

THE SUMMIT INDEPENDENT

AN ADVOCACY AND RESOURCE CENTER

FOR MONTANANS WITH DISABILITIES

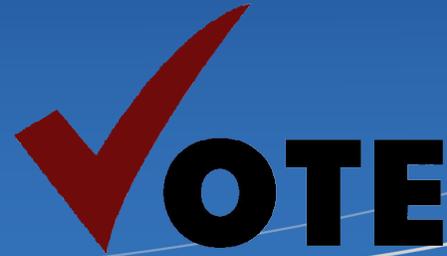
WESTERN MONTANA DISABILITY NEWS AND VIEWS

SUMMIT INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER, INC. | 406-728-1630 | WWW.SUMMITILC.ORG

Talk with Your Legislative Candidates

Want to know where your Legislative Candidates stand on the issues that are important to you? Now you can! We have provided you with a full list of Legislative Candidates in the Summit service area.

Pages 6 & 7



How can you make a difference? **VOTE** on November 2nd!

One of the most important rights we enjoy as citizens of our state and nation is the right to vote for the people who make and uphold our laws. This right is the foundation upon which our democratic form of government is based. Many people in the world do not share this right. It's a civic duty we should all feel privileged to perform (sos.mt.gov).

With human service programs in jeopardy of being cut or reduced, the November 2nd Elections right around the corner and the 2011 Legislative Session fast approaching, this election season could prove to be a very important one.

In this edition of The Summit Independent, we will let you know how to vote, how you can vote using an absentee voting ballot, and how to get a ride to the polls if you need transportation. Also, we have provided the names and contact information for legislative candidates who are running for office in your district so you can contact them if you choose and let them know about your needs and concerns. You can also contact them to learn more about them as you prepare to become an informed voter.

Why is the disability vote so important?

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are more than 130,621 adults with disabilities in the state of Montana. However, only around 34,600 adults with disabilities who are of voting age

[Continued on Page 4](#)

A Message from the Missoula County Election Administrator

The Federal General Election will be held at the polls on November 2, 2010. If you would like to use an AutoMark they will be available at all polling places on Election Day. If you are an Absentee Ballot voter and need to use the AutoMark to mark your ballot, beginning October 4, the AutoMark will be available at the Fairgrounds, Building 15 - Fine Arts Building, 1101 South Avenue West for absentee voting.

If you need to use a sip & puff switch it will be available at the fairgrounds for the 30-day period. On Election Day the sip & puff switch will be available at all polling places and the fairgrounds.

If you have questions, please contact the Elections' Office phone number is 258-4751.

Vickie Zeier, Missoula County
Election Administrator

*"You Must Be The Change You Wish
To See In The World."*

~Mahatma Gandhi



2010 Montana IL Symposium & 20th Anniversary ADA Celebrations

Montana Independent Living (IL) Symposium gathering held in July

Missoula and Summit played host to the 2010 Montana Independent Living (IL) Symposium this past July! Our theme "You Have The Power, Live The Dream"! was a call to action from one of our beloved national leaders, Justin Dart, 20 years ago in moving the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) into law. Justin has since passed on YET his dream lived on through close to 200 people who participated in this event. We continued to develop our statewide independent living 2011 legislative and advocacy goals so that we will continue the work of the disability movement across Montana. Staff, peers, consumers and board members from the Statewide Independent Living Council, Living Independently for Today and Tomorrow (LIFTT), Montana Independent Living Project (MILP), North Central Independent Living Services (NCILS), and Summit ILC made up the majority of the participants.

Once again the Hilton Garden Inn was an outstanding conference host site along with eight other local Reserve Street motels who offered lodging for our statewide travelers! We want to thank Billie Altom, Executive Director of the Association of Programs for Rural



Summit Board

Connie Bauer

Leanne Beers

Sylvia Carollo

Joan Marie Connor

Patsy Kelly

Bob Liston

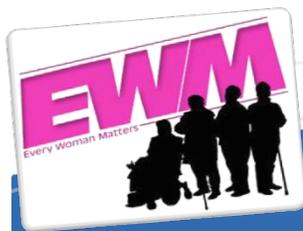
Gay Moddrell

Leslie Mullette

Donell Neiss

Mary O'Connell

[Continued on Page 3](#)



Right to Know Heads to Hamilton

Did you know that October is Breast Cancer Awareness month? Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women, and living with a disability does not make you immune.

