

Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA)

www.wdsra.com

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AS HEARD ON WONC FM89.1

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We are the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association providing social and recreational programs for children, teens and adults right here in DuPage County.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS SUMMER GAMES: Congratulations athletes!

Over 50 athletes and coaches took part in the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games being held June 7th-9th at Illinois State University. The WDSRA Wildcats competed in bocce, swimming, track & field, and soccer. Their hard work and dedication brought home 12 GOLD, 8 SILVER and 6 BRONZE medals! Another 8 placements at 4th, 5th and 6th places

Find more photos on our Facebook page and check out the great video send-off they got!

DAY CAMPS: Summer Camps are in full swing and full of FUN!

WDSRA's programs started in 1976 with a single-day camp. Forty seven years later, we are still serving countless campers. Campers, ages 6-21 years old, will fill their days with exciting games, crafts, swimming, sports, field trips, and more. They will be reuniting with old friends and making new ones!

Just how busy are summer camps? Here are the numbers:

- 5 different camps meeting Monday-Thursday for 8 weeks (varies by camp)
- 6 weeks of Friday Field Trips
- 3 weeks of Extended Camp
- 86 unique campers
- 122 registrations (reflects registration for multiple camps)
- 80 staff working camps
- 139 locations including camp sites, pools and field trip locations

Keep up to date on all the fun this summer on our <u>Facebook page</u>.

DONOR IMPACT: Thank you Rotary Club of Naperville!

WDSRA recently received a \$2,500 grant from the Rotary Club of Naperville to support the creation of sensory bags this summer.

Sensory bags are an invaluable tool for helping children with sensory issues, particularly in camp settings. These bags contain a variety of items that engage different senses, such as soft textures and soothing sounds. By providing a range of sensory experiences, these bags can help children regulate their sensory input and feel more comfortable in their environment. Incorporating sensory bags into camps can create a successful and inclusive experience.

The presentation was made at their annual Community Service Grant luncheon, held June 1st at Meson Sabika. Overall \$175,000 in grants was awarded to 36 non-profit organizations in the community. The

grants were funded through generous donations from the Rotary Club of Naperville Charities and Naperville Rotary Charities.

THANK YOU ROTARY CLUB OF NAPERVILLE!

SENSORY GARDEN PLAYGROUND: Play Day - Dino Dig!

Join in on the all-inclusive fun with fun family activities and giveaways. June's theme is dinosaurs - complete with a dino dig!

Saturday, 6/17 @ 10am-12pm 2751 Navistar Drive, Lisle

Located inside Danada South Park, northeast corner of Warrenville and Naperville roads. \$5 suggested family donation

Events may be cancelled due to inclement weather. For updates, visit www.playforalldupage.org.

SCREENING: Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse

As a reminder, the SMG sensory friendly Special Needs Screenings present movies with the lights up and the volume low. Moving around, talking, and even dancing in the aisles is welcome. Please check the website to confirm dates and showings.

Saturday 6/17 @ 11am Studio Movie Grill

301 Rice Lake Square, Wheaton Tickets are FREE for ALL family members of guests with special needs!

Complete details at <u>www.studiomoviegrill.com</u>

Wrap

With that, all I can do is wrap it up. If you have any questions about anything we talked about here today, please give us a call. We are happy to answer them all! Contact us at 630-681-0962 or check out our website at www.wdsra.com. And please, stay connected with us by following us on Facebook or signing up for our enews.

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WDSRA

Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA) provides engaging, community-based recreational programs and inclusion services for children, teens, and adults with special needs. WDSRA offers Special Olympics, adapted sports, dance and art programs, camps, trips, special events, and more. WDSRA's mission, the development of individuals through recreation, makes it possible for individuals to grow personally, connect with their community and discover their potential.

WDSRA is an award-winning organization and a cooperative extension of nine park districts serving the communities of Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Glen Ellyn, Naperville, Roselle, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton, and Winfield.

MISSION We enrich lives, connect communities and create fun through inclusive recreational opportunities.

VISION A world of opportunities, belonging and individuals reaching their full potential. **Learn more at www.wdsra.com.**