



THE "MARQUEE" - CYO NEWSLETTER

"Serving Mercer County Youth Since 1952"

CYO of Mercer County

Fall/Winter 2022/23

Volume 28 Issue 2

The Mercer County CYO Wishes You and Yours a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!



MERCER COUNTY
CYO
Celebrating
70
YEARS
1952 - 2022
Proudly Serving the Youth
of Mercer County

SUPPORT THE CYO THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Help Us Better Provide For All Of The Families Of Mercer County
We Serve On A Daily Basis With A Christmas Donation

Check our website at www.cyomercer.org to see all that we do. To make a donation on-line, go to the donation link across the top of the website and click Make A Donation Now, or fill out the form below and mail with a check to CYO Center, 920 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08611

Name of Donor _____ Phone Number _____

Address of Donor _____ Email Address _____

I would like to donate the following amount:

\$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 OTHER _____

I would like my donation earmarked towards:

_____ CYO Yardville Programs _____ CYO South Broad Street Programs _____ CYO East State Street Programs
_____ CYO Ewing Programs _____ CYO Bromley Programs _____ CYO Before/After School Satellite Programs
_____ Athletic Programs _____ Used where needed most

If you have any questions about a donation, contact Tom Mladenetz at (609) 396-8383 x15, or via email at tom@cyomercer.org

CYO BROMLEY CENTER FOOD PANTRY GRAND RE-OPENING

The CYO Bromley Center recently held a Grand Re-Opening Ribbon Cutting for their expanded Food Pantry in conjunction with a Fall Food Festival. The Food Pantry was moved to a more spacious, first floor accessible room which will allow the pantry to accept and distribute more food, as well as easier drop off and pick up for the food. The Fall Food Festival was for Pantry members to come out to enjoy an afternoon with friends and entertainment, receive a free lunch as well as an extra box of food and a \$25 food store gift card. Pictured at right for the ribbon cutting are; Fred Dumont, Hamilton Township Director of Economic Development, Tom Mladenetz, CYO Executive Director, Anthony Carabelli, Hamilton Township Council, and Patrick Hardiman, CYO Bromley Director.



JUAN ORTIZ NAMED TO CYO BOARD

The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) of Mercer County is pleased to announce the appointment of Juan Ortiz as a new member of the CYO Board of Trustees. Mr. Ortiz was born and raised in Trenton. He retired as a Lieutenant from the N.J. Department of Corrections and is currently working in the Education field. Mr. Ortiz has a passion for the mission of the CYO because as a youngster he played CYO basketball and then worked in the Trenton CYO Evening Teen Program, After School Program, and the Yardville CYO Day Camp. Juan Ortiz, his wife Reina and two sons live in Delran. Gabriel also worked as a CYO Camp Counselor and Daniel attended the CYO Camp, so the Ortiz family has truly been a part of the CYO family for quite some time. The remaining CYO Board members are as follows: Most Rev. David M. O'Connell, C.M.; Chairman Arthur Caola; Vice Chair – Katherine Soss Pihoda; Msgr. Dennis Apoldite; Brenda Rascher; Tom Griffith; Ellie Ancrum Ingbritsen; Scott Krasny; Louis Bruni; Maurice Whetstone and Ed Petranto. The CYO Executive Director is Tom Mladenetz. The CYO welcomes Juan Ortiz to the Board of Trustees of an organization, which has been serving Mercer County youth for 70 years at their Trenton, Yardville, and Ewing facilities.



YARDVILLE POOL RECEIVES FACE LIFT

A large portion of the Yardville pool was repaired this fall through water blasting, comet scrubbing, and acid washing, some masonry patching as well as re-painting. The job was done to prevent paint chipping after years of painting. This was last done in 2003, and prior to that in 1976, after the pool was constructed in 1958.



