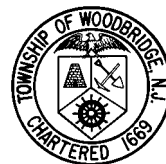


NEWS TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE
MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC
1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095
Phone: (732) 634-4500 ♦ Fax: (732) 602-6016
Web: <http://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us>



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Sept. 7, 2007

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
John R. Hagerty
Mayor's Office of Communications
732-602-6039

MAYOR'S SUMMER CONCERT SERIES COLLECTS 40,000 POUNDS OF FOOD FOR TOWNSHIP FOOD BANKS

Mayor McCormac Cites Concert Goers & Community Support in Effort to Re-Supply Food Pantries



Representatives of the ten Woodbridge Township food pantry's begin sorting more than 6,600 pounds of food collected at the final Mayor's Summer Concert on Sept. 6. The Mayor's Summer Concert Series brought in more than 40,100 pounds of much-needed food for the Township's food banks for distribution to needy families throughout Woodbridge Township.

Woodbridge Township Mayor John E. McCormac today announced that the 2007 Mayor's Summer Concert Series brought in more than 40,100 Pounds of much-needed food for the Township's food banks for distribution to needy families throughout Woodbridge Township.

"The annual 'Mayor's Summer Concert' food drive is without doubt the most important program undertaken each summer to replenish dwindling stocks of food stuffs at Township food banks," Mayor McCormac said. "Each year, concert goers donate more and more food as ever-increasing audiences attend and enjoy the summer entertainment. I'm proud to be part of this concert program and I'm proud of the Woodbridge Township residents and patrons who attend the concert and donate canned goods and non-perishable food to help their neighbors who might otherwise go hungry."

According to Mayor McCormac, the annual “Mayor’s Summer Concert Series” has become a summer seasonal mainstay in Woodbridge – as have the community residents who attend the concerts and donate tremendous amounts of food to area food pantry’s. The Summer Concert food drive is launched each July by the Woodbridge Department of Health & Human Services and the “We Feed Woodbridge Food Bank Committee” which works with area food pantries, churches, parishes, schools and community and senior organizations to replenish and restock food pantries.

Peter Barcellona, Chairman of the “We Feed Committee” said that the 2007 summer concert food drive netted more than 40,100 pounds of food – 8,100 pounds more that the 2006 collection of 32,000pounds of canned goods and non-perishable food. Barcellona noted that non-perishable food (canned goods, pre-package and boxed foods, baby food, paper products, etc.) were collected and sorted by volunteers from the Department of Health & Human Services and area food bank volunteers. The food items will be 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.

According to a recent U.S. Department of Agriculture report, more than 14 million American families – 11.9 percent of all U.S. households – are at some time during the year uncertain of, or unable to purchase, enough food for their family.

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 Election Day food drive and “Cast a Can When You Cast Your Vote” program, the Barron Arts Center Holiday Concert, and other public events.

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. Additional food drop-off locations are at Woodbridge Town Hall, 1 Main Street, the Woodbridge Library, 1 George Frederick Plaza, and at the Woodbridge Community Center, 600 Main Street..

Additional information about the “We Feed Woodbridge” food bank committee is available by contacting Peter Barcellona at 732-855-0600 x5034.