



Volume 8, Issue 3

Special Olympics Maryland ST. MARY'S COUNTY

Be a fan.

December 2007

# The Winner

SPECIAL OLYMPICS St. Mary's County December 2007

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SPECIAL OLYMPICS is a year round sports training program for children and adults with intellectual disabilities and closely related disabilities. St. Mary's County offers training and competition in 14 sports coached by well-qualified volunteers. Athletes must be at least six years of age to train with us.

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## Peter West Represents USA in Beijing, China Brings Home the Gold

Peter West, far left, gathered with his fellow Marylanders who traveled to China for the 2007 World Games. This group brought back some serious bling—Peter has a gold medal around his neck for playing bocce.



## 2007 Soccer Season is Exciting

Soccer is a popular sport in St. Mary's County. This year, over 50 athletes were part of the St. Mary's program. We hosted our local tournament at Dorsey Park in Hollywood on October 21. Teams from Calvert County and athletes from Baltimore and Kent County joined the St. Mary's athletes for a fun-filled day of competition. United Way Day of Caring volunteers helped with setting up the fields, and were a major contributor to the day's success. To increase their chance for competition, St. Mary's Team 1, coached by John Toner and Jim Hawkins, played a series of games against a group of local athletes. The teams played well together, with one game ending in a 1-1 tie. Members of the local team included some familiar faces such as Serge Lefebvre, Wesley Thompson, and Justin Degler, and local high school soccer team players.



Michael Palmer was in the skills competition at the state.

St. Mary's Team 2, coached by Henry Hill, played against Calvert County. Each game was tight. Everyone played well. They won second place. St. Mary's Team 3, coached by Jim Patrey and Mark Fondren, were matched with St. Mary's Team 4, coached by Connie Thompson, Nichole Brown, and Sarah Lanzi. Also in their division was a team from Cal-

vert County. This division was quite exciting to watch. The Thompson Team captured the gold in this division, with the Patrey team winning second. Calvert placed third, and showed great effort.



St. Mary's Team #2 won the silver medal at the Local Tournament and at the State.

The state tournament was held at Mt. St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg on October 27. Teams from across the state gathered to play soccer games and compete in skills. It rained throughout the 2.5 hour drive to the college. We were afraid that the whole day was going to

be soggy; however, during opening ceremonies, the sun came out, the temperature warmed, and the fields dried.

St. Mary's Team 1 won the gold medal at the state tournament. They played against the Prince George's team. The game included lots of good soccer competition. The scores were low; goals were made by Larry Mills, Brandon Chan, Steven Summerfelt, and Terrell Nowlin.

St. Mary's Team 2 won the silver in their division. They played against Carroll, Washington, and Calvert Counties. The final game of the day in this division was so close and well matched that the teams went into overtime with a 1-1 tie, with St. Mary's winning the game in overtime. Total goals scored determined the winners. The Hill team came in second. Goals at the state competition

Continued on page 2

Visit us at our website: WWW.SOMDSMC.ORG

# WINTER Sports Training

## SKIING & SNOWSHOEING

Starts: Thursday January 10  
 Held: 4:30 to 5:30 pm  
 Where: Leonard Hall Drill Hall  
 On-Snow Training: February 2 and 3  
 State Tournament: February 24-26

Skiing and  
Snowshoe Spots  
still available.  
Call TODAY.

## BASKETBALL

FULL COURT TRYOUTS—JANUARY 12  
 Spring Ridge Middle School, Rt. 235 south of the Base  
 Time: 9:00 a.m.  
 Half-Court Starts: Saturday, January 19  
 [Some Teams on Tuesday]  
 Tentative Calvert Tournament: March 8  
 Local Tournament, Chopticon: March 2  
 State Tournament, Towson: March 15

<b>Full Court</b>	Practice will be on Saturday mornings at Spring Ridge Middle School
<b>Half Court Adult</b>	Practice for Bald and Huseman Teams on Tuesday nights at 6:00, Green Holly
<b>Half Court Adult</b>	Practice for Hagen/Green and Thompson/Lanzi Team on TUESDAY nights at 6:00, Green Holly
<b>Half Court Youth</b>	Practice on Saturday mornings at Green Holly (Jan 19)
<b>Skills-Youth and Adult</b>	Practice on Saturday, 10 am at Green Holly (Jan 19)

