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**Project cares for folks with 'friends'**

By Jacqueline Woge  
Emerald Reporter

Susannah Meininger, a junior in exercise and movement science, had a bad lower back injury and needed help with activities that she could normally do alone, such as shopping for groceries. One friend suggested she call Project Care.

Project Care connected Meininger with various trained volunteers who would write down a shopping list at Meininger's phone call and then deliver the purchases to her kitchen table.

Although Meininger still has trouble with her back, she already plans to give support back to the community by volunteering for Project Care or for another crisis support group, such as White Bird.

For people like Meininger, who are faced with a physical limitation or other situations that are difficult to manage alone, Project Care provides trained "friends."

Founded in 1983, Project Care is a consortium of local congregations that trains and supports teams of volunteer caregivers all around Lane County. Half of the 60-hour training program teaches people communications skills and how to help others with death and dying, grief and cancer. During the other half of the instruction, members of the community share information with trainees.

After training, volunteers help people in crisis, advocate for them or link them with other services. Those receiving help have come from population groups ranging from students to senior citizens, and the unemployed to the terminally ill.

Project Care's services are also strictly confidential. Names are never released except with permission as was given by Meininger. During fiscal year 1991-92, the group gave 12,657 hours of service to 2,452 people.

"We've been told that one of the best things that Project Care does is just be there for people," said Project Care coordinator Sakre Edson.

One senior citizen had a doctor who hardly spoke to her until she had a Project Care volunteer sit quietly with her during a visit. The doctor then answered all the woman's questions and spoke with her throughout the appointment.

Project Care is set apart from most other local care providers by the number of paid staff positions that it supports; one person at 10 hours a week. All the rest of the consortium's staff of about 200 is volunteer.

"Often people will call because we're just people, we're not an agency," Edson said.

Project Care survives with grants and benefit events, a funding method tapped just this year. The group's third benefit, initiated by Project Care board member, Jim Lockard, will take place Saturday, Oct. 3 from 6 to 11 p.m. at the Econo Lodge off Interstate-5 at Coburg.

If Meininger could have it her way, there would be no need for this event, or for the volunteer services she received.

"I think the government should be doing this type of thing. That's what we pay taxes for. That's the purpose of government," she said.

**MABON**

Continued from Page 9

ated a retirement home in Bishop, Calif. In 1982, they sold the business and moved to Klamath Falls to open another one.

Mabon formed the Oregon Citizens Alliance in 1987 to promote right-wing politics and what it called traditional family values.

The group scored its first victory in 1988 when it forced a

statewide vote in which Oregon residents repealed an executive order by Gov. Neil Goldschmidt to protect homosexuals from discrimination in state government.

In 1990, the alliance played a spoiler's role in the governor's race by helping to defeat the Republican frontrunner, former Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer, whom the OCA deemed to be too liberal.

Democrat Barbara Roberts

won the election with 46 percent of the vote.

None of those efforts gained nearly as much publicity as Measure 9, the OCA's proposed constitutional amendment to prohibit government from promoting or facilitating homosexuality.

Under the measure, schools and other units of government would be required to convey to youths that homosexuality is "abnormal, wrong, unnatural and perverse."

Mabon insists that Measure 9 isn't a personal attack on homosexuals. Rather, he said, it's aimed at blocking efforts by militant homosexuals to achieve legal minority status.

"The homosexual community has launched an international effort to gain its political goals," he said. "The Measure 9 campaign draws a line in the sand that says, 'No more.'"

The campaign has energized the OCA and brought in a lot of campaign money from around the country, Mabon said.

"The OCA is growing every year," he said. "We're going to be a million-dollar operation, budget-wise, by the end of this year."

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| Thursday  | 7:00 a.m. - Matins & Mass  |
| Friday    | 7:00 a.m. - Matins & Mass  |
| Saturday  | 8:00 a.m. - Matins & Mass  |
| Sunday    | 6:45 a.m. - Matins<br>7:00 a.m. - Low Mass<br>1:00 p.m. - Sung Mass & Sermon |

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**PEROT**

Continued from Page 1

campaign worker in Portland, said she stuck with Perot even after he originally withdrew because she believes he's the best man to do the job.

"I'm going to stay with him to the bitter end," she said. "His idea also was to try to get one person or the other, or both of them to work on the issues that concern the people."

Although supporters were disappointed when Perot said he wouldn't run for president, Mason said she is sure that they'll remain loyal.

"I think you'd be surprised at the people who come back to him," she said.

(The Associated Press contributed to this report).