



RAYS OF HOPE

News, Recognition and Inspiration from the Sunshine Through Golf Foundation

Sunshine Through Golf Foundation

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Sensational Susie

By Cathy Miles Ralston

It's no understatement. Golf transformed Susie Doyens' life.

"Other sports she enjoys," notes Lynda Doyens, Susie's mother. "But golf, she would play everyday if she could."

Susie, 28, is an avid golfer and Special Olympics Global Messenger who will speak on May 23 at Midwest Golf House to launch the Sunshine Through Golf Foundation's new awareness initiative. Susie's story—how she found her passion in golf and the



Camper Susie Doyens

personal growth she achieved along the way—underscores why the Foundation's programs are so meaningful and their continued funding so vital.

Born in Denver, Susie has Down syndrome. Lynda and husband Dan were angered by recommendations to institutionalize their daughter and opted for a positive, proactive approach. They moved the family to Illinois, then sought out the best educational environment and arranged therapy sessions as well as ballet, piano and swim lessons for Susie. "I was driven to

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TENDING THE FLAGSTICK

Sunshine Online



The new site is at www.sunshinethroughgolf.org.

Visit the Sunshine Through Golf Foundation online at www.sunshinethroughgolf.org. The Foundation's new Web site provides more details on the Sunshine Through Golf camp program, the Three-Hole Sunshine Course and other Foundation related events.

The reader-friendly look makes the Foundation's Web site easy to navigate. Go to the site to make a tee time on the

Sunshine Course, view Sunshine Through Golf camp photos, join the Sunshine Club and get involved in Foundation activities.

The Foundation's Sunshine Course welcomes organizations dedicated and committed to utilizing golf in an educational, therapeutic, recreational or rehabilitative manner. The course and it's I*Mag*Jen Clubhouse are fully handicap accessible.

The site makes it easy for you to play the Sunshine Course. Sunshine Course tee time instructions are on the home page. To book a tee time, see "Make a Tee Time," check the online Sunshine Course Calendar, then contact Brittany Ottolini at 630-685-2313 or bottolini@cdga.org. Seven-day advance notice is recommended.

As the 2006 Sunshine Through Golf camps begin this summer, athletes can view the camp photos online. Visit www.sunshinethroughgolf.org, click



Look for Sunshine Through Golf camp photos at www.sunshinethroughgolf.org.

Camp Program, click Camp Photos on the left and then select your camp site. Foundation athletes can show their friends and family what they do at their Sunshine Through Golf camp.

To learn more about the Foundation and its programs, go online and add your e-mail address to the Sunshine E-mail List. Through Sunshine E-mails, the Foundation will notify you of upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and the latest news.

SUNSHINE CLUB

The following CDGA member clubs support the Sunshine Through Golf Foundation through the Sunshine Club program. Members at these clubs contribute \$25 each. Their generous contributions support the Foundation's programs and facilities.

Aurora Country Club	Cress Creek Country Club	Glen View Club	Old Elm Club	St. Charles Country Club
Beverly Country Club	Crystal Lake Country Club	Hinsdale Golf Club	Olympia Fields Country Club	Stonebridge Country Club
Biltmore Country Club	Crystal Tree Golf & Country Club	Inverness Golf Club	Ouilmette Golf Club	Turnberry Country Club
Bob O'Link Golf Club	Dunes Club	Ivanhoe Club	Park Ridge Country Club	Westmoreland Country Club
Bryn Mawr Country Club	Edgewood Valley Country Club	Kankakee Country Club	Ridge Country Club	White Eagle Golf Club
Butler National Golf Club	Elgin Country Club	Knollwood Club	Ridgemoor Country Club	Woodstock Country Club
Butterfield Country Club	Evanston Golf Club	Lake Geneva Country Club	Riverside Golf Club	
Calumet Country Club	Geneva Golf Club	Midlothian Country Club	Rockford Country Club	
Chicago Golf Club	Glen Flora Country Club	Naperville Country Club	Rolling Green Country Club	
Conway Farms Golf Club	Glen Oak Country Club	North Shore Country Club	Ruth Lake Country Club	

For more information about the Sunshine Club, contact the Foundation at 630-685-2313 or bottolini@cdga.org.



