



Volume 7, Issue 3

The Winner

Special Olympics
Maryland
St. Mary's County
INSPIRE
GREATNESS

December 2006

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

St. Mary's County
December 2006

Mary Lu Bucci
County Director
301-373-3469
25926 Whiskey Creek Rd,
Hollywood, MD 20636
smdsmc@gmpexpress.net
Office: 301-373-8480

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.

Inside Stories:

- Bowling, pg 4
- Calendar, pg 5
- Cycling, pg 6
- Golf, pg 3
- Registration Forms, pgs 7 and 9
- Special Thanks, pg 11
- Soccer, pg 1 & 2
- State Awards, pg 10
- Winter Sports, pg 2

2006 Fall Fest Soccer Highlights

Special Olympics St. Mary's County hosted a local tournament at Dorsey Park in Hollywood on October 15. Teams from Calvert County and Virginia joined the teams from St. Mary's for a fun-filled day of competition. United Way Day of Caring volunteers helped with setting up the fields, running the event, and awarding trophies, 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 students from St. Mary's Ryken and Leonardtown High Schools. The teams played well together, with one game ending in a 1-1 tie, and the Local Student team winning the second game at 1-0. "We appreciate the support of these students to come and compete with our athletes and prepare them for the state competition.

Both teams had a great time together," commented Coach Toner. Members of this team are: Sam Huffman, Larry Mills, Jimmy Hawkins, Terrel Nowlin, Samantha Oliver, Shaun Ridley, Thomas Smith, Steven Summerfelt, and Brandon Thompson.

St. Mary's Team 2, coached by Henry



Chris Reed goes after the ball against a much taller Anne Arundel County athlete.

Hill & Chris Miller, played against Calvert and the Virginia Twisters. Each game was tight with the gold medal going to St. Mary's, the silver to Virginia, and the bronze to Calvert. Members of this team are Joe Quade, Kelsey Schramm, Beth Goddard, Brandon Chan, Allen Hill, Joey Owens, Annie Bassford, Jayme Lorraine, and Kristy Flagg.

The St. Mary's Tornados, coached by Nicole Brown and Connie Thompson, played against Calvert and the fourth St. Mary's Team, coached by Jim

Patrey and Mark Fondren. "This division was quite exciting to watch," commented Competition Director Jim Bucci. "The teams have some very quick young athletes, but some skilled seasoned athletes. They had a fun time." The Patrey Team captured the gold



Larry Mills is challenged by a member of the Lower Shore. St. Mary's Team 1 won the gold in these games.

in this division, with the Tornados winning second. Calvert placed third, and showed great effort. Members of the Brown/Thompson team are Tom Bayne, Russell Bucci, Angela Buckler, Michelle Haley, April Mielcarek, Wanda Morgan, James Sewell, Amy Trowbridge, and Andy Thompson. Members of the Patrey Team are Wayne Carter, Christopher Reed, April Towler, Rebecca Elwell, Joshua Fondren, Ahkeema Hawkins, Austin Debeltz, Michael VanNoordt, and Donnell Thompson.



In spite of the wet conditions, Allen Hill and his teammates won the gold medal. Everyone was very wet at the end of the day.

(continued on page 2)

Visit us at our website: WWW.SOMDSMC.ORG

WINTER Sports Training

SKIING & SNOWSHOEING

Starts: Thursday January 4
 Held: 4:30 to 5:30 pm
 Where: Leonard Hall Drill Hall
 On-Snow Training: February 10 and 11
 State Tournament: February 25-27

Snowshoe Spots
still available.

BASKETBALL

FULL COURT TRYOUTS—JANUARY 13
 Spring Ridge Middle School, Rt. 235 south of the Base
 Time: 8:30 a.m.

