

# Triumph

January 2005



**Special Olympics**  
New York

## SONY kicks off countdown to Winter Games

*Special Olympics New York day proclaimed in Syracuse.*

**A**s the end of 2004 draws to a close Special Olympics New York (SONY) is making news in Syracuse. On Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, SONY held a press conference on the ice of the War Memorial to begin the countdown to the 2005 Winter Games.

President and Chief Executive Officer of SONY, Neal J. Johnson directed the press conference. Special Olympic Athlete and Global Messenger Megan O'Hara spoke about her involvement with SONY and her excitement that the games are coming to her backyard. Megan also talked about her claim to fame, appearing on a Wheaties box back in 1998.

Onondaga County Executive, Nicholas J.

Pirro and Charles Everett, a representative from Mayor Matthew J. Driscoll's office, read a proclamation declaring Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, Special Olympics New York day in Syracuse. County Executive Pirro also spoke about our inspirational athletes and their on and off the field accomplishments.

SONY's 2005 Winter Games are presented by P&C Food and Pharmacy. Director of Consumer and Public Affairs for P&C, Mary Anne Hankins, said her company is proud to be the presenting sponsor and excited to be a part of the Winter Games.

Vice President of Marketing for the Oncenter, Jerry Keohane, welcomed SONY



Neal J. Johnson speaks at a press conference in Syracuse to countdown to the Winter Games

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## TEAM USA Trains in Colorado

*Floor Hockey Team from Hudson Valley Region gets ready for World Games.*

*Written by: The Hockey Coaches: Janet Riley, Nancy Troiano, & Joe Bellini*

**W**ell we're home from our trip to Colorado and as we look back on the trip it's filled with many fond memories. It was an amazing experience for everyone from beginning to end. We were greeted with many smiles when we arrived. The Colorado scenery was breathtaking. Copper Mountain resort was just beautiful.

Training camp officially began with opening ceremonies. From there we went onto dinner where they had a great presentation on what awaits us in Japan. We learned how to use chop sticks, the athletes decorated Japanese fans, they dressed in a sumo wrestler costume to see what it felt like to be a heavy weight and we sampled some Japanese food like sesame



chicken, rice and spring rolls.

Bright and early the next morning we made our way to Breckenridge where we began our floor hockey training. (Thanks to Special Olympics Colorado for providing

sticks, pucks and goalie equipment.) After suiting up, we spent the morning practicing our skills and trying to get used to the altitude. After lunch we scrimmaged against the team from Southern California. It was intense and well played. The teams were evenly matched. Two hours later both teams left Breckenridge exhausted but extremely enthusiastic. That night we enjoyed a taste of Japan and a DJ.

The next day brought more practice and great play. Dinner consisted of tacos and Orphan Boy provided the music. Saturday brought an early practice and then the fun began. At lunch we recognized all our wonderful sponsors and then we were

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## What's INSIDE

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# A Message from the President

Neal J. Johnson is President & CEO of Special Olympics New York, Inc.



As we enter the New Year it's only natural to look back at the year that was. Thanks to the dedicated coaches, volunteers, sponsors and staff 2004 has been a successful one for Special Olympics New

York. We can look back and be proud of the Winter Games in Ellenville, the Summer Games at Hofstra University in Long Island, the Fall Games in Seneca Falls and to the hundreds of competitions held at the local and sectional levels.

I would like to take one last opportunity to thank the communities of Ellenville and Seneca Falls. After two years of being gracious hosts, Special Olympics New York will be taking the Winter and Fall Games to different parts of the state. Without the outpouring of support from these communities those games would not have been the great successes that they were. From the businesses who sponsored the games, to the local organizing committees who spend hours planning to insure that the games would go off without a hitch, to the volunteers who gave up their time and to the athletes who made the Games exciting, I thank you. As we say farewell to those communities we look forward to the 2005 Winter Games, in Syracuse and the Fall Games in Binghamton. We are already benefiting from great support in those areas and we look forward to these competitions. Our 2005 Summer Games are staying put in Long Island at Hofstra University for the

third and final year. With the excellent faculty and committed staff of Hofstra University I know our third year will be even better than the first two.

