

# Author headlines Sanders event Wednesday at Fairfield auditorium

Best-selling author will address  
'Consciousness, Democracy and  
Politics.'

By **BOB SAAR**  
for *The Hawk Eye*

FAIRFIELD — Internationally acclaimed spiritual author and lecturer Marianne Williamson will speak on behalf of Sen. Bernie Sanders Wednesday in Fairfield.

Williamson has been a guest on "Oprah," "Larry King Live," "Good Morning America" and "Charlie Rose." Six of her 11 books are New York Times best sellers, four of them at No. 1. Her first book, "A Return to Love," began, "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure..." and was erroneously credited to other luminaries, including Nelson Mandela.

Williamson, a strong women's advocate, is backing Sanders instead of Hillary Clinton, America's first viable shot at a woman president. Williamson discussed her views in a telephone interview Monday with *The Hawk Eye*.

"I'm coming to Fairfield because, like a lot of people, I want to do whatever I can to contribute to the choir of voices raised in support of Bernie Sanders," she said. "I've been very happy to hear Bernie Sanders refer to child poverty in the United States as a moral issue. Economic injustice is a moral issue. A permanent war machine is a moral issue. That's a conversation any American would conceivably be open to, not just those who identify with a particular religious or spiritual perspective."

Williamson is no glib political lemming; she doesn't whitewash the opposition simply because they're the opposition.

"Conservatives have never disavowed the moral dimension of political issues," she said. "I have no intention of maligning anyone else's intention or what is in anyone else's heart. I believe Ber-



**Williamson**

nie Sanders is speaking to the issues that are root cause. Too often, Democrats are willing to address the suffering of Americans on a peripheral level without challenging the underlying forces that make all that suffering inevitable."

Williamson said Democrats don't always seem to realize what Republicans understand

—the part of the human brain that rationally analyzes an issue is not necessarily the part that decides who to vote for.

"The founding of American democracy was a passionate repudiation of an aristocratic system," she said. "We are not meant to be a country where the major resources of our nation are systematically and chronically siphoned off into the hands of the very few, leaving the majority of the people in a position which amounts to little more than economic serfdom."

Williamson said each generation is a steward of the country's democracy.

"I think we have a moral responsibility to stand guard and be vigilant in our protection of the democratic system," she said. "The economic inequality, the undue influence of money on our politics and on every aspect of our political and social functioning today represents a direct threat to democracy."

She said only Sanders speaks to that fundamental underlying issue.

Williamson will take questions from the audience after her presentation but won't be selling her works.

"If somebody has a book of mine they'd like me to sign, of course I will," she said.

Williamson's presentation, "Consciousness, Democracy and Politics (In Support of Bernie Sanders)" will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Sondheim Center, Fairfield; doors open at 7 p.m. Fairfield Mayor Ed Malloy will introduce Williamson. Admission is free.