Starts: Saturday, January 20 [Teams on Monday
and Tuesday also]

Full Court	Practice will be on Saturday mornings at Spring Ridge Middle School
Half Court	Practice for Bald/Huseman Teams on Monday nights at 6:30, Green Holly
Half Court	Practice for Green/Hagan Team on TUESDAY nights at 6:00, Green Holly
Half Court	Practice on Saturday mornings at Green Holly
Skills	Practice on Saturday, 10 am at Green Holly

Local Tournament, Chopticon: March 11
 State Tournament, Towson: March 18

SWIMMING

Starts: Sunday, March 4
 Held: 6pm—Beginners; 7pm—Advanced
 Where: Great Mills Pool
 Local Tournament: May 6
 State Tournament: June 8, 9, 10

STATE BOWLING

Limited Slots for State Bowling
 Starts: Wednesday, January 3
 Held: 7 pm
 Where: Esperanza Lanes
 State Tournament: February 28

**Use the registration forms in the newsletter
for athletes.**

Soccer Results (cont'd)

The state tournament was held at Mt. St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg on October 28. St. Mary's four teams traveled to this year's annual festival, as well as two skills athletes.

St. Mary's Team 1, coached by John Toner and Jim Hawkins, won the gold medal at the state soccer tournament. They played against the Upper Shore team. The game included very wet conditions, large water puddles, and lots of good soccer competition. St. Mary's Team 2, coached by Henry Hill, won the gold in their division. They played against Prince Georges County. Also in their division was Baltimore County. The final game of the day in this division was so close and well matched that the teams went into overtime. Athlete Jayme Lorraine got a break-away opportunity and scored the winning goal of the game. He was supported by his teammates, who all played well.

St. Mary's Team 3, the Tornados, were in the division



Russell Bucci prepares to kick toward the goal during his team's battle with Calvert County.

with St. Mary's Team 4 and Calvert County. All three teams played good soccer with some interesting dribbling, shooting, and strategy. Team 4 won the gold, Team 3 won the silver, and Calvert placed third.

The soccer-skills athletes, Karla Kless and Michelle Johnson, brought home medals to recognize their abilities in dribbling, kicking, and scoring exercises. To compete at the state level, each athlete competed in a local St. Mary's County tournament and a regional competition.

The teams and skills athletes practiced at Chancellors Run Regional Park. Their coaches and volunteers prepared them for stiff competition and enjoyment. During the soccer season, other athletes also trained in our local schools with their physical education teachers and competed in a local tournament.

Local Golfers Qualify for National Tournament

The Special Olympics St. Mary's County 2006 Golf Season came to a close with several players qualifying for a chance to play at next year's Nationals Competition in Iowa.

The season began in July with all the athletes practicing at Wicomico Golf Course. Three levels of competition were held for the athletes. The level 1 skills athletes from St. Mary's County were Keith Stamp, Russell Bucci, Bobby Hislop, Terri Insley, Karla Kless, Annie Bassford, and Christie Brinkley. With emphasis on skill building, these athletes competed in driving, putting, and chipping competitions at Paint Branch in PG County, Compass Pointe in Anne Arundel, Easton Club in Easton, MD, and the State Competition at Blue Marsh Golf Club in Montgomery County. Keith and Karla each placed fourth in their competition and Terri received 7th. Gold medal winners Russell, Bobby, and Annie are now in the running for next year's Nationals Competition in Iowa. Special Olympics Maryland will draw names for the available slots for Team Maryland and announce the winners next spring.

Level 2 Golfers played nine-hole courses with the athlete alternating shots with their coach or partner. Andrew Gill and coach Dave Gill and Joey Owens and coach Butch Kious represented Special Olympics St. Mary's County in level 2 Golf at Paint Branch Golf Course, Rattlewood Golf Course, Compass Pointe, Swan Point in Charles County, Easton Club, Timbers at Troy, Beechtree Golf Club, Diamond Ridge, Laytonsville Golf Course, and the Maryland State Competition at Montgomery Country Club. Andrew and Dave won 6th place at the State competition and Joey and Butch won Gold, giving them the opportunity to have their names submitted in the summer 2007 Nationals Competition drawing.

Alternating shots were also used with level 3 competitors who played 18-holes per match at the same golf courses played by the level 2 players. Athlete Jimmy Hawkins and partner Jonathon Rafalik; athlete Tommy Kidwell and partner Paul Guy; and Jamie Lorraine and partner Bill Lowe traveled throughout the state to nearly a dozen different competitions before finishing the season with final round standings at the State Competition of 2nd for Tommy and Paul and 4th for Jamie and Bill. Jimmy and Jonathon received participation ribbons at the State Competition.

