



PD Endorses Nine for County Board Bill Keys Endorsed for School Board

BY DAVID AUSTIN

CANDIDATES FACE CHALLENGES FROM CONSERVATIVES AND CONSERVATIVE DEMOCRATS

Progressive Dane endorsed nine candidates in races for Dane County Board at the January membership meeting. Five of the nine are incumbents who were previously endorsed by PD. Of the other four, two are vying for open County Board seats in districts that PD represents on the Madison City Council, one is challenging a moderate incumbent who sometimes votes with the conservative block on the Board, and one is initiating our first foray into a district outside of urban Madison.

In the past year and a half, PD took a significant step forward by organizing regular meetings of our County Board officials. The monthly caucus meetings have enabled PD officials to establish common ground and to coordinate strategy on progressive issues.

Our candidates will be valuable additions to the caucus. They bring a wealth of neighborhood and environmental organizing experience to their races and are committed advocates of progressive policies. If elected, the nine candidates endorsed by PD would make a formidable block on the board.

You should have already received a mailing asking you to support the PD campaign fund and to volunteer on campaigns. We use the campaign fund to make donations to our candidates and to advocate for their election. We use volunteers for literature drops, mailings and phone calls. Please support our candidates and the campaign fund with generous financial or volunteer support.

OUR COUNTY BOARD CANDIDATES ARE:

Tom Powell currently represents District 5, one of two campus districts. Tom has abandoned his vocation as a musician and composer to work as a legislative aide in the state capitol. On the county board he has

been a stalwart advocate for fair housing legislation, providing much needed leadership on this issue. Tom faces a challenge from campus Democrats who have failed to see that challenging progressive incumbents is not the way to obtain a liberal/progressive majority on the county board.

Echnaton Vedder currently represents District 8, the other campus district. He was a leader of many of the campus struggles in recent years, including anti-sweatshop work and efforts to make the university more democratic. Ech is held in high esteem by the county executive, who told an early fundraiser that she needs Ech on the board. Although an incumbent, Ech's opponent has been endorsed by the Dane County Democratic Party. During the last election, this opponent raised a lot of her money from realtors and developers and is expected to do so again during this campaign.

Because Powell and Vedder are incumbents who are being challenged by self-described liberals, these two races will be a high priority for PD. These are must-win races – conservative Democrats must learn not to challenge our incumbents.

It should be noted that many members of the Democratic Party have, to their credit, tried to stop the challenges to Powell and Vedder. Unfortunately, the Party, as an institution, is supporting the challenge to Vedder.

In other races, **John Hendrick** has represented District 6 on the near east side for the past 6 years. He is unopposed in his race. Hendrick is widely recognized as one of the Board's leading advocates for comprehensive land use planning.

Chuck Ericson is running for office for the first time (District 10). In addition to PD, he is

(see "PD Endorsements" on page 2)

Progressive Dane endorsed the following candidates at the January membership meeting:

- District 5 – Tom Powell
- District 6 – John Hendrick
- District 8 – Echnaton Vedder
- District 10 – Chuck Ericson
- District 11 – Al Matano
- District 13 – Regina Rhyne
- District 19 – Brett Hulsey
- District 20 – Forrest Aguirre
- District 21 – Penny Andrews

In the race for school board, PD endorsed Bill Keys.

Help our slate of candidates win!
What you can do:

1. Volunteer to help with literature drops, mailings and phone calls.
2. Write a check to the PD campaign fund and/or to individual candidates.

Please use the coupon on the back of the newsletter to make this election season a success.

Progressive Dane endorsed Bill Keys for school board seat number 1. Keys is a retired teacher and past-president of the Madison Teachers Incorporated (MTI). Both his knowledge of school issues and his progressive credentials are very impressive. During his candidate interview, the elections committee was impressed by his analysis of current issues facing the school board and his views on how the board does, and should, operate.

Keys faces a primary election as this newsletter goes to press. We expect him to succeed and look forward to his election in April.

Progressive Dane Notes

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Progressive Dane Notes is the local chapter newsletter of the New Progressive Party of Wisconsin.

Production and Circulation Consortium

Lynn & Lacy Alten, Chris Babiarz, Jane Cooper, Beth Harper, Jim Powell, Kathy Schroeder, Tona Williams.

