



The Grassroots Gazette fosters community dialogue and participation throughout Southwest Wisconsin

UPCOMING EVENTS

Election Day - April 2

For additional details on all the events below, check out our website:

<http://www.grassrootswi.org>

Mon., March 18, (throughout state) VOTE EARLY FOR ALL-IMPORTANT SUPREME COURT AND DEPT. OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION RACES Make it convenient. Vote early -- now until Fri., March 29 -- in your city or village clerk offices (during office hours) or call your town clerk to set up an appointment. Check out the [Grassroots Election page](#) to find out why these races for Wisconsin Supreme Court and the Superintendent of Public Instruction are critically important. **ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, APRIL 2.**

FOLLOW UP TO LAST SUNDAY'S SPRING GREEN CONVERSATION WITH NPR'S STEVE PAULSON During Paulson's fascinating conversation about the relationship between religion and science today, he mentioned a number of good reads. For his complete list, plus links to the publishers, go to our [Grassroots Forum page](#).

Thur., March 21, 7 p.m. and Fri., March 22, 2 p.m. (Dodgeville)

INTERVENTION: When should the international community intervene? The next Great Decisions discussion will tackle the critical question of INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION - WHEN AND WHY? Last week's topic - Burma - led to a very lively discussion and you can expect more on Burma in the coming months. LOCATION: Dodgeville Library, 139 S. Iowa. To pre-register (which is encouraged) contact Vickie Stangel at the library at vstangel@swls.org or call 935-3728. Events are free. You can pick up background information on the topic prior to each session. Iran and Threat Assessment will be upcoming topics. Watch the Gazette for info.

Sat., March 23, 7:30 p.m. (Mineral Point) LIVE CONCERT TO BENEFIT

MINERAL POINT OPERA HOUSE The benefit concert features Better Daze (Vintage Rock) and Scott Stieber and Don Meyer (Acoustic Rock Country Folk). Tickets in advance are \$10 and available at Berget Jewelers in Mineral Point. Tickets are also available at the door for \$12. Learn more at <http://www.mpoh.org>

Tues., March 19, 7 p.m. (Dodgeville) IOWA COUNTY BOARD meets at the Health and Human Services Building, 303 W. Chapel. When it becomes available, the agenda will be posted at <http://iowacounty.org/countyboard/committees/countyboard.shtml>. Click 2013 to find the agenda.

ACTION ALERT



THE FACTS ABOUT VOUCHER SCHOOLS VS. FUNDING FOR OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS This news comes from Mike Humke, local school board member and long-time Grassroots member:

The Dodgeville schools currently receive \$1,516 less per student from state funding than do Milwaukee and Racine voucher schools. The same goes for River Valley (\$2,502 less), Pecatonica (\$799 less); Platteville (\$1,334 less) and Richland Center (\$1,008 less). Voucher funding is expected to go up by \$1058 per student (from \$6442 to \$7500) in the next two years while public schools will be allotted \$0. So the disparity between public and voucher schools will grow every year. Since the year 2000, nearly \$750,000 that the Dodgeville Schools District should have received has gone instead to voucher schools in the Milwaukee area.

SO WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT? The State Legislature is currently writing legislation that would expand voucher schools. Check with your local school superintendent or school board member to get all the facts. **THEN CALL YOUR STATE SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE** to let them know your opinion about the bill. Go to the [Grassroots Legislators page](#) for up-to-date contact info.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri., April 12, 4:15 p.m. (Dodgeville) GRASSROOTS CITIZENS FOR PEACE will meet immediately following the Great Decisions discussion in the Dodgeville City Council chambers, 100 E. Fountain Street. For more info, contact Jane Kavaloski at kavaloski@countriespeed.com or (608) 935-3007.

Sat., April 6, 11 a.m. (Mineral Point) IOWA COUNTY CITIZENS CLIMATE LOBBY meets. New members concerned about the critical impact of climate change are always welcome at this monthly meeting at the home of Chuck and Karen Tennessen, 3893 Mill Creek Road in rural Dodgeville. You'll participate in a national tele-conference and discuss next local steps for the group. CCL's purpose is to support legislation that gradually raises a fee on carbon-based fuels and returns the revenue to taxpayers. RSVP to Chuck and Karen at twotens@yousq.net or 608-987-3835. See you then.

Mon., APRIL 15 -- APPLICATIONS ARE DUE FOR THE 2013 MARY LOUISE SYMON COMMUNITY SERVICE MEMORIAL AWARD Applications are available online at the [Grassroots Mary Louise Symon Award page](#) or in the counselors' offices at area high schools. This \$1,000 award, presented annually by Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin, honors local graduating seniors who are following in the footsteps of long-time community activist Mary Louise Symon, who was a founding Grassroots member. Home schooled students are eligible for the first time this year -- as well as seniors at River Valley, Highland, Dodgeville, Iowa-Grant, Mineral Point, Barneveld and Pecatonica high schools. For more information, contact Shirley Barnes, grassroots@merr.com.

Sat., April 27, 6 to 9 p.m. (Barneveld) COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS FREE CLINIC AUCTION How about a Downton Abbey dinner for eight, an Indian dinner for eight or an authentic Mexican dinner for twelve - all prepared by great local cooks. These will be among the many exciting items on the auction block at the Community Connections Free Clinic Auction at Deer Valley Lodge in Barneveld. The evening will include a light buffet and music by the Larry Busch Band. Reserve early -- online at <http://www.cfcwi.org> or send your check for \$30 per person (\$35 at the door) to CCFC Auction, P.O. Box 184, Dodgeville, WI 53533. For more info, call Ginger Brand at 608-935-7023.

Weds., April 3 to May 22, 5:45 to 7:15 p.m. (Dodgeville) ADULT SPANISH CLASSES Veteran Dodgeville High School Spanish teacher Kathy Warpinski, now retired, is offering adult Spanish classes in Dodgeville High School every Wednesday from April 3 to May 22. She has extensive overseas and volunteer experience in education. Contact kwarp@yaho.com for information.

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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