## SWIMMING

Starts: Sunday, March 2  
 Held: 6pm—Beginners; 7pm—Advanced  
 Where: Great Mills Pool  
 Local Tournament: May 4 for Beginners  
 Swim Meet for State: May 18 at St. Mary's College  
 State Tournament: June 6, 7, 8

## STATE BOWLING

**Limited Slots for State Bowling (only 18 available)**  
 Starts: Wednesday, January 9  
 Held: 6:30 pm  
 Where: Esperanza Lanes  
 State Tournament: TO BE DETERMINED

**Use the registration forms in the newsletter for athletes. We NEED your registration to plan for coaches, practice areas, and teams.**

**SEND IT IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!**

## Athlete Congress

**What is Athlete Congress?** A group of athletes, 2 from each county or area, who bring issues from the local areas to the Board of Directors.

**What do they do?** They meet twice a year and report on activities and concerns from their areas. They select and vote on the critical issues and prepare statements for the Board.

**Can I participate?** Yes, if you would like to speak for St. Mary's athletes, please contact Connie Thompson.

**Ways to get involved:**  
 Bring your thoughts and concerns to your local representatives: Chris Huseman and Jim Downs.



## Soccer Results (cont'd)



*St. Mary's Teams 4 and 3 pose after their games.*

were made by Allen Hill, Joe Quade, and Annie Bassford. St. Mary's Team 3 was in the division with St. Mary's Team 4, Baltimore County, Anne Arundel County, and Calvert County. All five teams played good soccer with some interesting dribbling, shooting, and strategy. Team 3 won the gold and Team 4 won the silver. Their final medal game went to overtime after a 0-0 game. Team 3 nudged the ball into the goal to score the winning point. Both teams played well, showing good defensive moves, and skilled dribbling. The soccer-skills athlete, Michael Palmer, brought home a ribbon to recognize his abilities in dribbling, kicking, and scoring exercises. The teams and skills athletes practiced at Chancellors Run Regional Park. Their coaches and volunteers prepared them for stiff competition and enjoyment. Special Olympics St. Mary's County is proud of the accomplishments of all its athletes, volunteers, coaches, and supporting organizations. Together as a team we can inspire greatness. Thanks to St. Mary's Recreation and Parks.

## Golf Anyone? State and National Events

Compass Point Golf Course in Anne Arundel County recently hosted the Special Olympics State Golf Competition. After a summer of training at Wicomico Golf Course, St. Mary's County athletes competed well in three levels of play.

Level 1 showcased skills building in areas of driving, putting and chipping. Representing St. Mary's were gold medal winners Christy Brinkley, Karla Kless and Keith Stamp. Rebecca Elwell received 4<sup>th</sup> place and Bob Hislop captured 5<sup>th</sup>.



*Russell Bucci prepares to putt onto the green with partner Paul Guy looking on.*

Golfers competing in Level 2 played 9-hole courses and alternated their shots with their coach or partner. The teams of Russell Bucci/Paul Guy and Annie Bassford/Gwen Guy won gold medals. This was the first year that both of these athletes played on the course. Joey Owens/Brian Tierney placed 4<sup>th</sup>. Russell told us that his game went down to the last putt.

Level 3 golfers were also teamed with a partner or coach, but they alternated shots for 18 holes. Receiving a silver medal were Jimmy Hawkins/Bill Lowe and securing 6<sup>th</sup> place were Andrew Gill/Dave Gill. Jimmy and Bill's games also went to the last putt to determine the win, they finished second by 1 shot.

Head coach Joe Owens commended the athletes on improvements made throughout the season. A special thanks to Wicomico Shores Golf Course for your support.

Golf is a fun and exciting sport for individuals and partners. We look forward to having a larger team next year. Make plans now to join.



*The Skills Athletes who competed at the State level included Bob Hislop, Keith Stamp, Christy Brinkley, Karla Kless, and Rebecca Elwell.*

## Bassford Wins Nationals

Local Athlete Annie Bassford competed at this year's National Competition in Florida in the skills area. She was in the top division of women's skills. After several days of competition, Annie's score earned her a gold medal in this prestigious event. Congratulations, Annie.



## Golf Tournament Benefits Special Olympics and the Center for Life Enrichment

This year's event was a huge success with over \$14,000 being raised for Special Olympics and the Center. Our major sponsors this year were **Northrop Grumman, Eagan McAllister Associates, Knights of Columbus #1470, and PNC Bank**. A special thanks to **Debbie Hamann**, owner and operator of Expressions Catering for the great food.

