

CYO Marquee

"Serving Mercer County Youth Since 1952"

CYO of Mercer County Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2014-2015

Volume 20 Issue 2

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year Wish from the CYO!



SUPPORT THE CYO THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Help Us Better Provide For All Of The Families Of Mercer County We Serve Through Our New Bus Fundraising Campaign

The CYO has launched a fundraising campaign for the purchase of a new bus! Transportation is a critical part of the services we provide for all of our programs and due to Motor Vehicle regulations buses must be retired after 12 years. The estimated cost of a new 29 passenger bus is \$55,000 and due to a generous \$20,000 grant from the Kerney Foundation, the campaign has been jump started, but there is still more work to do. Please consider the CYO this Holiday season with a donation towards the purchase of a new bus so we can continue to better serve the youth of Mercer County. To make an on line donation visit our website at www.cyomercer.org and go to the donation link across the top of the page and click Make A Donation Now, or fill out the form below and mail with a check to CYO Center, 920 South Broad St., Trenton, NJ 08611. If you have any questions about a donation, contact Tom Mladenetz at (609) 396-8383 x 15, or via e-mail at tom@cyomercer.org



Name of Donor _____ Phone Number _____

Address of Donor _____ Email Address _____

I would like to donate the following amount:

- \$50 For The Seat Belts \$100 For The Exhaust System
 \$250 For The Crossing Gate \$500 For The Seats \$1000 For The Tires
 \$ _____ Other Amount For The Steering and Suspension

BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME CEREMONY DRAWS OVER 300



Bob Ryan, Trenton native and former award winning columnist of The Boston Globe and current ESPN personality speaks at the Hall of Fame Award Dinner about his CYO Basketball playing days and growing up in Trenton.



Eileen McManimon, Hall of Fame inductee, Coach Division, poses for a picture with her awards.



Reggie Coleman, pictured here with former McCorristin Catholic High School Principal Marguerite O'Beirne and former McCorristin faculty member Sister Linda DeCero, at the Hall of Fame Awards Dinner

On Sunday, November 16th the CYO inducted 19 former players, coaches, referees, and special contributors into their Basketball Hall of Fame. It was the sixth Hall of Fame Awards Dinner which was held at the Nottingham Ballroom in Hamilton and over 300 people were in attendance. "It was a great evening for the honorees and all their guests," said Tom Mladenetz, the CYO's Executive Director. "Anyone who has ever played CYO basketball will agree it is a unique experience and very cherished memories for all of us. That common bond was shared by players from the 1950s right to 2010."

A special highlight of the banquet was the attendance of Bob Ryan, the retired sports writer of the Boston Globe, present ESPN personality, and member of the NBA Hall of Fame. Ryan grew up in Trenton and played in the CYO league for St. Joseph's; he spoke fondly playing in the CYO. The player inductees were Reggie Coleman (Cathedral), Roberto Hernandez (Sacred Heart), Colleen Flynn Pirrmann (Blessed Sacrament), Julian Diaz (Our Lady of Sorrows), Charlie Didun (St. Mary's), Arielle Collins (St. Anthony's/St. Greg's), Kelly Hutchinson (Holy Angels), Frantz Massenat (Incarnation), Danielle Mitala-Bottoni (Immaculate), John Samonsky (St. Joseph's), and the late Frank Konstanynowicz (St. Hedwig's). John Wandishin (St. Paul's) and the late Bob Kelliher (St. Anthony's) were inducted as Special Contributors, and Paul Galayda and Dave Jacobus were inducted as referees. The coaches inducted were Eileen McManimon (Incarnation), Peter Yull (Blessed Sacrament), John Tandy (Our Lady of Sorrows), and the late Joe Holsman (St. Mary's).

Reggie Coleman spoke of the night and his CYO memories, "The evening gave me the opportunity to reflect on some of the best times I had growing up. It brought back memories of the rivalries we (Cathedral) had with Our Lady of Divine Shepherd, Sacred Heart, and Blessed Sacrament. I have so many CYO memories, but I have to say going into the Hall of Fame has to be the best." Kelly Hutchinson said the following, "The experience on Sunday night was so humbling. The fact that over 300 people attended tells a lot about the impact the CYO has had not only on basketball but on generations of families. The CYO cultivates great players, but more importantly great human beings. It was a fantastic night that I will remember forever." The next Basketball Hall of Fame Dinner and Awards Banquet will take place in November, 2016. To nominate someone, visit our website at www.cyomercer.org and check out the Basketball Hall of Fame link for a ballot.

