

NORTHWEST PILOT PROJECT

BETTER TIMES NEWSLETTER



Winter/Spring 2010

Ben Jacobson: Walking for NWPP

On May 2, 2010, Ben Jacobson will be walking in his ninth Walk-A-Thon for NWPP. Ben is one of our top fundraisers, and feels strongly about the work we do. We first met Ben in the fall of 1994. He was living comfortably in an apartment he had rented for years, when he received one month's notice that his rent would be doubling in cost. Ben explains: "The building I was living in had been sold, and the new owners planned to make some renovations. I was living on a fixed income, and there was no way I could afford a rent increase like that. I had to move quickly. I could have been on the streets. NWPP found me temporary housing, and then a subsidized apartment where I have lived for the past fifteen years. I will never forget what NWPP did for me."



Ben Jacobson

Eight years ago Ben started raising money for NWPP through our annual Walk-A-Thon. Over the years he has enlarged his effort to include traveling to neighborhoods throughout the city, walking door to door to talk about our work and solicit pledges. Ben has told us: "I wanted to raise as much money as I could, but I also wanted to introduce the work of NWPP to a wider audience. On a personal level I can tell people how crucial your work is because of the housing help you gave to me. The good work you do should be known throughout Portland."

Last year Ben was our top fundraiser raising \$8,871. He filled seventeen pledge sheets with 305 pledges. "I won't be able to leave a large bequest to NWPP when I die. My legacy to NWPP will be all the names and contacts on my pledge cards."

We asked Ben if it would surprise him to know that over the past six years he's raised a total of \$35,959 for NWPP. He said it did surprise him, but he quickly followed up with: "If you mention the money I raised in the article you're writing – be sure to state the number of people you've been able to help with the money." With the \$35,959 Ben has raised, we've helped 35 seniors find permanent housing.

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From the Executive Director



Susan Emmons

Dear Friends,

One of the best parts of my job at Northwest Pilot Project is the people I get to meet through my work - people like Phyllis Courtney (see article on page 3).

Phyllis was a kindred spirit from the first time I met her. I loved her passion about social issues and her outrage at injustice. She was a great person to talk to in moments of despair, and I remember the feeling of hopefulness I always had after spending time with her. She was full of practical suggestions as well as general encouragement. When she noticed our lobby was a bit bare, she began coming in on a regular basis with donated magazines and books for our clients. She's been doing this for the past ten years.

Phyllis and her husband Jack have been monthly contributors for

years, and she has consistently suggested that we emphasize this more in our newsletter. I can hear her saying: "Susan - instead of 15 monthly contributors - what if you had 100?" I know she is right about this, and am determined to work harder on this in the future.

At the time that Phyllis became so ill I was interviewing a woman we had helped find housing. 62 years old and with a diverse work history, Carol had lost everything: her business, her home, and her health. When NWPP staff first met her she was living in a shelter for homeless women. Today she is living in her own apartment, and gradually rebuilding her life. She told me recently: "Appreciate what you have - because it can all be taken from you at any time."

I know Phyllis would have been moved by her story, and gratified to know that she and Jack had provided the funds used to make Carol's permanent housing possible. Phyllis routinely wrote notes to me with their donations including this recent one: "We are always amazed at how much Northwest Pilot Project gets done on such limited resources."

There have been many days this winter when I've struggled to maintain my optimism in the face of increased need and inadequate resources - seniors losing their housing due to lay-offs and foreclosures, people lined up on our sidewalk at 7:30 in the morning waiting for us to open our doors. One day while I was working on this newsletter, one of our workers looked particularly distraught. I asked him if anything was wrong. He told me: "A man just called

in to ask if any shelter beds are available. I had to tell him there were none." He went on to say to me: "I know we're all doing the best we can, but it seems so basic. Our community should, at the very least, be able to offer shelter to everyone." I couldn't agree with him more.

New projects and partnerships like SeniorConnect (see pages 6-7) have helped us tremendously this winter. We're thrilled to be working on this with Trinity Episcopal Cathedral members, and hope to use this project as a model we can take to other community groups to expand our ability to respond to the needs we are seeing. It's inspirational to witness the generosity and dedication Trinity church members have for SeniorConnect, and the difference it is making in people's lives.

One of the best parts of my job is the people I get to meet - people who are making extraordinary contributions to NWPP; who have joined us as we work together towards that future time when everyone in Portland has decent housing. You'll read about some of these people in this newsletter: Ben Jacobson, Emily Jensen, Dale Latham, Preston Holt, Andrew Rudman, and Phyllis Courtney.

As I write this column it's a precious sunny day in February with the cherry trees and first crocuses coming into bloom - a day Phyllis would have loved. I think of her, and carry her hope in my heart,

Susan Emmons

In Memory of Phyllis Courtney

1930 -2010

When Phyllis Courtney died suddenly this January at the age of 80, Northwest Pilot Project lost a long-time supporter and a dear friend. Phyllis and her husband Jack have been generous supporters for the past twenty years.

