

CYO Marquee

"Serving Mercer County Youth Since 1952"

Mercer County CYO Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2011-2012

Volume 17 Issue 2



Wishing you a warm and wonderful Christmas and a bright and Happy New Year.



BISHOP'S DELEGATE ADDED TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bishop David M. O'Connell recently appointed Sister Joanne Dress, D.C. as his delegate to the CYO Board of Trustees. Sister Joanne comes to the role as the Bishop's Delegate through her new position as Executive Director for the new Department of Catholic Social Services. She will serve as supervisor for Catholic Charities, Migration & Refugee Services, Catholic Relief Services, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Martin House, Mount Carmel Guild, St. Vincent de Paul Society, and the CYO.

In addition to Sister Joanne's primary responsibility of serving the Diocese and its mission, she will also work towards ensuring that the Diocese achieve the goal of acting with charity and promoting social justice in our society and in our world. Sister Joanne former-

ly served as the CEO and Executive Vice President of Catholic Charities Community Services of Orange County, NY. Sister Joanne is a member of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul and began her life's work of service as an elementary school teacher, spending 10 years educating youth in New York and Delaware, and serving 12 years as a director of religious education in New York and New Jersey. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art and a Certificate in Teaching (Nursery through sixth grade) from Marymount Manhattan College, New York, and a Masters of Arts in Religious Studies/Theology from Fairfield, Conn., before undertaking Spanish language studies in the Maryknoll Language Institute in Cochabamba, Bolivia. The CYO is excited to have Sister Joanne as part of their team!

TOYS R US CHILDRENS FUND AWARDS \$25,000 TO CYO

The CYO has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from Toys "R" Us Children's Fund through its 2011 New Jersey grant initiative. This grant, which aligns with Toys "R" Us Children's Fund mission of keeping children safe and helping them in times on need, will support CYO's Trenton Center After School Program (ASP) and recreational/educational Summer Day Camp (REC). Selected from a pool of more than 500 proposals, CYO "demonstrated a distinctive commitment to supporting children in New Jersey," said Kathleen Waugh, Chairman, Toys "R" Us Children's Fund. "The CYO greatly appreciates this grant support from Toys "R" Us," said Tom Mladenetz, CYO Executive Director. "The past couple of years have been very challenging for most non-profit agencies during these harsh economic

times. Funding has been cut, but the demand for services is up. It is truly a blessing to have a NJ based corporation that loved kids!" Thank you, Toys "R" Us!

Additionally, the CYO received a \$7,500 grant from Bristol Myers Squibb for the ASP Tutoring Services, a \$5,000 grant from TD Bank, and a \$1,000 grant from Wal-Mart. The Prudential Foundation also granted the CYO \$5,000 for Trenton REC. Finally, Juvenile

Justice Commission renewed their Summer 2010 grant for 2011 Trenton REC Theatre Arts program in the amount of \$9,495. The CYO could not deliver the services we do, without this tremendous community support!



LEGISLATIVE VISIT TO YARDVILLE DAY CAMP

14th Legislative District Assemblyman Dan Benson visited the Yardville Day Camp for a tour on Friday, July 29. Benson was given a tour by Camp Director Patrick Hardiman and CYO Executive Director Tom Mladenetz, and was accompanied by his Chief of Staff Sharon Shinkle and American Camp Association lobbyist Claudine Leone. The CYO Day Camp was chosen by ACA Executive Director Mary Ellen Folsom to show Assemblyman Benson an ACA accredited Camp in his District. We were able to show first hand the many good things a Day Camp does for the community and the children who attend and the working parents in the community who benefit from the services who are offered to them. In addition, Benson saw and heard of the many challenges that Non-Profit Day Camps face in operating first class programs, especially those like the CYO that are ACA accredited and have to maintain over 400 standards, many of which are costly to do. Assemblyman Benson enjoyed his visit and realized the benefits of Summer camps in his District and the efforts of the providers.