However, women with disabilities are less likely to receive ongoing breast cancer screening because of a combination or variety of physical, psychological or accessibility barriers.

That's why, January 19th, 2011 at 5:30 PM Hamilton partners Summit Independent Living Center, the Relay for Life, and the Montana Disability and Health Program will be holding the kick off for the Relay for Life, and for Montana's media show "Every Woman Matters" in conjunction with CDC's Right To Know campaign. The exhibit features portraits and stories of 12 women with disabilities from the state of Montana, some of which are breast cancer survivors, all of which are advocates. There will also be resources available to help you and your health care provider make the best of your mammogram experience as a woman with a disability. The event will be held in the Marcus Daily Memorial Hospital conference room. Take the time to know the facts about breast cancer and why you need to make screening a regular part of your health care.

If you would like to get involved with bringing the project to Hamilton, or you would like more information, please contact: Mary Millin at 363-5242 or Deena Boyd at 363-3521

"Every woman counts, everyone is important. Every woman has the right to get the screenings they need; every woman matters!" Connie Leveque, Disability Advocate, MILP, Helena MT.

2010 IL Symposium & ADA Celebrations...Continued from Page 2

Independent Living (APRIL) for coming back to Missoula and presenting how important our work is not only in Montana but as a part of the national independent living movement. Also, a shout out goes to Cindy Powell, Outreach Specialist and former Montanan, who came from Denver's Rocky Mountain ADA Center, to give us a refresher about the American's with Disabilities Act (ADA). From Big Sky Country we want to thank the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC), the Montana Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF), and the Rural Institute for the excellent support they offered this 2010 Montana IL Symposium. In addition our heart-felt gratitude to the many vendors, personal assistants, interpreters, and the closed caption worker who provided the valuable information and resources or accommodations that were needed to get our two days of work done and increase momentum for this strategic statewide planning and disability gathering. Please read our related articles on the upcoming campaign forums and 2011 legislation for more information.

Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Celebrations

July 26th was the official 20th anniversary of the ADA! The ADA proclamation was read at both the Missoula City Council and Missoula County Commissioners meeting earlier that month. Summit also had a blast hosting two celebrations that week!

The first gathering was at Fort Missoula and around 400 people came to party! We had vendors from the disability community who sold T-shirts, books, jewelry and their art! The kids say a huge thank you to the YMCA for providing fun activities, Uncle Curley - the Balloon Man for making amazing creatures and face painting from volunteers. There was tasty barbeque from Famous Dave's, ADA anniversary cakes and let's not forget our local vendor - Captain Hook's ice

cream! Some of the fun highlights were neck and shoulder massages by Virginia Morrison, a demonstration of the lift for wildlife viewing & hunting access that will be available at the Sapphire Ranch near Lolo, and the Rural Institute's MATOR project demo of an accessible tent and other recreation equipment. Jeff Swenson brought his Action Track chair and let adults drive that accessible mini tank around the Fort lawn! Our lead speaker was Billie Altom, from APRIL. Jean Curtis from the County Commissioners read our local Missoula proclamation. Representatives from both Senator Tester and Representative Rothberg's local office gave national recognition to the ADA. Thank you to the many volunteers who helped set up and clean up for this event! The best part of the evening was catching up with old friends and meeting new people from Montana and disability culture!

The second event was sponsoring our Out To Lunch event at downtown Caras Park in Missoula! We hosted a table at the event with materials about the ADA, as well as ADA T-shirts and ADA fans to share. Thank you to the Missoula Downtown Association and Jessica Daniels who offered all of the public relations marketing work ahead of time! We all enjoyed the music from a local country band called Sho Down and the SpectrUM Science Tent is always a huge hit with the kids!

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 20th Anniversary T-Shirts For Sale!!

Summit is one of four Montana independent living centers selling ADA T-shirts for \$10 each! If you are proud of what has been accomplished by people with disabilities in the past 20 years and want to show your commitment to the next 20 years, please consider buying a shirt! We have seen a number of logos across the US this summer however we think our shirts have a clear message from one of our dear national leaders, Justin Dart "You Have The Power, Live The Dream"! Contact Jude, Mike Beers, Mary Olson, or your county coordinator for getting this memento of the 20th anniversary of ADA.

Summit Staff

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Dianna Kintzler, IL Specialist

Ravalli County

Joanne Verwolf, Coordinator

I Serenity, IL Specialist

Mary Millin, People 1st Advisor

Lake County

Michelle Williamson, co-Coordinator

Scott Williamson, co-Coordinator



How can you make a difference?