Phyllis celebrated her 80th birthday on January 6th. Sharing a birthday with her grandson Andy, her daughters Terry and Nanci hosted a birthday luncheon to celebrate their shared birthday – her 80th and Andy's 15th. After her birthday celebration we received an envelope full of checks. Phyllis had asked that if people wanted to make a gift to her, they consider writing a check to Northwest Pilot Project. The checks totaled \$1,315. It was so like Phyllis to think of this.

Phyllis and Jack met as students at the University of Washington, and have been married for 57 years. Phyllis and Jack have been active members of Kairos-Milwaukie United Church of Christ since its founding, and have been involved with peace and justice issues for years. Phyllis loved her church community - it was a vital part of her life. Through the church's connections she developed a deep interest and commitment to assisting Kenyan school girls

through the Rural Women's Peace Link in Kenya. Most importantly, she wanted to provide opportunities to continue their education.

Phyllis always had ideas about how NWPP could improve and expand our community involvement. In 2005 Phyllis suggested that we involve their church in our annual Walk-A-Thon. She coached us on how to approach this, and that year Kairos entered their first team in our Walk-A-Thon, raising \$1,946. Every year their team has increased their participants and raised more money. In 2009 Kairos fielded a team of 30 members, and was our top team raising \$7,026 for the programs and services of NWPP.

At the Memorial Service for Phyllis, her church was filled with people who knew her, and wanted to honor and remember her. Her activities and accomplishments were wide-ranging: 58 years of involvement with the Girl Scouts, years of commitment to The Nature Conservancy, the Native American Council, and many other community groups. When we learned how much she had been involved with in our community – it made her dedication to NWPP even more precious to us – that she had chosen to support us with everything else she was doing.



Jack & Phyllis Courtney at NWPP's 2006 Walk-A-Thon

Phyllis was passionate about many things, but one of her greatest passions was gardening. She planted gardens in the homes she and Jack shared with their family, and at her church. She designed blooming gardens at the church so that members could gather bouquets after church to take to friends and invalids.

There is a quote from an anonymous source that makes us think of Phyllis Courtney: "To plant a garden is to believe in the future." She taught us to believe in the possibility of so many beautiful things. We will never forget her.

Do you know a church, business, or community group?

Do you know a church, business or community group that would welcome a presentation on how to get involved in NWPP's 2010 Walk-A-Thon? If you do, we would love to hear from you and schedule a presentation. Please contact NWPP's Deputy Director, Brenda Carpenter, at 503-478-6874 or: brendac@nwpilotproject.org

Ben Jacobson

(continued from page 1)

Ben has a few goals he would like to accomplish this year that have eluded him in other years. He would like to receive support from Nike and the Trailblazers: “I wear Nikes. I’ve walked through more pairs than I can remember. I’m an avid Trailblazer fan and have been a fan since the franchise was started, like many of the seniors

that I know. I think Nike and the Trailblazers should support me and NWPP.”

When Ben Jacobson walks in our 31st annual Walk-A-Thon on Sunday, May 2nd, it will be just days before his 84th birthday. “My legs aren’t working as well as they used to. I won’t be able to do as many laps this year – but I’ll be there because the needs of low income seniors are greater than ever before.”



Ben Jacobson

Emily Jensen: Faith in Action

Emily Jensen has made a significant contribution to Northwest Pilot Project through her volunteer involvement with our clients, and by walking in our Walk-A-Thon. An active



Emily Jensen

member at First Presbyterian Church, she gets pledges by phoning, through e-mail, and through letters. We asked Emily to tell us about her motivation for supporting our work. The following was written by Emily.

My earliest Christian training included the stories about Jesus and his followers helping others – feeding the 5,000; healing the blind, lame and diseased; acknowledging the lonely Samaritan woman. My parents also taught by example, serving in the church – Mom as Sunday School and home Bible clubs teacher for many years; Dad was always on the scene if there were work projects to be done as well as a deacon and treasurer.

As a parent, while raising my family, we invited girls from McLaren to be our guests for holidays, helped build a campground for troubled teens, and sponsored children through World Vision. So, when I became more familiar with NWPP’s work and their clients

through the Tuesday at the Church lunches, and the monthly teas we held at our home for low-income seniors, there was no way to not want to help more. Each year I get a little bolder and try to reach out to a wider group of people.

I cannot speak experientially like Ben Jacobson, a true inspiration of boldness on behalf of NWPP. However, I can speak for the integrity of the NWPP staff, the graciousness they extend to their clients as well as to the many times I have heard these clients express gratitude for the help extended to them.

To be Christian I must follow the example set before me by Christ to help the needy. A major 21st century need is safe, low-income housing and the services to facilitate that. No one in Portland does this job as responsibly as NWPP. It is my privilege and responsibility to help to continue to make that possible. May I never forget, “But for the grace of God, there go I.”

