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AS HEARD ON WONC FM89.1

April 15, 2024

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

APRIL: Autism Acceptance Month

WDSRA proudly supporting the Autism community!

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) approximately 1 in 36 children in the U.S. are diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Autism Acceptance Month focuses on building a better awareness of the signs, symptoms and realities of autism. Learning more can make a difference in the life of a relative, neighbor, friend, or coworker living with autism.

Learn more about ASD at <u>https://autismsociety.org/</u> or <u>https://www.autismspeaks.org/</u>.

IMPACTING PLAY: Libby High

Inclusion support staff Libby High advocated for inclusion in a big way! For an Eagle Scout project, Libby worked with WDSRA and the Naperville Park District to put up a communication board at Wolf's Crossing playground. This communication board makes it easier for children who use various methods of communication to communicate and play.

Way to go, Libby!

SUMMER BROCHURE: Coming Soon

The summer program brochure will be online Wednesday, 4/17!

Get set for the ultimate summer adventure with WDSRA! How about cheering on the Cubs with your crew? Or starting your Saturdays with a caffeine-fueled coffee crawl and delicious pastries? And let's not forget about joining the pickleball craze for some seriously fun competition!

With WDSRA, your summer is guaranteed to be non-stop excitement!

JOB SEEKERS: Career Fair

The Inclusive Career Fair is for employers with an inclusive culture seeking to connect with workers who have a variety of abilities. You can interview with employers and take advantage of other employment resources such as resume review, mock interviews and professional headshots.

Tuesday, April 16th @ 1-4pm Santori Library No registration needed to attend

The Inclusive Career Fair is hosted by the Advisory Commission on Disabilities in partnership with Aurora's Department of Senior and Disability Services, the Aurora Public Library, Aurora Chamber of Commerce, the Association for Individual Development, and Weston Bridges.

For more information, see details at

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSccbThC3zoVJiaNOmukrUmr_2YWnZpdAvXjyOdfj5gzTO8efw/vi ewform.

LITERACY FOR LIFE: Summer Registration

The Literacy for Life program is currently enrolling high school students and adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities, such as Down syndrome or autism. In a group setting, participants will focus on improving their reading and writing abilities to support their transition from school to the workforce.

Summer 2024 Registration Program Runs June 10th – August 14th Midwestern University Application is due by April 30th!

Details can be found at https://www.mwuclinics.com/illinois/events/speech/literacy-for-life-program.

<mark>Wrap</mark>

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.**