

Remember Remember the 4th of November

What do you look for in a leader and what are your leadership qualities?

By Jude Monson, Program Manager

Here we are in the thick of the 2008 national, state and local campaign season, heading toward election day on November 4th! This newsletter is about our right and responsibility to gain enough information to vote for the leaders and issues that are important to us, our lives and ultimately our community, state and nation.

I recently read an excellent article on the leadership qualities of previous Presidents' in a Sunday Parade Magazine by Doris Kerns Goodwin called, "The Secrets of America's Great Presidents." This author gave the top ten strengths that she observed from a historical perspective on both Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Roosevelt. I don't believe that any one elected official, or human being for that matter, will have all these ten qualities. However, looking them over helped me to reflect more deeply about our current choice of presidential candidates and Montana political leaders as I get ready to cast my ballot.

I also believe we as Montanan's with disabilities each have some of these same qualities. We each have the opportunity to build on our own strengths and build a stronger voice together. As Summit is going into its 27th year of advocacy I look back at the number of leaders within our movement who have stepped forward on a local, state and national level to build or change laws or influence policies from the perspective of Nothing About Us Without Us.

I invite you to look over these ten qualities and do your own assessment of what you "bring to table" and what characteristics you believe are important in our future political leaders.

There was an important job to be done and *Everybody* was sure *Somebody* would do it. *Anybody* could have done it, but *Nobody* did it. *Somebody* got angry about that because it was *Everybody's* job. *Everybody* thought *Anybody* could do it but *Nobody* realized that *Everybody* wouldn't do it.

It ended that *Everybody* blamed *Somebody* when *Nobody* did what *Anybody* could have done!

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Summit ILC
700 SW Higgins, Suite 101
Missoula, MT 59803
(406) 728-1630
www.summitilc.org

Executive Director
Mike Mayer

Program Manager
Jude Monson

Advocacy Coordinator
Travis Hoffman

SDPAS Coordinator
Lorna Palin

SDPAS Assistant
Michael Giddings

Peer Advocacy Coordinator
Mary Olson

Missoula People First
Advisor/IL Specialist
Andrea Dahl

Independent Living
Specialist
Darren Larson

Secretary
Marsha Cummerford

Bookkeeper
Libby Miller

Assistant Bookkeeper
Sally Wahl

FLATHEAD COUNTY 
Flo Kiewel, Coordinator
Dianna Kintzler, IL Specialist

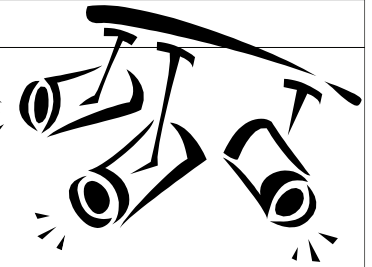
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Joanne Verwolf, Coordinator
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IL Specialist
I Serenity, IL Specialist

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Spotlight On...



David Singleton - Sportsman

By Flo Kiewel

It was a pleasure to meet David Singleton in July 2008. He grew up in Missoula and Big Fork and has an older brother and sister. He also has two pet ducks and wears a duck feather in his hat. David is an active young man who enjoys tubing in the Swan River, playing pool, tinkering with his car, and Cowboy Action Shooting.



Cowboy Action Shooting is an unusual sport involving shooting pistol, rifle and shotgun in sequence at an array of targets. For instance, one possible scenario might include shooting at the first target with your rifle from about 25 yards, the second four targets are shot with shotgun at about 15 yards and you must knock down 2 targets on each side, the last position would use both pistols fired at three targets about 15 yards away. These scenarios are always different and are sometimes created using the action sequences from cowboy movies. Speed and accuracy are the goal; misses add time to your total. Targets for practice meets are often just a 2' x 2' square or circle made out of steel, but national meets use more creative targets. Some are moving targets or contraptions where hitting the target initiates a series of events.

Various groups around the state meet monthly to practice and compete with each other; there are active clubs in Missoula, Ronan and Bigfork. A statewide competition is held once a year with shooters attending from all over Montana. The Big Fork group that David attends has approximately 20 members. He is the youngest with most members being in their 40s to 70s.

