously ill.

5. NO GENDER DISCRIMINATION

Insurance companies will be prohibited from charging you more because of your gender.

6. NO ANNUAL OR LIFETIME CAPS ON COVERAGE

Insurance companies will be prevented from placing annual or lifetime caps on the coverage you receive.

7. EXTENDED COVERAGE FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Children would continue to be eligible for family coverage through the age of 26.

8. GUARANTEED INSURANCE RENEWAL

Insurance companies will be required to renew any policy as long as the policyholder pays their premium in full. Insurance companies won't be allowed to refuse renewal because someone became sick.

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Vice Chair Vacancy



The Executive Board accepted, at the November meeting, the resignation of our Vice-Chair, Barb Geno. Barb felt that, due to other commitments, she could no longer give her position the attention it needs. We thank Barb for her service and wish her well in her position on the County Commission and on her future endeavors!

We would like to fill the Vice-Chair vacancy soon. Our Chair is a male and our bylaws call for a female to fill the Vice-Chair position. If you're a female and are interested in being considered for the position, please send your name, address and description of any special qualifications that you feel are relevant by email (newaygodems@gmail.com) or letter (Newaygo County Democratic Party, PO Box 146, Newaygo, MI 49337).

Unions Make a Difference

Unions are an essential part of a strong democracy and play a crucial role in America's public and community life. Not only do they give workers a voice on the job and help negotiate fair benefits and wages for their members, but they also use their political and economic resources to raise the floor for everyone who works for a living.

Unions, by fighting for higher standards for workers, businesses, families, the environment, and public health and safety, have helped to build the middle class and make sure the economy works for everyone.

Unions:

1. **Reinforce the middle class and lift up American's communities.** States with higher rates of unionization have lower rates of poverty, crime, and failing schools.
2. **Raise wages for all workers.** Studies show that a large union presence in an industry or region can raise wages even for non-union workers. Union members earn 30% more than non-union workers.
3. **Fight for health insurance and pensions.** Nearly 80% of unionized workers receive employer-provided health insurance, compared with 49% of non-union workers. Union members are also more likely to have pensions, short-term disability and life insurance coverage.
4. **Make workplaces safer.** Unions work to reduce injuries and deaths at work.
5. **Advocate for increases in the minimum wage and push for living wage ordinances.** Unions have been instrumental in efforts to increase the federal minimum wage, state minimum wages and in the successful living wage movement which has already resulted in over 150 local living wage laws nationwide.
6. **Make a difference for the environment.** Unions partner with environmental groups, hold corporations accountable for pollution, fight for better environmental laws and regulations, and alert the public to environmental hazards.
7. **Improve health care.** Unions can lead the fight for quality affordable health care for all, work to improve patient care and seek adequate hospital staffing.
8. **Fight for equality.** Unions helped pass key legislation on voting, civil, women's and disability rights and support equal rights for LGBT people. Unions boost minority and women's earning power.



Text and information from American Rights at Work,



CHK NO: _____ MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES: _____
DATE: _____
AMOUNT: _____

**NEWAYGO COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

TITLE: _____ NAME: _____
TITLE: _____ NAME: _____
HOME ADDRESS: _____
POST OFFICE BOX: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
HOME TELEPHONE: _____ HOME FAX: _____
HOME E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____
CITY/TOWNSHIP IN WHICH YOU ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE: _____
OCCUPATION: _____

**OPTIONAL (OCCUPATION INFORMATION REQUIRED ONLY FOR
MEMBERS CONTRIBUTING \$200 OR MORE IN ONE CALENDAR YEAR)*

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
WORK TELEPHONE: _____ WORK FAX: _____
WORK E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PLEASE SELECT ONLY ONE OPTION

MAIL ALL INFORMATION TO MY: HOME ___ BUSINESS ___
 SINGLE \$8.00 **COUPLE \$10.00** **OTHERS** _____
 **I CAN NOT MAKE A CONTRIBUTION AT THIS TIME BUT
WISH TO BECOME A MEMBER**

**PLEASE MAIL YOUR COMPLETED MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND CONTRIBUTION TO:
THE NEWAYGO COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
BOX 146**

NEWAYGO, MICHIGAN 49337

*PLEASE MAKE PAYMENT BY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER – PAYABLE TO NEWAYGO COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE WE RECEIVE YOUR APPLICATION*

Your contribution may be used in connection with local, State and federal elections and is subject to the prohibitions and limitations of the Federal Election Campaign Act. Federal Law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year. DONATIONS ARE NOT U.S. TAX DEDUCTIBLE