

CLALLAM CONNECTION

Volume 1, Issue 1
September 2009

WELCOME TO THE CLALLAM CONNECTION!

Welcome to The Clallam Connection! We are glad you are joining us. Our goal is to help us stay connected: connected to employment issues, connected to local happenings and connected to each other. We feel the loss of the DD Details. These are days of much change. Budget crunches, funding changes, unemployment, we hear about these everyday. Staying connected will benefit all of us.

Who we are -
Clallam County Developmental Disabilities

What we are -
On-Line Newsletter

Where -
On-line at www.clallam.net/hhs/connection.html
and in the mail with request

When -
Every Other Month, Starting September 2009

The Connection will be changing as we develop and grow. We will consider all suggestions. It does not replace the DD Details, nothing could.



What **The Connection** will do is come out every 2 months and it will be on the Clallam County HHS DD website. Limited mailings are available. Please fill in the form on the last page and mail it in. Please keep it to one copy per home. This helps with postage costs and printing – and it saves trees.

Please feel free to contact
Aimee Barton (360) 417-2407
or
TheConnection@co.clallam.wa.us

SNAP IS UP AND RUNNING

Guess What? We have great news to share. SNAP is up and running! Same phone number and same email address. The office has moved next door to the classroom (on Alder Street) so no more knocking on the window to get in! Classes begin September 9.

Contact SNAP to get the current schedule :
(360) 681-8642 or
www.snap.cc.org

SNAP is very excited too. They have a new interim director, Jenell DeMatteo. Some of you may know Jenell from her Parent to

Parent program in Clallam and Jefferson County. She also worked with ARC in Jefferson County. Jenell is committed to advocacy, self-determination, independence and education and is eager to get started. She values SNAP, its leadership and its goals. Good energy and good things are coming SNAP's way!

Things To Think About

- **“The only disability in life is a bad attitude!”**
~Scott Hamilton
Olympic Figure Skater
- **School’s Starting—**
Watch out for children!
- **Accessibility.** What does it mean to you? Why is it important? Tell us your thoughts. We think with Access comes inclusion and equality. Inclusion makes life better for everyone.
- **Did you know:** Doorways should be at least 32 inches? This allows the average scooter or wheelchair to enter.

DID YOU KNOW?

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month!

The U.S. Department of Labor sponsors this event every year.

This year's theme is "*Expectation + Opportunity = Full Participation*".

This idea is about a world where people with disabilities have unlimited employment opportunities. This world appreciates the talents of all workers, including workers with disabilities.

DATO will be a part of this national event. We will host a

day of special events to recognize the importance of inclusion and diversity in the workforce.



Do you want to volunteer for this event? Contact DATO to volunteer. Check out their website at:

<http://dato98.tripod.com>

You might even think about joining DATO! Their next meeting is on September 14, 2009 at 2:00 P.M.. They meet in the Terrace Community Room at 114 E. 6th Street in Port Angeles.

EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER

Eunice Kennedy Shriver died Monday August 10, 2009 at age 88. She will be remembered as a woman who worked to make a better world for people with disabilities. Through her life's work with the Special Olympics, Mrs. Shriver changed our views.

The Special Olympics came to be in Chicago in 1968. That first

Special Olympics involved 1,000 competitors from 26 states and Canada. Today, the Special Olympics have a global reach, involving some 2.5 million from some 150 countries.

U.S. News & World Report paid Shriver a high compliment.

Assessing her work with the Special Olympics, the news-

magazine concluded that her efforts on behalf of people with disabilities could well be the most important legacy of her generation of the Kennedy family.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Read the following story. Then write and tell us what you would do. The best answer will be printed in the next newsletter along with a new problem.

Jerry has a new friend named **Pete**. They have been having lots of fun going to the movies and listening to music. Jerry works and Pete does not. Lately, Pete has asked Jerry for money. Some-

times it is just money to go to the movies but sometimes it is a lot of money. Jerry does not have money to spare and Pete gets mad at him. Pete says if Jerry was really his friend, he would give him the money. What should Jerry do?

Got a Problem? Want Advice? Send questions to The Connection and watch for your letter to be chosen.



FROM THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS: WHAT IS THE R WORD PLEDGE?

Spread the Word to End the Word is raising the awareness of society about the hurtful effects of the R word and urging people to stop using it as an insult. (Take the pledge right now!) Special Olympics has put together tools and resources to help you raise awareness and encourage more people to take the R word pledge. Check them out!

"The earlier we can start teaching this awareness, the easier it will be to reverse the language," wrote James Saetern of Sacramento, California, in an e-mail to

Special Olympics. "This is not just a day of awareness, but a movement to end hate as a whole."

How It Started

Created by young people with and without intellectual disabilities, **Spread the Word to End the Word** is part of Special Olympics' vision of a world where everyone matters. Everyone is accepted, and most importantly, everyone is valued. Leading the way in the acceptance of people with disabilities is Special Olympics. They op-

pose prejudice and discrimination and they want to stop the use of the R word.

Keep Spreading the Word

Join thousands of other people across the globe in making a difference.

Go to www.r-word.org and take the pledge!

SPREAD THE WORD

Do you know about this?

Here is part of the Proclamation by the Governor of California:

March 31, 2009, as "Spread the Word to End the 'r' Word Day"

Every one of us has heard the old rhyme, "sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." The fact is that this old playground comeback could not be further from the truth. Hate-filled words can be very painful.

Two such words are "retard" and "retarded." Whether used as an

insult or to mean "stupid," these words are incredibly hurtful to millions of people living with disabilities and those who love them. They are as offensive and mean as any other slur. Using these words spreads discrimination and negative stereotypes.

People with intellectual disabilities are wonderful, talented, hard-working individuals who deserve the same respect as those in the non-disabled community. Let us show respect by eliminating the ugly use of the "r" word from our vocabulary,

and urging others to do the same.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2009, as "Spread the Word to End the 'r' Word Day" in California.



**SPREAD THE WORD
TO END THE WORD**
www.r-word.org

Clallam County Health & Human Services
223 East Fourth Street, Suite 14
Port Angeles, WA 98362-3015

Got a Story? Got News? Contact Aimee Barton at
360-417-2407 or TheConnection@co.clallam.wa.us

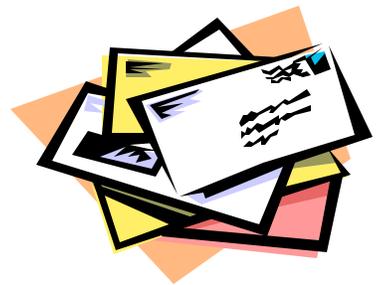
Free Community Events

Sept. 2	Concert on the Pier Howly and Da' Boyz 6-8 P.M. Port Angeles
Sept. 3	DDAC Meeting Clallam County Courthouse 5:30-7:30 PM Port Angeles
Sept. 12 & 13	West End Thunder Drag Races Forks Airport 9:00 AM Forks
Sept. 19	Olympic Peninsula Health Fair Sequim High School Gym 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Sept. 20	Sequim City Band Concert 563 N. Rhodefer (North of Carrie Blake Park) 3:00 PM Sequim
Oct. 10 & 11	Dungeness Crab and Seafood Festival City Pier in Port Angeles 10:00 AM to 8:30 PM
Oct. 25	Sequim City Band Concert Pops Concert 3:00 PM Sequim High School

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Send to
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The Clallam Connection
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Name

Address

Phone