



**Special Olympics**  
*New Jersey*

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Special Olympics New Jersey Announces 2008 Award Honorees** *Athletes and volunteers honored at annual awards dinner in Princeton.*

LAWRENCEVILLE – Special Olympics New Jersey honored individuals and groups for their dedication and commitment to the mission of Special Olympics at their annual Awards Dinner at the Westin Princeton, November 21.

The honorees included:

**Hall of Fame**

Sean Silver of Sewell

Tim Sullivan of Upper Montclair

**Lifetime Achievement Award**

Chris and Larry Hanko of South River

**Law Enforcement Torch Run Wall of Recognition Induction**

Gary Evangelista of Laurel Springs

**Bessie Perlman Achievement**

Patricia Michaels of Scotch Plains

**S. Michael Higgins Special Olympics Scholarship**

Robert Hopkins of Edison

**Outstanding Athlete in Fall Sports**

Josephine Sommerville of Morganville

**Outstanding Athlete in Winter Sports**

Michael Ferraioli of Basking Ridge

**Outstanding Athlete in Spring Sports**

Gary Mathis of Millville

**Outstanding Athlete in Summer Sports**

Kevin Pepitone of Fairlawn

**Outstanding Local Training Program**

Hamilton Area YMCA-SKOR Program

**Volunteer of the Year – Chapter Level**

Janis Abraham of Princeton Junction

**Volunteer of the Year – Area Level**

Thomas Moody of Bayonne

**Outstanding Volunteer Group**

“Volunteers for Life” at New York Life

**Outstanding Coach – Chapter Level**

Genevieve Iervolino-Fusco of Hoboken

**Outstanding Coach – Area Level**

Karen Newburgh of Augusta

**Family of the Year**

Dean and Peggy Floro and Family

*For more information on the honorees, or photos from the evening, please contact Tiana Conner, Communications Manager, at (609) 896-8000, ext 254, or TCC@sonj.org.*

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***Special Olympics New Jersey provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.***