VOTE on November 2nd!...Continued from Page 1

actually voted during the 2000 Presidential Elections. That's only a 26% voter turnout rate among Montanans with disabilities.

Across Montana, people with disabilities are concerned with a wide range of issues that impact our lives. Many of these issues will be of significant importance this upcoming legislative session and you should find out where the candidates in your district stand on the issues that are important to you so you can make the best choice possible when it comes time for you to vote. Some of the possible issues that are important to people with disabilities and may also be important to you and influence the way you vote that you may want to talk to them about include:

How they would go about ensuring Montana has a balanced budget? Do they only support cuts to the programs many people with disabilities rely on or do they support a more balanced approach by also enhancing the state's revenue?

The Medicaid spend-down. Do they support raising the threshold so that the people who pay the spend-down can keep as much as SSI recipients get (\$674) to live off of every month?

Medicaid provider rates. Do they support maintaining the current levels of reimbursement rate for providers so that providers can continue to provide services such as home health care and hire and pay caregivers a livable wage?

HCBS Medicaid waiver slots. Do they support at least maintaining the number of waiver slots that were approved through the last legislature in order to help people stay and receive services in their own homes rather than in a more costly institutional setting?

Funding for senior and disability transportation. Do they support adequately funding senior and disability transportation services to ensure that people, especially in rural communities, have access to transportation services that allows them to take care of their life needs?

And many others.

The opportunity is yours and only yours to go out and make a difference, to let your voice be heard, to ensure the future for thousands of Montanans with disabilities. So use your right to vote and let lawmakers know that the disability vote counts!

Missoula County Update

Summit Student Interns

Thank you to Justyn Field, our summer intern from the U of M school of journalism. His writing ability and video interviews were a huge support to Summit as we prepared to put on four events in three days in July! His editorial about Youth and the ADA that was in the summer edition of the Summit newsletter also was published as a Missoulain editorial and in Chloe Magazine.

Justyn will finish his college career in December. We wish him all positive thoughts as he moves into his working career!



This fall we have three UM interns who will work with us on three different projects! Erin Giefer is a graduate student in the Master's of Public Administration Program. Erin is working with Travis Hoffman, Advocacy Coordinator and 2011 Montana IL Lobbyist, to learn more about the Montana advocacy and legislative process for people with disabilities. Rebecca Pettit is also a graduate student from the same program and just completed her masters in Political Science. Rebecca is working with Mike Mayer, our Executive Director, to research additional grant and other funding opportunities that might benefit Summit's work. Faith Dawson is also a graduate student in Intercultural Youth and Family Development. Her internship is with another local agency, Western Montana Mental Health Center, however, for another class she is volunteering at Summit with Mary Olson and Mike Beers as we get ready to co-host our fall Missoula Social Event. For more information about this upcoming event, please call the Summit office in Missoula at 728-1630.

Independent Living Skills Training classes and workshops – Missoula

Summit has already started our Living and Working Well classes for the fall session. These are co-facilitated by Darren Larson and Andrea Dahl, our Independent Living Specialists as well as Jude Monson, Program Manager. We will be offering these weekly classes again this winter so if you are interested contact Jude directly about these future dates.

Summit will be offering a weekly communication class, which started on September 30th and will run through December 9th in our conference room. Leanne Beers, one of Summit's Board Members, will facilitate this class. Call Jude at 406-728-1630 if you are interested in signing up.

Lake County Update

Here in Lake County since the big celebration in July of the ADA 20th anniversary, we have held a luncheon. The luncheon's purpose was to introduce Summit Independent Living Center to agencies and residents of the Flathead Indian Reservation. The luncheon was very well attended.

Friday the 24th of September we hosted our first LEAD ON workshop with the help of Mary Olson and Mike Beers.

Also, starting in October, we will be starting our second Living Well with a Disability workshop at SKC. The class will run through December. We also had an opportunity to attend SKC's "new student orientation" and we were able to introduce the independent living philosophy to the new SKC president. She says she wants to strengthen SKC's disability services throughout all departments.