Head Coach Joe Owens noted the fine play by

several athletes who were new to the sport this year, Jaime Lorraine as well as great improvements from many of the returning players. He also added his gratitude to Patty Myers and her staff for the use of Wicomico Golf Course for weekly practices and a special thanks to Jay Worsham for making clubs for the athletes.

Special Olympics St. Mary County 2006 golf program was a great success thanks to the hard work and dedication of the coaches, the athletes and their families.

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. During the season, several athletes bowled at least one game that was more than 30 pins above their average. Thanks to the volunteers and the staff at Esperanza Lanes for a most successful season.

Special Olympics would like to again thank Dave Long for his 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.

Fall Bowling Local Results

Lanes 1, 2, and 3

1 Justin Thompson
2 Heather Cogar
3 Brady Carrigan
3 Brandon Fostano
5 Austin Debeltz
6 Wayne Carter
7 Rebecca Elwell
8 Jacob Robinson

Lane 4

1 April Towler
2 Scott Lefebvre
3 Kyle Russell
4 Terri Inasley

Lanes 5 and 6

1 Roberta SanFilippo
2 Karen Servaty
3 Michael Palmer
4 Julie Barker
5 Shelly Pickeral
6 Trina Williams
7 Pat Wells

Lane 7 and 8

1 Jimmy Finch
2 Linda Hammett
3 Andy Thompson
4 Jennifer Haley
5 Karla Kless
6 Joyce Stone
7 Gloria Armstrong

Lanes 9 and 10

1 Marshall Thompson
2 Linda Higgs
3 Shawn Somerville
4 Mandy Blackistone

Lane 11

1 Vicki Farmer
2 Martha Hyson
3 David Shields
4 Susan Epp
5 Jerry Gatton

Lane 12

1 Mary Pettit
2 Edie Ferguson
2 Charlotte Coppage
4 Dorothy Jackson

Lanes 13 and 14

1 Angela Buckler
2 Joanie Himes
3 Michelle Johnson
4 Kristian Flagg
5 Debbie Bowen
5 Melody Chase
7 Betti Russell

Lanes 15 and 16

1 Wanda Morgan
2 Ricky Stuver
3 Angela Pitts
4 Debbie Gatton
5 Charlie Sayers
5 Casey Chapplear
7 Tom Bayne

Lanes 17 and 18

1 Keith Stamp
2 Hope Taylor
3 Bob Hislop
4 Michael Anthony
5 Laura Fender

5 Kim Ballard
7 Bill Ford
8 Michael Bald

Lanes 19 and 20

1 David Wile
2 Connie Buckler
3 Ann Marie Fanzo
4 Christie Brinkley
5 Peter West
6 Brian Hargan
7 Lisa Jones
8 David Higgs

Lane 21

1 Mary Herbert
2 Kelly Guffey
3 Debbie Davis
4 Scarlett Cundiff

Lane 22

1 Russell Bucci
2 Michele Haley
3 Chong Fairclough
4 Patrick Flagg
5 Gilbert Walters

Lane 23

1 Jim Downs
2 Mark Kalendak
3 James Sewell
4 Patti Lippincott
5 Tom Stewart

Lane 24

1 Barry Burris
2 Joe Quade
3 Jason Wright
4 Tim Higgs



81 Athletes posed for a group picture at the alley just prior to the distribution of awards. It was a packed house across all of these 24 lanes.

