I am concerned about the rise in chronic diseases, and particularly I am concerned by how little is being said about this during the presidential election.

Some people may know that chronic disease rates are high but they may not know about the effect these diseases have on our healthcare system. When looking at statistics put out by The Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease, 55.2 percent of people in the state have at least one chronic disease. Additionally, 86 percent of every dollar spent on healthcare goes to treating patients with a chronic disease.

We need to do a better job educating those running for office how we can better prevent, treat and manage chronic diseases. I will be listening to what the Presidential candidates have to say about this growing problem and how they will address it if they are elected.

RICK WALLIN
Eau Claire