

Below is Rep Thatcher's newsletter. If you have trouble viewing, [click here](#) or go to her website: www.leg.state.or.us/thatcher and click on "News;"



January 2006

Inside the Capitol State Rep Kim Thatcher



SMART Move for Rep Thatcher in 2006

Rep Thatcher will **Start Making a Reader Today**, by joining the SMART program at an elementary school in her legislative district this month. She is also going to be a mentor to teen moms at a special program at Barbara Roberts Alternative High School.

In December, Thatcher donated a box of children's' books to SMART during the "Storybook Holiday" at the Capitol. (pictured left, her 4-year old son KJ and 2-year old grand nephew John)

"Reading is essential to learning especially for young students," said Thatcher. "I am also excited about the mentoring program. I encourage everyone to volunteer in our schools."

Thatcher will read to students at Weddle Elementary School once a week. To get involved in SMART call (503) 937-4800

Thatcher Fights to Fund Bypass

At a recent [Oregon Transportation Commission Meeting](#), Rep Thatcher lobbied to get new federal funding spent on the [Newberg-Dundee Bypass](#). Instead, the Commission diverted more than \$200 million dollars to a variety of other programs, many not related to roads. A recent [court decision](#) has upheld land use decisions related to the 11-mile long project. Another [public hearing](#) is set for Jan 12th in Dundee.



Newberg-Dundee
TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

From State's Capitol to Nation's Capitol

Transportation, health care, immigration and many other issues were on tap for Rep Thatcher on her recent trip to Washington, D.C.

(Pictured right, Oregon's 2nd District Congressman Greg Walden meets with Thatcher on Capitol Hill)

Thatcher joined lawmakers from all over the nation at a conference sponsored by the [American Legislative Exchange Council](#).





Thatcher Applauds Meth House Rehab

Local real estate agents, Pete and Lisa Pete Zielinski joined forces with several other individuals and groups to bring this home back to life. It was once used as a meth lab, full of hazardous materials. "I am so proud of this community effort to rehabilitate a house that was uninhabitable," said Thatcher.

The Salem Association of Realtors spearheaded the project. Other programs around the country are now looking at the Association's program as a model. For more information call 503-399-1500.

Cub Scouts Learn Citizenship

A group of webelos from Pac #67 came to the Capitol to learn about citizenship and state government from Rep Thatcher.

These young men belong to Den 3, of the Willamette District, Cascade Pacific Council of Boy Scouts. Thatcher actively supports scouting organizations and encourages others to get involved with their local scouting group.

"I think it's great that they are interested in voting, and being responsible citizens," said Thatcher.



News You Can Use

➡ **Problems at the State Dept of Human Services?** Tell a legislative panel your concerns.

[Click here to offer your feedback in a new survey:](#)

➡ **Seniors & disabled Oregonians get help with a new website**
www.oregon.networkofcare.org

"Kim's Kudos"

There may not be as much hype as you find with football or basketball, but there's an award winning water polo group in my legislative district that is once again gaining statewide recognition.

Both the girls and boys water polo teams at Newberg High School won state championships in 2005. This is the fifth time in the past 17 years both Tiger teams have nailed a state title.

The Oregon High School Water Polo Committee, run by volunteers, deserves much of the credit. The Committee's leaders, Coach Jim McMaster and Lisa Joyce, also from Newberg, can be very proud of this team and their organization.

Congratulations on a great season and a job well done!

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