

HOWARD COUNTY

SPECIAL OLYMPICS
MARYLAND



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June Newsletter

Issue #2015-06

Wilde Lake High School Rolls Out the Red Carpet for Track and Field Competition

After a hiatus of several years, SOHO once again hosted a track and field competition on May 9th at Wilde Lake High School. Seven counties and 189 athletes participated in the meet which was dedicated to the late Joe Bobinski, who was the track and field coach for many years.



New Global Messenger Megan Kemp and SOHO Director Bob Baker welcomed the athletes. Athletes and volunteers were treated to a great lunch from Chick-fil-A. Special thanks go to the entire Wilde Lake High school staff (Principal James LeMon, Athletic Director Brian Rau, and Wilde Lake Boosters, Beth Johnson, and all the Wilde Lake student volunteers who were a huge help in putting on the tournament.

One of the more inspiration moments of the day was watching

"Hold the Rope" in action. Anne Arundel athlete Daniel Tucholski (who is blind) was able to run the 100 meter dash because of the volunteers who held a rope along the side. He also ran the last leg of the 4x100 meter relay. Truly inspirational!

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Upcoming Events

6/5-7 Summer Games

6/10 Bocce End of Season (EOS) Party

6/10 Athletics EOS Party

6/10 Softball EOS Party

6/13 Soccer Coaches Training

6/14 Aquatics EOS Party

6/18 Equestrian EOS Party

7/8 Volunteer Orientation

SOHO Office Hours

The SOHO office will be closed on Monday, July 6th.

Regular office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8:00 - 1:00 and Tuesday 1:30 - 6:30.



Daniel Tucholski and Friends "Holding the Rope"

This is a great example of the spirit of Special Olympics in general. It takes many people to "hold the rope" and help change the lives of athletes - coaches, volunteers, staff, sponsors, sponsors, law enforcement community and many more. For a great story about Holding the Rope, click [here](#) for Special Olympics Maryland athlete Michael Heup' story about his friend Dan.

Thanks to the track and field planning committee
 - Lavonne Smith, Ken Zahn, Shirley Duhaney and John Worley for putting on a great event!

Fall Sports Registration Now Open!!

Registration for fall sports is now open! [Click here](#) to go to the web site to register for cycling, distance running, flag football, golf, powerlifting, soccer, tennis and volleyball.

Inspiration Walk Results

The 14th Annual Inspiration Walk was a another great event!!! To date, we have raised nearly \$110,000, just short of our \$115,000 goal. Thank you to all our sponsors and families that donated, especially the following 15 athletes, volunteers and their families raised an amazing \$40,235.00 or 37% of the entire amount raised to date!!

Jason Kauffman	\$7,700
Kayla Kosman	\$4,165
Sam Emmerling	\$3,156
Glenn Donovan	\$2,685
Stephanie Baker	\$2,655

THANKS TO OUR 2015 INSPIRATION WALK SPONSORS!

PRESENTING SPONSORS

Corridor Mortgage
 Lisa Higgins Hussman Foundation

LEGACY SPONSORS

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Body Armour, Canada Dry Potomac, Wegmans

A list of all our gift certificate and raffle prizes donors can be found on our web page at <http://somedhc.org/?s=inspiration+walk>

SOHO Athletes Recognized

The Arc of Howard County presented the 2015 Self-Advocate of the Year Award

Peter Schoenbrodt	\$2,600
Kirsten Smith	\$2,361
Jane Ahn	\$2,000
Zach Decker	\$2,000
Chuck Spalding	\$1,975
Daniel Larrimore	\$1,890
David Snyder	\$1,875
Reed Carter	\$1,800
Evan Davis	\$1,715
Rose and Edie Daniello	\$1,525
Ramsey Jenkins	\$1,500

It's not too late to donate if you haven't done so already. The online page will be open through July 25th. We rely on family and volunteer financial support to keep our program running. You can donate by:

- 1) Making a general donation online by [clicking here](#), or
- 2) Send cash and check donations to our office (8970 Route 108 Suite A1, Columbia, MD 21045)

18th Annual Softball Invitational Hosts Over 360 Athletes at Annual Event!

SOHO and HCYP hosted the 18th annual Softball Invitational at Kiwanis Wallas on May 17th. Twelve traditional teams, 5 Unified teams and 4 skills teams from 12 counties participated in the event. Despite an early light rain as the teams arrived and during opening ceremonies, the sun came out and a great time was had by all, including our 22 guests from 13 countries whose visit was arranged by the State Department Visitors Exchange Program.



Global Messenger and SOHO softball team member Munir Vohra greeted the athletes in opening ceremonies and caught the first pitch from Honorary Chairperson, Police Chief Gary Gardner.

