Special Olympics Fundraiser

Special Olympics Idaho has announced the start of their major fund raising event for 2017 and has asked that the Knights participate as we did in 2016. Like last year, this year's event will involve an auto raffle with the grand prize being a 2017 Toyota RAV4 XLE SUV valued at \$29,8983.00. Second prize is a Steelhead Fishing trip for two, a \$550.00 value and the third prize is a \$500.00 gas card.

The tickets are \$10.00 and can be obtained from any of your local clubs or by contacting Laurie LaFollette at <u>llafollette@idso.org</u>. Tickets, and answers to most questions, can also be obtained by contacting our Special Olympics Chairman, Jim Barclay, at <u>jimabarclay@q.com</u> or calling 208-869-5839.

At the end of the raffle, on June 17th of this year, participating Councils will receive a cash award to be used in their charitable works. The amount of the awards will be based on ticket sales and determined by the State Directors.

Recently, Vatican Radio made this report on Pope Francis's meeting with a Special Olympics delegation from the Winter games which will be held in Austria: "This March the Special Olympics World Winter Games, takes place in Styria, Austria and on Thursday Pope Francis met a delegation from the Special Olympics International telling them 'you will be, as the theme of this year's event says, a heartbeat for the world".

"In a way", the Pope told those gathered, "at the heart of all sporting activity is joy: the joy of exercising, of being together, of being alive and rejoicing in the gifts the Creator gives us each day. He continued, "the sweetest victory is when we surpass ourselves - we realize what true and well-deserved joy feels like."