

Brandon Schatsiek

From: Special Olympics Missouri <communications@somo.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 10:45 PM
To: Brandon Schatsiek
Subject: SOMO Scoop: May 20, 2021



[SOMO.org/News](https://www.somo.org/news)

May 20, 2021

[Website](#) | [Volunteer](#) | [Donate](#)

Athlete, volunteer selected for LETR Final Leg in Russia



KC Metro Volunteer Amanda Geno

Southwest Area Athlete Brett Harper

Brett Harper, Special Olympics Missouri athlete from the Southwest Area, and Lee's Summit Police Officer Amanda Geno will run with the Flame of Hope in Russia, leading up to the start of the 2022 Special Olympics World Games in Kazan. SOMO announced the selections on April 5.

"As one of only 10 Special Olympics athletes chosen from a pool of nearly 30 athletes who were nominated, and one of 96 members of law enforcement chosen, we are thrilled to have Brett and Amanda both chosen to represent Missouri and participate on the 2022 Kazan Final Leg Torch Run team," said Susan Stegeman, president and CEO of Special Olympics Missouri.



[READ MORE](#)



ATHLETES TRY THEIR HAND AT GARDENING

Now that sunnier skies and longer, warmer days are the rule, it's time for those April showers to bring May flowers – as well as green beans, tomatoes, watermelon, and other scrumptious goodies from the garden.

The Health and Wellness team at Special Olympics Missouri has joined the quest to develop and nurture additional green thumbs, the term for the natural or learned ability to grow plants. Health and Wellness Manager Krista Dye says 21 SOMO athletes signed up to be part of the Grow A Garden initiative, which is a joint venture with Special Olympics Kansas.

[READ MORE](#)

NEW ACTIVITIES



eSPORTS GIVES ATHLETES ANOTHER WAY TO COMPETE

For eight weeks earlier this year, Special Olympics Missouri ventured into the wide world of eSports.

Thanks to a partnership with Kansas City eSports, 10 participants took part in a tournament playing three games of Fortnite every Sunday afternoon.

For a more detailed account of the eGaming tournament, read the story linked below written by athlete leader Michael Mohrmann and staff member, Dillen Mayfield.

[READ MORE](#)

PICKLEBALL EVENT A SUCCESS

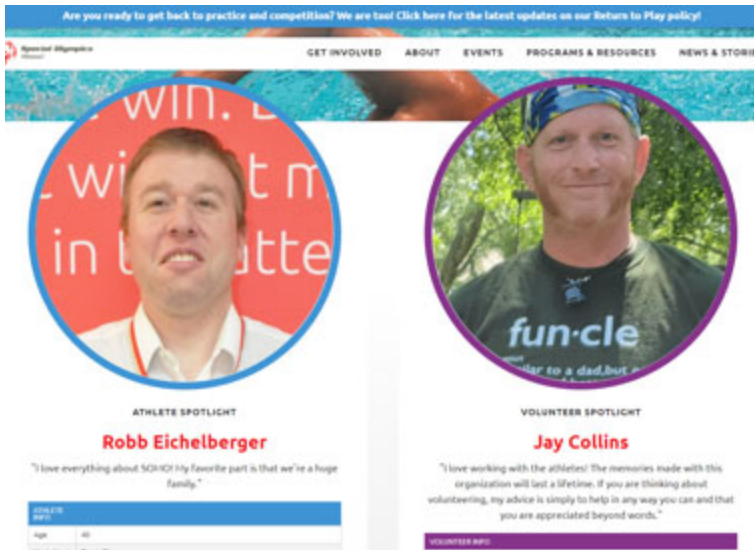
On March 27, the first-ever pickleball training and invitational started with drills and skills for more than 40 athletes and coaches. It was taught by the Jefferson City Pickleball Club and our own SOMO clinicians, Linda Wiederholt and Peggy Neff.

A big thanks to all the clinicians and to all the coaches and athletes who came to the campus to give pickleball a try. Hopefully we will have enough interest to possibly make it a new sport offered at the state level.

If you are interested in learning more about pickleball on your own, we have two training videos [here](#) and [here](#).

BE HIGHLIGHTED ON THE SOMO WEBSITE

CALENDAR



We love our athletes and our volunteers. You are all superstars and we want to spotlight you on our homepage! **It only takes five minutes to nominate yourself or someone else you know.**

May 22: [Dare to Dream Golf Tournament fundraiser, Kansas City](#)

May 22: [Byrnes Mill Car Show Benefit, St. Louis](#)

June 5: [State Summer Games, Columbia](#)

June 26: [USA Games Selection Camp, Jefferson City](#)

June 26: [SOMO Yard Games - Volleyball, Kansas City](#)

June 26: [SOMO Yard Games - Cornhole, Kansas City](#)

July 10: [SE/STLM Area Softball, Cape Girardeau](#)

July 17: [KC/North Area Softball, St. Joseph](#)

July 28: [KC Area Tennis, Kansas City](#)

Sept. 10-12: [Athlete Leadership University, Jefferson City](#)



After a two-year hiatus due to a tornado and the COVID-19 pandemic, the State Summer Games are just three weeks away, set for a one-day event on Saturday, June 5, at Hickman High School in Columbia.

Three weeks after that, on Saturday, June 26, the Training for Life Campus in Jefferson City will host SOMO's 50th anniversary bash and the start of the Team Missouri Selection Camp for the 2022 USA Games next summer in Orlando, Fla.

[READ MORE](#)

Help us reach 95,000+ people in Missouri with intellectual disabilities who are not yet involved in our program!

[DONATE NOW](#)

STAY CONNECTED

Was this newsletter forwarded to you?
Do you want to stay in-the-know with all things SOMO?
[Sign up now!](#)

Thanks to our generous statewide partners:



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)
Special Olympics Missouri

305 Special Olympics Dr. Jefferson City, MO 65101