



Special Olympics Virginia Loudoun Area 14

20145 Ashbrook Place Suite 170 Ashburn, VA 20147



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## About Us

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Michele Copp

### Special Olympics Virginia

Caitlin Marcotte, Loudoun Area Coordinator  
Eamonn Garvey, Potomac Regional Director

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- Jim Mahood, Member At Large
- Eric Pearson, Member At Large
- Michele Steinbach, Public Relations & Outreach
- Russell Turner, Athlete Representative
- Audrey Wollett, Treasurer

### Our Mission


To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Game On! is published three times each year by Special Olympics Virginia—Loudoun.

### Contact Information

Caitlin Marcotte, Coordinator  
Special Olympics Virginia—Loudoun  
20145 Ashbrook Place  
Suite 170  
Ashburn, VA 20147  
(703) 777-0438  
Caitlin.Marcotte@loudoun.gov

www.loudounspecialolympics.org



**Green Option**

Email us at [Caitlin.marcotte@loudoun.gov](mailto:Caitlin.marcotte@loudoun.gov) to receive your newsletter by email instead of through the mail.



### Calendar

- Sept 7: Kids Triathlon
- Sept 14: Plane Pull
- Nov — Layups 4 Loudoun

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

### Inside this issue:

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# GAME On!

Special Olympics Virginia—Loudoun County

## Rain-Soaked Fun at State Competition



### TENNIS

Karen Cashman took athletes Matt Davis and DJ Cashman to States along with a fabulous chaperone, Jonathan Limbeck and excitement was in the air. Unfortunately for Matt and DJ, the rain arrived too and just wouldn't stop and all of their events were canceled. The rain couldn't spoil all the fun however. They really enjoyed opening ceremonies, cheering on the swim team, exploring the Olympic village and socializing with their fellow athletes and coaches at the hotel.

Closing ceremonies and the dance were also a blast. DJ Cashman, a SOVA Global messenger lead the athlete oath at opening ceremonies and that was very exciting to see. Just wait until next year!



### BOWLING

Our seven bowlers had a great weekend of competition against some of the best Special Olympics bowlers from across Virginia. All of our team fought a valiant fight against very tough opponents and did very well winning 2-Gold, 2-Silver, 2-Bronze and 1-4th places. Big thanks all of our coaches and volunteers that make Loudoun Special Olympics bowling program so special for our athletes.

- Gold Medal:** Robert Kaylor, John Vines
- Silver Medal:** Danny Tabler, Tana Olson
- Bronze Medal:** Carrisa Delitta, Jake Luoma
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place Ribbon:** Cassie Hutson



### TRACK AND FIELD

Unfortunately for Athletes Tyler Touve, Allyson Foster, and Andres SINCEK the never-ending rain put a damper on things for track and field as all of their events had to be cancelled.

Despite the disappointment, there was still lots of excitement to be enjoyed with the opening and closing ceremonies and Allyson got to light the Olympic torch!

### SWIMMING

Six swimmers participated in the Virginia Special Olympics Summer Games in Richmond in June. Every athlete won at least one gold and in the end the Dolphins metaled in a whopping 14 (10 Golds, 3 Silvers, and 1 Bronze) out of the 17 events. The proud athletes set many personal records and there were many shining moments during these summer games. Thanks to Coaches Wilson, Joy and Joan for their leadership, and to the volunteers for their valuable time in helping the athletes. Thanks also to all the parents for your support. We hope to see all of you next season!







### JULY 4TH PARADE

We had a wonderful weather and a fantastic turnout to march in the Leesburg parade this year. It was such a good time with flags to wave and candy to toss, that we are already planning to do it again next year and we hope to have even more participants. If you weren't there, we hope you can join us next year.



### Global Ambassador



DJ Cashman participated as an athlete at States in June but that wasn't his only role. DJ is also a Special Olympics Virginia Global messenger and was chosen to lead the athlete oath at the opening ceremonies.

### 3RD ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT



Thank you to all the golfers, donors, and volunteers who helped make our 3rd Annual Golf Tournament Raspberry Falls Golf & Hunt a remarkable success!