Flathead County Legislative Candidates

First Name	Last Name	Party	Office	Mailing Address	City	Sta	Zip	Phone	Email
Mary	Reckin	D	SD 04	160 Ritzman Lane	Kalispell	MT	59901	257-8160	jmreckin@centurytel.net
Jon	Sonju	R	SD 04	PO Box 2954	Kalispell	MT	59903	270-7113	sonjunt@yahoo.com
Edd	Blackler	D	SD 05	PO Box 555	Bigfork	MT	59911	837-5196	blackler@acrossmontana.net
Verdell	Jackson	R	SD 05	555 Wagner Lane	Kalispell	MT	59901	756-8344	vjack@centurytel.net
Shawn	Guymon	I	HD 03	PO Box 2974	Columbia Falls	MT	59912	249-2586	unibeva@bresnan.net
Jerry	O'Neil	R	HD 03	985 Walsh Road	Columbia Falls	MT	59912	892-7602	oneil@centurytel.net
Zac	Perry	D	HD 03	PO Box 268	Hungry Horse	MT	59919	387-5815	zacjerry@alumni.nd.edu
Will	Hammerquist	D	HD 04	PO Box 521	Whitefish	MT	59937	885-9455	hammerquistforhouse@gmail.com
Derek	Skees	R	HD 04	PO Box 5331	Whitefish	MT	59937	756-1128	derekskees@gmail.com
James	Mahnke	D	HD 05	PO Box 2821	Columbia Falls	MT	59912	892-1640	seamus1933@centurytel.net
Keith	Regier	R	HD 05	1078 Stillwater Road	Kalispell	MT	59901	756-6141	kregier@centurytel.net
Bill	Beck	R	HD 06	PO Box 2049	Whitefish	MT	59937	862-2022	mtbecks@centurytel.net
Scott	Wheeler	D	HD 06	1110 Bald Rock Road	Kalispell	MT	59901	755-0003	
Randy	Brodehl	R	HD 07	16 White Bark	Kalispell	MT	59901	257-9895	brodehl@centurytel.net
Karen	Reeves	D	HD 07	230 Missy Lane	Whitefish	MT	59937	862-4351	
Bill	Jones	I	HD 08	340 West Center Street	Kalispell	MT	59901	837-5760	repjunisjones@yahoo.com
Steve	Lavin	R	HD 08	PO Box 11241	Kalispell	MT	59904	212-0699	stevlavin4hd8@gmail.com
Bryan	Schutt	D	HD 08	PO Box 2512	Kalispell	MT	59903	752-5378	bhs@mtdig.net
Neal	Brown	D	HD 09	670 Wolf Creek Drive	Bigfork	MT	59911	Not Listed	
Scott	Reichner	R	HD 09	78 Redtail Ridge	Bigfork	MT	59911	837-3929	sreichner@centurytel.net
Carla	Augustad	D	HD 10	1395 Lower Valley Road	Kalispell	MT	59901	257-5009	
Mark	Blasdel	R	HD 10	PO Box 291	Somers	MT	59932	857-2010	mblasdel@bresnan.net