LEADERBOARD

The Sunshine Through Golf Foundation would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the following individuals, corporations and foundations for their generous contributions during the past 12 months:

36 Foundation (c/o John D. Mabie)	Robert & Sally Cunningham	Huron Consulting	Michael & Billie Miller	Peter M. Shannon
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(In Memory of Glenn Visser)	Michael Halicke	Mark & Debbie Martin	William Roy	Douglas West
Michael & Eileen Choate	Willard Hartman	Norman & Linda Matthew	Sam & Hilary Sallerson	William Blair & Company Foundation
Thomas Church	David Haverick	James & Susan Mayhall	Van & Carolyn Sue Salmans	(c/o David Coolidge)
Gary K. Cleveland	Kevin Hayes	(In Honor of Norton Ball McLean)	John Santoro	William F. Aldinger & Alberta M.
Ronald & Doris Cohen	Thomas Hayward	Michael Maykut	Robert Schriver	Aldinger Charitable Foundation
(In Memory of Ralph Bell)	Daniel Healy	John P. McCaffrey	Donnell Schwarz	Jerry F. Williams
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(c/o Michael Brown)	Frank Hianik	Robert R. McCormick Tribune	Schwartz Cooper Greenburger Krause	Wineman Charitable Foundation
Complete Exteriors, Inc.	Clarkson Hine	Foundation (c/o Michael Nass)	Larry Schweik	(c/o Mr. & Mrs. John S. Wineman, Jr.)
Constellation NewEnergy	Joel Hirsch	Bill & Dianne McDermott	Bruno & Lorraine Scodro	James C. Wise
Larry & Dianne Cooper	Gerald & Joan Hodgson	Jim McShane	(In Memory of Esther Winkler)	John Witten
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Tom Cramsie	Carl Hopphan	Richard & Mary Meyer	Chris & Pat Seyer III	Don & Tonie Yannias
(In Memory of Mary Beth Young)	James & Regina Hullihan	Steven & Tracy Meyer	James A. Shane	(In Memory of Marie T. Allison)
Crystal Tree Golf & Country Club	Alan Hunken	Edward Miller	Philip Shannabarger	Marianne Zito

work with her and so was her dad. We could see potential,” Lynda recalls.

Still, Susie—who has hearing difficulties—remained decidedly introverted and quiet. Then swimming introduced Susie to Special Olympics, which in turn exposed her to golf. Lynda and Dan were thrilled, having determined that getting Susie involved in “lifetime sports” like golf would be a priority. They figured golf would help Susie stay fit and active. What they didn’t foresee was how golf would unlock Susie’s competitive spirit and help dispel her shyness.



Sunshine Through Golf camper Susie Doyens (right) with CDGA official Jim Gallo.

Lynda credits Bob Gavelek, the PGA pro at Bartlett Hills Golf Course, with making all the difference. When Susie was 11 and had been playing for a few years, Lynda approached Gavelek—who was already involved with Special Olympics—and asked if he would take on a Special Olympian for lessons. Gavelek readily agreed, and soon he was taking Susie out on Saturday mornings at 6:30 a.m., just letting her play. Susie’s passion for the game took off. So did her self-confidence.

“There is a rhythm to golf that played to Susie’s comfort level and opened her up,” says Lynda.

While Susie has competed in a variety of Special Olympics sports, collecting 156 medals to date, her proudest accomplishments have come in golf. She and playing partner Tom Reasoner participated in two National Golf Invitational Tournaments, with Susie taking silver in Port St. Lucie, Fla. in 2001 and bronze in Ames, Iowa last year. In 1995, she was the first alternate to the World Games and hopes to play in the World Games someday. Her most memorable shot came in Port St. Lucie; Susie recalls, “I was 100 yards out and hit the ball with my pitching wedge and it rolled really close, within an inch from the hole!”

Her connection to the game has led to other unforgettable experiences, among them a meeting with Phil Mickelson at the 2005 Tour Championship; Mickelson presented her with a signed golf glove. Last year also marked Susie’s first opportunity to participate in the Sunshine Through Golf camps. She relished the Foundation-sponsored Play with a Pro day, held at the Three-Hole Sunshine Course during the week of the Cialis Western Open.