But we shouldn't take too much time reflecting because the new year will have many new challenges, new competitions to plan for and new athletes to welcome into the Special Olympics New York family. With every New Year our mission remains clear and our dedication to providing more competitions and helping more people with intellectual disabilities, is renewed.

As we welcome in 2005, we do so without some dear friends. One of those people who passed away this year was former staff member Peter Aquilone. Because of Peter's spirit, enthusiasm and all the invaluable contributions he made to our mission, the Special Olympics New York Board of Directors has approved renaming this event in Peter's honor. The "Special Olympics New York Peter Aquilone Floor Hockey Tournament" will be held Saturday, January 22, 2005 at the Javits Center. I hope you'll join us at the tournament as we pay tribute to a young man who loved sports and loved introducing sports into the lives of others. Additionally, we lost former SOI and SONY board member, and long time SONY volunteer Peter Loeb. Peter was a committed volunteer for our athletes in Manhattan, and for as long as most can remember he officiated at our Javits event, Metro Tournament and State Summer Games. His constant emphasis on the quality of the competitive experience for our athletes will be missed. ■

## Winter Games Countdown

Continued from P.1

to the facility. The Oncenter Complex will be the site for most of the competition during the Winter Games. President of the Syracuse Convention & Visitors Bureau, Doug Small, talked about the economic impact the Winter Games will have on the city of Syracuse and the surrounding area.

"The press conference was well attended by local television stations, the local newspaper and radio stations," said Neal J. Johnson. "With the amount of press coverage we were able to get, we hope to have created a buzz about the games that will translate into more sponsors, more volunteers, and more fans coming out to see our greatest asset; our athletes."

After the press conference concluded the television stations had an opportunity to interview athletes and SONY staff. Figure Skater Cori Piels and Speed Skaters Asha Renford and Jessica Carino, all from the Genesee Region, took to the ice after the press conference to demonstrate their skills for the news crews.

The 2005 Winter Games, presented by P&C Food and Pharmacy, is coming to Syracuse from February 11-13<sup>th</sup>. For more information on sponsorships call Rebecca Santoli at 1-800-836-6976 ext. 105 or e-mail at [rsantoli@nyso.org](mailto:rsantoli@nyso.org). To volunteer call Diana Bennett at 1-800-836-6976 extension 111 or email at [dbennett@nyso.org](mailto:dbennett@nyso.org) ■

## Triumph

Vol. 9, No. 1, January 2005

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### Inspire Greatness

Special Olympics New York, Inc.

504 Balltown Road, Schenectady, NY 12304-2290

Phone: 800-836-6976 Fax: 518-388-0795 Web site: [www.specialolympicsNY.org](http://www.specialolympicsNY.org)

### TRIUMPH STAFF

<b>John D'Alessandro</b> Vice President, Public Affairs	<b>Eric Wohlleber</b> Director of Public Affairs <i>Editor in Chief</i>	<b>Darcie Henderson</b> Design
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## Inspiring Moment remembered 25 Years Later

*Their story is still inspiring today.*

**F**ormer Buffalo Bill and NFL Hall of Famer, Joe DeLamilleure has been a Special Olympics volunteer for more than 25 years, and in one inspiring moment he help change the life of an athlete.

DeLamilleure was a volunteer at the 1979 Erie County Special Olympics Games and Special Olympian Fred Siegel was running his first ever race at the Games. But once Fred hit the track, he was having a pretty rough go of it. "This kid Fred," says Joe in an interview with WGRZ-TV in Buffalo, "I didn't even know his last name, and he was kind of struggling through the mile." So Joe decided to help out, he jumped out of the stands and ran along side Fred and gave him support. "So I just said to him, come on Fred you'll finish. I left, went home and never thought about it," said the hall of famer. But that one moment changed Fred Siegel's life.