Of course, this event could not occur with the countless hours of volunteers from The Center and Special Olympics St. Mary's. Gathering door prizes, helping the day of the tournament—all of this is truly wonderful.

And, no tournament is complete without golfers—there were 33 teams this year representing local business and organizations, as well as teams from the Center and from Special Olympics.

We can't do this without you.  
**THANK YOU.**



# Fall Bowling Highlights

Esperanza Lanes once again, was the site of the Special Olympics St. Mary's County training session for bowling. Mr. Dave Long opened the lanes to our athletes for bowling practice each week, for 8 weeks. Over 90 bowlers participated and then competed in the largest local tournament, ever. This is a great partnership with Mr. Long and the Esperanza Lanes to benefit the athletes in St. Mary's County. A very sincere thanks to Dave and the staff at the lanes for their generous contributions to our athletes. The local tournament occupied all 24 lanes of the bowling alley. Awards were presented based on scores that day. Athletes also received awards for High Average and Most Improved. The awards for High Average went to Antonio

Cortez, Andrea Brown, Shelly Pickerall, David Higgs, Patrick Flagg, Dorothy Jackson, Chong Fairclough, Michelle Haley, Ronnie Noordzy, Debbie Davis, Jim Downs, and Jason Wright. Most Improved awards were presented to Jordan Swann, Joshua Fondren, Julie Barker, Kyle Russell, Karla Kless, David Shields, Michelle Johnson, Scarlett Cundiff, Michael Wood, Kelly Guffey, Michael Bald, and Shaun Ridley.

Special Olympics would like to again thank Dave Long for his many years of dedication to Special Olympics. We could not offer year-round sports training and competitions to our athletes without the support that we receive. About 20 bowlers will train in January for the State Competition.

## Local Results

### Lanes 1 and 2

1 Amanda Lowe  
2 Devin Northrup  
3 Brady Carrigan

### Lane 3 and 4

1 Shelly Pickerall  
2 Tammy Wise  
3 Michael Palmer  
4 Pat Wells  
5 Julie Barker  
6 Karen Servaty  
7 Roberta Sanfilippo

### Lanes 5 and 6

1 George Mattingly  
2 Terri Insley  
3 Karla Kless  
4 Dominick Otto  
5 Joshua Fondren

6 Austin Debeltz

### Lane 7 and 8

1 Mandy Blackistone  
2 April Towler  
3 Rebecca Elwell  
4 Jennifer Haley  
5 Joyce Stone  
6 Ryan Gerhold  
7 Brandon Fostano

### Lanes 9 and 10

1 Scott Lefebvre  
2 Stephen Maras  
3 Wayne Carter  
4 Jimmy Finch  
5 Andy Thompson  
6 Kristen Granger  
7 Linda Hammett  
8 Justin Thompson

### Lane 11 and 12

1 Jerry Gatton  
2 Vicki Farmer  
3 Edie Ferguson  
4 Dorothy Jackson  
5 Susan Epp  
6 Martha Hyson  
7 David Shields  
8 Charlotte Coppage

### Lanes 13 and 14

1 Shawn Somerville  
2 Michael Bald  
3 Steve Gildersleeve  
4 Charlie Sayers  
5 Kristian Flagg  
6 Linda Higgs  
7 Marshall Thompson  
8 Debbie Gatton

### Lanes 15 and 16

1 Greg Geller

2 Suzanne Green

3 Melody Chase  
4 Bob Hislop  
5 Casey Chappellear  
6 Angela Pitts

### Lanes 17 and 18

1 Lisa Jones  
2 Tom Bayne  
3 Andrea Brown  
4 Michelle Johnson  
5 Ricky Stuver  
6 Kim Ballard  
7 Christy Brinkley

### Lanes 19 and 20

1 Patrick Flagg  
2 Russell Bucci  
3 Hope Taylor  
4 Ann Marie Fanzo  
5 Michael Anthony  
6 Debbie Davis

7 Scarlet Cundiff

7 Kelly Guffey  
8 Laura Fender

### Lane 21 and 22

1 Ronnie Noordzy  
2 Kegen Zimmerman  
3 Mark Kalendak  
4 David Higgs  
5 Chong Fairclough  
6 Connie Buckler  
7 Michelle Haley

### Lane 23 and 24

1 Barry Burris  
2 Shaun Ridley  
3 Joe Quade  
4 Jason Wright  
5 James Sewell  
6 Jim Downs  
7 Patty Lippincott  
8 Tom Stewart

## McKAYS "GOLD SHARING REWARDS" PROGRAM

Once again McKays will be offering the "Gold Sharing Rewards" program to all non-profit organizations doing work in the Southern Maryland community. Through this program, Special Olympics St. Mary's County can receive a percentage of \$60,000 based on the total amount of purchases for all organizations. In addition, the top three organizations will receive a bonus of \$2,500, \$1,500 or \$1,000 for the largest dollar amounts accumulated at the end of the program.

