



LEUKEMIA IS ON THE PROWL

One of every 10 cats will be infected by this deadly disease!

Don't take chances. Now you can protect your cat from feline leukemia virus. Bring your cat in now for feline leukemia vaccination!

SAVE UP TO 25%

Feline Testing and Vaccination Clinic now being held at

EUGENE ANIMAL HOSPITAL P.C.
1432 Orchard St.

Each Wednesday 2-4 pm
No Appointment Necessary

Call 342-1178 for information

Acupuncture can be effective for:

- Headaches
- Muscular Tension
- Sports Related Injuries
- Menstrual Problems (including P.M.S.)
- Gastrointestinal Problems

For more information and appointments call

Acupuncture Clinic
Larry Weinstein, L.Ac.
344-5882 260 E. 15th St.
Eugene, Ore. 97401



Mountain Bike Specialists

1753 W. 18th Ave. 687-0288
Hours: 10-6 M-Fr, 10-5 Sat

GET EAT!

Early Spring Tune-Up
Just \$30.
'87 Bikes Arriving Now
Nobody does it better!

Socially Responsible Investing

IRAs

We invest in companies which are making a positive impact on the world through their products, services and business ethics. We avoid investments in South Africa, weapons manufacturing or nuclear energy.

We invite you to contact us right away for a brochure or to schedule a meeting at no charge. There is no minimum investment.



Progressive Securities Investment Services

Portland Office 503 224 7828
Eugene Office 503 341 3834
PO Box 3860
Eugene, Oregon 97403

All Gain. No Pain.

Work out with every step you take. Birkenstock slip-on styles are true exercise sandals. Designed to let your toes grip the footbed with every step, they help keep the muscles in your feet and legs firm and well toned. Try the natural workout. Make every step count with Birkenstock.



Birkenstock

Birkenstock Footprints

Fifth Pearl shops
Fifth Pearl Building 207 E. 5th
Eugene, Oregon 342-6107

PUBLIC INTEREST

FROM SALEM

School Safety Net— a "short term band-aid" for schools

by Sandra Bishop

In the beginning . . . it was easy to predict the Oregon State Legislature would do something about school closures. Both Houses named one of their standing committees "Committee on Revenue and School Finance." What was not obvious was the short timeframe in which the Legislature would work.

The school safety net proposal moved through the legislative process with remarkable speed. The swift action was due partly to the fact that it is a compromise package. It doesn't fully satisfy any one faction concerned with the future of education in the state. What it does is give the legislators breathing room to put together a permanent plan to reorganize the financing of schools in Oregon. The question is, will they do it and when? Such a reorganization could be done during the interim between legislative sessions and could be actualized in the 1989 Session.

The big push for reform in school financing is of course to prevent the closure of schools due to lack of operating capital. In the last 10 years 11 schools have closed for five to 37 days. Of the 305 school districts in the state 189 have adequate tax bases which are allowed under law to increase by six percent each year. The remaining 115 districts in the state do not have adequate tax bases and must ask the voters for an operating levy each year. This gives the voters de facto veto power over the operation of the schools in those districts. A no vote at the polls translates directly into the closure of schools in some cases.

Oregon's national reputation as a glorious place to live and work is being tarnished by the erratic behavior of Oregon voters who are being asked to assume more and more of the financial burden of educating our

children. As revenue from sources other than property tax has diminished, an increasingly older population, many without children in the schools, has refused to automatically up the ante in property taxes paid to fund schools. The real underlying issue of how the state can provide children an education, as required by law, gets shuffled into the background when people are confronted with their property tax bills.

The safety net plan agreed to by the House and Senate has several important features. The original Senate plan introduced and passed in February and approved by a conference committee in early March, allows a school district which has not passed an operating levy by September to use the previous year's operating levy to keep the schools open. Under this plan no property tax increase is allowed unless approved by voters. This safety net will work, in most districts, for a few years. The House plan, which would have allowed an automatic increase in local property taxes based on school enrollment, was trounced by the Senate. Wisely the Senate realized no measure which allowed for any kind of automatic increase in taxes would be acceptable to people at the polls.

Not so wisely the Senate and House members have not taken into consideration changing revenue sources, inflation and increases in student enrollment. Although the measure is designed to guarantee schools will not close for lack of basic operating funds, there is no such guarantee in this plan. As costs rise each year the school safety net could become a school strangulation net. There are school districts which have, in the previous year, relied on sources other than property taxes. An example of other revenue sources is the timber

receipts. If these school districts are forced to rely on last year's operating levy, schools will close. There is also a possibility that voters will be reluctant to vote for a levy when they know a safety net, however small, is there to "catch" their schools.

One major change allowed under the safety net, perhaps the most important change, is that districts will be allowed several election dates to ask for excess levies, which would become part of the district's ongoing operating budget. Elections on a tax base will be allowed once a year in May. Previously tax base elections were held only twice a year in even numbered years.

The safety net is not by any means a perfect solution, but it will work for the time being. It is a short term, band-aid approach. Even so it is advisable for voters to go ahead and support it at the polls on May 19 while continuing to push the Legislature to enact solid, comprehensive school finance stabilization.

If the safety net fails at the polls this spring the Legislature will be in a dither over what to do to appease the education advocates and keep our children in school. There is little or no chance the 1987 Legislature could come up with any better plan for school finance between the May 19 election and the end of the Legislative session, usually June or early July. So, the decision is in the hands of Oregon voters . . . to save or not to save many of the schools.

[Sandra Bishop is a local writer and editor who is currently a private lobbyist in Salem.]

What's HAPPENING

Published Every Thursday

Publishers
Elisabeth Lyman
Lucia McKelvey
Sonja Ungemach

Editor
Lucia McKelvey

Advertising Manager/Editor
Elisabeth Lyman

Production Manager/Editor
Sonja Ungemach

Office Manager/Production
Sheri Longobardo

Assistant Editor
Deborah McGee

Cover Design
Melanie Pratt

Advertising Representatives

Susan Brokaw
Ken Hof
Martha Wagner
Garde Wells
Randy Yost

Contributing Writers

Deborah McGee
Jim Stiak
Michael Sussman
Lois Wadsworth
Martha Wagner

Photographer
David Stein

Distribution
Daybreak News Co.

Typesetting
ProtoType

Camera Work
Graphics Unlimited

Printing
Springfield News

335 West 20th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97405
(503) 484-0519

Copyright 1987 What's Happening.
All rights reserved.

We've got the power to light the future.

As a public power utility, Emerald People's Utility District has been serving the people of Lane County with cheaper power, better service, and weatherization incentives since 1983.



EMERALD PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT

CHIROPRACTIC CARE

- combined with
- Massage
- Hot/Cold Packs
- Muscle Balancing
- Exercise Rehabilitation



GENTLE TECHNIQUES

CYNTHIA STOCKWELL, D.C.

CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN

595 West 8th Avenue

342-6500