Memorial Gifts

During the period of October 1, 2009 through March 1, 2010, Northwest Pilot Project has received gifts in memory of:

Lois Balaski

The McMahan Family

James Chasse

Maureen Hagen

Maurice Christian

William Christian

Robert Costanzo

Rosanne Costanzo

William Greene

Robert Kurkjian

Leslie Haines

Roslyn Aronson

Ed & Flo Happold

Peggy & Robert Fujimoto

Rick Harmon

Jane Malarkey-Harmon

Candice Goucher

Doug Larson & Kristie Duyckinck

David & Susan Emmons

Jim Himmelfarb

Judith Kimmerling

Emme Jones

Jane Malarkey-Harmon

Jerome LeGette

Florine Cranmer

Margaret Moilien

Steven Wayne

Franklin Weinberg Fund

Mavis Newman

Dick Newman

Paul Newman

Cort & Wanda Strane

Susan Emmons

Peter Paulson

Steven Wayne

Franklin Weinberg Fund

Joseph & Inga Dubay

Tom Peters

Patty Reed

Sybil Reed Bunton

Yvonne & Elaine Kowsun

Hillside Veterinary Group

Chet & Ginny Welch

Cheryl Welch

Mabel Whitted

Ron & Shirley Royer

Nan Wire

Ellen Peoples

Community Partnership – Bridging the Gap

This article was written by Heidi Scofield, NWPP Housing Specialist working with Trinity Episcopal on this project. The names of the clients in the article have been changed to protect their privacy.

In March of 2009, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral approached Northwest Pilot Project about participating in a new project called SeniorConnect that would address the issues of hunger and isolation, maintaining independence in housing and leading healthier lives through health education and referral, in Trinity's neighborhood. We were happy to collaborate. After 40 years, Northwest Pilot Project has returned to our roots. On October 1, 1969 our founder Peter Paulson, an Episcopal priest, began NWPP in two parish halls at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. His vision was to launch a pilot project aiming to keep elderly in their homes rather than ship them off to nursing homes prematurely. He envisioned a volunteer service of supportive care to the elderly and disabled. He wanted to try to make it possible for them to live with dignity and well-being in their own homes.

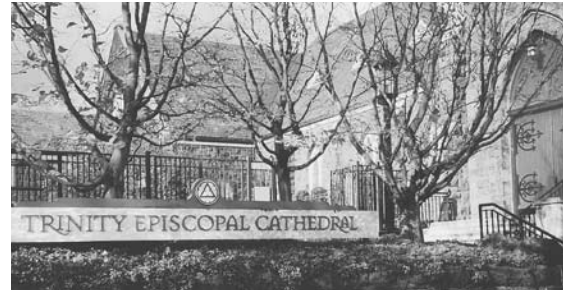


Heidi Rose, Trinity member and head chef for lunch program

Today NWPP continues Paulson's work and vision by piloting programs of support and guidance to individuals in need of housing assistance. The SeniorConnect program that we are piloting with Trinity provides an emergency assistance fund which assists low income seniors, homeless seniors, or seniors at risk of homelessness with a variety of housing needs. The fund allows us to "do whatever it takes," including paying for housing application fees, move in deposits, moving expenses, furniture, bus tickets, and medical expenses.

In May of 2009, we began providing housing services on Wednesdays at Trinity's Cathedral. Trinity has an array of outreach programs in the community; one of their programs is a sit down hot lunch every Wednesday for individuals in need. Every Wednesday Trinity serves lunch to 150 people – many of those who participate are homeless. Trinity member and head chef Heidi Rose prepares, with the help of other Trinity members, what participants say is "the best meal in town." We are at Trinity during these hours to meet with any individuals 55+ who would like housing assistance. Since May 2009, when this project began, we have been able to serve 87 individuals.

Trinity's SeniorConnect program pays for a NWPP staff person one day per week, and provides the direct client funds to assist clients into safe, stable, permanent housing. The funding of the SeniorConnect program was provided through a generous donation by a Trinity parishioner, seeking to help seniors in our local community who are in need. Trinity SeniorConnect funding is flexible and enables us to assist clients with many of the things required to get into housing.



Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

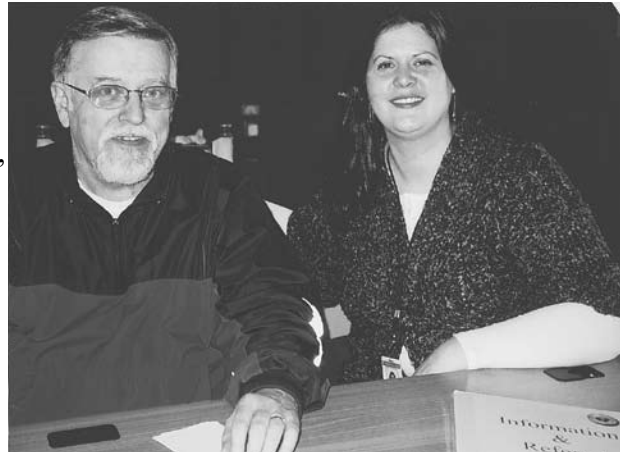
With a continuing shortage of both subsidized and affordable housing, we have had to become increasingly creative with our housing plans at NWPP. Individuals have to wait several months and often up to a year for permanent housing placement. Over the last six months our housing team has become acutely aware of the need for flexible funding sources. Many of our funding sources are restricted for specific needs, such as a deposit, or one month of rental assistance. With more funding, like that provided for clients of the SeniorConnect program, NWPP would be able to be creative for more people. We would be able to move people off the streets and into warm transitional housing while waiting on permanent housing in our community.

