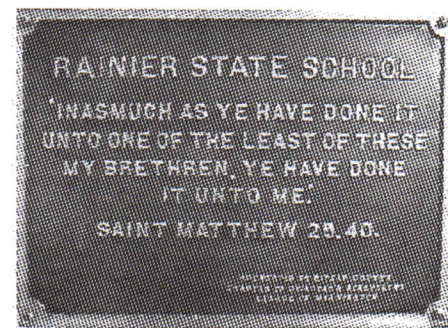




Reply to:

FOR.
P.O. Box 516
Medina, WA 98039



FRIENDS OF RAINIER SUMMER NEWS LETTER 2016

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE: Summer activities are shining bright for Rainier residents with the upcoming Rainier Family Picnic on Sunday July, 17th. Many thanks go out to Longshore Local 23 for all they do to make the Rainier Family Picnic one of the biggest events of the year. Summerfest will return this year on August 11th. The Rainier Arts Center provides many activities for Rainier residents and we have recently received funding to begin working on the Mosaic Stone Mandella project. Check out FOR's website at: friendsofrainier.org to see the video of the amazingly successful Fashion show that was held in April at Rainier School in the Gym with reception following in the Canteen.

FOR continues to work closely with Rainier Staff to support their efforts to further enhance the lives of our loved ones at Rainier School.

Action DD's role as the political entity for the RHC coalition is very important to the cause of keeping RHC from being closed or downsized by the legislature. We encourage individuals to contribute directly to Action DD to help ongoing lobbying efforts – having a presence and voice in Washington's Legislature is critical to maintaining our RHCs as a vital part of the overall Continuum of Care for Washington's DD residents. Please see the FOR website links tab in order to go directly to the Action DD website.

Please join us at our next general membership meeting on Saturday September 17th from 11:30AM – 1:00PM in the Bill Leonard Room. We can discuss these topics further and provide any updates. We will be joined by a number of presenters to provide further insight regarding these topics.

BE SURE TO MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE RAINIER FAMILY PICNIC ON SUNDAY JULY 17th
11:30AM – 2:00PM. BURGERS BY LONGSHORE LOCAL 23 – DJ SOUNDS – CLOWN ALLEY CLOWNS –
POKER WALK – DOORPRIZES – FUN!!!!!!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: The Legislature concluded their special session with no legislation or budget measures passed that were considered anti-RHC. Additional respite funding was approved for Yakima Valley School and other RHCs. Action DD lobbyist, Rick Jensen, and his team, are well respected and well connected in our Washington State political system.

RESEARCH PROJECT UPDATE: Your FOR board is exploring ways to implement the research project initiatives presented by Teresa Dean at our last general membership meeting. The next steps involve appointing a Committee head to oversee the various research activities necessary to carry out this project. The committee head would then submit a plan to identify and hire or appoint one or more researchers or a research firm to carry out the first phases of a Systematic Research Review (SRR). Please contact me or a board member if you are interested and qualified to provide your time and expertise to this important project. RHC critics have volumes of biased research they reference as a reason to shut down RHCs. This project will help scientifically debunk these bogus studies that essentially compare Apples to Oranges.

RAINIER ART CENTER OPEN HOUSE: An Open House will be held at the Rainier Arts Center immediately following the next FOR general membership meeting in September. Come see art projects sponsored by the Pierce County Arts commission and other art works that residents have created. Rainier staff members have a number of additional projects and activities in the works such as the glass kiln (sponsored by a Grant from the Pierce County Arts commission) an environmentally designed rain garden, and a Mandela display of art works that will be located adjacent to an existing arts project located in the middle of the Rainier School campus.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

- Rainier Family Picnic July 17th 11:30AM – 2:00PM
- Summerfest August 11th
- FOR General membership Meeting September 17th 11:30AM – 1:00PM

WEBSITE UPGRADE : Visit our upgraded website www.friendsofrainier.org

We are working to add additional content and resources. Donations can now be made through the PayPal function on FOR's website.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS: A big thank you to all FOR members who have volunteered to take on a job and a responsibility as well as all of those who have pitched in to be involved in FOR events.

GRATEFUL TO STAFF: FOR is grateful to staff members and administration of Rainier School for all they do every day for residents of Rainier School.

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH 11:30AM – 1:00PM BILL LEONARD ROOM, RAINIER CAMPUS

Jeff Carter, President