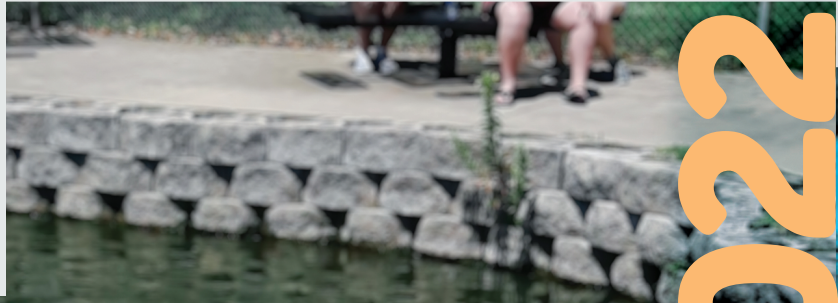


SOAR

Special Opportunities
Available in Recreation



2022



SUMMER

REGISTRATION BEGINS: MAY 5



Special Opportunities Available In Recreation

Office Address: 109 E. Olive St., Bloomington, Illinois 61701

Mailing Address: PO Box 3157, Bloomington, Illinois 61702-3157

In Person Registration Address: 115 E. Washington, Bloomington, Illinois 61701

(309) 434-2260

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What is SOAR?

SOAR is a community therapeutic recreation program serving individuals unable to successfully participate in traditional recreation programs. Leisure, social and developmental skills are emphasized to promote the highest level of recreation participation possible. SOAR is jointly sponsored by the City of Bloomington and Town of Normal Parks and Recreation Departments.

Most individuals with disabilities are eligible to participate in SOAR activities. Persons from youth to adults who are in special education classes, workshops, nursing homes or who have leisure needs not met by traditional recreation programs are eligible. This includes individuals with developmental, physical or learning disabilities; sensory, genetic or behavior disorders; autism or emotional difficulties.

Mission Statement

The SOAR program exists to maintain and enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities through comprehensive, specialized recreation programs, activities and special events.

Americans With Disabilities Act

Special Opportunities Available in Recreation (SOAR) will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits discrimination in the provision of services, programs or facilities to individuals with disabilities. SOAR will make reasonable accommodations in recreation programs to enable participation by an individual with a disability who meets essential eligibility requirements for that program. The ADA requires that recreation programs offered by SOAR be available in the most integrated setting appropriate for each individual. Call (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions about the SOAR policy regarding the ADA or believe you have been unfairly discriminated against by SOAR.

Questions/Information

Please contact the SOAR office with any questions regarding eligibility, registration procedures, scholarships, transportation or the SOAR program in general at (309) 434-2260. TDD for the hearing impaired at (309) 829-5115. Fax: (309) 434-2483. Web site address is www.BloomingtonParks.org/soar. Hotline: (309) 434-2386.

Special Information

Inclusive Programs

SOAR recognizes that every individual with special needs and abilities does not always require a SOAR program. The SOAR staff are available to assist and advise participants concerning appropriate placement in SOAR, Bloomington and/or Normal Parks and Recreation Department programs. SOAR staff will contact the appropriate recreation department staff and work with the instructor to assure the participant a smooth transition if they wish to be integrated into a recreation department program.

Full-Time Staff

Holly Polley, CTRS - Program Manager
hpolley@cityblm.org

Special Interest Programs, Registration,
Financial Assistance, Cultural Arts
Programs, Special Event Programs,
Transportation

Maggie Rutenbeck - Program Manager
mrutenbeck@cityblm.org

Volunteers, Summer & Saturday Day
Programs, Mailings, Fitness/Sports
Programs, Special Olympics Programs

Seasonal & Part-Time Staff

SOAR is fortunate to have a number of qualified and talented seasonal and part-time staff. Thank you to the following Winter/Spring session staff for their continued support, dedication and fine work!

Taylor Burlingame
Beth Clark
Sally Clark
Katie Clothier
Ritchie D'Costa
Sharon D'Costa
Kim Denton
Doug Dowell
Michele Evans
Miranda Henson
Danny Laduzinsky
Randi Meyer
Mark Rutenbeck
Rachael Minter
Larry Quanstrom
Julie Smith
David Suarez
Kim Workman

Attire at SOAR Programs

Participants should dress comfortably for all programs and special events. Please keep in mind what the weather is like, if the program will be held inside or outside and what the program will involve. Wear clothes that can get dirty and stained to all craft and cooking programs. Sometimes accidents happen and new/good clothes can get ruined! Dress for activity and comfortable movement in all Special Olympics, sports and exercise programs. Athletic shoes and athletic clothing are required. Do not wear blue jeans to any sports programs or practices! Special attire requirements are often suggested in memos sent out for special events.

Volunteers in Action

SOAR uses a wide variety of volunteers to assist in weekly programs and special events. Volunteers help with program activities and events and work closely with participants to provide an enjoyable and quality leisure experience. Past volunteers have been community residents, college students and community service groups. Thank you to all the individuals who helped make the summer program session a success by volunteering their time to assist with one or more programs. SOAR is currently accepting volunteers for winter/spring programs. If you are interested in volunteering, please call (309) 434-2260.

Medication Dispensing

SOAR staff may dispense medication to participants during extended programs and trips. In order for SOAR staff to do this, a parent/guardian will need to complete a medication dispensing form and complete a dispensing procedure each time medication is needed. SOAR staff may not perform an injection or any other medically or physically invasive procedure. Please call the SOAR staff at (309) 434-2260 if you have any questions or would like a copy of any of these forms: permission for medication dispensing, medication dispensing procedures and invasive procedure policies.

Photo Policy

On occasion, SOAR staff may photograph or videotape participants at programs, special events and facilities. These photos are for SOAR use only and may be used in publications, brochures, Facebook, pamphlets, flyers or video productions. If you do not want your photo published contact Maggie or Holly.

Insurance

Individual accident and medical insurance for program participants is not provided by SOAR, Bloomington or Normal Parks and Recreation Departments.

