

CYO Marquee

"Serving Mercer County Youth Since 1952"

Mercer County CYO Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2012

Volume 18 Issue 1

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED FOR "MONSIGNOR TOOMEY ANNEX"

The Catholic Youth Organization hopes to break ground this fall on a 4,600 square foot addition to the main building of its Yardville childcare site and camp in Hamilton Township. The "Monsignor Toomey Annex," will be named in honor of Monsignor Leonard R. Toomey, founder and first Director of the CYO. It will add critically needed indoor space to the site that currently serves more than 850 children annually.

The CYO is working with the Diocesan Building Commission to finalize plans for the addition, which is estimated to cost approximately \$940,000. CYO has already succeeded in procuring several financial commitments toward the project, and is now launching a capital campaign to complete project funding. CYO families, friends and supporters can be a part of this effort by visiting CYO's website (www.cyomercer.org) or using the donation form printed below.

Originally built in 1958 and used as the main indoor structure for CYO Yardville's summer day camp, the building was expanded and renovated in 2002 to better serve the growing camp. In September 2004, classrooms were constructed in the building, and CYO Yardville became a year-round licensed childcare center, initiating a pre-school and school age after school program at the site, in addition to the popular summer day camp. CYO Yardville currently serves more than 850 children, ages 3-15, in pre-school, after school, summer day camp, teen travel camp, swim lessons, and peewee sports programs, including T-ball, soccer and basketball.

The addition will include a large open area with a divider to allow for separation into two smaller spaces; sections of



retractable bleachers; portable basketball hoops; bathroom facilities; and a storage area. It will provide space for play on hot and/or inclement weather days, performances, graduation ceremonies, parent meetings, staff development workshops, community gatherings, as well as an indoor venue for physical education and related activities.

The annex is being named in honor of Monsignor Leonard R. Toomey, who not only had the foresight to convince the Diocese of Trenton to purchase the 23-acre site of the old Springdale Park in the Yardville section of Hamilton Township, but the vision and perseverance, with the help of Monsignor Michael McCorristin and a group of tireless volunteers, to build the original CYO camp facility, that continues to provide essential childcare services today for children and families. One of Monsignor Toomey's last public appearances before his death in September 2008 was at the CYO Yardville Day Camp's 50th anniversary picnic. Though not feeling well at the time, he couldn't miss the opportunity to celebrate the occasion with friends and share fond memories of camp activities and campers.

Help CYO preserve Monsignor Toomey's wonderful legacy, and fulfill our mission, to enhance the lives of Greater Mercer County youth and their families, by providing affordable, quality educational and recreational services. Visit our website at www.cyomercer.org and click on the "Donations" link on the top toolbar, or clip, complete, and send the coupon below with your donation. If you have questions, please contact CYO Executive Director, Tom Mladenetz, at tom@cyomercer.org or 609-585-4280 x 107.

MONSIGNOR TOOMEY ANNEX DONATION FORM

Donor Name _____
E-mail address _____
Mailing address _____
City/State _____ Zip _____

Donation Amount:

Msgr. Toomey Founder Club	_____ \$5,000
Top of the Class	_____ \$1,000
Most Valuable Player	_____ \$500
Camper of the Week	_____ \$250
Student of the Month	_____ \$100
Friend of the CYO	_____ \$50

CULTURE FEST - SPRING 2012

On Tuesday, February 28th, Ewing CYO Pre-School held its first Culture Fest, an opportunity for the children and their families to sample finger foods from a variety of cultures found within our pre-school population. Everyone had the chance to taste foods from countries such as Jamaica, Haiti, Liberia, Poland and Italy to name a few. Culture Fest was the culminating activity of a month-long celebration of cultural diversity among our pre-school families. This theme was suggested by Debbie Smith, one of our teachers, who saw it as a wonderful way to extend our study of Black History Month and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Throughout the month of February, parents visited their children's classrooms dressed in costumes native to their countries and willingly shared stories, games and even special treats with the children and their teachers.

