



The Grassroots Gazette fosters community dialogue and participation throughout Southwest Wisconsin

COUNTDOWN TO WISCONSIN PRIMARY ELECTION

(Tues., April 5)

Vital local races are on the ballot - and, of course, the Presidential candidates

The Grassroots Gazette Elections Page offers vital info about local elections ([click here](#)). Do your homework now! HIGHLIGHTS from the page:

- You'll need PHOTO ID AT THE POLLS - due to the restrictive new state law.
- Early voting has already started. Check with your local clerk to find out how.
- Find out what's on YOUR ballot by going to [My Vote Wisconsin's Voter Search](#) so you won't be surprised when you step into the voting booth.
- The \$19,995,000 Dodgeville capital improvements referendum, primarily for the Dodgeville High School, will fix the long-neglected infrastructure (HVAC, electrical, Windows, roofs), add a new STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) portion to the building, add an additional space for the music program, move the district office to the current library and create a new library space which is easier to access at the front of the building. If money allows, improvements to other buildings will be undertaken. Click [here](#) for more details about the referendum.
- The \$1.8 million recurring referendum for the Iowa-Grant School District is vital "because given the current school funding system (with funds slashed by the State Legislature), Iowa-Grant cannot survive without the additional support of our taxpayers", according to school officials. See much more on their [website](#).
- Important local contested elections:
 - Long-time Grassroots member Michael Knoedler is running against Imelda Majeski from Ridgeway for the at-large seat on the Dodgeville School Board.
 - Timothy McKinley, a Dodgeville lawyer and the long-time Iowa County Court Commissioner, is running against Mineral Point lawyer Margaret (Peg) Koehler for Iowa County Circuit Court Judge race.
 - Walker-appointee Rebecca Bradley is running against Court of Appeals Judge JoAnne Kloppenburg for Supreme Court Judge.



Tues., April 5, (in DARLINGTON, LANCASTER, PLATTEVILLE AND BELMONT) "MOVE TO AMEND" will be on the primary ballot. Part of a nationwide grassroots movement to diminish the influence of big money in politics today, voters in Darlington, Lancaster, Platteville and Belmont will have a chance to weigh in on whether the U.S. Supreme Court's Citizens United decision should be struck down by a new amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Sixteen states have already passed legislation calling for the "Move to Amend" amendment. Wisconsin hopes to be number 17. For more info, contact Ray Spellman at Spellman@mhtc.net; Midge Steger, midgesteger@yahoo.com - in Darlington; Dick Rundell at rrundell@centurytel.net in Platteville; David Froemming at frommdavidr@yahoo.com in Lancaster and Muz Aebersold marilynaebersold@yahoo.com in Belmont.



Fri., April 1, and Tues., April 19, 2 to 4 p.m. (Dodgeville) FINAL GREAT DECISIONS DISCUSSIONS. The discussions are held at the Dodgeville Library, 139 South Iowa Street, downstairs in the City Council room. FREE. Pre-registration is required. Contact Librarian Vickie Stangel at 608-935-3728 or vstangel@swls.org. Upcoming topics include:

- Shifting Alliances in the Middle East (April 1) Facilitator: Dan Kettner, retired River Valley history teacher
- Climate Geopolitics (April 29) Facilitator: Chuck Tennessen, head of Iowa County chapter of the national Climate Change Lobby group.



Citizens' Climate Lobby

Sat., April 9, 11 a.m. (Dodgeville) MONTHLY SUSTAIN IOWA COUNTY CITIZEN'S CLIMATE LOBBY MEETING this month's meeting will be at a new location - the Cobblestone Coffeehouse, 237 N. Iowa in Dodgeville. (The May meeting will also be at the Cobblestone). Members are urged to write / call local legislators and Rep. Mark Pocan concerning ATC's proposed high capacity power line expansion through Iowa Co. Is it necessary? Will it actually carry renewably generated energy as has been touted? The growing nation-wide campaign to pass "carbon fee and dividend" legislation is the group's number one priority with a nationally known speaker to address the latest developments during a conference call at the April 9 meeting. For more info, contact Chuck Tennessen, twotens@yousq.net



Fri., April 15, 4 to 5:30 p.m. (Dodgeville) IOWA COUNTY CITIZENS FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE to meet at the home of Judy James, 3455 Rowe Road in Dodgeville to begin planning for the August "Lanterns for Peace" event. For further info about Citizens for Peace and Justice, contact Jane Kavaloski at

jhkavaloski@gmail.com



Sat., April 16, 6 to 9 p.m. (Spring Green) POPULAR COMMUNITY

CONNECTIONS FREE CLINIC AUCTION

How about a week of diving, snorkeling and swimming in the Caribbean - while staying at a three-bedroom beachfront home in Honduras's beautiful island of Roatan. The Caribbean get-away is among the many unique experiences and treasures, many of them closer to home, to be auctioned off at the popular Community Connections Free Clinic Auction, Saturday, April 16 from 6 to 9 p.m. This year's auction is at a new location -- The Wisconsin Riverside Resort at S13220 Shifflet Road, in Spring Green. The fun-filled event, which supports the great work of the Dodgeville clinic, will include music by Scott Stieber and Don Myers, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. But the lively bidding is what makes the evening come alive. Tickets for the Free Clinic Spring Auction are \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door. To register go to <http://ccfcwi.org/event/2016-spring-auction/> or send a check, payable to CCFC Auction to P.O. Box 184, Dodgeville Wi, 53533. For more information, call 935-7023.



connecting progressive grassroots groups throughout the
State of Wisconsin

Sat., April 2, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. (Mazomanie) 8th ANNUAL WISCONSIN GRASSROOTS

FESTIVAL

This exciting annual event brings together political activists from throughout the state. LOCATION: Wisconsin Heights High School, Hwy. 14 between Black Earth and Mazomanie. Speakers will include Congressman Mark Pocan, John Nichols, National Affairs Correspondent for The Nation, Matt Rothschild of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, Lisa Graves of the Center for Media & Democracy, Robert Craig of Citizen Action of Wisconsin, and Jay Heck of Common Cause Wisconsin. Twenty one breakout sessions are scheduled on the hot political topics. (Suggested donation: \$20 - lunch included.) For further info, contact Nate Timm at nptimm571@gmail.com.

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.

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