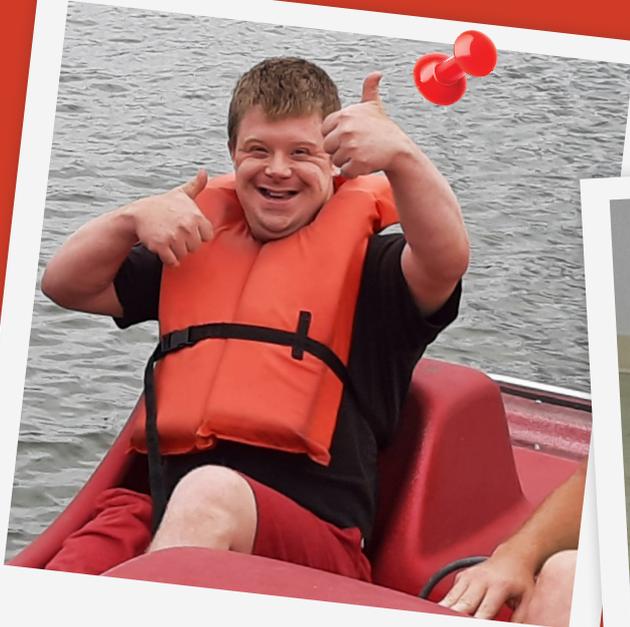


SOAR

Special Opportunities
Available in Recreation



SUMMER 2023

REGISTRATION BEGINS MAY 4TH!

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS ALL YEAR LONG!



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.

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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. Website 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

Program Legend



= **Door to Door
Transportation**

(Transportation details are located
on the inside back cover)



= **Participant
will need to
bring money to program**

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	Katie Khoshaba
Noelle Bush	Randi Meyer
Beth Clark	Rachael Minteer
Sally Clark	Maggie Peters
Katie Clothier	Larry Quanstrom
Ritchie D'Costa	Maddie Rankin
Sharon D'Costa	Bethany Reeser
Kim Denton	Eric Ritter
Doug Dowell	Mark Rutenbeck
Michele Evans	Julie Smith
Alyssa Hamblin	David Suarez
Cassius Harlow	Adam Trzaska
Ella Haynes	Glen Wetzel
Miranda Henson	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 Winter/Spring program session a success by volunteering their time to assist with one or more programs. SOAR is currently accepting volunteers for Summer 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.**

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

Cindy Alcazar
Tammy Alsene
Thomas Asis
Jen Brown
Lucas Burgard
David Campos
Vanessa Campos
Naomi Carsten
Kandyce
Cottrell-Parker
Ashlin Cummins
Jerry Curry
Paige Daniels
Decretia Dopson
Tessah Downs
Kerri Elson
Faith Lutheran Church
Kylie Fancher
Matthew Gullixon
Kristen Hasty
Emily Herrera
Lane Hoef
Lorelei Hudson
Illinois Wesleyan
Titans

IOAA artists
Jasmin Isabel-Kelly
Mary Jo Johnson
Kennedy Keim
Cass King
Charon Lakebrink
Kalei McDaniel
Abrielle McGinnis
Audrey McWhorter
Ashley Melton
Ariel Miller
Delena Mitchel
Olivia Morrow
Donna Neuges
Alyssa Nourie
Maxx Reich
Dennis Sapp
Verlinda Sapp
Shelley Schultz
Melissa Sheep
Jordan Snow
Barb Wells
Jay White

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 Website

www.bloomingtonparks.org/soar



Follow us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/cityblmSOAR

Program Holidays

In observation of Independence Day (July 4) the office will be closed and there will be no programs held on that day.



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, Special Olympics Illinois Athlete Medical Form, 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 26. You must have a current SOILL athlete medical form on file to be eligible to participate. This form must be valid through at least August 2023.