In late September, a couple came to Trinity for lunch and saw the SeniorConnect sign which reads, *Housing Assistance - Seniors 55+ - Wednesdays*. They came over after lunch and asked what the sign meant. I explained the program briefly and asked them to come into the office, just off the parish hall, to talk in private. Lisa and Chet told me their story of having lived in Chet's truck; he worked as a long haul truck driver, from 1995 until December of 2008. They traveled all over the country working. They had no need for an apartment as they were always on the road. They stayed in a motel now and then when they had a few days off work.

They enjoyed their life together on the road. Lisa told me how they returned for a load in mid-December 2008 and were informed they were being laid off, due to cut backs. Lisa shared how it felt like everything went blank, and how she stood frozen unable to determine what the first step would be. They unloaded the truck and walked around for hours in silence, not knowing where to begin. They had always thought they would work until they could retire. Lisa and Chet had been camping under a freeway overpass for nine months when they met me at Trinity. They looked exhausted, dirty, and smelled of camp fire smoke. They also seemed very calm, and very in love. It was obvious almost immediately that they were both disabled. Chet walks with a limp and told me of his severe back pain. Lisa is nearly blind, has some learning disabilities, is depressed, and has unmet medical needs. Lisa shared she was afraid of the people they were camping next to. One man in particular really frightened her.

I knew we had to act. I knew we had to get this couple indoors for the winter, I feared they wouldn't survive another winter outside. I remember trying to hold my composure during our first meeting. Their situation was so desperate. I asked them to go back to their camp, gather what they needed and could carry, and to come see me at NWPP offices the next day. I didn't know

how, but I knew we must find a way to get Chet and Lisa out of the elements and safe. I truly felt their lives were at stake, due to the severity of their disabilities and vulnerability. I remember returning to NWPP close to the end of the day thinking how fortunate Chet and Lisa were that they found me at Trinity. Trinity SeniorConnect has a flexible direct client services fund. We can use that money to do what it takes to get clients permanently housed. With this funding we were able to pay to put Chet and Lisa in a motel the next day. Within a week they had applied for four subsidized housing wait lists, obtained birth certificates, applied for social security retirement for Chet, and social security disability for Lisa. A week later I assisted Lisa in making the call to get a medical appointment at a Multnomah County Health Clinic, we were able to pay her \$20 co-pay required for the first visit. I gave them a \$15 gift card to get some basic hygiene items they could not buy with their food stamps. Within two weeks they applied for an apartment where SeniorConnect will subsidize their rent until Chet's social security retirement begins just after his 62nd birthday in February.



Sid Moberly, Trinity member and weekly volunteer with SeniorConnect, with Heidi Scofield, NWPP Housing Specialist

The need for flexible funding like that of the SeniorConnect program is essential for the often life saving housing services we provide at NWPP. NWPP has a small emergency fund that is used for situations like that of Chet and Lisa. However, we always have more clients in need than dollars in the emergency fund. We are very fortunate to have community partners like Trinity invested in our mission, and in the lives of our clients. Without the flexible dollars, others like this couple would be camping in unsafe conditions, or separated into male and female shelters, until permanent subsidized housing becomes available. The collaboration between NWPP and Trinity's SeniorConnect program is bridging a much needed gap in Portland.

Requirements for moving into housing

- Birth certificate
- Oregon identification
- Application fees
- Bus tickets
- Motel room for emergency housing
- Deposit
- Transitional housing rent assistance (while waiting on social security or subsidized housing)
- Co-pay for medical care
- Basic furniture (bed, table, chairs, kitchen kit, bedding kit)
- Moving assistance

31st Annual WALK-A-Thon

Sunday, May 2nd is your opportunity to
WALK FOR NORTHWEST PILOT PROJECT

How you can walk for Northwest Pilot Project

1. Call 503-227-5605 to receive your Walk-A-Thon materials, or see our website: www.nwpilotproject.org
2. Use the Walk-A-Thon pledge sheet and get as many pledges as possible before May 2, 2010.
3. Ask friends, co-workers and family members to join you.
4. Arrive on Sunday, May 2nd by 12:30 p.m. to register, and join us for our 31st Annual Walk-A-Thon from 1-2 p.m. in the South Park Blocks by Portland State University.



