



# The Manitowoc Progressive

The Voice of the Manitowoc County Democratic Party

[www.mantydem.com](http://www.mantydem.com)

Join or Renew Membership On the Web

September 2009



In Memoriam

## Senator Ted Kennedy

“...the work goes on,  
the cause endures, the hope still lives,  
and the dreams shall never die.”

## Reframing the Debate on The Health Care Emergency

*“What we have in the United States is not so much a health care system as a disease care system.”*

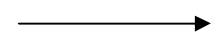
*Ted Kennedy*

*It is fitting to continue the work of Senator Ted Kennedy for a Universal Health Care System. I have selected excerpts from two recent articles published by [CommonDreams.org](http://CommonDreams.org): The first on reframing the debate and the second on your role in furthering this cause.*

For those of you who joined in the book club discussion of Lakoff’s *Don’t Think of an Elephant*, you know that his premise is to ‘frame’ your position so that it resonates with listeners. [I apologize for the gross over-simplification of his work.] This excerpt from his article offers language that reframes the debate on health care. I especially like the term ‘Private Taxation’ – where profit trumps care. What a bold and appropriate definition of what happens when health care and public services are privatized. (Need I remind you of what happened with the Manitowoc County Health Care Center?)

Excerpt from *The PolicySpeak Disaster for Health Care* by **George Lakoff**. Thursday, August 20, 2009. Published by [CommonDreams.org](http://CommonDreams.org):

- ✿ [call it] **The American Plan**. Health care is a patriotic issue. It is what your countrymen are engaged in because Americans care about each other. The right wing understands this well. It’s got conservative veterans at Town Hall meetings shouting things like, “I fought for this country in Vietnam, and I’m fight for it here.” Progressives should be stressing the patriotic nature of having our nation guaranteeing care for our people.
- ✿ **A Health Care Emergency**. Americans are suffering and dying because of the failure of insurance company health care. 50 million have no insurance at all, and millions of those who do are denied necessary care or lose their insurance. We can’t wait any longer. It’s an emergency. We have to act now to end the suffering and death.



## September Membership Meeting

### Phil Neuenfeldt

Secretary-Treasurer  
Wisconsin State AFL-CIO  
Brings us up-to-date on labor issues.

**Monday, Sept 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00 PM**

**Francis Creek Sportsman's Club**  
**9309 Parkway Road**  
**Francis Creek**

Cash Bar (Beer and Soda)

Public Invited

✿ **Doctor-Patient care.** This is what the public plan is really about. Call it that. You have said it, buried in PolicySpeak. Use the slogan. Repeat it. Have every spokesperson repeat it.

✿ **Coverage is not care.** You think you're insured. You very well may not be, because insurance companies make money by denying you care.

✿ **Deny you care...** Use the words. That's what all the paperwork and administrative costs of insurance companies are about – denying you care if they can.

✿ **Insurance company profit-based plans.** The bottom line is the bottom line for insurance companies. Say it.

✿ **Private Taxation.** Insurance companies have the power to tax and they tax the public mightily. When 20% - 30% of payments do not go to health care, but to denying care and profiting from it, that constitutes a tax on the 96% of voters that have health care. But the tax does not go to benefit those who are taxed; it benefits managers and investors. And the people taxed have no representation. Insurance company health care is a huge example of taxation without representation. And you can't vote out the people who have taxed you. The American Plan offers an alternative to private taxation.

✿ **Doctors care; insurance companies don't.** A public plan aims to put care back into the hands of doctors.

✿ **Insurance company bureaucrats.** Obama mentions them, but there is no consistent uproar about them. The term needs to come into common parlance.

✿ **Insurance companies ration care.** Say it and ask the right questions: Have you ever had to wait more than a week for an authorization? Have you ever had an authorization turned down? Have you had to wait months to see a specialist? Does your primary care physician have to rush you through? Have your out-of-pocket costs gone up? Ask these questions. You know the answers. It's because insurance companies have been rationing care. Say it.

✿ **Insurance companies are inefficient and wasteful.** A large chunk of your health care dollar is not going for health care when you buy from insurance companies.

✿ **Insurance companies govern your lives.** They have more power over you than even governments have. They make life and death decisions. And they are accountable only to profit, not to citizens.

✿ **The health care failure is an insurance company failure.** Why keep a failing system? Augment it. Give an alternative.



Excerpt from “*Now Make Me Do It*” by Ralph Nader. Saturday, August 15, 2009. Published by [CommonDreams.org](http://CommonDreams.org):

...“Make me do it” was the advice of Franklin Delano Roosevelt to reformers when faced with legislation he desired but did not have the votes for in Congress. [President] Obama is not exerting that plea for people power. Were he to do that, he would be encouraging daily public hearings in the Senate and the House on the bureaucratic waste, greed, overbilling, collusion, and fraud that many in the corporate world have inflicted with their costly, pay or die health care industry...