CYO ATHLETICS

CYO Basketball

This year the CYO is celebrating its 70th season of CYO Basketball here in Mercer County. The 2022-23 CYO Basketball season started on Saturday, November 5th with the Annual Opening Day Mass at the CYO Monsignor Toomey Annex in Yardville celebrated by Father Michael Hall, Pastor at St. Gregory the Great Parish, followed by a full slate of weekend games. This year there are a total of 45 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 over 400 games. The schools and parishes that are represented in the CYO Basketball leagues include: OLS / St. Anthony's, Princeton Academy, St. Ann's, St. Gregory's, St. James (Pennington), St. John's, St. Paul's, St. Raphael's / Holy Angels, Stuart Country Day School and Trenton Catholic Preparatory Academy. Stop by the CYO Center most Saturday & Sunday afternoons throughout the winter for exciting CYO Basketball action. For schedule information, please contact the CYO at (609) 396-8383 x 14.

Cross Country Meet

On Sunday, October 15th, the Mercer County CYO held their 16th Annual Cross Country Meet at Mercer County Park. This year there were over 55 participants that represented the following schools and parishes: St. Ann's, St. Gregory's, St. Raphael's and Trenton Catholic Preparatory Academy. Trophies were handed out to the top 3 finishers in each division.



GIRLS JV (1.5 Miles)

- 1) Meave McGowan, St. Greg's 11:40
- 2) Amelia Poli, St. Greg's 13:14
- 3) Megan Haney, St. Ann's 13:16

BOYS JV (1.5 Miles)

- 1) Kevin Ellingson, St. Greg's 10:54
- 2) Bryan Herra, TCPA 12:12
- 3) Alexander Liz, TCPA 13:01

GIRLS VARSITY (2.25 Miles)

- 1) Victoria Suschke, St. Greg's 22:45
- 2) Scarlett Krzeminska, St. Greg's 24:24
- 3) Kara Pelikan, St. Greg's 24:38

BOYS VARSITY (2.25 Miles)

- 1) Shawn Brown, TCPA 17:23
- 2) Thiago Orantes, TCPA 17:24
- 3) Constantine Toe Jr., TCPA 17:25

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

At the Opening Day Basketball Mass on November 5th, the CYO recognized the 2021-22 CYO Scholar Athlete Team. The recipients were selected for their athletic success and participation as well as their academic achievements during the 2021-22 school year. This year's participants were: Favour Bush (TCPA), Isabella Devine (St. Paul's), William Foley (St. Paul's), Ayana Jackson (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels), Josh Klena (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels), Alexandra McCarthy (St. Gregory's), Patrick McGowen (St. Gregory's), Alberto Primerano (OLS / St. Anthony's), Lena Scharibone (OLS / St. Anthony's) and Brent Zoeduah (TCPA). In addition the CYO also honored Lauren Kelly (St. Raphael's / Holy Angels) and Dylan Napoleon (TCPA) as the Female and Male Athletes of the year for their athletic success during the 2021-22 season. Also, Brian Sirak from Trenton Catholic Preparatory was honored as the 2021-22 CYO Volunteer Coach of the Year for all of his hard work, time & dedication that he put into the TCPA Boys Freshmen Basketball Program over the years.



