



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

### Monthly Meetings

Next Meeting Date:

September 23, 2015

(4th Thursday of month)

7 pm - 9 pm

Dial-a Ride, Manistee

Meeting Agenda includes

Guest Speaker :

Frank Greco

"Redistricting in Michigan"

News from Lansing

and District 101

### Officers

Chair- Dave Berns

[dberns46@gmail.com](mailto:dberns46@gmail.com)

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Jeanne Butterfield

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Secretary-

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m

Treasurer-

Reserve tickets

at

[donjenningsdinner](mailto:donjenningsdinner@gmail.com)

@gmail.com



Glenn Lottie  
2015 recipient  
of the  
12<sup>th</sup> Don Jennings  
Award

Glenn has led a long and productive life and Manistee County has benefited from Glenn's community involvement since his retirement and move to Northern Michigan in 1998.

Glenn has been busy! He served on the Manistee County Commission, including Chair, the Soil Conservation District, the Spirit of the Woods Conservation Club, the Manistee Historical Society, the Dickson School renovation project, and is still active in the Kaleva Lions Club. He has chaired the United Way and the Manistee County Democratic Party. In 2014, Glenn was prompted to run as a candidate for MI Senate District 35 because our Republican incumbent was not representing Northern Michigan citizens and our values. Although he didn't win, Glenn's presence in the election process brought Senator Booher "out of the woodwork" and he even visited the Manistee Democratic headquarters to meet Glenn. Glenn's comments at the League of Women Voters Candidate Forum was highlighted by a sincere, honest and heartfelt comment about his philosophy of life, "We have to keep fighting the good fight and let people know the truth".

With his wife Pat at his side, the citizens of Northern Michigan have benefited from Glenn's caring, humble, and faithful service.

SEE PAGE 2 FOR DON JENNINGS KEY NOTE SPEAKER!!

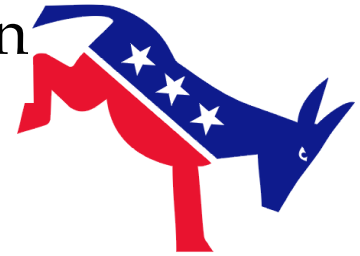
# COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR



## Another Republican Attack on Working Families in

## Michigan

By Dave Berns



*Dave Berns, Chair of the  
Manistee Dems*

By the time you read this, the billionaires who brainwash their republican minions may have already won another battle in their war on working people in Michigan.

These powerbrokers need to be exposed and held accountable for the lies they perpetrate to turn hard working families against each other. The billionaires do this in order to get more corporate tax breaks at the expense of those least able to afford another tax increase. This time, their tool is to eliminate Michigan's Low Income Tax Credit (IETC) to help fund road repairs in Michigan. Instead of appropriately distributing the cost of these worthwhile repairs, the Republican legislators are implementing the most regressive tax increases on poor working families. Repeal of the EITC would be a tax increase on 820,000 Michigan families with over 1,000,000 children.

There is a federal and a Michigan version of the EITC. The bill being discussed would eliminate the Michigan portion meaning that working families could no longer take the credit when filing their Michigan taxes. As state legislators move through the process of funding roads, we have to remind them that the EITC and other programs protect and serve our most vulnerable citizens.

The EITC helps low income working families to make ends meet. The \$117 million saved by eliminating the credit is a drop in the bucket toward a \$1 billion plus transportation plan. But this is a tremendous amount from families who need the credit to buy groceries, keep the lights on or to fix a car so they can go to work. These families are not our enemies. They are our neighbors who struggle everyday and cannot make it on the minimum wage jobs offered by corporate giants. But we are told that the working poor are the cause of our nation's problems and they must be made to work harder and longer so that we all can enjoy better roads. At the same time, our Republican legislators bow to the pressure of their rich friends and increasingly give more corporate tax breaks and bailouts. Let's not fight amongst ourselves or with our neighbors. We must put the blame and the burden on those who are not paying their fair share.

## Manistee County Democrats

### Host

### Senator Stabenow



Senator Stabenow discussing Manistee County issues with  
County Commissioner, Alan Marshall

Sixty-five local Manistee County residents greeted Senator Debbie Stabenow on August 13 at a garden party hosted by the Manistee County Democratic Party at the Lake Michigan home of Al Frye and Jeanne Butterfield.

Senator Stabenow talked about the challenges facing us in preserving the quality of the Great Lakes and protecting them from threats from microbeads, Asian carp, and underwater nuclear waste pipes. The Senator has recently become co-chair of the U.S. Senate Great Lakes Task Force, replacing former Michigan Senator Carl Levin after he retired in 2014.

The Senator informed attendees about the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, launched in 2010, as well as the 2014 Farm Bill that included conservation measures designed to provide additional funds for preserving Great Lakes water quality.

Senator Stabenow discussed other issues in response to questions from those present, including the upcoming Presidential election and the importance of electing Democrats to state legislatures.



## Brandon Dillon, “New” Chair of the Michigan Democratic Party

With the resignation of Lon Johnson to run for the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional Seat of the US House, Brandon Dillon was elected the Chair of the Michigan Democratic Party in July.

