# PADEMS January Newsletter

#### **BUILDING A COALITION**



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#### **PADEMS** A Letter from Chairman Sharif Street



Dear Members,

I am writing to you with a heart full of gratitude and pride. As we reflect on the incredible journey we've undertaken in 2023, I am compelled to extend my deepest thanks for your unwavering dedication, tireless efforts, and the remarkable spirit you've all shown. Your hard work and commitment have been the backbone of our success, and it is because of each of you that we've been able to celebrate significant victories on election day.

These triumphs are not just wins in the ballot box; they are a testament to our collective vision and our relentless pursuit of a better future for the people of Pennsylvania. Your efforts have not only made a difference but have also set a powerful example of what can be achieved when we work together with a shared purpose.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to everyone who attended our recent state committee meeting. Your presence and contributions were invaluable, and the discussions we had were both productive and inspiring. It was a genuine pleasure to see so many dedicated individuals come together, demonstrating the strength and unity of our party.

A highlight of our meeting, and indeed of this year, was our endorsement of several outstanding Democratic leaders running statewide. We proudly stand behind Joe Biden for President, Bob Casey for Senate, Malcolm Kenyatta for Auditor General, and Ryan Bizzarro for State Treasurer. Each of them embodies the values and principles of our party, and their leadership will be instrumental in steering Pennsylvania towards a bright and prosperous future.

Looking ahead to 2024, I am filled with optimism. We have a crucial year ahead of us, and the stakes could not be higher. As Democrats, we must remain united and focused on our goals. Our unity is our strength, and it will be the key to overcoming the challenges ahead. We have the opportunity to make a significant impact, not only in Pennsylvania but across the nation, and I am confident that together, we will rise to the occasion.

In closing, I want to reiterate my sincere thanks for all that you do. Your passion, dedication, and hard work are the driving forces behind our party's successes. Let us continue to work together, united in our mission, as we move forward into another promising year.

Thank you once again for everything. Let's make 2024 a year of unprecedented achievements.

Warm regards & Happy New Year to all!

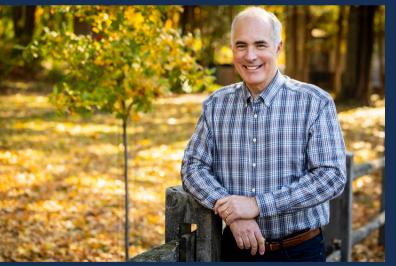
Sincerely,

Senator Sharif T. Street

Chairman, Pennsylvania Democratic Party

## **PADEMS** Endorsed Candidates

#### PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN FOR REELECTION



U.S. SENATOR BOB CASEY FOR REELECTION REP. MALCOLM KENYATTA FOR AUDITOR GENERAL



REP. RYAN BIZZARRO FOR TREASURER

# **PAJEMS** State Committee Rundown

After an incredibly successful 2023 election cycle, Pennsylvania Democrats from all 67 counties gathered in mid-December at the Hilton Harrisburg to hold our Winter State Committee Meeting. During the weekend, Democrats from all across PA shared their many victory stories, held Caucus and Committee business meetings, gathered useful information, and cast their votes to determine the Party's endorsements for key statewide primary races in the upcoming 2024 election.

The crucial endorsements in advance of the April primaries pertained to candidates running for U.S. President, U.S. Senate, Auditor General, and Treasurer positions.

- <u>U.S. President: President Joe Biden</u>
- **U.S. Senate: Senator Bob Casey**
- <u>Auditor General: State Representative Malcolm Kenyatta</u>
- Treasurer: State Representative Ryan Bizzarro

## PADEMS State Committee Rundown



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### **PAGEMS** DNC Visit to Philadelphia w/Labor



### **PADEMS** DNC Visit to Philadelphia w/Elected Officials



# **PADEMS** Senator Bob Casey Updates

### SENATOR CASEY CONTINUES TO FIGHT AGAINST CORPORATE GREED

This month, Senator Bob Casey continued his efforts to hold greedy corporations accountable for raising prices on Pennsylvania families while they bring in record breaking profits. In his newest report on greedflation, Senator Casey is calling out big corporations for shrinkflation, where companies reduce packaging sizes while keeping prices the same. In highlighting this problem of greedflation, he is pushing to make sure Pennsylvanians are protected from being ripped off by greedy corporations on everyday grocery items, like household cleaning and paper products and snacks. It's all part of Senator Casey's commitment to lower costs for Pennsylvania families.