Susie’s golfing prowess prompted the Special Olympics to select her as a Global Messenger five years ago. To her mother’s surprise, shy, quiet Susie embraced the chance to train for public speaking. As of February 2006, she had tallied 185 speeches to groups as large as 1,500.

“I was really nervous before my first speech and still get nervous every time,” Susie admits. “But I want to tell people about the Special Olympics and being a good sport.”

Susie first shared her message with the CDGA in 2001, during dedication ceremonies for Midwest Golf House. In May, as the Sunshine Through Golf Foundation reaches out to past supporters and friends, Susie will once again speak about golf’s importance in her life. Susie was, says Manager of Foundation Operations Brittany Ottolini, a natural choice to be the spokesperson for the fundraising initiative: “She’s a strong speaker with a long affiliation with the CDGA.”



Susie plays the Foundation’s Sunshine Course.

And what would Susie say to those who have the chance to explore golf by participating in the Foundation’s programs or playing the Sunshine Course?

Susie is emphatic. “Go for it!”

News & Notes

2006 SUNSHINE EVENTS

Celebrating Sunshine
Midwest Golf House, Lemont, Ill.
Tuesday, May 23

LaSalle Bank Open
Sunshine Through Golf
Foundation Pro-Am
The Glen Club, Glenview, Ill.
Monday, June 5

Sunshine Through Golf Outing
Shoreacres, Lake Bluff, Ill.
Tuesday, June 27

SUNSHINE COURSE TEE-TIMES: The Sunshine Course welcomes organizations dedicated and committed to utilizing golf in an educational, therapeutic, recreational or rehabilitative manner. To play the course, contact Brittany Ottolini at 630-685-2313 or bottolini@cdga.org.

SPECIAL OLYMPIANS PRACTICE ON SUNSHINE COURSE: The Sunshine Through Golf Foundation’s Three-Hole Sunshine Course in Lemont, Ill. is the official practice facility of the 2006 Illinois Special Olympics golf team as they prepare for the National Games. National Games are July 2-7 in Ames, Iowa.

REVELATION GOLF: The mission of Revelation Golf is to provide golf to children and adults with cancer, people with a physical disability and at risk youth-girls. Learn more about this new organization and their first-ever golf outing at www.revelationgolf.org.



SUNSHINE THROUGH GOLF 2006 CAMP CALENDAR

Sunshine Through Golf camps are made possible through partnerships between golf clubs, Special Recreation Associations (SRAs), private agencies, park districts and the Sunshine Through Golf Foundation. The camp calendar lists the location, organization and start date of each camp. The camp program offers professional golf instruction for five to six weeks (one day a week).