Staff Ratio

SOAR currently staffs most programs with one staff to every four participants. If a participant will need more assistance or won't be able to participate within this structure, please let staff know at registration so appropriate staffing may be secured (*if possible*). Please note in brochure write ups any exceptions to this 1:4 ratio.

Code of Conduct:

Participant Guidelines

Equal Access - No participant shall on the basis of race, gender, creed, national origin or disability be denied equal access to programs, activities, services or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage or opportunity.

Behavior - Participants are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times. The following guidelines have been developed to make SOAR programs safe and enjoyable for all participants. Additional rules may be developed for particular programs as deemed necessary by staff. Participants shall:

- Show respect to all participants and staff.
- Refrain from using foul language.
- Refrain from causing bodily harm to other participants or staff.
- Show respect for equipment, supplies and facilities.

Discipline - A positive approach will be used. SOAR reserves the right to dismiss a participant. **Each situation will be evaluated on its own merit.**

Special Information

Late Pick-Up Policy

Please double check the pick-up time and be prompt! Program instructors would appreciate your consideration because they have additional work responsibilities after the program and sometimes have another program to lead.

Families/staff of participants who are not picked up promptly will be sent a letter the first time to remind them of this concern. If the situation happens again, a late fee will be assessed. After a 5-minute grace period, a \$5 fee will be charged for every 15 minutes or portion thereafter.

Registration for other programs will not be accepted until all outstanding late fees are paid.

Special Thanks to Our Volunteers who helped with Winter/Spring Programs

Charlene Ahrends	Delanie Keener
Tammy Alsene	Rob Kelley
Charlotte Andres	Brian Lahr
Jack Arundale	Courtney Lahr
Jose Bajana	Sophia Lahr
John Boles	Charen Lakebrink
Bruce Broughton	Sophie Lampert
Delaney Brown	Lili Leatherman
Vanessa Campos	Jim Lilienthal
Jerry Curry	Sherry Lilienthal
Kyle Dickerman	Audrey McWhorter
Christian Dowell	Claire Nichols
Will Dowell	Risha Patel
Emily Ehlers	Bethany Reeser
Kerri Elson	Eric Ritter
Faith Lutheran Church	Mark Rutenbeck
Greg Hayward	Buffy Ryan
Jenna Heaser	Dennis Sapp
Joe Heaser	Verlinda Sapp
Nate Henry	Shelley Schultz
Lorelei Hudson	Kylie Tay
Megan Hunt	Jinae Thryselius
Illinois Wesleyan Titans	Erin Uphoff
IOAA artists	Erin Van Draska
Mary Jo Johnson	Barb Wells
Paige Kaeb	Dee Wilson
	Jamie Wielgopalan

Paperwork...Paperwork...

"You want me to fill out this entire form?" Have you ever said or thought this? Most of us have! The demand for information and paperwork is tremendous in our society today. While our initial reaction is sometimes frustration, we need to step back and consider why information is requested. SOAR asks that an annual information form be completed, with a seasonal sign off that all information is still correct. Why ask the questions and why persist in acquiring updated information? Listed below are some of the reasons:

- We take our responsibility for participants seriously.
- We care about each person's health and safety.
- We care that each person's physical, emotional, social and developmental needs are being met.
- We want each person to feel satisfaction from program involvement.

Asking for information does not guarantee personal success or safety, but the information is invaluable as we do our best to provide safe and satisfying leisure activities. We thank you for taking the time to provide the requested information.

Cell Phone Policy

SOAR requests that participants do not bring cell phones to program unless there is an emergency situation they need to be aware of or if they need to call for a ride when the program ends. Participants are not to use their phone during programs and are asked to keep their cell phone in a pocket, purse, bag, etc. during the entire program. SOAR can't be held responsible if a participant loses his or her phone. If a participant uses a cell phone during a program or the phone becomes a distraction to the participant, SOAR staff will hold the phone for the duration of the program. The phone will be returned when the participant leaves. This policy will be enforced for the respect of other participants and staff during a program.

Participant Expectations

SOAR provides healthy community leisure opportunities for individuals with disabilities. While participating in our programs, we stress socialization skills, appropriate behavior and personal appearance. For the dignity and acceptance of individuals with disabilities, and for their overall self-esteem and enjoyment at community outings, the staff has several expectations of participants. We ask that you assist us in fulfilling these basic guidelines. The participant guidelines were developed for the betterment of our participants, their self-esteem and normalization.

Please dress for all programs in clean clothing that is appropriate for the specific activity. Participants should be clean and display good hygiene skills.

Program Times

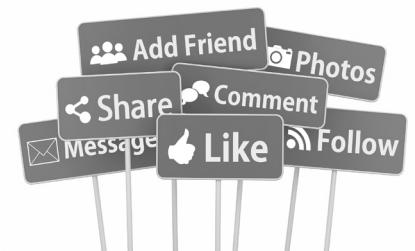
SOAR staff and instructors are at the facility for the designated program time only. Individuals providing transportation for participants should make drop-offs and pick-ups at the listed times. Please do not leave a participant at program/program site unless there is a staff present. We know that emergencies arise, but try to let staff know if you will be early or late!

Parent Observation Guidelines

Parents are encouraged to leave the program area during events so participants can give their full attention to the instructor. Thank you.

Check Out Our Web Site

www.bloomingtonparks.org/soar



Follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/cityblmSOAR

Program Holidays

In observation of Independence Day the office will be closed and no programs held on July 4th.



TRAINING PROGRAMS

Purpose of SOAR Special Olympics Training Programs:

To provide eligible individuals 8 years of age or older from the Bloomington/Normal area with quality training programs that will prepare them for area, district, regional and/or state competition in a variety of Special Olympics sports on a year around basis.

Requirements to Participate in SOAR Special Olympics Training Programs:

Individuals who meet Special Olympics eligibility requirements and wish to participate in a SOAR Special Olympics training program must complete the SOAR registration procedure for that program. In addition, an Application for Participation (*medical*), valid through the entire sport's season must be on file with SOAR before practice begins.

Expectations For SOAR Special Olympics Training Programs:

Athletes participating in a SOAR Special Olympics training program must meet the minimum requirements of training in that sport in order to participate in competition. These requirements will include participation in the minimum number of required training sessions for that sport at a level which is considered appropriate for the sport and the athlete.

Special Olympics Bowling

This program is designed as a Special Olympics sports training program for the beginning to advanced bowler. Basic bowling skills such as positioning and stance, approach, delivery and release will be emphasized. Rules and etiquette will also be stressed. Participants will bowl two games each week (if time allows). Bowling balls and shoes are provided by Pheasant Lanes for athletes that don't have their own. Please remember we do NOT use rails/bumpers during our practices.

Individuals who successfully complete this program and have bowled a minimum of 15 games with SOAR may be eligible to compete in the Region G Special Olympics Bowling Tournament on August 20. You must have a current SOILL athlete medical form on file to be eligible to participate.

Participants who do not want to train and compete may also register for this program and bowl in a recreational capacity. You will NOT need an Application for Participation from SOILL in that case.

Please remember that bowling STARTS at 10:00 am or 4:00 pm, with warm-ups at 9:50 or 3:50 pm. No one will be added to games that have already started. Be prepared to wait for the second game to start if you arrive late.

Who:Ages 8 and older

When: ...Mondays, June 13 - August 15 (No July 4) 10:00 – 11:00 am OR 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Where:...Pheasant Lanes, Bloomington

Cost:\$20 to SOAR (registration fee) & \$54.00 to Pheasant Lanes (bowling fees)

Limit: ...Minimum 6; Maximum 20 per session



Special Olympics



Special Olympics Volleyball:

We offer two levels of Volleyball: Modified and Unified. We will do a Volleyball Assessment night to determine appropriate placement of each athlete to the correct level of play. You can certainly note your preference, but placement determination will be made by the coaching staff following the assessment night on July 28th.

Special Olympics Modified Volleyball

Individuals with basic motor and cognitive skills appropriate for learning volleyball match play and competition are eligible for this program. Modified Volleyball uses a smaller court and a “trainer” ball for play. Rules are modified for learning volleyball team play. We intend to schedule a minimum of 3 matches prior to the Regional Qualifier tournament.

Special Olympics Unified Volleyball

Individuals with basic motor and cognitive skills appropriate for volleyball match play and competition are eligible for this program. *Athletes should have previous volleyball experience and may need to be at a higher level of play for this program.*

This program will team Special Olympics athletes and athletes without intellectual disabilities (Unified Partners). The goal of this program is to provide an opportunity for athletes to grow and develop from peer encouragement at practice and during competitions. A minimum of three matches will be scheduled before the September volleyball qualifier.

These are Special Olympics sports training programs. A valid Special Olympics Application for Participation (medical) valid through October 2022 must be on file at the SOAR office by July 1 to participate. You will also be asked to sign a COVID Code of Conduct form and an Athlete Consent form that will be kept on file at the Special Olympics Illinois headquarters for an indefinite period of time.

Who:.....Ages 12 and older

When:.....MODIFIED: Tuesdays, August 2 - September 20 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Limit:.....Minimum 6, Maximum 10

When:.....UNIFIED: Thursdays, August 4 - September 22

Limit:.....Minimum 8; Maximum 12 (six Special Olympics athletes per team)

5:30 – 7:00 pm or 7:00 - 8:30 pm (depending on team assignment)

Where:...Lincoln Leisure Center, gym

Cost:\$38





SOAR Special Olympics Cookout Celebration

Celebrate the accomplishments of SOAR’s Special Olympics athletes for the first half of this year (January – June). SOAR will provide a light cookout-style dinner. After we enjoy dinner, a brief program honoring athletes who have participated in the following sports will conclude the evening: snowshoeing, basketball, swimming, track, soccer, powerlifting and bocce (both traditional & unified).

Who:..... Athletes, their families and anyone who wants to help recognize SOAR athletes

When:... Friday, July 8 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Where:.. Underwood Park Shelter (Jersey Ave. & Linden St., Normal – Enter park off of Jersey Ave.)

Cost: \$5/person (to cover food cost)

Limit:..... No limit, but MUST pre-register!

**Special Olympics
Event Dates:**

June 17 - 19:

Special Olympics State Summer Games (track, swimming, bocce, powerlifting, soccer)

June 26:

Unified Tennis Qualifier tournament, Bloomington

July 30:

Regional Softball Tournament, Springfield

August 13-14:

State Tennis Tournament, Bloomington

August 20:

Region G Bowling Tournament, Peoria

September 10-11:

State Softball Tournament, Decatur

September 25:

Regional Volleyball Tournament, Effingham

October 15:

Region Bocce Tournament, Mattoon

**Special
Olympics
Illinois**



Youth Programs



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00am – 1:00pm Out & About <i>(not 7/4)</i> <i>(ages 16 – 35)</i> 1:00pm – 2:00pm SOAR for Starters <i>(not 7/4)</i> <i>(ages 4 – 7)</i>	1:00pm – 2:30pm Make Some Art <i>(ages 8 – 21)</i> 3:00pm – 4:30pm Make Some Music <i>(ages 8 – 21)</i>	1:00 – 2:30 pm SOAR for Starters <i>(ages 4 – 7)</i> 3:00 – 4:30 pm In the Park! <i>(ages 8 – 21)</i>	1:00 – 3:00 pm Explore Outdoors <i>(ages 8 – 21)</i>	10:00 – 11:00 am SOAR Animal Crackers <i>(ages 4 – 7)</i> 1:00 – 2:30pm Around the World <i>(ages 8 – 18)</i> 3:00 – 4:30 pm Around the World <i>(ages 19 – 30)</i>

Out and About

This program gives you an opportunity to get out and have a good time among friends. Each week will include lunch and an activity in the community. Activities may include swimming, nature activities, hiking in a park and more. Activities are included in the program fee. Transportation is not provided at this time. Participants will meet at a different location each week and participate in the activities available at that location. Participants must bring their lunch each week. Water will be provided. Participants must be independent in the areas of feeding and hygiene. A memo with more information about activity details will be emailed to those who register.

Who:Ambulatory, ages 16 - 35

When:Mondays, June 13 - July 25 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
(NOT July 4)

Where:Varies each week
- information provided to those who register

Cost:\$60

Limit:Minimum 5; Maximum 10

SOAR for Starters

This program is targeted to youth that are too young for most other SOAR programs. A variety of activities including games, music, dance, fitness, crafts, and social activities will be provided. A 1:2 staff to participant ratio will be provided. Development of fundamental motor skills and eye-hand coordination will be emphasized. Dress in clothing for activity and wear tennis shoes. Since some activities involve things like paint, participants should also wear clothes that can get messy!

Who:Ages 4 – 7

When:Mondays and Wednesdays, June 13 – July 25
(NOT July 4) from 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Where:Lincoln Leisure Center Room 208 on Mondays,
Hike Haven on Wednesdays

Cost:\$40

Limit:Minimum 4, Maximum 8

Youth Programs

Make Some Art!

Join us for some hands-on activities and crafts with a nature theme in mind – fun stuff inside and out, and maybe bringing the outside in! Be sure to wear clothes that don't mind a messy activity!

Who:..... Ages 8 – 21

When:.... Tuesdays, June 14 – July 19 from 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Where:... Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 208

Cost: \$30

Limit:..... Minimum 6, Maximum 12

Make Some Music!

Participants will engage in music making experiences including, but not limited to, movement, song writing, interactive instrument and ensemble play and relaxation strategies, that focus on each individual's strengths and targets their needs. Interventions and activities will focus on communication, attention span/attention to task, building relationships and peer interaction all while participants have fun, laugh, play and make music. A Clinician from Developing Melodies will lead the first hour of this program.

Who:.....Ages 8 – 21

When:.....Tuesdays, June 14 – July 26 from 3:00 – 4:30 pm

Where:.....Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 203 and 208

Cost:\$40

Limit:.....Minimum 6, Maximum 12



In the Park

Movement games, mini sports activities, a walk...maybe yoga! Anything that gets our hearts pumping, our blood flowing and our feet moving! Dress to be active with lots of movement! Plenty of water will be provided. Every other week, we will have a guest from the Miller Park Zoo to meet and learn about!

Who:.....Ages 8 – 21

When:..... Wednesdays, June 15 – July 20 from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Where:.....Hike Haven in Forrest Park

Cost:\$30

Limit:.....Minimum 6, Maximum 12

Youth Programs

Explore Outdoors

Hikes, outdoor games, even fishing could be the adventure of the day as we meet at a different park in Bloomington and Normal each week. Dress to be active and maybe get dirty! Water and a light snack will be provided.

Who: Ages 8 - 21

When: Thursdays, June 16 – July 21 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Where: First week meet at Lincoln Leisure Center for a walk to Miller and Forrest Parks. A note will be sent each week to remind you where to meet the following week.

Cost: \$30

Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12

SOAR Animal Crackers

Animal Crackers is a Miller Park Zoo classic! Join us once each month for a story, animal encounter, craft, & snack. Our topic is always a surprise ~ we have a great time guessing which animal will visit! One adult accompanies each child to class but does not pay an additional registration fee. The registration fee includes admission to the Zoo for the participating child & one adult on the day of class.

Who: Ages 4 - 7 accompanied by parent

When: Fridays, June 10, July 8,
and August 12 from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Where: Miller Park Zoo

Cost: \$8 per child, Zoo Member, \$13 per child,
non-member

Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 8

Around the World!

Join us for some hands-on activities and crafts with a different country and culture in mind each week – fun stuff inside and out, and maybe bringing the outside in! Be sure to wear clothes that don't mind a messy activity! A light snack will be provided or made that day.

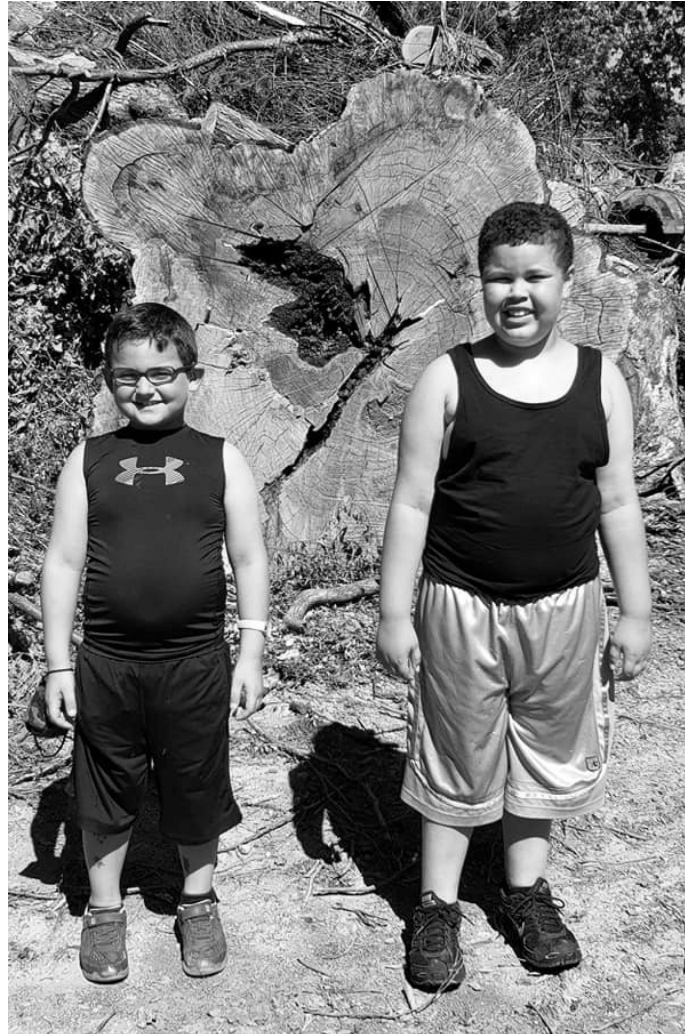
Who: Ages 8 – 21

When: Fridays, June 17 – July 22 from 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
for ages 8-18 and from 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM
for ages 19 - 30

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 208

Cost: \$30

Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12



Youth Programs

Zoo Challenge Week

More adventures at the Zoo, based on some of our favorite challenge TV shows! Note: Masks may be required in some areas at the Zoo.

