



# Newsletter for Democrats

February 2020

## Welcome to our sixth monthly newsletter

We are on our way to a Democratic victory in November. There is much work ahead in finding more new members, opening an office in East Tawas in July, using new tools for canvassing as well as the proven knocking on doors and working with other county Democratic parties to achieve this goal across NE Michigan.

**Jim Mortimer, Editor**

## Bipartisan Initiative to Reduce Line 5 Risks

Working with the four additional county Democratic parties in the 106<sup>th</sup> legislative district we organized an event in Alpena on January 10. The purpose was to bring together representatives of the five County Commissions, five county Republican parties, the press and the public to learn from the Attorney General's office how they were working to reduce the risk of a failure in Line 5. Peter Manning, Assistant Attorney General and Division Chief: Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture joined Roger Gauthier, Chair of the Cheboygan County Democratic party and founder of the Straits of Mackinac Alliance to address the group of almost 50 people present on this subject.

The panel of Huron shore leaders was moderated by Bob Kennedy, 106<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Chair and stimulated a serious discussion on ways to reduce and avoid damage to the great lakes as well as inland rivers and lakes from a breach in the aging pipeline. Independent studies of the risk of failure of the line under the Straits of Mackinac estimate as much as \$5.6 billion in impact on tourism, commercial fishing, municipal water systems and lost value for coastal homes and properties.



## County Leaders Panel

A follow-through event is now being planned to explore this subject further with a larger audience in April. One goal is to be able to support the work of the Attorney General and other branches of state government in protecting the public trust of this land and water. To read the report of this event go to [106th Legislative District Informational Meeting](#) on the ICDP website.

## Day of Action on Line 5 Safety

On January 27 Chair, Carole Bleau and member, John Morris traveled to Lansing to join a large protest event. Line 5 Protesters delivered 14,000 signatures to Governor Whitmer's office advocating for clean water. #NoOilInOurWater #OilAWaterDontMix #SierraClub #StraightsOfMackinacAlliance. [www.oilandwaterdontmix.org](http://www.oilandwaterdontmix.org). Participating in public demonstrations is another way our county party communicates with fellow Democrats as well as the public.



**Chair Carole Bleau at Lansing line 5 Protest**

## The Trump Economy

**A Letter to the Iosco Press Editor by  
ICDP Vice Chair, Jozef Drozdowski**

In the words of Oliver Griswold, “Trump taking credit for Obama’s economy is like someone inheriting millions from his dad and bragging about what a smart businessman he is.”

It appears that a few folks have the mistaken belief that our current economic conditions are an accomplishment of the Trump administration. President Obama inherited a dismal economy in the middle of a recession. Toward the end of the Bush administration, major financial institutions like Lehman Brothers were collapsing and setting off a global financial crisis. It was newly elected President Obama, as well as Elizabeth Warren, who chaired the five-member Congressional Oversight Panel to oversee the implementation of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act, who were able to turn things around in the first years of the Obama presidency. The U.S. is now in its 10<sup>th</sup> year of economic growth with 95 straight months of job creation. The bulk of the growth took place under the Obama administration.

There’s been no major change in economic activity since Trump took office. In fact, 1.5 million more jobs were added during the final 31 months of Obama’s presidency than during the first 31 months of Trump’s. Average hourly earnings growth has continued an upward trend which began during President Obama’s administration. In real terms after inflation is taken into account, wages only increased by 1.5% between August 2018 and August 2019. Household income has actually slowed during the Trump’s presidency and has hardly budged over the past

year. While the Obama administration’s policy centered on decreasing federal budget deficit and income disparity, the Trump administration has sought to dissolve the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

The Trump tax cut failed to do anything but put money in rich people’s pockets. According to the Congressional Research Service, individuals owning businesses and other sources of concentrated wealth benefit, at the expense of the federal budget. Growth has not increased above the pre-tax trend, nor have wages. Instead of the tax cut paying for itself, it has increased the federal deficit. What this suggests is that the alleged growth-incentivizing secondary effects of the plan were rationales, and the primary effect — giving more money to business owners — was the actual goal all along.

We’re fortunate Trump hasn’t bankrupted our nation like he has his businesses. Our economy has been growing in spite of Trump, not because of him.

## ICDP Event Schedule

### February

- 5 General Membership Meeting 5:30- The Camp Inn Lodge, 3111 US-23, Oscoda
- 7 Democratic Debate- Group Text
- 13 Brew & Stew- 4:00-6 at The Buckhorn Inn, 483 M-55, Tawas City
- 19 Democratic Debate- Group Text
- 23 Pizza Party- 1:00- Rainbow Gardens- 1539 S National City Rd, National City- Speaker, Rachel Cara- 5-G Pollution
- 25 Democratic Debate- Group Text

### March

- 4 General Membership Meeting 5:30- Barnacle Bill’s, 119 Newman St, East Tawas
- 10 Presidential Primary
- 12 Brew & Stew 4:00-6 at The Buckhorn Inn, 483 M-55, Tawas City
- 28 End of Winter Celebration 4:00- The Lodge- 1217 W Lake St, Tawas City

### Join the Iosco County Democratic Party

Are you interested in becoming a member of the Iosco County Democratic Party? You can fill out a membership application form at any event or go to the party website [www.ioscodemocrats.org](http://www.ioscodemocrats.org) and click on “Join the Party”. There you will find the information you need to send an application by mail to us at P.O. Box 252, East Tawas, MI 48730.

[www.ioscodemocrats.org](http://www.ioscodemocrats.org) and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/513749385704570/>