Culture Fest was a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate that while we all have qualities that make us unique, we can all live together as one big CYO family!



EWING TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM CONTINUE TO SUPPORT CYO

The CYO recently signed a 5 year lease with an option to renew for 3 years with Ewing Township to operate at the Hollowbrook Community Center. The CYO, tenants since 2008 at Hollowbrook, appreciate the support of the Ewing Township Administrative Team including Mayor Bert Steinmann, Council Members Kathy Wollert (President), Hilary Hyser (Vice-President), Kevin Baxter, Joe Murphy, and Les Summiel, Township Business Administrator, Jim McManimon, Township Attorney, Maeve Cannon, and Director of Community Affairs, Ted Forst. The team was able to work with the CYO to continue to maintain a Public Donor Agreement with Ewing which helps support the subsidized child care at Hollowbrook. The CYO will continue to operate a pre-School and Day Camp at the Community Center and provide quality affordable child care services to many lower income residents of Ewing Township.

ATHLETIC COUNCIL

The Mercer County CYO would like to thank the Diocesan Athletic Council for all their time, service and dedication to CYO Athletics. The Council is comprised of 14 representatives from the Catholic schools, parishes and athletic boards within Mercer County. Those serving on the Council include: CYO Coaches, Parish Athletic Directors, Officials and representatives for the CYO and Diocese of Trenton. The role of the Council is to develop and maintain consistent regulations and standards of behavior for all sports within the Mercer County CYO Athletic Program.

The current members of the Diocesan Athletic Council Include:

- Jack West, Chairman
- Shamus Dunn, Vice-Chairman
- Quincy Walzer, Secretary
- Bob Bucchi
- Donna Davidson
- Anthony Giordano
- Megan Gordon
- Laura Heyburn
- Tom Mladenetz
- John Podeszwa
- Renee Rogers
- Brian Sakowski
- Mick Shanklin
- Karlynn Wiegner



Yardville CYO Preschool 3 and 4 year old students perform at their annual spring concert.

RECENT GRANTS AWARDED

The CYO REC (Recreational/Educational Summer Day Camp) received a \$5,000 grant from Janssen Pharmaceuticals and a \$2,500 grant from The Arvesen Fund of the Community Foundation of NJ. The Diocese of Trenton, Catholic Campaign for Human Development awarded the CYO Yardville \$1,000 for the Monsignor Toomey Scholarship Fund. Mercer County Department of Human Services awarded two grants to the CYO, \$21,000 for Trenton's After School Program and \$15,000 for Ewing's Pre-School. Thanks to all of our supporters!



BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME CLASS NAMED

The fifth CYO Basketball Hall of Fame Class Dinner and Awards Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, November 18, 2012, at the Nottingham Ballroom in Hamilton. This year's class will be inducted two weeks after the tip off of the first game of the 60th season of CYO Basketball in Mercer County! Established in 2004, the CYO Basketball Hall of Fame includes 87 members, with another 18 set for induction in November. The categories include Male and Female Players, Coaches, Referees, and Special Contributors.

The following is a list of this year's class: *Frank Adams, Coach, St. Mary's; *Ralph Cray Sr., Coach, Incarnation; Skip Harlicka, Player, St. Hedwig's; Jenn Hanlon, Player, St. Stans; Mike Kasian, Player, Holy

Angels; Nicole Kasian, Player, OLS; Andrew Kennedy, Player, Cathedral; George Kinczel, Coach, St. Stephen's and St. Greg's; Andy Kondash, Referee, *Mary Kondash, Special Contributor, Robyn Korchick-Lucchesi, Player, St. Stan's; Mike "Spider" Maguire, Player, St. Paul's; Sandy Mahon-Terry, Player, OLS; Bob Malloy, Special Contributor, Tony Nitti, Player, St. James; Ami Opalski, Player, Holy Angels; Noel Powell, Player, Sacred Heart; and Tracy Quinn, Player, St. Raphael's. (* = Honor Posthumously).