All supporters who are interested in designating to Special Olympics St. Mary's County need to register on line at [www.mycommunityrewards.com](http://www.mycommunityrewards.com) or at one of the McKAYS Stores customer service desk so that your purchases will be credited to Special Olympics. Only purchases made through the Gold Card will be credited. The program begins on October 1, 2007 and will end on April 30, 2008. Present your Gold Card each time you shop.

**EVEN IF YOU REGISTERED LAST YEAR YOU WILL HAVE TO REGISTER AGAIN THIS YEAR.**

# WANTED!

### *Unified Basketball Players and Unified Coordinator*

We are expanding our programs to include more unified teams. For this year's basketball program, we are establishing unified teams with athletes and partners. If you have a friend who enjoys the game, have them give us a call. Contact Mary Lu. We also need someone to coordinate this program. Please call if you can help.

# CALENDAR for January, February, March, April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		JANUARY 1	2 Area Meeting	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 State Bowling Practice	10 Ski Training Begins 4:30 pm	11 Poker Night	12 Tryouts for Full-court Basketball 9am Coach Ski Training
13 COACH Ski Training	14 School Holiday	15	16 State Bowling Practice	17 Ski Training	18	19 Basketball Practice Deep Stakes Poker
20	21	22 Green/Hagen, Thompson/Lanzi Bald/Huseman	23 State Bowling Practice	24 Ski Training	25	26 Basketball Practice
27	28	29 Green/Hagen, Thompson/Lanzi Bald/Huseman	30 State Bowling Practice	31 Ski Training	FEBRUARY 1	2 Basketball Prac On-Snow Training for Athletes
3 On-Snow Training for Athletes	4	5 Green/Hagen, Thompson/Lanzi Bald/Huseman	6 Basketball School Day Practice / Area Meeting	7 Ski Training	8 Poker Night	9 Basketball Practice
10	11	12 Green/Hagen, Thompson/Lanzi Bald/ Huseman	13	14 Ski Training	15	16 Basketball Practice
17	18	19 Green/Hagen, Thompson/Lanzi Bald Huseman	20	21 Ski Training	22	23 Basketball Practice
24	25	26 Hagen, Thompson, Bald, Huseman	27	28	29	MARCH 1 Basketball Practice
Winter Games at Wisp						
2 Swimming Starts LOCAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	3	4 Green/Hagen, Thompson/Lanzi Bald/Huseman	5 Area Meeting	6	7	8 Basketball Calvert Tournament
9 Swimming	10	11 Green/Hagen, Thompson/Lanzi Bald/Huseman	12	13	14 Poker Night	15 STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
16 Swimming	17	18	19	20	21	22 YARD SALE ESCAPE to Key West Gala
23 Swimming	24	25	26	27	28	29 Track Practice begins/ Great Mills
30 Swimming	31	APRIL 1	2 Area Meeting	3 Bocce starts	4	5 Track Softball Practice
6 EASTER	7	8	9 Track Skills for School Students	10 Bocce	11 Poker Night	12 Track Softball Practice
13 Swimming	14	15	16	17 Bocce	18	19 Track Softball Practice
20 Swimming	21	22	23	24 Bocce	25	26 Track Softball Practice
27 Swimming	28	29 SPRING GAMES	30	MAY 1 Rain date for Spring Games	2	3 Track Softball Practice



## St. Mary's Wheels keep rolling at Cycling



On September 29, 18 St. Mary's County athletes participated in the Special Olympics Maryland cycling competition at the Maryland State Police Training Center in Sykesville.

The annual event attracted over 50 cyclists from across the state to compete in 500 meter and 1K time trials, and 5K and 10K road races using two-wheel and three-wheel bicycles. This year's event also included Junior Nationals races sponsored by the US Cycling Federation.