This month's contributors

David Austin, Michael Jacob, Brenda Konkell, Jim Powell.

Progressive Dane is a democratic, membership-run organization with the following committee structure: (unless otherwise noted, all meetings occur at the Progressive Dane Office, inside the Madison Mutual Housing Association building, 200 North Blount Street)

Steering Committee meets the 2nd Wed. of each month to review the direction of PD, coordinate major activities, oversee the progress of other committees, and to set the agenda for the general membership meetings. SC meetings are open to all PD members.

Next meeting: Wed., March 8, 7-9 p.m.
Co-chair: Beth Harper (238-8147)
Co-chair: David Austin (250-0424)

Elections Committee recruits Progressive Dane candidates, trains candidates & campaign managers, and assists campaigns.

Next meeting: Tues., Feb. 29, 7 p.m., Tom Running's house, 2634 E. Johnson St
Chair: David Austin (250-0424)

Organizing Committee meets the needs of members - from their first contact with the group through becoming full participants.
Contact: Kathy Schroeder (242-8368)

Policy Committee meets the 2nd Monday of each month with PD-endorsed elected officials to develop plans to meet their (and PD's) legislative goals.

Next meeting: March 13, 7 p.m., Mildred's Sandwich Shop, 827 East Johnson St
Chair: Ron Richardson (256-7144)

Neighborhood Empowerment Project runs a tutoring program in the Darbo-Worthington area.
Chair: Ron Richardson (256-7144)

Newsletter Consortium produces this document on a monthly basis. Always on the look-out for aspiring moguls, you're invited to join our team.

Next meeting: March 13, 5:30 p.m.
Contact: Chris Babiarz (257-3288)

Students of the New Party is the UW-Madison branch of Progressive Dane and the New Progressive Party of Wisconsin. The group is involved in several campus-based projects. You don't have to be a student to get involved!

Next meeting: Every Wednesday at 6 p.m., Cafe Assisi, 254 W. Gilman (off State St.)
Chair: Paul Lachelier (256-8961)

Education Task Force guides Progressive Dane's involvement in teacher-student issues.
Chair: Betty Volquardson (238-9198)

Housing Task Force works to create fair and affordable housing in Dane County.

Next meeting: Monday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m.
Chair: Mark Maciolek (255-0818)

ProgressiveDaneHotline: 257-4985

Progressive Dane Notes is published nine days before the General Membership Meeting. The deadline for the next issue is Noon, Tuesday, March 7. Submissions should be directed to Chris Babiarz at 257-3288 (babiarz@cae.wisc.edu). Send all correspondence to:



**Progressive Dane
 P.O. Box 1222
 Madison, WI 53701**

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PD Endorsements

(continued from page 1)

endorsed by the Sierra Club. Ericson is a Sierra Club activist and has helped organize many of that group's public events, such as the sprawl tour last year, which highlighted good and bad examples of development. Chuck is challenging incumbent Karen Cornwell, a liberal supervisor who has angered just about everybody by voting with conservatives on such issues as choosing the chair of the board.

Al Matano is running for an open seat in District 11. He is one of three candidates and will have faced a primary election by the time you read this. One of Matano's opponents is a well-funded middle-of-the-roader recruited by conservative Democrats. Matano works for the State of Wisconsin as a policy analyst in the Department of Health and Family Services. He is also an activist with the Sierra Club and is an active member of PD as well. Matano has worked on PD elections in the past.

Regina Rhyne is the District 13 incumbent. Rhyne faces a conservative opponent who she beat handily two years ago but who has come back for another thrashing. He is a landlord and we expect him to receive large amounts of money from landlords, realtors and developers. The only African-American on the board, Rhyne is an outspoken advocate for recipients of county social services. She has a class analysis that is often lacking on the board, as well as a passion for racial and social justice.

Brett Hulse is the District 19 (northwest side of Madison) incumbent. He is unopposed as he runs for his second term. Hulse works as the Midwest Regional Director of the Sierra Club and has been a forceful advocate for land use planning. He is full of simple, but effective tactics, like keeping a running tally of how much farmland has been lost to development during the current term of the Board. Conservatives don't mind supporting sprawl, but they hate to see it publicized.

