

Special Olympics Seminole County Newsletter

# *Seminole Spirit*

March 2007

[www.SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](http://www.SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org)

407-263-8043

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 17	Basketball End of Season Party @ Merrill Park
March 24	Summer Sports, Area Games @ Orange County
March 25	Cheerleaders performing @ Morning Star Bazaar
March 30-31	Cheerleading Competition: JamFest @ Ft. Lauderdale
April 5	Management Team Meeting @ Parkside Fellowship Church
April 14	Swim Coaches Pre-season Meeting @ RDV SportsPlex
April 15	Cheerleaders End of Season Party @ Eastmonte Park
April 27-28	Summer Sports State Games @ USF

## SPORTS TALK

### **Basketball**

End of Season Party                      Merrill Park                      March 17<sup>th</sup>                      12pm to 4pm.  
FOOD!                      AWARDS!                      GAMES!                      MUSIC!                      FUN!  
Please RSVP the number coming and what dish you will be sharing to:  
Mindy Setzer, 321-276-6463, [MSetzer@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](mailto:MSetzer@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org)

### Seminole Hawks Go to States!

On March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, the Seminole Hawks, led by Coach Angel, traveled to Orlando for the 2007 Basketball State Games and brought home the **Bronze Medal!** Congratulations to Samantha Diaz, Sammy Sheldon, Monica Hernandez, Eric Taylor, Dean Light & Charbel El-Khoury. **We're proud you!!**

### **Aquatics Begins in May**

Swim season begins Saturday May 5, 2007 at the RDV SportsPlex from 8am-10am. The first practice will have a VERY IMPORTANT preseason meeting followed by a basic skill assessment. If you are interested in participating, volunteering, or need any information, please contact: Debbie Harger at 407-739-3622 or [DHarger@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](mailto:DHarger@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org)

### **Cheerleading**

#### Performance & Competition

March 25	Morning Star School	Enjoy Food, Garage Sale, & more!	1:30-2:30pm
March 30	Ft. Lauderdale	JamFest National Competitions	

End of Season Party    April 15, 2007                      Eastmonte Park                      3-5pm  
FOOD!!                      AWARDS!!                      MUSIC!!                      DANCING!!                      FUN!!  
Don't forget to bring your dish to share! Season Two will begin in October 2007.

Ranwa Nin Elkhoury 407-929-7254 [Sparklers@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](mailto:Sparklers@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org)

## **Summer Sports**

County Games: Congratulations to all the athletes who competed.

Bocce: 5 First & 3 Second Place Ribbons

Volleyball: First Place

Cycling: 5 First, 2 Second, & 1 Third Place Ribbon

Tennis: 2 First Place

Track and Field: 24 First, 11 Second, 4 Third, 2 Fourth, & 2 Fifth Place Ribbons.

## Area Games

The next competition will be Area Games on March 24, 2007 at Freedom High School. Please contact coaches with any questions or concerns. GOOD LUCK at Area!

Cycling: Angel Hernandez 407-625-4318

Bocce: Dani Lundy 407-468-8519

Volleyball: Brian Nyberg 407-234-0112

Tennis: Moses Manjenqua 407-927-3062

Track & Field: Wayne Tarkenton 407-221-4871

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Chris Friedman

Emily Funaro

Brett Jones

Jeremy Jones

Zach Palmer

Matthew Roszak

Tamara Schlier

Samantha Sheldon

Valorie Sutton

Meggan Van Loon

Josh Vogel

## ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

### **Mike Scrimenti**

Michael started his sports life when he was 7 playing soccer with the Lincroft, NJ soccer teams, then he played basketball and started swimming in competition with the local YMCA team. He started swimming with Special Olympics when he was a teenager and was a gold-medalist at state level in NJ. He also enjoyed bowling and track and field in NJ. When we moved here 10 years ago, he started playing volleyball, then track and field and basketball. He was on the softball team for many years and they won a state title a few years ago. Last year he got back into swimming and did very well. Sports are very important to Michael. He enjoys watching sports on TV and chatting about almost any sport. He reads the sports page in the paper.

Michael loves Special Olympics and the friends that he has made. He truly loves the coaches that give their precious time to work with these athletes. His family is very grateful to the Special Olympics programs and all the coaches and the behind the scenes people that make it happen. We are very proud of Michael and all the athletes.

## VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN

Instead of a Volunteer of the Month, we have Richard Mendola, one of our Athletes who wants to recognize a special person in his life...in his own words this is his tribute.

My name is Richard Mendola. I am in Special Olympics Seminole County. I am in power-lifting and came in first place last year. Now I am in power-walking, and now on the Athlete Input Council. I was scared to do these things because it was my first time ever to do these things. Dani Lundy said to try them out to see how I would like them. And I do like all of them very much! My Special Olympics mentor is Dani Lundy.

I would like to thank my sister, Gloria and my brother-in-law, Mike for always being there for me in Special Olympics.

***Richard Mendola - Athlete***

## FUNDRAISERS

### **Buy Candles to Support our County**

This fundraiser will benefit Special Olympics Seminole County. These candles are equivalent to Yankee Candles and are selling for \$15.

Scents Available: Baby Powder (white), Christmas Cookie (cream), Christmas Tree (hunter green), Cinnamon Rolls (brown), Cucumber Melon (lime green), French Lavender (white), French Vanilla (ivory), Grandma's Cookies (cream), Hazelnut Coffee (deep brown), Hot Apple Pie (cinnamon tan), Lilac (light purple), Peach Preserves (peach), Sea Breeze (wedgwood blue), Spiced Apple (red), Strawberry Jam (red)

To Order: Please contact Debbie Taylor before March 16, 2007 to place your order:  
DTaylor@SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org or 407-699-4776

### **Get That Car Washed!**

The Seminole County Sparklers will be holding a donation car wash!

Sun. March 18 1:30-4:30pm Friendly's: 995 State Rd 434 N. Alt Springs 32714

## SPONSOR OF THE MONTH

**Lake Mary High School** may be home to the Rams, but we are proud to call LMHS our home for several of our sports programs, including basketball, track & field and volleyball. We appreciate the efforts of the student athletes who volunteer throughout the school season to help our athletes!

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### **Altamonte Spgs Special Com. Services**

Nin El-khoury, 407-571-8814 org  
Rrel-khoury@altamonte.org

### **Dance –Abilities**

Heather Meyer at 407-862-5500 or email  
Turningpte@aol.com

### **Nathaniel's Hope**

Call 407-857-8224 or email info@nathanielshope.org

### **Illiad-Independent Living Initiative Assisting the Disabled**

407-320-0016 or email Shari\_Gray@scps.k12.fl.us

### **Quest, Inc**

407-889-4530 or visit, www.questinc.org

**SEPTA- Special Education Parent Teacher Association**  
in Seminole County Public Schools  
SEPTA Resource Room: 407-320-7871 or  
scpssepta@excite.com

**The Autism Society of Greater Orlando**  
Call 407-855-0235 or visit www.asgo.org

**Devereux Florida Center for Child Development**  
407-855-0235 or visit www.devereux.org

**UCP of Central Florida**  
407-889-4530 or www.ucpcdc.org

**Advisory Board for the Disabled**  
Vinnie Coon at 407-575-8812 or VinnieC@altamonte.org



**Special Olympics**  
Florida  
Seminole County

*Please visit our website for information, updates, and more!*  
[www.SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org](http://www.SpecialOlympicsSeminoleCounty.org) or 407-263-8043