



# The holidays will be here sooner than you think!



The holidays will be here before you know it and Annie Ross House is holding our annual toy drive. With your help we can fulfill each child's holiday wish!

Here's what we need:

Anything by Disney, Fisher-Price, Sesame Street or Playskool for children from birth to age 5 or 6.

New clothes are great for infants through age 5

Older children appreciate electronic or battery operated toys, trucks and cars, dolls, or "real play" toys like tool kits, kiddie kitchen sets, doctor or nurse kits, etc.

Teens love music CDs, gameboys or logo gear (clothes, hats, bags, etc.)

Gift cards for Fred Meyer and Target stores are great for teens & parents

Please bring unwrapped toys and gifts to 2316 SE Willard Street in Milwaukie; call us if you need directions. Include wrapping paper and ribbon if you wish. All gifts will be distributed to current or past Annie Ross families in time for their own holiday celebrations.

We could also use some help from the community to fill our food pantry! We are in need of the following non-perishable foods:

One-dish meals – chili, stew, spaghetti

Canned or boxed meals – ramen, macaroni & cheese, soup

Protein foods – canned tuna, chicken, beef, ham, turkey, sausage, broth

Hot or cold breakfast cereal

Baking mixes – cakes, cookies, muffins, brownies, cornbread, etc.

Sugar, flour, cooking oil, salt, herbs & spices, canned milk

Dry beans, rice, pasta

Jam, jelly, peanut butter

Canned fruit and juices

Your donations will be a great help to Annie Ross families!

**Special thanks to Warn Industries for their on-going support of Annie Ross House!**

**NORTHWEST HOUSING ALTERNATIVES**  
2316 SE Willard Street  
Milwaukie, OR 97222-7740

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# Under One Roof



News from Annie Ross House and Northwest Housing Alternatives

Fall and Winter 2007

NHA builds new homes and new opportunities

## NHA celebrates 25 years of affordable housing



Trenton Terrace in North Portland has 65 affordable apartments with green features for seniors, and provides art for all to enjoy.

Northwest Housing Alternatives has been building new homes and new opportunities since 1982. To commemorate NHA's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, staff, board and supporters celebrated at the third annual Home Sweet Home. About 300 people gathered at the Melody Ballroom for the party which featured fun, chocolate, celebrity Master of Ceremonies Stephanie Kravevich, music by Super XX Man and more chocolate!

While Home Sweet Home is NHA's major fundraising event each year, fun is a big component, too! Home Sweet Home would not be possible without very generous support from local chocolatiers, coffee roasters,

bakers and others. Blue Gardenia Bakery, Desserts of Distinction, Piece of Cake, Ruby Jewel Treats, Saint Cupcake, Twila's Fine Toffee, and Wingnut Confections satisfied discerning chocolate lovers with a dizzying variety of tasty treats. NHA staffed the Fifth Food Group chocolate fountain, and ZBeans added buzz with rich coffee. Generous door prizes were donated by New Seasons Markets and Echo Restaurant.

Stephanie Kravevich served as the Master of Ceremonies, presenting information about NHA and introducing special guests. The evening also featured a concert by folk rock musicians, Super XX Man. *continued on page 3*

## Annie Ross House: where kids can be kids!

This past summer was jam-packed with activity in the emergency shelter and transitional housing programs. We celebrated birthdays, the First Annual Mother's Day Barbeque, the First Annual Father's Day Pizza and Root Beer Night, and an adventure to the nearest watering hole where the families could cool off. One of our goals at Annie Ross House is to provide an atmosphere where kids can be kids, and summer here is pretty close to summer at most homes in Clackamas County. Enjoy the photographs!



### upcoming events & activities

anytime before wednesday, Dec. 19th

#### Shoppers Needed!

Annie Ross House is preparing for the annual Winter Holiday Party. We need volunteers to shop gifts to stock the "free store" where parents select presents for their school-age children. See back page for details!

## Special thanks to Special Dentists!

What's worse than dental pain? How about having severe dental pain, no health insurance, and no money to pay a dentist to find some relief?

Dr. Karen Weliky and her husband, Dr. Gary Haight, have assisted individuals with no insurance and low incomes for many years. This last spring, a resident of Annie Ross House was facing this difficult situation and found out first hand of their kindness and generosity. True heroes, Dr. Karen Weliky, DMD and another professional in her office, Dr. Michael Hill took this resident under their wing.

Over the years these compassionate dentists have helped many Annie Ross families overcome some pretty daunting dental procedures. Stacey, a single mom with four young children recently received pro bono dental care from Dr. Hill. Stacey had been off methamphetamine for over a year, but the past drug abuse left her teeth very damaged. She experienced severe pain every day and that interfered with her ability to move forward in many ways. Imagine caring for four little ones while suffering extreme pain and not having a place to live!

After a comprehensive assessment

and x-ray from Dr. Michael Hill, she was referred to Dr. Erik Richmond in Oregon City. He generously assisted with this case and decided nine teeth needed to be pulled.