Cowboy Action Shooting requires members to dress in 1870s style and to shoot with guns that are from that period as well. Weapons used can be authentic, reproductions or re-manufactured. Clothing worn for competition can be period correct or modeled after Hollywood movies. Pseudonyms are used in competition and David's is "Dark Dave" because he always wears black or dark clothing. David had special holsters made to fit his seated style and making it safer and easier to carry his pistols around. They make him look just like a gunslinger with a low-slung gun belt.



David has completed automotive school in Laramie, Wyoming and is currently working with Vocational Rehabilitation to find a job as an auto mechanic in Kalispell or Missoula. He uses a hydraulic lift platform when needed to get him to a comfortable work level. I hope we will be hearing more from David in the future!

A Voter's Bill of Rights

- You have the right to ask for a new ballot if you damage your ballot or want to change your vote. Before the rejected ballot is deposited in the ballot box, ask an election judge to provide you with a new one.
- You have the right to ask for help marking your ballot if you are unable to read or write for any reason.
- You have the right to vote at an accessible polling place. Ask your county election official to make sure you are assigned to one.
- You have the right to vote from your vehicle if a disability prevents you from entering a polling place. A friend or relative may ask an election judge to bring your ballot to your car.
- You have the right to have a ballot delivered to you if you are homebound or in a nursing home. Your county election official or a nursing home staffer can tell you how.
- You have the right to vote using an absentee ballot, even if you are capable of voting in person on Election Day. You may request an absentee ballot from your county election official any time from 75 days preceding Election Day until noon the day before.
- You have the right to vote even if you suddenly become ill or have some other health emergency on Election Day. Before noon on election Day, ask your county election official or a hospital employee to provide you with an absentee ballot.
- You have the right to a Voter Information Pamphlet printed in large type or recorded on tape if your vision is impaired. These are available at your local library.



IL Legislative Day: January 20, 2009

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 Tuesday, January 20, 2009.

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.

2009 IL Legislative Priorities

The next legislative session is getting even closer. That is why Summit Independent Living Center is continuing to work with the Statewide Independent Living Council as well as the other Independent Living Centers in being proactive and preparing for the 2009 legislature now. The following is a list of legislative priorities that have been identified and that we will be focusing on throughout the year and into the legislative session.

- Establish a **Medicaid buy-in** option in Montana so consumers have an avenue for maintaining Medicaid coverage after employment — LC0349
- Secure additional state funding to **equalize the core funding of Montana's CILs** and to expand IL services across the state
- Change state law in Medically Needy program to tie **spend down limit** to annual SSI level
- Secure **additional funding for youth programs** including transition services and services that foster independent living and leadership skills
- Support **AARP Coalition** to support issues for Home and Community Based Services such as increased waiver slots, direct care worker wage increase, provider rate increase, Healthcare for Healthcare Workers, etc.

If you are interested in becoming involved in any of these topics or if you are interested in sharing your story about the need to pass items by the legislature, please let Travis Hoffman know by e-mailing him at thoffman@summitilc.org.

You can also join the **Montana Independent Living Action Alert System** and be kept up to date on local, state, and national issues that affect people with disabilities by sending an e-mail to: montana-il-action-alert-subscribe@googlegroups.com or by letting Travis Hoffman.

New Flathead Staff

Hello all! I am Dianna Kintzler, the new Independent Living Specialist for Flathead County.

I was raised in Sweetwater County, Wyoming. Shortly after graduating high school I met my now husband, Brenon. He was enlisted in the Navy and was scheduled for departure to boot camp just a few short months after we met. We corresponded by mail for several months until he proposed to me (also by mail!), at which time I decided to relocate to San Diego to be with him. We married in 1999 and since have had two daughters; Mia, who is 8, and Maeve, who is 3.

I graduated from college in May 2007 with a degree in general studies/pre-dentistry. I have known from a very young age that in my line of work, whatever it might be, I wanted to work with people.

Our family came out to Kalispell on vacation in June 2007, and in a fly-by-the-seat-of-our-pants decision, we decided to relocate here. Who could say "no" to living in a place with such picturesque scenery?

I am happy to be working for Summit; it is very rewarding to me because I am doing just what I have always wanted to do, work with people.



