



# HOT HAPPENINGS

summer 2010

**Welcome to the first edition of the WSSRA newsletter! We hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the rest of summer and gearing up for the fall season of programs starting September 27, 2010... please note that some of the programs have a late start date! Check out our summer in review:**

**June 21-July 30th:** WSSRA Day camp was a huge success with 8 camps and a total of 205 kids! We could not run our day camps without our tremendous staff, so thank you to all that made this summer possible.

**June 15-July 15th:** Extreme Summer Fun (ESF)! WSSRA worked in tandem with Leyden Area Special Education Cooperative (LASEC) to provide an afternoon day camp for kids. ESF camp was held at North School Monday through Thursday from 12:15-3:00pm. Fifteen kids joined us this first year!

**June 21-July 31st:** WSSRA had approximately 30 programs running throughout the summer Monday through Saturday, morning, noon, and night!

**July 11th:** WSSRA/LWSRA hosted a softball tournament at the Center at North Park.

**July 13th:** The Wacky Quacky pool party was held at the Park District of Forest Park... we had almost 500 people in attendance. Waa hoo!

**July 17th:** Wacky Quacky Duck Splash and Berwyn Carnival of Fun. This year WSSRA raised almost \$10,000 dollars and sold over 1,350 ducks. It was a quackin' good time!

**August 9-13th:** WSSRA took three groups on overnight trips to Camp Algonquin. It may have been the hottest week of the summer and the most mosquitoes the overnight trips had ever seen, but everyone pulled through and had a blast at camp...hopefully the bug bites are gone and the memories are all that last!

**August 16-20th:** The young adult trip traveled to Cedar Point in Sandusky, OH and Pittsburgh, PA. The group toured Heinz Field, ate at Primanti Brothers, went to a Pirates game, and much, much more. View the pictures from the trip at [www.wssra.net](http://www.wssra.net).

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## STAFF

Meet Amy Mepham! Amy is our new Recreation Specialist at WSSRA. She graduated in May 2010 from Chicago State University with a degree in Recreation and emphasis in Therapeutic Recreation. Amy started full time at WSSRA this June. She had an internship at Advocate Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn and worked at South West Special Recreation Association supervising programs for over two years.

Amy was born in Arlington, Texas and moved to Chicago, IL in the Bridgeport neighborhood at the age of six. Amy is the oldest of three kids. She has a younger brother and sister. Amy lived in San Diego, California for three years where she worked at a surf camp for kids with Autism. Amy has always had a love for water and has her Lifeguard certification and her WSI (Water Safety Instructor) that she always keeps up to date!

**Favorite Activity:** Swimming and anything with water!

**Favorite Music:** Country

**Sox or Cubs?:** Sox



## PROGRAM

This year WSSRA introduced Extreme Summer Fun (ESF) as a new day camp option for families in the Leyden area. The program works in tandem with LASEC's Extended School Year (ESY) where kids could come after summer school to ESF day camp. This summer the ESF day camp was located at North School in Franklin Park Monday through Thursday from 12:15-3:00pm. The kids swam twice a week, sang songs, did crafts, played games, and made new friends. The program was a great success!

## PARTICIPANT

Frank Patterson was selected to represent Illinois at the Special Olympic National Games held in Lincoln, Nebraska in July. Frank swam in four events at the National games and won first place in the 100 yard freestyle! Frank is the second WSSRA athlete to go to the Special Olympic National games. Can you guess the other?

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** 100 yard Freestyle 02:03:95

**4<sup>th</sup> Place:** 25 yard Backstroke 00:48:58

**5<sup>th</sup> Place:** 4x25 Freestyle 01:46:47

**7<sup>th</sup> Place:** 50 yard Freestyle 00:51:47

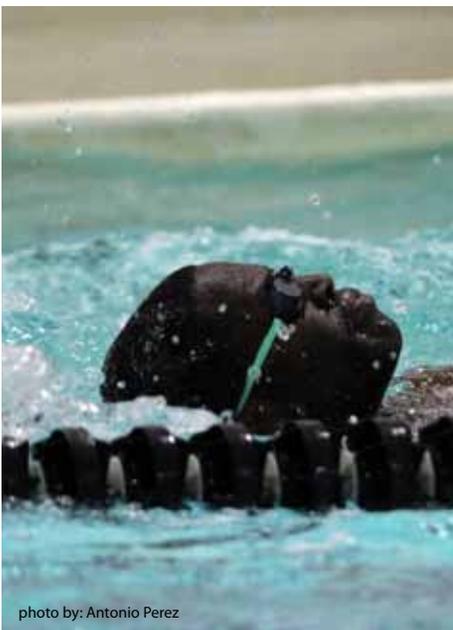


photo by: Antonio Perez

A: Georgia Hunter