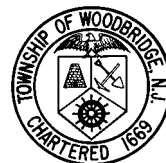


NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC

1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Phone: (732) 634-4500 ♦ Fax: (732) 602-6016

Web: <http://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us>

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

John R. Hagerty

Mayor's Office of Communications

(732) 602-6039

MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC CELEBRATES OPENING OF NEW WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP ANIMAL SHELTER & PET ADOPTION CENTER

Township Shelter Includes Expanded Care & Housing... Family Pet & Play Center to Accommodate Pet Adoptions...

Woodbridge Township – Mayor John E. McCormac today announced the “official” opening of the long-awaited Woodbridge Township Animal Shelter & Pet Adoption Center situated in a Township-owned building in the Sewaren section of Woodbridge. The state-of-the-art facility, designed as a model animal shelter and pet adoption center, provides a safe and comfortable haven for the care and housing of dogs, cats and abandoned animals recovered by Woodbridge Animal Control.

“Today marks a milestone in what has been a priority project – locating and constructing a modern animal shelter & pet adoption center that will meet the needs of Township animals today, tomorrow and into the future,” Mayor McCormac said. “The animal shelter and pet adoption center is a welcoming, airy and comfortable place to visit and adopt pets. More importantly, the renovation and outfitting of a fully-equipped, all amenities-included facility has been accomplished on time and within the budget.”

Mayor McCormac said that the animal shelter and pet adoption center was constructed in a renovated Township-owned building located at 195 Woodbridge Avenue in Sewaren at a cost of \$650,500 secured via a competitive public bid process. The 2,500 square foot facility provides a solid foundation and structure and was renovated utilizing available energy-saving and environmentally-friendly materials and concepts. The shelter contains 17 individual dog kennels with extended indoor/outdoor runs; an over-size cattery with individual cages for each feline; separate, fully-ventilated dog and cat quarantine areas; a private animal receiving area equipped with cleaning facilities; a “prep” room where the incoming animals will be examined prior to housing; a private veterinary care clinic where animals will be examined and treated; and a laundry for cleaning blankets and kennel wraps. A unique and special feature is the inclusion of a public area where families can greet and interact with pets prior to adoption. A future second floor expansion will include additional dog kennels and cattery.

The Woodbridge Township Animal Shelter & Pet Adoption Center will maintain convenient hours of operation where the public will be able to visit and adopt pets. Public hours include:

- Monday.....1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Tuesday6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Wednesday.....Noon to 2:00 p.m.
- Thursday.....1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Friday.....1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday.....1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Mayor McCormac also announced that the Township has entered into an agreement with the City of South Amboy to provide kennel services for lost and abandoned animals located in South Amboy. Under the contract, South Amboy will pay a minimum of \$4,000 per year to house stray animals. South Amboy Animal Control will transport their animals to the Woodbridge Township Animal Shelter & Pet Adoption Center where they will be screened and treated prior to adoption. Additionally, the Township is in the final stages of negotiating a contract with the City of Carteret to provide shelter and pet adoption services.

Joining the Mayor in making the announcement were Woodbridge Township Municipal Councilpersons Charles Kenny, Patricia Osborne and Gregg Ficarra, Dennis Green, Director, Woodbridge Township Department of Health & Human Services, Health Department supervisors and staff, the members and staff of Woodbridge Animal Control, volunteers from Woodbridge Animal Group (WAG), the Township-sponsored pet adoption program and friends and supporters of the Woodbridge Animal Shelter and Pet Adoption Center. The Mayor thanked and credited members of the public dedicated to the creation of a permanent Township animal shelter and who supported the project by raising monies for shelter amenities. Also on hand for the opening were architect Michael V. Testa and representatives of Dell Tech Construction, Inc.

Mayor McCormac noted that the Administration and Township Council consistently and steadfastly pursued all appropriate and available options to site, construct and/or renovate and open a new animal shelter and pet adoption center by the winter of 2007. In moving to achieve that goal, on April 11 the Municipal Council approved the hiring of Architect Michael Testa under a \$23,300 contract to evaluate the suitability of the Sewaren facility for conversion to an animal shelter, prepare a feasibility report and provide architectural construction blueprints. The Notice of Bid for Construction was issued on July 1, with the sealed bids returned on July 24. The selected construction bid was selected in August, with construction getting underway on Aug. 20, 2007.

“On behalf of the entire Municipal Council, I am extremely pleased that we have been able to put together a facility that is cost effective, considers the needs of Township taxpayers and financial priorities, while at the same time allows us to achieve the goal that we all share – the humane care and protection of animals,” said First Ward Councilman Charles Kenny, a long-time proponent and supporter of the Woodbridge Township Animal Shelter & Pet Adoption Center.

