

JANUARY 24 2010 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT
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Democratic Party of Dane County Announces Dane County Board of Supervisors Endorsements

The Democratic Party of Dane County has endorsed candidates running for the Dane County Board of Supervisors this spring. Wayne Bigelow, Chair of the Dane County Democratic Party, was pleased with the endorsement of these candidates by Democratic Party members. Bigelow said, "For many years the Dane County Democratic Party has been working to ensure that the Dane County Board has a majority of progressive members. And I believe that this is the best group of candidates we've ever endorsed for the Dane County Board of Supervisors". Bigelow indicated that the Primary Election was on February 16 and the General Election was on April 6. Bigelow said, "More than any other group the Dane County Board will be shaping what the region will be like to live in for our children and grandchildren. The Board needs a clear majority of candidates concerned about and proactive with respect to land use planning, parks and transportation. These candidates are concerned and will be proactive. I urge county residents to vote for them."

Races with a primary (February 16th)

Marc Gofstein, District 19 (western Sun Prairie)

Marc Gofstein is currently a member of the Dane County Community Develop Block Grants Commission. He has previously served as Executive Director of a local youth non-profit organization in Madison, and has over 10-years of experience in public service. Marc now works as a regional travel consultant for several corporations and individuals in the Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa area.

Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=252927236601&ref=ts>

Races with no primary election (April 6th election)

Scott McDonell, (I) District 1 (downtown Madison)

Scott has represented downtown Madison on the County Board since 1996, and has been County Board Chairman since 2005. Scott has focused on transit, the environment, and tourism. He worked for years to create Regional Transit Authority and authored a transfer of development rights ordinance that would preserve farming in Dane county.

Elaine DeSmidt, (I) District 3 (far east side of Madison)

Elaine DeSmidt is a three-term progressive supervisor representing a district on Madison's far-east side. She has focused special effort on nutrition, families in distress, and the building and staffing of a new, quality, energy-efficient Badger Prairie nursing care facility. A homemaker, she has brought her spark to numerous Democratic campaigns in the past and has also devoted civic energy to staffing polling places on election days and working as a field enumerator for the census.

Brett Hulsey, (I) District 4 (the near west side of Madison)

Brett Hulsey has served on the Dane County Board for 12 years and led efforts to improve roads like University Avenue, increase transportation choices, make our beaches and drinking water safer, and funding progressive programs while creating new jobs, bringing home millions of stimulus dollars to improve our county.

Website: <http://www.brett4us.org/>

Analiese Eicher, District 5, (much of the UW campus)

Analiese is the current chair of the College Democrats of Wisconsin. She has been active in local politics since moving to Madison in 2006. Her work has been focused on motivating and mobilizing student participation in local and state government. She is a UW Madison senior majoring in Political Science.

Website: <http://www.studentsforanaliese.com/>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#/group.php?gid=207875353504&ref=ts>

Matt Veldran, (I) District 7, (southwest side of Madison and Fitchburg)

Matt Veldran is a progressive who has served two terms on the board. Matt is chair of the Energy Independence subcommittee.

Carousel Bayrd, (I) District 8 (western Madison)

Carousel is a civil rights attorney, and she has spent the past 4 years on the county board advancing laws that protect women and minorities. She was named an up and coming politician to watch in Madison Magazine in 2009. She is Chair of NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin Foundation, is a member of the Madison Equal Opportunities Commission, and is a former member of the MATC District Board.

Dianne Hesselbein, (I) District 9 (Western Middleton)

Dianne is a dynamic new leader for the Democratic Party. First elected in 2005 to serve a three-year term on the Middleton-Cross Plains School Board of Education, She successfully campaigned against a 16-year incumbent to gain her seat on the Dane County Board in 2008. She embraces the best of the progressive values while representing the priorities of her constituents.

Jeremy Levin, (I) District 10, (Near-West Madison)

A lifelong Madison-area resident, Jeremy was elected to the Board in a special election in November 2008. He currently serves on the Health & Human Needs committee, along with the Veterans Service Commission.

Website: <http://levin4danecounty.com/>

Al Matano, (I) District 11, (Shorewood Hills and Near-West Madison)

Al was elected to the County Board as an environmental advocate. In his 10 years on the Board, he's become an advocate for and expert in transportation. He has been involved in efforts to bring transit improvements, including a possible commuter rail line, to Dane County.

Paul Rusk, (I) District 12, (north side of Madison and airport area)

Paul Rusk is a veteran Northside community activist who has served as the executive director of the Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin for over ten years. On the County Board he chairs the Public Protection and Judiciary Committee where he has worked tirelessly to improve our 911 center, enhance mental health care in the jail to reduce recidivism and jail suicides, and for more protections for at-risk children as a key investment in our future.

Chuck Erickson, (I) District 13 (UW Campus and Vilas Neighborhood)

Chuck is completing his fourth term on the County Board. He serves on many committees and commissions including the Lakes & Watershed Commission, Transport 2020, the City of Madison Long Range Transportation Planning Commission and the Zoo Commission. Chuck has lived in the district for 18 years, has been active in the Vilas Neighborhood association and environmental conservation issues, was born in Madison, and is a life long resident of Dane County.

Melanie Hampton, (I) District 14, (Far west Madison)

Melanie is a very busy mother of three young kids and full-time crime scene investigator with a specialty of computer forensics. She currently serves on the Public Protection and Judiciary committee.

