

# NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



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## **Woodbridge Resident Philip M. Peck Named Recipient of 2008 John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award by Woodbridge Municipal Council**

### **Official Presentation of Annual Award Set for May 6 at Woodbridge Township Council Meeting**

The Woodbridge Township Municipal Council has unanimously named long-time Woodbridge Township resident and community volunteer Philip M. Peck as the recipient of the prestigious 2008 John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award for dedicated public service. The John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award annually honors and recognizes a Woodbridge Township resident who embodies the best qualities of public service and civic involvement. The honoree must have lived in Woodbridge Township for at least ten years, held elected or appointed office and served as a volunteer in community and/or social activities.

"Phil Peck represents the very best of Woodbridge Township," said Mayor John E. McCormac. "His commitment and dedication to the public mission and community spirit stands as a model for all of us to emulate. Whether serving as a Trustee for the Woodbridge Township Free Public Library, or on the Board of Directors for the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce, or volunteering time and energy to community and civic associations, Phil Peck stands as a stellar example of what civic spirit is about. I congratulate the Council on selecting Phil Peck as the recipient of the 2008 John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award "

Councilwoman Brenda Yori Velasco, who established and implemented the John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award in 2000, said "it's very important to recognize those individuals who give unselfishly to this community. The John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award honors people to whom civic activity is a way of life. On behalf of the entire Municipal Council, I am proud to present the 2008 John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award to Philip Peck for his life-long commitment to the betterment of Woodbridge Township."

According to Councilwoman Velasco, Phil Peck, the long-time Director of the First Bank of Colonia, is an Honorary Life Fellow to the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library, Trustee and Mayor's Representative to the Woodbridge Township Free Public Library, and a member of the Citizen's Advisory Council for the Colonia Branch Public Library. Mr. Peck's commitment and participation in community service includes

serving on the Board of Directors to the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce, as a member of the Woodbridge Industrial Commission, Commissioner, Middlesex County Utilities Authority (1990-1992), and a member of the New Jersey Travel Professionals' Association.

Mr. Peck graduated from East Side High School in Newark and attended Rutgers University in New Brunswick and New York University. From 1942 to 1946, Mr. Peck served his country as a member of the United States Army. Mr. Peck is long-time member of the Jewish War Veterans Elin-Unger Post and Chairman of the Americanism Awards Committee of the Menorah Chapter of B'nai B'rith. Mr. Peck has been active in community Democratic organizations and events, serving more than 40 years as a Committeeman to the Middlesex County Democratic Organization, as a member and officer of the Woodbridge Township Democratic Organization for the past 25 years, and as Past President and Trustee Emeritus to the Colonia Democratic Club. Mr. Peck's other civic roles include volunteering to various community, civic and religious organizations. Mr. Peck is married to Roxanna Peck and has raised three children.

The John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award is named after the late Jack Fay who held numerous elected and appointed offices in Woodbridge Township municipal government and Middlesex County, including Councilman, Freeholder, Assemblyman and State Senator. Jack Fay also served as a volunteer with numerous civic and social organizations, including the Center of Hope Hospice House, Emmaus House and the New Jersey State Commission on Cancer Research.

Municipal Council President and Second Ward Councilman Rick Dalina, said that the Woodbridge Township Municipal Council will officially present the 2008 John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award to Philip Peck on Tues., May 6 at 6:30 p.m. prior to the regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

Past recipients of the John J. Fay, Jr. Civic Award include: John J. Fay, Jr. (2000), Terry Glinn (2001), Pastor Jack Dunlap (2002), Jack Hila (2003), Robert Sobieski (2004), Ernest Neal (2005), Diane Pitz (2006), and Thomas Cornell (2007).