

# PROGRESSIVE DANE ELECTION SPECIAL

**Progressive Dane encourages its members to vote Tuesday, April 7!**

*We proudly endorse:*

*Madison Metropolitan School District Board: Arlene Silveira*

*Madison Common Council: Alder Brenda Konkol, District 2 • Alder Mike Verveer, District 4 (unopposed)  
Alder Marsha Rummel, District 6 (unopposed) • Alder Satya Rhodes-Conway, District 12 (unopposed)*

*Town of Cross Plains Board: Arnold Harris*

## Brenda Konkol

**District 2 Alder Brenda Konkol** is running for Common Council again to continue to work with her constituents on many projects, and to ensure that their voices are heard in city hall. Brenda is an experienced, progressive leader who has fought passionately for open, transparent, accountable government that is responsive to neighborhoods and allows all residents to participate.

While there is much pressure in local government to conform and just go along to get along, Brenda is a representative who will fight hard for our neighborhoods and present fresh, well-reasoned, solutions and initiatives. Brenda has also been an excellent leader in Progressive Dane and we are proud to endorse her again.

Some of Brenda Konkol's accomplishments include:

Helped pass the Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Plan

Helped create and pass the East Washington Capital Gateway BUILD Plan

Started and insured continuation of the early public comment period at City Council meetings, allowing those with childcare issues or other needs to speak and leave the council meeting early

Fought to improve the Common Council Budget process

Added money in the 2009 budget for recycling facilities in the parks

Helped keep the Breese Stevens Field renovations moving forward

Pushed for a public process to resolve how to sell the houses in James Madison Park to preserve them

Co-sponsored additional money for pavement markings for cross walks in the 2009 budget

Co-sponsored loan to Tenney Nursery and Parent Center

## Arlene Silveira

In her three years on the Board, **Arlene Silveira, Seat 1**, has done much to improve the schools and their governance. In her initial year on the Board she built district and community advocacy for state school funding reform. As president of the Board over the last two years, she took the lead in hiring new Superintendent Nerad, was instrumental in winning the November 2008 referendum vote for much needed operating funds and recently she has overseen the transition to improved governance structures and financial practices. All of these have directly and indirectly contributed to greater community engagement and enhanced educational experiences.

Throughout her service, Arlene has kept the mission of the public schools to provide the best educational opportunities for all children front and center.

She has also been a strong supporter of Progressive Dane, our mission and candidates.

There is a lot of work left to be done. There are still great inequalities opportunities and achievement; there is much room for improving community engagement at the district, school and classroom levels; Wisconsin's school finance system remains broken. Madison's schools are lucky that Arlene wants to continue to lead in these and other efforts.

The election is being held during MMSD's spring break and many of the Aldermanic seats are uncontested. This makes each and every vote especially crucial (in her first election Arlene won in a recount by only 14 votes!). Be sure to go to the polls, or if you will be out of town, consider voting absentee (*see reverse*).

Vote for Arlene Siveira on April 7 and check out her web page to learn more and for opportunities to help assure her re-election: [www.arleneforschoolboard.com](http://www.arleneforschoolboard.com).

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## Arnold Harris

**Arnold Harris** has lived near Pine Bluff for 32 years. He served the US Army three years late in the Korean War era. His educational background is in journalism/communications and urban/regional planning. Progressive Dane is endorsing Arnold because of his stands listed below.

If elected as a Supervisor in the Town of Cross Plains, Arnold has pledged to support the following policies:

Comprehensive planning in cooperation with Dane County, appropriate for the predominantly rural Town of Cross Plains and that maintains open spaces and avoids large-scale residential development

A town-managed system of transfer of development rights (TDR) to facilitate parcel splits based on 35-acre density standards

Preservation of environmental resources, including Black Earth Creek, the Upper Sugar River, and the Ice Age Trail and Scientific Nature Reserve

Shared governance among all members of the board, in which the chair presides but all participate with input from town residents and land owners

Improved town budgeting and fiscal management

Setting and maintaining relatively low levels of compensation and per-diem expenses for board members and appointees, and restricting double-dip payments for meetings

Open meetings where all Town of Cross Plains residents are welcomed and free to participate in their own governance without being gaveled or intimidated into silence

Open town records, fully computerized and available online and in print

Designing and maintaining an improved town website with interactive onscreen features



## Absentee Voting

If you are not able to vote in person on April 7, please vote absentee. You can register with proof of residence and vote at the City Clerk's office prior to the election or by mailing in an absentee ballot if you are registered at your current address.

Take precautions to make sure your vote counts when voting absentee by mail. The Clerk's website states, "In February 2009, 230 of the 1,547 absentee ballots returned to the City Clerk's Office were either rejected at the polls, or not received by Election Day. An additional 730 ballots were not returned to the City Clerk's Office at all."

### *Don't make these mistakes:*

Ballot has not been received by the Clerk's Office until after Election Day.

Voter has not signed absentee certificate envelope.

Voter has not had a witness sign the absentee certificate envelope.

Voter has not registered to vote at their current address.

Voter has not sealed the absentee certificate envelope.

*Information on pre-registering can be found at:* <http://www.cityofmadison.com/election/voter/pre.cfm>

*More information on voting absentee can be found at:* <http://www.ci.madison.wi.us/election/absenteeVoting/index.cfm>

*An application for an absentee ballot, in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, can be found at:* <http://elections.state.wi.us/subcategory.asp?linksubcatid=1636&locid=47>

*Other information for around the County can be found at:* <http://www.co.dane.wi.us/election>