



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Contact:  
Audrey Cohen  
Epoch 5 Public Relations  
631/427-1713  
[acohen@epoch5.com](mailto:acohen@epoch5.com)

**BETHPAGE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ANNOUNCES INCREASED SUPPORT TO UNITED  
WAYS' OPERATION LIVE UNITED  
MILITARY FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROJECT WITH \$100,000 CONTRIBUTION**

**Bethpage, New York – June 25, 2012** – [Bethpage Federal Credit Union](#), New York State's largest credit union, announces its significant support and anchor role of the United Way's Operation Live United Military Family Assistance Project, which provides Long Island veterans the necessary assistance they need to live, work and raise their families on Long Island. [Bethpage's](#) support includes a \$100,000 contribution to the Military Family Assistance Project.

The news was announced today at a press conference held in Congressman Steve Israel's Hauppauge, Long Island office, where the Congressman announced the expansion of Operation Live United to include the newly formed Veterans Hiring Program. Bethpage, which will also provide support to the Veterans Hiring Program, has met with and worked to support Veterans for over three years through its annual Bethpage Air Show at Jones Beach Live United t-shirt fundraising efforts, and recognizes that Veterans require ongoing assistance to help meet their basic needs while searching for jobs.

"As a member of the communities to which we serve, Bethpage understands the challenges veterans face when they return home in starting over with a new job, house, car, cell phone and all of the basic necessities we take for granted," said Linda Army, Bethpage Federal Credit Union. "By taking our partnership with United Way's Operation Live United to the next level, we can help expand the services offered to help our fellow Long Islanders acclimate to life on Long Island once again. Whether it's counseling

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services, job placement, medical and mental health services, or child care for children, the United Way Military Family Assistance Project provides to their needs.”

“I was pleased to hear about Bethpage Federal Credit Union’s donation to United Way of Long Island’s Military Family Assistance Project, which will go towards supporting programs that serve Long Island military, reservist and National Guard personnel active in Iraq and Afghanistan and their families. Bethpage has repeatedly gone above and beyond to help Long Island’s service members and veterans, and I commend their unwavering commitment,” said Congressman Steve Israel.

Bethpage, a long time supporter of the United Way, has raised over \$75,000 over the past three years to support Military families returning to Long Island, through the sale of Live United t-shirts, at the annual Bethpage Air Show at Jones Beach. But according to Army, “monies generated from this effort, simply are not enough.”

In addition to its significant \$100,000 contribution, Bethpage will sponsor various veteran events throughout the year to extend additional veteran support. To date, these include the Islip Art Council “Salutes Armed Forces of the USA” concert featuring the Long Island Philharmonic Orchestra on Saturday, July 14 at Heckscher State Park in East Islip, NY; a “Night Out” at the Bethpage Ballpark inviting military families to a Long Island Ducks game; and the Town of North Hempstead’s “Salute to Veterans” breakfast to be held in the fall.

“Bethpage Federal Credit Union is a true supporter of Long Island families. Through its work with the annual Bethpage Air Show at Jones Beach, they have seen firsthand, the unique circumstances of returning Long Island veterans, and have done a tremendous job in supporting Operation Live United,” said Theresa Regnante, President and CEO, United Way of Long Island. “Today’s gift will take our program to a new level by allowing us to support even more military personnel like we’ve done for so many, be it providing financial assistance for lodging near a rehab facility, transitional housing, or mental health treatment for PTSD.”

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Bethpage President & CEO, Kirk Kordeleski, comments, “We believe that expanding our support of United Way Military Family Assistance programming is at the heart of who we are, true to our roots and is in line with the credit union philosophy of people helping people.”

Bethpage also announced today its support of the United Way’s newly formed Veterans Hiring Program, a job placement program that Bethpage and other local businesses will support to help secure employment for returning Long Island Veterans.

Bethpage Federal Credit Union 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 196,000 members, 26 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, West Babylon and Westbury with over 350 surcharge-free ATMs in King Kullen, 7-Eleven, CVS and Costco locations throughout Long Island. For more information, call 1-800-628-7070 or visit [www.bethpagefcu.com](http://www.bethpagefcu.com).

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