

# CYO Marquee

"Serving Mercer County Youth Since 1952"

Mercer County CYO Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2006

Volume 12 Issue 2

## NEW BUS ADDED TO THE FLEET THANKS TO A GENEROUS GRANT FROM KRAFT

A \$40,000 grant, from Kraft Employee Fund (KEF) Northeast was recently awarded to the CYO, allowing us to update our transportation service fleet, by purchasing a 24 passenger Mini-Bus.

The timing of the grant couldn't have been better, as the CYO is scheduled to retire their first bus which was purchased in 1996, and is legally required to be off the roads. The new bus will primarily serve the Yardville Branch with use for the Day Camp, After School Program, Teen Travel Camp, Holiday Camps, and Pre-School field trips.

The Kraft Employee Fund Northeast is a workplace-giving program supported by contributions from Kraft employees across the Northeast area. Kraft Foods, in showing its support, makes annual financial contributions to the Fund, and absorbs 100% of its administrative costs. The KEF 2006 grant program awarded more than \$776,000 to twenty-four community benefit organizations, including CYO, in the focus areas of Elder Services, Healthy Lifestyles, Hunger & Youth Development.



CYO Campers pose in front of the new Mini-Bus purchased by the CYO through the Grant from Kraft Foods.

## GRANT FROM KRAFT RECEIVED TO TEACH HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

The CYO was recently awarded a \$25,000 grant, from Kraft Foods, to implement the Salsa, Sabor y Salud Healthy Lifestyles Program. This grant is part of Kraft's commitment to help communities around the world address health and wellness concerns. Kraft provides support to non-profit organizations that help children and their families improve their physical activity and awareness of nutritional practices.

Salsa, Sabor y Salud, a national best-practice program for reaching Latino families, has been designed by the National Latino Children's Institute (NLCI) in collaboration with Kraft Foods, and is a culturally based eight-session curriculum developed to help families create healthier lifestyles. Curriculum kits, staff training, and program assistance are all provided through the Kraft Grant.



Pictured are some of our Trenton Pre-School families that are participating in "Salsa Sabor y Salud" led by, CYO staffers Gloribee Pica, Ramona Jimenez, and Carmen Lanning.

Two CYO staff members, Donna Zolnierzak and Gloribee Pica, recently attended the national training session in San Antonio, Texas, to prepare the CYO to implement this program, as the number of Latino families served by the CYO continues to grow. Other agencies receiving this grant were from Miami, Chicago and Los Angeles.

CYO is launching its first Salsa series this Fall, with Trenton Center pre-school families as the initial participants. CYO plans additional program series, throughout the year, for other CYO and community families.

## PRUDENTIAL FOUNDATION'S GRANT FOR YOUTH INITIATIVE

The CYO recently received a \$5,000.00 Prudential Foundation 2006 Summer Grants Initiative Grant! The grant will be used for the Trenton After School Program tutoring services and Summer REC Program. As a result of Prudential's "Making the Most of Summer" full day institute, the CYO recognized the growing need for more effective summer learning programs, both to combat summer learning loss, & encourage accelerated learning. All 150 campers in the 9 week Summer REC Program participated, focusing on math, reading, and art. Thanks again, Prudential!

## YARDVILLE WINTER HOLIDAY CAMP

The Yardville CYO will once again run a three day Winter Holiday Camp for students enrolled in grades K-5. The camp will take place Wednesday, December 27 through Friday, December 29 from 7:30am to 5:30pm. Field trip and lunch are provided each day for every camper, as well as other special games and activities, including a New Year's Eve Party. The cost of the camp is \$135.00 for all three days or \$55.00 a day; hurry to register, spaces are limited. For more information contact the CYO Yardville at (609) 585-4280 x 103.

## THE YARDVILLE PRESCHOOL IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY!

As the third year for the Yardville CYO Preschool begins, the children and teachers are ready to have a great year! Our school currently has three four-year-old classrooms and one three-year-old class. Plus, our ten week Parent & Me class! Hosting seventy-one children total. The Yardville CYO Preschool is getting actively involved in the community this school year.

