

THE ARC OF BENTON
 COUNTY
 ADMINISTRATION
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 WWW.ARCBENTON.ORG

The Arc Advocate

October 2003

A NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 ADVOCATING FOR AND
 PROVIDING SERVICES, AS
 NEEDED, TO
 INDIVIDUALS WITH
 DEVELOPMENTAL
 DISABILITIES AND THEIR
 FAMILIES.

Regular Meetings

Membership Committee 9 AM
 Louise Teater's
 Home
 1st Tuesday

The Arc Board Meeting 7:30 PM
 1st Thursday

Resale Committee 10 AM
 Arc Office
 3rd Monday

Safety Committee 10 AM
 Arc Office
 3rd Tuesday

Bingo Committee 11:30 AM
 Springfield
 4th Monday

Finance Committee Noon
 Arc Office
 1st Tuesday

Join The Arc for Thanksgiving

Our Benton County State Legislators deserve accolades for their work to reduce the level of cuts in funding for services for people with developmental disabilities, seniors, the disadvantaged, and for K-12 education. Thank you Kelley Wirth, Democrat, for your unfailing support of human services. Lane Shetterly and Frank Morse, Republicans, thank you for your courage and your wisdom to fund vital services. Benton County can be proud of each of these Legislators.

Please, take time to express your thanks for the difficult work accomplished. You can reach our Legislators by e-mail:

Kelley Wirth rep.kelleywirth@state.or.us
 Lane Shetterly rep.laneshetterly@state.or.us
 Frank Morse sen.frankmorse@state.or.us

(If you don't have e-mail in your home, the Corvallis /Benton County Library can help you use the public computers)

We must take care in the coming weeks to not allow their good work to be undone by a referendum designed to repeal the funding package passed by our Legislature. Decline to sign if you are offered the initiative petition. Tell them you support individuals with disabilities, Oregon schools, and senior citizens. Your signature is an important as your vote. Don't help anyone stop the needed services and send the state back into uncertainty.



State tax bills aren't going up, Morse says

By Jennifer Moody
For the Gazette-Times

That was the message Sen. Frank Morse, R-Albany, stressed Monday to the Albany School Board as he urged the members to fight an attempt to overturn the Legislature's three-year income tax surcharge.

Morse, a member of the Joint Ways and Means Committee, helped craft that surcharge to balance the state's budget for 2003-5. He knows it raises Oregonians' income taxes. But overall tax bills, he insisted, will be lower because of \$2.5 billion in federal tax cuts that Oregon will receive.

"This is temporary," he said. "It's a bridge. It will not increase people's taxes, period. It will not increase, because of the federal tax package."

As an example, Morse used figures from the Legislative Revenue Office to outline the average tax impact for a filer in the \$50,000 to \$70,000 annual income range: add \$118 because of the Oregon surcharge, subtract \$498 because of the federal tax break, and subtract another \$16 because state taxes can be deducted from federal taxes. The overall impact: a savings of \$395.

In effect, Morse said, he voted to use some of the federal savings to help Oregon out of its budget crunch. That, he said, was a necessary vote in order to save the three largest sections of the state budget, human services, public safety, and K-12 education.

The Legislature, he said, “had two bad choices: Raise taxes or cut spending.”

“The impact (of cuts) on seniors , the disadvantaged, the poor and K-12 were unacceptable,” he said. “I could not vote for that level of reduction.”

Some areas are still taking hits, including community colleges and four-year colleges and universities, Morse said. Given inflation and a rise in demand for services, funding for them is “at 1989 levels.”

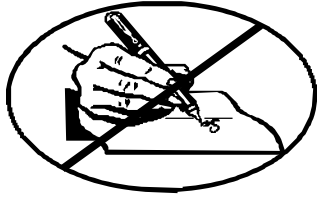
If opponents are successful in overturning the surcharge, he said, the hit will be even harder, and it will be at all levels. Reductions will be made to all departments in human services, public safety and education, including corrections, state police, public defense, health services, services for seniors and people with disabilities, services to children and families, and the office of the state medical examiner.



Oregon Center for Public Policy

The U.S. Census Bureau has released new data on the extent of poverty and on the change in household median income in Oregon and the nation. The new Census data shows that median household income in Oregon declined between 2000-01 and 2001-02. While the poverty rate remained unchanged at 11.3 percent, continued population growth means Oregon had an increasing number of poor residents.

