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Local Media & SOMT

MDA TO HOST OPENING BARBECUE FOR MONTANA SPECIAL OLYMPIC GAMES ON TUESDAY, MAY 16

For the third year in a row, the Missoula Downtown Association (MDA) and the Missoula Osprey Professional Baseball Team will host a community barbecue for all athletes, as well as their families and coaches, competing in the Montana Special Olympics State Summer Games in Missoula May 17-20.

The Welcome Barbecue for athletes from across the state will take place Tuesday, May 16 from 5-7 pm at Ogren Park Allegiance Field (OPAF) in conjunction with the Law Enforcement Torch Run, and approximately 600 individuals are expected to attend.

Entertainment will be provided by the RetroTones, a local band that offers a mix of Doo-Wop, Rockabilly and Classic Rock in costume. The band features Bob and Brooke Worthen, Dan Sullivan, Craig Stabnau, Bill Corbett and Cole Bass.

"We appreciate the opportunity to support the Montana Special Olympics State Games in Missoula and to provide the competitors with a welcoming family barbecue and opening reception, complete with entertainment," said Anders Brooker, MDA Board President. "We are grateful for our partnership with the Missoula Osprey and our local law enforcement representatives, as well as the volunteers and non-profit organizations bringing entertainment to the stadium."

Approximately 20 volunteers from the MDA and the Civil Air Patrol will be on hand to welcome and greet guests, serve food and beverages, and provide fun activities for all in attendance. Activities for the athletes will be provided by the following Missoula organizations:

- Historical Museum at Fort Missoula
- Missoula Osprey Baseball
- Missoula Parks & Recreation
- Missoula Public Library
- Traveler's Rest Preservation & Heritage Association
- ZACC (Zootown Arts Community Center)

The Barbecue also welcomes the Law Enforcement Torch Run Flame of Hope to Missoula for the 2017 Special Olympics State Summer Games, in which law enforcement employees from across the state carry the torch to raise funds for and awareness of the Special Olympics Movement worldwide.

Local media outlets are welcome to attend the event. For more information, contact Leidy Wagener, Membership & Events Director for the Downtown Missoula Partnership. She can be reached via phone (406-543-4238) or email (leidy@missouladowntown.com).

Downtown Missoula: Connecting Our Community!