

WINTER 2011



## 2011 WALK-IN REGISTRATION

Media Community Center  
Saturday, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>  
9 a.m. - noon  
Monday, Jan. 24

6 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
Saturday, Jan. 29

Noon – 3 p.m.  
Monday, Jan. 31

6 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
No player will be  
turned away because  
of financial hardship.  
Contact us.

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anniversary  
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# MEDIA LITTLE LEAGUE **Illustrated**



## 60 YEARS OF GREAT MEMORIES

By JOHN DALY  
MEDIA LITTLE LEAGUE PRESIDENT

Since 1951, Media Little League has provided the joys and benefits of Little League baseball to thousands of kids and their families in the Media community. This season, the league will be celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Sixty years of memories, built on the foundation that Media Little League is more than bats, gloves and baseballs. It is a leadership-training program that introduces the virtues of character, courage and loyalty. Little League teaches kids the rewards of teamwork, a respect for authority and the self-

discipline that will enable the youth of today to become the leaders of tomorrow.

The league's ability to thrive relies on the continued support of its members. The core of this support is volunteer participation. Unlike many other youth organizations, Media Little League is an all-volunteer organization. We need coaches to lead our more than 40 teams, umpires to work more than 300 games, folks to flip hamburgers in the snack bar, and volunteers to get the fields ready each spring. By the end of the season, virtually every parent has volunteered his or her time. We think it's the right formula as it keeps registration fees reasonable, creates a sense of community

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## 60 YEARS OF GREAT MEMORIES

and provides a great example for our kids.

One major improvement to the complex for the upcoming season is the expansion of the snack bar roof. This will improve the snack bar experience and the safety of our players and their families. As we all know, field maintenance and complex improvements require funding. We have been fortunate over the years to benefit from the support of members. Your support comes in many ways, but it is the support of our largest fundraiser, the Bat-A-Thon® that makes the greatest difference.

Besides allowing us to re-invest in the complex every year, it allows us to provide the best baseball experience possible. For this continued support, I thank you.

I also want to again extend congratulations to our 2010 postseason tournament teams, but especially to our 9/10 and 11/12

old district teams, each of which won district and sectional titles. This is a terrific accomplishment by the players, coaches and parents.

I would like to wish everyone a fun and successful season. If you would like to share a thought or an idea that will make our league better, please seek me out at the complex. I would love to hear your thoughts and ideas and don't forget to come out and volunteer your time.

Respectfully,

*John Daly*



### KEY DATES FOR 2011

#### **SATURDAY, FEB. 5**

Evaluations for 8-, 11- and 12-year-olds at Springton Lake Middle School  
8 year olds: 11 a.m.--12:30  
11 year olds (not in the Major Leagues): 12:45--2  
12 year olds (not in the Major Leagues): 2:15--3:30

#### **SATURDAY FEB. 12**

Evaluations for 9- and 10-year-olds at Springton Lake  
10 year olds: 11 a.m.--12:30  
9 year olds: 12:45--2  
10- to 12-year olds: 2:15--3:30

#### **THURSDAY FEB. 24**

Make-up evaluations for 8- to 12-year-olds at Springton Lake  
All players: 6 -- 7:30 p.m.

#### **SATURDAY MARCH 5**

Final Evaluation for all eligible Major League players not assigned to teams: 10 a.m. -- 2 p.m.

#### **SUN, TUES & THURS, MARCH 6, 8, 10**

Players selected to teams for each League

#### **SATURDAY MARCH 12**

Equipment Distribution and Practices Start (Majors; American; National)

#### **SATURDAY MARCH 26**

Field Day at 9:00 AM  
(Parents expected to help prepare Fields)  
NO PRACTICES ALLOWED

MLL 60th Anniversary Beef n Beer

#### **SUNDAY MARCH 27**

Field Day No. 2: 10:00 A.M.

#### **WED, FRI, SAT MARCH 30, APRIL 1 & 2**

Picture Days

#### **MONDAY APRIL 4**

Season Starts for All Leagues

#### **SATURDAY APRIL 16**

Opening Day Ceremonies

#### **WEEK OF APRIL 18<sup>TH</sup>**

Public Schools are closed

#### **SATURDAY MAY 14**

Bat-A-Thon (this years major fundraiser)

#### **FRIDAY, JUNE 3**

Regular Season Ends

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 4**

Playoffs Start: Majors, American, National and Continental leagues

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 18**

Championship Day, Closing Ceremonies



## IS YOUR BAT LEGAL?

Citing safety concerns, Little League International banned the use of composite bats in all levels of Little League in 2011.

