

NEWS RELEASE - September 9, 2008

On Friday, September 12, the Peoria Area Green Party will host an Election Year Bus Ride, featuring US Congressional candidate Sheldon Schafer and Rich Whitney, Green Party candidate for Governor in 2006. The event will take place from just before 2:00 pm until 4:45 pm, starting and ending at the Downtown Peoria Transit Center, 407 SW Adams Street in Peoria.

The purpose of the Bus Ride is to point out Peoria area opportunities to improve the regional economy in the following Green Job areas; public transportation, waste reduction and recycling, community college technical training and promoting research for energy efficient biofuels.

The Media is invited to either accompany or meet at any of the stops listed on the schedule below. Bus fares are \$1.00 per rider. Total event time will be two hours and 50 minutes.

Sheldon Schafer is on the November ballot to become the 18th Congressional District representative, replacing retiring Republican Ray LaHood. Schafer is a professional educator and vice president of education at Lakeview Museum.

Rich Whitney is a civil rights attorney in Carbondale, Illinois. In 2006, he received over 340,000 votes across the state as the Illinois Green Party candidate for Governor, 10% of the total vote. That election was won by Democrat Rod Blagojevich. Whitney has not yet announced if he will run again in 2010 for Governor.

Schedule of events;

1:45 pm; Beginning statement. Schafer will speak about Green job potential through efficient, regional mass transit development. Then board the Number 5 Bus at the Downtown City Link Transit Center, 407 SW Adams Street in Peoria.

2:20 pm; Arrive at Sheridan & Main. Visit Retro-tech recycling store for 10 – 15 minutes. Speak about Green Job formation by increasing waste reduction,

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recycling and reuse. Walk to Campus Town. At 2:51 pm, Catch the #1 bus north on University.

3:05 pm; Arrive ICC Campus North , 5407 N University. Speak about Green job potential through education and wind energy technical skills. Discuss current State government programs. At 3:40 pm, catch the #1 bus south to the Ag Lab.

3:55 pm; Arrive Ag Lab, (National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research), 1815 N University. Speak about research investment and Federal funding of scientific research. At 4:20 pm, catch the #1 bus south to Downtown transit center, where we started.

4:35 pm. Arrive downtown transit center.

For further information please contact volunteer David Pittman at 676-5237, or candidate Schafer at 868-4028.