



Frisco Special Olympics

FSO Newsletter

February 2003

Frisco Special Olympics

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 www.friscospecialolympics.org

Volunteering
 Tony Deyoe

Fundraising
 Troy Pelias

Parent Information
 Julie Tollefson

Sports Information
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Secretary/Treasurer
 Dr. Jill Wade

Santa Visits Special Olympians



On December 17, 2002, Santa brought presents for all the Special Olympic athletes. The bags were filled with Discovery Toys chosen for each individual athlete. Donations were given by local businesses and residents of Frisco. The athletes had a great time.

Pictures:
 Above: Matthew Penrod
 Below: Hannah Watson

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Thank You to All of Our Sponsors

The Frisco Special Olympics organization would like to send a special "Thank You" to all of the sponsors for our athletes' holiday baskets. Without your help and support, our organization could not help our athletes achieve their goals, strengthen their self-esteem, skills and friendships. Thank you again!

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Frisco City Council | Reflections Image Spa
972-334-0004 | Upside Downs Dance
Workshop affiliated by-
Dream Catcher Dance
972-964-5377 |
| Custer Road United
Methodist Church Y & R
Sunday School class | Grace United Methodist
Church Sunday School | Dr. Charlie Morgan, DDS
972-335-7777 |
| Pfister & Weaver, PLLC
972-712-9208 | Aida Pugh
Director of Special Ed | Debbie Lair
Special Ed Coordinator |
| Leggett & Clemons, PLLC
972-991-0889 | Bridget Self,
Homemade Gourmet
972-335-4920 | Christie Elementary
School |
| Dr. Diane Lide, DDS
972-377-8444 | Wal-Mart & Target | |

FRISCO SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEEDS YOU

Frisco Special Olympics is in need of volunteers for the Track & Field and Swimming sessions. Come out and support our growing community by volunteering a few hours a month. If your interest is being on a committee, we are in the process of heading up volunteers for our annual Picnic and Car Wash fundraiser. Our practices run once a week needing one-on-one guidance with athletes participating in a two-day area competition. High school students are welcome and can earn credits for school for their community



service. Special Olympics Texas requires that all volunteers be 15 years of age or older, unless accompanied by an adult. Since Special Olympics Texas is a sports organization, a desire to work with sports events will make your volunteer experience even more rewarding.

Please join our team by indicating your interest today! For further information please contact our Volunteer Coordinator Tony Deyoe at 972-668-2712 or at

volunteer@friscospecialolympics.org

OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP FRISCO SPECIAL OLYMPICS

We want to thank all who helped make 2002 a successful year for Frisco Special Olympics fundraising! Now, as we start 2003 we are looking at new fundraising events that should be fun & help raise money for our athletes.

This spring we are working on having a Frisco Special Olympics night at a Roughriders game. We will hopefully be selling group tickets to the game as well as running a silent auction during the game. If anybody has items or services that could be auctioned off let us know! In addition, we are trying to arrange our group to work a concession stand during a few games as a fundraiser for our group- if you would like to work this, let us know!

Lastly, we will be holding a car wash fundraiser this spring- want to help, let us know!

We are also trying to fill out our fundraising committee, and we are looking for people to join us. One area we need assistance in is a person to coordinate the sponsor levels we have set up for contributors.

Also, we always need individuals to go out & do "the asking" to get companies & groups to contribute to our events. If you have any interest, let us know!

Troy Pelias



TRACK AND FIELD

It's time for track and field to begin. Practice will start on Tuesday, February 25, 2003 from 6:00 –7:00. It will be held at the indoor facility at the high school during bad weather conditions, and will be at the outdoor track at the high school when the weather is nice. There is an event for everyone. We are hoping to have three local meets before competition this year. Come on out, show your pride, and be part of the Frisco Special Olympics Track and Field Team. If you have any questions, call Kristie Brown at 469-633-6946 or at sports@friscospecialolympics.org.



BASKETBALL

The practices are going great for the skills portion of the basketball competition. We are learning and improving by leaps and bounds. Practices are set up so the athletes go through the same routines they will be required to do at the competition. We are still practicing at Rogers Elementary at 6:45 to 7:45. The team practices have been moved over to Staley middle school because the need a full court to practice. The Team also meets on Tuesday nights at 6:45. I would like to let the athlete's know how proud I am for all their hard work, and I know it will pay off with medals at the meet. Just in case someone doesn't remember the Special Olympic competition will be Feb. 22nd at the 9th grade center in Allen. See you on the court.

Special Olympics Named One of the 100 Best Charities in America by Worth Magazine

For the second consecutive year Special Olympics was named by *Worth* magazine as one of the 100 Best Charities in America. **The Worth 100**, notes the editors, is "our second annual list of America's top charities [that] identifies the nonprofit groups that have made the biggest impact with your donation bucks." The list was published in the December/January 2003 issue.

Reshma Memon Yaqub notes in the article accompanying the list, "To Give Well, Give Wisely," that "These have not been easy times for charities," with a decline in donations by even the wealthiest of individuals.

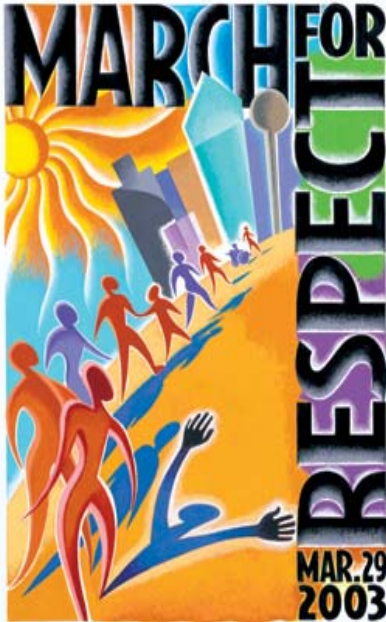
"Clearly, the combination of a two-year old bear market and a slow economic recovery has made people insecure about their wealth," writes Yaqub. "Corporations are feeling less charitable too: In 2001, they gave 14.5 percent less than in 2000. Donor confidence has also been eroded by scandals involving accounting at some charities.