Missoula/Mineral Area Legislative Candidates

House District 14	R	Gordon R. Hendrick	PO Box 262	Superior, MT 59872	822-4938	Hendrickhd14@yahoo.com
House District 14	D	Cindy Grimm	3 Sunrise Creek Road	Superior, MT 59872	822-3050	Candm@candmhome.com
House District 100	R	Bill Nooney	PO Box 4892	Missoula, MT 59806	544-2343	Billnooney4hd100@montana.com
House District 100	D	Willis Curdy	11280 Kona Ranch Rd.	Missoula, MT 59804	728-0981	griz@curdy.myrf.net
House District 91	R	Walt Hill	PO Box 565	Seeley Lake, MT 59868	677-6563	Walter.hill@umontana.edu
House District 91	D	Tim Furey	PO Box 56	Milltown, MT 59851	546-6025	Tjfurey@montana.com
House District 92	R	Dan Stusek	1565 Stanley Street	Missoula, MT 59802	670-9528	Daniel.stusek@umontana.edu
House District 92	D	Robin Hamilton	330 Daly Avenue	Missoula, MT 59801	549-9954	Robinhamilton@bresnan.net
House District 93	R	Steve Dogiakos	91 Campus Drive PMB #1016	Missoula, MT 59801	203-4679	Dogiakos@gmail.com
House District 93	D	Dick Barrett	219 Agnes Avenue	Missoula, MT 59801	721-3695	Barrett493@gmail.com
House District 94	R	Linda S. Frey	100 Hillview Way	Missoula, MT 59803	251-2000	
House District 94	D	Dave McAlpin	800 Woodworth Avenue	Missoula, MT 59801	829-9040	Mcdave94@gmail.com
House District 95	R	Kevin Blackler	3515 Schilling	Missoula, MT 59801	542-5486	Kblackler@qwest.net
House District 95	D	Diane Sands	4487 Nicole Court	Missoula, MT 59803	251-2001	Hdsands@aol.com
House District 96	R	Steven Eschenbacher	PO Box 993	Hamilton, MT 59840	251-4393	Seschenbac@yahoo.com
House District 96	D	Teresa K. Henry	204 Chestnut Street	Missoula, MT 59801	549-8658	Tkh@tkhenry.com
House District 97	R	Carol Minjares	6460 Mullan Road	Missoula, MT 59808	728-7994	Caroljm36@msn.com
House District 97	D	Michele Reinhart	PO BOX 5945	Missoula, MT 59806	360-4762	Michelereinhardt@gmail.com
House District 98	R	Will Deschamps	PO Box 16084	Missoula, MT 59808	549-4585	Flyingd@q.com
House District 98	D	Sue Malek	1400 Prairie Way	Missoula, MT 59802	Not Listed	Suemalek@yahoo.com
House District 99	R	Jedediah Delmeire Cox	4802 Calvin Court	Missoula, MT 59808	351-9920	Jedediahcox@gmail.com
House District 99	D	Betsy Hands	1337 Sherwood	Missoula, MT 59802	721-3881	Betsyhands@gmail.com
Senate District 07	R	Greg W Hinkle	5 Gable Road	Thompson Falls, MT 59873	827-4645	ccwhi@blackfoot.net
Senate District 07	D	Judy A. Stang	PO Box 307	St. Regis, MT 59866	649-2316	Jstang@blackfoot.net
Senate District 07	D	Paul Clark	20 Fox Lane	Trout Creek, MT 59874	827-4440	Pclarkhd72@yahoo.com
Senate District 46	D	Carol Williams	3533 Lincoln Hills Point	Missoula, MT 59802	728-8735	Cwilliams@montanadns.net
Senate District 47	D	Ron Erickson	3250 Pattee Canyon Road	Missoula, MT 59803	549-4671	Nancron@aol.com
Senate District 50	D	Clifford G. Larsen	8925 LaValle Creek Road	Missoula, MT 59808	728-1601	Cliff@larsenusa.com
Senate District 50	C	Kandi Matthew-Jenkins	1211 Cooper Street	Missoula, MT 59802	721-4342	Kandi@mtcraftconnection.com

Getting Prepared to Vote

As you and the rest of America gets ready to head to the polls to cast your vote on November 4th you may want to double check a few items so that when you do go, you can be sure that you will be able to vote and, more importantly, that your vote will count.

First thing is first, **check your registration status!** In order to participate in the November 4th election, you must be a registered voter. If you are not registered to vote you will need to register. To register you can contact your local/regional independent living center for a registration card and assistance in completing it, you can go to your local County Elections Office (contact info on page 7) to fill out a voter registration card, or you can go to the website www.montanavotes.net and click on the register to vote link to download a voter registration card.

