

CYO Marquee

"Serving Mercer County Youth Since 1952"

Mercer County CYO Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2009-2010

Volume 15 Issue 2



Yarville Pre-School student, Kierlyn Flynn, sits with Santa to tell him that all CYO campers and students have been especially nice!

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

GOLF CLASSIC HONORING WZBN TV 25

This year, the 17th running of the CYO Golf Tournament, held on October 1st, at Mountainview Golf Course in Ewing, honored a longtime community service provider and CYO friend, professional TV Station, Hamilton based WZBN TV 25. The golf was fun, the weather was cool, the food was great, and the honor was well deserved. WZBN has been providing

Mercer County and the surrounding area with outstanding television coverage of residents, organizations, teams, leagues, and businesses since 1993. WZBN has proven to be an invaluable resource to Mercer County by spreading awareness and funneling information to all of the townships and residents in Mercer County. Over the last 16 years WZBN has been a good friend and supporter to the CYO. They have

always been there for us to cover special events, big games, and news worthy events. As the CYO has grown tremendously over the last 16 years; WZBN has been there every step of the way. The CYO used our recent Golf Tournament as an opportunity to say thanks for all that they have done for us and the Mercer County Community. Many of the WZBN staff members attended the dinner and a plaque and thank you presentation was awarded to WZBN President Lou Zaroni. Eighty golfers participated, and fun was had by all. The Golf Classic remains a fun fundraising staple, with the next one scheduled for the Fall of 2011.



Tom Mladenetz, CYO Executive Director, far left, presents the Fahey Cup Trophy and a cash award to Mike Rossi, far right, for being the winner of the CYO Golf Tournament low net division. Pictured center is Trudy Fahey, sister of the late Mike Fahey, after whom the award is named.



Tom Mladenetz, CYO Executive Director, left, introduces Lou Zaroni, right, President of WZBN TV 25 at the recent Golf Tournament Dinner.

CROSS COUNTRY MEET

On Sunday, October 25th the Mercer County CYO held their 4th Annual Cross Country Meet at Mercer County Park. This year we had close to 40 participants at the meet. Schools and parishes that were represented at this year's meet included: St. Ann's, St. Gregory's, St. Mary's, St. Paul's & Trenton Catholic Academy. The length of the course was approximately 1.5 miles and trophies were given out to the top finishers in each division.



Members of the St. Paul Cross Country team pose for a team picture at the recent Cross Country Meet held at Mercer County Park, with some of them showing their individual trophies.

CYO BASKETBALL

This year, the Mercer County CYO is celebrating its 57th year of CYO Basketball and providing basketball and cheerleading opportunities to the youth of Mercer County. The 2009-10 CYO Basketball season started on Saturday, November 7th with our Annual Opening Mass at the CYO followed by the first games of the season. This year there are a total of 70 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 / parishes that are represented in the CYO Basketball Leagues include: Incarnation / St. James, OLS / St. Anthony's, St. Ann's, St. Anthony's of Padua, 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 Thursday and Friday nights & Saturday and Sunday afternoons throughout the winter for CYO Basketball action. For schedule information, please contact the CYO at (609) 396-8383 x 14.

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

At the Opening Day Basketball Mass on November 7th, the CYO recognized the 2008-09 Scholar Athlete Team. The recipients were selected for their athletic success and participation as well as their academic achievements during the 2008-09 school year. This year's recipients were: Nicholas Bartolomei (St. Mary's of Bordentown), Adrian Carella (OLS / St. Anthony's), Robert Conway (St. Vincent de Paul), Kaylee Creegan (St. Mary's of Bordentown), Tyler DeSanctis (St. Ann's), Colleen Dolan (OLS / St. Anthony's), Marissa Jenkins (TCA), Allissa Kolczynski (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels), Jeffrey Mattonelli (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels), Claire McManimon (Incarnation / St. James), Frankie Mule (St. Gregory's), Dan Napoleon (TCA), Caoimhe O'Sullivan Roche (St. Ann's) and Gregory Stewart (Incarnation / St. James). In addition, the CYO also honored Dominique Ward (Trenton Catholic Academy) and John Lansing (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels) as the Female and Male Athletes of the year for their athletic success during the 2008-09 season. Also, Mike Link from St. Paul's was honored as the 2008-09 Volunteer Coach of the Year for all of his time and dedication. Congratulations to all of this year's recipients!

