



Home Builders Association  
of Metropolitan Portland

# Home Building News

August 2004

www.homebuildersportland.org

## 2004 NW Natural Street of Dreams™ Show Opens at Scenic Hidden Lake Estates

By Kate Carbone

Tucked away amid stately fir trees and a serene, picturesque lake, Hidden Lake Estates gated community near Oregon City is the perfect location for the magnificent architecture and décor of the seven homes in the 2004 NW Natural Street of Dreams™ show. The ride up alone is worth the journey, where exquisite scenery and a touch of romance prepare visitors for the dream homes at the top of the hill. Steve Brown, chairman of this year's show and president of Timberland Homes, is especially enthusiastic about the unique setting. "It starts from the moment you drive in, getting to the lots is such a pleasant drive," he says. "Also, these homes fit in among the trees and are sunken into the lots — it's a completely different look from anything we've seen before and it's a terrific line up of talented builders."

Sponsored by NW Natural, BASCO and John L. Scott Real

Estate, this year's show features seven homes by six builders, each on sprawling two-plus acre lots. The lush Northwest scenery obviously inspired the architectural concepts, as each home complements its surroundings and put together, the community makes an idyllic scene. Participating builders include Aspen Leaf Homes, BC Custom Homes, Blazer Development, Haggart Construction, KDC Construction and Skreen Construction.

It may be luxurious, but the Street of Dreams is far from stuffy. This year's teams rose to the challenge with creativity and high style. Brad Skreen of Skreen Construction built a handsome lodge with elements of the Wild West. A silver tin roof inspired the "Silver Dollar Saloon" and a "Great Train Robbery Train" encircles the media room. A stagecoach, Colt-45 inspired door handles, leather and sunsets complete the theme. On the other end of the spectrum, Aspen Leaf Custom Homes solicited the services of

Hollywood furniture designer Charles Hollis-Jones, whose contemporary, quirky-cool pieces have been featured in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and bought by big names such as Marilyn Monroe, Lucille Ball and Frank Sinatra.

The show is also about community; it is an opportunity for HBA members to benefit others. Blazer Development is building two homes, one of which is The Miracle House, a bright, cheerful Old World style manor with English Tudor and French Normandy influences. This beautiful home is part of the annual Home Builders for Miracles program benefiting Doernbecher Children's Hospital. All proceeds from the sale of The Miracle House will be donated to the hospital. "It's been a marvelous experience for us," says Ray Derby, co-owner of Blazer Development. "It's nice to give back. It's a situation that you can't do every year, but if one of the builders from the Home Builders Association is willing to do a project like



and materials used in building the house were donated from various industry professionals. "That's what makes it possible for us to give back, is those suppliers and subcontractors working as a team to make it happen," says Derby.

We've gotten great responses, everything from having a complete window package donated to having a finish carpenter discount labor by 10 percent, depending on what they're capable of doing. There are very few people who just say that they don't want to work with us."

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## Legal Defense Fund to Aid Local Builders

By John Kirkland

What do the city of West Linn, City of Newberg and the Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District have in common? All have been the subject of legal battles fought by the Home Builders Association regarding system development charge increases that the HBA felt were unjustifiable. Those battles can cost about \$100,000 each.

The three cases are not uncommon. In fact, the HBA has for years gone to bat for home builders in lawsuits against municipalities and Metro over unfair fee increases and restrictive land use deci-

sions. In most cases the HBA's role has been to step in when the situation reaches a critical stage, and to ask for contributions to pay for legal costs.

That era may come to an end. In June, the HBA Board put the final touches on the Building

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- Aug. 5 A Midsummer Night's Dream at the NW Natural Street of Dreams™ See page 7
- Aug. 17 HBA After Hours See page 23

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### JOIN THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

HBA is now accepting nominations  
for Board of Directors & Officer positions.

See page 23 for details.



### HBA REMODEL: BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

Learn more on how your company can contribute  
and benefit from participating in our major remodel.

See page 2 for details.