



The Grassroots Gazette fosters community dialogue and participation throughout Southwest Wisconsin.

Mineral Point, Dodgeville, Spring Green and Platteville events.



Tues., June 2, 6:30 to 8 p.m. (Mineral Point) LEARN ABOUT "THE FUTURE OF OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS" AT THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATIONAL

EVENT Parents, grandparents and all concerned Iowa County citizens are urged to learn what the proposed Biennial State

Budget will mean for Iowa County school districts and kids. At this important "THE FUTURE OF OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS" event, to be held at the Mineral Point High School, 705 Ross Street, panel members will discuss the issues and answer your questions. So what's the difference between public schools, voucher schools, public charter schools and independent charter schools - and which gets paid first (and last) out of state coffers? Are all publicly funded schools accountable to tax payers - if not, why not? What's the future of local control?

To make it easy for working parents and their children, a light supper will be served at 6 p.m. with supervised child care to follow. The forum will start at 6:30 p.m. The event is co-sponsored by Grassroots and Support Our Schools, a new group of parents, grandparents and concerned citizens who want answers. Among the panel members will be Julie Mead of the UW-Madison Educational Law Department, Jeff Pertl of the Wisconsin Department of Public Education and Luke Francois, superintendent of the Mineral Point schools.

Following the panel discussion, break-out sessions will focus on individual Iowa County school districts with superintendents and school board members invited to explain the service cuts anticipated for their districts. School maintenance projects, extracurricular activities, advanced placement classes and class sizes are on the table in some districts. The State Legislature is poised to vote on the State Budget in June. At the forum, find out how your voice can be heard before the vote.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROPOSED CUTS TO EDUCATION, CHECK OUT THE "SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS" WEBSITE at <http://www.soswisconsin.com/> and share the group's [Facebook page](#).



Fri., May 22, 1 to 3 p.m. (and other dates throughout June and July in Dodgeville and Spring Green) CRANE FOLDING EVENTS

A world free of nuclear weapons is the aim of the Grassroots Citizens for Peace group. To demonstrate your support for the idea and to meet new friends, learn how to fold an origami crane at the Dodgeville Public Library from 1 to 3 p.m. on May 22. Find other crane-folding events listed below or host your own event at your home or favorite coffee house. The Peace group plans to send 1,000 cranes - or more -- to Los Alamos, New Mexico (where the atomic bomb was developed) at the end of the summer, part of a national challenge to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Hiroshima/Nagasaki bombings with 70,000 origami cranes.

In Spring Green, join the crane folding on Wed., June 10, 1 to 3 p.m. at the General Store. At the Dodgeville Public Library, join crane-folding events from 1 to 3 p.m. on Fridays, May 22, June 5 and 19, and July 3 and 17th. Contact Jane Kavaloski at jhkavaloski@gmail.com for additional sites or for instructions on how to host your own crane-folding event.

Sun., May 31, 2 p.m. (Spring Green) MEET MIKE McCABE, AUTHOR OF BLUE JEANS IN HIGH PLACES

Spring Green's Arcadia Books, 102 E. Jefferson Street, welcomes author Mike McCabe for a lively Sunday afternoon discussion about his new page-turning book, *Blue Jeans in High Places: The Coming Makeover of American Politics*. The former head of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, McCabe, with his new group Blue Jean Nation, is working to promote the transformation of democratic institutions that are failing America --and that includes both the Republican and Democratic Parties. "We're commoners working to house the politically homeless and transform parties that are failing America." They are not out to create a third party but "a first party - a party that will put common people first, ahead of the royals of American politics, namely the wealthy donors and powerful special interests and their lobbyists". The event is free. Check out the [Blue Jean Nation website](#) .

Fri., June 5, 4 to 5:30 p.m. (Dodgeville) GRASSROOTS CITIZENS FOR PEACE

THE GRASSROOTS CITIZENS FOR PEACE group will meet at the home of Judy James (3455 Rowe Rd Dodgeville). Anyone interested in working toward the creation of a world of compassion, justice and nonviolence is invited to join us. Contact: Bryan Walton at bryanwalton2007@gmail.com for more 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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