CALENDAR for January, February, March, April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JANUARY	1	2	3 State Bowling Practice Area Meeting	4 Ski Training Begins 4:30 pm	5	6 Coach Training for Snowshoeing
7 Bowling Tournament in Charles County	8	9	10 State Bowling Practice	11 Ski Training	12 Poker Night	13 Tryouts for Full-court Basketball Coach Ski Training
14	15 School Holiday	16	17 State Bowling Practice 7pm—General	18 Ski Training	19	20 Basketball Practice
21	22 Bald/Huseman Team Practice	23 Green/Hagan Team Practice	24 State Bowling Practice	25 Ski Training	26	27 Basketball Practice
28 State Bowling	29 Bald/Huseman Team Practice	30 Green/Hagan Team Practice	31	FEBRUARY 1 Ski Training	2	3 Basketball Practice
4	5 Bald/Huseman Team Practice	6 Green/Hagan Team Practice	7 Basketball School Day Practice	8 Ski Training	9 Poker Night	10 Basketball Practice On-Snow Training for Athletes
11 On-Snow Training for Athletes	12	13 Green/Hagan Team Practice	14	15 Ski Training	16	17 Basketball Practice
18	19 Bald/Huseman Team Practice	20 Green/Hagan Team Practice	21	22 Ski Training	23	24 Basketball Practice
25	26 Bald/Huseman Team Practice	27 Green/Hagan Team Practice	28	MARCH 1	2	3 Basketball Practice
Winter Games at Wisp						
4 Swimming Starts	5 Bald/Huseman Team Practice	6 Green/Hagan Team Practice	7	8	9 Poker Night	10 Basketball Practice
11 LOCAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT Swimming	12 Bald/Huseman Team Practice	13 Green/Hagan Team Practice	14	15	16	17
18 STATE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT Swimming	19	20	21	22	23	24 Track Practice begins at Great Mills
25 Swimming	26	27	28	29 Bocce starts	30	31 Track Softball Practice
APRIL 1 Swimming	2	3	4	5 Bocce	6	7 Track Softball Practice
8 EASTER	9	10	11 Track Skills for School Students	12 Bocce	13 Poker Night	14 Track Softball Practice
15 Swimming	16	17	18	19 Bocce	20	21 Track Softball Practice
22 Swimming	23	24	25	26 Bocce	27	28 Track Softball Practice

St. Mary's Wheels keep rolling at Cycling

On September 30, 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.

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 the NAVAIR Building 2272 at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station under the guidance of Coach Connie Thompson, Brent Barbour, and local volunteers. They have been supported weekly by off-duty NAS police officers.

This year's program attracted several new athletes including David Shields, Kyle Russell, Justin Thompson, and Carlos Jackson. Returning athletes are Stephen Ennels, Joshua Fondren, Christopher Reed, Suzanne

Green, Melanie Shannon, Ronnie Noordzy, Anna Hammett, Christa Hammett, Wayne Carter, Brady Carrigan, April Towler, Bryan McCarthy, Jackie Morgan, Timmy Menard, Angela Buckler, Christy Brinkley, Joe Quade, Brandon Thompson, Michael Bald, Andy Thompson, Russell Bucci, Bill Ford, Betti Russell, Michelle Johnson, and Brian Hargan. 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, this year's course included a street course that the police officers use in urban driver training. There were some flat sec-

tions, but also a sharp turn with a definite incline for the longer races. Athletes were grouped in heats based on previous training scores.

This year's weather did not completely cooperate, however. Rain fell during the 10K and 5K races, leaving damp roads for the 1K time trial. Competing in the 500 meter time trial on 2-wheel bikes were Russell Bucci, Michelle Johnson, and

Christa Hammett. On three-wheeled bikes were April Towler, Michael Bald, Bill Ford, Brian Hargan, Betti Russell, and David Shields. The 1K time trial competitors were Russell, Michelle, Christa, April, Michael,

Bill, Brian, Betti, and David, joined by Andy Thompson, Christopher Reed, Anna Hammett, Timmy Menard, Angela Buckler, and Kyle Russell. The 5K race was a show of endurance for several of our riders including Andy Thompson, on a three-wheeled bike, Christopher Reed, Timmy Menard, Anna Hammett, Kyle Russell, Angela Buckler, and Joe Quade. We had three riders compete in the 10K road race – Joe Quade,

Jackie Morgan, and Brandon Thompson. Coach Connie Thompson commented, "I am proud of our athletes and their courage to compete at these levels. The rain complicated the day, but our athletes met the challenge."

The local Special Olympics program is proud of all of the athletes who trained this year and improved their skills. We

are thankful to the NAS Patuxent River for allowing us to use the facilities for training and we are most appreciative to the police officer volunteers, the parents, and local volunteers. With their continued support, the program continues to grow in St. Mary's.