At present, no composite bats for any Little League division have received a waiver. If and when any models do, Little League will inform leagues of the decision.

“Our intent was to provide local league constituents clear direction regarding composite bats,” said Patrick W. Wilson, vice president of operations at Little League International. “There is a process through which manufacturers can submit individual models for a possible waiver.”

The maximum performance standard for non-wood bats in the divisions for 12-year-olds and below is a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.15. The research found that composite bats, while they may meet the standard when new,



can exceed that standard after a break-in process.

We will continue to update our website ([medialittleleague.net](http://medialittleleague.net)) in the event Little League allows certain composite bat models. Your coach will provide clear direction as you begin practices.

## HELP MEDIA LITTLE LEAGUE CELEBRATE 60 YEARS

Save the date:  
**SATURDAY,  
MARCH 26**

7:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. at  
St. Mary Magdalen, 2400  
North Providence Road

**Great food, drink,  
auctions, prizes and  
much more**

Tickets will be available  
at registration or from  
your child's manager.

## SNACK BAR PAVILION EXPANSION

This fall the MLL Board of Directors approved a major upgrade to the snack bar. The existing pavilion that is attached to the clubhouse will be removed and replaced with a new larger structure.

The new structure will be the same width as the existing one but will be expanded to four times the depth. The existing structure is approximately 28 feet wide by 12 feet deep. The new pavilion will be 28 feet wide by 48 feet deep. The new

pavilion will look very much like the existing one but larger.

This new structure will provide a larger shaded area for families to enjoy their favorite snack bar items. We will enlarge the concrete area under this new pavilion and we will install additional picnic tables.

The larger pavilion will shield more people from those occasional foul balls that exit the Major League field. Expect fewer interruptions from people yelling “heads up” or “look out.”

It will improve the overall safety at the facility.

How many of us have been at the complex when a rainstorm popped up? The old pavilion just could not keep very many people dry. This new pavilion will provide a much larger area to get out of the rain.

We expect to apply for a building permit soon. We hope to start construction as soon as the weather breaks. Construction will occur during the early part of the upcoming season.



9/10-YEAR-OLD DISTRICT TEAM  
PENNSYLVANIA SECTION 8 CHAMPION

## Team catches fire after hiccup



Players:  
Patrick O'Kane,  
Sam Brown,  
Max Daugherty,  
Devon Laut,  
Eric McLaughlin,  
Danny Maguire,  
Chris Rosini,  
Jack Kichula,  
Xandy Hammitt,  
J.T. Osher,  
Ryan Morris.

Manager:  
Dan Maguire

Coaches:  
Ed Laut  
Pete O'Kane  
Dana Daugherty.

The 9-10 District team enjoyed a successful summer, advancing to the Pennsylvania State finals. The tournament season started off with a dud and it took some hard work from a great group of boys who just didn't know how to quit.

The District 19 tournament began with Media being shocked at home by Ridley, 14-4, in 4 innings. The boys then had a long road to travel to reach their goal of winning the double elimination District 19 crown. Over the next eight days, they achieved the improbable, winning seven games, outscoring its opposition, 64-20. The wins leading up to the crown included a walk-off hit in the

bottom of the sixth against Aston-Middletown, a come-from-behind victory over Newtown-Edgemont, a redeeming 14-2 win against Ridley, then two victories over South Marple in the final to claim the District 19 crown.

Next would be the Section 8 Tournament. Media stayed in the winner's bracket throughout. In the championship, Morrisville avenged an earlier round loss to Media and took the first game, but the Media boys came storming back the next day, beating Morrisville 13-5 to capture the title and earn the right to travel to Indiana, Pa., to represent Section 8 in the State Championship tournament.

The team did not know what to expect, but they did not disappoint. Tough play, good defense and great games were the norm. They even pulled off a fly out-tag out-force out triple play in pool play.

