



The Grassroots Gazette fosters community dialogue and participation throughout Southwest Wisconsin

JUDGE HAS HALTED NEW VOTER ID LAW for APRIL 3 ELECTION (See below)

BIG NEWS: Dane County Judge David Flanagan temporarily halted implementation of Wisconsin's controversial new voter ID law for the April 3 election - although Attorney General Van Hollen is appealing. Will Photo IDs be required or not? No one knows for sure. Stay tuned to the Grassroots Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Grassroots-Citizens-of-Wisconsin/174246405925559?sk=wall>) for the latest. NOTE: Grassroots is a supporting member of Voces de la Frontera, one of the groups behind the successful Voter ID law suit.

Tues, April 3 - SPRING GENERAL ELECTION. Check your calendars to be sure you'll be in town for the Spring General Election. If not, get your absentee ballots now at your County Clerk's office. Or check here for an absentee ballot application:
<http://gab.wi.gov/forms/gab-121-english>

Thurs., March 22, 7 p.m. (Dodgeville) MEET DODGEVILLE MAYORAL CANDIDATES AND CITY COUNCIL CONTESTANTS With long-time Dodgeville mayor Jim McCaulley retiring this year, the city will have its first competitive mayoral race in years. Linda Pittz, a current City Council member, and Todd Novak, editor of the Dodgeville Chronicle, are competing for the position. Come to hear their perspectives on the vital issues relating to the future of Dodgeville. You'll also have a chance to meet the candidates who are competing for the Dodgeville City Council. The forum, to be held in the Dodgeville City Council Chamber, 100 E. Fountain Street (basement of library), is sponsored by the Dodgeville Public Library. Refreshments and informal discussions will follow upstairs in the library. More on our website: <http://www.grassrootswi.org/elections/>

Thurs., March 15 through Fri., April 27 (Dodgeville) GREAT DECISION DISCUSSION SERIES You'll have a chance to engage in lively conversation about some of the world's most pressing problems during the free Great Decisions discussion series at the Dodgeville Library. The Grassroots Citizens for Peace is a co-sponsor. Pre-registration is required. Contact Vickie Stangel at 608-935-3728 ext. 2 or via email at vstangel@swls.org. See the schedule and topics below:

- Thurs., March 15 at 7:30 p.m. and Friday, March 16 at 2 p.m. Topic: Middle East Realignment: what lies ahead during the transition to democracy?
- Thurs., March 29, 7:30 p.m. and Fri., March 30, 2 p.m. Topic: Promoting Democracy: its place in US foreign policy today.
- Thurs., April 12, 7:30 p.m. and Fri., April 13, 2 p.m. Topic: Exiting from Afghanistan and Iraq: what strategy will help build stable nations?
- Thurs., April 26, 7:30 p.m. and Fri., April 27, 2 p.m. Topic: State of the Oceans: What are the consequences of climate change?

Pick up pre-reading materials at the Dodgeville Library or get them online from the Foreign Policy Association at http://www.fpa.org/great_decisions or get them on our What's Hot page: http://www.grassrootswi.org/what_is_hot/

Sat., April 14, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Dodgeville) 2012 IOWA COUNTY ENERGY FAIR. (Register by Monday, April 9) This is a great opportunity to find out if wind, solar or geothermal energy would work for you. You'll also have a chance to quiz homeowners who have learned first-hand about the pros and cons of these alternative energies. In the afternoon, you're invited to tour local homes, including a 5,000 sq. ft. log cabin heated by geothermal and other homes that have solar or wind or a combination of these. UW Extension and Grassroots are supporting this year's Energy Fair. Registration required: \$10 by April 9 or \$15 after April 9. You'll find the Registration Form on our Grassroots website (see link below). Or stop in at the UW Extension Office, 303 W. Chapel Street, Suite 1200, telephone: 930-9850. More info on the Sustain page http://www.grassrootswi.org/sustain_iowa_county/ and here is the direct link to the registration page: http://www.grassrootswi.org/uploads/images/file/Sustain/Energy_Fair_Flyer_03052012.pdf

Tues., March 20, 7 p.m. (Dodgeville) IOWA COUNTY BOARD meets at Health and Human Services Building. Go to www.iowacounty.org for agendas when they become available.

Thurs., April 19, 7 p.m. (Dodgeville) MEET THE CHALLENGERS FOR THE 51ST DISTRICT STATE ASSEMBLY RACE Democratic challengers Maureen (Mo) May Grimm and Pat Bomhack, one of whom will face current Assemblyman Howard Marklein in the November election, will have a joint appearance at the Dodgeville Library. Each candidate will speak and answer questions. Also on the program that evening is Dennis Weidmann, the author of the book Cut from the Same Cloth. Refreshments will be served.

Sat., April 28, 6 to 9 p.m. (Barneveld) 2012 COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS FREE CLINIC AUCTION Reserve early for this popular annual event to be held this year at the Deer Valley Lodge in Barneveld. The evening will include the Larry Busch Band and a casual dinner buffet (\$25 per person). This is a fun way to support the fine work the Dodgeville-based Free Clinic is doing. RSVP to Monica Dunn at 987-0046 or ccfauction@gmail.com.

Mon., April 16 MARY LOUISE SYMON AWARD applications are due. Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin presents awards to graduating male and female high school seniors from River Valley, Dodgeville, Mineral Point, Highland, Iowa-Grant, Barneveld or Pecatonica schools who exemplify a commitment to community service. The award honors Grassroots founding member Mary Louise Symon, a long-time Spring Green resident and community activist. If you know of a deserving student, have them check out the Grassroots website for an application: http://www.grassrootswi.org/mary_louise_symon_award/ Or check with their high school counselors. Winners will be announced in May.

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.

To remove your name from our e-mail list, please click on "Reply" and write "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.