Late registration is available at any time right up through the close of polls on election day, except between 12:00 PM and 5:00 PM on the day before the election. However, registering early is beneficial to you and to your community. If you're not registered to vote, register as soon as possible!

Now that you've registered to vote or made sure your registration is correct and valid you're ready to head to the polls on November 4th. When you go to the polls, however, make sure you **take your ID with you!** Montana law requires that all voters have proper ID with them when they vote. The forms of ID you can use include a driver's license, tribal or student ID, Military ID any other photo ID with your name on it, or a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or any other government document that has your name and address on it.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS AS A VOTER

As long as you are at least 18 years old, have lived in Montana for 30 days or longer, and have not been found by a judge to be of unsound mind then you have the **right to vote**.

The ADA and Montana law also requires that polling places be accessible helping to ensure your **right to access your local polling place**.

You also have the **right to a secret ballot**. If you don't want anyone else to see your ballot but you have difficulty marking your own ballot, each polling place must be equipped with an AUTOMARK ballot-marking machine which can allow voters with various types of disabilities vote privately and independently.

If you are unable to vote independently, you also have the **right to request assistance**. As a person with a disability, you can designate an agent to help you through the process. To designate an Agent, fill out the designation form ([http://sos.mt.gov/ELB/forms/accessibility/Agent for People with Disabilities.pdf](http://sos.mt.gov/ELB/forms/accessibility/Agent%20for%20People%20with%20Disabilities.pdf)) and take it to your elections administrator at your local/county elections office.

Should you choose to do so, you also have the **right to vote by absentee ballot**. To vote absentee, you must request an absentee ballot in writing by filling out an application for an absentee ballot (<http://sos.mt.gov/ELB/forms/voters/absenteeballot.pdf>) and returning it to your elections administrator at your local/county elections office.

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is noon the day before election day and the completed ballot must be returned by 8:00 PM on election day in order to be counted.

If you feel that any of your voting rights have been violated or if your vote has been challenged, please contact the **Disability Rights Montana Election Hotline—1-866-790-VOTE (8683)**.

BE AN INFORMED VOTER

Just as important as voting is being an informed voter. So, before Election Day (November 4), take the time to learn about the candidates and issues.

There will be many opportunities between now and election day for you to learn about the candidates and issues that will be on the ballot.

The media will be filled with ads and stories about the election and about the candidates, your mailbox will be filled with brochures and fliers outlining the candidates' views. There will be televised candidate debates as well as local candidate forums, like the three that Summit is involved in sponsoring, that we highly encourage you to attend. Some candidates may even come to your front door to introduce themselves and talk to you about topics that may be addressed in the upcoming legislature. You may also receive a Voter Information Pamphlet, published by the Secretary of State, in the mail or you can download one at sos.mt.gov. This will provide balanced information about the initiatives and referenda that will be on the ballot.

Remember, we live in a Democracy and a Democracy is not a spectator sport, it requires participation — YOUR PARTICIPATION!



Invitation to a Survey for Women with Physical Disabilities

Did you know that in 2006 nearly 1 out of 4 Montana women over 40 did not receive a mammogram within the past two years?

A mammogram is an important tool used to help detect breast cancer. When identified and diagnosed early, the odds for surviving breast cancer are very good.

The Montana Disability and Health Program is distributing a survey that asks about the experiences Montana women with disabilities have had with mammog-

raphy and other breast health issues. Survey results will supplement CDC's "Right To Know" campaign, a health promotion campaign to improve awareness about the importance of breast health screening among women with disabilities.

Please consider taking the enclosed, anonymous, approximately 10-minute survey if you are a woman with a physical disability living in Montana and are either:

Between the ages of 40 and 69; or
Are under the age of 40 and have been told by your medical provider to have a mammogram.

Completed surveys can be returned using the enclosed business reply envelope. You may also read more about the survey and/or take part online at: <http://ruralinstitute.breastcancer.sgizmo.com>

Thank you for your consideration and help with this project!



Election Day Transportation

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)

If you can provide ride(s) for voters on Election Day (Tuesday, November 4, 2008), **Disability Rights Montana** will pay a stipend and reimbursement for your mileage for every voter you help.

