

# Family Living

## Waiting Children

DeSean, Deniesha, and Raechelle, ages 7, 6, and 9 mos.

These three African-American/Caucasian children need a very stable family with lots of love to help them overcome their past abuse and neglect. They are three of over 200 Oregon children currently awaiting adoptive families.

These active children love to play. DeSean can usually be found riding his bike or building with legos. Deniesha loves to play dress up and play with her dolls. Baby Raechelle engages in normal baby-type play such as peek-a-boo.

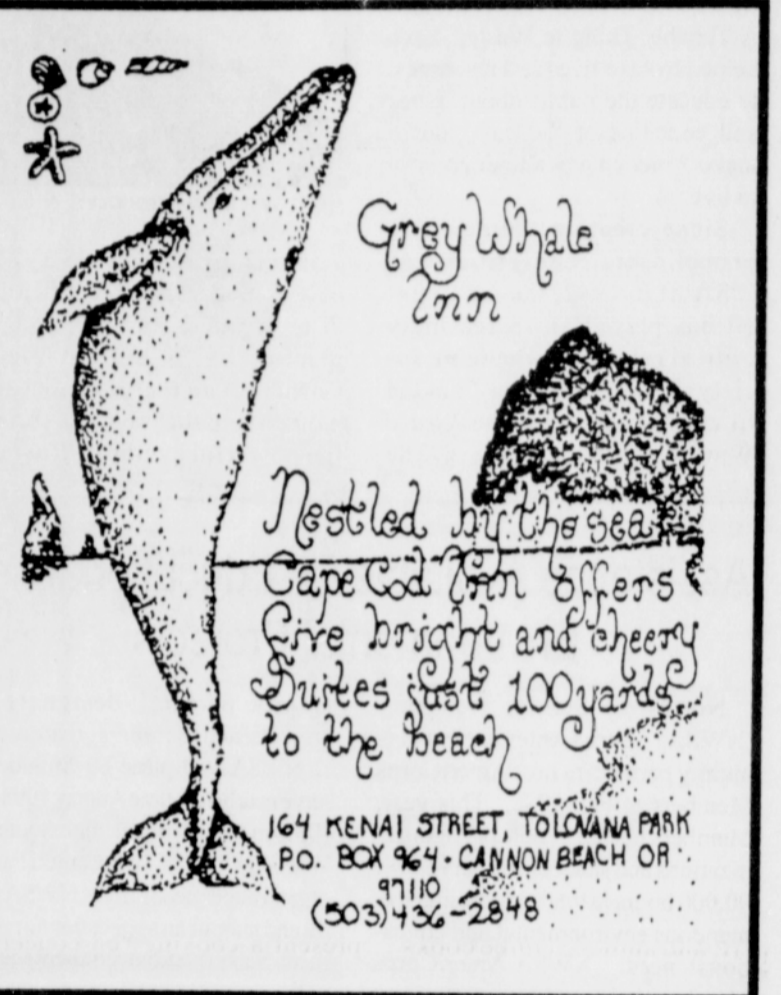
This threesome need a loving, consistent home with parents who know how to address challenging behaviors and can provide individualized attention. They are in the process of becoming legally freed for adoption.

To learn more about the children who await homes and the adoption process, call the Special Needs Adoption Coalition at The Boys and Girls Aid Society - 1-800-342-6688.



DeSean, Deniesha, and Raechelle

Happy 3rd Birthday  
Allazwon Washington  
From Your Mommie,  
Family & Friends  
We Love You!



## NW Regional Moms Clubs

The fourth annual M.O.M.S. Club NW Regional Conference will be held on Saturday, May 9th from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm and includes workshops, vendors, catered lunch and a keynote speaker for a total cost of \$25.00. The location of the conference will once again be at the Monarch Hotel, located at 12566 SE 93rd Ave., Portland, OR., Exit 14 from I-

205.

Registration will be taken from April 1st up to the day of the conference and will be allowed at the door. Registration forms are available by phoning Leslie Cowash at 235-5513.