Speaking to these professionals about her pain and the causes of it were a big step in the right direction to confirm Stacey's commitment to recovery. She said that opening up to the dentists about her teeth made her truly face it herself; the shame, the physical and emotional pain. Not only did she fear the dentist like most of us, but she was compounded by all these emotions. The good news is Stacey didn't have to face this alone and Annie Ross staff members were able to find caring healthcare professionals to deal with her dental needs.

Today, Stacey is a new woman! She is finishing her GED, has moved into transitional housing, and is working part time. She can hold her head up, hug her kids, and know there's a community of folks out here who want to help. Annie Ross House and Northwest Housing Alternatives wish to publicly thank Dr. Karen Weliky, Dr. Michael Hill, and Dr. Erik Richmond for their excellent care, gentle bedside manner, and generosity. We are so grateful to be part such a caring community.

## we LOVE chocolate!

It's impossible to have a chocolate tasting event without the support and, well, chocolate, from our Home Sweet Home partners! We want to thank the following very generous chocolatiers – and a few others – who helped us put on the event this year.

**Blue Gardenia Bakery**

**Desserts of Distinction**

**Piece of Cake Bakery**

**Ruby Jewel Treats**

**Saint Cupcake**

**Twila's English Toffee**

**Wingnut Confections**

and

**ZBeans Coffee**

## NHA celebrates 25 years

The band is fronted by Scott Garred (vocals, ukulele, guitar) who spends his days as a music therapist working with adult psychiatric patients transitioning to community housing in Portland. Michelle Garred, Josh Woods, John Vecchiarelli and Ali Wesley rounded out the line up with accordion, bass, flute, guitar and vocals.

Washington Mutual, Walsh Construction and Planning Resources, Inc. were the event's presenting sponsors. Other sponsors included: Alder Geotechnical Services, Ankrom Moisan Associated Architects, BSMBCG, Cascade Management, Enterprise, Fred Meyer, JDF Insurance, KPFF, Kantor Taylor McCarthy, Michael Willis Architects, NEF Inc., Network for Oregon Affordable Housing, Peck Smiley Ettlin Architects, Seabold Construction, Tom Walsh & Co., Wells Fargo and Winkler Development Corp.

Home Sweet Home was great fun and a huge success. Thanks to all who attended, and we hope you'll join us next year -- there will be chocolate!



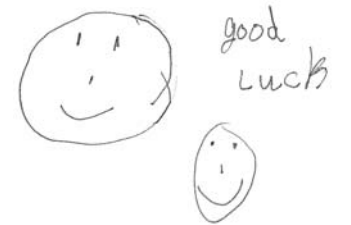
## Kids on the Block: the voice of children at Annie Ross House

In an effort to connect the experience of the children of Annie Ross House with the greater community, Kids on the Block will provide an opportunity for the kids we serve to voice their experiences of not having stable housing.

Hi, I'm eleven years old. When I was homeless I was very scared about where I was going to sleep and also what I was going to eat. When my mom and my four brothers and I were homeless, we lived at my mom's friends' house. A few weeks after we were living there, I got sick from a shunt that is in my brain right now. My brothers went to my great grandma's house while my mom came with me to the hospital. A few days (maybe a few weeks) my mom got a call saying there was a space in the shelter for us. So, the next day I got out of the hospital and we moved right in.

It was just like a home except with a whole bunch of people that really helped us a lot. Angela is a nice and kind hearted person who works there. It was her first week (this last winter) when we got there! Now she's my best friend! I felt really safe there and met some friends. Also, my smallest brother didn't know how to talk before coming into the shelter and now he does. Mom says it's because he didn't feel safe before.

if you Have a Hard  
time finding a place to live  
Do not give up there  
is still Hope to find a  
place to live.



Annie Ross House

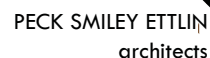


## Special thanks to the generous sponsors of Home Sweet Home!



Alder Geotechnical Services

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## Northwest Housing Alternatives builds new homes

Northwest Housing Alternatives' mission is to house those most in need. The need for affordable housing continues to grow and we take every opportunity to expand our portfolio to create new opportunities for Oregonians who earn modest incomes.

**Avalon** will provide a shared home for women in "treatment court," meaning they are receiving services to help them get back on their feet. Some of these women will be recovering from addictions; some may have mental health issues. What they will all have in common is a commitment to improving their lives and the lives of their children. With stable and affordable housing, these women will have the opportunity to make good on their promise to themselves, their families and their community.

NHA is also developing a five-bed group home for adults who have disabilities and need 24-hour care. **Fieldstone** will accommodate the residents' special needs and will allow for the presence of round-the clock staff. The home will seamlessly blend with the surrounding homes.

**Oakridge Park** is being developed in Lake Oswego. It will

provide forty-five apartments for seniors who earn low incomes. NHA is working closely with area residents to ensure a project that is responsive to the needs of tenants while acknowledging the neighbors' wishes to have a beautiful building that enhances the community.

We have more new projects in the early stages of development, so stay tuned to for details!



Preliminary sketch of Oakridge Park, Lake Oswego