

THE **D**EMOCRATIC VOICE

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

February 2011

2011 has been off to a mixed start.

First, the good news: The Green Bay Packers are Super Bowl Champions! Congratulations Packers!

In that respect, it is a great time to be a Wisconsinite. However, if you are a fan of state employees, or are one yourself, you were probably as disappointed by our Governor's State of the State Address as I was. But let's not pretend like we are surprised by the fact that the only 'specific cut' that Governor Walker was able to come up with in his State of the State, was a cut in benefits –and likely salaries– of state employees.

Last week I told Mitch Reynolds of 1410WIZM that the Governor's Address made me think of a moment that will live in NFL infamy. I said that after listening to the Address, I could not help but think about the outburst of former Arizona Cardinals coach Dennis Green after losing a big lead to the Chicago Bears... After the loss he addressed the NFL press corps and shouted,

"They are who we thought they were!"

Lets be honest for a moment, and recognize the fact that Governor Walker and the Republican Legislature are exactly "who we thought they were." A group of men who can't stand state employees, and who are long on talk and gimmicks but short on specifics. However, that is where the analogy ends, because the next words to come out of Coach Green's mouth were, "and we let them off the hook." And as the Governor and his Legislature continue to diverge from a agenda focused on jobs, and rather on dangerous ideological issues, I guarantee...

We will not let them off the hook.

Thankfully, we still have a President in Washington DC who we can count on.

Just a few days before Governor Walker's State of the State Address was President Obama's State of the Union Address which set the tone and agenda for our nation's foreseeable future. That agenda is focused on job creation, improving our economy, and defending the important progress Democrats have made over the last two years including health reform, financial regulation, human and civil rights, and so much more.

To that end, I want to thank everyone who showed up to watch the State of the Union Address at Boot Hill Pub. I thoroughly enjoyed the Address and most of all, being in the company of so many of my close friends.

Thank you for remaining committed to the cause!

Sincerely,

Andrew Londre
Chairman, La Crosse County Democratic Party

UPCOMING PARTY EVENTS

February General Party Meeting

Ho Chunk Three Rivers House, 724 Main Street, La Crosse, WI
Feb. 21—7:00PM

Steve Doyle to speak

St. Patty's Party

Loren Kannenberg's House, 322 23rd St La Crosse, WI
March 19—5:00pm

Bring a dish to pass!

March General Party Meeting

Ho Chunk Three Rivers House, 724 Main Street, La Crosse, WI
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SPECIAL GUEST

State Sen. Erpenbach
(27th Senate District)

CALL TO CONVENTION!

MORE DETAILS ON
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Aired, February 4, 2011

So how did Green Bay end up with an NFL team? The NFL's business model usually features rich team owners, right? Cities that don't have enough money for public schools and cops and teachers build giant stadiums because they might attract NFL teams, right? How come little Green Bay has one? Because when the Packers were born, there were pro football teams in towns like Portsmouth, Ohio and Decatur, Illinois.

The Packers are called the Packers because the Indian Packing Company gave the owner the team 500 bucks for uniforms in 1919 in return for naming rights for the team. Google naming rights tonight and see if you can get any for 500 bucks. See if 500 bucks will get you naming rights to anything including a bake sale. As football got to be big profits, big revenues, big price tags on the teams, big stadiums, most of those once upon a time small town teams wound up relocating to places like Chicago and Detroit. But not the Packers. Because the original owners, who were from Green Bay, did something amazing.

They wrote into their articles of incorporation that any profit from the

sale of the team would, I'm not kidding, go to the local American Legion post to build a proper soldiers memorial. They later updated it so any profit would go to a foundation which distributes money to charity. Why is that important? Because that takes the financial incentive out of the prospect of selling that team. Nobody can profit by selling the Green Bay Packers no matter how wildly successful they are as a business entity. And the fact that nobody can profit from selling them has insured that the Packers have not been sold and so they have never left Green Bay. They are the last of the small city, small town teams.