Missoula County Legislative Candidates

First Name	Last Name	Party	Office	Mailing Address	City	Sta	Zip	Phone	Email
Tom	Facey	D	SD 48	418 Plymouth	Missoula	MT	59801	728-6814	facey_tom@hotmail.com
Patty	Lovaas	R	SD 48	228 East Spruce Street	Missoula	MT	59802	549-9648	plovaasp@aol.com
Kevin	Kerr	R	SD 49	PO Box 17465	Missoula	MT	59808	829-4643	kevin@wowmobilemt.com
David	Wanzenried	D	SD 49	903 Sky Drive	Missoula	MT	59804	546-9442	
Gordon	Hendrick	R	HD 14	PO Box 262	Superior	MT	59872	822-4938	hendrickhd14@yahoo.com
Judy	Stang	D	HD 14	PO Box 307	Saint Regis	MT	59866	649-2316	jstang@blackfoot.net
Timothy	Furey	D	HD 91	PO Box 56	Milltown	MT	59851	258-2888	tjfurey@montana.com
David	Moore	R	HD 91	142 Carrie Court	Missoula	MT	59802	493-0874	docmooremt@aol.com
Bryce	Bennett	D	HD 92	1132 Vine Street	Missoula	MT	59802	546-3629	bennettforhouse@gmail.com
Henry	Good	L	HD 92	6048 Highway 83 North	Condon	MT	59826	370-6452	
Don	Harbaugh	R	HD 92	7375 Rattlesnake Gulch	Missoula	MT	59802	543-5629	ddharbaugh@montana.com
Dick	Barrett	D	HD 93	219 Agnes Avenue	Missoula	MT	59801	721-3695	rnewbar@gmail.com
Ellie	Hill	D	HD 94	131 South Higgins #6-1	Missoula	MT	59802	218-9608	elliehillhd94@gmail.com
Diane	Sands	D	HD 95	4487 Nicole Court	Missoula	MT	59803	251-2001	hdsands@aol.com
Carolyn	Squires	D	HD 96	2111 South 10th Street West	Missoula	MT	59801	543-6734	sqigs@msn.com
Mat	Stevenson	R	HD 96	1460 Woodbine	Missoula	MT	59803	240-5442	matstevenson@hotmail.com
Michele	Reinhart	D	HD 97	PO Box 5945	Missoula	MT	59806	360-4762	michelereinhart@gmail.com
Ryan	Thompson	R	HD 97	PO Box 8066	Missoula	MT	59807	543-1172	rjt4mt@gmail.com
Sue	Malek	D	HD 98	1400 Prairie Way	Missoula	MT	59802	549-6818	suemalek@gmail.com
Michael	Sopuch	R	HD 98	PO Box 5312	Missoula	MT	59806	240-6769	m.sopuch@yahoo.com
Brian	Barnett	R	HD 99	2540 Mountain Home Lane	Arlee	MT	59821		jenningsbooks@live.com
Betsy	Hands	D	HD 99	1337 Sherwood	Missoula	MT	59802	721-3881	betsyhands@gmail.com
Kandi	Matthew-Jenkins	C	HD 99	1211 Cooper Street	Missoula	MT	59802	721-4342	kandi@mtcraftconnection.com
Willis	Curdy	D	HD 100	11280 Kona Ranch Road	Missoula	MT	59804	728-0981	wcurdy@bridgemail.com
Champ	Edmunds	R	HD 100	PO Box 17612	Missoula	MT	59808	240-0730	champ.edmunds@yahoo.com

Ravalli County Legislative Candidates

First Name	Last Name	Party	Office	Mailing Address	City	Sta	Zip	Phone	Email
Dan	Cox	L	SD 44	680 Ravenwood Road	Darby	MT	59829	369-5524	
Pam	Erickson	D	SD 44	124 Hawthorne Lane	Hamilton	MT	59840	353-5078	pameladance@yahoo.com
Bob	Lake	R	SD 44	PO Box 2096	Hamilton	MT	59840		lakemill@montana.com
Patrick	Connell	R	HD 87	PO Box 313	Conner	MT	59827	961-5363	pconnell1@yahoo.com
Tobias	Martin	L	HD 87	309 Charlos	Stevensville	MT	59870	214-2918	martin.hd87@gmail.com
Ron	Ehli	R	HD 88	Box 765	Hamilton	MT	59840	363-3130	mtmutt@montana.com
Terry	Moran	D	HD 88	158 Ricketts Road	Hamilton	MT	59840		votemoranhd88@yahoo.com
James	Pearson	L	HD 88	181 Hart Bench Road	Darby	MT	59829	821-2033	jimi@jimipearson.com
Gary	MacLaren	R	HD 89	429 Curlew Orchard Road	Victor	MT	59875	642-3887	garymaclaren@yahoo.com
Russ	Vogel	C	HD 89	3574 Holly Lane	Stevensville	MT	59870	777-4427	mule@mtwi.net
Arlin	Bird	L	HD 90	4332 Badger Road	Stevensville	MT	59870	594-3414	
Edward	Greef	R	HD 90	PO Box 1327	Florence	MT	59833	273-7733	slowpedalineddie@mac.com
Wayne	Stanford	D	HD 90	420 Dry Gulch Road	Stevensville	MT	59870	777-3212	

Additional Legislative Candidates in Summit's Service Area

Includes some Candidates from Flathead, Lincoln, Lake, Mineral and Sanders Counties