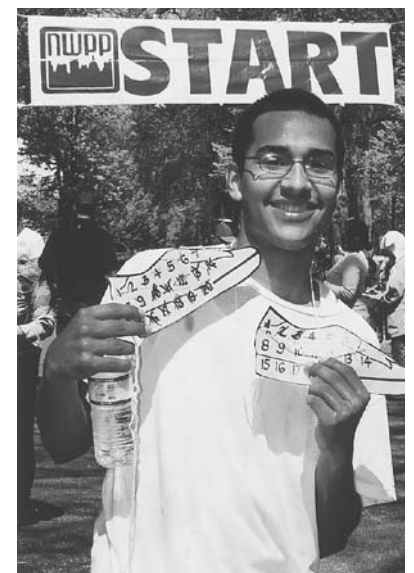
What You Can Win

Great prizes in all age categories including gift certificates to shopping, restaurants, and other surprises.
Terrific prizes for our top teams!

We Need Your Help

Our Walk-A-Thon is our major fundraiser of the year. Our corporate sponsors cover all of our expenses for the Walk-A-Thon, so that all money raised by walkers goes directly to support our quality services to low-income seniors.

The goal of this year's Walk-A-Thon is **\$130,000**. Call 503-227-5605. We'll send you everything you need to participate in our Walk-A-Thon, or go to our website: www.nwpilotproject.org and you will find everything you need to participate. It's easy and it's fun. Start getting your pledges today!



Can't be at the Walk-A-Thon? Sponsor Me!

If you are unable to participate in this year's Walk-A-Thon you can still show your support for **NWPP – SPONSOR ME!**

Here are my vital statistics: I'm Susan Emmons. I joined the staff of the Northwest Pilot Project in 1985, and have walked in 26 Walk-A-Thons. This year I will be walking in honor and memory of Peter Paulson, the founder of Northwest Pilot Project.

I WANT YOUR PLEDGE. The needs of low-income seniors are greater than ever before, and we hope this will be our best Walk-A-Thon ever. Please fill out the coupon below and return it in the enclosed envelope. You will be billed for your pledge after the May 2nd Walk-A-Thon. Thanks for honoring Peter, and for supporting me, and the work of Northwest Pilot Project.



Susan Emmons and Peter Paulson at NWPP's annual Walk-A-Thon

Count Me In!

I want to support Susan Emmons at the
May 2, 2010 Walk-A-Thon with a flat pledge of:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$125 Other: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Teams Raise Money for NWPP

At our 2009 Walk-A-Thon, 109 individuals participated in our Team Competition and raised \$17,269 for the programs and services of NWPP. It's easy and fun to form a team. Contact Brenda Carpenter at 503-478-6874 or brendac@nwpilotproject.org to receive information on how to form a team, or go to NWPP's website for all the information you will need: www.nwpilotproject.org

Prizes will be awarded to the top two teams in each of the following categories: General (all ages), High School, and Children (pre-high school). At our 2009 Walk-A-Thon, The Fire Rockets were our top children's team raising \$3,658!



The Fire Rockets

From the Deputy Director



Brenda Carpenter

Brenda Carpenter joined the staff of NWPP on 8/1/09 as our Deputy Director.

It has been an amazing experience coming to work for Northwest Pilot Project. What a privilege it is for me to be affiliated with a great organization with such talented staff and remarkable leadership.

Before becoming a staff member, I had been a volunteer with NWPP in various capacities for nineteen

years. In many ways the most meaningful work I did as a volunteer was weekly grocery shopping and visitation with home bound seniors. Over the years, I developed very rich relationships with the clients I was volunteering with. The clients I visited were often isolated and very frail. Many times, I was one of the few persons they interacted with during the week. Those weekly visits were consistently humbling and enriching experiences for me.

Visiting those frail seniors after a long day of work put into perspective the many complaints and problems I had to solve every day in my prior work life. Although those issues at work were legitimate problems, somehow they never seemed to be as important as the stories I heard on those weekly visits; the gratitude to NWPP for providing affordable housing; being thankful for a small bag of groceries being delivered; and for the many volunteers who aided the seniors so that they could live independently with dignity in the last years of their lives.

Volunteering for an organization is different than working for one. Although I knew how great the staff was here, seeing them in action every day has been amazing. In all my years of work I have

never seen such team work and focus on mission. At weekly staff meetings, which I sit in on to learn more, the staff comes together to problem solve and share resources and ideas to maximize assistance to clients. They are forced to make tough choices sometimes, and do so with professionalism and with an eye towards what is best for the clients as a whole, not just their individual clients. I have watched them struggle with which client should get the scarce resources that are available in our community; they make those tough choices based on both effectiveness and compassion.

I also get to see the staff interact with clients almost every day and it is heart warming. The staff is always respectful and work very hard at meeting the clients needs with efficiency and compassion.

I feel very fortunate to start a new career at NWPP. Unlike most of the staff at NWPP, I do not provide direct client services; my work is primarily focused on behind the scenes activities such as fundraising and administrative tasks. Working at NWPP makes me feel good to know that I am contributing in some small way to the success of the agency and the clients we serve.