How to Contact Your Elections Office

COUNTY ELECTION OFFICES

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

Ravalli Area Legislative Candidates

House District 87	R	Ron Stoker	PO Box 1059	Darby, MT 59829	363-3391	Stoker@montana.com
House District 87	D	Peter Rosten	PO Box 750	Darby, MT 59829	821-3780	Peter@peterrosten.com
House District 88	R	Bob Lake	PO Box 2096	Hamilton, MT 59840	363-4091	Lakemill@montana.com
House District 88	D	Patrick Boylan	446 Eagle Lane	Corvallis, MT 59828	961-3296	Boylan4hd88@hotmail.com
House District 89	R	Gary MacLaren	429 Curlew Orchard Road	Victor, MT 59875	642-3887	Garymaclaren@yahoo.com
House District 90	R	Ray Hawk	4878 Hoblitt Lane	Florence, MT 59833	777-5120	Rhawk@bresnan.net
House District 90	D	Yvonne G. Gritzner	378 One Horse Creek Road	Florence, MT 59833	273-0665	Jygritzner@yahoo.com
Senate District 45	R	Jim Shockley	PO Box 608	Victor, MT 59875	642-3817	

Missoula Coalition for Disability Rights 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 22, 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, Bruce Blattner Apartments,

Eaglewatch Estates, Express Personnel, 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, Nightingale Nursing and Caregiving Consumer Advisory Council, Opportunity Resources, Progressive Personal Care, Summit Independent Living Center, and Western Montana Mental Health Center.

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

Ravalli County Legislative Candidates Forum

Summit Independent Living Center, in collaboration with Special Friends Advocacy, Opportunity Resources Inc., the Local Advisory Council, and the Montana Association for Rehabilitation, is hosting a Missoula County Legislative Candidates Forum at **The Area Agency on Aging in Hamilton on October 24, 2008 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 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.

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

For more information on the Ravalli County Forum, please contact Joanne Verwolf or Travis Hoffman.



Flatehead/Lincoln, Lake/Sanders Area Legislative Candidates

House District 15	D	Frosty Calf Boss Ribs	PO Box 20	Heart Butte, MT 59448	338-2086	Frostycbr@hotmail.com
House District 01	R	Gerald A. Bennett	784 Taylor Road	Libby, MT 59923	293-7012	ibenhd1@hotmail.com
House District 01	D	Eileen J. Carney	PO Box 1193	Libby, MT 59923	293-6407	Jecarney@libby.org
House District 01	C	Freeman Johnson	868 Lime Creek Road	Troy, MT 59935	295-7302	Cvvincent@hotmail.com
House District 02	R	Chas V. Vincent	5957 Champion Road	Libby, MT 59923	293-3839	
House District 02	D	Timothy P. Linehan	472 Upper Ford Rd	Troy, MT 59935	295-4872	
House District 03	R	Dee L. Brown	Box 444	Hungry Horse, MT 59919	387-9393	
House District 03	D	Michael (Mick) Holm	849 Mooring Road	Columbia Falls, MT 59912	756-9055	Mpholm@centurytel.net
House District 04	R	John Fuller	1369 KM Ranch Road	Whitefish, MT 59937	257-6101	Oldgray@centurytel.net
House District 04	D	Mike Jopek	PO Box 4272	Whitefish, MT 59937	250-1184	Mike@mikejopek.com
House District 05	R	Keith Regier	1078 Stillwater Road	Kalispell, MT 59901	756-6141	Regier@digisys.net
House District 05	D	Jake Pannell	1025 1st Avenue West	Columbia Falls, MT 59912	892-0501	Pannell2008@centurytel.net
House District 06	R	Bill Beck	PO Box 2049	Whitefish, MT 59937	862-2022	Mtbecks@centurytel.net
House District 06	D	Scott Wheeler	1110 Bald Rock Road	Kalispell, MT 59901	Not Listed	
House District 06	C	Timothy R. Martin	PO Box 2013	Kalispell, MT 59903	863-2837	Tmartin004@centurytel.net
House District 07	R	Jon Sonju	PO Box 2954	Kalispell, MT 59903	270-7113	Sonjunt@yahoo.com
House District 07	D	Shannon D Hanson	421 Bear Trail	Whitefish, MT 59937	862-4455	Shannon@dataque.com
House District 08	R	Craig Witte	131 Collier Lane	Kalispell, MT 59901	257-1259	Witte@bresnan.net
House District 08	D	Cheryl Steenson	PO Box 3145	Kalispell, MT 59903	270-0872	Casteenson@gmail.com
House District 09	R	Scott M. Reichner	78 Redtail Ridge	Bigfork, MT 59911	837-3929	Sreichner@centurytel.net
House District 09	D	Edd Blackler	PO Box 555	Bigfork, MT 59911	837-5196	Blackler@acrossmontana.net
House District 10	R	Mark W. Blasdel	PO Box 291	Somers, MT 59932	857-2010	Mblasdel@bresnan.net
House District 10	D	Carla Augustad	1395 Lower Valley Road	Kalispell, MT 59901	257-5009	Augustad@centurytel.net
House District 11	R	Janna Taylor	PO Box 233	Dayton, MT 59914	849-6096	Jannataylor@montana.com
House District 11	D	M. Patrick "Pat" Estenson	PO Box 141	Rollins, MT 59931	Not Listed	Mpestenson@centurytel.net
House District 12	R	Ronald Fred Marquardt	PO Box 1358	Paulson, MT 59860	883-4144	Romagroup@centurytel.net
House District 12	D	John Fleming	55533 McKeever Road	St. Ignatius, MT 59865	745-4161	Fleming@stignatius.net
House District 13	R	Pat Ingraham	PO Box 1151	Thompson Falls, MT 59873	827-4652	Pathd13@blackfoot.net
House District 13	D	Jim Elliott	100 TC Road	Trout Creek, MT 59874	827-3671	Jim@jimelliott.org
House District 13	C	Renn Bodeker	11 Freedom Lane	Plains, MT 59859	826-0325	Freedom2005@blackfoot.net
Senate District 02	D	Brittany MacLean Kasselder	704 Park Avenue	Whitefish, MT 59937	730-2463	Macleankasselder@gmail.com
Senate District 03	R	Bruce Tutvedt	2335 West Valley Drive	Kalispell, MT 59901	257-9732	Tutvedt@montanasky.us
Senate District 03	D	Mark Holston	104 Northern Lights Blvd.	Kalispell, MT 59901	752-8959	Mholston@centurytel.net
Senate District 06	R	John Brueggeman	39341 Lakeview Drive	Polson, MT 59860	883-2395	John@senatorjohn.net
Senate District 06	C	M. Neal Donohue	907 Tenth Avenue East	Polston, MT 59860	883-2282	Mootpoint20@gmail.com

