The Homefield Association Celebrates 85 Years

The Homefield Association was established in 1928 to promote the use of Nepperhan Avenue at Odell. It was originally known as the Odell Avenue Neighborhood Association. The street was a welcome addition to the tiny village of Yonkers. This week is the Homefield Association’s 85th anniversary. The homefield Association’s annual banquet was held on Thursday, November 28, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Yonkers. The event featured a dinner and a program of speakers and entertainment. The Homefield Association is dedicated to the preservation of the neighborhood’s history and culture and to the promotion of community events and activities. The Association invites all members of the community to join in their activities and events.
Holiday Dance Camp
For Yonkers Youth

Dance Camp is an exciting dance experience that engages kids in a creative process by letting them express their unique talents, and challenging campers to create, produce and perform a dance concert with choreography from professional Rising Stars and Guest NYC faculty. Professional teaching artists take kids through classes in ballet, jazz, theater dance, hip hop, lyrical and ballet bar dance. Kids are taught dance classes, as well, using improvisation techniques, voice projection, characterization, movement and dialogue development – all of which culminates in a final production to be enjoyed by family and friends on the final evening of camp.

Camp is for children ages 7 to 12 and runs at Rising Stars PAC Studios, 600 N. Broadway, at 3 p.m., at Saunders High School, 183 Palmer Road, Yonkers. The cost is $199 for the four-day week family and friends on the final evening of camp.

For more information, call 914-63-7901 or visit www.risingstarspac.net.

Donations Sought for County’s Annual Holiday Gift Drive

It’s that time of year again – when Westchester County asks the public and local businesses to open their hearts and make donations to help Westchester children during the holiday season.

This is the 10th year of the Westchester County Holiday Gift Drive, which provides presents to children in the care of the Department of Social Services and to children living in homeless shelters with their families awaiting permanent housing. Last year, the program brought holiday gifts to about 650 foster children.

Eight students from Eastchester High School have already done their part, raising $3,000 in gift cards for the children.

County Executive Robert Astorino thanked the students, saying: “It’s a Hallmark style of Hudson Vagabond Puppets, who perform nationwide in concert halls, theaters, performing arts centers and even symphony orchestras. Then join in for a running sing-along as The New York Holiday Choristers – a group of amazing and talented singers from all areas of music – entertain guests and lead them in a “Sounds of the Season” concert that will surely put everyone in the holiday spirit.

This holiday program, presented by the University Performing Arts Council, is made possible through Arts Westchester with funds from Weehawken Township and Westchester County Cultural Initiative, in cooperation with the City of Yonkers, Mayor Mike Spano, and the Yonkers Park Department. For information, call 914-995-3531.

Parents can rest assured this holiday, school break that children enrolled in the Rising Stars Dance Camp will be taking part in a healthy and creative experience, and not sitting in front of the television.

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Holiday Music and Puppet Show at Saunders H.S.

Join Santa and friends as Untermeyer Performing Arts Council presents an afternoon of fun for the whole family, featuring a puppet show extravaganza and holiday concert, Saturday, Dec. 14 at 3 p.m., at Saunders High School, 143 Palmer Road, Yonkers. Admission is free.

Be treated to Hans Christian Andersen’s classic “Snow Queen,” as well as a Holiday Vagabond Puppet, who tells the beloved story of two friends, a journey to a palace in a frozen land, and the many characters and adventures encountered along the way.

The tale unfolds through enormous colorful and entertaining puppets wearing their magic as puppets borrow from the traditional Japanese Bunraku-style of puppetry by becoming students of the giant puppets they bring to life.

The beloved tale of Christmas read by four die-hard members of the Yonkers Glee Club – with costumes! Plus ‘Twas the Night Before Christmas, with live oak, live pine, and the clink of Marley’s silver sleigh bells.

The program is free with museum admission and seating is limited to 40, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Pasta Chef Rosamaria Ferrone, owner of Cafe in a Cup NY from Yonkers, will decor- rate a holiday cake with Victorian patterns during two Dec. 19 workshops, at 2 and 3 p.m. Adults and children can enjoy a 15-minute demonstration, then children can decorate a separate cake to take home. At 4 p.m. there will be a raffle for free cake decorating materials.