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 AM or 3:50 PM. YOU should be there by warm-up time! 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 12 - August 21 (NOT July 3)
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM OR 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- Where:** Pheasant Lanes, Bloomington
- Cost:** \$20 to SOAR (registration fee) & \$60.00 to Pheasant Lanes (bowling fees)
- Limit:** Minimum 6; Maximum 30 per session



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 27th.

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 held on September 24 in Effingham.

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 Special Olympics Illinois Athlete Medical Form valid through October 2023 must be on file at the SOAR office by July 1 to participate. You will also be asked to sign 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 1 - September 19
5:30 - 7:00 pm
Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 10

When: **UNIFIED:** Thursdays, August 3 - September 21
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: \$45



Special Olympics

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 7
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
Illinois**



Special Olympics Event Dates:

- June 9 - 11: Special Olympics State Summer Games
(track, swimming, bocce, powerlifting, soccer)
- July 9: Unified Tennis Qualifier, Bloomington
- July 29: Regional Softball, Springfield
- August 4: Regional Golf Qualifier, Edwardsville
- August 19: State Tennis, Bloomington
- August 26: Region G Bowling, Peoria
- September 9 -10: State Softball Tournament, Springfield
- September 9 -10: State Golf Tournament, Forsyth/Decatur
- September 24: Regional Volleyball Tournament, Effingham
- October 7: East Central Sectional Bowling, Peoria
- October 14: Region Bocce Tournament, Mattoon

Youth Programs

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

Mondays:

Out & 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, bowling, hiking in a park and more. Activities and lunch are included in the program fee. 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 12 - July 24 (NOT July 3)
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

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

Cost: \$75

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 12 – July 24 (NOT July 3)
1:00 – 2:30 pm

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

Cost: \$40

Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 8

Tuesdays:

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 6 – July 18 (NOT July 4)
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 everyone'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 6 – July 18 (NOT July 4)
3:00 – 4:30 pm

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 203 and 208

Cost: \$52

Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12

Youth Programs



Wednesdays:

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 12 – July 24 (NOT July 3)
1:00 – 2:30 pm

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

Cost: \$40

Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 8

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.

Who: Ages 8 – 21

When: Wednesdays, June 14 – July 19
3:00 – 4:30 pm

Where: Hike Haven in Forrest Park

Cost: \$30

Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12

Thursdays:

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 15 – July 20
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

Fridays:

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 9, July 14, and August 11
10:00 – 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 16 – July 21
1:00 – 2:30 pm – ages 8 - 18
3:00 – 4:30 pm – ages 19 - 30

Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, Room 208

Cost: \$30

Limit: Minimum 6, Maximum 12

Youth Zoo Program

Jeepers, Keepers!

We'll learn how the Zookeepers do all their jobs, how they take care of all the animals.

Who: Ages 15 – 25

When: Thursday and Friday, June 1 & 2
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.

Who: Ages 10 and older

When: Mondays, June 12 – July 24 (NOT July 3)
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 12 – July 24 (NOT July 3)
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 13 – July 25 (NOT July 4)
5:30pm – 6:30pm

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 15 – July 6
5:30 – 6:30 pm

Where: Fairview Tennis Courts, Normal

Cost: \$8 (or \$2/drop-in)

Limit: Minimum 4, Maximum 10

Cultural Arts

Flower Bouquets

Flowers are so pretty to look at and can truly brighten someone's day. In this program, we will be making flower bouquets by using artificial flowers. These bouquets will make great decorations or great gifts to put a smile to someone's face! Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we may be using glue.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Mondays, June 12 – June 26
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$12
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 10



Clothes Pin Art

Did you know that you can make lots of beautiful and fun crafts by using clothes pins? In this program, we will use clothes pins to create our wonderful art creations. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we'll be using lots of paint and glue.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Mondays, July 10 – July 31
7:15pm – 8:15pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$16
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 10



Fourth of July Crafts

It's time to create with red, white & blue! Before the 4th of July holiday we'll create some patriotic crafts. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we will be using paint and glue.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Mondays, June 12 – June 26
7:15pm – 8:15pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107
Cost: \$12
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 10



Sun Catcher Crafts

With the beautiful summer sun shining in our windows this time of year, sun catchers are the perfect craft to display in your home. We'll paint several sun catchers with a spring, summer, and outdoor theme. Be sure to wear clothes that can get messy as we'll be using lots of paint.

