

May 21, 2007

Dear Editor:

Community Action sends warm thanks for the support we received during the groundbreaking and fundraiser for our Family Shelter project.

Special thanks to our emcee, Terry Belcoe of North Coast Credit Union, and to those who spoke so movingly, including Mayor Bud Norris, Cyndi Hartley, Cheri Bower of Home Depot, and Sharon Eldridge. Thanks to Renee and Marcia for sharing stories and music, to Nathan Williams for drumming, and to Pastor Jon Westra for blessing the ground. Thanks to Gary Parnell, Keith Kingslien and Aaron Logue for artistic support, and to FedEx Kinkos for printing. Among our staff, a special thanks to Bert Miller, Andrew Cole, and Bill Mayer.

Thanks to other "groundbreakers," including Commissioner Ken Dahlstedt, John Cheney, Tom Toepfer of Tower Pacific, architect Harold Page, young Carmen, and Board President Jim Meyer, without whom we would have never gotten so far.

Thanks to the restaurants who donated appetizers, including Applebee's, Boondocks Bar & Grill, Cascade Candy, Common Ground Coffee House, Costco, Courtyard Café, EZ Rider Cafe, Farmhouse Restaurant, Gere-a-Deli, Java Jo Espresso & Cafe, Johnny Carino's, Lunch Box, Max Dale's, Olive Garden, Pacioni's Pizzeria, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Skagit River Brewery, and Tokyo Stop & Teriyaki.

And a very special thanks to Donna Toepfer and Gretchens, for hosting the fundraiser, for providing the wine, and for their offer to fully stock kitchens in all 10 of the family shelter apartments. Wow!

When the need is clear, the Skagit community responds in abundance!

Sincerely,

Bill Henkel
Community Services Director
Skagit County Community Action