This year's athletes braved the rainy weather to achieve greatness. The three cyclists above, Jackie Morgan, Brandon Thompson, and Joe Quade, rode in the 10K race. The two athletes below, Chris Reed and Andy Thompson, were among the 7 riders who competed in the 5K race. All St. Mary's athletes did a wonderful job.



REGISTRATION FORM Special Olympics St. Mary's County 2007 B A S K E T B A L L

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

Athlete will practice: At scheduled practices

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

LOCAL TOURNAMENT – March 11 DISTRICT-TBD STATE –March 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

REGISTRATION FORM Special Olympics St. Mary's County 2007 S W I M M I N G

Beginner 6pm

Advanced (lanes) 7pm

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

I am interested in attending the STATE TOURNAMENT, June 8—10

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

Thompson Honored at United Way Breakfast

This year's United Way campaign kicked off with a breakfast to celebrate the successes of the local area. Each member organization was asked to nominate a person who is an outstanding volunteer. Special Olympics nominated Connie Thompson. As Assistant Director, she supports hundreds of athletes, coaches and volunteers in St. Mary's and beyond. From bocce and cycling coach to equipment organizer and events photographer -- plus newsletters, grants, meetings and so much more -- Connie Thompson is a BEACON for Special Olympics and truly a Light of St. Mary's County. The theme of this year's event was "Together... We Matter".



Connie is congratulated by Dr. Martirano, Superintendent of Schools, and honorary chair of this year's United Way campaign

Coach Training

January 6—Snowshoe Coach Training
 January 13—Downhill/Alpine Coach Training
 January 17—Local General Orientation for all
 local volunteers and coaches

Register at www.somd.org

WISH LIST:

- Powerlifting Coach(s)
- Copy Paper
- Colored Paper
- #10 business envelopes
- Folding Chairs

Texas Hold'em Tournament

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



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

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

- Help with Selling Merchandise, Food, and Fundraising
- Help with preparing articles for publicity
- Sports Equipment manager
- Members of Food Service Team

UPCOMING EVENTS — VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Texas Hold 'em Nights, second Friday of the month — help with registration and food
If you can help with any of these events, contact Mary Lu Bucci, 301-373-3469

Spring Planning Registration Special Olympics St. Mary's County

I am interested in the following Sports in the Spring:

Name:
Track and Field
Softball
Bocce
Swimming
Unified Softball
Equestrian

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM IMMEDIATELY TO:

Mary Lu Bucci
25926 Whiskey Creek Rd.
Hollywood, MD 20636

Your Classroom
Teacher

Terrie Carter
Center for Life Enrich.

Mary Lu Bucci
Metro
Green Holly

VOLUNTEER Special Olympics St. Mary's County

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

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

Golf Tournament
Fundraising

Craft Fair
Food Committee

Spring Games
Local Basketball

Texas Hold 'em
Publicity

PLEASE RETURN REGISTRATION IMMEDIATELY TO:

Mary Lu Bucci
25926 Whiskey Creek Rd.
Hollywood, MD 20636

Your Classroom
Teacher

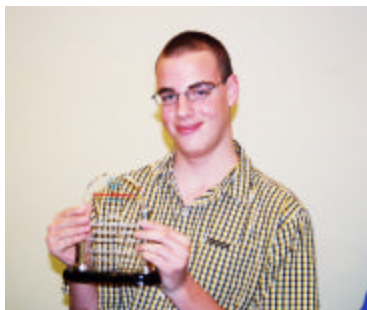
Terrie Carter
Center for Life Enrich.

Mary Lu Bucci
Metro
Green Holly

State Honors Thompson and Cavanaugh

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 entries and selects a winner for each category. This year, St. Mary's received two awards.

Brandon Thompson was selected as the Male Athlete of the Year for the State. He is a young man that is mostly quiet but strong in determination, courage, and the desire to help others. Brandon participates in several sports including sailing, cycling, soccer, bowling, basketball, skiing, track, aquatics, and the Penn Relay. The St. Mary's nomination noted Brandon's contributions. In track Brandon is a pentathlon athlete. He knows he is not the fastest or can jump the farthest, but he keeps trying and congratulates his competitors at each event. This year he took a new athlete under his wing and encouraged him to succeed in this strenuous event. The new athlete did well and even beat Brandon in one of the five elements. In cycling he is a mentor for several fellow athletes. He rides beside them, explaining



Brandon Thompson was chosen as the Maryland male athlete of the year.

