



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

### Coming Events:

RIVER VALLEY GRASSROOTS FESTIVAL (Feb. 20);

FREE FILM FESTIVAL (March 11 to 14)

GREAT DECISIONS SERIES (March-April)

#### Wed., Jan. 13, 6 p.m. (Fennimore) ENTREPRENEUR AND INVENTORS CLUB

Is your New Year's resolution to expand or start your own business? If so, you're invited to the free Entrepreneur and Inventors meeting to be held on the campus of Southwest Tech in room 493. Social time begins at 5:30 p.m. with meeting starting promptly at 6 p.m. The topic is Online Business Plan Development which will be presented by Paul Bell and Karyl Nicholson, instructors at Southwest Tech.

#### Sun., Jan. 24, 2 p.m. (Spring Green) RETHINKING AFGHANISTAN to honor Martin Luther King's birthday

To honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., excerpts from the documentary film "Rethinking Afghanistan" will be shown at the annual River Valley MLK birthday celebration (at Spring Green Elementary School library, 830 W. Daley Street). The participants will also discuss Wisconsin Assembly Bill 203 which would require the governor to review all federal orders for deploying the Wisconsin National Guard. These topics are in keeping with Dr. King's opposition to the Vietnam War and other U.S. military interventions. Refreshments including a birthday cake will be provided. Bring potluck snacks and printed information to distribute regarding peace and justice issues. The event is free and open to the public. For more information contact David or Nancy Giffey at 753-2199.

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

Join this exciting day when people interested in citizen action from throughout Southwest Wisconsin will come together to share ideas, talk about the hot issues, learn about political action techniques and more. (A major blizzard struck last year on festival day but 100 people weathered the storm anyway.) Expect a jam-packed day with up to 12 breakout sessions on

topics such as the latest news in "Campaign Finance Reform", "Race to the Top in Education Reform", "Health Care Reform", "Moving Forward with the RTA", "Organizing for Action", "Surviving the Auto Industry Turmoil" and more. Watch for more information. LOCATION: Wisconsin Heights High School, on Hwy. 14 between Black Earth and Mazomanie. Registration is from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Lunch \$6. For more information and to register contact Nate Timm at 608-220-0139 or [WRVGFEST@gmail.com](mailto:WRVGFEST@gmail.com).

### Thurs., March 11 thru Sunday, March 14 (Dodgeville) EXCITING "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 FREE FILMS, focusing on all aspects of our environment and home. The event is sponsored by the Wisconsin Humanities Council. The films will be shown at the Dodgeville Theater. Watch for more details as they become available.

### March 11 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).

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