

Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., joined by As House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, DP effort to renew an extension of

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day: A New American Spring

I would like to welcome you to the newest and greatest revival of American community and democracy, destined to sweep our great nation and resurrect all that is special about America.

Our New American Spring movement is created to remedy some of the most threatening elements to America's health and well-being today:

So many Americans are cynical about politics today, but what is politics if not the forum of the active and responsible citizen? All persons are citizens of their community, nation and world, and citizenship entail privileges, rights and responsibilities. New American Spring hopes to bring back this ideal balance.

Politics has received a bad name because Americans have failed to live up to the great calling given by our Forefathers. In our earliest history, our leaders answered the call to come together to bridge their differences and forge a great nation, great precisely because of its harmonized diversity in unity.

Yet we are forgetting this very spirit in our bitter ideological polarities, a dysfunction which begins with us and is now trickling up into Congress and threatening our very national health

New American Spring hopes to call our people once again to the spirit of goodwill community building.

Our forefathers constructed a representative democracy for a good reason. The average citizen simply does not have the time to master the subjects of government enough to make functional a pure democracy. But we have allowed this necessary distance between us and our representatives to grow too great.

By our irresponsible inactivity, we have allowed our representatives to stray too far from our true interests, and forces alien to our well-being have infiltrated our government. We have



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allowed our iconic middle class to shrink, under our 🎚 unwatchful eyes, having no one to blame but our own disengagement. New American Spring hopes to plug the citizen back into his and her government, utilizing the tools of new technology through the Internet to create an educational and community-building forum where we can again hold our representatives to account.

The great populist spring of discontent sweeping our world, from the Arab Spring to the economic strife in Europe, all have one underly ing cause: The people are not plugged in to the instruments of their leadership and are yearning for a more intimate relationship with their destiny and direction.

New American Spring recognizes America's system of representative government as the very example necessary for the world to adopt, and we are challenging America to attain its. brightest leadership and global example to date — the populist crown exemplifying the very potential of man!

Do you even believe that such a great destiny can take root right here in our humble geography, Quad-Citizens? We occupy a special symbólic place on our American map, four U.S. cities between two states, unified, not separated, by our great Mississippi River!

If you are able and willing to become one of our original warriors, you are encour aged to get involved.

Roger Farinha lives in Davenport.

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Associated Press lo-nothing Con-Capitol Hill on

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