



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

**WITH THE HELP OF THE NEW YORK JETS, THE LARGEST FOOD DRIVE EVENT ON LONG ISLAND KICKS
OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON – 11TH ANNUAL BETHPAGE TURKEY DRIVE
TO BENEFIT ISLAND HARVEST FOOD BANK**

-NY Jets Football Legend to be on Hand to Help Collect Donated Goods-

Friday, November 22 – 7 AM to 6:30 PM

***400 Long Island Food Pantries and Community Agencies to Directly Benefit
Over 300,000 Long Islanders in Need This Year***

Bethpage, NY – October 10, 2019 - Long Island's largest food drive event, the 11th Annual Bethpage Turkey Drive to benefit Island Harvest Food Bank, will take place on Friday, November 22, 2019, from 7 AM to 6:30 PM. The New York Jets will also support this year's Turkey Drive and will have a Jets Football Legend on hand to help collect donated goods. Donations can be dropped off at [Bethpage Federal Credit Union's](#) headquarters located at 899 South Oyster Bay Road in Bethpage.

Long Islanders are asked to drop off frozen turkeys, non-perishable food items (except those in glass containers), supermarket gift cards, or cash donations. These donations will go directly to [Island Harvest Food Bank](#), which will then help supply Thanksgiving meals to the more than 300,000 food-insecure Long Islanders through its distribution network of over 400 food pantries, soup kitchens, and other feeding programs on Long Island.

Those dropping off food can use the drive-through donation lane for convenience, and Bethpage volunteers will carry your bags/boxes, so there is no need to even get out of your car!

“As the holiday season approaches, we once again invite the community to join us in giving thanks by supporting our neighbors and helping their families enjoy Thanksgiving,” said Linda Army, Senior Vice President, Bethpage Federal Credit Union. “The Bethpage Turkey Drive is a fun and rewarding event. With our dancing turkey, a live D.J., Girl Scout badges, friendly volunteers, and a drive-through

donation lane, supporters can't help but leave with a smile on their face and warmth in their heart knowing they've made a difference in the lives of others."

"Bethpage Federal Credit Union has established itself as a valued partner in our mission to end hunger and reduce food waste on Long Island," said Randi Shubin Dresner, president & CEO, Island Harvest Food Bank. "In addition to the Annual Turkey Drive, Bethpage supports several anti-hunger initiatives including our Kids Weekend Backpack Program, and their employees routinely assist us throughout the year by volunteering at community food drives, and through personal donations of food or funds. Their collective efforts are truly making a difference in the lives of our Long Island neighbors struggling with hunger and food insecurity."

For those unable to travel to Bethpage's main branch on November 22, Nassau and Suffolk County residents can visit any of Bethpage's 34 branch locations to drop off any monetary donations you may have. For a complete list of Bethpage branches, go to www.lovebethpage.com.

Since the first Bethpage Turkey Drive was organized in 2009, hundreds of community volunteers have come out to assist in the collection of more than 31,000 turkeys and over 116,000 pounds of food, which were then given to Long Island families facing hardship in time for the holidays. Island Harvest Food Bank has seen an increase in the requests for food and support services among the 400 community-based agencies it serves. About 70,000 individuals receive food assistance from the Island Harvest Food Bank network each week.

About Island Harvest Food Bank

[Island Harvest Food Bank](http://www.islandharvest.org) is a leading hunger-relief organization that provides food and other resources to people in need. Always treating those it helps with dignity and respect, its mission is to end hunger and reduce food waste on Long Island through efficient food collection and distribution; enhanced hunger-awareness and nutrition-education programs; job training; and direct services targeted at children, senior citizens, veterans, and others at risk of food insecurity. As a result of Island Harvest Food Bank's dynamic business model, more than 94 percent of expended resources go directly to programs and services that support more than 300,000 Long Islanders facing hunger. Island Harvest Food Bank is a lead agency in the region's emergency response preparedness for food and product distribution and is a member of [Feeding America](http://www.feedingamerica.org)®, the nation's leading domestic hunger-relief organization. For five consecutive years, Island Harvest Food Bank has earned a four-star rating from Charity Navigator, a leading independent charity watchdog organization. Island Harvest Food Bank is among just 9% of the organizations rated by Charity Navigator to merit the four-star designation. More information about Island Harvest Food Bank can be found at www.islandharvest.org.

Bethpage Federal Credit Union

Bethpage Federal Credit Union is a premier financial institution committed to enriching the lives of its members, employees and the communities it serves for over 75 years. Bethpage is the largest credit union in the Northeast region, as well as 15th largest in the nation. Voted the Third Best Company to Work For in New York State by the New York State Society for Human Resources Management and the Best Place to Work on Long Island by Newsday's Top Workplaces Poll, Bethpage is a federally chartered credit union, available to people nationwide who open a \$5 dollar membership account.

Bethpage offers a robust digital platform that allows members to bank with us from anywhere. Bethpage is a part of the national CO-OP network that gives members access to their accounts at over 30,000 free ATMs and 5,000+ shared branches across the U.S. As a financial cooperative, Bethpage offers the best-in market rates, lowest fees and world-class service, plus a full menu of personal and commercial financial services. For more information on Bethpage's robust portfolio of banking, borrowing, and investment services, visit www.lovebethpage.com or call 1-800- 628-7070.

#