



THE "MARQUEE" - CYO NEWSLETTER

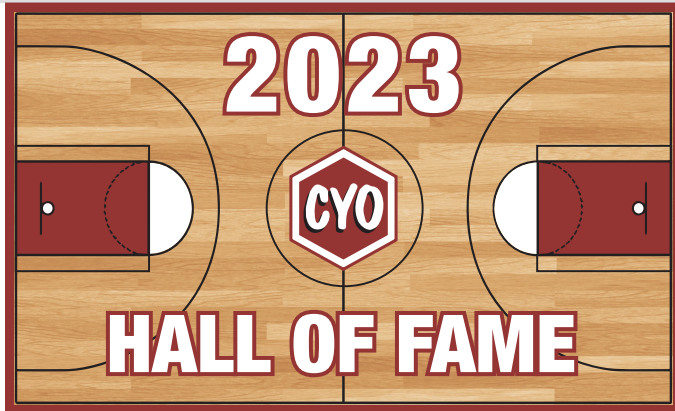
"Serving Mercer County Youth Since 1952"

CYO of Mercer County

Spring/Summer 2023

Volume 29 Issue 1

CYO BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME CLASS ANNOUNCED



Returning for the first time since 2018 is the CYO Basketball Hall of Fame Awards Banquet! The event will take place on Saturday, November 18th at Nottingham Ballroom in Hamilton. A class of 18 will be inducted representing Female and Male players, Special Contributors, Coaches, and Referee. Listed below is the class of 2023! For more information on the CYO Basketball Hall of Fame including sponsorships and tickets contact Patrick Hardiman at phardiman@cyomercer.org or 609-585-4280 x102.

Coaches	Male Players	Female Players	Special Contributors	Referee
Tony Bucci	Guy Chiorello	Amy Cooke	*John Girman	*Joe Wyers
Bill Dearden	*Ed Fireall	Sienna Malkin	Ed Malloy	
*Art Nitti	Khalid Lewis	Michelle Smith	Mike Malloy	* Inducted
Joe Smiegocki	Malachi Richardson	Lakeisha Sutton	Mick Shanklin	posthumously
			Jack West	

NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN AT BROMLEY PARK

A 12 bed Community Garden has been laid at Bromley Park! Twelve families from CYO Bromley Food Pantry will be responsible for these beds year round to plant, grow, garden, and care for them. This is all possible through a joint partnership with CYO Bromley, Hamilton Township, Snipes Farms, RWJ Barnabas, and Sharbell Development coming together to help better the Bromley Community through this garden. Thanks to all of the partners for making this happen!



Pictured Top Left: Left to Right, Nancy Podeszwa, CYO Grant Writer, Allison DuBlois and daughter, RWJ Barnabas employee, Diane Grillo, VP RWJ Barnabas, Alyssa Kramarz and Will James, CYO Volunteers on the turfed community soccer field at Bromley Park during neighborhood clean up day.



Top Right: Will James, volunteer at CYO Bromley, in front of the beds for the new community garden.

Bottom Left: Volunteers planting flowers at Bromley Park.

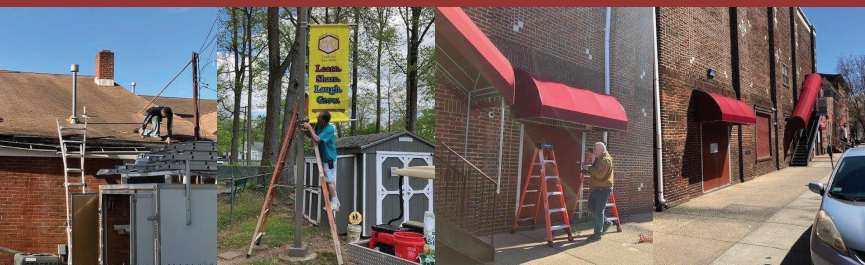
Bottom Right: Volunteers painting benches at Farmingdale Park during clean up day.

Return of the *CYO Spelling Bee*

The CYO was excited to bring back the the CYO Spelling Bee this spring after a long absence. This year's spelling bee was held on Sunday, April 30th at the Monsignor Toomey Annex at the CYO in Yardville. Each Catholic school/parish in Mercer County could send up to three finalists per division (JV – 6th grade and under & Varsity – 7th & 8th grade). This year we had participants from Our Lady of Sorrows, Stuart & Trenton Catholic Preparatory Academy. In the Junior Varsity Competition, Kelsey Okorie from OLS took home the runner-up trophy which Uchechi Kanv from TCPA was crowned the champion. In the Varsity Competition,



Kachi Ezeugwu from TCPA took home the runner-up trophy while his fellow classmate from TCPA, Malik McCoy was crowned the champion. It was a great afternoon by all and we look forward to even more schools and parishes participating next year!



Facility improvements continue at CYO Yardville and South Broad St. centers. New awnings by Marshall Awnings for South Broad St. look great on this 103 year old building! With the 65th Summer camp around the corner we did roof repairs and added gutters / downspouts and new avenue banners!

