

## **Association of Poinciana Villages Announces Partnership with Special Olympics**

### ***Special Olympics Athletes will Train at New Vance Harmon Park Facilities***

**POINCIANA, Fla.—May 2017**—The Association of Poinciana Villages is excited to announce their new partnership with the Special Olympics. Beginning May 20, 2017 Special Olympics athletes who are either APV residents or live near Poinciana will begin using the new Vance Harmon Park facilities. Swimmers, for example, will use the new state-of-the-art competition pool for practice every Saturday. Previously, these athletes would have to travel more than 30 miles to the nearest practice facility.

“The renovations being made to Vance Harmon Park will provide Poinciana Villages with some of the most advanced facilities in the area.” said Mark Maldonado, General Manager of the association, “It was important to us to provide access to these facilities not just to Association of Poinciana Village residents but to residents of the surrounding communities as well. We are thrilled about our new partnership with the Special Olympics.”

The Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and competition to children and adults eight years of age and older with intellectual and developmental disabilities. There are currently more than 800 Special Olympics athletes across Polk and Osceola County.

“I have seen time and time again what good the Special Olympics can do for a community,” said Ben Wruble, Director of the Special Olympics in Osceola County. “Of course, the athletes benefit, but it’s amazing how much the community benefits as well. We are looking forward to a long-standing relationship with APV and are excited to begin utilizing their gorgeous new facilities.”

The Mary Jane Arrington Gym and Aquatic Center of Vance Harmon’s competition pool holds 285,000 gallons of water and offers eight, 25-meter swim lanes, 12-foot diving wells, two diving boards and a handicap lift. The community center, which boasts 16-thousand square feet of space, will provide restrooms and a locker room for those using the pool.

The inauguration of the new pool is taking place on Saturday, May 13, 2017. Special Olympics athletes will be participating in an exhibition swim race.

“This is just the beginning of a wonderful partnership with the Special Olympics and we are looking forward to having our residents become more involved with this wonderful organization,” said Mr. Maldonado.

###

**About the Association of Poinciana Villages**

The Association of Poinciana Villages, Inc. (APV) is one of the largest homeowners associations in the United States. The 47,000-acre, unincorporated, suburban community encompasses both Polk and Osceola counties perfectly nestled between Haines City and Kissimmee, Florida. The community is enriched by more than 26,000 homes, 200 businesses and more than a dozen recreational parks. There are more than 50,000 deeded homeowners and approximately 150,000 residents who have enjoyed a vibrant sense of community since Poinciana's inception in 1972. The Association of Poinciana Villages maintains its core vision of continuing to be one of the best places in all of central Florida to live and raise a family. Visit [apvcommunity.com](http://apvcommunity.com) for more information.