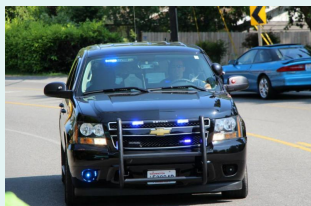


## [Event Form!](#)

Planning an upcoming event? Don't forget to fill out the LETR Event Registration Form below! After you fill it out, make sure to send the form to [ehardwick@sowa.org](mailto:ehardwick@sowa.org). We would like this sent to us at least 90 days before the event would be taking place!

[LETR Event Registration Form](#)



## [Upcoming Events:](#)

**August 18-20:**  
Summer Games  
(Snohomish County)

**August 19:**  
Wings & Wheels  
(Monroe PD-  
First Air Field)

**August 20:**  
Lake Forest Park Salmon  
Bake  
(LFP PD- LFP City Hall)

**August 24/25:**  
Cops on Top  
(Ellensburg PD-  
Fred Meyer)

**August 26:**  
Run With the Cops  
(Wenatchee)

**August 26:**  
Motorcycle Ride and  
Car Show  
(Marysville PD- Arlington)

## Guardian Newsletter - 2017 4th Quarter Edition

### Red Robin Tip-A-Cop

It's that time of year again! In October, every Red Robin across the nation will be taken over by LETR volunteers who serve as "Celebrity Waiters" and lead activities throughout the day. There are 40 locations in Washington state. This not only raises awareness but serves as one of our largest fundraisers of the year.



**Saturday, October 21st**  
**11:00am-2:00pm & 5:00pm-9:00pm**

The 2017 Tip-A-Cop fundraising goal is \$100,000! Help us reach this goal and support more athletes in your local communities. Contact [ehardwick@sowa.org](mailto:ehardwick@sowa.org) to get connected to your closest Red Robin and Team Leader.



### 2018 USA Final Leg Runner Nominations!

Special Olympics Washington is inviting agencies to nominate a law enforcement member to represent our program in the Final Leg of the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games. If you are interested in applying yourself or nominating someone, please complete the paperwork below and turn it into [Ellie Hardwick](#) by **August 25, 2017 by 5PM**

## Final Leg Runner Nomination Materials

**September 9:**  
Cops, Cars, and Cruisers  
(Liberty Lake PD)

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### LETR Shirts



2017 Torch Run Shirts are still available. Orders can be made online at the SOWA store, or sent to the SOWA office if you wish to order in bulk for your department. Stock up before Red Robin in October! [Bulk Order Form](#)  
[Order Online](#)

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### Resources

Need tips and tools on fundraising, accounting and campaigns? Check out our [Resources](#) page on the website.

Password:  
SOWALETR



### **Join us at Summer Games!**



The 2017 Special Olympics Washington Summer Games are right around the corner! The games will take place in Everett and Marysville on August 18-20.

Part of what make competitions like this so incredible, is the involvement of Law Enforcement Officers. Having officers present to take part in the Opening Ceremonies on Friday and to award medals to athletes throughout the weekend creates a lasting impact.

Sports at this years games will include Softball, Bocce Ball, Golf, and more. We hope to see you there!

Visit our website [here](#) for more information; or contact [Ellie Hardwick](#) for more specific times of awards throughout the weekend.

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## LETR Volunteer Spotlight

### **Meet Patricia Duemmell:**

Patricia Duemmell has been involved with Special Olympics for over 15 years. It was back in the early 2000's that it all began. Having a background with running, her friend Commander Krusey thought she could inspire their department to run for Special Olympics and asked if she could attend a meeting for it

that next afternoon, and she gave a resounding "yes".

She went in to the meeting a bit skeptical on what it what would actually be about. She assumed it would be a meeting about running and how Special Olympics Washington was going to motivate them on how to get the run started, but she was wrong. The meeting turned out to be about how to raise money for Special Olympics. Pairing a great cause like this and a passion for running was all Patricia needed to be hooked. The rest is history.

Since then, she has created countless memories with Special Olympics Washington. A few that stand out the most in her memory are her 'Border to Base' run from the Idaho board line to Fort Lewis, Spring Games at Marysville-Pilchuck High School, and being with her grandson on her path from Marysville PD to Fort Lewis and watching him wave at all the runners.

"So many athletes have made me cry with pride," she says. "Their smiles are worth a gold medal, their hugs are very special - for some they cannot hug but their look is priceless, and the thank you's are worth a million gold medals."

Her hopes and dreams for Special Olympics and LETR in Washington State is that they will continue to grow together forever. She hopes that more agencies get involved and see the miracle that the coaches and athletes bring to their families and to themselves. She knows that some agencies may say, "It's work or it's my day off" or they just don't have time to spare. But Patricia knows that when you get that big hug and thank you from the coaches, athletes, and family members - it's worth every minute.



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