Because of their hustle, attitude, respect, and never-quit attitude, they became the "adopted" favorites by the host Indiana Little League, and by each team that they eliminated. Although they fell to eventual state champs, Warwick, they did an outstanding job representing Media Little League, finishing second in the East, and third in the State.

Congratulations on a successful run boys!



## 11/12-YEAR-OLD DISTRICT TEAM WINS PENNSYLVANIA SECTION Carrying on the Media Tradition

Recent success of Media Little League district teams has brought high expectations. The expectations for the 2010 11/12 team had never been greater.

The majority of the players had caught lightning in a bottle, winning the 2008 Pennsylvania State Championship as 10s. A few “big bats and arms” raised the stakes immensely.

The team opened District 19 play by beating South Marple, 18-3. It quickly became apparent MLL’s competition would come from Delaware Valley and flamethrower Joe Dumond. The winners bracket final pitted MLL “ace” Vinny Carter and Dumond in a classic. Anthony Martinelli’s hot bat (3 for 3) and a 2-run homer from Brian Snow led Media into the championship with a 10-3 win. DelVal fought its way back to the championship. This time, Media doused DelVal’s flamethrower, pounding out 18 runs. The attack was led by Alex Burman’s 3 hits, including a homer and 5 RBI, and Stevie Furman’s 5 RBI and walk-off homer. Furman also pitched an 85-pitch complete game. The win raised the fourth District flag over Rotary field at Media in the last five years.

“Carter’s Homer Gets Media Started” touted the headline as Media opened Section 8 in Pottstown with a 6-2 win over



Players: Vinny Carter, Stevie Furman, Brian Snow, Jake Glavin, Stevie Moppert, Alex Burman, Corey Ziring, Anthony Martinelli, James McConnon, Nick Newman. Manager: Ed Snow. Coaches: Tom Furman, Tony Antonello, Anthony Martinelli, Marty Burman.

Bensalem. “It’s a Snowstorm as Media Rolls.” The headline said it all. Brian Snow erupted for 7 RBI included a grand slam, as Media rolled, 11-1, over Lower Perkiomen on a 67-pitch effort by Furman. After a surprising setback to Lower Perkiomen forced a must-win final. Carter threw a gem of a one-hitter with 13 strikeouts. James “Mac” McConnon smashed three-run homer and Nick Newman hit a three-run shot that may still be traveling over Pottstown. A 9-0 statement win and a ticket to Morrisville and Eastern States.

It’s important to win the first game of any tournament. That’s why Media Manager Ed Snow stayed with Furman in a close, exciting win over Kingston, 4-1, in a 14-strikeout 85-pitch effort. But Furman was out of pitches for the tournament. After a late-

inning loss to Glenmoore, Media needed to beat Council Rock-Newtown to stay alive. Pitcher Carter ran out of pitches due to a rainout. The next day, Big Jake Glavin finished off CR-Newtown, 3-0. Thanks to Kingston, Media found itself in the title game. But CR-Newtown took advantage of the Media’s pitch count issues and ended Media’s exciting run.

Although the boys fell short of capturing the state title, they should be commended for their complete team effort, including key contributions from Stevie Moppert and Corey Ziring. Among the best of the recent Media teams, this group represented MLL well and created Little League memories for all involved. Congratulations to the boys for an exciting and successful summer campaign.



## 11-YEAR-OLD DISTRICT TEAM



Media's 11-year-olds had a successful postseason, beating Aston-Middletown in the title game of their own tournament before falling to the same team in the District title game.

Players: Ethan Broadhurst, Aaron Brown, Michael Chang, Mark Dombroski, Sam Freedman, David Moore, Manny Ruffin, Seamus Scanlon, Vince Sposato, Kyle Virbitsky. Manager: Phil Freedman. Coaches: Vince Sposato, Darryl Ruffin, Bill Virbitsky.

## 7-YEAR-OLD ALL STARS



Players: Liam McDevitt, Brian MacCurtain, Blake Martin, Nick Harrsch, Jake Dougherty, Tyler Boyd, Eamon Scanlon, Andrew Kantner, Sam Burman, Connor Kraycik, Matt Pennoni. Manager: Tom Scanlon. Coaches: Mike Boyd, Trevor Kraycik

## 8-YEAR-OLD ALL STARS



The 8 year olds played three postseason tournaments, finishing second at Chichester, third at Newtown-Edgemont and second at Drexel Hill.

