

COLONIA TIMES

SPECIAL EDITION
April 29, 2006



COLONIA COUNTRY CLUB IS HONORED TO WELCOME THE PRODIGAL FOUNDATION AND ITS 235 DISTINGUISHED GUESTS THIS EVENING

"Reaching out to children whose lives have been adversely affected by cancer"

GEORGE YUHASZ LEADS PRODIGAL FOUNDATION'S FIGHT AGAINST CHILDREN WITH CANCER

"It was the worst experience of my life" said George Yuhasz in 1999, "I couldn't believe it."

He had just been diagnosed with a massive carcinoma on the pancreas and told he had less than one month to live .

The special-education teacher at Middlesex County Vocational and Technical

High School's East Brunswick campus was devastated, but not ready to give up.

"I traveled around from hospital to hospital hoping for a miracle," he said. "I finally got one."

In January of 2000, Yuhasz checked into Johns Hopkins University Hospital, where Dr. Kurtis Campbell removed the mass.

"It was found to be



George Yuhasz, Colonia resident, is founder and President of the Prodigal Foundation, a nonprofit organization

non-cancerous," he said. "I was given a clean bill of health.

During his treatment, Yuhasz met with other cancer patients, encouraging him to do something to help others struggling with the dread disease.

The majority of this item taken from *The Home News*, Feb. 22, 2001 written by Susan Loyer.

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An organization, born of adversity and sustained through the charity of good people, convened Saturday, April 29, 2006, to honor ten young people in their midst with its annual Scholarship Award Banquet.

PRODIGAL FOUNDATION

Officers

George Yuhasz, President
Rose Siecinski, Vice President
Robert Zavistoski, First Vice President
Lisa Podsiadlik, Secretary/
Treasurer

Trustees

Dawn Lystad
John Vraric
Betty Providenti
Arthur Lee Warren
Thomas Drew

Honorary Trustees

James J. Elek
Senator Joseph J. Vitale-
19th District

Chaplain

Reverend Neva Lawson

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YUHASZ FROM ONE

With the help of friends and other professionals who supported him through his ordeal, the Prodigal Foundation was created.

PRODIGAL'S MISSION AND GOALS

- To establish scholarships for high school seniors who have had their life adversely affected by cancer.
- To help children with cancer who have specific disabilities that affect their daily living experience.
- Work closely with established hospitals and treatment centers in meeting their demands or particular equipment and materials that will benefit children with cancer.
- A continued "holiday bear" drive that will provide children with joy during Christmas season.
- To attempt to meet specific needs requested by children with cancer who are in need.
- To be willing to gain insights of the various effects that children with cancer must cope with and provide means to alleviate these critical issues and concerns.
- To expand our foundation to reach out effectively to children with cancer and to improve the quality of life in some way, shape or manner.



George with (left) daughter Victoria and (right) wife Linda at their Colonia, NJ home. Victoria volunteers and Linda ran tonight's dinner.

COLONIA PRESIDENT WELCOMES PRODIGAL FOUNDATION GUESTS



John Petillo, the 48th President of Colonia Country Club welcomed the 235 guests of the Prodigal Foundation on Saturday, April 29 and extolled the work of George Yuhasz and his staff for "fighting in what he believes in.

"I'm proud to say I know George and Colonia Country Club is proud to have him as a member.

"It is young people like George who make this country the great place it is, a place where helping others is standard procedure not a forced drudgery. God Bless You"

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ORGANIZATION FROM ONE

Legal Counsel
John Kwasnik, Esq.

Financial Consultants

Wilkin & Guttenplan P.C.



Mayor Pelzman



Doctor Simpson



Freeholder Polos

Also being honored this evening with Community Service Awards are:

Woodbridge Mayor Frank Pelzman, a dedicated elected official who strives to insure a safe, healthy and prosperous environment for the families he so proudly represents;

Dr. Alec Simpson, a well respected and noted physician from John F. Kennedy Medical Center and;

James Polos, Middlesex County Freeholder, who serves on the Middlesex County Health Commission and serves as a catalyst in community affairs.

SOME SIGNIFICANT FACTS AND PROGRAMS BROUGHT BY THE PRODIGAL FOUNDATION; HERE'S WHERE YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

GEORGE YUHASZ IN BRIEF

- Currently with Middlesex County Vocational Technical School Systems, East Brunswick in Central Office
- Established first Cub Scout Pack #784 in County introducing Handicapped Scouting
- Past Festival of Hand in Hand, aiding the mentally Challenged
- Soccer Coach of Year for Gold Division Greater Middlesex County Conference 1987, 1988 and 1990
- Coached 1990 Vo-Tech State Championship team
- 1993 Founder and President of F.A.T.H.E.R.S.
- 1992 selection in Who's Who among America's Educators
- An Elder for the First Hungarian Reformed Church of Carteret.
- Past President Colonia Democratic Club
- Founder-President of R.E.A.C.H.
- Elected Middlesex County Committee person, 5th-11th District
- President Middlesex Hungarian Democratic Org.
- Member Mayor's Advisory Committee for Woodbridge Township
- Selected to NJ Coaches Hall of Fame
- Graduated Columbia University; MA-ED from its Teachers College and has Doctoral status



Some of the fortunate young people who have been awarded scholarships from the Prodigal Foundation. This year ten new youngsters were honored, bringing to 120 the number who have benefited from the program since inception.

STARTLING STATS

Cancer strikes one of every two males and one of every three females in the course of a lifetime.

Cancer strikes one of every two sons, brothers, fathers, husbands, uncles and grandfathers and one of every three daughters, sisters, mothers, wives, aunts and grandmothers.

DREAMS DO COME TRUE

This allows you to sponsor a particular request or wish of a child or family member. Examples are: tickets to a particular show, sporting event, or musical performance, trips to a particular destination, a wanted toy, or even a meal at a selected restaurant to provide happiness to a particular child

PROJECT TEDDY



Allow an individual to purchase a "Project Teddy" bear for a child (either a child they know a child on our wish list) who has been affected by cancer.

THE COLONIA TIMES

A publication for and by Colonia Country Club members

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Learn more at: WWW.PRODIGALFOUNDATION.COM
OR CALL: 732-382-4200