The local athletes included seasoned riders as well as athletes riding for the first time. They have been practicing for several weeks in the parking lot of Leonardtown High School and the Hollywood Fire House under the guidance of Coach Connie Thompson, Brent Barbour, Jim Russell, Don Bewick, Matt Menard, Charlie Jackson, Tom Maras, Marcia Bald, and Mark Fondren.

This year's program attracted several new athletes including Terrel Nowlin, Jayme Lorraine, Amanda Lowe, Jordan Swann, Stephen Maras, and Ryan Gerhold. Returning athletes are Stephen Ennels, Joshua Fondren, Christopher Reed, Suzanne Green, Melanie Shannon, Ronnie Noordzy, Anna Hammett, Brady Carrigan, David Shields, Kyle Russell, Carlos Jackson, Timmy Menard, Christy Brinkley, Joe Quade, Brandon Thompson, Michael Bald, Andy Thompson, Russell Bucci, Bill Ford, Betti Russell, and Michelle Johnson.



The athletes competed at the local level and won medals and ribbons for their ability to finish the 500 meter, 1,000 meter, 5K, and 10K time trials.

At the state competition, the course included a street course that the police officers use in urban driver training. There were some flat sections, but also a sharp turn with a definite incline for the longer races. Athletes were grouped in heats based on previous training scores.

Competing in the 500 meter time trial on 2-wheel bikes were Russell Bucci, Michelle Johnson, and Joshua Fondren. On three-wheeled bikes were Michael Bald, Bill Ford, Betti Russell, David Shields, Ronnie Noordzy, and Andy Thompson. The 1K time trial competitors were Russell, Michelle, Michael, Bill, Brian, Betti, David, Andy, joined by Anna Hammett, Terrel Nowlin, and Jayme Lorraine. Don Bewick was David Shields' safety partner, running beside him during both of his races.

The 5K race was a show of endurance for several of our riders including Anna Hammett, Kyle Russell, Terrel Nowlin, Jayme Lorraine, and Joe Quade. We had two riders compete in the 10K road race – Joe Quade and Kyle Russell. All of the racers did well.

Each year, the state selects a sportsmanship award winner based on nominations by the participants. Local athlete Betti Russell was acknowledged for her courage and commitment during the 1K race when her bike was malfunctioning, she continued to ride and wanted to "finish the race."

The local Special Olympics program is proud of all of the athletes who trained this year and improved their skills. We are thankful to Leonardtown High School and Hollywood Fire House for allowing us to use the facilities for training. We are most appreciative to the volunteers, parents, and local volunteers. With their continued support, the program continues to grow in St. Mary's.



*This year's cyclists include (left to right) Tim Menard, Stephen Maras, Andy Thompson, Kyle Russell, Terrel Nowlin, Joe Quade, Jayme Lorraine, David Higgs, Michelle Johnson, Linda Higgs, and Anna Hammett.*

*This year's athletes practicing at Leonardtown High included Andy Thompson, Michael Bald, Christy Brinkley, Russell Bucci, Suzanne Green, Ryan Gerhold, Betti Russell, David Shields, George Mattingly, Stephen Ennels, Ann Marie Fanzo, Ronnie Noordzy, and Amanda Lowe.*



## REGISTRATION FORM Special Olympics St. Mary's County 2008 B A S K E T B A L L

**When you join a team, it is for the full season of competitions**

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Date of Birth:</b>	
<b>Address: (Street)</b>			
<b>City:</b>		<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>Phone: (Home)</b>		<b>(Work)</b>	
<b>(Cell)</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>School/Agency:</b>		<b>Grade:</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>
<b>List any special needs:</b>			
<b>Shoe Size:</b>	<b>Shirt Size:</b>	<b>Pant/Short Size:</b>	
<b>Parent/Guardian Signature:</b>			

Athlete will practice: At scheduled practices

I am interested in attending the (check appropriate tournament):

LOCAL TOURNAMENT – March 2    DISTRICT— March 8    STATE – March 15

### PLEASE RETURN REGISTRATION IMMEDIATELY TO:

Mary Lu Bucci	Your Classroom	Terrie Carter	Mary Lu Bucci
25926 Whiskey Creek Rd.	Teacher	Center for Life Enrich.	Metro
Hollywood, MD 20636			Green Holly