Front row campers take a minute out of their day to pose for a picture. Back row left to right: CYO Executive Director Tom Mladenetz, Assemblyman Dan Benson, and Yardville Branch Director Patrick Hardiman

CYO EXPANDS SERVICES IN HAMILTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS



The CYO is proud to have partnered with Klockner and Greenwood Schools as the on-site Before and After School Care provider for the 2011-2012 school year. After providing the on-site Before and After School Care at Lalor and Wilson Schools last year, the CYO added two more schools this year, and serves over 150 students at the four schools and employs 19 part-time staff, and one full time staff member, Donna Marie Clancy, who was hired as the Assistant Director for Before and After School Satellite Programs. The programs operate in the morning from 7:30AM – 8:45AM and the afternoons from 3:35PM – 6:00PM, and focuses on homework and fun! The CYO is looking to further expand to other Hamilton Township Elementary Schools. For more information on the Before and After School Programs, to register a student, or to see how your school can have their Before and After School Program provided by the CYO, contact Patrick Hardiman at (609) 585-4280 x 102 or via e-mail at phardiman@cyomercer.org

EWING PRE-SCHOOL RE-ACCREDITED THROUGH NAEYC

The Ewing Pre-School was re-accredited for another five year cycle through the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The Pre-School staff put in a lot of time and effort towards this prestigious honor. The Pre-School continued with business as usual this Fall with a field trip on Tuesday, October 25th to the pumpkin patch at Shady Brook Farm in Yardley, PA. The weather was spectacular and the children enjoyed a hay ride to the pumpkin patch and were able to see a variety of farm animals. The children were given small pumpkins, apples and a special coloring book about pumpkin farms. A classic fall day for a CYO Pre-Schooler!



Pictured from left to right: CYO Executive Director Tom Mladenetz, Yardville Camp Food Manger Ginny Taylor, and Yardville Branch Director Patrick Hardiman pose for a picture of Ginny showing a plaque presented to her for a long time service award to the Day Camp. Ginny has worked for the CYO since 1993 as Camp Food Manager and during that time has remained a valuable and dedicated employee to the Organization and a caring staff member to the campers in the Program. She has been a professional and team player and instrumental in the reshaping of the camp and the success of it. Ginny has served a mind boggling 200,000 plus meals to the campers since 1993!

GOLF TOURNAMENT

A very successful Golf Tournament was held on Thursday, September 29th at Mountainview Golf Course in Ewing! This years Tournament honored Tony Nami, Owner of Prior Nami Business Systems with 2011 CYO Community Service Award. Tony has proven time and again to be a true friend and supporter of the CYO. He consistently attends and generously supports CYO events. Tony is a true community minded businessman who always gives back. This time the CYO gave back to him for all of his previous efforts. A fun day was had by all who attended the day of golf and the evening awards dinner.



THANKS LINDA KRAUT!

On Friday, June 10, 2011, Linda Kraut, Director of Ewing CYO Pre-School was honored at a retirement luncheon attended by staff, family and friends.

Perhaps the best way to describe Mrs. Kraut's tenure at CYO is to say that Linda Kraut was to Ewing CYO Pre-School what Brett Favre was to the Green Bay Packers. When Mercer County CYO took over the struggling Mercer Child Care program at the Hollowbrook Community Center, a program that Mrs. Kraut had run for 15 years, she had already been retired from that program for several months. Tom Mladenetz, Executive Director, coaxed her out of retirement and convinced her to return to Hollowbrook to help the new program get off the ground. Linda agreed to stay for one year on a part time basis. Because of Linda's fierce dedication to the children and staff of the program, one year turned into three and, this past June, on the day of Ewing CYO Pre-School's End of the Year Program, there was a double celebration. In fact it was only fitting that a tribute to the accomplished career of such a caring and devoted educator should be celebrated in tandem with the accomplishments of the very children she had dedicated her life's work to for so many years.