Go to www.ocpp.org/2003/nr030926 to read OCPP's news releases.



Decline to Sign the referendum petition

If you are approached by someone wanting your signature,
we urge you to join us in telling them:

- **I know** that my signature is as important as my vote.
- **I will not sign** because I support individuals with disabilities, Oregon Schools, Oregon seniors, and Oregon communities.
- **I do not believe** the out of state special interests that are funding the referendum.
- **I refuse** to overturn the only solution that funds schools, senior care and public safety—without borrowing from our children's future.
- **I will not** send the state and our economy back into uncertainty.

TOP 5 FACTS About the Referendum Petition

1. This solution is the only plan to fund schools, senior care, and public safety—the alternative is more cuts or borrowing from our children's future.
2. This funding plan is fair. It ensures that corporations pay a fair share, that profitable corporations like PGE/Enron will finally pay more than \$10 a year in state income taxes, and it funds health care by maintaining a cigarette tax. The referendum would repeal these things! And even with a limited temporary surcharge, **Oregonians will still pay less in overall net taxes this year** as a result of the federal tax cut.
3. Signing the petition and placing it on the ballot would immediately freeze funding for schools, seniors, individuals with disabilities, health care and public safety.
4. A referendum on the bipartisan plan would create more uncertainty for Oregon's economy. We need to move forward, not backward!
5. YOUR SIGNATURE IS LIKE YOUR VOTE—a refusal to sign is a vote for fair taxes for good schools, healthy families, safe communities, and a strong economy.

Oregon deserves better.

OUR OREGON COALITION—Questions? Want to get involved? Call 503-495-2148

Privacy/Security for People with Disabilities

Google has implemented a new feature where you can type someone's telephone number into the search bar and hit enter and you will be given a map to their house.

Think about it - if a child, single person, a person with disabilities or anyone for that matter, gives out his/her phone number, someone can actually look it up and find out where that person lives. (This is a reverse telephone directory.) The safety issues are obvious, and alarming. This is not a hoax. Map quest will actually put a big red star on your house on your street.

In order to test whether your phone number is mapped, go to www.google.com and type your phone number in the search bar and hit enter. Note, if your phone number is not public you should be fine. If you want to BLOCK Google from divulging your private information, simply click on the telephone icon to the left of your phone number. You will see a link where you are allowed to remove yourself.

Disability Wellness Consortium

has created partnerships in the community for increased opportunities for adults to enjoy health enhancing activities. The following are some activities:

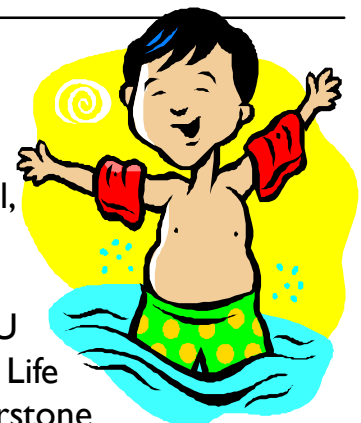
1. Swimming at the Aquatic Center through the 509] school district (Thursdays 9-11). Staffed by OSU.
2. Corvallis Fitness Center (Tues. & Thurs. 3:15-4:15). Staffed by OSU.
3. Harding Daily Fitness through school district (M-F 9:00-10:15). Mon, Wed, Fri staffed by OSU.

—————Cost is \$1.00 per class—————

Individuals who typically need staff when in the community need to bring that support with them to the activity.

Current Members:

Margaret Brownhill,
Brokerage
JK Yun, OSU
Jeff McCubbin, OSU
Art Koebel, Home Life
Tim Rocak, Cornerstone
Pat Templeton, School District
Julie Hardenburger, School District
Michael Ann McIlvenny, School District
Jasper Smith, Benton County Mental
Health Developmental Disabilities
Dan Eden, Parks & Recreation
Karin Frederick, The Arc of Benton
County



Children's Services in Benton County

The Benton County Developmental Disabilities (DD) Program has had services to children (birth to 18 years) for over five years. Previously services were provided by the Early Intervention Program that was part of the DD program (until 1996) and provided case management/services for birth thru five; the school district provided case management/services for school age children, and the Benton County DD Program provided case management/ services for adults.

Now the Benton County DD Program is considered a "lifespan" program that includes children and adults who meet the state definition of a developmental disability. Our program is not an entitlement, and though some of the programs that we help access for family's have income guidelines, our program does not.