...The guess here is that Obama will sign anything which squirms through a cowardly Congress that cannot give to the American people in 2009 the health care system Congress stopped President Harry Truman from establishing in 1950.

It is up to the people of our country to “make him do it” whether this year or next. A mere one million immediate calls to members of Congress by one million assertive citizens will start sobering up these legislators who think they can get away with another sale of our public trust.

The Congressional switchboard is 202-224-3121. The full Medicare, single payer bill (backed by nearly ninety legislators) is H.R. 676. The go-to citizen group for your sustained engagement is [singlepayeraction.org](http://singlepayeraction.org). The rest is up to you, the majority, who want to put the people first.



*“Never give in. Never give in. Never, never, never, never--in nothing, great or small, large or petty--never give in, except to convictions of honor and good sense.”*

Winston Churchill, 1941



# 2009 MantyDems Sportsman's Raffle



Win your choice of a  
Mossberg 535 Combo 12  
Deer/Turkey/Bird Shotgun  
or \$450 cash!



**Tickets \$2 each -- 3 for \$5 -- 7 for \$10**

**Tickets available from members of the MantyDems  
and these fine area merchants:**

**B&B Quick Lube, 204 N. 10th St., Manitowoc**

**Bolle's French Creek Inn, Francis Creek**

**Club Bil-Mar, 3627 Hwy CR, Manitowoc**

**Culture Cafe, 3949 Calumet Ave., Manitowoc**

**The Dugout Bar, 4117 Broadway St., Manitowoc**

**Francis Creek Sportsman's Club, Francis Creek**

**Gallery East, 930 S. 7th St., Manitowoc**

**Kathie's Stage Door Pub, 701 Franklin St., Manitowoc**

**Maretti's Deli, 823 Buffalo St., Manitowoc**

**Tijuana Rose Cantina, 1202 S. 10th St., Manitowoc**

Winner must be 21 years or older and will be subject to all applicable laws. Winner will be drawn at random from all entries received on November 23, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. at the Manitowoc Senior Center, 3330 Custer Street in Manitowoc. Winner need not be present to win. Lic. #R0001987A-01589.

**Raffle is sponsored by the Manitowoc County Democratic Party.**

# The Manitowoc Progressive

The Voice of the Manitowoc Democratic Party

PO Box 1373

Manitowoc WI 54221-1373

## Calendar of Events

- Tue, Sep 8<sup>th</sup>** Executive Committee Meeting. 6:00 PM. Pizza Garden
- Sat, Sep 12<sup>th</sup>** Think Tank, 9:30 am. UU's on Park Street – formerly Christian Science Church
- Sat, Sept 19<sup>th</sup>** Feingold Canvas – Starts at 9:00, Culture Café. Contact Barb Hodgson at [randbhodgson@tds.net](mailto:randbhodgson@tds.net) if you can help out.
- Mon, Sep 28<sup>th</sup>** Membership Meeting 7:00 pm – Phil Neuenfeldt, Sec./Trea AFL-CIO on current labor issues facing Wisconsin workers. Francis Creek Sportsman's Club
- October?** 6<sup>th</sup> CD JFK Dinner – to be announced
- Mon, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** Executive Committee Meeting 6:00 PM
- Sat, Oct 10<sup>th</sup>** Think Tank, 9:30 am UU's on Park Street – formerly Christian Science Church
- Mon, Oct 26<sup>th</sup>** Membership Meeting, Tim Ewing, Fair Wisconsin
- Mon, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>** Executive Committee Meeting 6:00 PM
- Sat, Nov 14<sup>th</sup>** Think Tank, 9:30 am UU's on Park Street – formerly Christian Science Church
- Mon, Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>** Membership Meeting – Raffle Drawing

## MantyDems Officers

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Chair

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**Phil Knier**

Past Chair

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## Yes, I'll Join the Party and Help Democrats Win!

Mail to: Democratic Party of Wisconsin ■ 110 King Street ■ Suite 203 ■ Madison WI 53703

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Employer Address \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Fees include membership to both the State and County Parties.

\$1,200 Investor\*  \$45 Activist

\$1,200 Investor\*  \$35 Pairs

\$600 Patron\*  \$25 General

\$240 Friends\*  \$10 Senior/Student

\$120 Supporter\*  \$10 Limited Income

\$75 Family\*  Other \_\_\_\_\_

\*includes all family members

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, in the aggregate, exceed \$200 in an election cycle. Please provide all information on the membership form.