June 1: Top Chef Challenge

June 2: Amazing Race Challenge

June 3: Survivor Challenge

Who: Ages 15 – 25

When: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from
June 1 – 3 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Where: Miller Park Zoo

Cost: \$30

Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 8

Jeepers, Keepers!

We'll learn how the Zookeepers do all their jobs, how they take care of all the animals and much more! Note: Masks may be required in some areas at the Zoo.

Who: Ages 15 – 25

When: Monday and Tuesday, August 8 & 9
from 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Where: Miller Park Zoo

Cost: \$15

Limit: Minimum: 4, Maximum 8



Sports / Fitness

Swim Lessons

SOAR is excited to provide swim lessons again this summer! Lessons will be conducted in a small group setting with a 1:2 staff ratio. Instructors for this class will work with you at your own individual level. Due to health restrictions, parents will not be allowed on the pool deck during lessons.

Who: Ages 10 and older

When: Mondays, June 13 – August 1 (NOT July 4)
from 5:00 – 5:30 pm (beginner)
or 5:45 – 6:15 pm (intermediate)

Where: Holiday Pool

Cost: \$35

Limit: Minimum 2; Maximum 4/lesson



Cardio Fitness

Get fit with SOAR! This program will focus on exercises designed to get our heart rate up and improve cardiovascular fitness. Participants will complete a variety of exercises each week as well as participate in health-related educational activities. Activities will be geared to the health level of each individual with a target goal of improving health, fitness, and well-being.

Who: Ages 12 and older

When: Mondays, June 13 – August 1 (NOT July 4)
from 6:00 – 7:00 pm OR 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center,
room 202/205, gym and outside

Cost: \$24

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 6

Seat to SOAR

Get off your seat and soar with the SOAR walk/run club! This program encourages the lifetime fitness activities of walking and running. By using a progressive training program and walk/run mentors, you will be able to increase fitness and endurance at your own pace. The ultimate goal of this session is to be ready to enter some of the local fun run/walk races in the area.

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Tuesday, June 14 – July 26 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM
Where: Miller Park Pavilion, lower level
Cost: \$21
Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 8

Open Pickleball

Pick up and tune up your Pickleball game playing a few doubles games. Loaner equipment available. Unified partners welcome! Minimal instruction provided.

Who: Ages 12 and up
When: Thursdays, June 16 – July 7 from 5:30 – 6:30 pm
Where: Miller Park Tennis Courts
Cost: \$8 (or \$2/drop-in)
Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 10



Good luck to everyone from the SOAR family heading to the Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando this June!

The Special Olympics USA Games will have athletes from all 50 states and the Caribbean in attendance, with a total of 5,500 athletes competing in 19 sports!

Our SOAR team leaves June 3rd with Opening Ceremonies on June 5th and will return on June 12!

Athlete: Brian McWhorter competing in Powerlifting in Squat,
Deadlift, Bench and Combined events
Swim Coach: Miranda Henson
Athlete Input Council Chaperone/Liaison: Michele Evans
Bocce Coach: Maggie Rutenbeck
Alternate Coach: Doug Dowell

Facility Directory

Government Center/The Hub

115 E. Washington St.
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2260

BN Barbell Club

2902 Gill Street
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 531-4541

Connie Link Amphitheater

Parking Lot
621 S. Linden
Normal, IL 61761

Lincoln Leisure Center

1206 S. Lee
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2819

Maxwell Park

Parkside Rd & W. Gregory St.
Normal, IL 61761

Hike Haven

218 Tanner St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Miller Park Zoo

1020 S Morris Ave
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2255

IWU Tennis Courts

280 E. Emerson
Bloomington, IL 61701

Miller Park Pavilion

1122 S Morris Ave
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2255

Underwood Parks

200 Jersey Ave.
Normal, IL 61761

Pheasant Lanes

804 N. Hershey Rd
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 663-8556

O'Neil Park *(Softball Field)*

1515 W. Chestnut St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Holiday Park

800 S. McGregor St.
Bloomington, IL. 61701

Rollingbrook Park

1002 S. Hershey
Bloomington, IL 61704

Union Park

1750 General Electric Road
Bloomington, IL 61704

Tipton Park North

2201 Stone Mountain Blvd.
Bloomington, IL 61704

University High School

601 Gregory St.
Normal, IL 601790

**REGISTER EARLY,
CLASSES FILL UP FAST!**

Virtual Events

SOAR Social Hour

Get together with friends to chat, dance and socialize virtually. We'll meet via Zoom once a month. Join us to hang out with friends each month. Zoom link will be sent out to those who register the morning of the program date listed.

Who: Ages 15 and older

When: Fridays, 6/10, 7/22 & 8/19 from 5:00pm – 6:00pm

Cost: FREE, but participants must register for Zoom link

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 20

Virtual Game Night

Get together with friends for a fun game night! We'll play some classic games like Scattergories, Guess Who, Mad Libs and more. SOAR will provide supplies, as needed to you the week of the program. Zoom link will be provided the morning of the program date listed. Bring your game face!

Who: Ages 15 and older

When: Fridays, 6/10, 7/22 & 8/19 from 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Cost: FREE, but participants must register for Zoom link

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 20



Art and Music



Everything Recycle

Recycling is great for the environment and one way to do that is to make beautiful crafts out of it. We will use materials that can be recycled like bottles, cardboard, cans and much more to make our beautiful crafts. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we will be using glue and paint to make our crafts.

Who:..... Ages 14 and older

When:..... Mondays, July 11 – August 1 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Where:..... Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

Cost:..... \$16

Limit:..... Minimum 6; Maximum 10

Christmas in July Crafts

Who says you can't get a head start on crafting for Christmas time? It may feel hot outside, but our cool crafts will be ready to make and take for Christmas gifts this holiday season. Join us to craft some unique items that will be perfect for gifting and hanging on the tree. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we'll be using paint and glue.