Workshops include "Don't be the Next Victim," "Positive Discipline," "Impact of Children on Marriage," "Home Schooling," "Art and Young

Children," and "Stretching Your Dollars," along with "Fast and Frugal Meals," and "PMS and Premenopause." The keynote speaker will be Lynn Martin, who ministers with her husband at the Mt. Olivette Baptist Church. She is a dynamic person and addresses the need for us to nurture ourselves and our mates for a truly lasting relationship.

Although this conference is geared to stay-at-home mothers, many would find the information useful and entertaining. It is a great chance to connect with other mothers. Nursing infants are welcome, but no child care will be provided.

For more information, contact Coreen Green at 666-5907 or Sally Huntley at 771-2848.

## Non-Sexist Parenting

Non-Sexist Parenting in a Sexist Society is the title of the innovative series of talks to be held this spring at In Other Words Women's Books and Resources.

Raising kids in contemporary U.S. society is daunting. Parents often feel caught between the "devil" of sexism, hierarchy and consumer culture and the "deep blue sea" of children's own desires and their capacities for a fuller humanity. This series of discussions focuses on what parents can do to cultivate non-sexist values in children through topics such as gender and self-esteem, discipline, play, and sexuality. Each discussion addresses diversity issues in parenting, including sexual orientation and racial and social class differences. Presenters bring both an academic and feminist/activist interest to the topic of child rearing. Discussions will be held the last Thursday of each month, 7-8:30pm, at In Other Words. All discussions are free and open to the public.

## \$130,326 Donated To Programs For Women, Children and Families

Hundreds of women shared their success with women, children and families in Portland today at the sixth annual YWCA Women's Leadership Luncheon. The event, billed as "Portland's premier women's event," raised a record setting \$130,326 for the programs and services of the YWCA of Greater Portland.

Emceed by KATU's Julie Emery, the event featured speeches by several YWCA clients. Joy Fauth, a survivor of domestic violence, share her story and spotlighted the work of the YWCA Women's Resource Center and Shelter. Said Joy, "My family is no longer just surviving, we're thriving!" Jeannine Carr, a Multnomah County Health Department nurse spoke about her work at the YWCA Transitional School for children of homeless families. Said Jeannine, "With help from the YWCA Transitional School, these kids can break the cycle."

Galisa Scott, Nneka Agum and Amanda El-all age 10 shared their experiences at the Smart Choices math/science program for girls aged 8 to 18. Said Galisa, "At Smart Choices, I get to do things I wouldn't get to do until high school." Okainer Christian Dark, an assistant United States Attorney, closed the event and made the pitch. Said Okainer, "Each of us here today can stand in the gap for someone being helped by the

YWCA of Greater Portland." Famed Portland pianist Michael Allen Harrison played an original composition written for the YWCA entitled *The Fabric of Life*.

Due to the generosity of corporate donors, all individual donations made at the event were designated entirely for YWCA programs. The event was co-sponsored by Western Family Foods and Key Bank of Oregon. Twenty-six additional corporations also underwrote the event. Hanna Anderson generously provided infant clothing, used to construct the table centerpieces-life-like "balloon babies." Columbia Sportswear, Storables, Inc. and Western Family Foods also donated in-kind items for use by YWCA programs.

For 97 years, the YWCA of Greater Portland has been a community based organization committed to the advancement of women and the elimination of racism and other forms of discrimination. YWCA programs include services for teen parents, homeless children, at-risk seniors, battered and homeless women; as well as Smart Choices (math and science for girls 8 to 18) and Camp Westwind on the Oregon Coast. The YWCA serves over 35,000 clients at six locations around the Portland metropolitan area. For more information, contact Kari Chisholm at 503-294-7478.

## BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES: Supporting Family Strengths



"When our family faces a challenge, we face it head on. With all our minds put together, we'll come up with something to meet that challenge."

—GENEVA JONES,  
grandparent of six,  
great-grandparent of three



The Portland Observer

Multnomah County's Family Centers support family strengths with 14 locations throughout the county.

Multnomah County  
**family Centers**  
BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES