

**WASHINGTON
COUNTY**
SPECIAL OLYMPICS
MARYLAND



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WCSO Spotlight



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WCSO Spotlight



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September 2014

WCSO Spotlight



06.15.2014

L to r. Dolly Hall, Candi Blessing, Margie French & Coach John Follett.

Three of our athletes qualified to represent our State in the USA National Games held in New Jersey from June 14-21. Page 6 has photos of our Gold Medal winners and candid shots taken during the events. More can be found on our webpage and our Facebook page.



Allegany County Invited WCSO to Their Annual Spring Games

The first weekend in May found many WCSO athletes, families, and friends in Allegany County for their Annual Spring Games held on the Allegany College grounds. The Fort Hill Sentinels Marching Band led the welcoming parade. The athletes from each invited county joined in the parade as part of the opening events. Our athletes were very successful, winning multiple medals in track & field, aquatics and bocce. Traveling to neighboring counties adds a extra dimension to our sports.



Standing L to R: Michael Barnhart, Miranda Bozicevich, Bobby Strother, John Gorrell, Brandon Groomes, Zach Calhoun, Lee Follett, Patrick Speaker; seated I to r, Nova Boward, Candi Blessing, Amira Gray, Julie Keefer

More photos are available on page 2. Our western counties are planning more events that allow us to compete in qualifying events without extra travel and expense. It also makes it easier for friends and family to accompany our athletes and cheer them on to do their very best.



Is Callista Barnhart laughing because she's retiring? Not from WCSO but from WCPS.



The Athlete's Oath
"Let me win.
But if I
cannot win,
let me be
brave in the
attempt."



Some of the highlights from the Allegany Spring Games are shown above. We have part of the parade, running events, bocce, and crowd support. Lots more photos on our website and our Facebook page.

<p>1. Do you use illegal drugs? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>2. Have you ever been convicted of, or granted probation before judgment for: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO a) a criminal offense; or b) driving while impaired, intoxicated, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>3. Have you ever been charged (as an adult or juvenile) with neglect, abuse or assault? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>4. Has your driver's license ever been suspended or revoked in any state or other jurisdiction? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p> <p>5. Within the past five (5) years, have you been at fault for two (2) or more traffic accidents, or had your automobile insurance cancelled for safety reasons? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>	<p>I affirm that I have read and understand the "Volunteer Application" and that the information given is true and complete. I have read the "Release and Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnity Agreement" and fully understand and agree to it. I also understand that in the event false information is provided, I may be terminated from my Volunteer position. _____</p> <p>Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>IF APPLICANT IS A SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND VOLUNTEER: I hereby certify that I have reviewed this information with the applicant whose signature appears above. I am satisfied based on that review that the applicant understands this release and has agreed to the provisions included.</p> <p>Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____</p> <p>If APPLICANT IS A MINOR: Legal/Guardian Name: _____ Relationship to Applicant: <input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Guardian <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Primary Phone #: _____</p> <p>Signature of Special Olympics Maryland Staff or Authorized Representative _____ Date: _____ Photo ID Provided: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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Forms MUST be correctly signed

Page 2 of both Volunteer Forms and Medical Forms MUST have cursive signatures in the areas circled in red and the date must be put in the space circled in green. If this doesn't occur, the form isn't accepted by the State office and the Volunteer or Athlete isn't able to participate in events until the situation is rectified.



L to R: Mary Gorman, Callista Barnhart, Tracey Speaker, Marva Davis, Carolyn Roney, Theresa Rowe, and Carol Whiting. Vicki Follett took the photo, so she's not visible, but was definitely an integral part of the group! Anna Swart arrived the next day.

Management Team Meets at Buck Valley Ranch to Plan the 2014-2015 Athletic Year

July 20-22 saw members of the WCSO Management Team meeting for hours each day planning the schedules for each of the sports played in Washington County. This was actually just a small part of the work accomplished. State goals were refined, plans were initiated for new sports to be started during the upcoming year, plans for expanding the number of coaches and volunteers, special activities for the athletes, and fundraising plans and numerous other goals were set. All activities from the previous year were discussed with ideas of how to improve each. Among other fundraisers, we've planned a Spaghetti Dinner for next April! We will also have dining at Restaurants in our community wherein supporters of WCSO will be able to eat out & help us raise funds for our programs.



Candid Photos from our Summer Picnic!

50 Maryland Special Olympics
Athletes were chosen to
attend the Ravens/49ers
Training Camp



Michael Barnhart was one of the fifty athletes chosen to attend. He's shown with the 49ers' Quarterback, Colin Kaepernick, Ravens' LBs Albert McClellan & Daryl Smith, Ravens' TE Owen Daniels, and Maryland Special Olympics President & CEO Jim Schmutz.

Michael Barnhart Goes to Ravens Training Camp!

