



# Sierra

Newsletter of the Coulee Region Group

**FEBRUARY 2024**

*Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished. —Lao Tzu*



**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

## **Transit to Trails for All**

**6:30 p.m. ONLINE**

**Register: [tinyurl.com/WISC-T2T4A0201](https://tinyurl.com/WISC-T2T4A0201)**

As part of Transit Equity Days, which honors Rosa Parks' birthday, Sierra Club - Wisconsin Chapter and Sierra Club - Coulee Region Group are co-hosting an online event about Transit to Trails, a campaign to connect people to green spaces via public transit.

This online event will feature examples of how activists and planners are trying to connect people to green spaces via transit, including stories from right here in Wisconsin and lessons learned from national and state campaign leaders: Jesse Piedfort, Deputy Director with the Sierra Club's Clean Transportation for All campaign; Gerry Seavo James, Deputy Campaign Director, Outdoors for All Campaign; and Kim Biederman, East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Committee/Fox Valley. Please register for the link at [tinyurl.com/WISC-T2T4A0201](https://tinyurl.com/WISC-T2T4A0201) OR call 608-315-2693 to get information about how to join by phone.

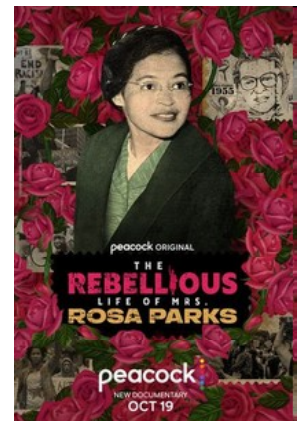
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

## **The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks**

**1:30 p.m., Rivoli Theatre & Pizzeria, 117 4th St. N., La Crosse**

**Register: [tinyurl.com/AARP-RosaFilm](https://tinyurl.com/AARP-RosaFilm) OR 877-926-8309**

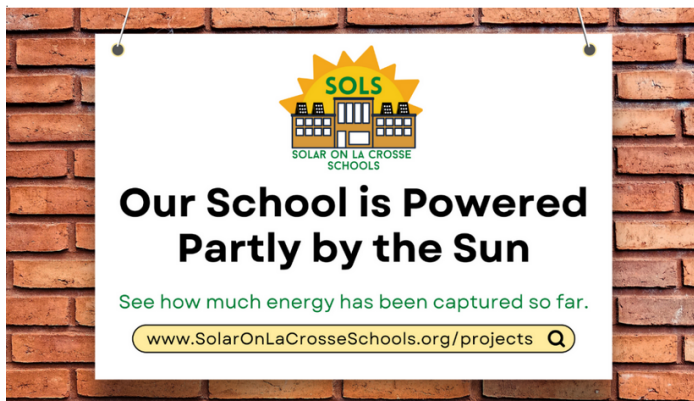
Public Transit provides basic mobility for many in our communities. It is also essential urban infrastructure – just like roads, bridges, tunnels and utilities – that is crucial to the economic, social and environmental well-being of all our regions. Everyone in the community has the right to mobility. As part of La Crosse's Transit Equity Week, **AARP Wisconsin** is pleased to host a screening of *The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks* in collaboration with La Crosse Area Transit Advocates. A panel discussion on transit equity will immediately follow the screening. The event is **FREE** and open to all, but registration is required.



### **Tuesday, February 20: Spring Primary Elections**

Not every community will have a spring primary. Please check [MyVote.WI.gov](https://MyVote.WI.gov) to check your registration, polling place, what's on your ballot, and more.

## Education Grant Update



In 2023, CRSC awarded a grant to Coulee Montessori and Solar on La Crosse Schools for a banner and educational materials to highlight the fact that the school building is partly powered by solar panels. The materials educate visitors and remind teachers and staff to engage students by using math and science lessons to use the real-world data collected about the school's energy use and offsets provided by the panels.

---

## More February Events

2/ 3: Candlelight Ski/Hike/Snowshoe in the Black River State Forest from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. [www.blackrivercountry.net/event/black-river-state-forest-candlelight-ski-hike-snowshoe-2/](http://www.blackrivercountry.net/event/black-river-state-forest-candlelight-ski-hike-snowshoe-2/)

2/ 5: Transit Equity Day National Livestream 11 am [www.labor4sustainability.org/transit-equity-2024/](http://www.labor4sustainability.org/transit-equity-2024/)

2/ 7: Friends of the La Crosse River Marsh Annual Mtg 7 pm at the The Nature Place, La Crosse [natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/enviro-wednesdays-2-2024-02-07/](http://natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/enviro-wednesdays-2-2024-02-07/)

2/ 7: Protecting our Night Skies at 7 pm at the Kickapoo Valley Reserve <http://kvr.state.wi.us/Events/Lecture-Series>

2/ 8: Forest Bathing at 9 am at The Nature Place, La Crosse [natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/forest-bathing-program-at-the-nature-place/](http://natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/forest-bathing-program-at-the-nature-place/)

2/ 9-11: Winter Wonderland Snowshoe Challenge at Lunda Community Park, Black River Falls [jacksoninaction.org/winterwonderland](http://jacksoninaction.org/winterwonderland)

2/10: Candlelight Ski/Hike/Snowshoe in the Black River State Forest from 5 to 9 p.m. [dnr.wisconsin.gov/events/86801](http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/events/86801)

2/10: Valentine's Snowshoe Hike at 1 p.m. at the La Crosse River Conservancy [tinyurl.com/mvc-snowhike0210](http://tinyurl.com/mvc-snowhike0210)

## Education Grants Awarded!

The Coulee Region Sierra Club will award two projects with environmental education grants for the spring 2024 semester.

Brooke Brockman, a first grade teacher at Westview Elementary School in Platteville, will use grant money for their Monarchs and Milkweed project. The 100 first graders will grow milkweed plants and install them along the Rountree Branch Trail in Platteville. They are working in partnership with the Platteville Community Arboretum.

Clinton Grabhorn and Lila Planavsky, advisors for Longfellow Middle School's Outdoor Adventure Club in La Crosse, will use grant money, along with other funds raised, to purchase camping equipment for club activities which will teach ethical practices in outdoor recreation and encouraging conversation, awareness, and stewardship of the land.

We look forward to reporting on outcomes of these wonderful projects this fall! Congratulations, teachers!

---

## Great Backyard Bird Count!

Each February, for four days, the world comes together for the love of birds. Over these four days, people spend time in their favorite places watching and counting as many birds as they can find and report them to organizers. These observations help scientists better understand global bird populations before one of their annual migrations. This year's dates are Feb. 16-19. Learn more at: [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org)



---

2/13: Achieving Environmental Justice in Wisconsin 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. ONLINE [tinyurl.com/LWVWI-EnvJustice](http://tinyurl.com/LWVWI-EnvJustice)

2/17: Family Fun with The Great American Bird Count at 9 am at The Nature Place, La Crosse [natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/family-fun-with-the-great-backyard-bird-count/](http://natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/family-fun-with-the-great-backyard-bird-count/)

2/21: DPC's Peregrine Falcon and Osprey Restoration Stewardship Project at 7 pm at The Nature Place, La Crosse [natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/birding-program-2024-02-21/](http://natureplacelacrosse.org/calendar/birding-program-2024-02-21/)

2/25: Planning for Stewardship from 3 to 5:30 p.m. at Seneca High School [tinyurl.com/csp-planning](http://tinyurl.com/csp-planning)

**Seeking one or two people to help with the newsletter as backup. Call or text 608-315-2693 or email [CRSierraClub@gmail.com](mailto:CRSierraClub@gmail.com) for details.**