Although Joe didn't think much of his act of kindness, it had a huge impact on Fred. "It was Joe coming out of the stands that really motivated him," Fred's father told WRGZ-TV. "Once he found out that he was a professional athlete and a Buffalo Bill that

sold Fred on running." "He just decided he was going to run from then on" says Fred's Mom. And Fred ran, just four years later, thanks to his new found confidence and lots of practice, Fred ran his way to the gold medal in the mile at the 1984 International Special Olympics Games.

In the years that followed Fred and Joe got on with their lives. Joe finished his football career and wound up in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Fred finished high school, and then entered the workforce. Although the years went by Fred never forgot about Joe and how he helped inspire him. Fred followed Joe's career and never stopped talking about him.

Last year a quarter century seemed to melt away when Fred and Joe ran into each at a fundraiser at Ralph Wilson Stadium, the home of the Buffalo Bills. Joe told WGRZ "I never imagined we'd meet again. To think, he was running after all these years. I'm a real sap; I started crying and got real emotional about it." At that fundraiser Fred asked Joe if he'd run with him again at the Heritage Center's Annual



Joe and Fred reunite 25 years after their inspirational run

Fun Run this year.

This past summer the two met again on the track. Their journey started with a professional, future hall of fame athlete inspiring a Special Olympics athlete and 25 years later the roles were reversed. ■

## Mike and Mike pass on Inspiring Story

*National Sports Radio Show Honored.*

**J**ustin Craig, producer of ESPN's Mike & Mike in the Morning Show, caught wind of Fred and Joe's story this summer and they it would be an inspiring to their listeners.

The Mike & Mike in the Morning Show is hosted by former NFL player Mike Golic and broadcaster Mike Greenberg. Every morning the two talk about what's going on in the sports and entertainment world. The show is also dedicated to bring its listeners closer to the action of the sports world, and it was the pursuit of this goal that they came upon Fred and Joe's story. On the morning of May 25<sup>th</sup> Mike & Mike brought Fred and Joe together for a live interview. An estimated two million listeners were inspired by their



Fred Siegel speaks at NYSARC's awards ceremony, Mike & Mike in the Morning's Producer, Justin Craig in the background

story. But the listeners weren't the only ones.

The interview earned the Mike & Mike in the Morning show a "Broadcast – Human Interest" award from the NYSARC. "We are extremely proud of Fred Siegel, Joe DeLamielleure and ESPN Radio for winning a NYSARC Media Award in the Human Interest Category," said Susan Brandt, NYSARC's Assistant Executive Director for Public Information. "It was a hard category to judge

as there were so many worthy nominations from across New York State. This story exemplifies the true spirit of the award and the contribution that ESPN has made

toward making our world a better place."

Justin Craig was in Buffalo a few weeks ago to accept the award on behalf of the show. "We, at Mike & Mike in the Morning and ESPN Radio, are not only honored, but also humbled to accept this award," said Craig. "On a daily basis, negative stories can take over the headlines, while stories recognizing the true essence of human spirit can sometimes be lost. Fred Siegel and Joe DeLamielleure represent all that is right in the sporting world, we're just thrilled to have been able to bring their story to the masses."

"We thank ESPN Radio for bringing Fred and Joe's story to the national level and we congratulate them on receiving this award," said SONY President and CEO, Neal J. Johnson. "Just like this story went virtually unknown for 25 years, there are hundreds of stories like this that are still under reported today. We want to share those stories with everyone, because in doing so we get more recognition for our organization and more importantly our athletes," said Johnson. ■

## Point of View

Colleen Price  
SONY Intern



This fall I had the opportunity to not only see inspirational athletes in different competitions, but also to assist the SONY staff with some of the “behind the scenes” details. While some tasks, such as inputting data and encouraging people to volunteer, can be tedious and discouraging the overall experience has increased my appreciation for the compassionate efforts of the Special Olympic employees and volunteers. Without their generosity and expertise events such as the Fall, Winter, and Summer Games would not exist.

