

# NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC & WOODBRIDGE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REMIND VOTERS TO "Cast A Can When You Cast Your Vote"**

***Voters Urged to Bring Canned Goods to Polling Locations on Primary Election Day  
Tues., Feb. 5***

**WOODBRIDGE** – Woodbridge Township Mayor John E. McCormac and Superintendent of Schools Vincent Smith, along with senior class students from Colonia, Woodbridge and John F. Kennedy High Schools, are reminding Woodbridge Township voters to ***"Cast A Can When You Cast Your Vote"*** as they go to the polls to cast ballots on Primary Election Day this coming Tuesday, February 5.

"The ***'Cast A Can When You Cast Your Vote'*** food drive has become synonymous with election day in Woodbridge Township and is one of the most significant efforts we as a community can participate in to assist needy families," Mayor McCormac said. "The election day food drive was the brainchild of Colonia High School teacher Joyce Brown and became reality through the dedicated efforts of senior class students at Colonia High School. Today, the ***'Cast A Can When You Cast Your Vote'*** food drive involves students from all three Township high schools and is responsible for collecting thousands of pounds of food."

According to Mayor McCormac, the ***'Cast A Can When You Cast Your Vote'*** food drive asks voters to bring canned goods and non-perishable foods to their polling locations for drop-off when they go to vote. Students from Colonia, Woodbridge and JFK High Schools coordinate the food drive with the Board of Elections by placing food drop-off containers at more than 60 polling locations throughout the Township. The students collect the containers at the close of elections and take the food to the Health Center where it is sorted and distributed to Township food pantries. The ***'Cast A Can When You Cast Your Vote'*** food drive will be in place for Tuesday's Primary Election Day.

“I would like to acknowledge the extraordinary work of our high school students from Colonia, Woodbridge and JFK high schools and their teachers and advisors for establishing the *‘Cast A Can When You Cast Your Vote’* food drive. It is truly an effort that demonstrates a real commitment to purpose, community and the human condition,” said Superintendent Smith.

Peter Barcellona, Chairman of the “We Feed Woodbridge Township” Food Bank Committee, noted that more than 17,000 pounds of food was collected during the 2007 General Election *‘Cast A Can When You Cast Your Vote’* food drive. The various Township-sponsored food drives collected more than 80,000 pounds of non-perishable food stuffs (canned goods, pre-package and boxed foods, baby food, paper products, etc.) during 2007 – a record amount of food for distribution to Township food pantries and soup kitchens. The food items are distributed to needy Woodbridge Township families and individuals through the following food pantries:

- Heavens Helper’s Pantry, 343 Pearl Street, Woodbridge (formerly Congregation Adath Israel), Kathy Hoffman, Coordinator @ 732-742-8942;
- First Presbyterian Church, 20 Middlesex Avenue, Iselin, Gloria Haesler, Coordinator @ 732-283-1188;
- Trinity Episcopal Church, Trinity Lane, Woodbridge, Val and Hertha Blatz, Coordinators @ 732-634-7422;
- Metro Park Assembly of God, 48 Berkeley Blvd., Iselin, Sandra Burton, Coordinator @ 732-310-8758;
- First Presbyterian Church, 600 Rahway Avenue, Woodbridge, George and Robin Goodrich, Coordinator @ 732-634-1024;
- St. James Roman Catholic Church, 174 Grove Street, Woodbridge, Peggy Catalano, Coordinator @ 732-636-4310;
- First Presbyterian Church of Avenel, 621 E. Woodbridge Avenue, Carolyn and Jake Stockl, Coordinators @ 732-634-1631;
- First Congregational Church-Women of Faith, Barron Avenue, Woodbridge, Faith Longstreet, Coordinator @ 732-634-0582;
- St. Cecelia Roman Catholic Church, 45 Wilus Way, Iselin @ 732-283-0150, and
- Elijah’s Bread Food Pantry, Ridgedale and E. Prospect Avenues, Woodbridge @ 732-636-7727.

The ongoing effort to keep Woodbridge Township food banks stocked throughout the year continues with food donations being part of various Township-sponsored events such as the ongoing “Have a Heart – Valentine’s Day Food Drive,” the Mayor’s Summer Concert Series, the Barron Arts Center Holiday Concert, and other public events. Additionally, non-perishable foods can be dropped off any weekday at the Woodbridge Township Public Health Center, 2 George Frederick Plaza, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Woodbridge Town Hall, 1 Main Street, the Woodbridge Library, 1 George Frederick Plaza, or at the Woodbridge Community Center, 600 Main Street..

Additional information about the Election Day food drive or the “We Feed” Committee is available by contacting the Woodbridge Township Department of Health & Human Services at 732-855-0600 x5034.

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