

BOARD NEWSLETTER



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YMCA OF Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy
Office of Rose Cushing, President and CEO

April 2016 ★ Board of Directors Update

2016 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN CELEBRATION



Bruce Peragallo

The 2016 Annual Campaign Celebration was held at the JFK Social Center on April 12, 2016 with almost 100 attendees. The event marked the successful end of the annual campaign for the Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge and South Amboy YMCA. Katie McAdoo, Director of Fundraising, was thrilled to announce that the total amount raised was \$208,901, exceeding the original goal by almost \$20,000. As Rose Cushing exclaimed, "Who Knew??!!" Bruce noted that there were many times when the goal we

set seemed unattainable, but through the

sheer determination and efforts of the Board of Directors and Y staff, as well as our generous donors, we met our goal. This money will allow the Y to continue its mission to help nurture the potential of every child and teen, improve our families health and well-being, and give back to our community.

Rose recognized several individuals with whom this campaign would not have succeeded, especially Bruce Peragallo, Lucinda Florio, Jan Grayzel, Michael Lackland and Paul Edgcomb. She also acknowledged YMCA staff Katie McAdoo and Jeanine Costa, who devoted countless hours to ensuring that the campaign, as well as the Celebration Dinner, was a success!



Katie McAdoo, Rose Cushing, Lisa Sanguiliano and Marie Patterson

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METUCHEN YARD SALE

The YMCA participated in the Metuchen Town-Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, April 16th. We were blessed with beautiful weather and are happy to report that over \$1,000 was raised for the Child Care Scholarship Fund!

Thanks to **Lucinda Florio** for organizing this event and to all of the Y Staff and Board members who donated items for this worthy cause!

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY CONFERENCE

The 2016 New Jersey YMCA State Alliance Graham Social Responsibility Conference was held on March 31st at the Forsgate Country Club in Jamesburg. Key YMCA staff attended including Rose Cushing, Lisa Sanguiliano, Katie McAdoo, Kathy Minaeff, Mariam Lesnewski, Jeanine Costa, Veronica Vargas, Kristine Rosko, Brian Marcinczyk, Claudia Asmuth, Beth Helsby, Marie Patterson and Cindy O'Neill and Board members including Paul Edgcomb, Jay Elliot, Kathleen Kovach and Geoff Sisko.

This annual event is hosted to stimulate individual, local and statewide volunteer and community efforts to strengthen the Y's Social Responsibility brand pillar of "giving back and providing support for our neighbors". This sold out conference was chaired by Bonnie Graham, volunteer of the NJ YMCA State Alliance, and moderated by Bill Taylor, President of Miravast and Volunteer at the Hunterdon County YMCA. Keynote speakers included Patricia Kelly, Founder, President & CEO of Ebony Horsewomen, Kevin Washington, President & CEO of the YMCA-USA and Jorge Perez, VP of Youth Development, Family

Enrichment and Social Responsibility of the YMCA-USA.

The YMCA of MEWSA also had an exhibit in the Gallery Walk, which featured 27 different exhibits of social responsibility efforts around the country. Our exhibit focused on the efforts of the Edison YMCA, who have teamed up with Literacy Programs of New Jersey to offer Adult ESL classes that are held at the Edison YMCA.

The day was filled with breakout sessions facilitated by staff, friends, and business and community partners that were geared towards program models and the essentials of quality, lasting social responsibility initiatives.

INSPIRE
ENGAGE
CONNECT

STAFFING UPDATE

METUCHEN BRANCH

We are pleased to announce the addition of Brian Blondet as the new Assistant Aquatic Director at the Metuchen branch. Brian was previously the Coordinator at the Summit YMCA and is a trainer in lifeguard instruction, CPR, First Aid, AED and Water Safety, with 7 years of professional aquatic experience.

Jean Vick has resigned her position as Senior Wellness Director, effective April 22, 2016. Jean has been a part of the Y for 10 years and she will be sorely missed! Jean is moving on to The Gateway Family YMCA, Rahway Branch. We know she will be a tremendous asset to this Branch and we wish her the best of luck!

