



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

## Monthly Meetings

Next Meeting Date:

January 16th

(3rd Thursday of month)

7 pm - 9 pm

Dial-a Ride, Manistee

Meeting Agenda includes

Guest Speaker -

Kate Thompson

Manistee Commitment  
Scholarship Program

## Officers

Gary Madden, Chair

[Genie42br@gmail.com](mailto:Genie42br@gmail.com)

Laurel Mason,

Vice Chair

[Laurele52@charter.net](mailto:Laurele52@charter.net)

Peggy Raddatz,

Secretary

[Peg.raddatz@gmail.com](mailto:Peg.raddatz@gmail.com)

Judy Cunningham,

Treasurer

[Jpc4466@gmail.com](mailto:Jpc4466@gmail.com)

## JOIN THE MANISTEE DEMS

The Manistee County Democrats wish you a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year. We are all looking forward to the year 2020 with a renewed belief that our country will return to democratic principles, will return to civility, will embrace the acceptance of diversity and cultural differences. Yes, 2020 is our year of HOPE.

In our country, we have a two-party political system. We need your support for the Democratic Party, which embraces:

- Affordable Health Care
- Women's Rights
- Climate Change - Clean and Healthy Environment
- Worker's Rights
- Public Education
- Civil Rights
- Fair Economic Opportunities
- Voter's Rights
- Living Wage
- Equitable Taxation

The yearly membership in the Manistee County Democratic Party is from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. Please join now and offer your support for the year 2020. (*Reminder: Membership of \$100 or more, we submit free membership in the State of Michigan Democratic Party -MDP.*) The funds for membership (both locally and statewide) are used for:

- ❖ Speakers
- ❖ Events
- ❖ Campaign Support

The membership form is at the end of the newsletter.

We look forward to compelling meetings, social events, and **your input** to make 2020 a dynamic election year.

Sincerely,

  
Shirley Madden

Membership Chair



Gary Madden

## COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

I recently heard on the radio that the trade wars started by President Trump are costing the average American family \$1,300.00 annually! At his rallies and on Twitter he likes to brag that these embargoes are bringing in trillions and trillions of dollars to the federal government. In typical Trumpian fashion the numbers are greatly exaggerated, with serious facts omitted entirely, like the fact that most of that additional revenue is being paid by American consumers in the form of higher

prices. Or the fact that his trade policies are doing serious damage to certain industries, like agriculture, and steel. All his trade wars have accomplished so far is to create an opportunity for importers and retailers to raise their prices. Given an opportunity like that, does anyone really think that they have passed on to consumers only the cost of the new tariffs and not yielded to temptation and added a little extra to fatten the coffers? With corporate accounts swollen with profits one has to wonder.

Trump also promised us great new trade deals when he revoked NAFTA and took the United States out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement. Now we have a new trade agreement with Mexico and Canada that offers some improvements over NAFTA but most experts agree that the new deal is not substantially better than what we had before. Ending NAFTA was unnecessary and seriously disruptive of trade with our neighbors, trade that we all depend upon.

For example: The new agreement does not go far enough in addressing the advantages that Canada enjoys in the dairy industry. Our neighbor Wisconsin has been hit very hard with many dairy operations going out of business. Just last week, Borden (think Else the Cow) company announced that it has filed for bankruptcy.

The damage done to the long-term health of our country has been even worse with our withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement negotiated by the Obama administration. This was an agreement that would have put the United States in a strong competitive economic position in Asia. Emerging economies like Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, and others are now turning to China and forging new trade agreements that put the United States at a serious economic disadvantage for some time to come. China is filling a gap that was created by Trump.

And so, on trade, as well many other issues, emperor Trump really doesn't have on any clothes. Yikes, no there's an image; Trump with no clothes! Finally, in this most important election year we need to educate ourselves about these and other issues so that we more effectively educate others and perhaps persuade them to not only get out and vote but to vote for more effective leaders of this great country.