Who:..... Ages 14 and older

When:..... Mondays, July 11 – August 1 from 7:15pm – 8:15pm

Where:..... Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

Cost:..... \$16

Limit:..... Minimum 6; Maximum 10

Tie-Dye

Colorful tie-dyed shirts and accessories can really add a lot of color and flair to your wardrobe. Tie-dying is also a fun activity to do outside alongside your friends. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as the dye does stain clothes.

Who:..... Ages 14 and older

When:..... Mondays, June 13 – June 27 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Where:..... Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107 & outside

Cost:..... \$12

Limit:..... Minimum 6; Maximum 10



Beach Crafts

It's time to hit the beach! Let's make some projects with the classic summertime beach theme. We will be using lots of different colored sand to make some cool sand art along with crafts that include sea shells. Be sure to wear clothes that can get dirty and dress appropriately for the weather as we will be doing some of these crafts outdoors.

Who:..... Ages 14 and older

When:..... Mondays, June 13 – June 27 from 7:15pm – 8:15pm

Where:..... Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107

Cost:..... \$12

Limit:..... Minimum 6; Maximum 10

Lunchtime Concerts

Enjoy lunch outside this summer. We'll enjoy a picnic lunch each week including a sandwich, chips and a drink while listening to the tunes of a live band in the park. The program fee includes lunch each week. Be sure to wear sunscreen and dress appropriately for the weather. Each participant should also bring a lawn chair, as seating is limited.

Who:..... Ages 22 and older

When:..... Wednesday, June 15 – 29 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Where:..... Drop off/pick up at Wither's Park

Cost:..... \$15

Limit:..... Minimum 4; Maximum 10

Cooking



Lunch Bunch

Come cook a yummy lunch with our friends at the senior center. In this program, we will chop, dice, slice and mix our way to a delicious lunch. Everyone will help prepare the meal and work together to clean up. The group will also plan the next week's meal and create our shopping list. Come hungry because a full meal will be prepared. We will have two sessions. Feel free to sign up to one or both sessions.

Who:Ages 22 and older

When:Mondays, June 6 – July 11 (NOT 7/4) from 11:30am – 1:00pm

When:Mondays, July 18 - August 15 from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Where:.....Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

Cost:\$25 each

Limit:.....Minimum 6; Maximum 10

Cooking Mexican Meals

Classic Mexican meals like tacos, quesadillas and nachos that we love to order out are simple and easy to make at home too. Let's get in the kitchen and learn some classic recipes and some new ones too. Participants will help mix, chop, stir and bake to help create a delicious Mexican meal each week.

Who:Ages 14 and older

When:Thursdays, June 16 -July 21 from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Where:.....Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

Cost:\$30

Limit:.....Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Zoo Education

ZOOper Fridays

Calling all animal lovers! Each month, we'll meet at the zoo to learn about a specific animal. A zoo education session will also include time to visit the animal's habitat inside the zoo. Wear your walking shoes and dress appropriately for the weather. This program includes 4 classroom dates and admission to the zoo each program date. NOTE: Masks may be required in some areas of the Zoo.

Who:Ages 22 and older

When:... Fridays, 6/10, 7/8 & 8/19
from 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Where:..Drop off/pick up at front
entrance of Miller Park
Zoo

Cost:\$48

Limit:..... Minimum 4; Maximum 10



Special Events

Penguin Project Show

The Penguin Project of McLean County presents “Shrek The Musical, Jr.”. The Penguin Project is unique, in that, all of the roles are filled by children and young adults with disabilities to put on a production of a modified version of a popular musical. Come and enjoy a performance by some of our very own SOAR friends at University High School. We will meet at the front entrance of University High School. Participants may bring money for concessions.

Who:Ages 10 and older

When: ..Friday, June 3 from 6:30 – 9:00 pm

Where:..Drop off/pick up at University High School, Normal, IL

Cost:\$15

Limit:...Minimum 6; Maximum 16



Friday Night Fishing

Join your friends for some summertime fishing. Let's enjoy the outdoors, learn a new skill and a thing or two about fishing. Fishing poles, bait and all necessary equipment will be provided. Dress to be outdoors for the duration of the program.

Who:Ages 14 and older

When: ..Friday, July 15 from 5:30 – 7 pm

Where:..Union Park, Bloomington

Cost:\$4

Limit:...Minimum 6; Maximum 12

Cardinals vs. Cubs Watch Party

The greatest matchup for fans in Central Illinois! In Bloomington/Normal, you're either a Cubs fan or a Cardinals fan. Whatever team you cheer for, you will see some great baseball. Join us for a night of baseball at Lincoln Leisure Center where we will get to watch the game and root for our favorite team on our big blowup screen. Before watching the game we will grill out and enjoy hotdogs and chips. Come ready to root on your favorite team!!

Who:Ages 14 and older

When: .. Wednesday, August 3 from 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Where:..Lincoln Leisure Center

Cost:\$8

Limit:...Minimum 6; Maximum 20

Outdoor Dance

We are bringing our dances back in a fun and safe manner. Join us for a fun night of dancing, yard games & delicious treats. Make sure to dress appropriately for the weather as we will be outside.

Who:Ages 12 and older

When: ..Friday, August 5 from 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Where:..Tipton Park Shelter off of Stone Mountain Blvd.,
Bloomington

Cost:\$10

Limit:...Minimum 20; Maximum 50



Ultimate Frisbee in the Park

Come join us for a fun night of ultimate frisbee at Holiday Park! We will take some time learning how to play and then play a few games of ultimate frisbee. Come and join the fun!

Who:Ages 14 and older

When: ..Thursday, June 9 from 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Where:..Holiday Park, Bloomington

Cost:\$4

Limit:...Minimum 4; Maximum 12

Spike Ball in the Park

Spikeball is a game that combines the fundamentals of four square and volleyball. The game is played using a hula-hoop sized net and small soft ball that is hit onto the net. This is a 2 player vs 2 player game. Come join us for a night at Rollingbrook park where we will learn the rules and play a few games of Spikeball. Please dress appropriately for the weather.

