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Contact:
Audrey Cohen
Epoch 5 Public Relations
acohen@epoch5.com
631/427-1713

## BETHPAGE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION NAMED "BEST FINANCIAL INSTITUTION" ON LONG ISLAND FOR FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

- Long Islanders Continue to Turn to Bethpage for Best Rates and Service -

**Bethpage, NY – January 4, 2012** – For the fourth consecutive year, Bethpage Federal Credit Union has been named the Best Financial Institution on Long Island by the readers of Long Island Press.

"2011 was a very exciting and successful year for Bethpage, which culminated with record-breaking increases. Bethpage opened three new branches, including our newest, bilingual branch in Patchogue, bringing our total number of locations up to 25, with four more branches planned for 2012," said Kirk Kordeleski, President and CEO, Bethpage. "We are very proud to be named Best Financial Institution on Long Island for four consecutive years now and are thankful to the readers of Long Island Press and the entire Long Island community for their unwavering support."

As a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by its members, Bethpage is able to offer consumers the credit union difference, providing significant banking advantages that bank counterparts cannot compete with. Members receive better rates and lower fees, and consumers are taking note. For example, Bethpage recently saw an 85% increase in new members for the five weeks leading up to Bank Transfer Day, the recent national movement that encouraged consumers to transfer their money to credit unions.

"Bethpage continues to offer the best rates on Long Island and is rated #1 in service because we understand who we serve and the needs of the community," continued Kordeleski. "We look forward to another successful year in 2012."

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In the nine years since Bethpage received its community charter to serve all Long Islanders, it has grown to become the largest credit union in New York State, in terms of assets. For 2010, Bethpage surpassed \$1 billion in new loans and for 2011, amid the overall housing downturn and economic slowdown, Bethpage funded more than \$1.4 billion.

Bethpage is one of Long Island's most convenient financial institutions. Its growing network of 25 local branches, shared service centers, 350 surcharge-free ATMs, and free online and mobile banking services provides members with easy access to their accounts wherever and whenever they need it.

<u>Bethpage Federal Credit Union</u> is a not-for-profit financial cooperative, existing solely to serve its members and has experienced rapid growth in recent years to become a strong alternative to banks. Bethpage was approved for the largest federal community charter in the U.S. in 2003 and now is Long Island's largest credit union and leading community financial institution with over 194,000 members, 25 branches and 60 shared service center locations throughout Nassau and Suffolk Counties. As a financial cooperative, Bethpage offers better rates, lower fees and a full menu of personal and commercial financial services.

Bethpage maintains branch locations in Bay Shore, Bay Shore King Kullen, Bethpage, Central Islip, Commack King Kullen, Elmont, Farmingdale, Freeport, Glen Cove, Hempstead, Huntington, Levittown King Kullen, Lynbrook, Massapequa, Melville, Mineola, North Babylon, Patchogue, Port Jefferson, Riverhead, Seaford, Smithtown, Roosevelt and Westbury with over 350 surcharge-free ATMs in King Kullen, 7-Eleven, Walgreens and Costco locations throughout Long Island. For more information, call 1-800-628-7070 or visit <a href="https://www.lovebethpage.com">www.lovebethpage.com</a>.

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