Maryland Special Olympics sent out emails to families of athletes inviting them to apply for a chance to go to training camp with the Baltimore Ravens & San Francisco 49ers. **Callista Barnhart**, one of our coaches, thought her son, **Michael**, one of our athletes, would enjoy the experience, so she applied adding his brother, Jason, as his chaperone. They were overjoyed at being chosen. The brothers boarded the Chesapeake Charter bus at the Special Olympics Maryland office and were transported to the training camp at Owings Mills. The two teams welcomed the athletes and their chaperones. The 49ers Quarterback, Colin Kaepernick, interacted with the athletes, had his picture taken with each one, and also took pictures of each of them. Michael also met all of the Ravens at the camp and had pictures taken with them. All of the athletes and chaperones had a great time, even though the day had to be cut short since the teams had to catch a plane. Each athlete was given a shirt and a badge labeled Ravens Training Camp-something for each to treasure.

*"...dining at
restaurants in our
community
wherein
supporters of
WCSO will be
able to eat out
and help us raise
funds for our
programs."*

Chopsti 
Tel.: (301) 393-5588

Every Saturday in
September, October
& November



September 23-26,
4 pm till closing.

When you visit these places
on the specified dates, re-
member say **you support**
Washington County
Special Olympics when
you place your order!



These two variations
may be our new
LOGO.



**“Fellow
employees and
ARC
representatives
congratulated
Candi on her
accomplishments
and for modeling
health & wellness
in the
workplace.”**



Enjoy movies in very
comfortable seats,
earn free popcorn &
free movies for your-
self and still benefit

WCSO



Candi Blessing was one of three Washington County Special Olympians who represented Maryland in the USA Games in New Jersey this summer. She competed in four events: the 1500 M run, the 4 x 400 M relay, the long jump, and the women's 3Kg Shot Put. On page 6 you'll see photos of her smiling and determined face in some of these activities. When asked what competing has given her, Candi's response was that she meets more friends and gains more confidence. That is evident in all of



her endeavors. Upon her return home, she was honored at Meritus Health for her accomplishments. Candi won a gold medal in the long jump, a silver in the 1500 M run and a bronze in the 4x400 relay. Fellow

employees and ARC representatives congratulated Candi on her accomplishments and for modeling health and wellness in the workplace. Three beautiful cakes and a commemorative poster depicting her medals provided a backdrop for this accomplished athlete. Congratulations for a job well done!



Margie French & Dolly Hall were interviewed at the Summer Games by a Fox45 newscaster regarding their upcoming trip to the USA Games. The interview also coincided with their birthday. These two are sisters, twins, and teammates. They compete in Washington County, then in the State Summer Games, and both made it to the USA Games. Both are used

Twins Interviewed by Fox45 at Summer Games

to being in the Spotlight. They compete most impressively in bocce, but also have competed in aquatics basketball, bowling, and floor hockey. At the State Games, both won gold medals in bocce singles & doubles and qualified to compete in bocce doubles, singles, and team events at the USA Games in New Jersey. They also appear on the next page as they took part in a demonstration for the Civitan Club meeting.

While at the National Games, both Margie & Dolly won gold medals, first in the bocce dou-

bles, then went on to win even more. See more photos on page 6.



L to R: Margie French, Candi Blessing, and Dolly Hall



Management Team Gets a Visit from the Boss



Jim Schmutz, President & CEO of Special Olympics Maryland attended WCSO's Management Team Meeting in May.

WCSO had a visit from Jim Schmutz, President & CEO of Special Olympics Maryland at the regular May monthly meeting. Mr Schmutz introduced himself, gave a brief history of his career, then had each member of the team tell him how and why each became involved with Special Olympics. He promised to be a visible leader. He listed his 5 Main Goals:

- 1) Recruit & retain athletes
- 2) Raise money for human resources & facilities
- 3) Raise awareness
- 4) More competitions, better support system
- 5) Increase opportunities for participants

Members of the Team expressed concerns and Mr Schmutz addressed those topics and explained his position.

The sports listed in the box are all featured at the USA National Special Olympics. At the county level we try to prepare our athletes for these sports. WCSO has athletes who participate in Aquatics, Bocce, Athletics, Basketball, Bowling (Duck & 10-pin) Equestrian, Long Distance Running, Snowshoeing and Soccer at the local level.

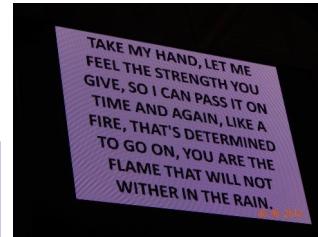
Why don't we have more? Good Question. We have the athletes, but we don't have the coaches. We need HELP! If you've played any of the sports listed, you can help. We NEED coaches and volunteers. We would love to have our athletes able to compete in these other sports. If you can help in any way, even with the sports we already have, please let us know. You can comment on our Facebook page or leave a PM. You can send a note to our P O Box (152, Funkstown, MD 21734) OR you can go to our website, <http://washingtoncountyspecialolympics.weebly.com/> and check out our Coaches link and call one of our coaches OR under the More link, choose Contact Us and let us know.