During non-practice times, Brandon works behind the scenes to keep equipment ready for everyone. For example, he cleans the fleet of kayaks and trailer. When volunteers need items from the shed, he helps. For example, he helped TJ Parkes move 800 bottles of water into the SO van for the water sale. Brandon is a great example of an athlete who works hard, thinks of others, encourages his competitors, and helps to keep clean and working equipment.

ing shifting and negotiating turns. He works on the equipment during practice and makes sure that athletes are on safe equipment. He takes pride in watching his brother ride a 3-wheeler across the finish line.

The second award winner representing St. Mary's was Tom Cavanaugh. Tom uses his professional and personal time to support Special Olympics and was awarded the "High Five" award. Tom has been a friend of Special Olym-



Tom Cavanaugh, a stellar supporter of Special Olympics, is congratulated by the Special Olympics Board of Directors for winning the High Five award.

pics St. Mary's for over 10 years. He is employed by Northrop Grumman and also is a member of the Knights of Columbus #1470. Tom is always looking for ways to help us.

Tom is the liaison with his company to secure grant funds for major purchases. Special Olympics has received the Northrop Grumman grant for a couple of years and it has been used to purchase three kayaks, two racing bicycles, and this year, skiing equipment.

Tom's involvement with the Knights of Columbus includes many activities including the Tootsie Roll campaign and the Charity Ball. Special Olympics receives proceeds from each of these events. Tom ensures that the Knights know about Special Olympics and the athletes who are helped by their contributions. Tom recently attended the local Special Olympics Awards Banquet and presented awards to our athletes. He was overwhelmed at the number of athletes present and amazed by the video presentation of the entire year's activities. The athletes were proud to receive their award from one of the local sponsors. Tom goes above and beyond to help Special Olympics succeed in St. Mary's County.

Thanks for your Donation of Support

Thank You

Pat Gray
Lexis Nexis—Richard Milan
Northrop Grumman
Boeing
Fil-Am Association of So. MD
Maryland Charity Campaign
Gary and Gloria Yoshizumi
Steve Spadafora
United Way of St. Mary's
Kirk and Teresa Degler
Vilma Grams
Esperanza Bowling Lanes
Craft Fair Volunteers

Golf Tournament Volunteers and persons who made food for the Tournament
Soccer volunteers who supported the local event
Poker Tournament volunteers
Kyle Rambo—St. Mary's Youth Soccer, Inc.
Soccer referees and Dr. Edward Barrett
Dean Lumber
Ronald and Mary Ellen Elwell
Richard and Jane Wise
Robert and Cecelia Price
A.M. Hanes-Martinez and C.F. Martinez

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—Over \$7,000 raised.
- The local Soccer Tournament (food and beverage service)—Over \$400 raised.
- Brandywine Craft Fair (sausage and drink sales)—raised over \$1500, in spite of rain.
- Water Sale at Ann Marie Gardens (water sale using wagons)—Over \$800 with donated water
- Poker Night (every month since March)—admission and food/beverage—at least \$400 per night
- United Way Day of Caring (soccer fields, soccer tournament, shelves for shed)

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 persons have been a part of several 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.

We can only make progress with your help.

Contact us today. Call Mary Lu at 301-373-3469 or drop her an e-mail: somdsmc@gmpexpress.net

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.



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.



Newsletter Production is provided by The Printing Press, Leonardtown, MD; Mailing by Patuxent Moose Lodge



Cycling, page 6



Bowling, page 4

State Awards,
Page 10



Soccer, page 1



Golf, page 3



FUTURE EVENTS:

Basketball Tryouts for full court is on January 13

Basketball Practice starts on January 20; Local Tournament on March 11; State Tournament is March 18.

Skiing/Snowshoeing starts January 4; State Event on February 25-27

Swimming starts on March 4; Local Tournament is May 6