



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

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM GRASSROOTS

Looking back to our 2013 accomplishments...and forward to 2014

### COMING IN JANUARY

ESL Tutor Training Sessions

An exciting new Wisconsin's Climate Future workshop series

## MARK YOUR 2014 CALENDARS NOW

### Sat., Jan. 11 and 18, 9 to 3 p.m. (Dodgeville) OUR 2014 ESL TUTOR TRAINING SESSIONS BEGIN

This is a great volunteer opportunity and a richly rewarding experience. We train you to teach English one-on-one to an adult who is eager to learn our language. The next English as a Second Language (ESL) tutor training is Saturday, Jan. 11 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 18 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Plymouth UCC Congregational Church, 115 West Merrimac in Dodgeville. You do not need to know another language -- the training will help you overcome the language barrier. For more information and to register for the training, contact Shirley Barnes, [grassroots@merr.com](mailto:grassroots@merr.com) or 608-623-2109. Or check out the details on our Grassroots website <http://www.grassrootswi.org/immigration/>

### Wednesday evenings, from Jan. 8 to Feb 26 (Dodgeville) 'WHAT IS WISCONSIN'S (CLIMATE) FUTURE?' -- AN EXCITING NEW WORKSHOP

SERIES This Wednesday evening series will be an ideal time for us all to renew our efforts to educate ourselves about one of the critical, defining issues of our generation. Our children's children are counting on us! See schedule below. RSVP is requested at 608-930-9850. The workshops will be held at the Iowa County Health and Human Services Building Community Room, 303 W Chapel Street in Dodgeville. Sponsors are Grassroots, Sustain Iowa County, UW Extension, Iowa County Emergency Management and the Driftless Area Conservancy. For more information check out the Grassroots website [http://www.grassrootswi.org/sustain\\_iowa\\_county/](http://www.grassrootswi.org/sustain_iowa_county/)

## Floods, Droughts, Land and Energy - What is Wisconsin's Future?

- **January 8, 2014 6 - 8 pm** An Introduction to Wisconsin's Change Climate
- **January 22, 2014 6 - 8 pm** Wisconsin's Energy Profile - How do we move to a low carbon economy?
- **February 12, 2014 6 - 8 pm** The Challenge of Understanding Wisconsin Impacts in a Changing Climate - Learning from the past, estimating the future.
- **February 26, 2014 6 - 8 pm** Movie - Earth the Operator's Manual

## Wed. Dec. 18, 2 to 6 p.m. (Dodgeville) FINAL 2013 FREE HELP SESSION FOR



### ENROLLING IN THE NEW ON-LINE HEALTH CARE

#### MARKETPLACE

This will be the last 2013 Help Session conducted by Grassroots volunteers at the SW Tech Satellite Center in the Piggly Wiggly mall, 316 W. Spring Street in Dodgeville for people who need assistance signing up for health insurance on the online federal Marketplace. Know someone who needs help? Pass this info on. Additional help will be available Thursday, Dec. 19 at the Community Connections Free Clinic, 101 East Fountain Street, Dodgeville. Help sessions in 2014 have yet to be scheduled. Watch the Gazette for further info.

Fri., Jan 10, 4 to 5:30 p.m. (Dodgeville) CITIZENS FOR PEACE meeting. You are invited to join this active group which is currently planning a 2014 discussion series and their signature August event - Lanterns for Peace. Meet at the home of Judy James, 3455 Rowe Road, Dodgeville. Contact Jane Kavaloski at [Kavaloski@country-speed.com](mailto:Kavaloski@country-speed.com) or 935-3007 for info.

## Sat., Jan 11, 11 a.m. (Mineral Point) IOWA COUNTY CITIZENS CLIMATE

LOBBY This environmentally active group will meet at the Gray Dog Deli, 215 High Street in Mineral Point. You'll learn how you can become engaged in this committed group. RSVP to Chuck & Karen Tennessen at [twotens@yousq.net](mailto:twotens@yousq.net) or (608) 987-3835. See you then!

*Go to the Grassroots Sustain website to read a comprehensive report on the scientific evidence for global warming, entitled "The Climate Change Evidence Is In". It was prepared by Geologist Don Campbell, a member of our local Climate Lobby group. [Click here](#) for more information and to read the report.*

Also check out Chuck Tennessen's new environmental blog at [www.foreverearthbound.net](http://www.foreverearthbound.net) and watch for his column in the Dodgeville Chronicle.

## TAKING WELLNESS SERIOUSLY: An all-Iowa County Campaign (Date to be determined)

Following up on the recent Richland Fit presentation in Iowa County, a strong coalition of local agencies and citizens, including Grassroots, will meet in January to consider next steps for bringing an active fitness campaign to our communities.

## GRASSROOTS 2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

OUR HEALTH CARE TASK FORCE, along with other partners, sponsored two health care-related free film screenings: Escape Fire and Hungry for Change. It also co-sponsored the presentation of "Keeping Iowa County Healthy: It's Everyone's Job" (more to come in 2014).

We were a co-sponsor of the Delicious Driftless Food Fare. Grassroots volunteers offered free help sessions to enroll people in the ACA Marketplace - and will continue to do so in 2014. Grassroots was part of the Info Sessions about the ACA held at the HS&S Building Community Room.

OUR IMMIGRATION TASK FORCE continued to sponsor a vibrant English-as-a-Second-Language tutoring program with other partners. We have now trained over 50 volunteers. Grassroots and others are working on establishing a southwest Wisconsin-based Multicultural Center.

OUR SUSTAIN IOWA COUNTY partner sponsored a months-long series of Climate Change advertisements in the Dodgeville Chronicle paid for by private businesses and individuals. The Climate Change Lobby group holds monthly meetings to consider solutions. Chuck Tennesen has begun a regular blog in the Dodgeville Chronicle. This group will co-sponsor the upcoming 2014 climate change series.

OUR PEACE & JUSTICE partners hosted the memorable 2013 Lanterns for Peace event, entitled "Making Peace with Nature" and were involved with the Dodgeville Library in a thought-provoking Great Decisions series.

OUR MARY LOUISE SYMON AWARDS committee presented two 2013 awards of \$1,000 each to local graduating high school seniors

OUR FORUMS COMMITTEE hosted the "Dare Your Run for Office?" event and a discussion with NPR's Steve Paulson about his captivated book Atoms and Eden - a series of interviews with leading science and religion experts.

To contribute to GRASSROOTS CITIZENS OF WISCONSIN, please [click here](#) to print out our contribution form, and send your check to: GRASSROOTS CITIZENS OF WISCONSIN, 2473 Mount Hope Rd, Dodgeville, WI 53533

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.