Forrest Aguirre is running for an open seat in District 20 on the southwest side of Madison. Aguirre is one of three candidates and will have faced a primary by the time you read this. Aguirre learned about PD while living on campus and meeting Tom Powell. Aguirre was impressed with Tom's first race for county board but was unable to help because of his job at Rutabaga and his four young children. He decided to run after another District 20 candidate, a self-described "conservative liberal," hedged on answers to questions about issues like commuter rail and sprawl. Aguirre impressed the membership with his zeal for campaigning and his commitment to the party. He has a strong base of support in his neighborhood association and will be a formidable candidate.

Penny Andrews is challenging conservative Dave Wiganowsky in District 21. District 21 runs from Cottage Grove on the east side of Madison west to the city of Sun Prairie. Andrews' opponent is proud to have raised thousands of dollars from realtors and developers and is a sure vote with the conservative block. Andrews is a chaplain in training at a local hospital and is a single mother with one child. Her race is in a district where PD has never been active before and we look forward to spreading our message to that part of the county.

PD was unable to make an endorsement of **Judith Pederson** in District 1 because she was sidelined by the flu while we were doing candidate interviews. PD has endorsed Pederson in the past and the elections committee will make a recommendation on her endorsement at the February membership meeting.

The PD slate of endorsed candidates is strong and committed. Please support their campaigns in every way you can.

If you have questions about the candidates or how to help, please contact the PD elections chair, David Austin, at 250-0424.

Meet the Next Leaders of the Dane County Board **Friday, February 18**
fundraiser for the Progressive Dane Campaign Fund **Cardinal Bar**
featuring PD's slate of county board candidates **415 E. Wilson**
5-7:30 • Free Food • Cash Bar •

Find out about the financial reports of Dane County candidates for public office and elected officials. Check out the new campaign finance disclosure website at:

www.disclosure.freeservers.com/

DRAFT

For Discussion and Adoption at the February Progressive Dane General Membership Meeting

DRAFT

RESOLUTION REGARDING ELECTRONIC DISCLOSURE

WHEREAS Wisconsin's campaign finance laws are based on the premise that it is essential for the electorate to be informed, particularly when it comes to how campaigns are financed, and

WHEREAS local elections in Madison and Dane County are becoming ever more expensive, and

WHEREAS the necessity for increased funding required to participate in local elections is being driven by large individual contributions and contributions made through conduits, and

WHEREAS the individuals and conduits providing the bulk of large contributions—especially landlords, realtors and developers—have business before the Madison Common Council and the Dane County Board of Supervisors, and

WHEREAS large contributions from such individuals have the ability to corrupt or give the appearance of corruption, and

WHEREAS the current system of disclosure is cumbersome, requiring individuals to go the City and County Clerk's offices to wade through hundreds of pages of documents and pay a fee to make copies of any of the document, and

WHEREAS even if an individual looks at the paper copies, it is virtually impossible to get a big picture view of any one candidate's campaign finances, much less across all the candidates in an election or across elections, and

WHEREAS the role of money in politics and the undue influence that large contributions garner impact every other issue Progressive Dane is involved with, especially land use, housing and economic development,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Progressive Dane supports the establishment of mandatory filing of campaign finance reports to the city in electronic format, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Progressive Dane supports the creation of an electronic database system for recording all contributions made to candidates for any city, county or school board positions, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Progressive Dane supports making public terminals available free of charge to candidates lacking access to a computer, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Progressive Dane supports making all computerized campaign finance records fully and immediately accessible to the public through the Internet and through designated terminals at the city-county building and Madison Public Library branches, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Progressive Dane commends County Clerk Joseph Parisi for providing post election analysis of campaign contributions and posting that analysis on the Internet, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Progressive Dane commends Alderperson Gary Poulson for proposing a city ordinance amendment to establish similar procedures in the City of Madison, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT until the City and County institute electronic and immediate disclosure, Progressive Dane encourages *all candidates* to submit their finance reports on disk to the volunteers who have established the web site www.disclosure.freeservers.com/, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Progressive Dane General Membership directs the Policy Committee to continue to educate the public through the media and other public forums, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Progressive Dane General Membership directs the Policy Committee to advance the early work done by Alderpersons on an electronic disclosure ordinance, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Progressive Dane General Membership directs the Elections Committee to encourage all Progressive Dane candidates to submit their finance reports on disk to the volunteers who have established the web site www.disclosure.freeservers.com/, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Progressive Dane General Membership directs the co-chairs of Progressive Dane to speak at City Council meetings and Progressive Dane press events regarding electronic disclosure and campaign finance reform, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Progressive Dane General Membership directs the co-chairs of Progressive Dane to file appropriate complaints regarding campaign finance disclosure, and

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED THAT ultimately disclosure of campaign contributions simply highlights the need for campaign finance reform at the local level, including substantial public financing of municipal and county elections and low limits on individual, conduit and political action committee contributions to local campaigns.