Your Vehicle Donation Can Help a Senior Stay in Housing

Northwest Pilot Project (NWPP) is a member of the Volunteers of America (VOA) Vehicle Donation Program. Donated vehicles get turned into dollars for NWPP programs. If you have a vehicle that you are interested in donating, please call Wendy at (503) 478-6877.

Harpers for Housing Fundraising Event

by Brenda Carpenter

I want to highlight a very special group who held a fund raiser for NWPP recently. The benefit was called *Harpers for Housing* and was initiated and led by a very accomplished harper, Kathleen Staub. Kathleen has a studio called *Arpeggio Harps* and she has been teaching for ten years.

Kathleen has received our newsletter for almost 20 years. She has been very touched by the stories and individual profiles she has read over the years and has often wanted to find a way to help NWPP. For several years, the harpers conducted an annual benefit and donated the money to a world-wide charity. This past year Kathleen wanted to support a local charity that provided services to older individuals in the community. Her students agreed with her and on October 25, 2009 she put together a concert featuring many of her students, and other professional harpers. For over an hour, the harpers played a wide range of selections from traditional Scottish tunes to modern day compositions.

Well over 50 people were in attendance to hear the wonderful music created that afternoon. Half way through the program, a professional story teller provided two touching stories about housing that moved the audience greatly. The proceeds from the benefit were given to us that day and we received over \$1,000 from the concert.

To meet our mission, NWPP relies heavily on the generosity of individuals and businesses to fund the work we do. 43% of the agency's operating revenue comes to us from donations by individuals, businesses, churches and community groups. This revenue makes it possible for us to provide services to clients to end or help prevent homelessness.

What a great experience it was for me as a new employee to attend the concert, talk to folks afterwards about the beautiful music we had



Kathleen Staub, 10/25/09

just heard, and to be able to explain our work in the community in such a great setting.

One of the quotes Kathleen included in the program is from the Italian poet Antonio Porchia: "In a full heart there is room for everything, and in an empty heart there is room for nothing." Many thanks to Kathleen Staub and all the wonderful harpers, musicians, and storytellers who have such full hearts for the work we do.

Did You Know?

At our November 2009 Board of Directors meeting, our Annual Audit was presented by our auditor, McDonald Jacobs, PC. We are very proud to report that during our Fiscal Year 7/1/08-6/30/09, NWPP

spent only \$49,760 on fundraising (4% of our total budget), and raised \$823,515 from individuals, churches, businesses, foundations, and special events to support the programs and services of NWPP. We know our donors appreciate

the fact that we operate our organization cost efficiently, and the contributions they make go directly to support the programs and services they hold dear.

Walk for NWPP and Make a World of Difference

I have supported NWPP for over 20 years as an active member of the Board of Directors. Why am I “hooked” on NWPP? Because they literally save the lives of Portland’s most fragile seniors. And they are so well-run. Unfortunately, NWPP is losing some of our traditional funding sources at a time when the need is greater than ever. Our May Walkathon is our primary fundraising event and in 2010 we want to make it easier and more fun for walkers to raise the money we need to continue to provide those services. Here are the top five reasons to walk.

It’s easy and fun! The leisurely spring-time walk takes only an hour to complete about ten laps around just two Park Blocks next to Portland State’s student union. Bring your grandma, your kids, your pets and your friends. Live music by Hollowdog! Balloons for kids! Hot Lips pizza and soft drinks!

Portland’s at-risk seniors need our help NOW. And NWPP needs your help to raise funds to be able to provide that help.

Prizes. Did you know that almost half of the walkers in 2009 won great prizes? And we are adding more prizes this year! Our corporate sponsors cover all Walk-A-Thon expenses including prizes so we can ensure your pledges are spent helping low income seniors. Here are the prizes you could win:

Win the grand prize if you raise the most money.

Prizes will be awarded to the **TOP THREE INDIVIDUAL** fund raisers in **EACH** of the following age categories:

- 0-4
- 10-15
- 16-29
- 30-55
- 56-74
- 75-100

Prizes include hundreds of dollars in gift certificates to Portland’s finest including: Nike, Nordstrom, REI, Border’s Books, Powell’s Books, Finnegan’s, Higgins restaurant, and more.

Prizes will be awarded to the **TOP TWO TEAMS** in **each** of the following categories:

- General (all ages)
- High School
- Children (pre-high school)

Every member of the winning teams receives a prize envelope with gift certificates. Prizes include gift certificates to: Border’s Books, Hot Lips Pizza, Regal Cinemas, Finnegan’s, and more.

New for 2010: **“Make a World of Difference”** Three extra prizes will be given out as thanks for making a world of difference in the lives of low income seniors. These three prizes will include gift certificates to Portland’s finest and will be distributed in a random drawing after all other prizes (listed above) have been distributed. Any walker



Dale Latham, NWPP Executive Director Susan Emmons, and Board Chair, Linda Goodman, at our May 2009 Walk-A-Thon

(individual or member of a team) that has not already won a prize and who has at least \$300 in pledges on their pledge sheet (not including the Board match) is eligible. You must be present to win.