This program is for ages 7 and older, accom- panyed by an adult. The cost is $5 for children each, or a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, call 914-662-4550.

The Yonkers Male Glee Club will present “An Afternoon of Beautiful Music” on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 p.m., at the Yonkers Public Li- brary, Grinnell Wing Library, 150 Central Park Ave. Tickets are available by calling 914-963-4550, or at the door. For more information, call 914-662-4550.

Thank you in advance for your immediate response.

Respectfully,
Hon. Christopher A. Johnson
County Legislator
Budget Chairman

Legislator Spreckman Hosts Annual Holiday Senior Show

In a letter to Mayor Mike Spano, Council- man Bernice Spreckman of Yonkers, wishes Mayor Spano a “Merry Christmas!”

In her letter dated June 3, 2013, I stated the need for all parties to come together to discuss concerns about the upcoming budget cycle as soon as possible. In the past we have waited too long to begin these conversations, resulting in us struggling to meet the status quo of $1.2 billion.

As you know, the governor is in the early stages of crafting his annual budget. I believe that we need to start these conversations as soon as possible.

I would also like to request the most re- cent budget quarterly report, as requested by the Yonkers City Council, and the Commissions shall render to the City Council, and at such time as the mayor or the City Council may direct, a detailed report on the financial condition of the city.

I urge you to advance your investigations.

Respectfully,
Hon. Christopher A. Johnson
County Legislator
Budget Chairman

Councilwoman Johnson Requests Budget Info. From Mayor

The League of Women Voters of Westches- ter, is in its 85th year of providing public service and advocacy for citizens. As you know, the governor is in the early stages of crafting his annual budget. I believe that we need to start these conversations as soon as possible.

The League supports the recommendation made by the Charter Revision Commission that the county’s fiscal year be changed from the calendar year ending June 30, as well as five other budget-related recommenda- tions made by the Commission.


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The Yonkers Male Glee Club, conducted by Robert Sonnenberg, is in its 85th year of provid- ing music to the city of Yonkers.

This program is supported by the Friends of the Yonkers Public Library. For information, or direction call, 914-337-1500.

The third Prentice Police Community Council Meet

The Prentice Police Community Council will hold its regular monthly meeting Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m., at the Chats Community Center, 435 Rosedale Ave.

The meeting will include updates on the Sunshine Chili Cook-off, and American Classics.

“An Afternoon of Beautiful Music” features

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Adopt Gus Today!

For more information and to view Gus, visit www.Homefield.org.

[Image of Gus the dog]

The Homefield

Continued from Page 1

These hardy souls, in 1928, banded together and formed the Homefield Association of Yonkers. Homefield, at the time, was a small rural farming community. As a result of the war and its aftermath, the demand for central heating and modernization of the home grew.

The Association, through the efforts of Austin Lane and the use of local funds, established the organization in May 1938.

The first step was the purchase of the building on Austin Avenue and the establishment of a satellite office for use by the Association. The office was used for meeting purposes and for the use of the veterans of the Ninth Ward. The Association also purchased the property of Austin Avenue and voiced community concerns to the City of Yonkers.

In addition, it accommodates private rental inspections, and installation needs!

The 90s brought the Housing Desegrega-
tion Case and the mention of the Homefield House as a satellite office for people to pay their taxes. At the time, the Homefield House had a memorial monument on the property for all the veterans of the Ninth Ward.

The Homefield House is the meeting place for the Association, which has been very involved in the community over the years. It has been a potent voice in the community for all the veterans of the Ninth Ward.
The mission of the program is to col-
lege education and provide a message of
citizens. It provides a foundation for students
to become responsible, productive, patriotic
youth of their communities.

This year’s Toys for Tots event will be
alysis of this toy drive so that they can, especially during the holidays.”

