

per cell rather than 26 as in crosswords. If one puzzle a week doesn't satisfy your craving, check out Danburg-Wyld's website at <http://sudokuplace.com> (he also has an Excel-powered puzzle solver if you get desperate). Now, go to page 33 and get started. Enjoy! — *Lois Wadsworth*

DEALIN' CARDS FOR AMBER

Most 25-year-olds wouldn't think twice about taking the dog out for a hike, walking up a flight of stairs or even going outside to grab the mail on a hot day. But for Amber Wesemann, these seemingly simple activities are difficult — if not out of the question. But then again, most young adults are fortunate enough to live without cystic fibrosis (CF).

Wesemann was diagnosed as a baby with CF, a terminal disease that affects the mucus-producing cells of the body, especially those of the lungs and digestive system. As CF progresses, the pulmonary function of the lungs decreases. Currently, Wesemann's pulmonary function is 25 percent. She is prone to damaging infections of the lungs due to underperformance by the cells that normally keep the lungs clear of infection.



Amber Wesemann

Hope might come in the form of a little-known procedure called a living-donor lobar lung transplant. Every person has five lobes in each lung, and one of those lobes can successfully be removed. Two living donors would provide lobes to be transplanted into Wesemann's chest to serve as her primary lungs until a full lung transplant is possible. Normally, donors would be easier to find than they are in Wesemann's case: She has the rare B-negative blood type, shared by only a small percentage of the population.

So where to find donors? In Eugene, perhaps. On Sunday a benefit poker tournament will be held to raise money and awareness, and hopefully to find willing lobe donors. The Texas hold 'em style tournament start at

2 pm and takes place at four bars around the city. At each bar, participants are given a playing card for their poker hands. The tournament ends at the Downtown Lounge, where prizes will be given out for the best and worst poker hands. The benefit was arranged by Allison Kramer, one of Wesemann's best friends since childhood, and by Kramer's boyfriend, Casey Johnson. The money raised will go toward supporting the lobe donors while they are in the hospital and throughout their recovery process.

Without the lobe transplant, Wesemann

will have to manage until she is selected among hundreds for a full lung transplant. "I've been on the list for three years," Wesemann says, "and they've moved maybe two people off the list in that amount of time. But my age is perfect, and since last May the people who have the more severe cases will be given first consideration. So I should be up near the top of the list."

Information will be available at the Downtown Lounge Sunday about living donor transplants, and full details about the event as well as information about donations can be found at www.angelsforamber.com

— *Emily Freeman*

KICKER HELPS BIG BUSINESS

Oregon corporations finished the 2005 legislative session scoring a 23 percent reduction in their 2005 corporate income taxes, according to the Oregon Center for Public Policy (OCCPP). And the Legislature didn't even have to vote on it. The tax breaks will come about because revenue receipts in the 2003-05 budget period significantly exceeded official state revenue projections.

The tax cut, commonly referred to as the "kicker," is currently projected to total \$62.6 million. The final calculation will be included in the "close of session" revenue forecast in the September economic and revenue forecast by the Office of Economic Analysis.

Corporations will take the kicker tax cut as a credit against their 2005 tax liability.

"Oregonians won't be able to hold their legislators accountable to a vote on this tax cut because it takes action by the Legislature to stop the corporate kicker and the Legislature didn't have the gumption to put the issue to a vote," says Charles Sheketoff, executive director of the OCCPP.

"They just sat back and let the tax cut happen, while also doling out other permanent tax cuts for Oregon corporations and cutting programs and services Oregonians use and rely upon each day," he says.

The OCCPP notes that Oregon corporations are now paying less than 5 percent of Oregon's income taxes, down from 18 percent in the mid-1970s. The kicker tax cut only benefits profitable corporations, not new or struggling businesses more likely to need help rebounding from the recession.

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

A news brief about the new LRAPA board member last week incorrectly stated that William Carpenter serves on "a committee assisting the UO law student group Friends of Land Air Water." Carpenter is on the board of directors for Friends of Land Air Water, a nonprofit that works with the UO law student group Land Air Water to co-sponsor the annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference.

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