We had 70 golfers, 5 SOLC putters, a picture perfect day and of course great raffles and auction prizes. We not only raised nearly \$9,000 but we had a full day of fun in the sun.



Mark your calendars for the 4th Annual in 2014 and plan to join in the fun.

Have you checked out our website? If you are reading this online, click here to visit us or go to : [www.loudounspecialolympics.org](http://www.loudounspecialolympics.org)

### Goodbye Shelley

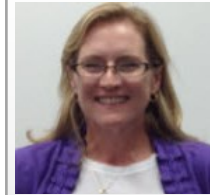
SOLC would like to thank Shelley Kuhns for 18+ years of dedication to Special Olympics. Shelley served as the head track & field coach and soccer coach for many years, among many other roles including organizing and leading our March participation in the Polar Plunge! With her recent move to Texas, Shelley wants everyone to know, "what I'm going to miss most is all of my Special Olympics family." We will miss you too and wish you all the best in your new home.



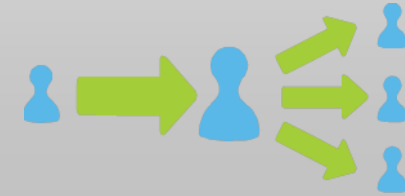
### TORCH LIGHTING

Allyson Foster was honored to light the torch for the 2013 Virginia Summer Games Opening Ceremonies.

### Council Corner: Letter from the Outreach Chair



I am Michele Steinbach, the Outreach Coordinator for the Special Olympics Loudoun County Council. My role on the council is to "reach out" and to help connect the Loudoun County community to our Special Olympics family—which includes our athletes, their friends and families, our coaches, and our volunteers. We make this connection in many ways, including through sporting events, fundraisers, and community events like the Fourth of July parade and the Brambleton Triathlon held in September. When our volunteer numbers rise and we see an increase in the number of our athletes participating in our sports programs, we know we are making connections in the Loudoun County community. But even better, when we hear from one of our volunteers that the time spent working with our athletes "changed my outlook on both people with special needs and families with members that have special needs"—that's when we know for sure we are making connections that will have lasting impact not only on our own community but also on the world. Each one of us plays a role in reaching out to others and sharing the spirit of the Special Olympics. Change someone's outlook today. Reach out and make a connection.



### Your Help is Appreciated



### Thanks to all Wine Country Half Marathon Volunteers

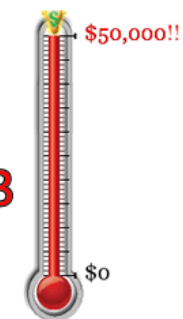
On a warm and sunny June 1st, approximately 160 volunteers representing SOLC turned out to support the runners while benefiting SOLC at the same time. Many thanks to all the volunteers and to the Virginia Wine Country Half Marathon and Doukenie Vineyard for making it possible for us to raise \$7,900.

### DID YOU KNOW?

All donations enable our athletes to compete free of charge and fund our sports so fundraising is critical to the ongoing success of our programs. Please donate and show your support at our fundraising events. Every dollar counts!

SOLC 2012/2013  
June 2012 - June 2013

Thank You!  
We reached  
our 2012/2013  
GOAL



Our last fundraising year closed June 30. Thanks to the generous support of our contributors we exceeded our goal of \$50,000! And we're off to a strong start this year.

### VOLUNTEER

Special Olympics is on the fast track and we need your help. If you are unable to make a long-term commitment, but can manage to volunteer for an hour or two, or make a financial donation of any amount, let us know by contacting Caitlin Marcotte, Area Coordinator, at (703) 777-0438.

### Plane Pull

Team members are needed to join us at Dulles Airport on September 14th for the annual Plane Pull.

To sign up either click [HERE](#) if reading this online or go to <https://www.firstgiving.com/team/239127>

### We've Moved!



Please note that the Special Olympics Loudoun County mailing address has changed. The new address is shown below so update your contacts and address books with the new address. Our phone number has not changed.

20145 Ashbrook Place, Suite 170,  
Ashburn, VA 20147