



*The Grassroots Gazette fosters political dialogue and participation throughout Southwest Wisconsin.*

RIVER VALLEY GRASSROOTS FESTIVAL  
in Mazomanie (Feb. 20)

CHINA SERIES in Dodgeville (Feb. 11 to 25)

HARVEST THE WIND workshop in Dodgeville (Feb. 23)

and more

Sat., Feb. 20, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Mazomanie) MAKING CHANGE HAPPEN: The 2nd Annual RIVER VALLEY GRASSROOTS FESTIVAL

Tammy Baldwin will headline the "2nd Annual River Valley Grassroots Festival" in Mazomanie, speaking at noon. This jam-packed day includes outstanding morning and afternoon breakout sessions on 17 different topics -- education reform, regional transit planning, framing issues, adding passion to social justice issues, improving vehicle fuel economy, understanding Afghanistan, health care reform, organizing for action, climate change, running for office, the economic mess: how do we fix it?, grassroots organizing, practical solar power and more. Ed Garvey and Mike McCabe, a champion of campaign finance reform, will speak in the morning. LOCATION: Wisconsin Heights High School, on Hwy. 14 between Black Earth and Mazomanie. Registration (\$5) is from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. For more information and to register contact Nate Timm at 608-220-0139 or [WRVGFEST@gmail.com](mailto:WRVGFEST@gmail.com). Also check it out at [WRVGFest.com](http://WRVGFest.com). An optional post-event mixer and dinner will be held at the Old Feed Mill in Mazomanie (\$12). Sign up at the time of registration.

Thursdays, Feb. 11, 18 and 25, 7 to 9 pm (Dodgeville) CHINESE CULTURE SERIES at the Dodgeville Library

Dr. Lily Zhang of the Confucius Institute at UW-Platteville will open our eyes to China in a fascinating series to be held at the Dodgeville Public Library. Topics include: Chinese Daily Life and Culture and the influence of Confucius (Feb. 11); Chinese Economy and Geography: "The Rhythms of Life" in China's different provinces (Feb. 18); Ethnic Communities in China: Sharing their rich heritage (Feb.25).

Tues., Feb. 23, 6:30 to 8 p.m. (Reedsburg) YOUR FEEDBACK LEADS TO STRATEGY

Come and tell us what you'd like to see from the President and Congress. Learn what you can do now, how to plug into the 2010 elections and find out who is listening to grassroots voices. LOCATION: Reedsburg Public Library meeting room, 370 Vine Street. For info, call Donna Miller at 574-6644.

Tues., Feb. 23, 12:45 to 3:30 p.m. (Dodgeville) HARVEST THE WIND: a workshop for farm owners

If the wind always blows on your farm, how much of a stretch is it for you to harvest the wind to power your farm or part of it? Southwest Wisconsin farmers will learn from a utility company representative how much it would cost to hook up to the grid, and what grants and loans are available to make it affordable. A fellow dairy farmer who powers with wind will talk about his experiences. You'll learn about the best sites for wind and much more. LOCATION: Dodger Bowl in Dodgeville, To participate, send your check (\$20) along with your name, address, telephone and e-mail to Iowa County, UW Extension, Att: Wind Energy Forum, 222 N. Iowa, Dodgeville, WI 53533. Call Gene Schriefer for more information. at 935-0391

Iowa County residents are in desperate need of used winter clothing

Empty your closets of unused coats, snow pants, boots, gloves, hats, mittens and scarves. The "We Care" organization will get these to families in need. Donations can be dropped off in Dodgeville at State Farm Insurance, Quality Liquid Feed, We Care and all local schools. Cash donations are also appreciated. Contact Mary Berg at 574-9661.

Thurs., March 11 thru Sunday, March 14 (Dodgeville) FREE "MAKING IT HOME" FILM FESTIVAL

Dodgeville is one of only four Wisconsin communities throughout the state to be selected to host this prize-winning series of eight FREE FILMS, sponsored by the Wisconsin Humanities Council. The films will be shown at the Dodge Theater in Dodgeville on a first come, first served basis. The festival will explore the connections between people and place with a fresh collection of films from around the world. They have been selected not only for their meaningful content but for their humor and entertainment value and several to be shown on Saturday are particularly oriented toward families. Themes deal with foods, water, landscape, sustainability, the relationship of people to nature, preservation and conservation decisions and other through-provoking topics. Discussions will follow several of the films. A special guest, Madeline Leopold, the granddaughter of Aldo Leopold, will introduce and moderate the film "America's Lost Landscape, to be shown at 1 p.m., Sat., March 13. In conjunction with the festival, a Land Owners workshop will be held on Sat., March 13, from 8 to 11 a.m. at Folklore Village to inform people about issues such as planting prairie, managing streams and identifying grasses and birds.

The movies include "What's On Your Plate?", "Ghostbird", "Greening of Southie", "Garbage Dreams" and "Upstream Battle". Others to be announced. For a complete schedule and full description of the films, check out the Wisconsin Humanities Council website.

The event is sponsored by the Wisconsin Humanities Council in cooperation with the Dodgeville Chamber of Commerce, Sustain Iowa County, Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin and other local organizations.

## March 18 through April 15 (Dodgeville) JOIN THE GREAT DECISIONS

### DISCUSSION SERIES

This lifelong-learning opportunity is coming to the Dodgeville Public Library on Thursday evenings in March and April, 2010. The series is jointly sponsored locally by the Dodgeville Public Library and Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin. Topics include "Peacekeeping and Conflict Resolution" (March 18), the "Persian Gulf" (March 25), the "Global Financial Crisis" (April 8) and "US-China Security Relations" (April 15). All programs will start at 7 p.m. Briefing books with articles on each topic will be available at the Dodgeville Public Library prior to each discussion. Great Decisions meetings feature open and fair conversation, without requirement for consensus. Advance registration is required (so register early.) For more information or to sign up, contact Vickie Stangel, Library Director, <http://dodgevillelibrary.com>.

THE GRASSROOTS GAZETTE IS THE VOICE OF THE 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 remove your name from our e-mail list, please click on "Reply" and write "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.