CYO Basketball

This year, CYO is celebrating its 62nd season of CYO Basketball here in Mercer County. The 2014-15 CYO Basketball season started on Saturday, November 1st with our Annual Opening Day Mass at the CYO Monsignor Toomey Annex in Yardville celebrated by Rev. Dennis Apoldite from Sacred Heart Parish, followed by a full slate of weekend games. This was the first time we used our new gym for a Mass! This year there are a total of 51 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 nearly 500 games.

The schools and parishes that are represented in the CYO Basketball leagues include: Incarnation / St. James, OLS / St. Anthony's, Princeton Academy, St. Ann's, St. Gregory's, St. John's, St. Paul's, St. Raphael's / Holy Angels, St. Vincent de Paul, Trenton Catholic Academy and Villa Victoria. The boys' high school season will start in January. Stop by the CYO Center most Saturday & Sunday afternoons and the Monsignor Toomey Annex on Sunday afternoons throughout the winter for exciting CYO Basketball action. For schedule information, please contact the CYO at (609) 396-8383 x 14.



Rev. Dennis Apoldite accepts a basketball as a gift at the opening day mass for the basketball season.

Cross Country Meet

On Saturday, October 25th, the Mercer County CYO held their 9th Annual Cross Country Meet at Mercer County Park. This year there were over 75 participants that represented the following schools and parishes: Our Lady of Sorrows / St. Anthony's, St. Ann's, St. Gregory's, St. Paul's, Trenton Catholic Academy and Villa Victoria. The length of the course for the JV meet was 1.25 miles and the length for the Varsity Meet was expanded to 2.25 miles this year. Trophies were handed out to the top 3 finishers in each division.

GIRLS JV (1.25 Miles)

- 1) Gianna D'Souza, St. Ann's 9:04
- 2) Veronique DiBlasio, St. Paul's 9:24
- 3) Grace Teligadis, St. Paul's 9:37

BOYS JV (1.25 Miles)

- 1) Tyler Kostin, St. Gregory's 8:09
- 2) Coltin Estilow, TCA 8:19
- 3) William Cooper, St. Paul's 8:28

GIRLS VARSITY (2.25 Miles)

- 1) Emily Steege, St. Ann's 13:09
- 2) Allison Micale, St. Paul's 14:04
- 3) Molly Hart, St. Paul's 14:06

BOYS VARSITY (2.25 Miles)

- 1) Nolan Brody, St. Paul's 11:16
- 2) Titus Johnson, TCA 11:41
- 3) Merlington Gaona, TCA 12:03

Scholar-Athletes / Male & Female Athlete & Coach of the Year

At the Opening Day Basketball Mass on November 1st, the CYO recognized the 2013-14 CYO Scholar Athlete Team. The recipients were selected for their athletic success and participation as well as their academic achievements during the 2013-14 school year. This year's awardees were: Julie Faranetta (St. Paul's), Devon Fitzpatrick (St. Mary's), Harry Hampton (OLS/St. Anthony's), Dylan McGee (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels), Evan Monfre (St. Paul's), Camryn Neary (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels), Katrina Rivera (Trenton Catholic Academy), Julia Rossi (OLS/St. Anthony's) and Jonathan Torres (Trenton Catholic Academy). In addition, the CYO also honored Imani Lewis (Trenton Catholic Academy) and Jonathan Torres (Trenton Catholic Academy) as the Female and Male Athletes of the year for their athletic success during the 2013-14 season. Also, Greg Rossi from Our Lady of Sorrows / St. Anthony's was honored as the 2013-14 CYO Volunteer Coach of the Year for all of his hard work, time & dedication that he put into the OLS Soccer Program. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients.

CYO Enters The Guinness Book of World Records!

On October 30, 2014, the preschoolers at CYO on South Broad Street participated in the largest vocabulary lesson for the Guinness Book of World Records! The teachers presented four new vocabulary words to the students, and then read the story Mr. Tiger Goes Wild to them. During the story, the teachers reviewed the meanings of the vocabulary words. Once the story was finished, the teachers checked for student understanding to see if they understood the meanings of the new words.