YARDVILLE FALL EVENTS

If you thought once Summer Camp ended the staff could catch their breath and relax you were wrong. The transition from the Camp to School is the main preparatory challenge, but once up and running there are several fun, educational, and exciting events and programs. The Pre-School and After School Programs opened on Tuesday, September 8, with a total of 115 students registered between the two, making every day busy. Five classrooms make up this year's Pre-School and the After School Program which services students from Yardville, Sunnybrae, and Yardville Heights Schools. Outdoor Movie Night was held on the main field area on Saturday, September 19 as Toy Story 2 was featured. The Annual Fall Festival took place on Sunday, October 4 with games, prizes, a performance by popular kids' musician Mr. Ray, and a pumpkin and mum sale to name a few of the offerings. Pee-wee soccer for 4 and 5 year olds was held on Saturday mornings from September 12 through October 31. Five teams were formed with a total of 61 participants learning the basics and having fun. For more information on any of these programs contact the CYO Yardville at (609) 585-4280 x 103.



Emily and Ryann Stemmer, Yardville Pre-School students show off their face painting at the recent Yardville Fall Festival.



The Big Screen is set-up as spectators start to gather on the field as the sun goes down for the outdoor movie.



Mr. Ray, famous kids' musician sings along with Daniella DeBonis at the recent Fall Festival.

RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS

We are pleased to announce that KidsBridge/KITES awarded us grants for the Trenton Summer REC Program for this past Summer. The KidsBridge grant through PSE&G and KITES through the Mercer County Bar Foundation helped with a six week Character Education development sessions for the campers. The sessions were popular with those that participated, helping to build morals and values through teaching and role playing, and offered a change up from the traditional camp experience of swimming, outside recreation, field trips, and arts & crafts, to make the CYO Summer REC different than most city based camps, and all encompassing.

In addition, \$5,000 was awarded from the Prudential Foundation's Summer Initiatives for Youth Program to fund the Trenton Summer REC field trips to Clementon Park, located in South Jersey. This popular amusement and water park allowed campers to completely enjoy their Summer. Thanks to all donors and our Grant Writer, Nancy Podeszwa.

Campers from CYO Summer REC and participants in the Character Education Conflict Resolution component of the camp pose for a picture with CYO Executive Director Tom Mladenetz, back row far left, Frank J. Lucchesi, Regional Public Affairs Manager for PSE&G, back row, second from right, and Lynne Azarchi, Executive Director of KidsBridge. PSE&G funded the Character Education Conflict Resolution grant which was executed by KidsBridge.



CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR BUS TRIP

This is your last call for the CYO Yardville Bus Trip to New York City's Radio City Music Hall to see a Christmas Spectacular. The trip is scheduled for Sunday, December 13, leaving the Yardville Branch at 9:00AM for an 11:30AM show. The cost is \$105 per person, and includes a continental breakfast at the CYO at approximately 8:30AM, motor coach transportation, 3rd level mezzanine center stage seating, and snacks and refreshments on the bus. The bus will depart New York at approximately 4:30PM, allowing for some sight seeing and Holiday shopping after the 11:30AM show. If interested contact Kara DeBonis at (609) 585-4280 x 101, or via e-mail at kdebonis@cyomercer.org, but hurry tickets are limited!

YARDVILLE WINTER HOLIDAY CAMP

The CYO Yardville is once again holding their Annual Winter Holiday Camp for students in grades K-6 from Monday, December 28 through Thursday, December 31 from 7:30AM to 5:30PM. The cost of the camp is \$60 per day or \$200 for all four days. Each day has a different and fun field trip scheduled, which is included in the cost of the camp, along with lunch and snack. Check out our website at www.cyomercer.org for exact trip destinations or to download a registration form, or contact us at (609) 585-4280 x 103 if you need Christmas week school closing care. Hurry, spaces are limited!

EWING SUMMER CAMP AND PRE-SCHOOL

The summer months at our Ewing site was extremely busy, due to an increase in our Summer Camp program, serving 48 campers daily ages 6-11 years old, up from 36 the last several years. The Pre-School added to the hub bub with 75 children daily, ages 2 1/2 to 5 years old.

It's business as usual at the Hollowbrook Center with Pre-School in full swing. Twenty eight new preschoolers enrolled for September, filling the program. Both new and old children have adjusted to their new classrooms and teachers. Our children enjoyed a trip to the apple and pumpkin farm, and our neighbor fireman came to visit us at the center.

