

Brown's supporters regroup

By Meg Dedolph
Emerald Reporter

The Jerry Brown for President Organization is in the process of becoming the We the People Foundation, an organization devoted to grass-roots activism and positive political change.

Lisa Fredsti, spokeswoman for We The People, said the foundation's function is to enable local activist groups from across the country to communicate with each other. She said she hopes the foundation can serve as a resource for activism on a local level.

Fredsti also mentioned the foundation's recent newsletter, in which there are short reports from groups across the country and articles on national issues that may be of interest to local activists — for example, one written by the Rainforest Action Commission.

Fredsti said it was Brown's intention to carry issues beyond the election like political reform, individual involvement in the political system and environmental issues.

"These problems aren't going to go away because of the election," Fredsti said.

Individual involvement in the political system is a major goal of the foundation, Fredsti said. She said a connection between the political system and those the system is supposed to represent no longer exists.

"It's a big money issue," she said.

Fredsti said many people who worked on the Brown campaign had never worked in a

political campaign before, as an example of individual involvement that the foundation wants to encourage.

"They realized that they can have an impact on something, and they don't want to stop," Fredsti said.

The foundation's goals include working for a national health system, a fair tax system, social justice, environmental issues and better-paying jobs.

However, in order to achieve these goals, Fredsti said a "new and potent political force with new and creative ideas" had to be assembled.

Fredsti said many of the activists involved with the foundation believe "the system is corrupt" and want to make a "disconnection between money and political power."

"In California, people were drawn because of Brown's environmental record," she said, "but it's also people who want to see positive change."

Fredsti hopes the foundation will eventually consist of local organizations running elections and putting their own candidates in office, as well as a national network of political activists.

"I hope to see We The People organizations running elections, or blocking hazardous incinerators, and having people want to run for office," Fredsti said.

To receive a copy of the most recent newsletter, call 1-800-426-1112.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Domino's sponsors lunch for homeless

The annual "Domino's Pizza Delivers Lunch to the Homeless" becomes a two-city event in Oregon for the first time next week when Eugene joins Portland for the benefit.

The food will be served Nov. 17 between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Eugene Mission, 1542 W. 1st St. Volunteers from Domino's and the Eugene Mission will be on hand, as well as community members such as Lane County Commissioner Jerry Rust.

Now in its fourth year in Portland, the event is expected to feed 1,000 people there on the same day.

Toy workshop offered

Dorris Ranch, Willamalane Park and Recreation District's Living History Farm are hosting an old-fashioned toy workshop designed to teach people how to make toys that children used in the 1930s.

The cost of the workshop is \$2 and is Saturday, Dec. 5, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Dorris Ranch is one mile from downtown Springfield at the intersection of South Second and Doris streets. For more information or to register, call 726-4335.

OSPIRG rates newspapers

The Oregonian just missed making a list of top-10 newspapers that use recycled paper.

The Oregon State Public Interest Research Group and the National Environmental Law Center released their findings Tuesday. They rated the country's largest newspapers on their use of recycled content in 1992.

The top performers included *The Atlanta Journal* with 60.7 percent, *The Tampa Tribune* with 43.8 percent and *The Los Angeles Times* with 42 percent.

The Oregonian had 28.6 percent.

The newspaper with the lowest recycled content was *The Dallas Morning News*, with just .5 percent.

JOLIN

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said. "Those people received a false impression and they believed it, and they sent her money. She knew it and she didn't correct it."

But William Honsowetz, Jolin's attorney, said in his closing arguments Jolin couldn't have deceived people into contributing money to her campaign because those people were "begging" to give money to her. When she returned the contributors' money, some of them still wanted her to have it.

"Mr. Chatfield, this is like if you rob a bank and then give it back," he said. "It doesn't mean you didn't rob the bank. But have you ever had a case where a robber robs a bank and gives it back and then the bank gives it back?"

The truck Jolin said needed fixing actually belonged to her husband, who had damaged it almost nine months prior.

"Why didn't she just tell them, 'Hey, our truck was damaged. It was my personal truck, and it was damaged. Help me out,'" Chatfield said.

Honsowetz said Jolin wasn't deceiving the people she sent letters to because they knew what their money was paying for.

"If I knock on Widow Jones' door and say, 'If you give me \$5,000, I'm going to put aluminum siding on your house,' and then boogey on down the street, I've defrauded her," he said. "There has been no crime here because they got what they paid for."

'There's been no crime and no victims, except my client whose the target of this political witchhunt.'

— William Honsowetz,
Reg Jolin's lawyer

Jolin testified during the trial that the immediate campaign debt mentioned in the letter included anticipated expenses for a computer and apartment rental for the 1991 legislative session.

"Is that campaign debt?" Chatfield asked. "The defendant's own definition of debt was: 'something owed.' Either you have it or you don't. It doesn't say, 'We anticipate a debt.'"

Both Chatfield and Honsowetz said they believed the case was a commentary on what is wrong with state government.

Chatfield said Jolin makes \$73 a day while the Oregon Legislature is in session, and even if she must rent an apartment, that cost doesn't constitute campaign debt.

"It's disgusting," he said. "They go up (to Salem) and moan and groan, 'We don't get enough money.' That's a choice they made. It's a decision she made."

Jolin said during the trial that she wanted to build up a campaign war chest because she was concerned about a challenge from state Rep. Larry Campbell, a Republican legislator who lives in her district.

"It's not my fault the system is awful," Honsowetz said. "You have to keep money in your political kitty to ward off opponents."

Honsowetz said he believed the case was a waste of time and money.

"You the jury are the conscience of the community," he said. "You have the chance to send a message to get back to real crimes instead of this political witchhunt."

No one takes campaign letters seriously, Honsowetz said. The letter may have been poorly worded; however, the issue is not for the jury, but for the voters to decide, he added.

Politicians can use campaign contributions for anything they want as long as they tell contributors what the money is for, Honsowetz said. For example, politicians can pay for trips with campaign contributions if constituents agree to pay for them.

"I think it's pretty obvious these form letters have nothing to do with the process," he said. "To think these lobbyists were duped by a form letter is laughable."

Honsowetz said he believed those who decided to contribute to Jolin's campaign did so because they liked her political views, not because of the letter.

"There's been no crime and no victims, except my client whose the target of this political witchhunt," he said.

But Chatfield said those people who read Jolin's letter and contributed money to her campaign wouldn't have if they hadn't believed she was in debt.

MEASLES

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exemptions must also fill out a form. Exempted students will be allowed to register, but they may have to leave school if an outbreak occurs, Sands said.

Sands said she can reinstate students' winter registration status almost immediately after she's notified of their immunization.

The state law requiring double immunization is designed to prevent an outbreak on campus like the one in spring 1990. Three students were diagnosed with measles, and one was hospitalized. The health center then immunized 7,000 students in 10 days, Sands said.

"We don't want to repeat that," she said.

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