

You're
Invited

Acres of Diamonds announces their
Comedy Dinner Theater Fundraising Event...

A Night of Harmony & Hilarity

Featuring the

Stratton Half Brothers

**Thursday, November 6, 2008
6:30 PM**

Doors Open 5:30 PM

*Come early—meet Acres' founder, Pearl Tadema,
and some of the women whose lives
have been transformed.*

Lake Sammamish Foursquare Church
14434 NE 8th Street • Bellevue, 98007



Mark Your Calendar!

Share a night of Harmony and Hilarity as we kick off Acres of Diamonds' 2008 fundraising event. Join us for an authentic Tuscan gourmet meal, provided by Amato Catering. Mark your calendar and join us as we celebrate our blessings.

Tickets can be purchased for \$40 by calling 866-468-7623 or at TicketWeb.com—under venue, type Acres of Diamonds for access.

For more information, please call 425-788-9999.

"I was exhausted, sad, distressed, hated myself, felt stuck, was broke, floundering, and lost when I arrived..."

Courtney's First Week at Acres of Diamonds

My twenty-year marriage is over. I have three children. Two are on their own, and the youngest stayed with her dad in the house. Acres of Diamonds is the third place for women I have lived in this last year. At one place everyone was monitored by cameras everywhere. You were not allowed to work and shared a bathroom of two shower stalls and three toilets with 54 women. There was absolutely no privacy!

I was exhausted, sad, distressed, hated myself, felt stuck, was broke, floundering, and lost when I arrived at Acres for my interview. I remember Laura asking me what my relationship with God was. I told her, I love the Lord and I believe Jesus died for me, rose again and is my Savior. My problem is I have trouble believing He loves me after everything I've done. I felt like crying.

Laura looked at me and smiled. "Okay, that will be my prayer for you" and she prayed right then. "God, I ask you to show Courtney just how special she is to You and how much You love her." I've felt the results of that prayer every day since. My relationship with the Lord is changing and rebuilding every day.

Besides having three bathrooms for seven women, with doors you can lock, I also found out about our blessing to be able to go to Thrive community Fitness center, just a few blocks from our home. I woke up the next morning and three of us thought what a wonderful morning to go work out. We took our water bottles, ear phones & shorts and headed to the gym. We spent an hour on the treadmill and machines. I felt

so awesome. It was a Friday night, we were on our own for dinner. We were so hungry by dinner that we went to Burger King. Acres has a no sugar rule, but we definitely ate our weight in carbs! Laughing at our own silly choice, two of us headed back to the gym that night to work off our fries. It was great except that I felt sore and achy for the next two days.



I decided to slowly mow the lawn the next day and asked Jackie for the key to the shed. One lady spoke up and said "You know, I tried to start the mower a couple of weeks ago and wasn't able to start it. I don't know if it even works."

Jackie's response was quick, "Well... the construction guys are working on our apartments next door, I'm sure they can help you start it. You *do* know how to "damsel" don't you?" I'm thinking to myself, I'm blond, I've known how to be a damsel-in-distress since age five!

I know God brought me to Acres to let me know He loves me. Oh, this week I also received the news that I was hired at Carlton House working with disabled adults. He answered my prayer for a job. I know He hears me. I know He wants me. Yes me—to be with Him eternally!



New Apartments Nearing Completion

Now comes the fun part—furnishing them! For all of you who have been asking what we may need, you can find our registry at Target. Many of the household items needed are there, except furniture pieces. At Target.com, run mouse over ‘Gift Registries’ and three registries will pop up. Ours is under TargetLists all the way to the right. First name: Acres, Last name: Diamonds. If you choose to purchase items to be shipped directly, please call for the street address (425-788-9999).

Resident Afforded the Opportunity To Continue With College

Babette has completed two years of college already. Now, because she has reduced rent at Acres, she has the support to complete her four-year degree. She is so thankful and excited to make the most of this opportunity.



New Night Manager

Night Manager Jamie left to accept a position in Idaho, and as only He can, God provided her replacement just when we needed her. Meet Amy, a welcome addition.



Thank You!

For those generous volunteers who have spent their time and resources to beautify our property this summer—Thank You! Numerous individuals have donated time and talent in the completion of our buildout. We appreciate each and every one of you.

Washington Energy Services is giving back to the community and we have been the recipient of several doors, including a gorgeous, leaded-glass front door, (all needed energy savers). They also replaced our non-working gas stove in the playroom.



Community Christian Fellowship has sent two teams who have weeded, pruned, barked, leveled, repaired, sanded, stained, cemented, and cleaned up all around our property.





If you would like information about our
PrayerNet, email or call:
laura@acresofdiamonds.org • 425-788-9999

"It makes me laugh when I remember my first month at Acres spent looking for another place to live. One year later I love being here, and feel like it's home."

"After having hand-numbing neck surgery I can no longer work in my profession of cosmetology and must change careers. I'm excited to learn new skills so I can provide for my two, soon to be three, children."

"I think I got born again at church this week..."

They both came back 'home' to Acres and are happy to be here. The reasons they returned are as different as they are.

You will have a chance to learn more about these stories and others at our fundraising event on Nov 6th. We're inspired every day and excited to share them with you.

Acres of 
DIAMONDS

A Non-Profit 501 (c)(3) organization

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