



Missourians for Single Payer Health Care

438 N. Skinker Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63130 ~ Ph: 314.862.5735 ~ www.mosp.us

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Julia E. Lamborn-Gettinger

To date MoSP has had a busy summer. Speaking engagements, rallies and press conferences have kept us engaged. I want to thank all who participated in the *SiCKO* rally. It took a lot of people to finalize the plans for this event. If you haven't seen the movie, please make every effort to do so. MoSP sponsored a sneak preview and had a press conference and rally the morning of the first public showing. We had TV coverage by Channel 4 and 5, Radio coverage, and newspaper notices. All events were a huge success thanks to our members and friends.

As part of our ongoing activities to educate for single payer, MoSP wants to have "Medicare for All" yard signs printed and distribute all over the St. Louis city and county areas; then move on to the whole state. These signs will stay in place until we get Medicare for All. The best price we have found is \$10 a sign. Will you contribute to a special fund for this project? I will donate \$100 to start the fund. That will cover a sign for my yard and for 9 others. I hope you will donate to cover the expense for a sign for your yard and be able to add some extra for someone else. Please make checks out to MoSP and send to MoSP, 438 N. Skinker, St. Louis, MO 63130. When the yard sign fund reaches \$500, we will have the first printing. We have to keep the ball rolling. Michael Moore has given us a gift by producing *SiCKO*. Let's use it to our best advantage.

Wishing you the best of the rest of summer.

MoSP Bulldog Bites Back!!!!!!

MoSP is debuting a new way to combat lies about single payer. We are tired of all the lies told about single payer and intend to refute them with our new mascot, the BULLDOG. When you see lies printed in newspapers or magazines, please send them to Julia0409@aol.com. For now the Bulldog will be an email alert. Be looking for your first issue.

Our new mascot needs a name. Send your ideas for names to Julia0409@aol.com. I will compile a list of suggested names and at our annual meeting we will vote for the most popular name. The winner will receive a free "Medicare for All" yard sign. Our 2007 Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 4, 2007. Deadline for name submission: October 31. **Please mark your calendars for November 4.**

MoSP newsletter staff

Editor-in-Chief, Julia

Lamborn Gettinger

Mailing Committee, Mary

Jane & Bob Schutzzius

Layout editor, Anne Bader

Webmaster, Pat Singley

MoSP's Opening Lecture for 2007-8 Meetings

**Rev. Larry Rice, Advocate for the Poor & Homeless,
Will Speak at Ethical Society, 7 p.m. on Sept. 20**

Rev. Larry Rice, nationally known advocate for the homeless, will give a lecture "Speak Up or Be a Victim!" on Thursday, 7 p.m., September 20, at the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Rd.

He's founder and director of The New Life Evangelistic Center in St. Louis, a downtown haven for the homeless.

Sponsored by Missourians for Single Payer Health Care (MoSP), the lecture opens the group's 2007-2008 series of meetings. It will follow a business meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Society's main auditorium, 9001 Clayton Road.

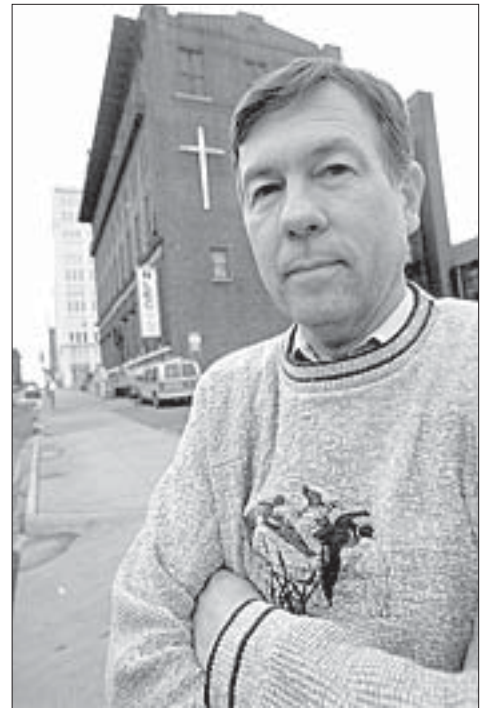
Rev. Rice is renowned for his battles with the 'Powers That Be.' One is a struggle over the site of his proposed homeless shelter near the old Kiel Auditorium. Others want a parking garage at the location.

He also founded the "Here's Help Network" of TV and radio stations which are run by once-homeless people. The network's flagship is KNLC-TV 24 in St. Louis. In addition, Rev. Rice is upgrading seven TV stations from low power- to medium power. They are located in Missouri, Illinois and Arkansas.

Most recently he founded – and directs – the "Missouri Renewable Energy" centers. They teach alternatives to fossil-based fuels, such as solar power, wind power and recycled vegetable oils. The centers are located in St. Louis, New Bloomfield and Marshfield (website: www.more/energy.org)

Other projects include a medical clinic and Rev. Rice's longtime program to provide food for residents, and help in paying their rent and utility bills. He was named "ABC's Person of the Week" and selected as "USA Today Newsmaker." His other honors include the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award and the Distinguished Christian Service and Social Work Award, given annually by a national Christian social workers' organization.

Donations of canned foods are in urgent need at the New Life Center, 1411 Locust Street. All canned goods, especially vegetables and high protein legumes, are welcome. You may bring canned goods to Nov. 20's opening program for delivery to the center.



