

Diocese, Catholic Charities announce legislative team

BOISE — Diocese of Boise and Catholic Charities of Idaho have announced its legislative team for the upcoming 2011 session.

Last year's Legislative Intern Christine Tiddens and attorney Patrick Kershisnik have been named Legislative Advocates. They will replace Will Rainford, who has moved out of state. Second year Boise State University graduate student Melanie Roper has been named this year's Legislative Intern.

After completing her lobbying duties last year, Tiddens earned her Master of Social Work degree from BSU in May. She said she was looking forward to making

her own contributions to legislative efforts on behalf of Catholic Charities of Idaho and the Diocese of Boise while living out her passion for social justice.

Kershisnik earned his undergraduate degree from Stanford University, Stanford, Calif., and earned a law degree from the University of Idaho College of Law, Moscow. He is currently in private practice in Boise.

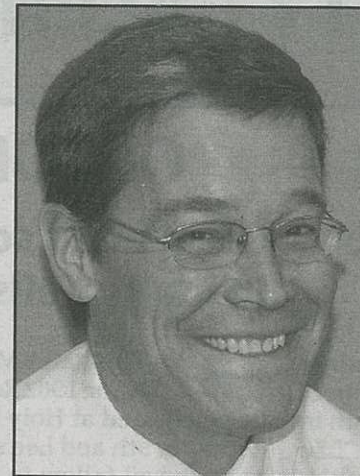
"I want to be involved in the community," Kershisnik said. He and his wife, Frances, have 11 children and are members of St. John Cathedral.

Roper earned her undergraduate degree in English



Christine Tiddens

from Seattle Pacific University, Seattle. Last year, she served as a direct practice



Patrick Kershisnik

intern at CCI's Boise Family Strengthening Center. She said the clients she met there



Melanie Roper

made an impression upon her and inspired her to work for social justice.