First Name	Last Name	Party	Office	Mailing Address	City	Sta	Zip	Phone	Email
Chas	Vincent	R	SD 01	34 Paul Bunyan Lane	Libby	MT	59923	293-3839	cvvincent@hotmail.com
Shannon	Augare	D	SD 08	PO Box 909	Browning	MT	59417	450-5686	shannonjaugare@gmail.com
Richard	Jennison	R	SD 08	45392 North Foothills Drive	Ronan	MT	59864	676-2115	
Gerald	Bennett	R	HD 01	784 Taylor Road	Libby	MT	59923	293-7012	jbenhd1@hotmail.com
Eileen	Carney	D	HD 01	PO Box 1193	Libby	MT	59923	293-6407	jecarneymt@yahoo.com
Mike	Cuffe	R	HD 02	PO Box 1685	Eureka	MT	59917	889-5777	mcuffe@interbel.net
Tim	Linehan	D	HD 02	482 Upper Ford Road	Troy	MT	59935	295-4872	info@fishmontana.com
Janna	Taylor	R	HD 11	PO Box 233	Dayton	MT	59914	849-6096	jannataylor@montana.com
Cheryl	Wolfe	G	HD 11	608 16th Avenue East	Polson	MT	59860	890-6289	kuhlwolf@centurytel.net
John	Fleming	D	HD 12	55533 McKeever Road	Saint Ignatius	MT	59865	745-4161	fleming@stignatius.net
Daniel	Salomon	R	HD 12	42470 Salomon Road	Ronan	MT	59864	675-0150	kcponyco@ronan.net
Jackie	Burgess	D	HD 13	398 Whitepine Creek Road	Trout Creek	MT	59874	827-3993	whitepine@blackfoot.net
Pat	Ingraham	R	HD 13	PO Box 1151	Thompson Falls	MT	59873	827-4652	pathd13@blackfoot.net
Frosty	Boss Ribs	D	HD 15	PO Box 20	Heart Butte	MT	59448	338-2086	frostycbr@hotmail.com
Joe	Read	R	HD 15	35566 Terrace Lake Road	Ronan	MT	59864	676-0200	jrдемоб@yahoo.com

What Legislative District Do You Live In?

Not sure who represents you in the Montana Legislature? Need to know what district you live in? Here are some ways to find out which district you live in and who your Montana legislators are:

You can use the "My Voter Page" (<https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>) to find out what district you live in, if you are registered to vote, where you are registered to vote, the location of your polling place, and beginning September of 2010, the status of your absentee ballot if you are an absentee voter.

Once you know which legislative district you live in, you can identify your current legislators by using the latest [Montana Legislative District map](http://nr.is.mt.gov/gis/legislat/2009/) (<http://nr.is.mt.gov/gis/legislat/2009/>) produced by the State of Montana Natural Resource Information System or use the information provided above to contact the candidates in your district.

Staff of your county election office can also help you determine which legislative district you live in and who your representatives are.

Flathead County Update



The Big news for the Summit Kalispell office is that we have MOVED.

Our new address is 1203 Highway 2 West, #35. The telephone numbers remain the same. We are located in the old Gateway West Mall, which is now called the Gateway Community Center. Many other human services agencies are, or will be, located in this building as well. The Food Court is open and serving breakfast and lunch every weekday. There is live music in the Food Court every Thursday from 11:30 to 1:30 and some of the old Sykes gang is now coming to the Gateway Community Center to hang out. An Open House for the new Summit office has been tentatively scheduled for October 22nd.

The Kalispell Peers are busy planning their next exciting social event. We will be having a Barn Dance on November 20th from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. The Big Sky Fiddlers will be there and we hope to have line-dancing teachers as well. Put it on your calendar now, because you won't want to miss it!

It's Your Right to Vote Privately

If you have a physical disability or are unable to read or write, you may ask an election judge to help you mark your ballot for you. Or you can bring a friend or relative who, with the permission of the election judge, can go into the voting booth with you and help you vote.

Every polling place in Montana has at least one specialized voting machine that enables people with disabilities to vote independently and privately.

If you would like to designate an agent to assist you with the voting process, just [download an application for designation of an agent](#). Deliver the signed application to your local election office.

The Secretary of State's office and the 56 counties of Montana have teamed up to offer the ES&S AutoMARK™, breakthrough ballot-marking technology that allows voters with disabilities and other special needs to mark a ballot privately and

independently when using an optical scan voting system.

When using the AutoMARK, you vote on the same ballot that all other voters are using. The AutoMARK does not store any votes, it simply assists you to mark your ballot. The AutoMARK is easy to use. Let the Election Judge at your polling place know if you would like to vote on the AutoMARK.

The ES&S AutoMARK™ voter assist terminal is a ballot-marking system designed to provide privacy and accessibility to voters who are blind, vision-impaired, or have a disability or condition that would make it difficult or impossible to mark a ballot in the usual way. The technology also provides language assistance to voters who are more comfortable speaking a different language or who need help to better understand written instructions.