The preschoolers have already been involved in some fun, educational activities. Groveville Fire House Fire Fighters visited with us and taught us about ways to keep safe! Then the preschoolers took school buses to Windsor Farm and enjoyed learning about farm life, growing crops, and touching pumpkin vines. Most fun of all was picking pumpkins to take home!

Our community activities do not end there! The preschoolers are going to be coloring pictures for Wendy's on Rt. 130 in Hamilton each holiday. Not to mention, the Preschool Family Night at Wendy's that will be taking place at the beginning of December. Over the course of the school year, we are going to be sending drawings and letters over to the troops that are still overseas! Our four-year-old classes are going to visit the Hamilton Library. During their visit they are going to take a tour of the library and get library cards! In the Spring, the preschoolers will be going back to Sayen Gardens to learn about ways to help take care of the Earth and to observe the tree that they planted last year! We will also be traveling to a local pet store in order to learn about the animals that share our neighborhoods with us. The Yardville CYO Preschool takes pride on its "When We Grow Up" unit. Representatives from a local bank, Veterinarian office, the post office, and other local businesses will visit our school and talk about their occupations.

This is going to be another great school year!



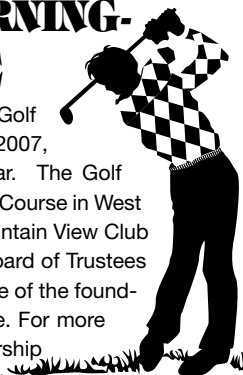
Yardville Pre-School students take a minute to pose for a picture during a recent field trip to Windsor Farms for Pumpkin picking and a hayride.

## YARDVILLE PRE-SCHOOL EXPANDING

The Yardville Pre-School plans on opening a new, part-time 3 year old classroom in January, 2007. The new class will operate on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:30am to 12:30pm. For more information on the class contact us at (609) 585-4280.

## GOLF CLASSIC RETURNING-SAVE THE DATE

This event, the 16th playing of the CYO Golf Classic, will return Wednesday, September 27, 2007, honoring Arthur Caola, as CYO Man of the Year. The Golf Tournament will take place at Mountain View Golf Course in West Trenton, and the dinner will follow at the new Mountain View Club House! Art is a long time member of the CYO Board of Trustees and a dedicated CYO supporter. Also, he was one of the founding members of the CYO Golf Classic Committee. For more information on the Golf Classic or for sponsorship information contact Patrick Hardiman at (609) 585-4280 x 102.



## COOL SUMMER FUN IN THE CITY!



Campers of Cub Scout Pack 920 from the CYO Summer REC Camp participate in The "Rain Gutter Regatta".

## 1ST ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

The Mercer County CYO hosted its first annual Fall Festival on October 1. We offered fun games for the children, face painting, baked goods, and so much more. The families enjoyed shopping at our Vendors Valley and trying their luck at our tricky tray basket raffle, where local businesses donated goodies and gift certificates. Many families took a chance and entered in our 50/50 and the CYO basket raffle that offered \$250 off your tuition at the CYO.

Plans for next year's Fall Festival are already in progress. It is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 30, 2007. For more information contact Kara DeBonis at 609-585-4280.



Friends enjoying the Fall Festival.



Center, Yardville Pre-School student Noelle Muni picks the winning 50/50 ticket at the Fall Festival. To her left is a volunteer, Sergio Sencion, and to her right is the Fall Festival Coordinator, Kara DeBonis.