Choosing among charities is never easy, observes *Worth* magazine. The United States alone has over 800,000 public charities, all vying to make a difference the best way they see fit. To come up with a preliminary list of about 200 charities, the editors of *Worth* interviewed hundreds of philanthropy experts for suggestions. That large group was then asked to provide detailed information on their operations, programs and services, as well as tax returns from the last three years, and subsequently winnowed down to the list of 100 after careful analysis.

Special Olympics appears as a choice charity in the Human Services category (noted to be particularly hurt by recession), the only section that expanded from last year, "reflecting an increasing reliance on these basic services."

-From www.SpecialOlympics.org website

Frisco Special Olympics to Co-Host March for Respect and Fun Day



Frisco Special Olympics is joining twenty other Metroplex area organizations in hosting the first annual March for Respect on March 29, 2003 at the West End in celebration of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

The march will begin at Woodall Plaza, extend 1.5 miles through the downtown area and end with a rally featuring motivational speakers and celebrity guests. A Family Fun Day will follow at the plaza, including an information fair, entertainment, face-painting, clowns, and other exciting activities.

The first 500 participants to arrive who have pre-registered will receive a free lunch and free event t-shirts. Pre-registration may be done through us by calling Julie Tollefson (972) 712-3093, through the March website (marchforrespect.org), or by calling The Arc of Dallas, 214-634-9810. Brochures with entry forms and posters are also available upon request.

The event will promote the acceptance and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities into all aspects of the community and everyday life. Families, friends, professionals, service and non-profit organizations, schools, businesses, worship centers and individuals are invited to participate. The school and the non-profit organization that brings the most participants will each be awarded a \$1,000 cash prize sponsored by Texas Instruments. Participation is free.

For only \$50, families, friends and others can sponsor their loved one's name on the "We Respect" banner which will be displayed at the event. Business sponsors and fair exhibitors are also being sought. For more information, call Sherry at 214-634-9810. All proceeds will help fund this year's and next year's event. Current sponsors include Texas Instruments and Southwest Airlines. The Loomis agency is providing promotional materials.



M&M'S® Chocolate Candies offer more than fun

The M&M'S® Brand is partnering with Special Olympics on a promotion that combines winning and giving in a unique way.

During the months of February and March 2003, the M&M'S® Brand is launching a major promotion, the Find All Gold sweepstakes, in support of Special Olympics. Consumers have the chance to win \$50,000 in cash *and* a \$50,000 donation from M&M'S® Brand to the Special Olympics Program in their state by purchasing specially-marked bags of M&M'S® Chocolate Candies. If you find a bag of all-gold M&M'S® Chocolate Candies, you win! Through this unique promotion, everybody wins.

For more information about the M&M'S® Brand Find All Gold promotion and Keep Wrappers to Keep Dreams Alive program, visit the M&M'S® Chocolate Candies Web site at www.mms.com. M&M'S® Brand has devoted an entire section of their fun and interactive site to this Special Olympics promotion. In addition to learning more about Special Olympics and some of the Special Olympics Team USA athletes, including the ability to write a message of support to athletes, visitors can do so much more. Want to send a message featuring the Red and Yellow characters to friends and relatives, reminding them to collect wrappers? You can find e-cards at the site. Teachers and community leaders can download "I Made a Difference" certificates for their class or group. Kids can learn more about collecting sports icons from wrappers and sticking them on a printable poster, as well as other activities. And there's nothing wrong with a little friendly competition — all visitors can check out which states are leading the wrapper drive.

The promotion will be supported by dedicated M&M'S® Brand television advertising — including a prime time television spot featuring

Special Olympics athletes and the M&M'S® Chocolate Candies characters. Virtually all packages of M&M'S® Chocolate Candies sold during this time period (approximately 200 million bags) are featuring the Special Olympics USA logo and a description of the sweepstakes.

Keep Wrappers to Keep Dreams Alive

In addition to the Find All Gold sweepstakes, consumers can help raise even more money for Special Olympics by collecting the wrappers showing the Special Olympics sports icons, which printed inside specially-marked bags of M&M'S® Chocolate Candies. The M&M'S® Brand will donate 50 cents for each wrapper that consumers mail in, up to a maximum donation of \$750,000 (\$500,000 minimum M&M'S® donation).

How you can help keep dreams alive:

Collect specially marked M&M'S® Brand wrappers.

Send the specially marked M&M'S® Brand wrappers to M&M'S® Brand. M&M'S® Brand will donate 50 cents for each wrappers received.

Send your wrappers to:

**M&M'S® Brand/Special Olympics
Keep Wrappers to Keep Dreams Alive
PO Box 5074
Blair, NE 68009-5074**

-From www.SpecialOlympics.org website



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www.friscospecialolympics.org
Email: info@friscospecialolympics.org



Visit us on the web!
www.friscospecialolympics.org

FRISCO SPECIAL OLYMPICS

VISION:

Pursuing excellence in ensuring that citizens with special needs and their families are included, celebrated, and supported.

MISSION:

To create and sustain an exemplary local Special Olympics Team for Frisco and surrounding communities by honoring the dreams and human spirit of athletes.