

# HOWARD COUNTY

SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
MARYLAND



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## March Newsletter

Issue #2014-3

### Outback Steakhouse Fundraiser - March 18th

Come out and enjoy an evening with friends at our annual Outback fundraiser for Special Olympics at the Ellicott City Outback Restaurant on March 18, 2014. Dine in or carry out for lunch or dinner. [Click here to download a flier](#) to turn in with your meal payment and Special Olympics receives 10% of the total proceeds.

### Support the 13th Annual Inspiration Walk

Please reserve April 26th, 8:00 - 11:00 am on your calendar to attend the 13th Annual Inspiration Walk. This is our major fundraiser of the year and we rely on family and volunteer financial support to keep our program running. You can donate by:

- 1) Starting a personalized pledge page to solicit pledges online by [clicking here](#) and then click on the JOIN NOW button on the web page, or
- 2) Making a general donation online by [clicking here](#), or
- 3) Bring cash and check donations to the walk or sending to our office (8970 Route 108 Suite A1, Columbia, MD 21045)

### Spring Sports Registration Closing Soon!

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## 2014 Winter Games Photos

Check out the great photos taken at the 2014 Winter games held at Ski Whitetail resort on February 24-25. [Click for Photos](#) and for more photos, [click here](#).

## Refinance and Raise Funds for SOHO

[Corridor Mortgage Group](#), who sponsors the fall golf fundraiser

Register now to participate in a spring sport. [Click here to go to the online registration system.](#) Sign up now for Beginner Aquatics at MarTar Swim Center, Athletics (i.e., Track & Field), Bocce, Cheerleading, Softball and Tennis (practice only).

Note that Aquatics and Equestrian registration already closed. Other sports registration deadlines are March 22.

## Volunteer Scholarships Announced

Applications for Outstanding Student volunteers of the year are now being accepted. [Click here for application.](#)

Interested students must complete the application, provide at least one recommendation from a Special Olympics Howard County coach, management team member or sports coordinator, and write a 500 word essay about their experiences as a volunteer.

Completed applications should be emailed to [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org) or mailed to Special Olympics Howard County, 8970 Route 108, Suite A-1, Columbia, MD 21045, ATTN: Scholarship Committee and must be postmarked no later than April 4, 2014. Questions should be addressed to [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org) or by calling the SOHC office at 410-740-0500.

## Spring Merchandise Sale

Nightmare Graphics continues to offer an online store for Special Olympics Howard County merchandise. [Go online by clicking here](#) to make your selections. The "store" will be open until March 30th. You can save S&H costs by picking up the order at the SOHO office or if you prefer to have them sent directly to your home, be sure to include S&H fee. Orders will be ready by April 10, 2014.

## Showcase your Athlete at Inspiration Walk

For only \$40.00 each (or 3 for \$100.00) you can purchase an 18"x24" poster of your athlete which will be used to mark the event venue at this year's inspiration walk.

for Special Olympics Howard County is offering our organization \$250 for anyone who refinances their mortgage or borrows for a new mortgage through Corridor. Mention that you heard of the offer through the SOHO newsletter. For more details, call Chris Sittig at 443.539.1596 or email at [csittig@corridormtg.com](mailto:csittig@corridormtg.com)

## Business Monthly Article

Check out the article in the Business Monthly highlighting our local program. [Learn more.](#)

## Practice Status and Inclement Weather

To learn if practice or competitions are cancelled due to inclement weather, check SOHO home page, our facebook page, call the office for a recording, or look for an email from your sports coordinator. In general, when schools are closed, practices are cancelled.

## Special Olympics Boosts Employment

New research shows that the unemployment rate for people with intellectual

Pick your favorite photo of your athlete or team - preferably training or competing - email it in digital format (JPEG) to Robin Phillips at [robin1152@verizon.net](mailto:robin1152@verizon.net) and send your payment to Special Olympics Howard County 8970 Route 108, Suite A1, Columbia, MD 21045. Photos **must be received by April 14<sup>th</sup>**. Posters from past years can be used at the event (but must be dropped off at the SOHC office by 4/24). Posters can be picked up at the end of the walk or from the SOHO office.

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## Athlete Leadership Opportunities

Special Olympics offers Athlete Leadership Program (ALPs) for athletes that wish to become involved in opportunities such as being an emcee at Opening Ceremonies, interviews with the media, opportunities at fundraising events, and speaking to community groups.

If interested, contact the SOMD communications director, Jason Schriml at [jschriml@somd.org](mailto:jschriml@somd.org). [Click here](#) to find instructions so you will be able to receive instant ALP updates and instructions on how to get involved if you are interested.

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## Volunteer Opportunities & Orientation Dates

If interested in volunteering for spring sports (softball, track and field, cheerleading, bocce) or if you are interested in helping with the Inspiration Walk on April 26th or the annual Softball Invitational on May 18th, please email [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org).

Volunteer orientations will be held on April 7th and May 20th at 7:00 in the SOHO office. Anyone interested in volunteering must attend a volunteer orientation, complete a volunteer application and an on-line Protective Behaviors Course. Parents are highly encouraged to attend an orientation. Pre-registration is required by sending an email to our volunteer coordinator, Janet Larrimore, at [JanetandWalter@comcast.net](mailto:JanetandWalter@comcast.net) or [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org) or calling the office at 410-740-0500.

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disabilities is twice as high as the general population.

However, research also shows that Special Olympics athletes are much more likely to be employed. [Learn more](#)

## Cool Schools Challenge

Check out the great news article featuring WBAL's Rob Roblin and the 2000 students plunging for Special Olympics!! [Click for newsclip.](#)

## World of Possibilities Expo

The World of Possibilities disABILITIES Expo is coming to Rockville, MD. [Click here](#) for more details.

## Coaches Resources

Special Olympics Howard County encourages all of our coaches to stay abreast of the latest training. SOHO will reimburse any coach that wishes to take the online training courses offered below.



**Coaches Training**



Coaches Guidelines  
Sports Rules

Thanks for your support!!



SOHO Office, 8970 Route 108 Suite A1, Columbia, MD 21045  
Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 - 1:00, Tuesday 1:30 - 6:30  
Phone (410) 740-0500 | Fax (410) 740-2388 | [www.somdhc.org](http://www.somdhc.org) | [info@somdhc.org](mailto:info@somdhc.org)  
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