For more information on this years Basketball Hall of Fame, including ticket or sponsorship information contact Patrick Hardiman at (609) 585-4280 x 102, or via e-mail at phardiman@cyomercer.org

3RD ANNUAL DIOCESAN CHEERLEADING COMPETITION:

The third Annual CYO Diocesan Cheerleading Competition was held on Sunday, March 25th at the CYO. The following schools and parishes participated in this year's event: Our Lady of Sorrows / St. Anthony's, St. Charles (Cinnaminson), St. Gregory's, St. Mary's of Bordentown and St. Raphael's / Holy Angels. The squads from St. Gregory's captured both the Junior Varsity and Varsity Team Competitions. In the Miss Yell Competitions it was Our Lady of Sorrows that was victorious as Ashley Lewallen won the JV Title while Christal Varanyak captured the Varsity Title.

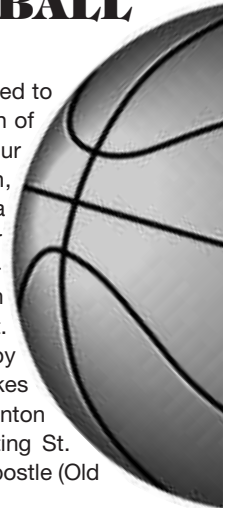


CYO SOCCER:

The Mercer County CYO Soccer Season began on Monday, April 16th. This year there are 8 teams in the Girls Soccer League and 6 teams in the Boys Soccer League. Catholic schools and parishes that are represented in the leagues include: Our Lady of Sorrows / St. Anthony's, St. Ann's, St. Gregory's, St. Mary's of Bordentown, St. Paul's, St. Raphael's / Holy Angels and Trenton Catholic Academy. The regular season is scheduled to conclude at the end of May with the playoffs ending in early June. Next year, CYO soccer will also add a new Freshman League, for boys and girls, grades 2nd through 4th!

DIOCESAN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT:

The Diocesan Basketball Tournament returned to Mercer County in March following the conclusion of the CYO Basketball Playoffs. Each of the four counties in the Diocese (Mercer, Burlington, Monmouth and Ocean) were represented as a total of 8 teams (2 from each county) qualified for this year's tournament in each of the four divisions (GJV, BJV, GV & BV). On Sunday, March 11th, after an exciting week-long tournament, St. Catharine's (Spring Lake) captured the GJV title by defeating St. Gregory's while St. Mary's of the Lakes (Medford) won the BJV title. In Varsity action, Trenton Catholic Academy won the girls title by defeating St. Mary's (New Monmouth) while St. Thomas the Apostle (Old Bridge) won the Boys Championship.



INTERMEDIATE SOCCER LEAGUE COMING TO YARDVILLE



On the success of the Pee Wee Soccer League, the CYO Yardville is launching an Intermediate Co-ed Soccer League for September 2012! The Pee Wee Soccer Program has grown from 4 teams with 40 players to 6 teams with 75 players over the last six years, and now the demand is there for a second level league. The league will be for 6 and 7 year old boys and girls, an advancement from the Pee Wee Soccer League for 4 and 5 year olds and below first level recreational competitive soccer. Games will be played mostly on Saturday afternoons at the CYO Yardville Soccer field from September 22 through early November. The exact end date will be determined on weather, number of teams, and participants.

The approximate field size will be 105 feet long by 85 feet wide with the approximate goal size 8 x 5 with teams of 8 vs. 8 (including a goalie) participating at one time. The age requirements are that the players must be either age 6 or 7 by September 22, 2012. The registration fee is \$70. Sponsorship opportunities are available and volunteer coaches needed.

