

# Tuscola County Democratic Party Newsletter

June 2024

Volume 3, Issue 6

## Our Goals

- Ensure honest and transparent government.
- Restore and protect our environment.
- Support strong economic growth and opportunity.
- Strengthen voter access and turnout.
- Promote affordable education and health care for all.

## Contact Us

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## Notice of Our June Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Tuscola County Democratic Party will be held on **Thursday, June 20, 2024**. *Note: The meeting will be held in our new campaign headquarters at 224 State Street in Caro, MI. Social hour will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.*

We hope you will join us.

## Highlights of Our May Meeting

Chair Deb Parker called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 16. Twenty-two members and two guests were in attendance. Vice-chair Alex Kirsch led a discussion of current events, including Biden's dilemma in providing aid to Israel, recent developments in Trump's hush money trial, the recent stock market boom, the Senate's Antisemitism Awareness Act, and recent campus protests. Chair Deb Parker announced that the road cleanup on M-81 has been rescheduled to May 18 and called for volunteers to help us move into our new campaign headquarters on May 31. Clinton St. Mosely told us about his plans and goals as he runs for representative to U.S. Congress for Michigan's 9<sup>th</sup> District. Bob DeCoe shared his ideas about how to get our message out to Tuscola County voters. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

## Tuscola Dems Welcome Your Donations



To donate, simply aim the camera on your smart phone at the QR image shown here, and it will take you directly to ActBlue, where you can donate whatever amount you desire.

Thank you!

## May 7 Election Results

Voters living within the Caro Community School District voted on two ballot proposals:

1. Renewal for six more years of a millage that would provide about \$1.9 million annually for the school district's operating budget. This tax would apply only to non-homestead properties. The proposal passed by a vote of 1394 for the proposal to 753 opposed.
2. A \$39.6 million bond proposal to update school facilities that would increase taxes by 1.4 mill on all property within the school district. The proposal failed by a vote of 972 for the proposal to 1096 opposed.

## Our Trash Bash



The Tuscola County Democratic Party participates in MDOT's Adopt-A-Highway program. Every year our members pick up roadside trash on a two-mile stretch of M-81 between Caro and Cass City. We call it our Trash Bash. Here we are on May 18 heading out to clean up the roadside.

## Our New Campaign Headquarters



On June 1, we opened our new campaign headquarters at 224 State Street in Caro (next door to the Huntington Bank). Our doors will be open from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays until the end of November. We are going to need volunteers to staff our headquarters during those times, so if you can help, please call Deb at (989) 673-6569 and she will sign you up. Otherwise, we hope you will stop by to talk politics with friendly Democrats, try some of our legendary Democratic popcorn, and maybe pick up a few yard signs and bumper stickers.

## Trump's Legal Woes



Donald Trump has been convicted in New York courts of fraud, misuse of funds, inflating property values, and falsifying business records to hide hush-money payments to a porn star. He has been convicted of sexually assaulting E. Jean Carroll and calling her a liar when she wrote about it. He currently faces criminal charges in federal court for hoarding classified documents as well as charges in both federal and Georgia courts for attempting to overturn his 2020 election loss to Joe Biden. Trump continues to claim he's the victim of a politically motivated "witch hunt" and completely innocent of any wrongdoing.

Here's a rundown of the major civil and criminal cases against Trump. Judge for yourself.