READ ACROSS AMERICA



The Y's Child Care Centers, in a tribute to Dr. Seuss' 112th birthday, celebrated National Read Across America, where guest readers sat with the children and read to them. It was a wonderful and rewarding opportunity for both the readers and the students!



HEALTHY KIDS DAY

Healthy Kids Day is Saturday, April 30, 2016. To celebrate, our three Branches will be hosting a variety of events and activities from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

METUCHEN Y

- Face painting
- Bounce house
- Crafts with our Child Care Centers (Ken Shirk, Edgar, and Centenary)
- Learn quick tips on Healthy Eating from our HEPA Champion
- Tender Smiles will be on site talking about dental health
- Charlie Greene from Greene Farms will be on site
- Stop by and play games with Metuchen Preschool
- Middlesex Greenway Coalition will be on site giving walking tours/talking about the Greenway
- Metuchen Fire Department will be on hand talking about Fire Safety
- Rutgers Food, Nutrition and Health-will be talking about "Fuss Free Feeding" and "Family Mealtime"
- St. Peter's University Hospital will be on site providing hand washing demo every 15-20 minutes. JFK Hospital representatives will be joining us as well.



***DRAWING FOR A FREE YMCA DRAWSTRING BAG!

EDISON Y

- Shoot some hoops and win a Basketball!
- Dragon Bounce House
- Popcorn
- Healthy Trail Mix-you make it
- Mad Science experiments
- Mobile Family Success crafts
- Zumba for the Family
- Small Tikes Obstacle Course
- GEICO free giveaways
- ART GALLERY SHOWCASE

SOUTH AMBOY Y

- Games
- USTA Tennis Demos
- Bounce House
- Healthy vendors including: Ivy Pediatrics, Kidz Dent, Middlesex
- County Health Department, Raritan Bay Medical Center, Sayreville Food Service, and Proud Pride
- The Lions Club will be holding vision screenings
- Swimming
- Face Painting
- DJ
- Balloon Animals
- Family Zumba
- South Amboy Police Department will be here with a police car
- Raffles and more!



MEWSA HONORS BILL LOVETT AND MICKEY GROSS

The YMCA of MEWSA has announced the selection of two prominent and influential community members to receive the Charles S. Edgar Memorial Award and the Peter J. Barnes, Jr. Community Champion Award.



William "Bill" Lovett will be honored with the Charles S. Edgar Memorial Award for his outstanding work with the YMCA and our community. Bill is currently the Executive Director of the New Jersey Alliance for YMCAs, a not-for-profit association made up of 37 YMCAs from the state of New Jersey. He has served on the YMCA of the USA Board of Directors, is the State Program Director of the New Jersey Partnership for Healthy Kids and leads the New Jersey Healthy Communities Network. He was formerly the Chief Executive Officer of MEWSA from 1988 until his retirement in 2012.

Michael "Mickey" Gross will be honored with the Peter J. Barnes, Jr. Community Champion Award for his outstanding leadership and contribution to the YMCA and to the community as a whole. Mickey is currently the head of the Environmental Division of the Middlesex County Health Department, overseeing 25 municipalities. He also serves as Chairman to the New Jersey Public Health Council, and is Council President for South Amboy.



Both have worked tirelessly on a number of philanthropic endeavors and community initiatives that have served the families, youth and our community at large.

They will be honored at the 2016 Annual Dinner Meeting of the YMCA of MEWSA on May 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Pines Manor in Edison.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Jeanine Costa, Association Advancement Assistant, at 732-516-2083 or at jeanine.costa@ymcaofmews.org.

2016 BOARD MEETINGS

APRIL 27 * JUNE 22 * SEPTEMBER 28 * NOVEMBER 16 * DECEMBER 14

RYAN PATTERSON SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNER

This year's Ryan Patterson Scholarship Award Winner goes to Caroline Rankin. She is pictured here with her very proud Dad. Caroline is a



senior at Bishop George Ahr High School. The award was presented at the Swim Team Banquet on April 15. This award is given to a student who strives for excellence in academics, sports or the arts, has overcome adversity,

lives by the golden rule, has influenced others in a positive way and advocates for others less fortunate.