Missourians for Single Payer 12th Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 4, 2007. MoSP's bylaws call for an Annual Meeting. This year we will celebrate our 12th year of annual meetings; we have chosen November 4 for the date. Please join us as we celebrate our successes for 2007 and make plans for 2008. No elections are scheduled for this year. Plan to join us as we fulfill our bylaw requirements, renew our energy for 2008 and have light refreshments. We will meet at the Ethical Society of St. Louis, Hanke Room (downstairs). I hope you will plan to attend from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and help shape our future.

Julia Lamborn-Gettinger

MoSP Summer Legislative Report -2007

MOSP's summer activities revolved around the *SiCKO*. sneak preview and premiere. Since then, the insurance companies have revved up the anti-single payer rhetoric. We must continue to write letters to the editor to all news services that print lies about *SiCKO*., health care, or single payer. Even though the solution to our national health care crisis is HR 676, we must also fight for our state single payer bill in the atmosphere of forced mandatory insurance, such as the Massachusetts Plan. Missouri becomes the first state to end Medicaid May 1, 2008.

State of the Federal Single Payer Bill: HR 676

Congressman Conyers' national single payer bill, HR 676, "Expanded and Improved Medicare for All" has 75 congressional cosponsors. Congressman Wm. Lacy Clay is the only member of Missouri's congressional delegation to cosponsor. It is imperative that constituents continue to write, phone and visit the other Missouri congresspersons to urge them to cosponsor and work for the passage of HR 676.

HR 676 has been endorsed by 297 union organizations in 43 states. Union groups include 81 Central Labor Councils, Area Labor Federations and 20 AFL-CIO state organizations — including Missouri's. The Missouri AFL-CIO represents 500,000 members of 391 unions in the state.

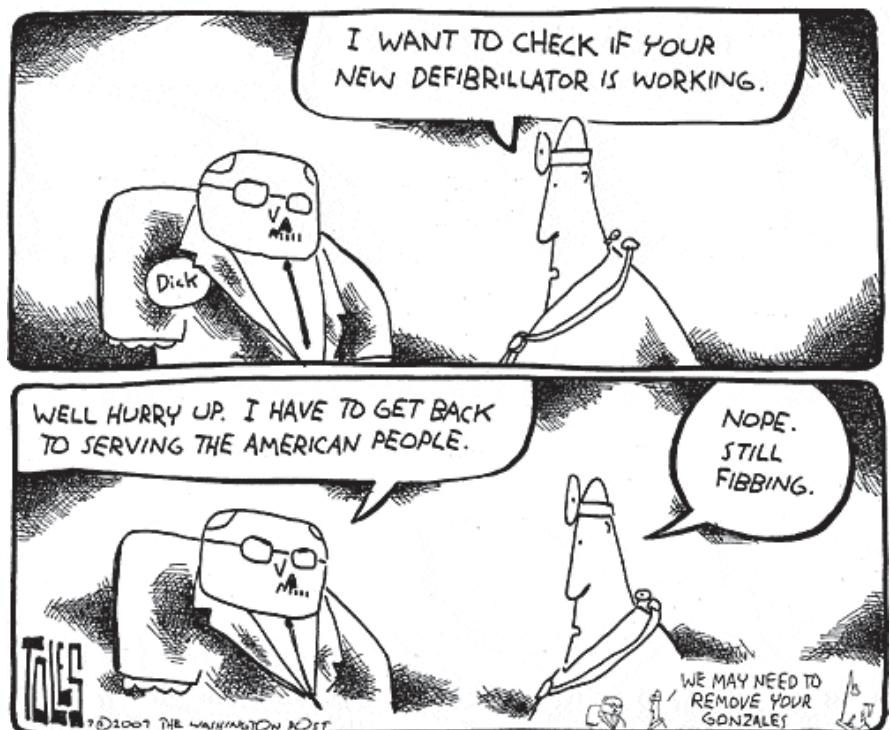
The Missouri state legislature has resolutions to endorse HR 676: HCR 23 (Mott Oxford) with 27 cosponsors, and SCR 23 (Bray) with 7 cosponsors. The resolutions were heard in the Senate Rules, Joint Rules, Resolutions, and Ethics Committee on 3/14/07. This was not voted out of committee, stifling floor debate.

State of the State Single Payer Bill

The state single payer bill is the Missouri Universal Health Assurance Act. In 2007, state Rep. Craig Bland of Kansas City failed to file the House bill. SB 122 was introduced by state Sen. Joan Bray of St. Louis. SB 122 was heard before the Senate Health and Mental Health Committee on 1/30/07.

Twenty people testified in favor of its passage. This was not voted out of committee, stifling floor debate. State Sen. Charlie Shields of Kansas City substituted the state single payer bill for a bill for a study, which essentially erased the original bill from the senate bills. This is the first year since 1990 that Missouri has not had a single payer bill on record.

Mimi Signor, RN, Chair,
MOSP Legislative Committee



Missourians for Single Payer Health Care
438 N. Skinker Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63130

Non-profit Organization
US Postage
PAID
St. Louis, MO
Permit MO 3550

Address Service Requested

Membership Form

Missourians for Single Payer Health Care

438 N. Skinker Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63130

Phone: 314-862-5735

www.mosp.us

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Categories

_____ Individual, \$20 I will contribute \$ _____ towards _____

_____ Family, \$30 _____

(specific programming and expenses)

_____ Organization, \$50

_____ Other \$ _____

_____ I'm unable to pay dues at this time, but I will support and promote MoSP among relatives, friends, colleagues, acquaintances, however I can. Please continue to send me the newsletter. Please call on me for volunteer help.