Being able to be a part of Special Olympics events and assist the volunteer staff has been an invaluable experience. The office atmosphere in the weeks leading up to the Fall Games was friendly, encouraging and contagious. The entire organization was extremely patient and helpful towards their volunteers, interns, and co-workers.

While I enjoyed learning about the preparation for the Fall Games, the actual experience was amazing. Walking around the New York Chiropractic College and Waterloo Little League fields this past October I could feel the excitement of the athletes. They all had smiles on their faces and were simply happy to be competing. Even though at the end of the day they all hope to have a medal around their neck, participating and interacting with other athletes insured that the entire weekend would be a success. Whether the athletes won or lost they displayed great sportsmanship, persistence, and heart. It was difficult not to be inspired by their pure love for athletics.

In the final days of my internship I look forward to the challenges and contributions that can be made in preparation for the Healthy Athletes program and the 2005 Winter Games. Hopefully, future college students, such as me, will take advantage of the great opportunity of interning or volunteering with Special Olympics New York. ■

## Athletes Star in ESL's Little Shop of Horrors

*A night of stars in Rochester.*

Saturday, November 20, was an exciting evening for several Genesee Region athletes when they appeared on the stage of the German House in Rochester. For the third year in a row, ESL Federal Credit Union sponsored several Special Olympics Athletes in the production of Little Shop of Horrors. Main Cast parts were performed by David Russell who was Seymore, Amanda Vito who was Audrey, Adolph Dupree



David McEneaney, Regional Director, Special Olympics Athlete Kris Warden, Special Olympics Coach and Kris' Mother, Karen Worden

who was Audrey II, Justin Falco who was Mushnik, Ken Moriarty who was Mrs. Luce and Jim Hart who played the part of Skip Snip, the First Customer. Other Special Olympians were dancers and members of the chorus.

The play was produced by Deb and Ed Schram who also previously produced Joseph and then Grease, which also featured Special Olympics athletes. Susan Ware of the ARC was the Choreographer and Artistic Director and also leads the dance group, Moving Experience.

Special Olympics staff chose the play as their staff night out to support all the Special Olympics athletes who were part of the production. According to David McEneaney, Regional Director, “We were so proud to be in

the audience and witness the incredible talent that the athletes had for acting. It was such a thrill to see them in another role other than playing sports. This will truly be an annual staff outing.” Marian Turner, Director of Development, echoed the same sentiment, “We salute Dave Deffenbaugh and ESL for their sponsorship and belief in the capabilities of people with intellectual disabilities. The cast had an amazing collection of talents.”

The Special Olympics athletes were thrilled to have Special Olympics staff attend as expressed in Adolph Dupree’s note to the staff, “I love the play so very much and you made it all possible by coming out to see me, everybody thought I did an outstanding job playing a plant and singing the song called, ‘In the Midnight Hour’ and I thanked them for that. People loved the show because it was the best show on earth.” Everyone agreed with Adolph’s comments. Congratulations to the cast and directors of a fabulous play. ■

## Team Training

*Continued f P.1*

treated to a fashion show. One of our athletes, Max, got to be a model. We saw all the great outfits we would receive courtesy of Columbia Outfitters. After lunch we had some free time to explore Copper Mountain and all the little shops and sights. There were plenty of photo-ops for everyone. Just before dinner, we donned our TEAM USA sweatshirts and headed outside for our official TEAM PHOTO! It was chilly but we made the best of it. For dinner we had pizza and salad and all the head coaches were recognized. After dinner we went to our uniform fitting session. We tried on pants, shirts, gloves, jackets, and fleece vests. We will also get a new pair of boots. The evening ended with a slide show to re-cap camp and all the memories.

We packed on Saturday night and

traveled all day on Sunday back to Denver. Our trip ended when we landed at LaGuardia airport and drove home.

