



THE "MARQUEE" - CYO NEWSLETTER

"Serving Mercer County Youth Since 1952"

CYO of Mercer County

Spring/Summer 2021

Volume 27 Issue 1

SUMMER CAMPS ARE OPENING!

After a year off CYO Summer camps will re-open for Summer 2021! The CYO camps at Yardville, Bromley, South Broad St., and Ewing will re-open following all safety protocols and procedures including: Temperature checks, mask wearing, hand sanitizing, smaller group sizes, staff training on COVID awareness and prevention, new portable hand washing stations, and any additional procedures implemented by the State Health Department and American Camp Association. The CYO is committed to operating safe and fun Summer camps in 2021 to allow our kids to be kids and enjoy all that Summer has to offer at the CYO! For additional camp information, visit our website at cyomercer.org

FORMER CAMPER/COUNSELOR DONATES \$10K TO YARDVILLE CYO CAMP

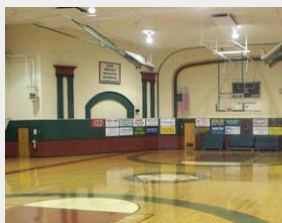


Pictured with CYO Executive Director, Tom Mladenetz, is Mitchell Hennessey - a long time camper and Counselor at the Yardville CYO Camp. Mr. Hennessey recently made an extraordinarily generous \$10,000 donation to the CYO! These funds have been earmarked toward the ongoing fundraising efforts for the recently completed new pool house construction.

Mitchell speaks passionately about all the great memories he has of the CYO Camp where he spent 13 Summers (his sister, Holly attended as well). The CYO also provided each of them with their first job! As a young, successful businessman, Mr. Hennessey recognizes the importance of giving back. The CYO is truly grateful for his generosity.

Hamilton Township School Board of Education Approves Contract Extension

The Hamilton Township School Board of Education recently approved a contract extension for the CYO to manage the Before and After School Programs at Greenwood, Lator, Klockner, and Wilson schools. The terms of the contract will have the CYO provide services through school year ending 2024. The CYO has been providing these services at these schools since 2010 and we are thrilled to continue to do so and partner with Hamilton Township School District.



S. Broad Street Center
920 S Broad St., Trenton
(609) 396-8383



Yardville Branch
453 Yardville-Allentown Rd., Hamilton
(609) 585-4280



Ewing CYO
320 Hollowbrook Dr., Ewing
(609) 883-1560



East State Street Center
794 East State St., Trenton
(609) 989-8143



CYO Bromley Center
1801 East State St., Hamilton
(609) 587-8100

CYO Presents Prestigious Renee Keister and Jack Cryan Awards



Left to Right: Patrick Hardiman, CYO Yardville Director, Davvonnee Wells, (student at Trenton High and recipient of the Jack Cryan Award), Tom Mladenetz, CYO Executive Director.



Left to Right: Patrick Hardiman, CYO Yardville Director, Renee Keister, Jasmin Boyd, (the recipient of the Renee Keister Award and student at TCA), Bob Fusik, (Girls Varsity Head Coach at TCA), and Tom Mladenetz, CYO Executive Director.

CYO Yardville Pee Wee Sports!



Basketball clinic shooting drills at the CYO Yardville Center.



T-Ball clinic participants and instructors pose for a picture with their certificates of completion.



Batter Up! T-Ball league opening day lead off hitter!

READ ACROSS AMERICA AT CYO SOUTH BROAD STREET CENTER

To celebrate Read Across America Week in March, we had a free book fair for the families in our Out-of-School Learning Program at the South Broad Street Center. Each student got to pick three books to take home each day of the week. We also let the parents pick three books for other family members in the household. Members of our community had their own opportunity to build a home library with a giveaway table in front of our building as many visited each day for the grab and go lunches. Lastly, the prizes for our Reading Challenge were extra special. We would have done more, but all our time was “booked” up. Special thanks to our longtime volunteer, Tanya Beckman who coordinated this event.



CONTRACT EXTENDED AT BROMLEY CENTER

The CYO contract to manage the Hamilton Township Bromley Center was extended in December by a unanimous vote from Hamilton Township Council! The terms of the contract are through December 31, 2022, with three one year renewal contact options to follow. The CYO has been managing the Bromley Center since September 2013, and is thrilled to continue to do so. Below are pictures of recent events at the Bromley Center, and a check presentation with Hamilton Township Mayor Jeff Martin. The CYO continues to serve Hamilton residents through our food pantry. **To make a donation (monetary, gift cards, or food) to help us continue keeping our food pantry stocked, please contact Patrick Hardiman at phardiman@cyomercer.org or 609-587-8100.**



Volunteers gather to clean streets and parks, plant flowers, and paint park benches during the annual CYO Bromley Neighborhood Clean Up Day.



