Break out the banners, the flags and the crepe paper decor. Dress in your most colorful red, white and blue, bring on the hats, spinners and whirligigs. Be ready for hot dogs, chips and lemonade, friends and neighbors, big smiles and adorable kiddos.

FOCS is getting ready for the second annual 4th of July Sidewalk Parade up and down Highway 101. Registration begins at 9:45 a.m. in front of the Chinook School Event Center. Participants will proceed east to the Chinook Fireworks tent at the Port of Chinook, turn and march back to the Event Center where all will gather to enjoy festive food and friends.

The Year was 1929...
Come along with the Friends of Chinook School for a peak into some history of the school property we now work to restore.

It is hard to read but the year was 1929 and the board of Chinook School District No. 43 met to discuss sealing the ceiling and wall of the gymnasium and purchasing a state of the art heating system. Fast forward eighty-five years and the FOCS Board is meeting to discuss repairing the ceilings and walls of the school building and installing a new heating system. The 2015 heating system will likely exceed the 1929 budget of $155.00! Also included in these minutes are references to Mr. Angus Bowmer who was teaching at the school and discussing matters with the School Board. (The stage in the Chinook School Event Center was dedicated as the Angus Bowmer Stage in 2013.) When the Chinook School Building is completed this minutes book and other historic items will be displayed.
We are ten years into the hard but gratifying work of restoring Chinook's valuable property historically known as Chinook School. The gymnasium has been completely renewed and is being widely and happily used by many diverse groups. It is known as the Event Center. Serious work continues on the school building which will soon stand proudly renovated as the Community Building. Wow! Imagine celebrating our tenth year as a working non-profit entity! The Chinook School property is owned by the Port of Chinook and leased by the Friends of Chinook School. Both entities work to obtain construction grants. It is the responsibility of FOCS to maintain and operate the facility and to fundraise. Over the years many people have joined the Friends and the excitement of supporting such a remarkable effort.

All it takes is $10 to become a member for an individual or for the whole family. $10 makes sure you will continue to receive our newsletters, become (or remain) a voting member and share in the pride of helping us toward our goal of completing a beautifully renovated Community Building.

In addition to seeking new members for Friends of Chinook School, we would like to remind readers that there are many opportunities to join volunteers as they work on property upkeep, food bank duties, creating another spectacular Oktoberfest or Shakespeare Event, or helping with Chinook Sidewalk Parade on the Fourth of July. If one of these areas interests you, call any board member to volunteer. At this time we have a specific need for volunteers willing to take a shift to do weed-eating of the property during growing season. If you can help with this volunteer slot, please call Ron Saalborn at 360-907-4207. Thank you for your continued interest and support. We look forward to working with you on future projects.
**Memorials**

The dearest people in our lives leave lasting imprints. Valuing those imprints with memorial donations helps to keep the memories strong. Friends of Chinook School is honored to dedicate remembrance donations to the work of improving and managing the Historic Chinook School property. New donations since the winter newsletter have been received in memory of the following:

IDA M. WULF
GORDON SCHOEWE
MARIANNE WILLIAMS

**RELAY FOR LIFE**

The American Cancer Society Inc., Relay for Life was recently held at the Chinook School Event Center. Purple and white booths adorned the gymnasium while walkers did laps around the basketball court. The Relay for Life Long Beach Peninsula chapter served food from the event center kitchen and tacos, and burritos were served outside from the Streetside Taco mobile unit.

Volunteering can be an exciting, growing, enjoyable experience. It is truly gratifying to serve a cause, practice one’s ideals, work with people, solve problems, see benefits, and know one had a hand in them.

Harriet Naylor

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**Rent the Chinook School Event Center**

For rental information: check availability on the FOCS website [www.friendsofchinookschool.org](http://www.friendsofchinookschool.org) then call 360-244-FOCS (3627).

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**FROM THE BOARD**

FOCS Board Members are pleased and excited that so many are enjoying the Event Center. It has been a hub of activity and many more activities and events are scheduled for the rest of the year.

Construction on the school building is moving forward. The original windows in the two classrooms facing the Event Center (gym) are being restored by Kevin Palo and will be installed this summer. New windows, designed to resemble the originals, will be installed this fall. Also in 2014, the school building will be rewired.

The Project Team, made up FOCS members, Port representatives, architect, and construction professionals, is working on next phase improvements. Thanks to your donations, FOCS fundraising and grant money, some of these improvements will be started in 2015. A more detailed report will appear in our next newsletter. It really is great news!

**FOCS ANNUAL MEETING**

The Friends of Chinook School 2014 ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Monday, July 21st at 7 PM in the Event Center. This meeting is held for the election of board members and annual update by officers. A reminder notice will be posted in the Chinook Post Office and in the Chinook Observer. Refreshments will be served.

**WANTED:**

**Photos of Chinook School**

Friends of Chinook School would like to scan & print your photos to aid in the restoration and to display.

Please call Jill Wirkkala @ 360-244-1414

The photos will be scanned and your originals returned as soon as possible.

THANK YOU!
Coming events...

✦ Friends of Chinook School Annual Meeting - Monday, July 21st at 7:00 p.m.
✦ 4th of July Chinook Sidewalk Parade
✦ Oktoberfest (Chinook Style) - October 25th
✦ Children’s Halloween Party - October 31st
✦ Oregon Shakespeare Festival - November 20-21

We look forward to seeing you!