

# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Special Recreation Services Northern Lake County (SRSNLC) Special Olympics Tennis Star Pavel S Dominates State Special Olympics Summer Competitions**

**Waukegan, IL (August 28, 2014)** – SRSNLC Special Olympic athlete, Pavel S., dominated at the State Competition in Frankfort, IL this August. Since becoming a Special Olympics athlete back in 2006, Pavel has participated in various sports that include volleyball, basketball, softball, and soccer. Having spent the last eight years playing the same sports, Pavel decided to branch out and try tennis. On his first trip to the District Tournament in July, Pavel received a score of 110 points and a gold medal in Individual Skill Competition. With a first place finish at the District Tournament, Pavel qualified for the State Tournament. At the State Tournament, Pavel competed against four other individuals and out of the four he was awarded a second place finish and a silver medal. Cheering on Pavel at the State Tournament was Coach Kari Robinson.

For more information on upcoming events, please contact SRSNLC-Waukegan, at 847-360-4760.

#### **About SRSNLC Waukegan:**

Special Recreation Services of Northern Lake County is a cooperative of Lindenhurst Park District, Round Lake Area Park District, Waukegan Park District, and Zion Park District. As an extension of the Park District, SRSNLC conducts a variety of year round recreation programs for individuals with disabilities, ages three and older, and also assists the Waukegan Park District with inclusion needs. Program options include: social outings, dances, indoor and outdoor fitness programs, art and craft programs, bowling leagues, summer, spring, and winter day camps, youth and teen specific programs and sports teams that compete in the Special Olympics of Illinois.

It is the MISSION of SRSNLC to educate our citizens to become responsible, productive, healthy, and contributing members of our society by preparing them through recreation with a dynamic and caring environment, which excites them and invites them to participate.

#### **About the Waukegan Park District**

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 47 properties and 720 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, an outdoor swimming pool, disc golf course, dog exercise area, outdoor sports fields,

picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball and tennis. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 59 full-time and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), the Illinois Association of Park Districts' (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and sustains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.

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