Who: Ages 14 and older
When: Mondays, July 10 – July 31
6:00pm – 7:00pm
Where: Lincoln Leisure Center, room 107 & outside
Cost: \$16
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 14 – 28
11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Where: Drop off/pick up at Withers Park
Cost: \$15
Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 10

Cooking

Outdoor Cooking

While the weather is nice, let's cook and eat outside! Join us for some fun outdoor cooking where you will chop, mix and prepare your way to a yummy meal. Come hungry and roll up your sleeves because a full meal will be prepared each week. Dress appropriately to be outside for the duration of this program.

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Thursdays, June 15 – July 20
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Where: Hike Haven, Forrest Park

Cost: \$30

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12

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.

Who: Ages 22 and older

When: Mondays, August 7 – 28
11:30am – 1:00pm

Where: Miller Park Pavilion, Lower Level

Cost: \$20

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 10



Virtual Programs



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, 6/23, 7/28 & 8/25
5:00pm – 6:00pm

Cost: FREE, but participants must register for Zoom link

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 20

Virtual Programs

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, 6/23, 7/28 & 8/25
6:30pm – 7:30pm
Cost: FREE, but participants must register for Zoom link
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 20



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

Hike Haven

218 Tanner St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Underwood Park

200 Jersey Ave,
Normal, IL 61761
(309) 454-9540

Holiday Pool

Holiday Park, 800 McGregor St,
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309)-434-2260

Miller Park Pavilion

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

Lincoln Leisure Center

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

Pheasant Lanes

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

O'Neil Park *(Softball Field)*

1515 W. Chestnut St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Miller Park Zoo

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

Wesleyan Shirk Center

302 E Emerson St,
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 556-3196

Normal Community Activity Center

1110 Douglas St, Normal, IL 61761
(309) 454-9779

IWU Tennis Courts

280 E Emerson St,
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 556-3181

University High School

601 Gregory St.
Normal, IL 61761
(309) 438-3349

The Den At Fox Creek Golf Course

3002 Fox Creek Rd.
(309) 434-2300

ISU Horton Field House

180 N Adelaide St, Normal, IL 61761
(309) 438-3633

Prairie Vista Golf Course

502 W. Hamilton Rd.
(309) 434-2217

Withers Park

204 East Washington
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 434-2260

Midwest Food Bank - Bloomington/Normal Division

2031 Warehouse Rd,
Normal, IL 61761
(309) 663-5350

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

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 3 classroom dates and admission to the zoo each program date.

Who: Ages 22 and older

When: Fridays, 6/9, 7/14 & 8/11
1:00pm – 2:30pm

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

Cost: \$36

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 10



Special Events

The Penguin Project Show

The Penguin Project of McLean County presents “The Big One-Oh 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 Gregory Street entrance of the school (north side of the building).