## What will inspire you to consider a run for local office?

Local officials have the power to transform their communities for the better. Best of all, your local party can help you! First, we will put you in touch with someone who has run and held the office. Next, we will guide you through each step to get started. Our State Party Regional Political Organizer, Sarah Rigney, will help with developing a Campaign Plan, provide access to your own political webpage, advise you how to wisely use Social Media, and provide media design work. Our local Campaign Committee can provide walk and mailing lists, secretarial support, office space and much or all of the financial support you will need. No fundraising!! Go to [manisteecountydemocrats.us](http://manisteecountydemocrats.us) and read the HOW TO RUN Guide and call Peggy Raddatz at 231-510-3726 so we can get started.

It's time to step up; your community needs you!



## Upcoming Events and Important Dates to Remember

January 16	Monthly DEMS Membership Meeting
January 18	Tri-County Indivisibles Women's March
February 20	Monthly DEMS Membership Meeting
<b>March 10</b>	<b>MICHIGAN DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY</b>
March 19	Monthly DEMS Membership Meeting
April 16	Monthly DEMS Membership Meeting
<b>May 5</b>	<b>ELECTION (DEPENDS ON JURISDICTION)</b>
May 21	Monthly DEMS Membership Meeting
June 18	Arcadia Strawberry Social/DEMS Membership Meeting
July 4	Manistee Lil Big Shots Talent Show
July 4	Forest Festival Parade/Grand Opening of DEMS Campaign Office
July 16	Monthly DEMS Membership Meeting
<b>August 4</b>	<b>MICHIGAN STATE PRIMARY ELECTION</b>
August 20	Monthly DEMS Membership Meeting
<b>September 12</b>	<b>Don Jennings Award Dinner</b>
September 17	Monthly DEMS Membership Meeting
October 15	Monthly DEMS Membership Meeting
<b>November 3</b>	<b>NATIONAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION</b>
November 14	DEMS County Convention/Clear Out the Office

## **“America As the No. 1 Warmonger”**

*Jimmy Carter was prophetic when he was interviewed about his book “A Call to Action” in 2014*

David Daley; In your book “A Call To Action”, you very clearly call out the speed with which the United States jumps into military action. You write that, “more than any nation in the world, the U.S. has been involved in armed conflict and has used war as means of resolving disputes...”

**Jimmy Carter: That’s correct, and I list some of the wars. I listed 10 or 15 and I could have listed about 10 or 15 more.**

David Daley: We also rarely acknowledge the loss and suffering that our policies have caused around the world. You’re specifically critical our drone wars, and of the innocent people we’ve killed as almost collateral damage. You’ve traveled to so many countries through the Carter Center: At home, we talk of American exceptionalism, of this duty to bring our great democracy to the rest of the world. Do we see ourselves accurately and understand our own history? And how does that square with how the rest of the world perceives us?

**Jimmy Carter: (laughs) No. The rest of the world, almost unanimously, looks at America as the No. 1 warmonger. That we revert to armed conflict almost at the drop of a hat - and quite often it’s not only desired by the leaders of our country, but it’s also supported by the people of America.**

## **1920 - 100 Years Ago Today**



“At the drawing of the petit jurors yesterday at the Manistee Courthouse the names of two women were included, and if they prove satisfactory to attorneys of both sides in the first case to come up in the present month’s term of circuit court they will be the first to serve in that capacity under woman suffrage.”

## **DEMOCRATS NEED TO WIN THE SENATE IN 2020, HELP RE-ELECT GARY PETERS!**

Senator Gary Peters grew up in Michigan where his father, a WWII veteran, worked as a public school teacher. His mother worked as a nurse's aide and union steward with the SEIU. Gary saw how hard his parents worked to provide for him and his two sisters, and they instilled in him the importance of determination, fairness, and integrity.

