



# Latah County Chapter Newsletter

Latah County Chapter #678

September 2007

**AARP Meeting**  
*University Inn Best Western*  
**Friday**  
**September 21, 2007**  
**11:30 a.m.**

**Meal**  
*Chicken Pot Pie with Mixed Green Salad*  
*Chocolate Brownie*  
**Price: \$8.75**

## **Program**

### **Divided We Fail**

Jim Wordelman, AARP State Director, will be speaking about the *Divided We Fail* campaign which is a national AARP campaign to get voters to support candidates with a national health care plan, to get candidates to support our efforts, and to collect stories from people who have issues with getting affordable health care.

Wordelman will also be speaking to Moscow community leaders B.J. Swanson, Chair of the Gritman Medical Center Board, Jim DeShazer, President of Lions, Mayor Nancy Chaney, and Bruce Pitman, U of I Dean of Students about the *Divided We Fail* campaign.

### **Remember to “take the pledge”**



By taking the *Divided We Fail* voter pledge, you'll be sending a message to candidates about the emphasis you expect them to place on healthcare and financial issues.

By joining together with other AARP members and Americans, you'll be striking a blow for bipartisanship, for answers and for an end to partisan squabbling. In addition, you'll be kept up to date on the latest *Divided We Fail* news from the states, information about the candidates' stances on healthcare and financial security.

The *Divided We Fail* team is planning to launch new tools and online activities throughout 2007 and into 2008. While we will be highlighting some of these in the online advocacy program, the best way to keep up on *Divided We Fail* campaign news is to sign up to become part of the campaign.

You can take the pledge at the next meeting or do it on line at: [DividedWeFail.org](http://DividedWeFail.org)

About 600 AARP leaders from all the states and territories gathered in Boston for National Leadership Training Sept. 3 through 6th which focused its messages on the *Divided We Fail* campaign. At the 2007 AARP national convention (which followed the leadership conference) the *Divided We Fail* campaign began as thousands of red and white balloons were released and popped to simulate the firing of cannons at the American Revolution.

The convention was held in Boston, the site of the American Revolution, because the hope of AARP is to ignite a revolution in the U.S. to push for national health care and financial security for everyone. Idaho's AARP State President, Janice Stover, and Executive Council Members, Linda Pike and Peggy Munson attended this event.

Just as Franklin D. Roosevelt began the movement to provide some form of retirement security in the form of social security and Dr. Martin Luther King began the Civil Rights Movement, the AARP has to begin the movement to reform health care. AARP is ready to do it! AARP leadership believes that in a country as rich as the U.S., that we need to address this urgent problem. Many congressmen and some of the presidential candidates have signed the pledge to end the gridlock in D.C. and work toward solving this problem.

AARP has joined forces with the Business Round Table, the Service Employees Union (SEIU) and the United Council of Churches to promote the *Divided We Fail* campaign.

In the last Presidential Election, 25% of the voters were AARP members and now we number 39 million – we **can** have a voice in these next elections.

### **Idaho's Andrus Award**

Recipient of *Idaho's Andrus Award* this year went to Pat Heckman of Mountain Home. However, our region had 2 nominees, Janie Nirk of Potlatch, and Delitha Kilgore of Lewiston. All were very worthy candidates and our local nominees will be recognized at our meeting on Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **AARP Safe Driving Classes**

AARP Safe Driving Classes are scheduled for fall. The cost is \$10. Dick Bull, Elaine Broyles and Laura Miller are some of the instructors for these classes. Please contact them if you have questions.

#### ***Safe Driving Class Schedule***

Sept 19 and 20 8:30am to 12:30pm  
Oct 17 and 18 8:30am to 12:30pm  
Nov 14 and 15 8:30am to 12:30 pm

### **Remember! – You must attend both sessions**

#### ***A Total of 8 Hours!***

*All of the class sessions are held in the Gritman Memorial Hospital Conference Room*

### **Other Board News**

**Laura Miller** is chairing a local AARP booth at the **Latah County Fair** Sept. 13-16 and is **looking for volunteers**. Idaho AARP is donating merchandise and covering much of the cost of the booth. Call Laura (882-4047) if you can help at the booth!

### **Idaho Legislation Recap**

Perhaps the biggest disappointment of the legislative session was its failure to establish any type of grocery sales tax relief for tax weary Idahoans. While both Houses of the Legislature voted 'YES' on **HB 81**; a bill that would have increased the current grocery sales tax credit for all Idaho taxpayers, the Governor vetoed the bill.

On the positive side of the ledger, AARP of Idaho's intense lobbying efforts in the House of Representatives paid off when a majority of House members voted 'NO' on **SB 1107**. This bill would have removed the current prohibitions that make it illegal for an insurance carrier to use the results of genetic testing in insurance coverage for disability and long-term care insurance.

**Also passed and signed into law were – SB 1058 & SB 1060**, related to Guardianship Proceedings; **SB 1061**, related to Guardianship, and the Child Protective Act; **SB 1102**, related to the Long-Term Care Partnership Program was incorporated into **SB 1170**; **HO 119**, related to

Medical Care Decisions; **Adopted and enrolled by the Secretary of State** were **HJM 003**, related to the Real ID Act and **HCR 008**, related to Human Rights.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Chapter Treasurer Hugh Homan reported the current checking account balance for the chapter is \$485.39

### **Like Volunteer Work?**

Our state AARP president is resigning at the end of her term and a **new state president** is being sought. Contact Alice Nau (877-1123) if you are interested.

Also, **local chapter elections** will be held in early in 2008. Let Linda Pike (882-5273) know if you are interested in serving as an officer or board member in our local chapter.

The **U of Idaho Health Fair** is on **Oct. 25**, and AARP will be sponsoring a table there and **can use volunteers** to man it and help with ideas on how to motivate students on the *Divided We Fail* campaign.

### **Next Meetings – Mark The Dates**

Our next luncheon meetings will be on Friday, **October 19<sup>th</sup>** and Friday, **December 14<sup>th</sup>**.

The October meeting program will feature candidates for the Moscow City Council.

The December meeting will feature local Christmas season entertainment.

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