SAYING GOODBYE!

On Thursday May 31st, many gathered to pay tribute to our beloved opener for the past 20 years, Grace Iacobucci. Grace decided after 20 years that it was time to retire.

This isn’t the first time Grace has retired. Back in 1996, Grace retired from her full time job with the school department. It didn’t take her long to figure out she wanted to stay busy. She applied for the job and the rest is history.

Please join all of us in wishing Grace the best during her second retirement and we hope to be seeing her and Jimmy here at the Y for a long time as members.
MORE WORK BEHIND THE SCENES

Your Membership Dollars at Work
Below is a picture of the 3 new pool pumps that were installed in May. The total cost of the work was about $3500. As many of you may know, the pool was having issues with temperature. We tried a few different fixes to address the issue but finally came to the conclusion that the 3 pumps that operated the system all needed to be replaced. Luckily, all of the work was done in one morning and had very little impact on the pool operation. Since the replacement, the pool temperature has been a consistent 84 degrees.

On Monday June 5th, two air compressors in the fitness area were replaced. The cost for that project was $5,000. While neither of these projects can be seen, the completion is critical to the operation of our facility.

On Wednesday June 7th, the men’s sauna door was replaced. Previously, the door would not close properly, letting heat escape and causing the unit to work harder than needed. We are hoping this repair will increase the temperature in the men’s sauna as well as extend the life of the unit.

NEW LOBBY FURNITURE
By now you have probably seen the new furniture in the lobby but did you know all of that furniture was donated by Cardi’s? That’s right, Cardi’s donated $10,000 worth of furniture to our branch. Along with the new furniture, we also did a few touch ups to help clean things up. We would like to replace the blinds in the lobby and in the All Purpose Room, so if you know anyone that can help with that, please share.

ANNUAL CAMPAIGN
If you haven’t noticed your Cranston YMCA is in the midst of our Annual Support campaign. What is the Annual Support Campaign? It’s when the Cranston Y reaches out to members and people in the community for donations. All money raised stays in Cranston to help those in our community. Money raised is used for lots of different things: a family that can’t afford a monthly membership, to subsidize the cost of swim lessons for a low income child or to help a cancer survivor in their journey back to health.

In a recent survey 25% of our members said they would donate if asked. Expect to see us making a big push through June 16th when the campaign ends.

Please, help us. Donate what you can. If you can’t donate, who do you know that can? And, if you don’t want to ask them to donate, just pass along their information to us. We will be happy to connect with them and ask. If you don’t know someone, tell us how the Y has impacted you. Your story could compel someone else to give.
PICKLE BALL

Let’s Play Ball!!

Beginning Tuesday, June 13 and Wednesday, June 14 we will be holding Pickle Ball demonstrations. If you wanted to learn more about this fun, family-oriented sport, now is the time to join in, learn something new and become part of the 2 million strong Pickle-Ball community.

Pickle Ball started back in 1965 and has grown in popularity over the years. Today, Pickle Ball is played all over the world in community groups, PE classes, YMCA, retirement communities and more. Regional and national championship games are even televised on major sports channels.

Come and join us at one of the days/times listed below to learn more and have some fun. Official Pickle-Ball rules will be available at the Welcome Center and at the demo times. Games normally last 10—30 minutes and can be played singles, doubles or mixed doubles.

**Tue., June 13-27 — 11:45 am**

**Wed., June 14-28 — 12:00 pm**

Pickle-Ball is suitable for all fitness levels. Please wear comfortable, rubber soled shoes and appropriate exercise clothes. Don’t forget your water!

Questions? Please contact Gwen Redmond, 943-0444, ext 50410 or gredmond@gpymca.org

SUMMER CAMP STARTS JUNE 26TH

Starting Monday June 26th, our building will transform into all things summer camp. While we do as much as we can to limit the impact on membership, lets face it, when school is out, our building looks different. Here is what you can expect:

On rainy, stormy days, we may need to bring kids inside. This may limit the use of the basketball courts and the aerobics studio.

The parking lot is going to be busy between 4:30 and 5:45 when the majority of our 120 campers are getting picked up. Be patient and leave yourself a little extra time to find a parking spot. Consider arriving 10 minutes earlier than you normally would to be sure you have time to get the spot you want in your class. The key to a great workout is to be in a good mindset.

SUMMER HOURS

Starting in June, the Y will be closing at 5:30 pm on Sunday. In the past our Y has closed at 2pm so this change will extend your opportunity to get your workout in. We will be closed on the 4th of July, however the Kent County Y will be open from 6am-12pm if you’d like to keep up your routine.

MEMBER GET MEMBER CAMPAIGN

Did you know that when you refer a friend to the Y, you not only have a stronger support system to encourage you to reach your goals, you also receive Y-BUCKS!

Y-BUCKS can be used toward membership, programs like swim lessons and sports leagues, birthday parties and more! There is no limit to the amount of friends you can refer and the best part is that Y-BUCKS can be used immediately! No waiting period required. Make sure your friends list you as a referral on their membership application when they sign up. The next time you visit the facility, you can pick-up and even redeem your Y-BUCKS.

This new program launched May 1st and we love seeing members redeeming Y-BUCKS for the programs and services they use here at the Y. It’s our way of saying THANK YOU for your continued membership!
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I wanted to start a monthly newsletter because so often people say to me, some members don’t even know who you are.” While that is true, I also try to spread myself out as much as possible. Perhaps you have seen me around, you just didn’t realize who I was. This newsletter is an opportunity for me to communicate directly with our members and to hopefully have more of a presence for those that I am missing. This is also a great way for me to share information all at once, instead of trying to track down small pockets of people.

Each month I hope to share projects and improvements that members can expect. We would also like to take the opportunity to highlight different staff, members and volunteers. I only found it fitting to use our first issue of this monthly installment to highlight Grace and Jimmy. The two of them have been all things to the Y and we appreciate them so much!

SPORTS PROGRAM CHANGE

Starting July 1st, the Cranston Y will be offering certain sports programs as part of your family membership benefits. While leagues and on going progressive classes aren’t included, classes like “Sports Medley,” and “Instructional Soccer” will be included. The easiest way to determine if a sports class is included with your family membership is to look at how long the class runs. If a class is 8 weeks, and you must re-register at the end of the 8 weeks, it will be included in your membership. If the class meets longer than 8 weeks or you pay monthly to participate, the class will still have a fee.

The purpose of the new initiative is to add value to our Family/One Parent membership categories. We are also looking to increase the number of participants in our classes. The initiative will run through the end of the year, at which point we will review numbers to determine success.

If you have any questions or would like info on specific programs, please contact Matt Church at mchurch@gpymca.org or 401-943-0444 ex. 50409.

PARKING ON JULY 3RD

On Monday July 3rd, starting at 2pm, the main portion of our parking lot will be closed. The City of Cranston is hosting a band competition and asked if they could use our lot for bus and trailer parking for the bands that will be coming in. We aren’t open Tuesday the 4th, so the lot closure will only affect us from 2pm-10pm on Monday July 3rd. Please plan accordingly and have some extra patience. The event is a great family activity and we encourage all of our members to come out and support this community event.

Pictures Above: On the left is long time member Frank Mancini, on the right Executive Director, Cory Guglietti.