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Tip-a-Cop

Public appreciation evident during Special Olympics fundraiser

Silverdale, Wash. -- It was the generous assistance of the public this year that, once again, proved the annual **"Tip-a-Cop"** fundraiser as yet another overwhelming success for Special Olympics Washington and for the Kitsap County Sheriff's Office.

Local law enforcement personnel donated their off-duty time at the Silverdale Red Robin Restaurant, Sept. 29, from noon – 8:00 p.m., serving in an entirely different role as table waiters, in order to continue the agency's winning tradition during this charity endeavor. In total, \$6,502 was raised through customer **"tips,"** from sales of Special Olympics memorabilia and from outright donations from the general public.

Highlights of the day included a display and demonstration by explosive ordnance technician Deputy Scott Dickson, with the Washington State Interagency Bomb Squad vehicle and the squad's remote controlled robot. Additional support was provided with demonstrations from Bremerton Police Officer Billy Renfro and his narcotics K-9 "Lance," performing drug search exhibitions, and by Sheriff's Deputy Aaron Baker and his patrol K-9 "Ryker."

Participating personnel included Sheriff Steve Boyer, Chief of Patrol Operations Gary Simpson, 14 sheriff's deputies and police officers, and 13 volunteers from sheriff's explorer cadets, the sheriff's Citizens on Patrol (COPS) program and, certainly, Special Olympians and Special Olympics Washington volunteers.

Not all fund raising efforts throughout the state for last weekend's **"Tip-a-Cop"** event have been fully reported. As of today, though, Kitsap County Sheriff's Office and the Silverdale Red Robin Restaurant are reportedly ranked in the top three, statewide, of all the law enforcement agencies and the 32 Red Robin Restaurants that participated.

The vision of Special Olympics is to help bring all persons with mental retardation or closely related development disability into larger society under conditions where they are accepted, respected and given a chance to become useful and productive citizens.

Special Olympics Washington provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sporting events for children and adult athletes. It provides them with continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other athletes and the community.

More than 8,000 athletes compete in Special Olympics Washington; some one million athletes compete in Special Olympics programs in more than 165 countries.

The oath of the Special Olympics athletes says it all: "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

For further information about Special Olympics Washington: <http://www.sowa.org>

Additional information about Red Robin Restaurants can be found at:

<http://www.redrobin.com>.

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Red Robin Restaurants participating in the statewide Tip-A-Cop Promotion

Auburn
Bellevue Square
Bellingham
Burlington
Des Moines
Everett
Factoria Mall
Federal Way
Issaquah
Kennewick
Kent
Lynnwood
Marysville
Monroe
Northgate
Olympia
Puyallup
Redmond Overlake
Redmond Town Center
Seattle, Pier 55
Seattle, University District
Silverdale
Spokane Valley Mall
Spokane (downtown)
Spokane (Newport Highway)
Tacoma
Tukwila
Vancouver Mall
Vancouver (Mill Plain)
Wenatchee
Woodinville
Yakima