Northwest Montana Legislative Candidates Forum

Summit Independent Living Center, in collaboration with Special Friends Advocacy, Opportunity Resources Inc., the Local Advisory Council, and the Montana Association for Rehabilitation, is hosting a Missoula County Legislative Candidates Forum at **The Summit Medical Fitness**

Center, conference room #3 in Kalispell on October 20, 2008 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 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.

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

For more information on the NW Montana Forum, please contact Flo Kiewel or Travis Hoffman.

Statewide Races

GOVERNOR

Brian Schweitzer & John Bollinger (D)
<http://brianschweitzer.com/>

Roy Brown & Steve Daines (R)
<http://www.roybrownformontana.com/>

UNITED STATES SENATE

Max Baucus (D)
<http://www.maxbaucus2008.com/>

Bob Kelleher (R)
<http://bobkelleher2008.com/>

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

John Driscoll (D)
[http://web.mac.com/johndriscoll37/Montana First/We Can Win!.html](http://web.mac.com/johndriscoll37/Montana%20First/We%20Can%20Win!.html)

Denny Rehberg (R)
<http://www.dennyrehberg.com/>

ADA Amendments Act

Excerpts from ADA Watch , Jenny Cromie (W/WJ-950 News Radio), and Mark A. Hofmann (Business Insurance)

For nearly two years, disability rights advocates have traveled the Nation in a modified bus [**The Road to Freedom Tour that came through Missoula and Helena in June 2007**] educating citizens and policymakers alike of the pressing need to restore vital civil rights protections of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

On September 25, 2008, President Bush signed the ADA Amendments Act into law.

In recent years, the ADA - the world's first human rights law for people with disabilities - has been dramatically narrowed in the courts leaving citizens with epilepsy, diabetes, mental illness,

HIV-AIDS and other disabilities unprotected from discrimination. The ADA Amendments Act clarifies the intent of Congress and reverses the "judicial activism" that has resulted in more than 95% of employment-related ADA cases being dismissed on summary judgment.

