

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SHA Sponsors Local Children for Week at Camp
*Salem Housing Authority provides free week at camp for 25 local children
who reside in City public and affordable housing.*

Thurs., Jul. 16, 2009 – Salem, Ore. – On Jul. 19, 25 children who reside in City of Salem public and affordable housing units, will load buses for all-expenses-paid week at the Oregon National Guard’s Camp Rilea, care of the City of Salem’s Housing Authority and several local supporters. The summer camp, Camp Rosenbaum, is designed to give children, ages 9 to 11, who reside in low-income housing throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington, a memorable week-long experience on the Oregon Coast. Camp curriculum includes a focus on building self esteem and instilling the values of good citizenship – empowering the campers to take responsibility for their own lives, make the right choices, and stay away from trouble.

“The City of Salem and the Salem Housing Authority are honored to work with local and federal agencies to sponsor these children for an experience-of-a-lifetime at Camp Rosenbaum. The program is an amazing representation of agencies working together to change the dynamics of our community,” said Bruce Rogers, Chairperson for the Salem Housing Commission.

At the camp, 160 children are immersed in a week of positive activities with constant attention and supervision from caring and responsible adult counselors. The boys and girls who attend Camp Rosenbaum come from the Housing Authorities of Portland, Salem, Yamhill County, Polk County, Washington County, Clackamas County, Lane County and Vancouver, Washington.

Over the last 24 years, the City of Salem has sent approximately 600 children to Camp Rosenbaum. Camp funding and support comes from a variety a partners including: Nike, Inc., Franz Bakery, Fred Meyer, Northwest Priority Credit Union, Fink’s Luggage, Waste Management Inc., Astoria Kiwanis Club, Oregon Air National Guard, Housing Authority of Portland, the Portland Police Bureau, Gang Resistance Education and Training Program (G.R.E.A.T.), Police Athletic League (PAL), Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Brothers Jorge and Alex Guzman of Salem have both been a part of the Camp Rosenbaum program. Jorge went to Camp last year and his younger brother, Alex, will go this year.

“My favorite activities were creating camp name tags, kite making, and leather making. I made a lot of new friends. I am excited for my brother – I hope he gets the same group I had,” said Jorge Guzman.

Since its creation 39 years ago, Camp Rosenbaum has given more than 4,000 children from low-income housing a memorable experience. Founded by Fred Rosenbaum, who served as Chairman of the Housing Authority of Portland and Brigadier General in the Oregon Air National Guard, the unique summer camp is designed to reinforce hope and direction for a better future. Volunteers serving the camp are from the servicing housing authorities, the Oregon Air National

Guard, the Portland Police Bureau, and local county, city and state law enforcement and fire protection agencies. Strategically woven into all the fun at camp is a curriculum that focuses on building self-esteem and instilling the values of good citizenship. In appreciation of Rosenbaum's philanthropic contributions, a "Gratitude Garden" will be dedicated to him during this year's camp session. For more information on the camp, refer to www.camprosenbaum.org

The Salem Housing Authority (SHA) works to serve the low income public in the Salem-Keizer community so that they have the opportunity to live in decent, affordable housing and to move out of poverty. The SHA offers rental assistance, self-sufficiency training and home ownership counseling, primarily for families with children, seniors, and persons with disabilities. For more information, please refer to <http://www.cityofsalem.net/Residents/HousingAuthority/Pages/default.aspx>

The Salem Housing Authority is a division of the City of Salem's Urban Development Department. The City of Salem's Urban Development Department is committed to enhancing community prosperity through an array of programs in its four major service areas: Real Property Services, Housing and Social Services, Economic Development and Downtown Revitalization. The Urban Development Department: manages the City's urban renewal areas (URA) and redevelopment projects within the URAs; administers federally funded block grant and housing programs; provides loans and grants to eligible businesses, homeowners, and renters; and manages leases, acquires, and sells properties for the City.

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