All in all, it was a great experience. As a team we bonded and learned how it would be in Japan. We still have some hockey to learn but we feel a lot better now that we have the camp under our belt. The athletes are excited for the World Games which are coming up February 26<sup>th</sup> through March 5<sup>th</sup>. We have plenty of practices until then and we hope to fine tune our skills. We’ll like to thank our friends in Colorado who were great hosts and Columbia Outfitters for our outfits.

Janet, Nancy, and Joe will be acting as correspondents while at the World Games in late February and early March, so be sure to watch for their first hand accounts of the games in future issues. ■

# Awards Luncheon Highlights the 2004 Fall Leadership Conference

*Special Olympics New York honors top volunteers, athletes and organizations.*

More than one hundred people descended on the New York State United Teachers headquarters in Latham, on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> for the 2004 Fall Leadership Conference. The first order of business was the Board of Directors Awards luncheon our new Chairman, Richard Salinardi, acting as emcee.

The first award was presented to Carole Allen as Outstanding Coach of the Year. In accepting her award, Carole said she was honored by the praise. A leading force in the Bronx for many years, Carole said it

seemed like she's been with Special Olympics New York forever and that she plans on being with it for a long time to come. She talked about her struggles and challenges to help make events successful, concluding that the years of hard work was worth it and that she's honored, happy and proud to have done it.

This year's Bryner Family of the Year went to the Stopera family of Niskayuna.

The Stopera's got started with Special Olympics 7 years ago when Chris became an athlete, and since then the whole family has joined in. This year when the Area 38 golf team looked like it would never tee off the whole Stopera family, parents, Dan and Michelle, and

sons Chris, Matt and Dave took over and saved the program. In accepting the award Matt said that his family is a lot like the Partridge Family, all piling into the family car to travel to all the area events.

The Fran Tokar Area Coordinator of the Year Award went to Gary Terwilliger who, along with a devoted group of people, helped save Special Olympics in Ulster County. In accepting the award Gary thanked the SONY staff for helping him through the year, saying he was truly humbled and appreciative to win the award. Gary said that Area 6 lives by a simple

motto: if it doesn't benefit the athletes, we don't do it.

Our 2005 Female Athlete of the Year is MaryAnne Silverstrim, who was unable to

be at the Fall Conference. Her accomplishments were noted in announcing her as the winner, including graduating from Sullivan Community College this year as the class valedictorian. MaryAnne was also credited for her work as a global messenger and her accomplishments on the field.

Paul Asaro is the 2005 Male Athlete of the Year.

Paul is a fierce competitor while on his bicycle and is an outgoing member of his community. In accepting his award Paul talked about his bad luck at the 2003 World Games in Ireland.

When mechanical problems took him out of medal contention, he said that hearing people shout out his name at the World Games provided him with memories just as great.

The highest award given by Special Olympics New York went to Lynn McCann. The Dorothy Buehring Phillips Award winner has been a coach, volunteer, local coordinator, state coordinator, and on the Board of Directors. Lynn

thanked all those who have worked with her through the years.

Allen Birkett won the Herb Rosenblatt State Volunteer of the Year Award, Lehman College received the award for the Outstanding Local Organization, the Outstanding Training Club went to Madison - Cortland ARC, and Outstanding Local Program went to Onondaga County. The New York Lottery, GEICO, and Toyota Motor North American won Corporate Excellence Awards. Clear Channel won the Statewide Media Excellence Award and Newsday won the Media Excellence

Awards on the local level.

Outgoing Chairman of the Board Tony Bifaro also received praise for his years of dedication and hard work on behalf of Special Olympic athletes. He received a leather brief case and was presented with the gavel he used throughout his tenure as Chairman. Tony talked about the first competition he attended as a volunteer and describing his time with SONY "as a labor of love".