## SCHOLAR-ATHLETES

### FEMALE & MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR / COACH OF THE YEAR

At the Opening Day Basketball Mass on October 28th, the CYO recognized the 2005-06 Scholar Athlete Team. The recipients were selected for their athletic success and participation as well as their academic achievements during the 2005-06 school year. This year's recipients were: Shannon Adubato (Trenton Catholic Academy), Emily Bamford (St. Paul's), Nicholas Chiarello (St. Gregory's), Mike Constantini (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels), Joseph Convery (St. Paul's), Christopher DeAngelo (Incarnation/St. James), Brandon Dempster (Trenton Catholic Academy), Alyssa Peroni (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels), Therese Ponella (OLS / St. Anthony's), Amanda Repko (St. Gregory's) and Chelsea Totaro (Incarnation/St. James).

In addition, the CYO also honored Dana Jeter (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels) and Frantz Massanet (Incarnation/St. James) as the Female and Male Athletes of the year for their athletic success during the 2005-06 season. Also, Karla Peroni from St. Raphael's / Holy Angels was honored as the Volunteer Coach of the Year. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients!

## BASKETBALL

The Mercer County CYO Basketball season started on Saturday, October 28th. This year the CYO is celebrating its 54th year of providing basketball opportunities to the youth in the greater Mercer County area. The season started with the annual Opening Day Mass which was held at the CYO Center. This year Father Tom Fesen from St. Raphael's / Holy Angels celebrated Mass. This year there are over 50 teams competing in the 5 leagues (Girls Freshmen, Girls Junior Varsity, Boys Junior Varsity, Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity Leagues) that the CYO offers. Schools and parishes that are represented in the CYO Basketball Leagues include: Incarnation / St. James, OLS / St. Anthony's, St. Ann's, St. Anthony's of Padua, St. Gregory's, St. Mary's of Bordentown, St. Paul's, St. Raphael's / Holy Angels, Trenton Catholic Academy and Villa Victoria. Stop by the CYO Center most Thursday and Friday nights and Saturday and Sunday afternoons throughout the winter. For schedule information, please contact the CYO at (609) 396-8383 x 14.

## BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

The class for the second CYO Basketball Hall of Fame has been finalized and the date is set! The CYO will be honoring 21 men and women on Sunday, February 11, 2007 from 3:00pm - 8:00pm at Roman Hall Restaurant in Trenton, as part of the second group to be inducted into its prestigious Basketball Hall of Fame. With over 40,000 player graduates, 5,000 volunteer coaches, and 1,000 referees to come through the CYO Basketball Program over the last 53 years, this class certainly comprises some of the most talented basketball players and coaches in the history of Mercer County.

The list of inductees for the 2007 class is as follows:

**Coaches** - \*Rose Astore, Vince Lanzi, and Sandra Valenza-Oropel

**Male Players** - Art Bobik, Steve Brown, Bryan Caver, \*Michael Fahey, \*Doug Hice, Tom Kaczor, Jack Madden, Brian Sakowski, Billy Schuler, and Al Tezsla

**Female Players** - Shelly Walters-Dearden, Ann Ermi-DeMille, Beth Ardery-Fitzpatrick, Lauren Kokotajlo -Grace, Jen Hutchinson-Pioprowski, Jamie McCormack, and Erin Walton

**Referee** - Nick Massari

\* = Posthumously

For more information about the event including tickets and sponsorship contact Patrick Hardiman at the CYO Yardville at (609) 585-4280 x 102.

## CYO BEGINS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM AT FRANKLIN SCHOOL

After School Program services in Trenton have recently expanded to include a program housed at Franklin Elementary School in Trenton. Currently there are 31 children in the program with room for more. Each day a special activity is planned along with homework and snack time. Friday is movie and popcorn day! Additional information on this program is available by contacting the CYO at 396-8383 ext. 13.

## EVENING TEEN PROGRAM

The CYO Evening Teen Program started in mid-September. This year, the Teen Program will run on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings between the hours of 6:00 - 9:00 PM. The program is free and is open to teenagers (13-17) who live in the City of Trenton. For more information regarding the Teen Program, please call (609) 396-8383 x 14.

## CHEERLEADING COMPETITION

Save the date! The CYO will be holding their Annual CYO Cheerleading Competition on Saturday, February 10th. Doors open at 1:00 PM and the competition will begin at 2:00 PM.