Barbara McKinney, District 15, (west and southwest side of Madison)

Barbara McKinney has been actively involved in community building for more than 20 years. She began her career as a special education teacher and went on to earn an MBA and advanced degrees in Urban Planning and Policy Analysis. Barbara serves on City and County committees and volunteers for organizations that share her passion for a better quality of life for all people of Dane County. Barbara is honored to have the support of County Executive Kathleen Falk, Sheriff Dave Mahoney, and District Attorney Brian Blanchard. As an active community member with substantial volunteer, education, and work experience, Barbara will be an enthusiastic representative for District 15.

Dave DeFelice (I) District 16, (far east side of Madison and town of Blooming Grove)

Dave is an advocate for cost-effective government, planning for land use and transportation, and the enhancement and protection of Dane County's natural resources and quality-of-life amenities such as hiking and bike trails. Dave has co-founded a neighborhood association, helped establish the Stoughton Road Revitalization Project, proposed cutting the 37-member County Board by half,

authored the Dane County Home Loan Program (HELP) to assist elderly homeowners, helped improve bicycle safety and infrastructure in his district, established support for suicide prevention in Dane County, speaks and advocates as a volunteer for mental health, and is a volunteer with Friends of Pinney Branch Library.

Tom Stoebig, (I) District 17, (East and Northeast Madison)

A 10-year veteran on the County Board and long-time Democrat, Tom has handled a myriad of issues facing Dane County with compassion and common sense. He serves on a number of county committees, including Personnel & Finance, Human Services Board, County Extension (chair), Specialized Transportation, Land Conservation, and Solid Waste and Recycling Commission.

Melissa Sargent, District 18, (the very north end of Madison),

Melissa Sargent is a life-long resident of Dane County. She graduated from Madison East High School and the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Melissa is a co-owner and operator of Opacolor, LLC - a local digital imaging services company and, with her husband Justin and four sons, she has been a homeowner on Madison's Northside for over 8 years. Melissa community experience includes serving as President of the Gompers Parent-Teacher Organization and serving on the Dane County Youth Commission.

Website: <http://www.melissafordanecounty.org/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#/group.php?gid=132722800403>

Gordon Shea, District 20, (eastern Sun Prairie and town of Bristol)

A lawyer by training, Gordon Shea is running against a conservative incumbent opponent who has said that the difficult budget choices made by the "liberal majority" on the County Board are "unconscionable." Gordon serves on the Member Advisory board of Group Health Cooperative, and chairs the Communications Committee of his children's public elementary school in Sun Prairie.

Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sun-Prairie-WI/Gordon-Shea/148131466946>

Sheila Stubbs, (I) District 23 (South Madison and Town of Madison)

Sheila is a proven leader and activist for this community. It is the leadership like Sheila's that can improve an entire neighborhood. Sheila believes in a Stronger Community, Safer Neighborhoods, Family-Supporting Jobs, and Improved Community Services. She believes we must eliminate gangs and violence in our neighborhoods so our children have a safer place to play. She has worked closely with local units of government to produce creative solutions to bring family-supporting jobs to this community. She has also funded critical community services in our community that benefit seniors, children, and the needy.

Robin Schmidt, (I) District 24, (Monona)

Robin Schmidt has a long history of service to the Monona area, from organizing the Monona Farmers Market to helping fill sand bags during recent flooding. She has

proven skills and accomplishments as they relate to clean energy and energy efficiency, as well as being a leader on lake management issues. Her style of collaboration and hard work make her a great asset to the board and District 24.

Sharon Corrigan District 26, (east side of Middleton)

Sharon Corrigan is an active community volunteer with a 18 years of professional public policy experience. Sharon has volunteered in her children's schools, serving as a PTA officer, assisting with many special projects, and co-chairing the Yes Committee to address overcrowding. She serves as the vice-chair of Emerge Wisconsin, an organization dedicated to training women to run for public office. Sharon and her husband Dan have two children in Middleton schools.

Website: <http://www.sharoncorrigan.com/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sharon-Corrigan-for-District-26-Dane-County-Supervisor/154048804980>

Kyle Richmond (I) District 27, (south side of Madison)

Kyle is chairman of the Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee of the Board, and is running for his fifth term. A former neighborhood association secretary, Kyle has spearheaded efforts to establish the Dane County Food Council, renew the Conservation Fund, pass the County Comprehensive Plan, and establish the Equal Benefits Ordinance and Domestic Partnership Registry

Patrick Downing (I) District 30, (southwest corner of Dane County)

Pat Downing has served the people of southwestern Dane County as Town of Perry Chair for more than 20 years and as County Supervisor for the past four. His work led to the restoration of Stewart Lake and miles of trout streams, as well as the resurfacing of County Highway ID.

Samuel Cooke, District 33, (Fitchburg)

Sam is a long-time small business owner and community organizer. He serves on multiple City of Fitchburg and county commissions, is chairperson of the Fitchburg Resource Conservation Commission and is Past President (and founding member) of his neighborhood association. He is a chemical engineer who works on solving environmental issues.

Website: <http://samcooke.us/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CookeforCountyBoard>

Patrick Miles, (I) District 34, (McFarland and town of Dunn)

Patrick has been a leader when it comes to protecting the lakes and preserving agriculture. As Chair of the new Economic Development Committee he is focused on developing businesses and jobs that will weather the economic downturn.

Denise Duranczyk, (I) District 35, (southeast corner of the county)

During her 7 1/2 years on the Stoughton City Council Denise developed a reputation for doing her homework and basing her decisions on constituent input and the facts. She is committed to finding a way to keep health and human services in Stoughton.

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