But, wait. There's more. Woo. In 1950 in the age before TV money made every team super, super rich the Green Bay Packers found themselves strapped for cash. The team was not making enough money. They were in trouble. Not willing or even really able to sell the team itself to remedy that problem the Packers hit on the idea of selling stock in the team so they could raise money to keep the thing going. In late 1997 and early 1998 they sold more stock at I think \$200 a share. The stock sale was way more of a municipal bond kind of thing. Nobody is allowed to own more than 200,000 shares and there are just under 5 million shares. So

nobody is allowed to amass a large portion of the ownership of the team. There are no dividends. There are no capital gains for stockholders. The stock does not depreciate in value. It is not publicly traded. It is a nonprofit corporation. What is the payoff on the stockholders' investment? What is the payoff for the Green Bay Packers' 112,000 individual owners?

The payoff is a pro football team in Green Bay. And, yes, three super bowl titles and counting. But also a fan base that is so in love with its team and a team so in love with its fan base that the Packer players invented the touchdown celebration move of jumping into the stands for hugs. In some cities fans throw things at the players. In Green Bay, the players throw themselves at the fans. **I scored a touchdown. Hug me, you guys!** There are a lot of nonprofits in this world and a lot of them are saving the world and feeding and clothing people and doing the most important work there is but there is only one nonprofit in the whole world that has a team in the Super Bowl this year.

That is really weird and I find it really cool.

FACTS & FIGURES

WisGOP: Wants you to present a photo ID whenever you vote to curb "widespread voter fraud..." *...but these are the FACTS & FIGURES.*

FACT: There is no evidence of widespread voter fraud in the state of Wisconsin.

FIGURE: There were only 11 documented cases of voter fraud in Wisconsin in the 2008 election.

FIGURE: Of those 11, eight were felons who should not have been registered which would not have been affected by this proposed voter ID law.

FIGURE: That leaves 3 possibly bad votes out of nearly 3,000,000 or 0.000001%

FACT: This bill is modeled after a Voter ID law in Indiana where voters are more likely to have state issued ID's

FIGURE: In Wisconsin, 23% of elderly, 55% of African American men, 49% of African American women, 46% of Hispanic men, 59% of Hispanic woman, 78% of African American males age 18-24, and 66% of African American women age 18-24, do not have a state issued ID.

FACT: There are more DMV's in Indiana than in Wisconsin and they are open longer as well.

FIGURE: 26% of Wisconsin's 91 DMV's are open one day a month or less, while none of Indiana's are open less than 100 days per year and nearly all are open over 250 days

FIGURE: Three of Wisconsin counties have no DMV's

FIGURE: Expanding the DMV to provide adequate access to voters to register at the DMV could increase the \$70 million biennial Wisconsin DMV budget by as much as 50% on top of the current \$5 million price tag

CALL STATE SENATOR KAPANKE:

Tell him to vote **NO** on "Voter ID"

608-266-5490

PAC, PARTY & NATIONAL CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

Democratic Party of Wisconsin (DPW) 110 King Street, Suite 203
Madison, WI 53703
(608) 255-5172 (tel) - (608) 255-8919 (fax) www.wisdems.org

Wisconsin State Senate Democratic Committee
www.SSDC-Wi.org

Wisconsin Assembly Democratic Campaign Committee
www.AssemblyDemocrats.com

3rd Congressional District Democratic Party
Melanie Franklin, Chair
(715) 659-4964
www.3rdDems.net

Democratic National Committee (DNC) 430 S. Capitol St. SE
Washington, DC 20003
(tel) 202-863-8000
www.Democrats.org

Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) 600 Pennsylvania Ave., SE
Suite 400 Washington, DC 20003
(202) 544-0007 (Tel) - (202) 544-5002 (fax) www.DLC.org

UW-La Crosse College Democrats
www.uwlacrossecollegedemocrats.com

College Democrats of Wisconsin
www.wiscollegedems.net



Thank you to those who have helped with funding our website. Our monthly maintenance cost is \$50. If you would like to make a specific donation for the website, please send your contribution to La Crosse County Democratic Party, PO Box 1861, La Crosse, WI 54602-1861.