We are all sad to see Mrs. Kraut go, but we wish her all the very best as she begins a new chapter of her life, a chapter that includes the role of grandma to her new granddaughter, Farrah Lynn.



WHAT CAN BROWN DO FOR THE CYO

UPS recently sent a group of employees to the CYO Center for a Day of Caring. The UPS employees put their truck and packages aside for a day to do some CYO work on Broad St. A lot of effort went into preparing the gym for the beginning of the basketball season and playground for the continued use for the Pre-School students. Thanks, UPS! If there are any corporate groups that would like to do A Day of Caring at any of the CYO sites feel free to contact Tom Mladenetz at (609) 396-8383 x 15.



DO YOU "LIKE" US?

It was only a matter of time, but the CYO now has an official Facebook page. Though you may have seen our name on the site before, only now is our Facebook page officially endorsed by us. The page was created in May and updates often with information, pictures, and videos from events on everything that we do. A link is on our website or can be searched at "CYO of Mercer County" and "Like" us. Follow us on Facebook to be kept abreast on all we are doing in this easy and convenient way. We look forward to keeping you posted on all we're doing at the CYO!



MERCER COUNTY CYO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President
Most Rev. David M. O'Connell

Secretary
Rev. Stanley Krzyston

Chairperson
Arthur J. Caola

Vice Chairperson
Donna Davidson

Bishop's Delegate
Sister Joanne Dress, D.C.

— Board Members —

Louis Bruni
Marty Flynn
Matt Greeley
Tom Griffith

Lt. Edelmiro Gonzalez Jr.
Scott A. Krasny, Esq.
Sandra Valenza Oropel
Maurice Whetstone

MERCER COUNTY CYO FULL TIME STAFF LISTING

Executive Director
Thomas G. Mladenetz, M.Ed.

Yardville Branch Director
Patrick M. Hardiman

Trenton Program Director
Mark Newman

Administrative Director
Donna Zolnierzak

Athletic Director
Quincy Walzer

Administrative Asst./Financial Services
Kathy Schroeder

Family Workers
Carmen Davila
Gloribee Pica

Program Coordinator
John Soss

Assistant Food Manager
Tiffany Swortz

Grant Writer
Nancy Podeszwa

Yardville Pre-School Staff
Kara DeBonis (Head Teacher/Supervisor)

Carol Blanche
Michelle DeLena
Melissa Evert

Adria Frascella
Megan James
Liz Lukowicz

Katie Matthews
Linda Shulman
Chris Villani

Dan Bossio (Yardville Program Coordinator)

Donna Marie Clancy (Assistant Director School Based Programs)

Trenton Pre-School Staff
Ivelisse Hernandez
Keisha Owens-Coleman

Jessica Bieniek
Yesica Diaz-Castro
Griselle DeJesus
Ingrid Garcia

Michalina Jacobs
Romona Jimenez
Michelle Lanning

Nadia Rowe
Jerylyn Tykarski
Tamilyn Wiltsey

Ewing Pre-School Staff
Ewing Education Director
Robyn Fratticcioli

Administrative Assistant
Debbie Kirschenbaum

Pre-School Staff
Sara Bosma
Ashley Brown
Denise Dickerson

Mabel Dyous
Hannah Knight
Gae Santiago

Deborah Smith
Helen Woodland

BASKETBALL

This year, the Mercer County CYO is celebrating its 59th year of CYO Basketball and providing basketball opportunities to the youth of Mercer County. The 2011-12 CYO Basketball season started on Saturday, November 5th with our Annual Opening Day Mass at the CYO followed the first games of the season. This year there are a total of 63 teams competing in the 6 leagues that the CYO offers (Girls Freshmen, Boys Freshmen, Girls Junior Varsity, Boys Junior Varsity, Girls Varsity & Boys Varsity) for a total of over 500 games. The schools and parishes that are represented in the CYO Basketball leagues include: Incarnation / St. James, OLS / St. Anthony's, St. Ann's, St. Gregory's, St. Mary's of Bordentown, St. Paul's, St. Raphael's / Holy Angels, St. Vincent de Paul, Trenton Catholic Academy and Villa Victoria. Stop by the CYO Center most Friday nights & Saturday and Sunday afternoons throughout the winter for exciting CYO Basketball action. For schedule information, please contact the CYO at (609) 396-8383 x 14.