## REGISTRATION FORM Special Olympics St. Mary's County 2008 S W I M M I N G

Beginner or Intermediate 6pm                       Advanced (lanes) 7pm

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Date of Birth:</b>	
<b>Address: (Street)</b>			
<b>City:</b>		<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>Phone: (Home)</b>		<b>(Work)</b>	
<b>(Cell):</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>School/Agency:</b>		<b>Grade:</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>
<b>List any special needs:</b>			
<b>Shoe Size:</b>	<b>Shirt Size:</b>	<b>Pant/Short Size:</b>	
<b>Parent/Guardian Signature:</b>			

I am interested in attending the STATE TOURNAMENT, June 6-8    Local events are May 4 and May 18

### PLEASE RETURN REGISTRATION IMMEDIATELY TO:

Mary Lu Bucci	Your Classroom	Terrie Carter	Mary Lu Bucci
25926 Whiskey Creek Rd.	Teacher	Center for Life Enrich.	Metro
Hollywood, MD 20636			Green Holly

## Brueggemann Honored at United Way Breakfast

Penny Brueggemann was recently nominated and chosen as a "Light of St. Mary's County" at the annual United Way gathering. Penny is a force within our local program. This past year, she pulled off an amazing fundraiser, almost single-handed, in a short time frame in addition to her other year-round support of Special Olympics.

Penny developed the concept of an "escape to Key West" day in St. Mary's County. She booked the Key West Band, secured the largest facility in the county, got tickets printed, got posters printed and distributed, established e-mail traffic, arranged for all the food, decorations, prizes, entertainment, photos, and publicity. She involved the local County Government, had PSA spots on the radio stations and on cable TV. She convinced the Navy Commander of the Naval Air Station to be the master of ceremonies! She established a phone line to attendees to call and get tickets. And she did all of this in less than 60 days. The event drew over 300 attendees and raised over \$6,000.

Penny is the year-round liaison with the Patuxent River Naval Air Station and coordinates volunteers for Special

Olympics. For the local spring games, she helps obtain over 200 volunteers. She routinely finds donations and sponsorships which are so valuable to keeping the program alive. When the awards stands needed painting, she found 5 members of the construction division to "get the job done" in just a few hours. When last minute needs for a car wash came up, Penny found 6 volunteers.

Penny is committed to Special Olympics as a member of the Management Team. She started as a ski coach about 14 years ago when she saw an ad in the local paper. She was a pitcher on the very first unified softball team in St. Mary's. She volunteers endless hours to help the athletes of St. Mary's. She is an exemplary community member who truly believes and makes a difference, one event at a time.



*Penny Brueggemann is this year's Light of St. Mary's from the United Way.*

## Yard Sale is Coming

We are organizing a yard sale to benefit Special Olympics St. Mary's.

We need your help to make it happen!

If you can help prepare items or donate items, please let us know. Call 301-475-5749



## Coach Training

January 6—Snowshoe Coach Training  
January 12 & 13—Downhill/Alpine,  
Cross Country, Snowshoe Coach Training



Register at [www.somd.org](http://www.somd.org) and notify Mary Lu of your registration.



## Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament

To benefit Special Olympics St. Mary's and Center for Life Enrichment  
Held the second Friday of each Month  
Prior registration recommended, call: 301-373-8100, Kerri  
Sign in at 6:15pm

### WISH LIST:

- Powerlifting Coach(s)
- Copy Paper
- Colored Paper
- #10 business envelopes
- Web Site Assistance

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We need your help! Our sports training programs serve more athletes than ever before. Some specific help we need is:

- Unified Team Coordinator
- Unified Basketball players (middle school, high school, and adult players)
- Unified Softball players

*If you can help with any of these events, contact Mary Lu Bucci, 301-373-3469*

# DEEP STACKS

# TEXAS HOLD 'EM

**Saturday, January 19, 2008**  
**\$150 BUY-IN, \$5000 CHIPS**  
**Projected \$4,000 for 1<sup>st</sup>**

(Bounty for at least 10 players knocked out)



**For more info.** Contact Jim Bucci: [jimjoebucci@yahoo.com](mailto:jimjoebucci@yahoo.com) or 240-431-1664

Sign-in Time: 1:00 pm to 1:45 pm - Tournament starts: 2:00 pm

**All refreshments are free. Special 50/50 raffle and door prizes.**



**call: Kerri at 301-373-8100 x \*810**

**\$5000 CHIPS**  
**30 MINUTE BLINDS**  
 Estimate 1<sup>st</sup> Prize at \$4000  
 100 People pay to 18 spots  
 \*Less or more people prize pool will be adjusted (130 players max)

Advanced Payment required for guaranteed seat. Seating limited to the first 130 paid players. Pre-pay at the Center for Life Enrichment offices, Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Pre-registered players must be registered by January 18<sup>th</sup> to guarantee a seat. Checks accepted up to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. Cash only after the 10<sup>th</sup>. Checks payable to: Center for Life Enrichment.