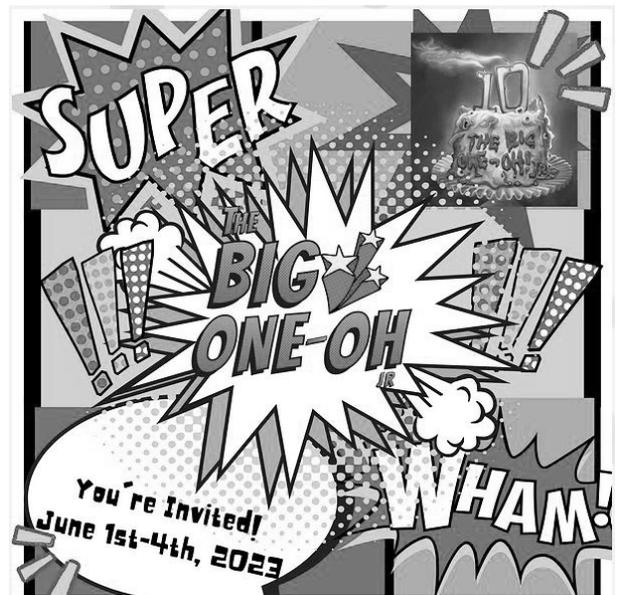
Who: Ages 10 and older

When: Friday, June 2
6:30 – 9:00 pm

Where: Drop off/pick up at University High School, Normal, IL (Gregory St. entrance)

Cost: \$15

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 16



Special Events



Pizza & Games with Dad

Spend some time with dad in celebration of Father's Day. Bring a big appetite because a pizza dinner will be served. You will have the chance to win some cool prizes during game time! So, guys and gals grab your dads for some fun. Make sure to register both participant and guest!

- Who:** Participants with their father/grandfather/uncle
When: Tuesday, June 6
 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Where: Hike Haven, Forrest Park
Cost: \$5 per person
Limit: Minimum 6 couples; Maximum 25 couples



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 21
 5:30 – 7 pm
Where: Union Park, Bloomington
Cost: \$4
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 12



Ice Cream & Bingo

Calling all Bingo Players! Cool off with a cool ice cream treat and add your favorite toppings too. Then play some bingo with your friends and win some cool prizes.

- Who:** Ages 12 and older
When: Thursday, June 8
 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Where: Miller Park Pavilion, lower level
Cost: \$10
Limit: Minimum 8; Maximum 20

Peoria Chiefs Game

A summer tradition! Let's check out a local baseball team this year. The Chiefs play the South Bend Cubs in a 1:05 pm game. Please bring money for concessions and souvenirs and be sure to wear sunscreen. A reminder email will be sent to those who register.

- Who:** Ages 16 and older
When: Sunday, July 30
 11:30am – 5:00 pm
Where: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center
Cost: \$20
Limit: Minimum 8; Maximum 20

Special Events



Dinner & a Movie \$

Do you love movies? This group will have dinner at a local restaurant and then enjoy a movie at a local theater. All movies will be rated G to PG-13 and will be comedies, animations or dramas. Each person will need to pay for their own meal and movie. An email will be sent to those who register regarding restaurants, movies, transportation and times.

Who: Ages 14 – 28
When: Wednesday, August 2
5:15 pm – end of movie

Who: Ages 29 and older
When: Wednesday, August 9
5:15 pm – end of movie

Where: various restaurants/movie theaters
Cost: \$6
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 16



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 – 28
When: Monday, August 7
5:30pm – 7:30pm

Who: Ambulatory, Ages 29 and older
When: Monday, August 14
5:30pm – 7:30pm

Where: Drop off/pick-up at front entrance of Miller Park Zoo
Cost: \$12
Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 12



Bowling & Dinner \$

Enjoy a night out on the town! The group will meet at Pheasant Lanes to bowl two games and then enjoy dinner. Each week, participants will need to pay for their own meal costs. Drop off/pick up will be at Pheasant Lanes.

Who: Ages 13 - 29
When: Tuesday, July 25
5:00 – 7:30 pm

Who: Ages 30 and older
When: Thursday, July 27
5:00 - 7:30 pm

Where: Pheasant Lanes
Cost: \$10
Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 16



Pool Party

Cool down this summer at Holiday Pool in Bloomington. A picnic dinner will be provided to participants after some fun in the sun. Grab your towel and some sunscreen for a pool party with friends. A reminder email with more information will be sent to those who register.

