

Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin

Fostering Community Dialogue and Participation

January 24, 2020



- MLK Observance
- New Dodgeville Library Referendum
- ATC Transmission Line Update
- Rank-Choice Voting
- Ways to Engage and Participate

New Look! Meet Your New Editor! Claudia Looze, from Town of Highland, is delighted to take over the reins of this newsletter from the incomparable Shirley & Earl Barnes. Her background is in communications, documentary filmmaking, and digital media. Please send content to grassrootswi@gmail.com. Thank you!



THIS SATURDAY!
Annual MLK Observance

Saturday, January 25, 1–3:30 p.m. |
Free
Spring Green Community Center
[117 S. Washington Street, Spring Green](#)

[Matt Rothschild](#), executive director of [Wisconsin Democracy Campaign](#) and former editor and publisher of *The Progressive*, will be guest speaker at the annual birthday observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In addition to celebrating the life of MLK, Rothschild will share his extensive knowledge of politics in our state. Beverages and cake will be served. The event is free and open to the public. Please note the event will be held at the Spring Green Community Center this year, rather than at Spring Green Elementary School. Contact [David Giffey](#) at davidgiffeyart@gmail.com for more information.





Proposed New Library Meeting with the Architects

Tuesday, February 4 | 6–8pm | Free
Dodgeville Public Library
[139 S Iowa St, Dodgeville](#)

Learn about the proposed new library just in time for the referendum vote on the spring ballot. The public is invited to an informational meeting with the architects of the [proposed new library](#) on February 4 at the Dodgeville Public Library from 6–8 p.m. See renderings of the proposed new library, including [floor plans](#), [aerial renderings](#), and [architectural drawings of the exterior from many angles](#). For more information contact Library Director Vickie Stengel, vstangel@swls.org, 608–935–3728 or visit dodgevillelibrary.com/library-building-project/.

ALSO, every Tuesday there will be a Proposed Library Q & A event at the Dodgeville Public Library. Check out the [dedicated Facebook page](#).

A Nonpartisan Case for Electoral Innovation

Thursday, February 6 | 6:30pm | Free
Dodgeville Public Library
[139 S Iowa St, Dodgeville](#)



Sara Eskrich, executive director of Democracy Found, will provide a presentation to explain ranked-choice voting, a system wherein the top four candidates are selected from the primary ballot and ranked-choice voting is used in the general election. For more information on the organization: democracyfound.org For event info, please contact Vickie Stangel at vstangel@swls.org or 608–935–3728.



UPDATE: Cardinal–Hickory Creek Transmission Line
Driftless Area Land Conservancy, Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, Dane
County, Iowa County, Town of Wyoming, and Village of Montfort have
filed suits in federal and state courts challenging the PSC

commissioners' decision to approve ATC's Cardinal–Hickory Creek
transmission line which would run through over 100 miles of Southwest Wisconsin's Driftless
Area. We hope that justice will prevail and the decision will be overturned. To learn more,
please read this [article in the Middleton Times: http://www.middletontimes.com/articles/2020/01/03/
environmental-groups-sue-psc-federal-state-courts-over-chc-line](http://www.middletontimes.com/articles/2020/01/03/environmental-groups-sue-psc-federal-state-courts-over-chc-line)

Spring Primary

Tuesday, February 18, 7am–8pm

Are you registered? [Click here!](#)
Find your polling place [here!](#)
Preview your ballot [here!](#)



Spring Primary: Following are items that may be on your ballot. To preview your ballot click
here: <https://myvote.wi.gov/en-US/previewmyballot>.

- City of Dodgeville Public Library Referendum – learn more here: [https://
dodgevillelibrary.com/library-building-project/](https://dodgevillelibrary.com/library-building-project/)
- Justice of the Supreme Court: **Edward Fallon**, **Jill Karofsky**, **Daniel Kelly** (Top two
candidates move on to April 7th Spring Election)

Looking Ahead: Presidential Preference Primary – April 7, 2020

Polls open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.– Offices to be elected:

- Presidential Preference Vote
- Justice of the Supreme Court
- Court of Appeals Judge District 4: Rachel A. Graham
- Iowa County Board Members ([see Districts here](#))
- Various local mayor, alderman, village and town boards
- Various School Boards – e.g. Dodgeville School Board – W. of Hwy 23 and Member at
Large



Driftless Area *Drinking Liberally*
Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, February 19, 5:30–8pm | Free
Duke's Brew Pub
105 E. Chapel Street, Dodgeville

Drop in at Duke's Brew Pub anytime between 5:30 and 8pm to join the Drinking Liberally group. Part of a national movement, it's a political and social organization where self-identified liberals and progressives gather in local hot spots to socialize, talk politics and drink responsibly! For information contact Jubie Simonson at jubiesimonson@hotmail.com or Michelle Godez at michelle.godez@gmail.com.

Postcard Groups Gather Weekly

Join the group nearest you – for conversation, fun, friendship, and political action.



Dodgeville/Mineral Point: The group meets every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in various coffee shops in Dodgeville and Mineral Point. For the current schedule, contact Judy Stieber at scott.and.judy.stieber@gmail.com

Mazomanie: The “Mazo Muddlers” meet Mondays at 10 a.m. at Base Camp Café, 18 Brodhead in Mazomanie. Contact: janetbrandt10@gmail.com

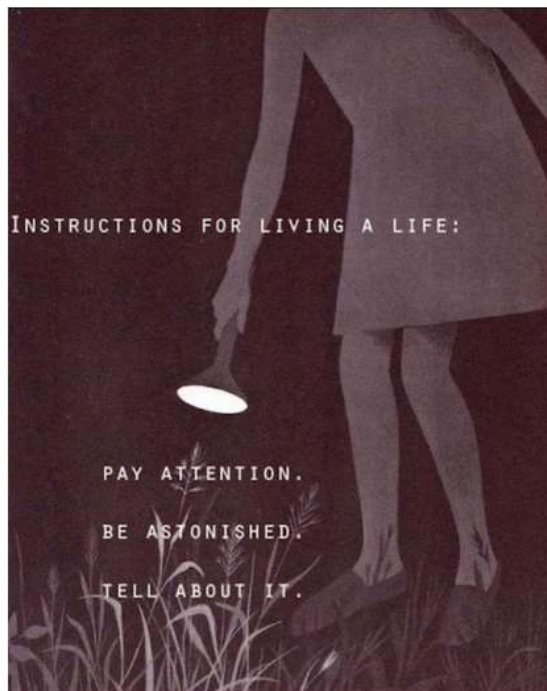
Darlington: Contact Kate Bausch at katebausch@hotmail.com, 608 726–0286 for time and place.

Platteville: Contact suestrickler@gmail.com or 608 330–3027 for details.



Do you have an opinion you'd like to share with your Driftless Region neighbors? Consider writing a letter to the editor at one of the many newspapers we are fortunate to have in our area:

Monroe Times--- editor@themonroetimes.com
Darlington Republican Journal--- rjeditor@centurytel.net
Dodgeville Chronicle--- news@thedodgevillechronicle.com
Mineral Point--- democratictribune@thedodgevillechronicle.com
Richland Reporter--- richlandreporter@mwt.net
Spring Green--- homenewseditor@newspubinc.com



GRASSROOTS CITIZENS OF WISCONSIN is an energetic group of over 700 people in southwest Wisconsin who are interested in steering our country in a more positive direction. For further information, or to add a friend to our mailing list, please contact: Shirley Barnes, Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin at grassrootswi@gmail.com