A west Michigan native, Brandon has a keen understanding of local issues throughout our state and brings to the Party a demonstrated ability to win races in competitive districts, including his own hard-fought victory to serve his first term in the state house. He has also worked as campaign chair for the Michigan House Democrats recruiting candidates, fundraising, and overseeing contests throughout the state.

Meet the new Democratic Party State  
Director

Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

12:30 PM

at Rico's Roadhouse, Manistee



**DAN FAROUGH**

**TOP POLITICAL  
STRATEGIST**

*And*

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**FOR THE**

**DON JENNINGS AWARD  
DINNER**

Dan Farough is a top political strategist known for running some of the most successful political and issue campaigns in Michigan in some of the toughest environments. His understanding of the synergy between communications, field and research has been instrumental in helping his clients stay on offense while putting opponents on defense.

Prior to starting his own firm, Farough served as Gary Peters' Campaign Manager in his grueling 2010 Congressional race. Farough then ran Sen. Stabenow's 2012 re-election campaign and later served as her Chief of Staff in Washington DC.

Farough was a leader in flipping control of the State House to the Democrats in 2006 – the last time Democrats took the chamber - serving as Press Secretary for the House Democratic Caucus. Farough also has deep roots in the progressive and Democratic communities having founded Progress Michigan, a communications center for progressive organizations, and having run teardown operations for Democratic institutional organizations.

*To purchase tickets to the Don Jennings Dinner, send a check to the Manistee DEMS at P.O. Box 65, Manistee, MI 49660 or email [donjenningsdinner@gmail.com](mailto:donjenningsdinner@gmail.com). Tickets are \$55 each.*

From the Academy Award-nominated directors of *TROUBLE THE WATER*



A hundred billion ways to stick it to you.



WWW.CITIZENKOCH.COM

## MANISTEE DEMS MOVIE SERIES SHOWING SEPTEMBER 19TH

Oscar-Nominated filmmakers create an electrifying 2013 documentary (selected by Sundance Film Festival) that follows the money behind the rise of the Tea Party, and details how the Koch Brothers influenced the election and re-election of Scott Walker.

To understand Campaign Season 2016, you need to understand the Koch Brothers, and this movie uncovers what they want and how they plan to get it.

What can they do with one Billion dollars to spend on the Candidate of their choice?

PBS, an early supporter, dropped their funding after receiving a large contribution from the Koch Bros. so release was delayed until 2014.

Join your fellow Democrats for our Stimulating

Movie DOCUMENTARY Series at

**The Vogue Theatre**

SATURDAYS 10:30 AM \$10 donation

September 19<sup>TH</sup> *CITIZEN KOCH*

October 10<sup>th</sup> *MERCHANTS OF DOUBT*

October 17<sup>th</sup> *INCONVENIENT TRUTH*

SEATING IS LIMITED: PLEASE RSVP TO

Judy Cunningham - 231-794-0005 OR EMAIL - [jpc4466@gmail.com](mailto:jpc4466@gmail.com)

## The Republicans

- Oppose Raising the minimum wage (Washington post.com)
- Oppose Tax increases on the wealthy and corporations, but are willing to raise taxes on the lowest income earners. (politifact.com)
- Oppose the Affordable Care Act and have sworn to repeal the Act. (state.com)
- Oppose Medicare and want to switch to vouchers.
- Oppose Social Security for the elderly and disabled, want to raise the age limit and lower the monthly payments. Democrats want to keep the age limit of 67 and increase the wage limit on which Social Security taxes are set.
- Oppose Federal licensing and registration of guns and assault weapons. (quora.com)
- Oppose Funding of public education and have worked toward privatizing education (progressives.org)
- Oppose Unions and collective bargaining, favor right -to- work laws that lower wages for the working class. (Economic Policy Institute)
- Oppose science -based policies that protect the environment and favor House Bill 1422 that effectively keeps scientists from serving on the Advisory Board of the EPA. (congress.gov)
- Deny Climate Change



**RICK SCHROCK, LYNDA VIDAS AND LINDA CHILAR STAFF THE MANISTEE DEMS COUNTY FAIR BOOTH**

**Wanted!!** Items for the silent auction to be held at the Don Jennings Dinner on October 3, 2015. Please use your talents to build, create, and collect item(s) to be used in the auction to raise money for activities of the Manistee Democratic Party. In 2014, over \$1300.00 was raised and we hope to top this in 2015. Please contact **Laurie Mason at 231-889-4718** with the nature of your contribution.

Did You Know? Under Barack Obama

1. The Dow Jones has nearly tripled. (politifact.com)
2. The annual rise in the deficit has been cut by 2/3. (politifact.com)
3. The unemployment rate is now at 5.1, back to what it was in early 2008. (US Bureau of Statistics)
4. Obama saved the US car industry (politifact.com)
5. The inflation rate in 2015 is at an historical low. (politifact.com)
6. Clean energy has doubled (solar, wind, geothermal)
7. Due to the Affordable Care Act, the number of people who now have healthcare who were previously uninsured is more than 11 million.
8. Our troops have been pulled out of Iraq and Afghanistan, and Osama Ben Laden has been eliminated.
9. We have an Embassy in Cuba for the first time in 50 years.
10. We now have an Iran Nuclear Agreement.