

Special Olympics Seminole County Newsletter  
***Seminole Spirit~ June 2007***

[www.SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](http://www.SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org)  
SOSC Hotline: 407-263-8043

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

June 7	Management Team Meeting	July 12	Management Team Meeting
June 9	Gymnastics Begins: Preseason Meeting	July 20-21	Leadership Conference
June 16	Powerlifting Begins	July 25	Swimming County Games
June 18	Bowling Begins		
June 25	Golf County Games		

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**Golf**

Practices begin on Monday June 4, 2007 at Sweetwater Golf & County Club. 9 Holes at 5:30pm and Skills begins at 6pm. County Games will be on June 25. Coach Sal LoPorto, [portoboss@netzero.com](mailto:portoboss@netzero.com), 407-834-4380

**Gymnastics**

Preseason Meeting on June 9, 2007 at EASTMONTE PARK from 11am-12pm. Regular practices will be on Saturday mornings at Brown's Gym in Altamonte Springs from 10:30am-12pm. Contact: Ranwa Nin Elkhoury at 407-929-7254 or [Gymnastics@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](mailto:Gymnastics@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org)

**Powerlifting**

Practices are scheduled to begin on Saturday afternoons June 16, 2007 at Gold's Gym in Altamonte. Contact Coach Jessica Schalinske at 407-488-2303

**Bowling**

Bowling officially begins on Monday June 18, 2007 at AMF Altamonte Lanes in Altamonte. Practices are from 3-5pm at a \$1.50/game. Shoe rental is free. Contact: Ranwa Nin Elkhoury at 407-571-8814 or [Bowling@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](mailto:Bowling@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org)

**Roller-skating**

We are still trying to get this sport started. Please let us know if you are interested and we will notify you once we get practices setup. Contact: Ranwa Nin Elkhoury, 407-9297254 or [Rel-khoury@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](mailto:Rel-khoury@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org)

**Aquatics County Games**

Wednesday July 25 at Westmotne Park from 5-8pm. Contact Larry Levine: [LPL1258@aol.com](mailto:LPL1258@aol.com) or 407-284-2711. Rain or Shine!! Address: 624 Bills Lane, Altamonte Springs Fl 32714

**Management Team & Athlete Input Council**

Next meeting will be on Thursday July 12, 2007 at Parkside Fellowship Church from 6-8pm.

**We Have Updated Our Website...**

Make sure to check out the many new pages on our website, including an updated calendar page, new photo gallery, and a page full of community connections! Make sure to check it all out!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Daniel Akins	David Alter	James Caldwell	Eden Fulmer	Julia Smith
Ashley Magill	Cecily Pace	Amelia Rauber	Christian Sangster	

**FREE PHYSICALS CANCELLED!!**

We apologize for cancelling the free physicals in May. It will be rescheduled for sometime in the fall. We will send out a timely notice once it is scheduled!

### **Global Messenger**

Recently 11 athletes from 9 Counties went through Global Messenger Beginner/Advanced and Media Training. Jim Payne, News Anchor and SOFL Board Member, hosted the media training at WESH Channel 2 News. Five new Global Messengers have made presentations to various groups since their training, including Seminole County's very own- Chris Friedman. Chris, with the guidance of his speech coach Kevin Lajeunesse, made his first "official" speech this past Saturday at the Knights of Columbus State Convention. It was certainly a morning of excitement, as well as "firsts" for Chris. He met Monte Castevens, President and CEO of SOFL, for the first time. He was introduced by Lou Tovey, Knights of Columbus, SOFL Co-Chairman and made his first speech to an assembly of 600 Knights of Columbus from around the state of Florida. He spoke about Special Olympics and what Special Olympics means to him. He thanked the councils for their support and told them how they can get more involved. It was truly an inspiring speech for everyone in attendance.

The role of a Global Messenger is to help promote the mission of Special Olympics. If you are involved with any groups, businesses or organizations and would like to have Chris speak on behalf of Special Olympics Seminole County, please contact Kevin Lajeunesse at 407-257 7730 or email to [klajeunesse@specialolympicsseminolecounty.org](mailto:klajeunesse@specialolympicsseminolecounty.org)

### **Nathaniel's Hope Rescheduled**

Due to poor weather, this event has been rescheduled for July 14! Sign up to walk with Seminole County Special Olympics in the Make 'm Smile Buddy Stroll on Saturday from 8am-1pm at Lake Eola Park. Enjoy food, music, entertainment, and many resources for families with special "VIPs"! Make sure to tell them you are with SOSOC when you register! Look out for our promotional booth and you might just see our Sparklers performing! More info: [www.NathanielsHope.org](http://www.NathanielsHope.org) or 407-857-8224

**Please visit the Community Connections page on our website for past winners' biographies:**

**Athletes of the Month:** Becky & Julie Wenzel

Julie and Becky have been participating in Special Olympics since they were in elementary school! Throughout the years they have participated in a number of sports including horseback riding, track and field, gymnastics, bowling, basketball, and swimming. Many people think they are twins, but they are actually 18 months apart in age! They enjoy the camaraderie of meeting their friends at practices and traveling to different cities for regional and state games. Julie and Becky also love the many activities that are sponsored by the City of Altamonte Springs Recreation. The monthly dances, STOP program, and Monday bowling league are truly the highlights of their month! We know that there are many, many hours of behind-the-scenes hard work to make all these events such a success and we truly appreciate it. We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every coach who has devoted many hours in training and mentoring to my daughters and all their peers. Coach Kevin, thank you for your kindness and patience. Nin, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for everything you do.

-Love, Julie and Becky Wenzel and Mom, Nancy

**Volunteer of the Month:** Jessica Schalinske, Powerlifting Coach

Hi! My name is Coach Jessica. I am very excited and honored to be nominated volunteer of the month. Special Olympics has been sooooo much fun for me. I have met so many great friends! I am involved in Special Olympics because it is fun and I get to spend time with wonderful people. At the events and practices I am always reminded of my big family gatherings back home in Wisconsin. I think it is the unconditional love. Thanks guys, I love being a part of the family that is the Seminole County Special Olympics.

*Please visit our website through out the month for additional information, updates, & more!*  
[www.SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](http://www.SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org)