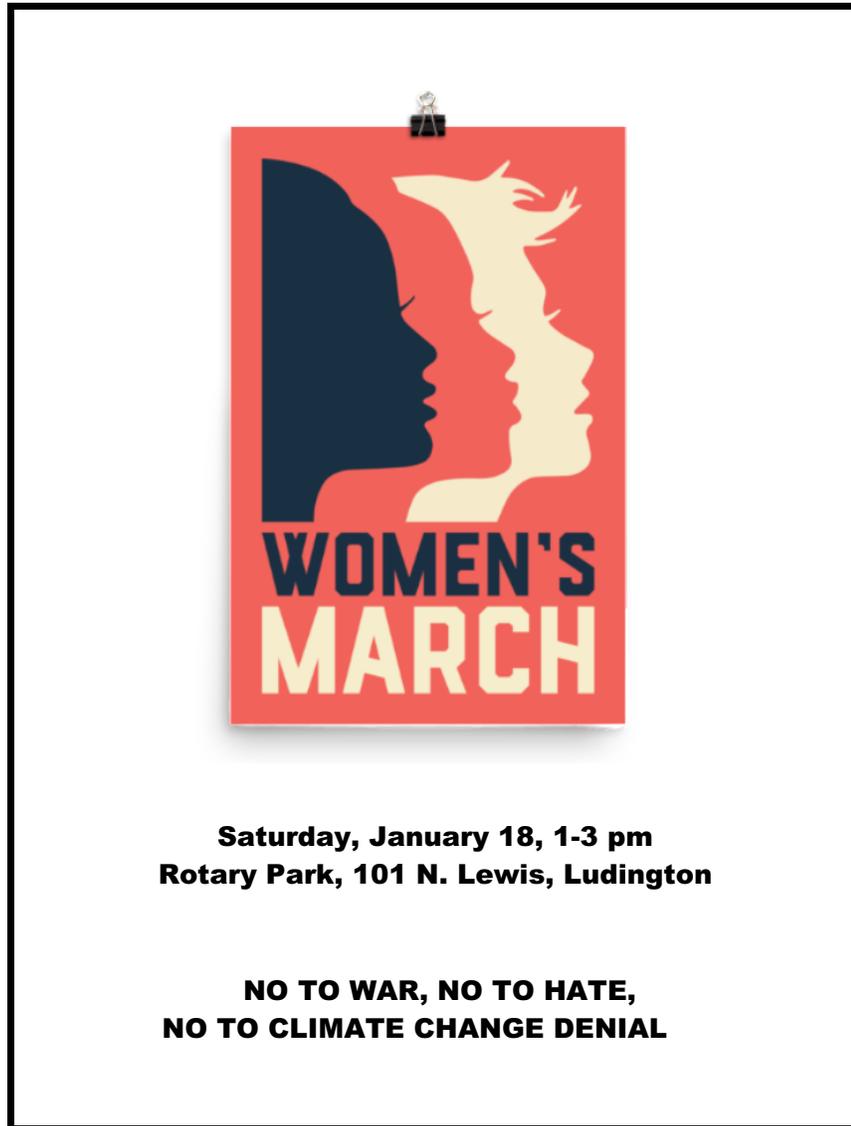
Gary is a graduate of Alma College. For more than 20 years, Gary was a successful businessman. As a financial advisor, he helped families plan for their retirement and save for their children's college education. Though Gary loved the work he did, he felt the need to serve his community.



At age 34, he joined the U.S. Navy Reserve, where he rose to the rank of Lieutenant Commander and earned a Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist designation. After the September 11th terrorist attacks, Gary rejoined the U.S. Navy Reserve to once again serve his country.

In 2008, Gary ran for the U.S. House of Representatives because he believed that middle class families, like his, did not have a strong, independent voice in Congress. During his six years in the House, Gary drew on his business background to make Washington more transparent and accountable and led efforts in Congress to eliminate wasteful and unnecessary spending. He also served on the Wall Street Reform Conference Committee and was integral in developing landmark financial reform legislation that created the Consumer Finance Protection Bureau and prohibits the risky behavior that caused the financial crisis.

In the U.S. Senate, Gary serves on the Armed Services Committee; Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee; Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee; and the Joint Economic Committee. He is focused on strengthening our middle class by protecting access to quality, affordable health care, preparing our kids for the jobs of tomorrow and helping small businesses grow. Gary and his wife Colleen are the proud parents of three, a son and two daughters, and lives in Oakland County.



**2020 is the most important election year of our lifetimes.** It won't be easy, but we know that together we can take back our democracy and make this year a turning point.

Every poll shows that **women are the single greatest threat to Trump's presidency.** We are the majority of voters – but we need everyone to step up and fight harder than ever. That means volunteering, marching, voting, phone banking, canvassing, putting our bodies on the line, and more.

January 18th is our opportunity to get organized for the year ahead, bring in hundreds of new people, and energize a historic number of women and allies needed to defeat Trump.

2020 is our year.