NEW FUNDRAISING SPACE CORNER LISTED BELOW

Starting with this edition of our newsletter the space below will be reserved for important fundraising projects. In lieu of annual campaign drives and hard solicitations we will be advertising our current and most pressing project in which we will need the help of our friends and supporters to reach the goal. This newsletter, published bi-annually (Fall/Winter and Spring/Summer), will include a different project that we are taking on. The projects will vary from Trenton, Yardville, and Ewing, and differ in style and programs that they are applied to. They may focus on our gymnasium, playgrounds, parking goals/limitations, campground development, or safety enhancements to name a few. In any event, these projects will be of great significance to our organization, the 30 programs that we offer inside of the 3 sites we operate, and will benefit the thousands of youth and their families that we serve yearly. We are asking for your support to help us with this. We will continue to be conscious of your financial demands and always offer different levels of sponsorship. All donations can be made on-line by visiting our website at www.cyomercer.org and visiting our donations link. Current fundraising project downloadable forms will also be available on our website, and they can be mailed to CYO Yardville. We thank you for your continued support of the CYO and with our new fundraising platform. Read below about our first newsletter fundraising project, which is the replacement of one of our mini-school buses which will soon reach it's mandatory 12 year retirement age. We will be purchasing a new mini-bus in the near future!

RYAN'S QUEST FUNDRAISER

The CYO and Rider University Men's Basketball have combined forces to help in the fight of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. The disease has affected the CYO Yardville directly, with one of our Pre-School students, after whom the fundraiser has been named, fighting it. Rider men's basketball team will put on a basketball clinic at the CYO Center, located at 920 South Broad St. in Trenton, on Tuesday, December 29 from 9:00AM to 12Noon. The clinic is for boys and girls in grades 4-8. A \$10 entry fee is required, and all proceeds will directly benefit Ryan's Quest, which is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt public charity. The entire Rider University Men's basketball team (including MAC pre-season player of the year Ryan Thompson) will practice from 9:00AM - 10:15AM, perform a basketball clinic from 10:45AM - 11:45A, and then be available for an autograph session until 12Noon. Don't miss this Holiday basketball Clinic Fundraiser benefiting a very good cause. For more information contact Patrick Hardiman at (609) 585-4280 x 102. Pre-registration is required by December 23. For more information on Ryan's Quest visit www.ryansquest.org



“KEEP CYO MOVING”

CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION (CYO) OF MERCER COUNTY VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

CYO's Trenton Center after school and summer camp programs serve about 150 children daily. Most of these children live in Trenton and are from single parent, low-income, working families, who depend on CYO for affordable childcare. Their parents have their own job and school related commuting needs, and many have no vehicle access at all, so they depend on CYO's transportation service for their children to participate in CYO programs. CYO vehicles provide safe, secure links between the CYO and the children's school and home, and give their parents peace of mind.

The transportation program currently uses 4 buses and 4 vans, but one of the buses will reach State mandated retirement age in 2012, and must be replaced. A new vehicle costs more than \$55,000, and we need your help in raising those funds. We understand that these are tough economic times for everyone, but considering the essential nature of this service, we are asking for your help to “keep CYO moving,” and not let these children and their families down.

Visit our website, www.cyomercer.org and click on “Donations” in the top tool bar. or Clip and complete the form below and send it, with payment enclosed to: CYO of Mercer County, 920 S. Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08611, Attn. vehicle project

Questions? Call 609-396-8383, ext.15 or email tom@cyomercer.com

Donor Name _____

Contact Person (if different than donor) _____

Email address _____

Mailing address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Donation amount: \$1000 or more _____ will get the engine running.

\$500 _____ will keep the wheels spinning.

\$250 _____ will add seats for the children.

\$100 _____ will add seat belts and safety equipment.

\$50 _____ will help fill the gas tank.

Other _____ will show you care.

No products or services are being provided for this donation and 100% is tax deductible.

MERCER COUNTY CYO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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MERCER COUNTY CYO FULL TIME STAFF LISTING

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Thomas G. Mladenetz, M.Ed.