For more information, or to register contact Dan Bossio at (609) 585-4280 x 112 or via e-mail at dbossio@cyomercer.org



CYO BASKETBALL:

The Mercer County CYO celebrated its 59th season of CYO Basketball during the 2011-12 season. This year there were a total of 70 teams that participated in the 7 CYO Leagues for elementary school-aged children and the Boys High School League. Congratulations to all of this year's winners that were crowned in March. In CYO playoff action, St. Gregory's captured the title for the Girls Freshmen Playoffs which concluded their undefeated season. In the Boys Freshmen League, Trenton Catholic Academy defended their title by going undefeated and captured the championship for the Blue Division while St. Gregory's also defended their title and won the championship for the Red and White Division. In Junior Varsity playoff action, St. Gregory's won on the girls side completing their undefeated season, while Trenton Catholic Academy won on the boys side also going undefeated. In Varsity playoff action, Trenton Catholic Academy went undefeated on the girls side and won the title while in Boys Varsity action, the team from Our Lady of Sorrows / St. Anthony's also went undefeated and won the title.

MERCER COUNTY CYO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President
Most Rev. David M. O'Connell, C.M.

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
Tom Griffith
Lt. Edelmiro Gonzalez Jr.

Scott A. Krasny, Esq.
Katherine Prihoda
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 Swartz

Grant Writer
Nancy Podeszwa

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

Carol Blanche
Michelle DeLena

Melissa Evert
Megan James
Liz Lukowicz

Katie Matthews
Linda Shulman

Dan Bossio (Yardville Program Coordinator)
Donna Marie Clancy (Assistant Director School Based Programs)

Trenton Pre-School Staff
Jessica Bieniek
Griselle DeJesus
Ingrid Garcia
Ivelisse Hernandez

Michalina Jacobs
Romona Jimenez
Michelle Lanning
Maniella Mancuso

Keisha Owens-Coleman
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

CYO TEAMS UP WITH CROHN'S AND COLITIS FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

The CYO partnered with the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) for their 18th Annual 5K Race which was held on Thursday, May 24th at Veterans Park, in Hamilton. The Memorial Day Weekend race drew 100 runners to help support the CYO and CCFA. A fun family night was had by all participants! Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis are painful, medically incurable diseases that attack the digestive system. The CYO was proud to work in conjunction with the CCFA by donating \$400 of race proceeds to help find a cure for the disease. A special thanks to all of the runners and our sponsors including WZBN TV 25, Lakeside Shell, Capitol City Vending, Domanski Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling, Hamilton Physical Therapy Services, Trenton Roofing and Siding, Security Dynamics, Certa Pro Painters, St. Francis Medical Center, and Prior Nami Business Systems who helped to make this event successful.



KATHIE PRIHODA NAMED TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The CYO is pleased to announce the appointment of Katherine Soss Prihoda as a new member to the Board of Trustees. Kathie takes the place of Sandra Valenza-Oropel who recently stepped down after serving on the Board of Trustees for seven years.

Kathie is a life-long area resident, who is currently employed by the Lawrenceville School as the Director of Health Education/Nurse Practitioner. Following graduation from St. Francis School of Nursing and The College of New Jersey, Kathie completed her graduate education at Seton Hall University and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ. She and her husband, Bob, live in Hamilton Square with their four children. They are active parishioners of St. Gregory the Great Church.

Recently, Kathie was elected President of the Diocesan Parent-Teacher Association. Prihoda initially became involved in PTA work in 1992 when her eldest son, Robert was a student at St. Greg's. Following her years at St. Greg's she was elected regent for Mercer County. She was appointed first Vice Regent, the position she held for the past two years.

The CYO welcomes Kathie Prihoda to the Board of Trustees of an organization which has been serving Mercer County youth for 60 years at their Trenton, Yardville, and Ewing facilities.



CYO Executive Director, Tom Mladenetz, left, presents a plaque to outgoing CYO Board of Trustees Member, Sandra Valenza – Oropel at the December 2011 Board Meeting. Sandra served on the Board for seven years and was instrumental in the creation of the Basketball Hall of Fame and the opening of the CYO Ewing among many other things.



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



Ewing Branch
320 Hollowbrook Drive
Ewing, NJ 08638
(609) 883-1563



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