Players: Kevin Smith, Tommy Bradley, Brian Virbitsky, Aiden Carroll, Danny McLoughlin, Ethan Emery, Tommy Carroll, Leo Burman, John Francis, Brian Gunn, Max Brown, Andrew Pak. Manager: Dave Smith. Coaches: Tom Bradley, Bill Virbitsky, Bryan Carroll, Ed McLoughlin.



Media Little League fields, circa 1951. If you would like to purchase a framed picture of this original photo, please contact Media Little League Publicity Director Jerry Baber at [jbaber@fabian-baber.com](mailto:jbaber@fabian-baber.com).

## A LEGACY OF FAIR PLAY AND COMMUNITY

Back in 1951, Harry Truman was president, the Korean War had broken out and the New York Giants' Bobby Thomson was about to hit "the shot heard 'round the world" off Ralph Branca of the Brooklyn Dodgers.

A few miles to the south, volunteers in Media came together to create our Little League charter, and 60 years later the traditions and rituals of this most unique sport continue to bring families and our community together. Much has changed – the location of the fields, and metal bats instead of wood – but the game itself, hot dogs and a safe environment for families remain.

On Oct. 22, 1953, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Media Little League Banquet was held at Media High

School, now Media Elementary School. Some of the words written in the program that evening:

*"Little League Baseball is designed for the local community. It must never be commercialized. It is completely amateur and non-profit. Its first objective is for the good of the boys who play on Little League regular or farm teams. While good ball players may and will come out of the ranks of Little Leaguers, this is no part of the main objective. It is to build good citizens and good Americans."*

*"In Little League each boy learns some of the lessons of fair play, of discipline, of team work. He finds that the other boy, regardless of race, creed, or color, is a pretty nice guy after all, and*

*this kind of thinking spreads from the boys, to their families and thus to the communities. Persons who ordinarily would have little in common meet in the bleachers and become acquainted."*

The legacy of those early volunteers challenges those of us today to continue building a strong foundation for future.

In 2051, many of us will be long gone, but the crack of the bat, the call from the umpire and the cheers from the players will echo on and keep our spirits warm with the knowledge that a community carries forth this wonderful tradition. May the sun always rise and shine upon our Media Little League Family.

# 2010 MEDIA LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

## MAJORS

### Baker Printing

Alex Burman  
Joey Cimino  
Jake Glavin  
James Hennelly  
Michael Kramer  
Jules Marmer  
James McGowan  
Emmanuel Ruffin  
Jaron Teegen-Case  
Joshua Troilo  
Kyle Virbitsky  
Devlin Ward

Bill Virbitsky, manager  
Tony Antonello, coach  
Marty Burman, coach

Maureen Ward, tp  
Carol McGowan, bc

## AMERICAN

### Senior Care

Daniel Breslin  
Michael Castaldi  
Jacob Grady  
Teva Hollinger  
Alexander Jacobs  
Drew Jacobs  
Jack Kichula  
Naz Lennon  
Devon Moore  
Nicholas Palermo  
Frederick Potts  
Billy Sides

Tim Grady, Manager  
Daniel Breslin, coach  
David Jacobs, coach

Janelle Moore, tp  
Kathy Kichula, bc

## NATIONAL

### Hillyard DMD Rockies

Luke Bauwens  
Dylan Bittle  
Tommy Bradley  
Zachary Burgess  
Jackson DiCecco  
Nathan Furman  
Aaron Kuhn  
Graham Misko  
Ethan Nagorsky  
Sean Prior  
Cameron Ross  
Jamie Simpson  
Malcolm Williams

Del Bittle, manager  
Thomas Bradley, coach  
Thomas Furman, coach

Kristin Bittle, tp  
Theresa Williams, bc

## CONTINENTAL

### Sposato Homes Angels

Shane Blose  
Alexander Borja  
Jake Dougherty  
Gavin Dreher  
Adrian Kohler  
Connor Kraycik  
Dylan Mitchell  
Justin Potts  
Kira Sbandi Broomall  
Eamon Scanlon  
Carson Steinbach  
Patrick Stroup

Tom Scanlon, manager  
Trevor Kraycik, coach  
Stephen Strout, coach

Susan Scanlon, tp  
Susan Scanlon, bc