



*The Grassroots Gazette fosters community dialogue and participation throughout Southwest Wisconsin*

## THINKING OF RUNNING FOR LOCAL OFFICE? The deadline for filing candidacy papers is January 2 (Details below)

Wed., Dec. 12, 7 p.m. (Dodgeville) CONCERNED ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE and WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT? Committed local people interested in helping to change the course of the global climate change debate will meet tomorrow night at the home of Chuck and Karen Tennessen, 3893 Mill Creek Road in rural Dodgeville. They'll tune into the weekly Climate Change Conference Call, with professionals who are working hard to pass legislation that would tackle this international problem. Refreshments and lively conversation will follow the call. Please RSVP to the Tennesens at 987-3835.

Wed., Jan 2, 5 p.m. (all locations) DEADLINE TO DECLARE YOUR CANDIDACY FOR LOCAL OFFICES "Democracy is fragile and needs tending" -- to quote one of our favorite committed people, Judy Spring of the Sauk Prairie area. She was urging folks to consider running for local positions. Informed, committed candidates are definitely needed. Anyone interested in running for township, village, city council, school board and county board positions needs to file papers with the Government Accountability Board (GAB) by Wed., Jan. 2nd at 5PM. [Click here](#) to go to the GAB site which provides more details on what is required. Before filing papers, find out more about the position you are interested in. Go to the websites of the board. Find out who the current members are. Give them a call to find out what it's like to serve. Attend their meetings. Read the minutes of past meetings to find out the issues and who is voting for what. Check out the Grassroots Elections Page <http://www.grassrootswi.org/elections/>

Tues., Dec. 18, 7 p.m. (Dodgeville) IOWA COUNTY BOARD MEETS in regular session at the Health and Human Services Building, 303 W. Chapel Street in Dodgeville.

Sun., Jan 6, 2 to 4 p.m. (Spring Green) MARY LOUISE SYMON AWARD

WINNERS RECEPTION It's such a pleasure to meet the award winners of the annual Mary Louise Symon Memorial award, presented annually by Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin in honor of our founding member, Mary Louise Symon. The winners, recent graduates of local high schools, are selected for their commitment to community service and always have ambitious plans for the future. They are an inspiration for us all. This year's honorees are Katy Cleary, from Mineral Point High School, and Erica Schauf of River Valley High School. The reception will be held at the home of Linda Donnelly, 510 South Lexington in Spring Green. Please RSVP to 588-7865.

WE SEND A SPECIAL HOLIDAY THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED ENGLISH-AS-A-SECOND-LANGUAGE (ESL) TUTORS and their hard-working students.

Thanks so much for making our Holiday Potluck Social an international success. The food was great and the entertainment was delightful thanks to our entertainment guru Kathy Warpinski. It was much fun to share our cultural experiences. We currently have ESL students from Mexico, Venezuela, Uruguay, Russia, Jamaica and Tanzania. Tutors work one-on-one with their students and often get to know their families and share their celebrations. If you are interested in becoming a tutor, please contact us by return email at [grassroots@merr.com](mailto:grassroots@merr.com). No tutor training sessions are scheduled at this time, but we will put your name on the list. And if you have non-English speaking neighbors or acquaintances interested in learning English, also let us know. We will do our best to match them up with a tutor.

HOLD THIS DATE -- Fri., Feb. 1, 7 p.m. (Spring Green) MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH GOSPEL CHOIR, honoring Black History Month Save the date for this exciting event, sponsored by Rural Musicians Forum and Grassroots, among other local organizations. Location: St. John the Evangelist Church, Spring Green.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL FROM GRASSROOTS CITIZENS OF WISCONSIN.

GRASSROOTS CITIZENS OF WISCONSIN, an energetic group of over 1000 people in Iowa, Sauk, Crawford, Richland, Lafayette and Grant Counties who are interested in taking an active role in improving government and promoting rational discussions of local, state and national issues. For further information, or to add a friend to our mailing list, please contact: Shirley Barnes, Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin, 2473 Mt. Hope Road, Dodgeville, WI. 53533, 608-623-2109, e-mail: [grassroots@merr.com](mailto:grassroots@merr.com).

To unsubscribe from our e-mail list, please click on "Reply" and write "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.