CYO ATHLETICS

CYO Soccer:

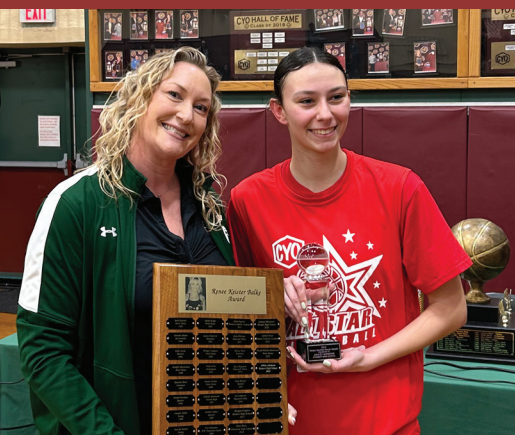
The Mercer County CYO Soccer Season began on Tuesday, April 18th. This year there are 5 teams (Our Lady of Sorrows / St. Anthony's, St. Ann's, St. Gregory's, St. Paul's, St. Raphael's / Holy Angels and Trenton Catholic Academy) participating in the CYO Boys Soccer League. Games take place weeknights at Mercer County Park, OLS & TCPA. The regular season is scheduled to conclude at the end of May with the playoffs taking place in early June.

CYO Basketball:

The Mercer County CYO celebrated its 70th year of CYO Basketball during the 2022-23 season. This year there were over 50 teams that participated in the 7 CYO Leagues for elementary school-aged children and the Boys High School Leagues. Congratulations to all of this year's winners that were crowned in March. In CYO playoff action, St. Paul's (Princeton) won the title for the Girls Freshmen Playoffs and St. John's (Allentown) won the title in the Boys Freshmen League. In Junior Varsity playoff action, St. Raphael's (Hamilton) won the Girls Championship and St. James (Pennington) won the BJV title. In Varsity playoff action, St. Gregory's (Hamilton) won both the Girls Varsity & Boys Varsity titles. In the CYO Boys High School League Championship, St. Raphael's (Hamilton) captured the title.



Pictured: Tom Mladenetz, CYO Executive Direct, Ron Ailey, Patrick Hardiman, CYO Basketball referee assigner, and Quincy Walzer, CYO Athletic Director present Ron Ailey with the CYO John "Mincey" Manczak Referee of the Year Award for 22/23.



Pictured: Kristin Jacobs, Steinert High School Girls Varsity Coach, presents the Renee Keister Award to Ashley Adamson from Steinert High School.



Pictured: Kylie Vandenberg, West Windsor North, receives the CYO High School All Star Game MVP Award presented by Tom Mladenetz, CYO Executive Director.

CYO Yardville Branch

The Yardville CYO Preschool students had a special guest visit them during their Easter Egg hunt. Each student got to hunt for Easter Eggs on one of our playgrounds and then got to take a picture with the Easter Bunny himself. He even brought stickers for each student.



Planting seeds of spring: On Earth day the Yardville CYO Preschoolers started planting flowers in their garden. This year we are growing 3 different types of sunflowers, zinnias, forget me nots and wildflowers. We are hoping the flowers attract lots of butterflies. The students also can't wait to take home some special bouquets.

Newest Fad at South Broad Street

Have you heard of the newest, most popular game that has taken the Broad Street After School Program by storm? You can learn the rules in seconds, participants of all ages can play together, and it has a very odd name. No, I'm not talking about pickleball. 9 Square in the Air is a blend of Four Square and volleyball. The point of the game is to keep the ball from entering through your square and hitting the floor. Visit the Broad St. ASP at any time and you'll be sure to see a line of kids waiting to play. Most of whom are eager to make it to the center square and eliminate as many students and counselors as they can in the process. Whether you are in kindergarten or are the Director of the ASP, it is an addicting game that is impossible to play without a smile on your face.



Camp Fire NJ "Safe & Sure" Program Resumes at Ewing CYO

On Wednesday, April 19th for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to conduct virtual versions of many of our special programs, Camp Fire, NJ's "Safe & Sure" program resumed in-person at the Ewing Pre-School. The program is being presented to both of our 4-year old classes. The program is an 8 week series of lessons with the intent of helping children make safe decisions in a variety of difficult situations. The program is designed to help young children build self-confidence and assertiveness skills. Topics include such things as identifying safe adults, appropriate touch, medicine safety, safety at play, safety at school and treating others as you would like to be treated. We are so happy to be able to present this program in-person once again to our pre-school children!



*CYO East State Street
celebrates Dr. Seuss's
birthday!*



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Pictured: Chris Posivak stands with Patrick Hardiman, congratulating him on the recently completed basketball bleacher project at CYO Yardville for Chris' Eagle Scout project.

Pictured: Zack Aust stands with Patrick Hardiman, congratulating him on the recently completed golf course project at CYO Yardville for Zack's Eagle Scout project.

GRANTS AWARDED SINCE LAST MARQUEE 11/1/22 - 4/30/23

- Arvesen Fund of CFNJ: Vehicle Replacement Program, 12/22.
- Borden Foundation: Vehicle Replacement Program, 12/22.
- Citizens Philanthropic Fund: Vehicle Replacement Program, 12/22.
 - Church & Dwight: Broad After School Program, 11/22.
 - Emergency Food & Shelter Program: Bromley Food Pantry, 4/23.
- Hamilton Twp. Community Development Block Grant Program: Bromley Food Pantry equipment, 2/23.
 - Kiwanis of Trenton: Broad & ESSC camp scholarships, 12/22.
 - NJM Insurance Group: Vehicle Replacement Program, 3/23.
 - OceanFirst Foundation: Vehicle Replacement Program, 4/23.
- Rummel Foundation: Broad After School & Summer Camp Programs, 12/22.
- Trenton Diocese Catholic Campaign for Human Development: Broad After School & Summer Camp Programs, 12/22.
 - Wawa: Bromley Food Pantry, 9/22