The entire lesson lasted thirty minutes, and all students participated during that time. The same program was happening in cities all across America! Following the lesson, the students sang a song about the different animals that live in the wild, and they enjoyed a lunch provided by PNC Bank. Without PNC, this event would not have been possible, and we appreciated everything that Ms. Peggy Lucolino did to coordinate the entire day for the preschoolers. Congratulations to our preschoolers and staff for being a part of a once-in-a-lifetime, record-breaking event, and thank you PNC Bank!



PNC Grow Up Great Planetarium Visits Ewing CYO Preschool

On Monday, October 27th Ewing CYO Pre-School had a visit from the PNC Grow Up Great Program's planetarium. The children had the opportunity to learn about the sun, moon, and stars and were even introduced to some of the constellations such as The Big Dipper. What made this program especially enjoyable for the children was the fact that it was presented by none other than Sesame Street favorites Big Bird and Elmo.

We are grateful to PNC Bank and its Grow Up Great program for the preschool children for providing this wonderful educational opportunity for our children!



New Partners at East State Street Center

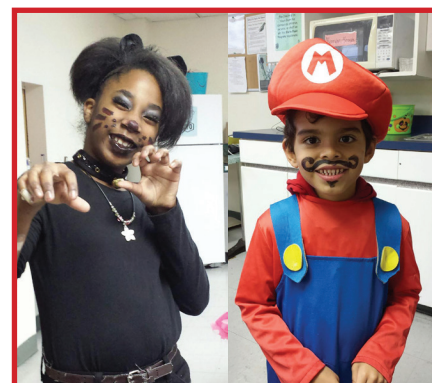
The CYO is delighted to share space at our East State Street Center with the Head Start Program operated by The Children's Home Society of NJ. Our center is now bustling with activity in all the classrooms! Working together, CYO and CHS are able to better serve the Trenton community!



Halloween Parade and Parties

The East State Street Center After School Halloween Party was well attended with 70 participants! Lots of games and snacks were provided. A special thank you to the Town Center Elementary School in Plainsboro for 5 boxes of Halloween candy for the event.

At South Broad Street a Halloween Carnival and Costume Parade was the big event as prizes were awarded for best costumes and spooky games played.



What Does a Mayor Do?

The pre-schoolers in Yardville had a special visit from Hamilton Township Mayor Kelly Yaede on November 12th. Mayor Yaede discussed the many things that a Mayor does and took time to answer many questions from curious pre-school students.

After the question and answer session, the students sang songs for Mayor Yaede and presented her with some CYO souvenirs such as a hand print wreath, CYO apron, hat and a basketball. The Mayor couldn't help but show off her basketball skills by sinking the first shot she took!



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

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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Scoreboard Sponsors Needed!

The Monsignor Toomey Annex is opened and a new scoreboard completes the gym with a new era of CYO Basketball taking place in the home of our Founder! Two \$3,000 sponsors are needed for the scoreboard. The sponsor names will be listed above the scoreboard with great exposure to all of the spectators to our basketball games. This sponsorship is a great opportunity to help the kids of the CYO programs, a win-win for all! Anyone interested in being a scoreboard sponsor should contact CYO Executive Director Tom Mladenetz at (609) 585-4280 x 107, or via e-mail at tom@cyomercer.org



Recently Awarded Grants

The CYO has received several grants from very generous organizations and foundations. These grant funders include: Mercer County Department of Human Services, The James Kerney Foundation, The Mary Owen Borden Foundation, Catholic Campaign for Human Development/Diocese of Trenton, Kiwanis of Trenton Times Camperships, Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Bristol Myers Squibb, Dombal-Vogel Foundation, Bishop Ahr Endowment Fund, I Am Trenton Foundation, and Batters UP USA. Thanks to all of our generous supporters!



CYO HAPPENINGS! LEFT: CYO in NYC, the recent family bus trip to Radio City Music Hall to see Christmas Spectacular. **TOP RIGHT:** CYO Executive Director Tom Mladenetz, right, presents a plaque to Scott Pirozzi, general contractor of the Monsignor Toomey Annex construction project and staff member of the Diocesan Building Commission. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Residents of Hamilton Township's Bromley Neighborhood gather for a Thanksgiving dinner hosted by the CYO and sponsored by Aramark Foods.