The Center for Life Enrichment (and Tournament Location) is located 1 mile north of the Rt. 235 & Rt. 245 intersection.

## VOLUNTEER Special Olympics St. Mary's County '08

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Date of Birth:</b>	
<b>Address: (Street)</b>			
<b>City:</b>		<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>Phone: (Home)</b>		<b>(Work)</b>	
<b>(Cell)</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>School/Agency:</b>		<b>Grade:</b>	<b>Teacher:</b>
<b>Circle the Sport or Upcoming Event you wish to help with:</b>			

Basketball	Cycling	Golf	Softball	Bocce	Kayaking
Snowshoeing	Powerlifting	Track and Field		Bowling	Sailing
Equestrian	Soccer	Swimming		Tennis	Skiing

Golf Tournament	Craft Fair	Spring Games	Texas Hold 'em
Fundraising	Food Committee	Local Basketball	Publicity

### PLEASE RETURN REGISTRATION IMMEDIATELY TO:

Mary Lu Bucci	Terrie Carter	Mary Lu Bucci
25926 Whiskey Creek Rd.	Center for Life Enrich.	Metro
Hollywood, MD 20636		Green Holly

## State Honors Local Athlete and Volunteers

Each year, Special Olympics Maryland solicits nominations from across the state looking for some of its most dedicated, passionate, and energetic supporters. A committee reviews all of the entries and selects a winner for each category and awards are presented at the annual Awards Banquet. This year, Special Olympics St. Mary's County representatives were chosen for four of these awards.



Angela Pitts was selected as the Female Athlete of the Year for the State. She is a woman who works hard, plays fair, is quiet and patient, and is always looking for ways to please her coaches and teammates. At practice, you can always count on Angela being there on time, helping to get equipment set up and cleaned up, and assisting other athletes during stretches. Angela broke her wrist this year, but that didn't keep her from basketball practice. She used her good hand to dribble and pass with friends. Her wrist was better for the spring season and she looked forward to be back to her routine. "How did I do today," is her question when practice is over. Her smile lights up a room. She gives of herself to help others and still works hard to improve herself, no matter what her age.

Gwen Guy was chosen as the Coach of the Year. She works full time for Booz-Allen & Hamilton, the major sponsor of our spring games. She is a certified Special Olympics coach in aquatics, snowshoeing, golf, and kayaking.

She was the head aquatics coach this year. She coordinated the beginners program for over 50 athletes, then the training for about 25 intermediate and advanced athletes; 12 of whom traveled to the state competition. She was an assistant coach for kayaking. She was the coach for our first season of snowshoeing. She participated in the demonstration event for unified snowshoers and chose the uphill course.

Gwen is a golf coach and takes an athlete on the course playing 9-holes alternate shot (an athlete that has just moved up from skills). Their team won the gold medal this year. Her enthusiasm is contagious – she is always cheerful. She inspires courage in the athletes by requesting that they do their best and works side by side with them – whether on the snow, or in the pool. In swimming; Gwen swam beside our athletes, showing them how to do the butterfly and breast stroke. The re-



sult was having athletes do the 100 meter medley race – a first for St. Mary's County.

TJ Parkes was chosen as the volunteer of the year. She performs many functions in St. Mary's County. She is the head coach for kayaking. She has been a Ski coach and partner for an athlete with a sit ski for about 10 years. During the past two years, she has organized a team of volunteers who used wagons during a craft fair to sell bottled water. The first year, it was a rainy weekend, and they still sold 800 bottles. As a seamstress, she has helped our athletes prepare for special events. At the 2006 Winter Games, she made poodle skirts for the 50's



dance, the next year she made ponchos for the Mexican theme. For the 2007 Sailing/Kayaking Regatta, she spent the entire weekend on the water as a stager for kayaking. She also has a knack for organizing and preparing food. For the local basketball tournament, she got

donations, bought all the pieces, cooked that day, coordinated all the volunteers, set up, and cleaned up. She also managed all of the food for the local soccer tournament and ran the concession stand at our Spring Games (about 1,000 people).