You can read more about Senator Casey's ongoing efforts to bring an end to greedflation below:

- CBS News Pittsburgh: <u>Senator Bob Casey warns of shrinkflation taking bite out of grocery</u>
  <u>purchases</u>
- WBRE: <u>"Shrinkflation" and it what it means to consumers</u>



## **PADEMS** Senator Bob Casey Updates

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO endorsed Senator Casey this month, praising him for his strong record of standing up and advocating for Pennsylvania workers and families. He has been a champion for workers and organized labor and has written and enacted legislation that protects the right to organize, supports workers' and retirees' pensions, and creates good-paying union jobs across Pennsylvania. In 2023, he introduced the Tax Fairness for Workers Act to allow workers to deduct their union dues and common employment expenses on their taxes, which the 2017 Trump tax law repealed. He also introduced the No Tax Breaks for Union Busting Act, which would stop allowing corporations to subsidize their anti-union activities at taxpayer expense.

For the first time in more than 50 years, rail service is on the cusp of returning to Scranton thanks to up to \$500,000 in funding that Senator Casey helped secure.

As a Scranton native, this is a project that hits close to home for the Senator. He has pushed hard to deliver this funding for Scranton, which would create hundreds of goodpaying jobs, grow the economy, and connect more of Pennsylvania to friends, family, and loved ones.The funding comes from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which Senator Casey helped pass into law. It's yet another example of how he's making sure Pennsylvania gets its fair share of billions in federal funding to improve and rebuild Pennsylvania's infrastructure.

We've officially flipped the calendar into the 2024 election year. Senator Casey is facing his toughest election yet as he quickly gears up this year to go against a megamillionaire with unlimited resources. The campaign will be collecting petitions in February and March to get on the ballot and it will take a team to make it happen. If you can take the time to volunteer, you can go to BobCasey.com to get involved.

### **PADEMS** Special State Committee Member Profile

#### **CELEBRATING A HERO AMONGST US**

By: Janet Diaz, Chair of the PA Dems Latino Caucus

The PA Dems Latino Caucus congratulates the first Latina elected to office in Greater Hazleton (Luzerne County) Marilyn Calderon, a Sergeant Major in the US Marine Veteran and the PA Dems Latino Caucus Treasurer. Marilyn won her race to secure a seat on the Freeland Borough Council. Marilyn, who has five children, was an educator in Puerto Rico and has worked with migrant children in Northeast PA. She has also mentored students through AmeriCorps. She is a 12-yearlong-time State Committee member who has knocked on doors and campaigned for many candidates in her district.

On November 6th Marilyn was honored by the Governor of Puerto Rico who requested her participation in the Arlington Memorial Ceremony for the unknown Puerto Rican, soldiers. She was subsequently awarded a medal by the Governor of Puerto Rico to honor her service. We are proud of her service in the Iraq and Iran wars, as well as her postings in Turkey and Africa.



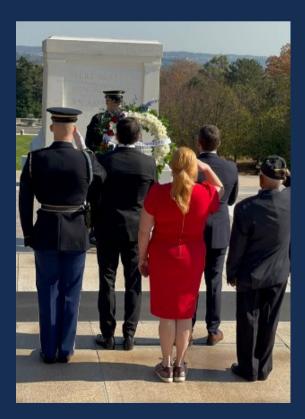
### **PADEMS** Special State Committee Member Profile

After the ceremony, the Latino Caucus joined the Extended Congressional Delegates for Puerto Rico. During our visit to Capitol Hill, we went to Senator Bob Casey's office and Senator Fetterman's office to request support for HB 2757 (which they voted for) and to advocate for legislation that ensures veterans from Puerto Rico receive equal benefits to veterans in the USA.

As the Latino Caucus, we are committed to not only engaging and supporting the Latino community politically but also encouraging Latino residents of Pennsylvania to actively participate in the political process at all levels of government.

Please visit our website and contact us to learn more!





### **PAGEMS** Introducing the PA Dems Sponsorship Program

During the week and weekend of this past Winter State Committee Meeting held in mid-December at the Harrisburg Hilton, we rolled out one of the new programs we will be offering at future State Committee meetings as we move forward, our Vendor Sponsorship Program.

After all, the PA Dem Party is ultimately a hub of resources for our State Party network- from County Parties and their local Committee members to our State Committee members and candidates up and down the ballot all across the Commonwealth.

Our new Vendor Sponsorship program will be yet another resource for our Democratic Party network helping link our members and candidates with industry experts and organizations that can provide various tools or products that can help us all run more efficient and effective campaigns- one election cycle after another.

Some of the vendors that will be participating are partners we are already working with, while others are new resources either we find- or they find us. At the end of the day, we believe this is a win-win for everyone.

Many of you met our two inaugural vendors either on a Zoom Deminar or in person at the Hilton over the weekend but we wanted to make sure you had information about them in case you wanted more info or follow-up.