Special thanks to Softball Invitational Chairperson Dave Fagan, Field Marshall Zach Decker, and Volunteer Coordinator Linda Hoyt for planning a great event. Special thanks to Outback Steakhouse and General Manager John Henderson, for providing lunches for everyone, Mike

to three SOHO athletes - Rose Daniello, Rachel Kalatzis, and Scott Widitz. The three were recognized at The Arc's Celebration of Excellence for having made progress in their personal and professional lives in the past year,

SOMD NEWS

Did you know that this is the 45th anniversary of SOMD Summer Games? Come out and watch our athletes as they compete in aquatics, athletics, bocce, cheerleading, and softball. Family members and guests are invited to attend a Family Reception on Saturday evening from 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM on the concourse in the new SECU Arena, and will include desserts and a silent auction. Family members and guests are invited to attend a Family Reception on Saturday evening from 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM on the concourse in the new SECU Arena, and will include desserts and a silent auction. Click [here](#) to read the May edition of IMPACT, SOMD's e-newsletter.

Unified Relay Across America

One of the legs of the Special Olympics Unified Relay Across America took place at Cedar Lane School in Fulton. The torch is headed to the 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles this July. It was a great event and you can see photos from that day by clicking [here](#).

TIE-DYED SOHO

Parker and Cadiz Charities, Inc., Wegmans, and Giant Foods for providing snacks and water.

Brian Silvea Featured on WBAL-TV

Every year, SOMD's media partner WBAL TV Channel 11 presents four stories leading up to the Friday of Summer Games at Towson University. The first [story](#) on June 1st featured SOHO athlete Brian Silvea who will be competing in softball at Summer Games and who also plays basketball.



Brian truly exemplifies the spirit and determination of the athletes of Special Olympics Maryland. He also exemplifies (by his own words and his dad's words) why Special Olympics Maryland is so important.

SOHO Aquatics Competition Makes a Splash

On April 26th, SOHO hosted over 150 athletes from three counties in our annual aquatics competition at Howard Community College. The event ran smoothly and was a huge success. Planning for the competition was led by Aquatics Coordinator, Allan Waschak. Special Olympics Maryland CEO Jim Schmutz came out to enjoy time with the athletes and their families.

Our swim program has grown from eight athletes to 90 in 20 years, plus 21 teenage volunteers/unified partners. This year an added feature of the training was "Strive Core" a dryland component that occurred 30 minutes prior to the athlete's swim time.

TEE SHIRTS

We have some tie-dyed SOHO tee shirts in two colors available in the office. Price \$15 - \$17.

Medicals Must Be Current

Remember that all athletes must have a current medical on file in order to register and participate in any SOHO activity. These must be updated every three years. Medical forms can be found on our web site. (Click here.) Through December 31st, Righttime Medical Center is offering sports physicals for \$20.00, Tuesdays - Thursdays from 10:00 - 3:00. (Regular price is \$45.00.) Appointments can be made by calling 888.808.6483 or going to myRighttime.com

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

Newsletter Information



2015 Aquatics Team

SOHO Athletes Help Welcome Bob's Furniture to Columbia Crossing



SOHO athletes Daniel Larrimore, Kenny Long, Thomas Smith and Mary Condron joined in on the opening of Bob's Furniture in Columbia Crossing on May 21st. They are joined here with Outreach and Public Relations Director Catherine Poulin and Sharon Young. Bob's Furniture supports many charitable organizations, Special Olympics among them. We welcome them to our community!

MATP: Cedar Lane Staff Inspired by Rhode Island Professor

On May 1st, Karen Catagno, Professor of Health and Physical Education at Rhode Island College, spoke to the staff at Cedar Lane School on new and different methods for activities related to the Motor Activities Training Program (MATP). SOMD CEO Jim Schmutz addressed the staff and made a commitment to include MATP in the 2016 Summer Games competitions. Before introducing the speaker, MATP Coordinator and Cedar Lane instructor

If you are an athlete, parent or caregiver, we highly recommend that you do not Unsubscribe from this newsletter. You will miss valuable information about seasonal sports registration, policies, highlights, activities and other relevant information. Please add info@somdhc.org and bobbaker@somdhc.org email addresses to your address book so that this letter does not go into your Junk Mail folder. If you have any suggestions or questions about the newsletter, please let us know at info@somdhc.org.

Gena Luoma spoke about Tim Shriver's experience with Ireland's President who insisted on seeing the MATP athletes during World Games in 2003 rather than the higher functioning athletes. Ms. Catagno inspired the staff with examples of what she has been teaching her physical education major students and how they have developed some unique activities to make them more in line with an actual sport.

The staff at Cedar Lane has been hard at work incorporating some of these ideas in preparation for this year's MATP Challenge Day on June 12th. Come out at support the Cedar Lane athletes at this event. Talk about inspirational!



SOHO Office, 8970 Route 108 Suite A1, Columbia, MD 21045
Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 - 1:00, Tuesday 1:30 - 6:30
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