SCHOLAR-ATHLETES-FEMALE & MALE ATHLETE & COACH OF THE YEAR:

At the Opening Day Basketball Mass on November 5th, the CYO recognized the 2010-11 CYO Scholar Athlete Team. The recipients were selected for their athletic success and participation as well as their academic achievements during the 2010-11 school year. This year's participants were: Jenamarie Carella (OLS / St. Anthony's), John Conboy (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels), Andrew Howley (St. Mary's), Cedric Lary (Trenton Catholic Academy), Abena McCray (Trenton Catholic Academy), Joseph Michel (St. Ann's), Megan Murtha (St. Mary's), Karen Prihoda (St. Gregory's), Dominique Ross (Incarnation / St. James) and Ashlie Zsenak (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels). In addition the CYO also honored Karen Prihoda (St. Gregory's) and Malachi Richardson (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels) as the Female and Male Athletes of the year for their athletic success during the 2010-11 season. Also, Connie Monroe from St. Paul's was honored as the 2010-11 CYO Volunteer Coach of the Year for all of her time and dedication. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients.

GIRLS JV:

1) Caroline Maslanka	St. Paul's	8:12
2) Jessie Delgado	TCA	9:06
3) Aislinn Hogan	St. Paul's	9:10

BOYS JV:

1) Jonathan Torres	TCA	7:59
2) Nolan Brody	St. Paul's	8:06
3) Evan Harris	TCA	8:31

GIRLS VARSITY:

1) Rebecca Maslanka	St. Paul's	8:32
2) Flannery O'Donnel	St. Gregory's	8:53
3) Stephanie Torres	TCA	9:38

BOYS VARSITY:

1) Michael Bamford	St. Paul's	7:23
2) Marcus Jones	Incarnation	8:53
3) Sean O'Donnell	St. Gregory's	8:40

CROSS COUNTRY MEET

On Sunday, October 23rd, the Mercer County CYO held their 6th Annual Cross Country Meet at Mercer County Park. This year we had 60 participants that represented the following schools and parishes: Incarnation / St. James, St. Ann's, St. Gregory's, St. Paul's, St. Raphael's / Holy Angels, Trenton Catholic Academy and Villa Victoria. The length of the course was approximately 1.3 miles and trophies were handed out to the top finishers in each division.

PEE WEE BASKETBALL LEAGUE COMES TO YARDVILLE

The Yardville CYO is sponsoring a Co-ed Pee Wee Basketball League for 4, 5, and 6 year olds starting in January 2012. With the help of the Hamilton Township Board of Education and Yardville School the CYO will run Saturday morning games at Yardville School (directly across the street from CYO). The Pee Wee basketball league connects the established and popular Pee Wee soccer and tee ball leagues played on site at CYO Yardville with this Winter sports offering. To be eligible participants must be 4 year old and cannot be older than 6 by January 7, 2012. The registration fee is \$70. Games will start January 7 and run until mid-February. For more information, including registration information or volunteer coach and sponsorship opportunities, contact Dan Bossio at (609) 585-4280 x 112 or via e-mail at dbossio@cyomercer.org, but hurry spaces are limited.



Trenton CYO Center
920 South Broad Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08611
(609) 396-8383



Ewing Branch
320 Hollowbrook Drive
Ewing, NJ 08638
(609) 883-1560



Yardville Branch
453 Yardville-Allentown Rd.
Yardville, New Jersey 08620
(609) 585-4280

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TRENTON, NJ
PERMIT NO. 91

OR CURRENT RESIDENT