The new law requires judges to interpret the law broadly and makes clear that the use of life sustaining devices, such as diabetes medication, does not remove an individual from the ADA's protections.

In addition to defining a disability as an actual mental or physical impairment and one that limits one or more major life activities, the bill also provides protection in situations when someone is dis-

criminated against because they are "regarded as" having a disability. For example, if an employer fires a person because it is believed that he or she has HIV, the employee would be protected under the law - regardless of whether an actual disability exists or not.



BULLETIN BOARD

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

- ◆ '88 Winnebago Superchief 27RO. Newer 454, roof A/C, genset, jacks, awning, Superarm wheelchair lift, hand controls, 190 W solar. \$8,000 OBO. (406) 293-7467.
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- ◆ 1991 GMC VanDura - 5.7L 350 engine, 108,000 miles, a/c, tires good + snow tires on rims, Ricon Split Platform Lift. \$4,500 OBO. 406-273-9012 or 406-273-6960
- ◆ Quikie V121 power wheelchair. Black, battery cases, headrest, oxygen tank holder, backpack. Rarely used. \$1,000 OBO. 406-531-7662 or 406-543-4521
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- ◆ Invacare Storm TDX 3 power wheelchair. Purchased for \$5500 will sell for \$2800 OBO. Seat Size: width 18", depth 16". Delivery negotiable. Call (406) 752-6561.
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- ◆ 1990 Jazzy-mini deluxe (purple) wheelchair. Never used outdoors and in excellent condition. Power elevator, new batteries. \$2200. Call 406-777-3550
- ◆ Double electric bed - w/ massage function, Best offer. 406-756-7122
- ◆ Pride Revo 3 wheel scooter purchased new 10/2004 for \$1951. Has not been used since 9/2006. Adjustable seat, armrests, and steering column. Includes cover, front and rear baskets. Price: \$750.00. Call (406) 544-8534 in the evenings or weekends.
- ◆ Recliner lift chair – \$50-100 – 258-4965 or 396-5628
- ◆ Electric Mobility Scooter for sale - Four wheel heavy duty model 305, 500 lb. capacity. Excellent condition, comes with trailer hitch mount electric lift. Cost \$ 5000 new, asking \$2000 or best offer. (406) 862-3960 or 862-2345
- ◆ Redman power standup wheelchair. Large size 200-250lbs. Used for 4 months. \$15,000 OBO. 903-434-9463
- ◆ Light weight heavy duty manual wheelchair. Used 2 months. Holds 425 lb weight. Asking \$500 OBO. Call (406) 270-2203.
- ◆ Have something you want to sell or give away? Are you looking for a hard piece of equipment? If so, list it here by contacting Travis and list it on the Montech item exchange website at <http://montech.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/mtddb/>

SUMMIT INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER, INC.
700 SW HIGGINS, SUITE 101
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YOUTH CORNER

Congratulations to everyone involved in making the first annual Montana Youth in Transitions Conference a success. The conference was held this past week (Sept. 15-17) at the Holiday Inn in Great Falls. Keynote speakers included Anna Whiting-Sorrel from the Governors office who opened the conference; Andy Imperato, CEO of the American Association of People with Disabilities; Dale Delio, author of Raymond's Room; and finally Robert Jahner gave the closing remarks on Wednesday.

The break out sessions throughout the conference all focused on ways to improve transition outcomes for Montana youth with disabilities the breakouts varied in the perspective in which they view transition. Though many of the breakouts were geared directly toward young people, there were also sessions that addressed the transition issues that parents and service providers face.

Summit was well represented at the conference by Mary Olson, Darren Larsen, Travis Hoffman and myself (Michael Beers) presenting the BALLS curriculum and IL opportunities for youth at the conference.



APRIL Youth 2008 ~ Las Vegas

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."
— Mohandas Gandhi

Coming up in the world of youth in Independent Living next month we have the 5th annual APRIL Youth pre-conference on October 10th, the day before the main conference starts. This years APRIL conference will be held at Bally's Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. Our theme this year is "CHOICES: You Choose the Change You Want!" Participants will learn about choices in their everyday lives, as well as choices in the upcoming election. We will discuss how choices can shape our lives and how each person can be confident in their decisions. And lastly, for those of you who may be wondering. What happens in Vegas.....will most definitely appear in the next addition of the youth corner .