She arranged for her daughter's swim team to come to each swimming practice and support the entire swim group – a one-on-one situation—and she provided the transportation. TJ also prepares articles, posters, displays, and press releases for St. Mary's County. Her support of Special Olympics just goes on and on.

The fourth award for St. Mary's County was the St. Mary's Sailing/Kayaking Team that supports the annual Maryland Sailing/Kayaking Regatta at St. Mary's College. This team prepares the venue, moves tables, chairs, tents, awards stands, boats, water, merchandise, retrieves overturned boats, maintains venue organization, and just helps keep everything working. Special Olympics Maryland acknowledged the work of this team for its years of helping run a state competition and making it one of the best in the nation.

**DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK, or BOAT to Special Olympics St. Mary's. Call Mary Lu Bucci at 301-373-3469**

*for more information.*

**Note: the laws change on January 1, 2005 regarding the amount of the deduction.**



## Athletes are Why; Volunteers are How!

The fall season has been very busy for a group of people we call volunteers! We have completed some awesome fundraising activities that improve our ability to meet the needs of our athletes in the months to come. These include:

- The annual Golf Tournament with hole sponsors and door prizes
- The local Soccer Tournament
- Water Sale at Ann Marie Gardens
- Poker Night (every month )
- United Way Day of Caring

These events and funds are possible with the hard work and commitment of some very special people. It is difficult to name all of these volunteers here, but several



*Boeing Volunteers are Wonderful!*

persons have been a part of most events. Our plans are to continue to sponsor these events next year. If you would like to be among these talented volunteers and give a little time so that your children or friends can succeed in Special Olympics, please let us know. The money is used to buy uniforms, rent equipment, purchase basketballs, for our athletes. Contact us today. Call Mary Lu at 301-373-3469 or drop her an e-mail: [somdsmc@md.metrocast.net](mailto:somdsmc@md.metrocast.net)

The Annual Prediction Race was held on November 19. Over 100 runners and walkers participated including some of our athletes. The Chesapeake Running Club donated the proceeds of the race, over \$1600 to Special Olympics. THANKS TO EVERYONE!



## When Medicals expire. . .

When you receive this newsletter, please note the date on the address label that indicates the date that the athlete's medical expires. If this date is prior to the next sport, please get a new medical as soon as possible. This needs to be filed with the State office before the event. Thank you.

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Maryland Charity Campaign  
 United Way of St. Mary's  
 Esperanza Bowling Lanes  
 Local Management Board  
 American Legion #162 and 255  
 Wal-Mart  
 Guy Distributing  
 Ben Thompson  
 Knights of Columbus Belles  
 Knights of Columbus #8159, 9968,  
 1470, 7914, 3849  
 Waste Management  
 Top Line Sales Company  
 Coombs Bus and Truck Service  
 Jay Worsham  
 Chipolte & St. Mary's Recs and Parks  
 Michelle Morawski  
 Mary Lou Morawski  
 Gregory and Mary Morawski  
 Peggy Bradburn  
 Lowes—pallet of water  
 Utz  
 BJ's  
**Golf Tournament** Volunteers  
 Soccer volunteers  
 Poker Tournament volunteers  
 Kyle Rambo—St. Mary's Youth Soccer  
 Soccer referees/Dr. Edward Barrett  
 In memory of Michael Hoffman  
 Vance Miller  
 David and Mary Ann Fox  
 Booz-Allen & Hamilton  
 St. Mary's College  
 Debra Sisler  
 Vilma Graves

## WalMart Opening



At WalMart's Grand Opening, they acknowledged several community organizations with donations. Special Olympics St. Mary's Director Mary Lu Bucci accepts a check for \$2,000 from Community Relations Coordinator, Lucy Delizo and State Senator Roy Dyson.

Special Olympics St. Mary's Co.  
25926 Whiskey Creek Road  
Hollywood, MD 20636

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**Cycling, page 6**



**State Awards, Page 10**

**FUTURE EVENTS:**

**Basketball Tryouts for full court is on January 12**

**Basketball Practice** starts on January 19; Local Tournament on March 2;  
District Tournament is March 8; State Tournament is March 15.

**Skiing/Snowshoeing** starts January 10; State Event on February 24-26

**Swimming** starts on March 2; Local Tournament is May 4 and May 18