EWING PRE-SCHOOL MOVING FULL SPEED AHEAD INTO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

It's that time of year again, and so much is happening at Ewing CYO Pre-School @Hollowbrook! For starters, now that just about all of the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted, families are once again permitted into our building and have the opportunity to witness firsthand all the wonderful things that are going on in our classrooms. In fact, for the first time since 2019, we held an in-person Back to School Night complete with babysitting and refreshments that was attended by approximately 90% of our families. This was probably our best turnout ever and we are so happy that our families are as excited about the new school year as we are! We also held our first field trip since 2019, taking the children to Johnson's Corner Farm in Medford, NJ for a morning of pumpkin picking, picnicking and feeding the animals. The weather could not have been better and everyone including children, staff and chaperones had a fantastic time. Activities such as monthly yoga sessions with Marsha Wiley and bi-weekly story times with Ms. Christine in the Hollowbrook Library took place throughout COVID-19 and will continue into this school year. Through the strong collaboration we have created with The College of New Jersey (thanks to the outreach efforts of our Education Director, Pat Staltari), we also have music students, nursing students and early childhood education students who provide enrichment activities and assistance in our classrooms. As in the past, we also have seniors from the Federal Foster Grandparent program (Americorp Seniors) and Pathstone who provide assistance and intergenerational experiences for our children. Finally, now that we've reached the fall season, it was time to harvest the crops from our playground garden. We grew strawberries, herbs, mint, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers and some huge sweet potatoes! It was probably the largest crop we ever produced! Thanks to our Pre-K teacher, Mrs. Biernet Sabree for taking such wonderful care of our garden over the summer! We are so glad to be back for another year of fun and learning at Ewing CYO Pre-School!



CYO YARDVILLE PRE-SCHOOL

It has been a great Fall at the Yardville CYO Preschool. We went to Johnson's Locust Hall Farm for our first field trip of the year. The students, parents and teachers had a blast picking apples and pumpkins. In school, the students were able to paint and carve pumpkins as well. The students enjoyed seeing where the pumpkins grow and be able to explore what is inside a pumpkin and even get to try pumpkin seeds.

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

**CYO OF MERCER COUNTY
 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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

Secretary
 Msgr. Dennis Apoldite

Chairperson
 Arthur J. Caola

Vice Chairperson
 Dr. Katherine Soss Prihoda

Bishop's Delegate
 Brenda L. Rascher, MSW, JD

— Board Members —

Louis Bruni
 Ed Petranto

Tom Griffith
 Maurice Whetstone

Ellieen Ancrum Ingbritsen, Ed.D.
 Scott A. Krasny, Esq.

Juan Ortiz

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF LISTING

Executive Director
 Thomas G. Mladenetz, M.Ed.

Yardville Branch/Bromley Director
 Patrick M. Hardiman

South Broad Street Program Director
 John Soss

Trenton Pre-School Director
 Debora Grier

Athletic Director
 Quincy Walzer

Administrative Asst./Financial Services
 Kathy Schroeder

Grant Writer
 Nancy Podeszwa

Yardville Pre-School Supervisor
 Kate Monroe

Yardville Program Coordinator
 Dan Bossio

Ewing Administrative Director
 Debbie Kirschenbaum

East State Street Program Director
 Robert Donaldson

Ewing Education Director
 Patricia Staltari



On Tuesday, October 11th, the CYO (East State Street location) hosted our Spanish Heritage Celebration for our students and their families! Everyone enjoyed sampling a variety Hispanic foods, viewing our table displays, trying on authentic Spanish clothing, & creating ponchos!



On Thursday, October 13th, the Trenton Fire Department visited the CYO Special Ed program (East State Street location). The children were excited to see how fire fighters get dressed in special gear to fight fires. The firemen demonstrated, "Stop, Drop, and Roll!" The fire department also brought all of the children bags containing fire hats, pencils, coloring books, fire safety activities calendar, fire hats, water bottles, and emergency services booklets!

(Left) Bristol Myers Squibb employees pose for a picture prior to a Helping Hands Day at CYO Yardville helping to winterize the campground!

GRANTS AWARDED SINCE LAST MARQUEE 4/16/22-10/31/22

- Bishop Ahr Endowment Fund for camps enrichment programs, 7/22.
 - Dombal-Vogel Foundation for ESSC camps field trips, 5/22.
 - Investors Foundation for Vehicle Replacement Program, 9/22.
 - Kerney Foundation for Vehicle Replacement Program, 10/22.
 - NJCCIS for Bromley camp, 6/22.
- PSEG Foundation for Broad after school & summer camp programs, 10/22.
 - Princeton Area Community Foundation for Community Impact Fund