(<http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/Disabilities/index.asp>)



Justice For All
Justin Dart Puppet in the
2010 NCIL March

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Sanders County Update

One of Summit's Sanders County Peers, Sandy Davis, was recently featured in an article in the Sanders County Ledger that acknowledged all of her contributions to the citizens of Sanders County. The article referred to Sandy as the honorary "Mayor of Noxon" and announced that she would be Grand Marshal of this year's Huckleberry Festival and that she is a Grand Dame and deserves applause and recognition for all she has done.

We are planning a get together sometime in October to celebrate not only Sandy's birthday, but also that of

another of our Sanders County Peers, John Gallaher. John and Sandy will also be presented with a Longevity Award for their many years of generous service to Summit and the independent living movement. If you would like to join us in food and festivities in Sanders County, please call Susan at Summit in Missoula for details.

We would love to see you, the more the merrier so give us a call!! 728-1630 or e-mail smorris@summitilc.org.

Accessibility Assessments of Western Montana's Community Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics

Summit is working with The Rural Institute and The Centers for Disease Control on a project designed to increase the awareness and knowledge of people with disabilities of the benefits of routine health screenings, and accessible health services available at Community Health Centers and Rural Health Clinics. The project will also provide CHC and RHC management with action plans and resource information for improving access for people with disabilities.

Summit's role in this project is to perform the access assessments at 16 CHC's and RHC's located in Western Montana. So far assessments have been completed for clinics in Missoula, Hamilton, Thompson Falls, Plains, Hot Springs, Troy, and two in Libby. We are planning assessments at Eureka, Kalispell, Bull River, Superior, Ronan, Polson, St. Ignatius, and another in Thompson Falls. Hopefully we will be able to get them done before the snow flies!!

Missoula Coalition for Disability Rights Legislative Candidates Forum

The Missoula Coalition for Disability Rights is hosting a **Missoula County Legislative Candidates Forum at the Holiday Inn Parkside in Missoula on October 21, 2008 from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.** The forum will provide an opportunity for you to learn where the candidates stand on issues that are important to people with disabilities and older Montanans.

The Missoula Coalition for Disability Rights is composed of organizations and groups such as: ADAPT Montana, Alliance for Disability and Students of The University of Montana, Home and Community-Based

Services (HCBS), HCBS Medicaid Waiver Advisory Council, Local Advisory Council on Mental Illness, Montana Association for Rehabilitation, Missoula Aging Services, Missoula Valley People First, Opportunity Resources, Summit Independent Living Center, Western Montana Mental Health Center, and more.

Please save the date and join us for this exciting event and learn where your candidates stand before the election!



Ravalli County Update

Fall is in the air, school is back in session, the upcoming holiday season is just around the corner, and we're gearing up for the 2011 legislative session!

The summer passed quickly as we celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, participating in activities at the Bitterroot Glory Days, as well as the grand celebration at Fort Missoula.

Ravalli County had the honor of having a nationally renowned speaker. Dr. Richard Pimentel conducted a community motivational presentation, putting a very human face on the special challenges encountered by individuals with disabilities. If you missed the movie "The Music Within," which based on Dr. Pimentel's remarkable life and courage, it is a great movie that you may want to rent and share with family and friends.

People First members worked the Kiwanis food booth at the Ravalli County Fair and enjoyed the last picnic of the season at Caras Park, and are now busy planning a Halloween Costume Party. The Bitterroot Caregivers Conference was held on October 7th at the Bitterroot River Inn and we're all excited about hosting the Every Woman Matters exhibit on January 19, 2011. Every Woman Matters is a Montana multi-media event highlighting the importance of breast cancer screening among women with physical disabilities, and we very pleased to have Relay for Life partnering with us in bringing this exhibit to Ravalli County.

Don't forget to vote on November 2nd and let your voice be heard during the 2011 legislative session.