Who:Ages 14 and older

When: ..Thursday, July 14 from 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Where:..Rollingbrook Park, Bloomington

Cost:\$4

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 8

Special Events



Mini Golf & Picnic

Join us for Mini Golf at Miller Park! We will play a round of mini-golf then hang out in the park with a picnic dinner. It will be a fun night to wind down the summer. Please sign up for the appropriate session. A reminder memo will be emailed to those who register.

Who: Ambulatory, Ages 14 - 29

When: .. Monday, August 8 from 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Who: Ambulatory, Ages 30 and older

When: .. Wednesday, August 10 from 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Where: .. Drop off/pick-up at front entrance of Miller Park Zoo

Cost: \$12

Limit: ... Minimum 4; Maximum 12

Bags in the Park

Some people call it bags, others call it corn hole. No matter what you call it, it's a lot of fun! We will spend our time at Hike Haven in Forrest Park learning how to and playing bags. Come and join the fun!

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: .. Thursday, August 11 from 5:30pm – 6:30pm

Where: .. Hike Haven, Forrest Park

Cost: \$4

Limit: ... Minimum 4; Maximum 12



Be on the lookout for some more special events that we will be adding this summer!

Once the information is finalized for these programs, we will share it on Facebook and it will also be added to our registration system.

If you do not have Facebook but would like to be contacted about pop-up programs feel free to email Holly Polley at hpolley@cityblm.org or call the office at (309) 434 – 2260.

Volunteer at the

Midwest Food Bank

Dates/Times TBD
Contact Maggie Rutenbeck
at mrutenbeck@cityblm.org
if you are interested
in volunteering



June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Zoo Challenge Week	Zoo Challenge Week	Zoo Challenge Week Penguin Project Show	
			1	2	3	4
	Lunch Bunch SO Tennis		SO Softball	Ultimate Frisbee in the Park	SOAR Animal Crackers ZOOper Fridays SOAR Social Hour Virtual Game Night	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	SO Bowling Out and About Lunch Bunch SOAR for Starters SO Tennis Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Tie-Dye Beach Crafts	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR	Lunchtime Concerts SOAR for Starters In the Park SO Softball	Explore Outdoors Open Pickleball Cooking Mexican Meals	Around the World ZOOper Fridays Summer Games	Summer Games
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Summer Games	SO Bowling Out and About Lunch Bunch SOAR for Starters SO Tennis Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Tie-Dye Beach Crafts	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR	Lunchtime Concerts SOAR for Starters In the Park SO Softball	Explore Outdoors Open Pickleball Cooking Mexican Meals	Around the World	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Unified Tennis Qualifier Tournament	SO Bowling Out and About Lunch Bunch SOAR for Starters Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Tie-Dye Beach Crafts	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR	Lunchtime Concerts SOAR for Starters In the Park SO Softball	Explore Outdoors Open Pickleball Cooking Mexican Meals		
26	27	28	29	30		

July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31					Around the World	2
3	Fourth of July <i>(Office Closed)</i>	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR	SOAR for Starters In the Park SO Softball	Explore Outdoors Open Pickleball Cooking Mexican Meals	SOAR Animal Crackers ZOOper Fridays Around the World SO Cookout Celebration	9
10	SO Bowling Out and About Lunch Bunch SOAR for Starters Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Everything Recycle Christmas in July	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR	SOAR for Starters In the Park SO Softball	Explore Outdoors Spikeball in the Park Cooking Mexican Meals	Around the World Friday Night Fishing	16
17	SO Bowling Out and About Lunch Bunch SOAR for Starters Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Everything Recycle Christmas in July	Make Some Art Make Some Music Seat to SOAR	SOAR for Starters In the Park SO Softball	Explore Outdoors Cooking Mexican Meals	Around the World SOAR Social Hour Virtual Game Night	23
24	SO Bowling Out and About Lunch Bunch SOAR for Starters Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Everything Recycle Christmas in July	Seat to SOAR	SO Softball	SO Volleyball Assessment Night		Regional Softball Tournament

August 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Everything Recycle Christmas in July 1	SO Modified Volleyball 2	Cardinals vs. Cubs Watch Party 3	SO Unified Volleyball 4	Outdoor Dance 5	 6
7	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch Jeepers, Keepers! Mini Golf & Picnic 8	Jeepers, Keepers! SO Modified Volleyball 9	Mini Golf & Picnic 10	Bags in the Park SO Unified Volleyball 11	SOAR Animal Crackers 12	State Tennis Tournament 13
State Tennis Tournament 14	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch 15	SO Modified Volleyball 16	 17	SO Unified Volleyball 18	ZOOper Fridays SOAR Social Hour Virtual Game Night 19	Region G Bowling Tournament 20
21	22	SO Modified Volleyball 23	 24	SO Unified Volleyball 25	 26	 27
28	Basketball Assessment Night 29	SO Modified Volleyball 30	 31			

Summer 2022 SOAR Program Registration Form

Please return the completed form along with the fee to the SOAR/Bloomington Parks and Recreation Office,
PO Box 3157, Bloomington, IL 61702-3157. For further information, call (309) 434-2260.

Participant's Name _____ Gender _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____ Home Phone _____
 Age _____ Birthdate _____ Disability _____
 Primary Emergency Contact _____ 1st Phone _____ 2nd Phone _____
 Secondary Emergency Contact(s) _____ 1st Phone _____ 2nd Phone _____
 _____ 1st Phone _____ 2nd Phone _____
 E-Mail Address _____

PROGRAM NAME	PROGRAM FEE

To help SOAR provide safe and satisfactory participation in programs, please list any changes in medications, behaviors, living situations or other issues that may effect participation in SOAR programs:

TOTAL: \$ _____

Publicity Statement:
I Do *Do Not* give my permission for pictures to be taken of the participant to be used by SOAR for the purpose of agency promotion and education.

