

NEWS:



Edward A. Diana
Orange County Executive

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ORANGE COUNTY VETERANS FOOD PANTRY RECEIVES LARGE BEEF DONATION

Private sector, non-profit and government join together to help veterans

(Goshen, NY) – Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana and Orange County Director of Veterans Affairs Anthony Zippo today announced that the Orange County Food Pantry received 400 pounds of beef donated by Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County, in conjunction with a donation they received from Bettinger Bluff Farm in Montgomery, while Orange and Rockland Utilities funded the meat processing.

“This is a great example of how much good we can do as a community when the private sector, the non-profit world and government come together,” said County Executive Diana. “Our veterans have sacrificed for us, and helping them is our duty as good citizens.”

Owners of Bettinger Bluff Farm, Eugene and Stephen Pirog, donated two beef cows, approximately 1200 pounds of meat, to Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County and asked that it be distributed between the Orange County Veterans Food Pantry, as well as Country Kids Food Pantry in Washingtonville, and Pine Bush Elementary School Food Pantry.

“I’d like to thank Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County for bringing this generous donation to our attention, and of course Bettinger Bluff Farm and Orange and Rockland,” said Director Zippo. “This means a lot to the veterans and their families, and it’s a wonderful way to start our new year here at the food pantry.”

The Orange County Veterans Food Pantry provides food items to veterans in their time of need regardless of age, ethnicity, branch of service, or active years of service. Currently, the pantry supports 170 families in Orange County.

The Orange County Veterans Service Agency’s mission is to inform and assist veterans and their families, and members of the military, in matters pertaining to the numerous veteran’s affairs benefits, rights and privileges available to them. In addition to their Goshen office, the Veterans Service Agency provides outreach services at locations in Port Jervis, Middletown, Newburgh, and Castle Point VA Medical Center.

For more information, please contact the Orange County Veterans Service Agency at (845) 291-2470 or visit them at www.orangecountygov.com

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Stiles Najac of Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County (Left), and Linda A. Feger of Orange and Rockland Utilities (Right), presents Orange County Veterans Affairs Director Anthony Zippo (Center) with his first shipment of 400 pounds of beef in Goshen on January 4, 2011.