Joanne Verwolf
Ravalli County Coordinator

How to Contact Your Elections Office

For more information or questions on the upcoming election, contact your local election office:

Flathead County Election Office

800 S Main
Kalispell, MT 59901
Phone: 758-2453
Fax: 758-5877
electionweb@flathead.mt.gov

Lake County Election Office

106 4th Ave E
Polson, MT 59860
Phone: 883-7268
Fax: 883-7230
knewgard@lakemt.gov

Lincoln County Election Office

512 California
Libby, MT 59923
Phone: 293-7781 x200
Fax: 293-8577
lcclerk@libby.org

Mineral County Election Office

Box 550
Superior MT 59872
Phone: 822-3520
Fax: 822-3579
kjasper@co.mineral.mt.us

Missoula County Election Office

200 W Broadway
Missoula MT 59802
Phone: 523-4751
Fax: 523-2921
vzeier@co.missoula.mt.us

Ravalli County Election Office

215 S 4th St Ste C
Hamilton MT 59840
Phone: 375-6550
Fax: 375-6554
rplettenberg@ravallcounty.mt.gov

Sanders County Election Office

Box 519
Thompson Falls, MT 59873
Phone: 827-6922
Fax: 827-6970
clerk&recorder@sanderscounty.mt.gov

Need a Ride on Election Day?



Disability Rights Montana is arranging Election Day transportation to make sure Montana voters with disabilities and senior citizens can make their votes count.

If you need a ride or can provide a ride, please call:
Disability Rights Montana Election Hotline: (866) 790-VOTE (8683).

2011 Independent Living Legislative Day

Mark your calendars and be sure to save the date.

The Statewide Independent Living Council and Montana's four Independent Living Centers, Summit, NCILS, MILP, and LIFTT, are sponsoring a legislative day at the Capitol Building in Helena during the Legislative session on **Thursday, January 20, 2011.**

The day's activities will include a morning workshop on the legislative process and current bills of concern to and priorities for people with disabilities, a noon potato bar luncheon with legislators in the rotunda of the Capitol, and an opportunity to observe the session and talk with your representatives first-hand in the afternoon. If you are interested in attending Legislative Day in January, please contact your local Independent Living Center for more information.

Flathead Legislative Candidates Forum

A senior and disability **Flathead County Legislative Forum will be held at the United Way conference room on October 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** The United Way conference room is located in the Gateway Community Center at 1203 Highway 2 W. in Kalispell.

The forum will provide an opportunity for you to learn where the candidates stand on issues that are important to people with disabilities and older Montanans. Please join us for this exciting event and become an informed voter.

For more information, please contact Dianna Kintzler at 406-257-0048.

BULLETIN BOARD

See our website at newsletter.summitilc.org for more ads

Wheelchair Accessible Home for sale in Kalispell. 2650 square feet, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, office, family room, large finished basement, roll in shower, hardwood floors. \$250,000.00. 954-933-2614 or email shelleylaing@comcast.net

Levo Active Easy Lift Chair (instruction manual included) for \$4000.00 or offer. Call 1 (406) 883-9298

Permobil Chairman 2k power wheelchair. 3 Function, leg, seat (power elevator?) and tilt. Needs batteries. \$2,500. OBO. Call after 9am 728-2689

2004 Pronto M71 Surestep electric wheelchair. Blue in color with a cloth interior. Slight damage on armrest. \$800 or best offer or will trade for a 20-25' teepee. 1-406-225-8044.

Quickie V121 Power Wheelchair. Black, battery cases, headrest, oxygen tank holder, and backpack. Rarely used. \$1,000 OBO. 406-531-7662 or 406-543-4521.

Have something you want to sell or give away or are you looking for a hard-to-find piece of equipment? If so, list it here by contacting Travis and list or find those hard-to-find items on the Montech item exchange website at:
<http://montech.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/mtdb/>

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THE SUMMIT INDEPENDENT

OCTOBER 2010

Are You a Registered Voter?

Not a Registered Voter?

Now is a great time for Montanans to register to vote in the Federal General Election on November 2, 2010. Regular registration ends at 5:00 p.m. on October 4. Those who miss the deadline may register in person during Montana's late registration period - which runs from October 5 until the close of polls on Election Day. Check with your county Election Administrator or Clerk & Recorder for more information. You can find out who your County Election Administrator is by downloading the list of administrators at <http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/forms/elections/electionadministrators.pdf>. You can also download a voter registration card at <http://sos.mt.gov/Elections/forms/voters/register.pdf>.

Already Registered?

Registered voters can check their voter registration status and find their polling place location using the office's latest online election tool on the My Voter Page at <https://app.mt.gov/voterinfo/>. Simply enter your name and birth date to get started.

Every vote is a voice heard. Register and vote in the General Election on November 2, 2010!

More information about voting can be found at <http://sos.mt.gov>