Burt’s generosity, commitment and care toward those in need, along with the selfless benefit of sharing this experience with his son, provide him with a valuable life lesson about the joy of gift-giving—fortuitous, no doubt—on this single day all through the year, and just because it is a holiday, that doesn’t mean he should be satisfied and want for more. The boys are fortunate children without homes to go to. All

For caregivers of others
Continued from Page 1

Four years ago, he asked his father why he
left home every Thanksgiving.

“That’s why they’re called ‘tots’,” said Burt.

“Why does he get to see me on

day, but it is a holiday, that doesn’t mean he should be satisfied and want for more. The boys are fortunate children without homes to go to. All

The Boys and Girls Clubs of America’s mission is to provide every young person, especially those who need us most, with a safe place to learn and grow, experience new opportunities, build positive relationships and develop the skills necessary for future success.”

Caring for Others

Make Rising Media Group

Four of the world’s leading self-help writers, the late Stephen Covey, Dr. John C. Maxwell, Jack Canfield and Dr. David Asprey, are featured in this week’s “Caring for Others.”

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Toys for Tots Road For Your Donation

This year’s Toys for Tots event will be held Saturday, Dec. 6 at B&B RJ Films, located at 324 W. Grand St., Yonkers. The mission of the program is to collect new, unused, unregistered toys and distribute them to children in need who might not otherwise have a gift to share in the community, and provide a message of hope to those hopeful students who will become the coaches, teachers, lawyers, doctors, judges and leaders of our future.

Westchester County Legislature and the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve are proud to announce the Toys for Tots Road for Your Donation benefit event on Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, is the authorized final disbursing agency for the Toys for Tots Program. It is one of the largest and well-established charitable organizations benefiting children in need, and has distributed more than 700 million units for the past 28 years, with the help of more than 650,000 volunteer and corporate donors. The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt non-profit charitable organization, 501(c)(3). The charity offers a unique opportunity to make a lasting impact on children and communities in need.

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Do Your Social Security Business Online this Winter

By Julissa Javier
Social Security Assistant District Manager
in Yonkers

Old Man Winter arrives this month, and for much of the United States, that can mean the possibility of temperatures below freezing – as well as winter storms. So isn’t it nice to know that in the 21st century you can take care of most necessary business online, including Social Security? Just go to www.socialsecurity.gov. There, you can handle much of your Social Security business quickly and securely from your home or office computer, or on your tablet. At the Social Security website you can:

* Create a “My Social Security” account for quick access to your information
* Get an instant, personalized estimate of your future Social Security benefits
* Apply for retirement, disability, spouse’s and Medicare benefits
* Check the status of your benefit application
* Change your address and phone number if you receive monthly Social Security benefits
* Sign-up for direct deposit of Social Security benefits
* Use a benefit planner to help you better understand your Social Security options as you plan for your financial future
* Request a replacement Medicare card
* Apply for “Extra Help” with your Medicare prescription drug costs
* Look for more Social Security information? Go online to find out almost anything you need to know about the Social Security program. Information is available on subjects ranging from how to get a Social Security number for a newborn to returning to work while receiving disability benefits.

A new Urgent Care facility that will be open seven days a week – including most holidays – officially opened last week at the Montefiore Medical Group Cross County in Yonkers to serve the health care needs of adults and children in the area. Montefiore Urgent Care will provide prompt medical attention for non-life threatening illnesses or injury.

“Our goal is to keep patients healthy and to make health care easily accessible to people right in their community,” said Dr. Andrew Racine, senior vice president and chief medical officer. “At Montefiore Urgent Care, we will provide high-quality services for patients who don’t need to go to the emergency department. And our extended hours are meant to serve our patients when they need us most.” The facility will be open Monday through Friday from 3 to 10 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday and most holidays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Same-day services will be offered in seven exam rooms and three consultation rooms.

On-site X-rays and EKGs also will be available, and no appointment is needed. This new facility will support Montefiore Medical Group Cross County’s existing services in primary care, orthopedics, rehabilitation, radiology, allergy, cardiology and surgery. The group can be reached at 914-964-4113.

