

Transitional Living Space Opens

House honors former Governor Barbara Roberts

Making the transition from a state psychiatric hospital to a place called home has become easier, thanks to a house built by Cascadia.

Dedicated to the work of former Gov. Barbara Roberts, the house will hold 10 women and men who are stepping out of the confines of a mental health facility and into a more comfortable, safe living environment.

More than 50 people, including state, federal and local officials, attended a July 28 dedication ceremony with Roberts, held at the new facility at Northeast 50th and Killingsworth streets.

With two cousins in state psychiatric hospitals and a son with autism, Roberts holds issues of mental illness close to her heart. She said she realizes

how difficult it is to transition from a state hospital back into a home, and feels proud to be connected to services that help smooth out the process.

"This is an amazing program and a distinct honor," Roberts said.

Cascadia develops and operates a variety of innovative and stable housing options for people with low income and special needs throughout Multnomah County.

President and CEO of Cascadia Leslie Ford said that independent contractors, and state and county officials did an amazing job developing the site with a turnaround of only 90 days. About \$250,000 was used to make renovations to the Barbara Roberts House.

For more information, visit www.cascadiabhc.org.



PHOTO BY KATHERINE BLACKMORE/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Former Oregon Gov. Barbara Roberts at the Cascadia transitional house on Northeast Killingsworth Street named in her honor.

Ask Deanna!

Real People, Real Advice
An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

When should a parent realize their children have rights? I don't have children but my sister never allows her teens room to express themselves. They often disagree and during an argument she always tells them to stop having attitudes. I don't see what the problem is and feel she should respect them more.
--Katina; Newark, NJ

Dear Katina:

Children have rights when they move out, get a job and pay their own bills. Teens are special creatures that can never be understood and often have attitudes because that's what teens do. On that note, as a non-parent, I suggest you see yourself out of your sisters A and B conversation and let her handle her business.

Dear Deanna!

I'm 34 and date older women. I have no motives behind my preference. I simply appreciate these women that have old school values. Recently I have fallen for a younger woman but I find myself dealing with a lot of frustrations. She's not where I feel she should be mentally when it comes to friends, money, and marriage. Am I comparing her to my past relationships or am I just set in old school ways? --Regretting; Online Reader

Dear Regretting:

You're very mature and you've learned a lot from the older women you've dated and that's a good thing. With your age, wisdom and old school mentality a small group of younger women can only offer you visual and physical stimulation that becomes old after a while. If you want more stability and structure stick with what you know unless you have time to be stressed trying to teach a young girl new tricks.

Dear Deanna!

I met a guy a few years ago and we really felt a spark. I was dating someone else but I dumped him for the new guy. He had also met another female at the same time. As luck would have it, I said or did something that spooked him and he started dating the other lady. I went on with my life. After two years of staying in touch, his relationship ended and he's back. He's still friendly with this ex-girlfriend and I'm scared to go back for fear he'll do the same thing again. What do I do? --Feeling Squirrelly; Sacramento, CA

Dear Squirrelly:

This isn't the only man you can have a relationship with and I suggest you look elsewhere. If he dumped you the first time for someone else, he'll do it again. However, if you're still feeling the spark, observe him much closer and take your time before getting too serious. A woman's sixth sense is real. If your gut feeling is telling you to run or something's not right, spare yourself some pain and follow your instincts.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com

In the Neighborhood Why do you believe that diversity is important in the work place?



I think that it's important the world is full of a variety of ethnicity; our workplaces should represent that, our society. It's especially important in the social work field. We come in contact with people of different cultures; we need to be sensitive to other's customs.
Crystal Ball, Social Service Specialist



I don't think it's important I think it's essential. I think diversity comes along with any work place. I think it's important to respect other's cultures promote respect and camaraderie with in the work place.
Hugo Gonzalez, Dispatcher

Diversity matters not only in the work place but also in all aspects of life. We are constantly learning new things from each other in regards to age, class, sexual orientation and race.
Kara Johnson, Sales Assistant



I think diversity is important in the work place because it allows organizations to reflect it's community, and draw from the richness there of.
Carlos Crutch, Child Welfare Manager



It's important because everyone should have equal access to economic resources. If there isn't diversity in the work place then obviously that means that diversity is lacking in other facets of life.
Ryan Blackmore, Grocery Clerk



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