The Hartford Hurricanes Make History By Becoming The First Division 1 Pop Warner Team

The Hartford Hurricanes hosted their 3rd annual Pop Warner Banquet. The banquet was held at the State Capitol in the legislative building. This has been the first youth football banquet held in the State Legislative building and it was “the most successful banquet to date for the Hurricanes’ Coach Ron ‘Boos,’ Morreale stated. “We are constantly looking to set ourselves apart from all the other youth organizations in the City of Hartford. It is our goal for the youth we service to look for new experiences for them and for ourselves as an organization.” President Phil Bryant stated. This venue was a start with the support we got from the legislative management team, Senator Coleman’s appreciation certificates and the Proclamation from the Governor’s Office.

The Hurricanes are the Only Pop Warner Team in the City of Hartford and the First Division 1 Pop Warner team from the state capital. Thanks to State Representative Doug McCrory many of our kids and our parents, for the first time, were able to visit the House of Representatives chambers (see picture attached). The Hurricanes assembled in the House of Representatives for a great ground breaking picture where all the youths and parents participated in. “There are so many challenges our youths are faced with on a day to day basis here in the city that we think these young men and women for everything they gave our kids on a volunteer basis. What they do at times seem to go unnoticed but we want the Hartford Hurricanes to know we, the Parents appreciate them very much," Mrs. Williams stated.

The Hurricanes Youths have started an effort to raise $1 million dollars to better the lives and experiences for the youths in the city of Hartford. Aunt Marie Brown (Huston Hurricanes Treasurer) stated. “This is an effort the city of Hartford youths asked us as an organization to take on and it’s not only our goal but our duty to let the children know that we hear you and we are with you.”

The Hartford Hurricanes will be holding it’s 2012 signups within 1 month starting online at www.hartfordhurricanes.org. Interested Parents and youths are asked to visit the site or call 860-983-7012. Any interested companies that would like to sponsor, donate or help with the Turf Run Project or would like more info please call 860-381-6008 and ask for Phil Bryant.

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Homeless service providers, advocates and friends of the cause for displaced families and individuals gathered at the Charter Oak Cultural Center in Hartford on Dec. 21 for a service commemorating National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day.

HARTFORD—To commemorate the lives of homeless people who died in Hartford during the past year, individuals and organizations from the local community held a memorial service on December 21 at the Charter Oak Cultural Center in Hartford. The names of all homeless persons who died in 2010 and 2011 were read aloud voluntarily by advocates, friends and community leaders. This event and others held around the state coincide with National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day, which is held on December 21st—the first day of Winter and the longest night of the year. The Hartford service sought to bring attention to the need for more resources for permanent supportive housing for the homeless population who do not have adequate access to housing and services.

Before the official remarks, those in attendance walked through a photo gallery featuring stirring images of the homeless living conditions in and around Hartford. Leaders who addressed the crowd included Rabbi Donna Berman; Larry Deutsch, Hartford City Council; Carol Walter from the CT Coalition to End Homelessness and Matt Morgan from Journey Home; Harry Mitchell, a friend of two recently-deceased homeless persons, delivered elegies.

Councilman Deutsch issued a proclamation from the City of Hartford to ensure the day to recognize yearly as National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day. He called on the speakers to continue their work on behalf of the marginalized homeless population.

“We must stay strong in the face of discrimination of all kinds, which includes the displaced or homeless individuals and families that don’t have the public voice they deserve," Deutsch said.

Jose Vega from Community Renewal Team followed by other advocates read testimonial from anonymous homeless individuals which described the hard life lived on the streets.

"People don’t know I exist and when they do notice, I’m seen as a problem, and not a person,” read one of the 10 or so separate testimonials.

A procession from the Charter Oak Cultural Center to the Ancient Burying Ground near to Center Church in Hartford, was postponed due to the rain, but some supporters still made the walk to pay their respects.

José Vega, Community Renewal Team’s McKinney Shelter director, reads an anonymous testimonial from a homeless individual in Hartford at the National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day service at the Charter Oak Cultural Center Dec. 21 to supporters and others close to the cause of homeless or displaced individuals and families.

Community Renewal Team, Inc. is the designated Community Action Agency for Middlesex and Hartford Counties and is the largest nonprofit provider of human services in Connecticut. The agency’s mission is “Preparing Our Community to Meet Life’s Challenges. The mission is achieved each day by helping people and families become self-sufficient while making sure basic needs are met. CRT’s programs include Head Start, Meals on Wheels, energy assistance, supportive housing and shelters, and many others, serving people in more than 80 cities and towns in both our core catchment area and throughout Connecticut. www.crtct.org

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