Board match: The NWPP Board of Directors will pledge \$100 to you if you get at least \$100 in new pledges. See the NWPP Walkathon website for details:
www.nwpilotproject.org

Getting pledges is easier than ever. Many of our past prize-winning walkers have found it easiest to request pledges by letter, and we provide a sample letter on the NWPP Walkathon website.

This year, we are making it easy to request your pledges by email using a similar sample email message, complete with a hyper-link that will enable your donor to pay on-line.

It is also posted on the NWPP Walk-A-Thon website. Review your email and regular mailing lists. Just sit down with your address book and create your list of mailing addresses. Then review all of your email contacts and include as many as possible. Think about the following categories of contacts that you may not already have in your address books:

- Family • Friends • Paid work • Volunteer work • Schools
- Hobbies • Neighbors • Worship • People with whom you have done business, such as a realtor, plumber, your dentist, or doctor.

Remember to let others decide whether they want to support NWPP. Don't decide for them by not asking.

Please contact me if you would like some help getting started or if you just have a question. I'm here to support you, so you can support Portland's at-risk seniors! You can reach me at 503 284-6453 or by email at: marilyn.latham@comcast.net.

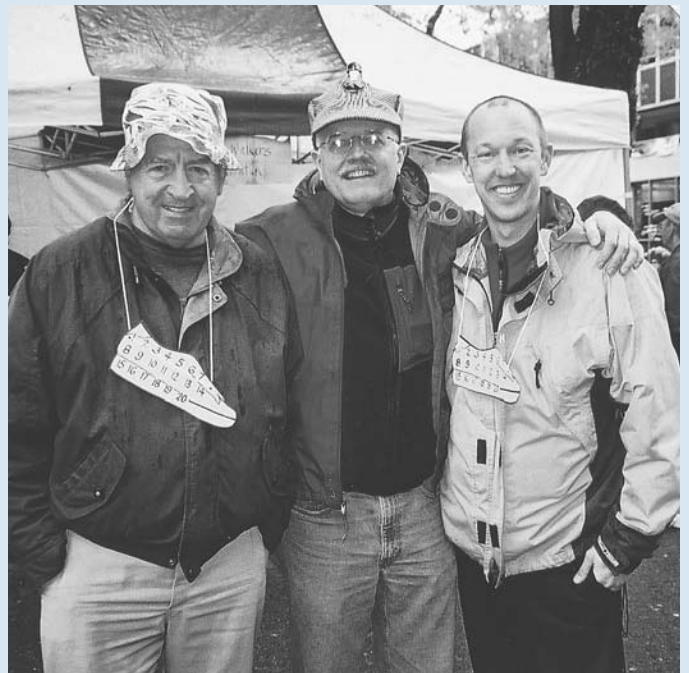
- Dale Latham, Chair
NWPP Board of Directors
Development Committee

Preston Holt: Why I Walk for NWPP

Preston Holt has been involved with the work of NWPP since the early 1980's. He joined our Board of Directors in 1982, and has served as Chairman of the Board, as Treasurer, and as a dedicated Board member and member of our Finance Committee for the last 28 years. Our by-laws require that Board members rotate off after serving two 3 year terms, but Preston has always been willing to rejoin.

Through the years Preston has maintained a keen interest in housing for the very poor. An active member at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral for thirty years, Preston recommended Trinity contact us when they were developing a new project called SeniorConnect (see article on pages 6-7). The resources provided by Trinity have made it possible for NWPP to provide housing for 87 men and women we would not have been able to serve without their funding. It's difficult to put into words how important this funding and partnership is to us.

Preston has walked in 29 of our 30 Walk-A-Thons. "I walk because I believe in the crucial work being done on a daily basis at Northwest Pilot Project – because of the difference the organization is making in people's lives. I also respect the way the organization is run. I know, as a member of NWPP's Finance Committee, that the money I raise will be well spent."



*Preston Holt, Dale Latham, & Kevin Charlston
at our 2006 Walk-A-Thon*

Nona: “This is a dream come true for me”

Nona is 60 years old and has been receiving services from Northwest Pilot Project for two years. When NWPP staff first met Nona she was living in a women’s shelter. “All I had was the clothes on my back.” We helped Nona move into a one bedroom apartment in northeast Portland which is affordable to her on her fixed medical disability income. Nona will never have to worry about being homeless again.

We used resources from our Emergency Fund to help with deposits, move-in costs, and furniture. We provided bedding and kitchen wares. Nona has told us: “I love it here – it’s convenient for shopping and my medical needs. I always wanted a bay window, and now I have one.”



NWPP staff helped Nona to get health insurance and found a denturist who would provide her with a new set of dentures. “I can’t tell you what a gift this has been. I had no teeth when I met you. I was limited to soup and other soft foods. I am so very grateful.” Nona’s beautiful smile lights up her face when she says: “This is a dream come true for me.”