We Need HELP!

All of you have friends who enjoy sports. Do any of those friends have some extra hours they'd love to spend with our athletes? If so, please enlist their help for us. We need coaches and assistant coaches in order to expand our programs.

HELP!



'Dinner and Movie' filled Tote sponsored by WCSO

Filled Tote includes:

thirty-one Essential Storage Tote, Frozen and Lego Movies, Olaf, Legos, Pizza, Mac and Cheese dinner, Popcorn, Popcorn bowls, Cookies, Lollipops, Gift card for dinner at local restaurants, 4 movie passes to Leitersburg Cinemas.

Tickets: \$1 or 6 for \$5.



Bocce Demonstration

Carolyn Roney recently retired from coaching bocce for Washington County Special Olympics, but that didn't stop her love of the sport. She gave a demonstration on how the game is played at a recent Tri-State Civitan Club meeting. Several members had never seen the game played before and enjoyed seeing gold medal Special Olympians Margie French and Dolly Hall show how to throw a ball. Roney showed the different balls for playing indoors and outdoors.



The photo on the left is of Carolyn Roney as she discusses bocce and the one on the right shows Dolly Hall and Margie French who demonstrated bocce techniques



Giving Back Programs

Each month several local restaurants are supporting WCSO by holding "Giving Back" programs. At each of the establishments, a specific percentage of each customer's pre-tax bill will be donated to WCSO (as long as the patron states that s/he is with or supports Washington County Special Olympics). So please check the Upcoming Events to see which ones are available in the next 3 months.

Drawing will be held on Monday, October 6, 2014. See any management team member for tickets.

Filled Tote sponsored by Washington County Special Olympics
PRIZE: 'Dinner and a Movie' Filled *thirty-one* Essential Storage Tote
Donation \$1.00 or 6 for \$5.00
Drawing to be held Monday, October 6, 2014
Winner need not be present

USA Games

More photos from the National Games feature our three athletes who competed, but also our Coach and five Washington County Special Olympics fans who spent the week cheering on Team Maryland. Vickie & Lee Follett, Marva Davis, Carolyn Roney, and Callista Barnhart joined John Follett, Candi Blessing, Margie French and Dolly Hall and provided many of the photos that we are able to enjoy in our newsletter and on our website and Facebook pages.

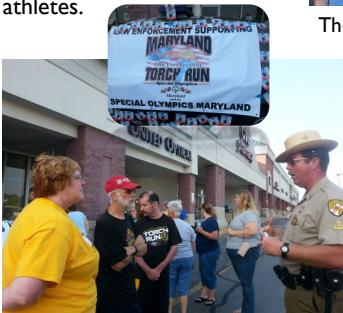


Our State Trooper Liaison

David Greenwood is our State Police Liaison and works with the Western Counties Special Olympic Teams. He held a Torch Run Fundraiser at our local CiCi's and was joined by his parents and some WCSO families and athletes.



The Greenwoods are joined at CiCi's by some very familiar faces!



More Giving Back



Monday, October 20th
Lunch & Dinner



Monday—Wednesday,
November 17-19th
Must have coupon
(available from any coach
or Management Team
Member)



The entire month
of November.
Just remember to
say you support
**Washington
County Special
Olympics** when
you place your
order!

Coaches



WCSO Spotlight

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The Mission of Special Olympics in Washington County is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for citizens with mental and physical 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.

Callista Barnhart, Marva Davis, John Follett, Toni Nelson, Jay Seipler, Mike peaker, Theresa Rowe, Pat Boward, Tracy Speaker, Ginny Gaylor, Rob Rubisch, Michael Boyce

We're on the Web & Face Book as Washington County Special Olympics



<http://washingtoncountysyo.weebly.com/>

Upcoming Events:

Sept 3: LDR practice each Wednesday
Sept 4: Soccer practice in Frederick
Sept 6: 10 Pin Bowling starts at Southside Bowl; Chopstix Gives Back to WCSO each Saturday thru November 29th
Sept 13: Duckpin Bowling starts at Southside Bowl
Sept 21: Quarter Auction at Funkstown Fire Hall 12:30 pm
Sept 23-26: 28 South Gives Back
Sept 27-28: Steam & Craft Show in Smithsburg
Oct 20: Rik's Café Giving Back day
Oct 25: Fall Sports Festival at Mt St Mary's in Emmitsburg
Oct 27-30: The Meadows Giving Back
Nov: All month long Always Ron's is Giving Back
Nov 2: Soccer States at Fruitland
Nov 16: Bowling Tournaments
Nov 17-19: Giving Back dates at Tony's Pizzeria in Williamsport
Nov 22: Fall Dance at Wilson Ruritan 6-8 pm

