



# Whisnant's Weekly

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Dear Friends,

It is really good to be home in district. We'll continue to work for you and help you with your needs. Leyla Estes will continue to work part-time in Salem while she continues with her educational goals. Woodie Thomas will keep helping me with district events and constituent issues. Also, Josie continues to support me in many ways.

Since session is over, there are many different ways to contact us, since I'm not in Salem very often.

- **Salem Office** - 503.986.1453  
900 Court Street NE, H-277, Salem, OR 97301
- **District Office** - 541.598.4653  
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**Since finishing the 73<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Session on August 5<sup>th</sup>**, we have been busy. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, we rode in the Deschutes County Fair parade, attended the 4-H and FFA BBQ and auction and met with many friends at the Fair. On August 7<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Governor's signing of SB 82 which continues the state's work on land use reform. Then I attended and spoke at the Redmond City Council meeting. I have also spoken at the Sunriver Rotary Club and the Bend Chamber Legislative breakfast. I attended functions with Congressman Greg Walden in Sisters and Sunriver. Also, I participated in the Deschutes County "Meth Task Force" meeting with Congressman Walden. I attended an ODOT briefing in La Pine on the Wickiup Junction project, the Oregon Department of Forestry meeting with Upper Deschutes River Natural Resources Coalition members concerning grants for the coalition's continued successful fire prevention efforts, and the ODFW Cougar Management Plan briefing in Bend. On August 28<sup>th</sup>, I participated in and spoke at the Maple-Negus Bridge project groundbreaking ceremony in Redmond with Senator Ron Wyden. Josie and I worked as volunteers for the Central Oregon Junior Golf Championships at Sunriver on Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. I also attended the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) annual meeting in Seattle August 16-19. This was very informative and enjoyable. I had the opportunity to meet legislators from many states and compare legislative processes. The keynote speaker, Bill Gates, gave an inspiring talk about the future of our nation, and the seminars provided good information for legislators. In September, I will attend a Youth Policy Conference in Chicago, then travel to California to participate in a conference on Health Care Costs.

## **Town Halls**

I will be holding a Town Hall meeting in Sunriver on September 12<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM at the Library. If you live in Sunriver, you are welcome to come for an overview of the Session and I'll also answer your questions. Leyla and Woodie are scheduling town halls in the other communities in District 53 and meetings with local organizations; we'll keep you informed.

Please feel free to contact us if you need any help or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gene Whisnant



Above, I'm shuttling Honored Citizens at the Deschutes County Fair.