Start Date	Location	Organization
Monday, January 16, 2006	Golf Center Des Plaines (GolfTec)	Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation
Monday, April 3, 2006	Golf Center Des Plaines (GolfTec)	Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation
Tuesday, April 4, 2006	Midlothian Country Club	Alsip & Oak Lawn SRA
Wednesday, April 5, 2006	Libertyville Golf Complex (CORE Golf)	Warren SRA
Monday, April 17, 2006	Medinah Country Club	North East DuPage SRA
Wednesday, April 19, 2006	The First Tee of Aurora – Phillips Park Golf Course	Hope D. Wall School
Monday, April 24, 2006	Cantigny Golf	Western DuPage SRA
Monday, May 1, 2006	Gwendolyn Brooks Campus (Cog Hill G & CC)	Gwendolyn Brooks College Prep. Special Ed.
Tuesday, May 2, 2006	Inverness Golf Club	Little City Foundation
Thursday, May 4, 2006	The Highlands of Elgin	Northern Illinois SRA
Tuesday, May 9, 2006	ThunderHawk Golf Club/Shepherd's Crook Golf Course	Special Recreation Services of Northern Lake County
Wednesday, May 10, 2006	Oak Brook Golf Club	Aspire
Wednesday, May 10, 2006	White Eagle Golf Club	Western DuPage SRA
Wednesday, May 10, 2006	Glen Oak Country Club	Western DuPage SRA
Thursday, May 11, 2006	Village Greens of Woodridge	Southeast Association for Special Parks & Recreation
Thursday, May 18, 2006	Libertyville Golf Learning Center (Conway Farms)	SRA of Central Lake County
Wednesday, May 24, 2006	Kellogg Golf Course	Heart of Illinois SRA
Wednesday, June 7, 2006	Creekside Golf & Training Center	Indiana Special Olympics
Tuesday, June 13, 2006	Coyote Run Golf Course	South Suburban SRA
Tuesday, June 13, 2006	Twin Lakes Golf Course	North West Suburban SRA (Beginner)
Wednesday, June 14, 2006	Libertyville Golf Learning Center (CORE Golf)	Warren SRA
Wednesday, June 14, 2006	Palatine Hills Golf Course	North West Suburban SRA (Advanced)
Thursday, June 15, 2006	Phillips Park Golf Course	Fox Valley SRA (Beginner)
Thursday, June 15, 2006	Phillips Park Golf Course	Fox Valley SRA (Advanced)
Friday, June 16, 2006	Twin Lakes Golf Course	North West Suburban SRA (Beginner)
Monday, June 19, 2006	Golf Center Des Plaines (GolfTec)	Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation
Monday, June 19, 2006	Randall Oaks Golf Course	Northern Illinois SRA (Beginner)
Tuesday, June 20, 2006	Randall Oaks Golf Course	Northern Illinois SRA (Advanced)
Tuesday, June 20, 2006	Ingersoll Golf Club	Rockford Park District
Wednesday, June 21, 2006	Sunshine Course	West Suburban SRA (Advanced)
Thursday, June 22, 2006	White Pines Golf Club	West Suburban SRA (Beginner)
Friday, June 23, 2006	Randall Oaks Golf Course	Northern Illinois SRA (Beginner)
Tuesday, June 27, 2006	Fox Run Golf Links – Driving Range	School District 54 – Special Olympics
Wednesday, June 28, 2006	Flagg Creek Golf Course	Gateway SRA
Thursday, July 6, 2006	Kankakee Elks Golf Club	River Valley SRA
Sunday, July 9, 2006	Sanctuary Golf Course	Lincolnway SRA & Joliet-Bolingbrook SRA
Tuesday, July 11, 2006	Marquette Park Learning Center	Chicago Special Olympics (Beginner)
Tuesday, July 11, 2006	South Shore Learning Center	Chicago Special Olympics (Beginner)
Wednesday, July 12, 2006	Makray Memorial Golf Club	Northern Illinois SRA (Beginner)
Wednesday, July 12, 2006	Makray Memorial Golf Club	Northern Illinois SRA (Advanced)
Wednesday, July 12, 2006	Creekside Golf & Training Center	Indiana Special Olympics
Friday, July 14, 2006	Columbus Park Golf Course	Chicago Special Olympics (Advanced)
Saturday, July 15, 2006	Cog Hill Golf & Country Club	Tri-County SRA (Beginner)
Saturday, July 15, 2006	Cog Hill Golf & Country Club	Tri-County SRA (Advanced)
Wednesday, July 19, 2006	Kellogg Golf Course	Heart of Illinois SRA
Tuesday, August 1, 2006	Stony Creek Golf Course	Oak Lawn Park District & Elim School
Thursday, August 10, 2006	Winnetka Golf Club	North Suburban SRA (Beginner)
Thursday, August 10, 2006	Winnetka Golf Club	North Suburban SRA (Advanced)
Thursday, August 17, 2006	Village Greens of Woodridge	South East Association for Special Parks & Recreation
Tuesday, August 22, 2006	Kankakee Elks Golf Club	River Valley SRA
Thursday, August 24, 2006	Silver Lake Country Club	Orland Park SRA (Beginner)
Thursday, August 24, 2006	Silver Lake Country Club	Orland Park SRA (Advanced)
Tuesday, August 29, 2006	Mt. Prospect Golf Club	Clearbrook
Thursday, August 31, 2006	Mt. Prospect Golf Club	Clearbrook
Thursday, August 31, 2006	Prestwick Country Club	Lincolnway SRA & South Suburban SRA
Wednesday, September 6, 2006	The First Tee of Aurora – Phillips Park Golf Course	Hope D. Wall School
Dates TBD:		
Dates TBD	Stone Creek Golf Club	Champaign-Urbana SRA
Dates TBD	Marquette Park Golf Course	Chicago Special Olympics (Elite)
Dates TBD	TBD	Great Lakes Adaptive Sports Association