Emergency Treatment Permission
 I know that SOAR does not carry medical or accident insurance. My own health insurance must assume responsibility in the event of injury. I understand that every precaution is taken to protect the safety of each person.

Transportation:
I Do *Do Not* give my permission for the participant to receive transportation in vehicles owned or rented by SOAR for use in weekly programs and special events.

I Do *Do Not* agree to emergency treatment by a physician or hospital in the event that I can't be reached.

Signature of parent or legal guardian: _____ Date: _____
 (participant needs to sign if own legal guardian)

Must complete if using VISA, MasterCard, or Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ V-code on back of card _____
 Name of Cardholder _____ Charge Amount: \$ _____
 Authorized Signature _____

Registration Information

How to register for a Program or Activity - you must first establish your account: Visit www.bloomingtonparks.org

In the top right hand corner hover over "Register"
A dropdown will appear
Select Programs & Activities

This will take you to a new page:

If you previously had an account in our old system you will need to select "Sign In" and enter the email address associated with the existing account, then click "Forgot your password?" This will then prompt you to create a new password.

If you did not have an account, you will need to "Create an Account"

After your account has been established, you are ready to register for an activity or program by following the steps outlined below:

- 1) Click the Activities button on the registration home page.
- 2) Select the Activity Category that you would like to enroll into. Clicking the underlined name will show you a detailed Activity description.
- 3) Click the Enroll Now button if you wish to register for the Activity. Select the participant you wish to enroll. Click the Add to Cart button to register.
- 4) Next, sign into your online registration account by entering your Email and Password. Proceed to checkout by clicking the Continue button. From this screen you may remove Activities from your cart or view more Activities and add them to your cart.

*Please Note: If more than one family member will be attending the Activity, click on the button labeled, Add Another One (*located under the Shopping Cart screen*).

- 5) Confirm your Activity name, date and time, enrollee and price.
- 6) Click Check Out to proceed with payment. You will be prompted that you are entering a secure site. Enter your credit card information on the Payment Information Page and agree to any required waiver(s) and confirm the payer meets the age requirement of "13 Years or Older". Click Continue. This system accepts Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express.

*Please Note: The name and address must match those that are on file with your credit card company. If the address shown is not your credit card billing address, click on the My Account button and change your residential address to match your credit card billing address.

- 7) Once your payment has been approved, your receipt will display. Please print a copy of your receipt for your records.

Other ways to register - Registration may be done on-line, in person or through the mail. **Registration may be done in person at The Hub at 115 E Washington Street. Monday - Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm or it may be mailed. Send to:**

**SOAR Program Registration
PO Box 3157
Bloomington, IL 61702-3157**

Notification of Acceptance - SOAR will notify you only if you have not been accepted into a program. Once the registration procedure has been completed and accepted by SOAR staff you are registered. Please attend the program as scheduled in the brochure. Reminder memos are only sent for those events that state in the brochure...."reminder memo will be mailed."

Program Cancellation

1. A program will be cancelled if the minimum number of participants needed is not met. SOAR staff will notify people by mail if this situation arises.
2. In cases of bad weather, participants should call the SOAR office at (309) 434-2260 or the Bloomington Parks and Recreation **HOTLINE** at (309) 434-2386 after 3:00 pm to see if a program has been cancelled.

Typo, Human Errors, We Goofed...!?

Occasionally there may be an error in days, times, registration requirements or fees in the brochure. If so, the staff will do everything possible to correct the situation promptly. Thank you for your patience and understanding should any of these situations arise.

Where Are We?

We are located 109 E. Olive St., Bloomington, Illinois.

Registration Deadline - On-line registration begins at 7:00 am on Thursday, May 5th. Mail-in registration will begin on Thursday, May 5th at 8:00 AM. Registration won't be accepted for a program that has already begun. Registration deadline for all special events is one week prior to the date of each event if openings are available. **Please register early; many SOAR programs fill up quickly!**

Payment Plans - Full payment of program fees should be included with the registration form. However, payment plans can be arranged for those individuals who need to spread their payment out over several months. Payment in full must be received in the SOAR office prior to registering for a new program session. Payments for special events must be paid in full at the time of registration. No payment plans will be set up after Friday, May 27.

Financial Assistance Policy - Partial financial assistance is available for those who need it in order to pay the program registration fees. Those requesting assistance need to fill out a Scholarship Request Form (*available at Bloomington Parks and Recreation Office*) and submit it to Holly along with a completed registration form. Financial assistance is not provided for bowling fees or special events with contractual or admission costs. The deadline to request assistance for programs is Friday, May 27.

Refund Procedures

1. A full credit or refund will be issued if a program is cancelled by SOAR.
2. To be eligible for a requested refund, the request must be made no less than three business days prior to the start of the program.
3. A refund minus a \$5 service charge will be issued to participants withdrawing from a program.
4. Refunds of special event/program fees for which SOAR has incurred a cost due to ticket purchase, deposits, rentals, etc. will only be made if SOAR is given 48-hour notice and the vacancy caused by the cancellation is filled. A \$5 service charge will be deducted.
5. A pro-rated refund may be given if a program is deemed inappropriate for an individual.
6. Credits for future registration costs will be issued for all refunds of \$20 or less.
7. Refunds will be issued by check on a monthly basis after being approved by the Bloomington City Council. Please allow at least three weeks for the processing of refunds.

Questions/Information

If there are any questions regarding eligibility, registration procedures, scholarships, transportation, or the SOAR program in general, feel free to contact the SOAR office at **(309) 434-2260**. TDD for the hearing impaired at **(309) 829-5115**. Fax: **(309) 434-2483**. Web site address is **www.cityblm.org/soar**. Hotline: **(309) 434-2386**.

hpolley@cityblm.org
mrutenbeck@cityblm.org



109 E. Olive • PO Box 3157
Bloomington, IL 61702-3157

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DELIVER BEFORE
APRIL 14, 2022



SUMMER REGISTRATION KICKS OFF MAY 5

The Penguin Project of McLean County Presents:

Shrek the Musical, Jr.

University High School - Normal, IL

June 3 - 7pm

June 4 - 7m

June 5 - 2pm