The Fall Conference was not just about the awards. After the luncheon attendees enjoyed four workshop sessions covering various aspects of the Special Olympics program. "It was a great day," said President and Chief Executive Officer, Neal J. Johnson, "the NYSUT staff was great as always, the awards presentations were touching and the sessions were informative. It was a fitting end to another great year for Special Olympics New York." ■



Neal J. Johnson presents Lynn McCann with the 2005 Dorothy Buehring Phillips Award



The 2005 Special Olympics New York Male Athlete of the Year Paul Asaro, with his family

## AWARD RECIPIENTS

**Female Athlete of the Year**  
MaryAnne Silverstrim

**Male Athlete of the Year**  
Paul Asaro

**Bryner Family of the Year**  
The Stopera Family

**Dorothy Buehring Phillips Award**  
Lynn McCann

**Herb Rosenblatt Award**  
**State Volunteer of the Year**  
Allan Birkett

**Fran Tokar Award**  
**Area Coordinator of the Year**  
Gary Terwilliger

**Outstanding Coach**  
Carole Allen

**Outstanding Local Organization**  
Lehman College

**Outstanding Training Club**  
Madison - Cortland ARC

**Corporate Excellence Awards**  
NY Lottery  
GEICO  
Toyota

**Media Excellence Awards**  
Clear Channel (State)  
Newsday (Local)

**Outstanding Local Program**  
Onondaga County

# TORCH RUN TIMES

Law Enforcement Torch Run News

## Cops and Lobsters benefit a hit in Capital District Region

*Colonie Cops trade in blues for aprons to raise money for Special Olympics New York*

Police officers from around the Capital District Region took their motto “to serve and protect” to a different level in December. On Thursday, December 9th and Friday, December 10th local officers were armed with pens, pads, aprons, trays and smiles as they took orders and cleaned tables for hungry patrons at the Red Lobster on Wolf Road. It was all to raise money for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics New York. This was the 5<sup>th</sup> year the Colonie officers played the role of celebrity waiters and waitresses.

Customers were greeted immediately as they walked into the Red Lobster by athletes and Law Enforcement Torch Run staff. Once they were seated the officers introduced themselves and talked about the mission of Special Olympics New York. From there the officers did everything from serving meals, cleaning tables and assisting the Red Lobster staff in the kitchen. Each table received an envelope to use if they wanted to leave a donation and almost everyone did.

“The officers were great, they were constantly on the move running from table to table,” said Chris Porreca, director of development. “They’re the perfect




spokespersons for our athletes.” For the 5<sup>th</sup> year Red Lobster partnered with the local law enforcement for this fundraiser. “The management and staff at Red Lobster were so helpful,” said Jeanne Mesick, Director of Development. “They opened their doors, put up with a lot of questions, let us get in their way and they always offer a helping hand and a pat on the back. They work just as hard as the officers to make sure the benefit is a great one year in and year out.”

## LETR picks a winner for Harley

On Saturday, December 4, the Law Enforcement Torch Run held its drawing to pick the winner of a 2005 Dyna Super Glide Custom. The drawing was held at Moroney’s Harley Davidson in New Windsor. And the winner is .... Ed Duda from West Seneca, New York. Ed says he plans on taking \$15,000 instead of the bike. Congratulations Ed. The second prize of \$500 went to Kevin Breen of Slingerlands, New York. Joseph and Sueko DePalma of Farmington, New Mexico won \$250, fourth place and \$150 went to the Quague PBA, and the fifth place prize of \$100 went to William Leete of Poughkeepsie. Thanks to everyone who helped make this fundraiser a successful one.



## IOMGIA chooses LETR

 The International Organization of Motorcycle Gang Investigators Association (IOMGIA) chose the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics New York as its 2004 charity. IOMGIA's annual conference was held in Buffalo from September 12-17<sup>th</sup>. Along with the conference being held in New York State, the group donates money to a statewide charity, and that charity was LETR. In all, \$13,000 was raised. "We would to thank IOMGIA for their generous donation," said Chief Michael Benson of the Erie County Sheriffs Department. "These men and women have a difficult job. It's something that takes them away from family and friends for an indeterminate amount of time. They're out there making this a safer world and they're always looking to help others." ■