LCDP Executive Officers:

Chair: Andrew Londre
608-769-5845
andrew.londre@gmail.com

Vice-Chair: Monica Kruse
608-783-6206
krumoni23@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Kris Troyanek
608-782-3135
ktroyanek@charter.net

Secretary: Paula Stanek
(608)-780-5961
paulastanek@aol.com

LCDP Board Members:

Marcia Wine
608-783-0172
mrswineiii@charter.net

Paul Hackner
608-788-3031

Paul Kruse
608-397-1477
pwk54@yahoo.com

Tina Pohlman
608-782-2626
Email: eyzkrazy4u@gmail.com

Hellen Kelly
hzkelly_law@centurytel.net
(608) 787-1896

Vicki Burke, Immediate Past- Chair
608-792-5854
veronicaburke@centurytel.com

Armas Cravins
College Representative
cravins.arma@students.uwlax.edu

Our Elected Officials

Governor, Scott Walker (R)
Office of the Governor
115 East State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702
(608) 266-1212
(608) 267-8983 Fax

Lt. Governor, Rebecca Kleefish (R)
Office of the Lt. Governor
Room 19, East State Capitol
Madison, WI 53701
(608) 266-3516
(608) 267-3571 Fax

Senator, Ron Johnson (R)
2 Russell Courtyard
Washington, DC 20510
Ph: (202) 224-5323

Senator, Herb Kohl (D)
330 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Ph: (202) 224-5653,
Fax: (202) 224- 9787

Congressman, Ron Kind (D)
1406 Longworth House Office
Building Washington, DC 20510
Ph: (202) 225-5506,
Fax: (202) 225- 5739

Assembly Representative, Jennifer Shilling (D)
State Capitol 120 North
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53703-8953
Ph: (608) 266-5780,
Local: (608) 788- 9854

State Senator, Dan Kapanke (R)
Madison Office, Room 104 South,
State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882,
Madison 53707-7882
Telephone, (608) 266-5490
(800) 385- 3385
Fax (608) 267-5173,
Local, (608) 782- 3975

CALL TO CONVENTION!

2011 3rd Congressional Democratic Party Convention
To be held April 16 in Dunn County—exact time, location, and details on becoming a delegate to be released shortly.

Democratic Party of Wisconsin State Convention
June 3rd & 4th—Hyatt and Regency, 333 West Kilbourn Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53203. Details on becoming a delegate to be released as soon as possible.



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**STATE AND 3RD CD CONVENTIONS
 FAST APPROACHING!**

****See Page 3 for Details**

La Crosse County
DEMOCRATIC PARTY
 P.O. Box 1861
 La Crosse, WI 54602-1861

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 Andrew Londre Chair Kris Troyanek Treasurer
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Attention all Party Members:

The Newsletter is now online. If you don't receive the online newsletter and haven't received online updates through the campaign, please update your address by sending an email to: laxdems@yahoo.com or visit us online at: LaxDems.com



Become a member of the La Crosse County Democratic Party

Received _____

Renewal Month _____

Please check dues structure that applies:

- ___ \$25 - General Membership
- ___ \$10 - Senior, Student, Limited Income
- ___ \$35 - Pairs (up to two memberships)
- ___ \$75 - Family Membership
- ___ \$120 - Supporting Membership
- ___ \$250 - Friend
- ___ \$600 - Patron
- ___ \$2400 - Benefactor

I would like to support the LCDP with a
 donation of \$ _____

TOTAL Amount Paid \$ _____ Check _____ Cash _____

Make checks payable to:

La Crosse County Democratic Party
 P.O. Box 1861
 La Crosse, WI 54602-1861

You can also donate online at www.LaxDems.com

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home # (____) _____ Email _____

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Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. Your contribution may be used in connection with federal elections and is subject to the limitations and prohibitions 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.

I recommend contacting as a possible member

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____