Who: Ages 12 and older
When: Friday, August 4
5:30 – 7:30 pm
Where: Holiday Pool, Bloomington
Cost: \$10
Limit: Minimum 8; Maximum 30

Special Events

Illinois State Fair

Summer marks the season of local fairs and carnivals. Enjoy rides, exhibits, entertainment, and delicious food at the Illinois State Fair. This trip requires a lot of walking because the group will have the opportunity to see the entire fair. Registration covers admission and parking. Please note that the \$30 wristband for unlimited carnival rides is available on this date. Participants should bring money for carnival ride tickets and food.

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Tuesday, August 15
11:00 am – 7:00 pm

Where: Drop off/pick up at Lincoln Leisure Center

Cost: \$20

Limit: Minimum 6; Maximum 20



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 learning and playing bags. Come and join the fun!

Who: Ages 14 and older

When: Wednesday, August 23
5:30pm – 6:30pm

Where: Hike Haven, Forrest Park

Cost: \$4

Limit: Minimum 4; Maximum 16



QUESTIONS? INFORMATION?

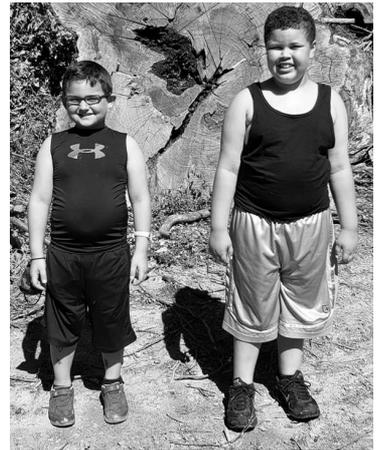
If there are any questions regarding eligibility, registration procedures, scholarships, transportation, or the SOAR program in general, feel free to contact the SOAR office at **(309) 434-2260**. TDD for the hearing impaired at **(309) 829-5115**. Fax: **(309) 434-2483**.

Web site address is www.cityblm.org/soar. Hotline: (309) 434-2386.

hpolley@cityblm.org OR mrutenbeck@cityblm.org



THE BEST
THING ABOUT
Memories
IS MAKING THEM





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Volunteer at the

Midwest Food Bank

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



June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Jeepers, Keepers! SO Athletics	Jeepers, Keepers! The Penguin Project Show	
				1	2	3
SO Swimming	SO Tennis	Make Some Art! Make Some Music! SO Unified Golf Pizza & Games with Dad	SO Softball SO Bocce SO Soccer	SO Athletics Ice Cream & Bingo	SO Summer Games SOAR Animal Crackers ZOOper Fridays	SO Summer Games
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
SO Summer Games	SO Bowling Out & About SOAR for Starters SO Tennis Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Flower Bouquets Fourth of July Crafts	Make Some Art! Make Some Music! SO Unified Golf Seat to SOAR	Lunchtime Concerts SOAR for Starters In the Park SO Softball	Explore Outdoors Pickleball Outdoor Cooking	Around the World	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	SO Bowling Out & About SOAR for Starters SO Tennis Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Flower Bouquets Fourth of July Crafts	Make Some Art! Make Some Music! SO Unified Golf Seat to SOAR	Lunchtime Concerts SOAR for Starters In the Park SO Softball	Explore Outdoors Pickleball Outdoor Cooking	Around the World Social Hour Virtual Game Night	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	SO Bowling Out & About SOAR for Starters SO Tennis Swim Lessons Cardio Fitness Flower Bouquets Fourth of July Crafts	Make Some Art! Make Some Music! SO Unified Golf Seat to SOAR	Lunchtime Concerts SOAR for Starters In the Park SO Softball	Explore Outdoors Pickleball Outdoor Cooking	Around the World	
25	26	27	28	29	30	

REGISTER EARLY! CLASSES FILL UP FAST!