Yardville Branch Director
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Trenton Program Director
Mark Newman

Administrative Director
Donna Zolnierzak

Athletic Director/Teen Program Director
Quincy Walzer

Administrative Asst./Financial Services
Kathy Schroeder

Family Workers
Carmen Davila
Gloribee Pica

Program Assistant
Mary Kondash

Grant Writer
Nancy Podeszwa

Yardville Pre-School Staff
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Carol Blanche	Adria Frascella	Linda Shulman
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Dan Bossio (Yardville Program Coordinator)

Trenton Pre-School Staff

Tamilyn Bradford	Ivelisse Hernandez	Nadia Rowe
Angela Brun	Amy Jacobsen	Elisa Simas
Griselle DeJesus	Romona Jimenez	Dessie Smith
Ingrid Garcia	Michelle Lanning	Jerilyn Tykarski
	Hipolita Lopez	

Ewing Pre-School Staff

Ewing Branch Director **Administrative Assistant**
Linda Kraut Debbie Kirschenbaum

Pre-School Staff

Gladys Brown	Elizabeth Finney	Jasmine Stacey
Denise Dickerson	Gae Santiago	Helen Woodland
Mabel Dyous	Deborah Smith	



STAFF MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Quincy Walzer, now in his 8th year as the CYO Athletic Director, continues to make a run at one of the longest stretches of CYO Athletic Directors in the organization's 57 year, proud, and tradition rich program history. Quincy took over during a period of Parish merging and Catholic School closings in Mercer County that really could have jeopardized the structure and stability of the program however he has been able to maintain very high numbers and manages what is still a very strong, organized, highly competitive, well respected, and longest running youth basketball program in the State of New Jersey. This year 70 teams compete in six different CYO basketball divisions.

During Quincy's tenure the basketball program has added a boys and girls freshmen league (3rd and 4th grade division), bringing the total number of basketball participants on average over 1,000 per year and an average of 125 basketball coaches. This is an amazing number of players and coaches to manage, and with no allegiance to one team or parish, unlike a traditional school Athletic Director, Quincy needs to establish and enforce strict rules and guidelines to maintain the quality of the league. Quincy, along with CYO Board Member Donna Davidson, and CYO Executive Director Tom Mladenetz, helped form the Diocesan Athletic Council four years ago to stay ahead of the ever changing and complex make-up of the Diocese's athletic landscape. Quincy is a dedicated member of the Council, serving as its Secretary, and preparing the meetings agenda. In addition, Quincy helped resurrect the Diocesan Basketball Tournament after a 30 year absence. The tournament resurfaced in 2007 with more popularity than ever with Championship teams from Ocean, Monmouth, Burlington, and Mercer Counties, for boys and girls on Varsity and JV levels competing for the true Diocesan championship.

In addition to basketball, Quincy oversees the teams, players, and coaches for CYO soccer, softball, and cheerleading. All told, he's responsible for the recreation of over 1,500 youth each year through CYO sports and the management of approximately 175 coaches per year. Quincy is a certified Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y Clinician, teaching the class bi-yearly, certifying over 75 coaches, and a Virtus trainer (a program implemented by the Diocese to train all employees and volunteer coaches on the signs and dangers of sexual abuse). Quincy also organizes Annual events such as the Spring Track & Filed Meet, Fall Cross Country Meet (which he started in 2006), Winter Cheerleading competition (which this year will grow from a local Mercer County competition to a Diocesan-wide event), and helps with the Annual Memorial Day Weekend 5K race. Quincy is a busy man, not only attending many CYO events, but scheduling games is a mini-job inside of the job. Quincy schedules approximately 725 games per year, and is closing in on 6,000 since he started. Not an easy to thing to do considering limited gym and field availability, school and parish commitments, and schedule requests, but in the end, he gets it done. CYO Executive Director Tom Mladenetz praised Quincy for his fine efforts: "As a former CYO Athletic Director myself, I know firsthand the many demands of Quincy's position. He handles these duties very well and certainly is a key member of the CYO team. Quincy also represents the CYO well in all of his dealings with the youth, coaches, and parents."

He gets a lot more done too, because believe it or not, Athletics is only 2/3 of his job description. Quincy serves as the Assistant Director for the CYO Evening Teen Program, Summer REC Program, and After School Program, where he helps to organize these programs and oversee a large group of part-time staff members. These three programs provide services for an additional 400 youth each year, showing once again his commitment for kids. "I enjoy working in an environment that enriches the lives of many children" said Quincy.

Quincy is a graduate of Temple University where he received his B.S. degree in Sport Management in 1999 and his M.S in Sport Administration in 2002. While at Temple he served as the Graduate Assistant in the Temple Athletic Department and assisted with the marketing efforts for Hall of Fame Coach John Chaney's Men's Basketball Program and Coach Dawn Staley's (former WNBA star and Olympic Gold Medalist) Women's Basketball Program. He received national recognition of his marketing efforts for the community for Women's Basketball in "Sports Illustrated" and "The New York Times." Quincy also serves as the Youth Director at St. James in Pennington for a large active High School group. He resides in Ewing with his family.



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

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