RESOLUTION REGARDING LOBBYIST REGISTRATION

WHEREAS it is in the public interest that the fullest opportunity be afforded to the people of Madison to petition their government and to freely express to City officials and employees their opinions on legislation and on all City policies and activities, and

WHEREAS the people of Madison have the right to know who seeks to influence the actions of their City government, and

WHEREAS the people of Madison have the right to know for what reasons a person seeks to influence the actions of their City government, and

WHEREAS in order to preserve the integrity of the City's decision-making processes, it is necessary to establish a procedure whereby persons acting as lobbyists are required to provide to the public full information as to their identity, the identity of their principal, their expenditures and their lobbying activities, and,

WHEREAS it is not the intent of this resolution to discourage or limit the exercise of constitutional rights,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Progressive Dane supports the strongest possible lobbyist registration ordinance for the City of Madison, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a strong lobbying ordinance should include quarterly reporting by lobbying principals, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a strong lobbying ordinance should require that lobbyists report on new issues within five working days of the time they get a new contract, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a strong lobbying ordinance should require that if the principal spends more than \$750 in a quarter, then the principal reports additional details of the lobbyist activity such as which lobbyists contacted which city officials, the approximate number of contacts, and their expenditures, including the amount paid to contract lobbyists, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a strong lobbying ordinance should require that the ultimate source of all expenditures must be reported, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a strong lobbying ordinance should require that if the lobbyist does a fundraiser, then the lobbyist must report not only his contributions but also all money raised from that lobbying effort, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT lobbying registration information should be provided electronically and be posted to the Internet, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Progressive Dane General Membership directs the Policy Committee to educate the public through the media and other public forums about the need for lobbyist registration, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Progressive Dane General Membership directs the Policy Committee to advance the early work done by Alderpersons on a lobbyist registration ordinance, and

FINALLY, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Progressive Dane General Membership directs the co-chairs of Progressive Dane to speak at City Council meetings and Progressive Dane press events regarding lobbyist registration.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

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Next Meeting

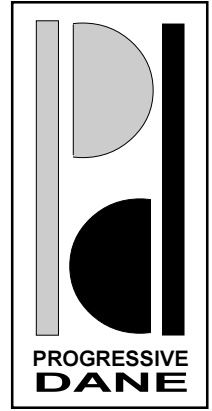
7 o'clock p.m.
February 23, 2000

Madison Public Library
201 W. Mifflin St.
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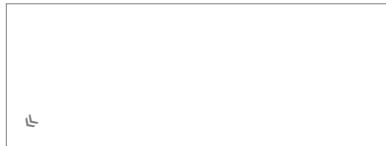
The Agenda

- TIF educational
- Overture Foundation presentation
- Possible additional endorsements
- Approval of expenditures for candidates
- Lobbyist registration resolution
- Electronic disclosure resolution

Chair: Brenda Konkel (251-2412)



Authorized and paid for by the Progressive Dane Campaign Fund, Mary Anglim, Treasurer.



If your renewal date is 3/1/00 or earlier, this is your last newsletter. Please renew.

Volunteer Night
 Help with vital yet easy tasks (labeling newsletters, writing member thank you cards, etc.).
 Chat with Progressive Dane members.
 Catch up on the last progressive issues/actions.
 Refreshments provided.
 When? Monday, March 13, 5:30-7 p.m.
 200 N. Blount St. (between E. Washington Ave. and Johnson St., 1 block east of N Blair St.)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Madison, WI 53701

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Yes! I will help elect Progressive Dane's slate of county board and school board candidates:

_____ Enclosed is my check made out to the Progressive Dane Campaign Fund

_____ I will work on the campaigns of Progressive Dane candidates by:

- _____ helping with mailings
- _____ helping with lit drops
- _____ helping with phone calls to get out the vote
- _____ coordinating volunteers

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail address: _____