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		SO Unified Golf SO Modified Volleyball 1	Dinner & a Movie 2	SO Unified Volleyball 3	SO Unified Golf Regional Qualifier Pool Party 4	5
6	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch SO Tennis Mini Golf & Picnic 7	SO Modified Volleyball 8	Dinner & a Movie 9	SO Unified Volleyball 10	SOAR Animal Crackers ZOOper Fridays 11	12
13	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch SO Tennis Mini Golf & Picnic 14	Illinois State Fair SO Modified Volleyball 15		SO Unified Volleyball 17		SO State Tennis Tournament 19
20	SO Bowling Lunch Bunch 21	SO Modified Volleyball SO Unified Golf 22	SO Softball Bags in the Park 23	SO Unified Volleyball 24	Social Hour Virtual Game Night 25	SO Region Bowling Tournament 26
27	Lunch Bunch 28	SO Modified Volleyball SO Unified Golf 29	SO Softball 30	SO Unified Volleyball 31		

VOLUNTEER AT THE MIDWEST FOOD BANK - CONTACT MAGGIE RUTENBECK AT MRUTENBECK@CITYBLM.ORG



THE BEST
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Memories
IS MAKING THEM





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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 emailed."

Program Cancellation

1. A program will be cancelled if the minimum number of participants needed is not met. SOAR staff will notify people by email 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 4th. Mail-in registration will begin on Thursday, May 4th 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 26.

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 26.

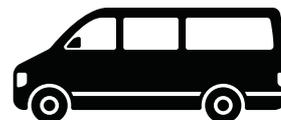
Refund Procedures

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.

Transportation

Transportation is available for some SOAR activities on a first-come, first-served basis for *Bloomington and Normal residents who have no other way to attend events. Car pools and the City transit system are recommended means of transportation. Please don't use transportation services as a "convenience". Many individuals have no other way to attend programs and services are limited. Programs in which transportation is available are followed by the symbol on the right.



To receive transportation:

1. Individuals needing to use door to door transportation services from SOAR must apply for this service separately for each program/event that it is available for. Applications for transportation services are available at the SOAR office, by contacting Holly Polley at hpolley@cityblm.org or by calling the office at (309) 434-2260.
2. Transportation service is limited and this is reserved for individuals who could not otherwise participate in SOAR programs without it. If a participant has a parent or someone in the home that can drive the participant to/from programs, he/she should NOT register for transportation. This service is not to be utilized for convenience.
3. Transportation is also only available to those individuals who live within the Bloomington/Normal service area (listed below). SOAR reserves the right to cancel a participant's registration for transportation if they have access to other means of transportation or live outside of the service area in order to accommodate someone who meets eligibility.
4. Before a program is scheduled to begin, individuals will be sent notification of pick-up time for transportation for each requested program in the mail. This will be mailed at the beginning of the session for weekly programs or one week prior to a special event (if a memo is sent).
5. All transportation applications and requests must be received by Friday, May 26.

Bloomington/Normal residents eligible for transportation service need to reside within the following geographic area:

55 north,

74/55/51 bypass west

Six Points/Veteran's Parkway/Ireland Grove South

Towanda Barnes Road east

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 OR mrutenbeck@cityblm.org



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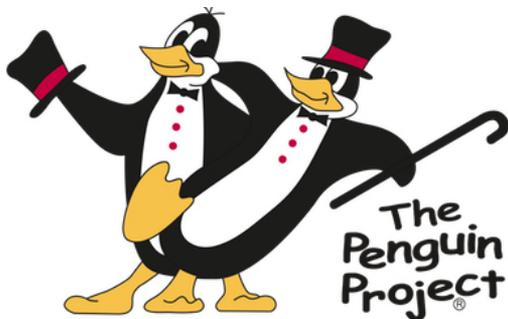
109 E. Olive • PO Box 3157
Bloomington, IL 61702-3157

Current Resident or

DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BEFORE
APRIL 21, 2023



SUMMER REGISTRATION KICKS OFF MAY 4



The Penguin Project of McLean County presents:

The Big One-Oh, Jr.

Universtiy High School - Normal, IL.

JUNE 2 - 7:00 PM • JUNE 3 - 7:00 PM • JUNE 4 - 2:00 PM