What we provide for children is primarily service coordination, which means we identify, access and coordinate services. Each child and their disability provide a unique challenge. Diagnosis, severity of the disabling condition and family's ability to meet the disability needs vary. We help families access federal programs for which they are eligible such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and the Linn Benton Housing Authority (HUD) programs.

We help families access state programs for which they are eligible such as Oregon Health Plan (OHP), Children's Intensive In-Home Services, and a DD Regional Consultant Pool. We have a Family Support Program that receives funding from the state that we access for families to assist with needs such as respite, equipment not covered by insurance, and recreational programs.

Locally we have several non-profit agencies we can contact for hardship or special requests such as The Arc, Operation School Bell, or We Care. We work with other agencies/child services providers such as DHS/Child Welfare, Linn Benton Early Intervention, and the school districts to advocate for our clients. Sometimes this means helping others understand our client's disability and how it impacts them; other times it is helpful for us to learn how we can help support the child in their home. Our familiarity with our clients and their disability can make us a valuable asset in problem solving in unusual situations.

We also work with families to find specialists who can work with their child to meet unusual medical needs, legal needs, or maneuver complicated service delivery systems.

Some children have challenging behaviors and care needs that their families are simply unable to manage regardless of supports that have been provided. We have limited funds available to assist with short-term crisis.

We also have a regional DD program available to place children out of the home once the state criteria of "at risk" of losing their home is met. The types of out of home placements that we assist with are foster care, proctor foster care, and group homes. The type of placement is determined by the needs of the child and what is available. It usually takes several months to place a child.

Resources come and go, and our client's needs change. Our resources are limited and our goal is to keep our clients out of crisis by identifying disability related support needs and helping our client's access those supports. If you would like more information about our program or have questions feel free to contact either Jasper Smith, DD Program Manager or Susan Mentzer, Children's Case Manager at 766-6847.

<p>The Arc <i>Resale Center</i></p> <p>936 Main St. Philomath Store Hours: Monday -Saturday 10 to 5:30</p>	<p>Shop and Save</p>	<p>The Arc <i>Resale Corner</i></p> <p>10th & Beca Corvallis Store Hours: Every Day 10:00 to 5:30</p>
<p>GIVE</p>	<p>The Arc <i>Gallery</i></p> <p>a consignment shop offering Art and Antiques 1885 NW 9th Street, Corvallis</p>	<p>SELL</p>

Home Life News

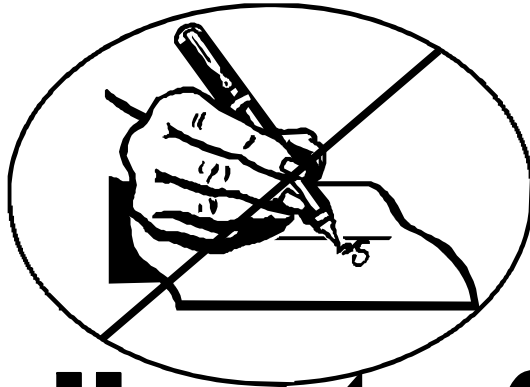
Home Life has added three new members to its team. AmericaCorp Vista volunteer Charlotte Prah is the new Development Coordinator and will be helping out for the next year with marketing, development, and fundraising. Her goal for the year is to help the community of Corvallis become more aware of who Home Life is and the services they provide. Raina Wickam comes to Home Life as an Ameri-Corp Volunteer Coordinator. She has been hard at work bringing in new volunteers. Home Life's final addition is Jenna Ceder-green who has taken over the position of Community Inclusion Specialist. She's been very busy going to art classes and belly dancing. She recently organized a Home Life team of staff and clients to walk in America's Walk for Diabetes. Home Life is very excited about these new additions and looks forward to everyone else getting a chance to meet them.

**Volunteer Interfaith Caregivers
Of Corvallis**

410 NW 25th Street
Corvallis, OR 97330
541-757-0980

- Visit homebound persons
- Provide relief for family caregivers
- Help with shopping
- Provide transportation for persons unable to use "Dial-A-Bus"
- Perform minor home repairs
- Do yard work
- Help with light house-keeping

No charge for these services.
Can't respond to emergency needs.
Services are not designed for personal or medical care, or families with children.



Decline to Sign the referendum petition

See page 4 for more information