## CROSS COUNTRY MEET ADDED TO ATHLETIC CALENDAR

The First Annual CYO Cross Country meet was held on Saturday, October 14th at Mercer County Park. The Meet attracted 28 participants for 4 different divisions, from several Parishes across Mercer County, it certainly looks to be a keeper on the Fall Athletic Calendar. The length of the course was 1.5 miles and the top finishers for the meet were:

Girls Junior Varsity	Olivia Albanese	OLS / St. Anthony's	9:51
Boys Junior Varsity	Mark Maslanka	St. Paul's	8:36
Girls Varsity	Jordan Anderson	St. Paul's	8:24
Boys Varsity	Matt Calcagno	St. Greg's	8:07

## NEW SOCCER LEAGUE AT YARDVILLE

A new fall soccer league at the Yardville CYO was recently just completed. The four team league, for 4 and 5 year olds, played a six game schedule on Saturday mornings at the CYO Yardville soccer field. 24 of the 48 participants in the league were comprised of students in the CYO Pre-School, and the other half were members of the community. This league, unlike the other athletic leagues that are run by the CYO is open to the community with no Catholic School or Parish affiliation. A spring Tee-Ball league is being planned as well. For more information on the recently completed soccer league or for information about the Spring Tee-Ball League, including sponsorship information, contact Dan Bossio at (609) 585-4280 x 112.

We would like to thank our Soccer League sponsors; The Flooring Craftsmen; Nini Plumbing; Security Dynamics; and EMR Contracting.



Players chase the ball during action for the New CYO Yardville Soccer League.



## MERCER COUNTY CYO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Sister Donna D'Alia

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## MERCER COUNTY CYO FULL TIME STAFF LISTING

### Executive Director

Thomas G. Mladenetz, M.Ed.

### Director of Youth Services

Kevin Walsh

### Yardville Branch Director

Patrick M. Hardiman

### Administrative Director

Donna Zolnierzak

### Athletic Director/Teen Program Director

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### Administrative Asst./Financial Services

Kathy Schroeder

### Family Workers

Carmen Davila

Gloribee Pica

### Program Assistant

Mary Kondash

### Grant Writer

Nancy Podeszwa

### Yardville Pre-School Staff

Kara DeBonis (Head Teacher/Supervisor)

Ericka Baggott

Katie Matthews

Carol Blanche

Lisa Pané

Melissa Evert

Jackie Schnorrbusch

### Trenton Pre-School Staff

Griselle DeJesus (Teacher)

Dessie Smith (Teacher)

Cynthia Teel (Teacher)

Nikki Hornyak (Teacher)

Lorri Jewett (Teacher)

Pamela Burdsall (Teacher)

Ingrid Garcia

Hippolita Lopez

Michelle Lanning

Nadia Rowe

Josie Leon

Jerilyn Tykarski

## NEW SCOREBOARDS ADDED TO GYMNASIUM

A tremendous upgrade was recently done to the gymnasium, as two, state of the art, wireless scoreboards were installed. A much needed addition, as the previous scoreboards had a combined 40 years of use to them. With all of the basketball games played year round at 920 South Broad Street this purchase was certainly worthwhile. The CYO raised \$8,400.00 for the purchase of the scoreboards, and is very grateful to the generous donors for their support. The following is a list of the donors:

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church  
Bobby V's Auto Body  
Robert Myers  
Roma Bank  
Anita Peterman Memorial Foundation  
Domanski Plumbing, Heating, Cooling Inc.  
Prior Nami Business Systems  
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St. Vincent DePaul Church  
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Mr. & Mrs. John Hardiman  
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Mr. & Mrs. Edelmiro Gonzalez  
St. Paul's Catholic Church



From left to right Quincy Walzer, Athletic Director and Tom Mladenetz, Executive Director show the plaque which lists the names of all of the donors for the new scoreboard.

# CYO Marquee

### Mercer County CYO

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(609) 396-8383

### Yardville Branch

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