## Polar Bears Plunge for Special Olympics

 After more than 100 years of jumping into the frigid waters of the Atlantic Ocean on New Years Day, the Coney Island Polar Bear Club is plunging for The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics New York. "The Coney Island Polar Bears have been diving into the freezing Atlantic since 1903, and one hundred years later we feel like we're being reborn now that we are teaming up with Special Olympics New York," said Coney Island Polar Bear President, Louis Scarcella. After last year's plunge the Polar Bears decided that they needed to find a charity to

donate the money raised at the event and they decided on LETR. "We're thrilled to be partnering with the Coney Island Polar Bears," said Director of Development, Jeanne Mesick. "These men and women are a lot of fun, maybe a little crazy but a lot of fun, and we hope to be



with them a hundred years from now." The Coney Island Polar Bears will be taking their New Years day dip at 1 p.m. on the boardwalk. A portion of any plunge pledges and the sale of t-shirts will go to Special Olympics New York. Look for coverage of the event in the next *Triumph*. ■

## Law Enforcement Torch Run 2005 Schedule

Coney Island Polar Plunge	Coney Island Boardwalk	Jan. 1
Rochester Polar Plunge	Ontario Beach Park, Charlotte Beach	Feb 6
Fishkill Polar Plunge	Camp Mariah, Sharpe Reservation	March 12
Carquest Awareness	Entire State	April
TORCH RUN	Entire State	MAY - JUNE
Western NY Fire Truck Pull	Twin District Vol. Fire Dept., Lancaster	TBD
Golf Classic	The Links at Union Vale, LaGrange	May 23
Auburn Fire Truck Pull	Casey Park, Auburn	TBD
Royal Flush Tour Poker Run	Hender'Son's, Schaghticoke	Aug. 13
Golf Tournament	Ballston Spa Country Club, Ballston Spa	Aug. 22
Poughkeepsie Fire Truck Pull	Freedom Park, LaGrange	Oct. 1
Harley Davidson Raffle	Entire State	March - December
Adirondack Motor Cycle Rally	ORDA, Lake Placid	TBD
Albany Plane Pull	Albany International Airport, Albany	TBD
Pick a Pair Raffle	Entire State	TBD
NYS Division of Parole Golf		Sept 9
Law and Orders	Entire State	Ongoing



## Special Olympics New York

504 Balltown Road  
Schenectady, NY 12304

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

### Comments and story suggestions can be directed to:

Special Olympics New York, Inc.  
Public Relations Department,  
504 Balltown Road, Schenectady, NY 12304,  
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Special Olympics New York, 504 Balltown Road, Schenectady, NY 12304, or e-mail them to [ewohlleber@nyso.org](mailto:ewohlleber@nyso.org).*

## Draft Party 2005

Join the twenty Special Olympics New York athletes who will compete in the 2005 World Winter Games in Nagano, Japan. These athletes and celebrity guests will take part in the 2005 Draft Party on Thursday, January 20, from 6- 9p.m., at the Whitby Castle in Rye, NY.

This premiere fund-raising event will feature a live auction, Hors D'oeuvres, the Athlete Draft and live entertainment by world renowned violinist, Meg Okura.

Tickets are \$150 ea. and sponsorship opportunities are still available. Please contact Rebecca M Santoli at 518-388-0793 x105 for details.

## 2005 Calendar of Events

What's happening next year? Check out [www.specialolympicsNY.org](http://www.specialolympicsNY.org) as updates are being made daily.

Don't see your event listed, e-mail submissions to [dhenders@nyso.org](mailto:dhenders@nyso.org) for consideration.

- √ Event title
- √ Location
- √ Date
- √ Event type (aka: fund-raiser)
- √ Event details
- √ Contact info
- √ Region & area program affiliation.

*Listings are limited to sectionals, regional and state level competitions, fund-raising events and special events.*

SONY's mission is to provide sports training and athletic competition to individuals with intellectual disabilities, including mental retardation. Our programs are designed to offer participants continuing opportunities to enjoy sports, develop physical fitness and demonstrate courage while interacting with their families, the community and other Special Olympics athletes.