



The Grassroots Gazette fosters community dialogue and participation throughout Southwest Wisconsin

WALKER'S BUDGET HEARINGS plus an Action Alert and other upcoming local events

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

<http://www.grassrootswi.org>

Wed., April 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Wisconsin Dells) GOV. WALKER'S BUDGET - LET YOUR OPINIONS BE HEARD. One of four statewide Joint Finance Committee hearings on Gov. Walker's budget will be held at the Kalahari Convention Center, 1305 Kalahari Drive, Suites 2 and 7 (main level). This is an important opportunity for citizens to let their voices be heard. Or you can submit your written comments to the Committee at budgetcomments@legis.wisconsin.gov or send them by mail to: Joe Malkasian, Room 305 East, State Capitol, Madison, WI 53702

Important questions to ask:

- 1) Do we really want to spend more state health care dollars to cover fewer Wisconsinites? That's what the Walker budget does by refusing to accept Federal funding for Medicaid expansion. For more details, [click here](#).
- 2) Do we really want to expand resources for the state's growing number of voucher schools while freezing funding for traditional public schools? For more details, [click here](#).
- 3) What do you think about Walker's income tax cut -- half of which will go to the top 20 percent of earners and will likely reopen the state's structural deficit in the coming years. For more details, [click here](#).

CAN'T GET TO THE JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING? THEN CALL YOUR STATE SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE to let them know your opinion about the bill. Go to the [Grassroots Legislators page](#) for their up-to-date contact info.

ACTION ALERT



GUN VIOLENCE is on everybody's mind. Congress will be voting on solutions when they get back from recess. How tough - or weak -- do you want them to be? Contact Senators Ron Johnson and Tammy Baldwin or U.S. Reps. Mark Pocan and Ron Kind to express your opinions. For their contact info, [click here](#)

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

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.

Thurs., April 11, 7 p.m. and Fri., April 12, 2 to 4 p.m. IRAN: HOW CAN THE U.S. AND IRAN MOVE FORWARD? Join this Great Decisions discussion at the 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.

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@countryrspeed.com or (608) 935-3007.

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.ccfcw.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.

Mon., May 13, noon to 1 p.m. (Darlington) CHANGES IN HEALTHCARE DUE TO THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT Dr. Aaron Dunn from Mineral Point will speak to the HCE (Home, Community and Education) group about the impact the Affordable Care Act, better known as Obamacare, will have on everyone. This event is sponsored by UW Extension. LOCATION: The Lafayette County Courthouse, County Board Room (park and enter on the back side of the Courthouse at 627 Washington Street in Darlington.) For information, contact Mary Knellwolf, 608-776-4820 or mary.knellwolf@ces.uwex.edu.

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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