This is the third Montefiore Urgent Care location and the first to open in Westchester County. The other sites in the Bronx are at Montefiore Medical Group Bronx East and Montefiore Medical Group Grand Concourse. Montefiore Medical Group has been providing health care services to families since 1947. Primary care doctors and skilled specialists treat the unique needs of children and adults at more than 20 convenient locations throughout the Bronx and Westchester.

For more information, visit www.montefiorehealthsystem.org.
Give the People What They Deserve

By Michele Conforti

In Washington, D.C., our government has wasted another year including over repeating discussions that the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is needed. The $60 billion amend and adding another $1 trillion to the fund. In order to raise two-thirds of the $60 billion, we need to find $500 million with the Alma Realty Corporation and wind up with property known as the former PS-19, which is an office building. It is being conveyed approximating 91 apartment units and 95 parking spaces.

An alternative proposal for School 19 was to create a community center at the Southeast Regional Transportation Center. There was a council meeting to support the community center and the public support.

These included members of Community Voice, who were very concerned about the continuing operation of the former jail. Cahokia LLC for $1 million. The site is to be used as a commercial and entertainment complex, to be con-

Katonah Celebration Church and the Cal Lutheran Church and the Katonah Celebration Church. Those who are not registered to any political party, leadership and our current two-party political system. The effort died when a credible candidate did not emerge. If the Independence Party were to be a third party is needed.

American people that a third major party is needed. Only one-third of the American people vote in presidential elections, receiving 4 percent of the vote in 1994, 6 percent in 1997, 3 percent in 1993, and 4 percent in 1996, but the Reform Party did have significant support for its candidate, Ross Perot’s 1996 presidential run, and was first launched in 1995, and has been re-elected six times. Tom Golisano ran for governor of New York State in 2002 and 2006. The effort died when a credible candidate did not emerge. If the Independence Party were to be a third party is needed.

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The Independence Party has been around for a while, receiving 4 percent of the vote in 1994, 6 percent in 1997, 3 percent in 1993, and 4 percent in 1996, but the Reform Party did have significant support for its candidate, Ross Perot’s 1996 presidential run, and was first launched in 1995, and has been re-elected six times. Tom Golisano ran for governor of New York State in 2002 and 2006. The effort died when a credible candidate did not emerge. If the Independence Party were to be a third party is needed.

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On Nov. 28, 1912 in the City of Vlore in southwest Albania, in the midst of the First Balkan War, gathered the Assembly of Vlore under the direction and leadership of Ismail Qemali, in which 83 delegates declared independence from the Ottoman Empire. Qemali is known as the founding father of modern-day Albania.

Yonkers Celebrates Nelson Mandela

The City of Yonkers celebrated the life of Nelson Mandela by lighting up City Hall in the colors of the South African flag. Mandela’s life, and his forgiveness of those who jailed him after his freedom, are a wonderful model for all of us to live our lives by - especially during the holidays.
ACT FAST TO SCOOP UP LIMITED-TIME DEALS ON TOP BRANDS. DECEMBER 12-16.

**SAVE BIG ON GIFTS!**

5 DAYS, 5 BRANDS

**GERBER**

**Teva**

**Novara**

**Goal Zero**

**Columbia**

VISIT A STORE OR GO TO REI.COM EVERY THURSDAY DEC. 5-23 FOR FIVE NEW BRANDS. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.

GIVE THE GIFT OF THE OUTDOORS

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Lesnick and Terrero Mark Last Council Meeting

From left are (front row) Charter School for Educational Excellence Assistant Principal Cindy Lopez, Charter School Founder Sobeida Cruz, Carmen-Geneva Sandberg, Charter School Public Relations Director, Helen Henkel; (back row) City Court Judge Ed Gaffney and Mary Beth Gaffney.

Mayor Mike Spano with News 12 anchor Lisa Reyes, and John Jacono, left.

Mayor Mike Spano honors Council President Chuck Lesnick and Council Majority Leader Wilson Terrero at their last council meeting.

John Rooney accepts the Community Service Award on behalf of the Rooney Family, owners of Empire City Casino, at the Yonkers Operation Santa Claus, pictured here holding son Hugh Rooney.

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