REGISTER NOW!

2016 Richard Hale Memorial YMCA Charity Golf Classic

Tuesday, June 7th from 10:30 a.m.—7:00 p.m.
Metuchen Golf and Country Club
244 Plainfield Road, Edison, NJ

Contact:

Jeanine Costa, 732-516-2083

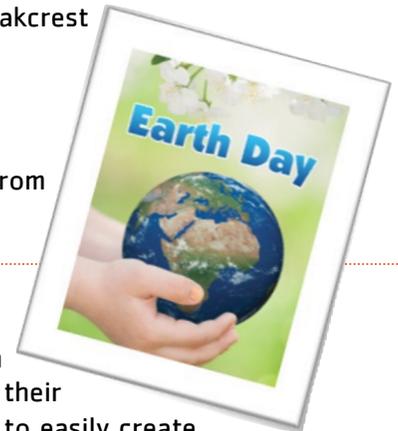
jeanine.costa@ymcaofmews.org

<http://www.ymcaofmews.org/golf-classic>

BRANCH NEWS

EDISON

- ♥ We hosted 40 volunteers from Rutgers University to spruce up Oakcrest grounds on April 23rd.
- ♥ We participated in Edison Earth Day on April 24th at Papaiani Park.
- ♥ Edison Family Fun Day is June 12th at the Raritan Convention Center from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



METUCHEN

- ♥ We will be hosting a Family Literacy Night on April 27th where each child can receive a book and materials to create story props with their parents. They will learn how to use story props while reading and how to easily create them with inexpensive items.
- ♥ Parents are invited to come into their child's pre-school classroom to visit and join in daily activities on April 26th, 27th, and 28th from 9:30 a.m. –10:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. each day. Members of the Y, specifically families who use the Child Watch room and families who have children in youth enrichment classes to come and visit in the classrooms and see the chick hatching project.

SOUTH AMBOY

- ♥ Family Olympics Day is scheduled for May 21st.
- ♥ Our partners from Raritan Bay Medical Center will be at the Y to provide information on healthy living and conduct free blood pressure screenings on May 4th, June 1st, July 6th and August 31st from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- ♥ Kids Night Out was held on Friday, April 22nd from 6:30 p.m.—11:30 p.m. The theme was Pirates and Princesses and the evening included pizza, swimming, crafts, sports and the Bounce House.



- ♥ On Saturday, March 19th, the South Amboy YMCA hosted an Easter Egg hunt for the community. We were very pleased to have 110 children participate in this first-time event.

Children searched for five eggs each, which were filled with assorted toys. There were also ten "golden" eggs which contained prizes such as a free guest pass, 25% off of a swim lesson, and a free one month membership. The golden eggs were a hit!

Once the children finished finding their eggs, they went into the gym where we had our Bounce House and lots of games. Full facility members participated for free. From non-members who participated in the event, we raised \$235 for the Annual Campaign!



UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

APRIL

April 30 **HEALTHY KIDS DAY** 1:00-3:00p.m.
Metuchen, Edison & South Amboy YMCA's



MAY

May 4 **ANNUAL DINNER MEETING** 6:00 p.m.
The Pines Manor

May 10 **SOUTH AMBOY BRANCH BOARD MEETING** 6:30 p.m.
South Amboy Y

May 11 **EDISON BRANCH BOARD MEETING** 6:00 p.m.
Edison Y

May 14 **CAMP OPEN HOUSES**
Metuchen 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Edison 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
South Amboy 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

May 18 **METUCHEN BRANCH BOARD MEETING** 8:00 a.m.
Metuchen Senior Center

May 19 **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** 6:00 p.m.
Association Office

May 29 **EDISON MEMORIAL DAY PARADE YMCA FLOAT** 12:00 p.m.

JUNE

June 7 **RICHARD HALE YMCA MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING** 10:30 a.m.
Metuchen Golf & Country Club

June 12 **EDISON FAMILY DAY** 11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
NJ Convention and Expo Center