- **New York v. The Trump Foundation.** Trump created the Trump Foundation in 1988 to receive royalties from his 1987 book, *Trump: The Art of the Deal*, as well as donations from others, and distribute the money to charity. In 2016, the foundation's activities came under the scrutiny of the New York attorney general, and investigators subsequently discovered that Trump had been using his foundation as his personal piggy-bank. In June 2018, New York Attorney General Barbara Underwood sued Trump, the Trump Foundation, and Trump's adult children. In December 2019, Trump admitted to misusing the foundation's money and was ordered to pay \$2 million as restitution, plus \$1.7 million in the foundation's bank account, to eight charities.
- **New York v. Trump University.** In 2004, Trump founded Trump University, which promised to teach its students the "secrets of success" in the real estate business. The organization conducted three- and five-day seminars (often called "retreats") and used high-pressure tactics to sell them to its customers. Despite its name, Trump University was not an accredited university. It did not confer college credit, grant degrees, or grade its students. In 2013, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman sued the company for illegal business practices, and it was also the subject of two class actions in federal court for defrauding its students. In November 2016, Trump settled all three lawsuits for a total of \$25 million.
- **E. Jean Carroll v. Trump.** In June 2019, E. Jean Carroll published an article in *New York* magazine in which she said Donald Trump sexually assaulted her in the mid-1990s in a dressing room of the Bergdorf Goodman department store. In October 2022, Trump published a lengthy post on Truth Social, saying that "*E. Jean Carroll is not telling the truth, is a woman who I had nothing to do with, didn't know, and would have no interest in knowing.*" In November 2022, Carroll filed suit against Trump, claiming that his post was false and defamatory. In May 2023, a jury found that Trump had in fact sexually abused and defamed Carroll and ordered him to pay her \$5 million in damages. After the verdict, Trump continued to disparage Carroll, calling her a "*whack job*", saying the trial was "*rigged*", denying that he raped her, and claiming "*I don't know who the hell she is.*" Carroll filed another defamation lawsuit against Trump, and in January 2024, a jury awarded her another \$83 million in damages.

- **New York v. Trump et al.** (financial fraud case). In September 2022, New York Attorney General Letitia James sued Donald Trump and others for lying about the value of his real estate assets to get better terms on loans and insurance — a violation of New York Executive Law 63 (12). In September 2023, Judge Arthur Engoron found that Trump and his company had indeed committed fraud, and in February 2024, ordered \$354 million of disgorgement of ill-gotten gains, plus accrued interest, for a total of more than \$454 million. He also assessed \$4 million against each of Trump’s two children, Eric and Donald Jr., and \$1 million against Trump’s ex-CFO, Allen Weisselberg.
- **New York v. Trump** (hush money case). In April 2023, Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg charged Trump with thirty-four violations of falsifying business records — a felony. The prosecutor alleged that Trump falsified business records to hide the true nature of payments made to Michael Cohen, saying they were payments for legal services, whereas in fact they were made to reimburse Cohen for money he paid to porn actress, Stormy Daniels, in the weeks before the presidential election to prevent her from revealing details about a sexual encounter with Trump in 2006. On May 30, a jury found Trump guilty on all thirty-four counts of falsifying business records, making him the first former American president to be convicted of a felony.
- **United States of America v. Trump et al.** (classified documents case). In June 2023, Special Counsel Jack Smith charged Trump with forty counts of illegal retention of top-secret documents, alleging that he hoarded materials of the highest sensitivity after he left the White House. Each of the first thirty-two counts relates to a different classified document that prosecutors say Trump illegally took with him when he left the White House. The eight additional counts are related to Trump’s alleged attempts to hide the documents from investigators and his instruction to employees to delete Mar-a-Lago security footage and lie about it.
- **United States of America v. Trump, et al.** (election obstruction case). In August 2023, Special Counsel Jack Smith charged Trump and a group of alleged co-conspirators with four charges of scheming to reverse the 2020 election results and keep Trump in power, which culminated in the January 6 attack on the Capitol by a mob of his supporters. The indictment includes three counts of conspiracy, which relate to the myriad ways they allegedly tried to accomplish that goal. In addition, there is a fourth count of obstruction, which relates to Trump’s attempt to stop Congress from certifying Joe Biden’s win.
- **Georgia v. Trump, et al.** In August 2023, Fani Willis, the district attorney of Fulton County, Georgia, charged Trump with leading a criminal conspiracy to overturn his 2020 presidential election loss in that state. The Fulton County grand jury cited 161 separate acts in the conspiracy, from false tweets to major violations like trying to get Georgia Secretary of State, Brad Raffensperger, to decertify the state’s election. The indictment contains forty-one criminal charges against Trump and eighteen other people, including one count of racketeering against each defendant.

A vibrant field of yellow wildflowers stretches across the background. In the foreground, a row of seven white mailboxes on dark wooden posts stands in front of a low concrete wall. The scene is captured in a painterly style with visible brushstrokes.

Make  
Tuscola County  
a better place  
to live.

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