Food Pantry members line up for a free lunch at the CYO Spring Food Festival, which also included an extra food box and a \$25 food store gift card.



Children line up to get their Easter Basket and a pizza lunch at the annual CYO Easter Basket Pick Up.



Hamilton Township Public Works employee unloads food coming from the State Food Bank in Vineland, NJ to the CYO Bromley Center



CYO Bromley Center Awarded Acme Grant

The CYO Bromley Center was awarded a \$5,000 grant through Acme's 130 Days of Giving Nourishing Neighbors campaign. Pictured left to right at the Yardville Acme for the check presentation are, Jennifer Kubicke from Acme, Patrick Hardiman, CYO Bromley Director, Hamilton Mayor Jeff Martin, CYO Executive Director Tom Mladenetz, and Jeff Miller from Acme.

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

**CYO OF MERCER COUNTY
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Kate Monroe

Yardville Program Coordinator

Dan Bossio

Ewing Administrative Director

Debbie Kirschenbaum

East State Street Program Director

Robert Donaldson

Ewing Education Director

Patricia Staltari

**EWING CYO CONTINUES TO
SUCCEED WITH "IN-PERSON"
LEARNING IN OUR
PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM**

As we told you in the last issue of the Marquee, Ewing CYO Pre-School has been open for in-person learning and childcare since August 31, 2020. It is now April 2021, and our program continues to thrive and we can proudly state that we have had no cases of COVID-19 present themselves at our center! Of course things are a bit different than they had been in the past. All children and staff are wearing masks throughout the day and are keeping up with the stringent hand washing, cleaning and disinfecting practices mandated by state and local health departments and the New Jersey Office of Licensing. However, despite the fact that we have been unable to offer field trips or on-site special programs, we are creatively using technology to bring some special enrichment activities to our children. This was made possible by a New Jersey State COVID-19 Stabilization Grant which allowed us to purchase not only Personal Protective Equipment, cleaning/sanitizing supplies and additional toys and games for our classrooms, but also new state-of-the-art computers that enabled us to bring some wonderful virtual programs to our children. In February, Vereen Music, which offers music therapy services as well as music instruction, presented a 4 week virtual music program in each of our two classrooms. On Tuesday, February 9 and Friday, February 26 we enjoyed another virtual music program presented by Dr. Ingrid Ladendorf of The College of New Jersey and her music students similar to the program they offered our children in person prior to COVID-19. Dr. Ladendorf and her students taught the children about some of the instruments in the orchestra and played each of the instruments for them so they could hear the different sounds. In March and April, the New Jersey League of Storytellers did virtual interactive storytelling sessions in each of our classrooms. As you can see in the picture above, each child received a special hat so they could participate in the story of "Pete the Cat" along with the talented ladies presenting the story. We are hoping to be able to make this a once a month activity for the balance of the school year. Furthermore, now that spring has sprung, the children have been engaged in planting activities on our playground, some of our plants have begun to grow and sprout some beautiful flowers!

So, to make a long story short, while COVID 19 has certainly changed our ways of doing things, it certainly has not stopped us from offering our children diverse, high quality enrichment activities to enhance their learning experiences here at CYO!



GRANTS AWARDED SINCE LAST MARQUEE - 10/15/20 - 4/15/21

- Albertsons Families Companies Foundation: award through Hamilton Twp. for Bromley food pantry programs, 3/21.
- Arvesen Fund of Community Foundation of NJ: award for Trenton centers' Out-of-School (OSP) program, 12/20.
- Mary Owen Borden Foundation: award for Broad Out-of-School (OSP) program, 12/20.
- Catholic Campaign for Human Development of Trenton Diocese: award for Broad Out-of-School (OSP) program, 11/20.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): award for Bromley food pantry, 2/21.
- Kiwanis Club of Trenton: award for Trenton centers' summer camp scholarships, 11/20.
- Mercer Fund of Community Foundation of NJ: award for Trenton centers' Out-of-School (OSP) program, 1/21.
- NJ Child Care Information System (NJCCIS): award for 8 childcare centers' COVID stabilization needs, 11/20.
- NJ Department of Law & Public Safety, Juvenile Justice Commission: award for Trenton centers' summer basketball & life skills clinic, 2/21.
- NJ Department of Children & Families: award for Broad, ESSC, Ewing & Yardville COVID-19 PPE needs, 7/20.
- NJ Economic Development Authority (NJEDA): award for COVID-19 revenue loss, 11/20.
- NJM Insurance Group: award for AEDs, 4/21.
- Princeton Area Community Foundation (PACF): award for Trenton centers' Out-of-School (OSP) program, 11/20.
- Fred C. Rummel Foundation: award for Broad Out-of-School (OSP) program, 1/21.