Andrew Rudman: “I’ve been walking for NWPP my entire life

Andrew Rudman was born on March 31, 1994. He attended his first Walk-A-Thon on Sunday, May 1, 1994, and he’s been walking for us ever since. At our 2009 Walk-A-Thon Andrew raised \$3,534. “Last year I was worried about getting pledges because of the economy. It surprised me how well people responded, and in some cases people gave me a larger pledge.”



Zoë & Andrew Rudman,
5/6/01 Walk-A-Thon

Andrew’s older sister Zoë had developed a long list of donors during her fundraising years for our Walk-A-Thon. When she was

leaving Portland to go to college, Andrew asked her if he could have her list. “I contacted Zoë’s friends by e-mail and told them I was her little brother and asked them to pledge me. Some of them I had never met. They knew me as “Bug” – Zoë’s nickname for me, and I started getting responses like – sure Bug – I’ll support you.”

Over the years Andrew has adjusted his strategy to expand his base of support. Last year he got pledges from students and teachers at his high school by putting articles in his school newspaper, in their weekly newsletter, and posting materials on bulletin boards. “In my letters and e-mails requesting pledges I describe who the money helps, and what NWPP is all about. I let people know that I’ve been doing this my entire life. I think

this shows a commitment on my part. I’m not just doing it to fulfill a school requirement.”



Andrew Rudman
& JoJo Ball

Last year Andrew brought his good friend JoJo Ball to our Walk-A-Thon: “It’s fun in itself, it helps people, and you get to eat pizza.”

In the past four years Andrew has raised \$10,315 for NWPP. Andrew has told us that he and JoJo will be with us again this year. We’re honored to have his commitment and support.

NWPP Housing Program Focuses on Permanence

Northwest Pilot Project has been providing personalized housing placement services for elderly, disabled, homeless, and poor people for over thirty-five years. We believe that every individual in our community deserves to live in decent, safe, accessible housing that is affordable to them, no matter what their income is. We emphasize an approach that includes understanding the situation of each person we work with, and respecting their dignity, and uniqueness as individuals.

We are interested in outcomes, and knowing whether our services do lead to housing stability and permanence. We know we are achieving phenomenal success rates, because we stay connected with people for years. Over the twelve-year period from July 1, 1997 through June 30, 2009, NWPP staff helped **5,133** people to find and keep permanent housing, and 88% of these people are successful in their housing over the long term.



NWPP's Emergency Fund Urgently Needs Donations

Every year Northwest Pilot Project touches the lives of 3,000 elderly, disabled, homeless and poor people. As the demand for our services continues to grow, our challenge is greater than ever before to maintain our vital services, and to continue to respond to unmet needs in our community.

This year we have set a goal of raising **\$146,000** for our Emergency Fund. The Emergency Fund is used to pay for housing application fees,

housing deposits, moving expenses, furniture, medical expenses such as prescriptions and emergency care, bus tickets, and meal vouchers.

These resources are crucial to the success of our Housing Program, and our ability to respond quickly to people who come to us in crisis. All donations to NWPP's Emergency Fund directly benefit the people we serve.

As an organization we've made a commitment to have adequate

emergency funds so that our staff have sufficient resources to offer the services we are committed to, and to fulfill our mission.

We need your support! Please use the coupon below and the return envelope in this newsletter to make a gift to NWPP's Emergency Fund.

Your support will make it possible to help someone sleep safely in their own bed, in their own apartment.

Count Me In!

I want to contribute to NWPP's Emergency Fund.

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$1,000 Other:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please Charge \$ _____ to my Credit Card number: _____ Exp: _____

Verification Code (on back of card – last three numbers on signature strip) _____

Please return this coupon in return envelope to: NWPP, 1430 SW Broadway, #200, Portland, OR 97201

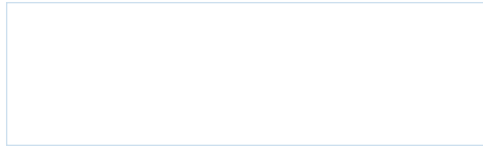
To give online, visit our website at www.nwpilotproject.org.



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Northwest Pilot Project's major fundraiser of the year is scheduled for Sunday, May 2, 2010. Join us as we celebrate forty years of service to our community, and hope to raise \$130,000 for the crucial services we provide to low-income seniors in Portland.

If you have never been to our Walk-A-Thon, imagine yourself walking in a green and sunlit park with people of all ages, with balloons dancing in the gentle breeze, with music by the great local band **Hol-lowdog**, and with Hot Lips pizza served to all.

We'll be in the South Park Blocks by
 Portland State University
 S.W. Park & Harrison St.

12:30 – 1 pm	Registration
1-2 pm	Walk-A-Thon
2-3 pm	Pizza, Prizes, & Entertainment

For more details see pages 8-9 and 12-13. Come join us for a great time, and to help us guarantee that every senior in Portland has a decent place to live.

NWPP's Walk-A-Thon is Sunday, May 2, 2010