### **PADEMS** Introducing the PA Dems Sponsorship Program

#### 🕰 Act**Blue**

Ready to supercharge your fundraising and win big in 2024? Interested in leveraging ActBlue's features to grow your digital fundraising program?

The Pennsylvania Democratic Party is excited to join ActBlue in presenting 8 Winning Features (with ActBlue!), a training session covering key digital fundraising features – from recurring upsells to ActBlue Express Lane – that you'll need in 2024 and beyond.

If you'd like to chat about your ActBlue account, or if you're interested in getting started with ActBlue, Melissa Balke (ActBlue's PA representative) would love to hear from you!

#### Contact: Melissa Bulke email: mbalke@actblue.com



Winnable is a new platform built by campaign professionals with years of website experience ranging from nationwide organizations down to school boards. Using Winnable, Democratic campaigns and organizations can create high-quality websites for only \$50/month, with no startup fee.

Winnable features easy connections to common tools like NGP, Votebuilder, and ActBlue, as well as web accessibility and SEO built-in. Launch your campaign website in minutes and start collecting signups, donations, and get your message out to voters!

Contact: AJ Kahle email: aj@winnable.app

# **PADEMS** Big Wins Keep Coming In...

County by county all across PA, our Democratic Parties and allies fought the good fight and won races up and down the ballot that included many historic firsts, flipped counties Blue, and beat back billionaires' money and out-of-state influences who tried to take over Pennsylvania - from our statewide courts to our local School Board seats. Once again, Pennsylvania Democrats scored a big win for freedom and Democracy.

Here are more big wins and successes we brought in during the 2023 election cycle. County by county our Democratic County Committees got it done and helped get the vote out in historic fashion.

**Centre County:** One of our most effective County Parties located in the middle of the Commonwealth, Centre County Dems- got it done, once again, helping keep Centre County BLUE and winning races in historic fashion.

For the first time in a municipal election cycle, Centre County hit 40% voter turnout! As a result of this historic turnout, Centre County Dems elected their first Democratic female commissioner - Amber Concepcion to the County Commission. All four statewide judicial candidates won in Centre County as a result of an effective VBM Chase program where they saw 94% of Democratic mail-in ballots returned.

**Franklin:** Franklin County Dems' organizing efforts helped produce a turnout that ran way above their registration levels. As a strong example, Judge McCaffery received 33% of the vote when Democratic registration was only 23%. At the local level, 5,600 more votes collectively came in for the Board Of Commissioner's race than 4 years ago.

# **PADEMS** Big Wins Keep Coming In...

Huntingdon: In a race that some considered "miraculous" Huntingdon Dems took the majority on the Huntingdon Boro Council. Huntingdon Dems also successfully defended their minority Commissioner seat despite a strong write-in effort from the Republicans on the vacant Democratic line.

Indiana: Proving their tenacity and resilience, Indiana County Dems retained the majority on the Indiana Boro Council thanks to a strong GOTV push in the run-up to Election Day to bring in the wins. Democrats also held a school board seat by 2 votes in a hotly contested race in a traditionally red district.

Northampton: Democrats seized a countywide judicial seat, won three of four seats on the County Council to gain a 6-3 majority, and took the County Controller's seat in a wildly successful Odd Year election cycle.

Highly competitive School Board races across the county produced higher-than-expected turnouts, in some cases over 50%! Democratic slates- such as the Saucon Choices for Change- ousted four of the five Republican incumbents.

Sullivan County: Sullivan County Chair, Germaine Donohue and her Sullivan County Dems continued in their efforts to fight the good fight in a traditionally red county. As a result of those efforts, Democrats got a 50% turnout in the Odd Year! Democrats also won local fights- congratulations go to Scott Myers Sullivan County's newly elected Commissioner, Mary Elise Nolan who won re-election as a School Director, and Kellie Carpenter their Veteran Prothonotary.

### WORKING TOGETHER TO UPHOLD DEMOCRATIC VALUES

#### **IMPORTANT VOTING DEADLINES FOR THE APRIL 2024 PRIMARY**

Visit the <u>PA Dems Voting Center</u> for more information.

January 23, 2024 - First day to circulate and file nomination petitions February 13, 2024 - Last day to circulate and file nomination petitions February 14, 2024 - First day to circulate and file nomination papers February 20, 2024 - Last day to file objections to nomination petitions February 28, 2024 - Last day for withdrawal by candidates who filed nomination petitions April 08, 2024 - Last day to REGISTER before the primary April 16, 2024 - Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot April 23, 2024 - Last day for County Board of Elections to receive completed mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8:00 P.M.)

April 23, 2024 - GENERAL PRIMARY

