

A Royal Ball for All Planned for Milan, Illinois

Written by Richard Martin
Tuesday, 01 May 2012 14:57

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5K, Fun Run and a Royal Ball round out planned event to promote autism awareness

Milan, IL - Organizers for an inaugural event to promote autism awareness have announced details regarding a Royal Ball-themed weekend of events June 22 –June 23 in Milan, Illinois.

The weekend will kick off with a “Royal Ball for All” at the Milan Community Center from 5pm – 8pm on Friday, June 22. The family-friendly and public event will feature royal-themed games, activities, food and of course, royal appearances by some well-known princes and princesses. (Children are encouraged to wear their most royal costumes).

At 7:30am the next morning, runners will lace up their glass slippers for a chip-timed Royal Ball Run presented by Jumer’s Casino & Hotel – a 5K course along the Rock River and through Milan, Illinois, followed by a Prince and Princess ¼ mile Fun Run.

According to Royal Ball volunteer, Anne Holtan, the event has been designed to encourage greater support for children and families with autism in our community. “Oftentimes, parents don’t know where to turn or how to access resources,” said Holtan. “Our goal is to hold a unique family event and top-notch 5K race, but to also encourage stronger acceptance of those with autism and better connect families with the resources they need.”

Jennifer Hartmann, event chair, has been overwhelmed by community support for the event. “I knew going into this that we were tapping into a real need. We now know that 1 in 88 children are diagnosed with autism and local businesses, volunteers and the Village of Milan have all enthusiastically stepped up to make this first-year event possible.

Funds raised during the Royal Ball weekend will be donated to the Quad City Autism Center and programs to support autism awareness in the Quad Cities Area. Individuals can register for the race or learn more by visiting www.royalballrun.com.

About the Quad City Autism Center

The Quad Cities Autism Center exists to provide education, guidance and resources to parents

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and children affected by Autism and to offer one to one instruction to develop and enhance the lives of our children by giving them New Hope and a brighter future.