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New York First Girlfriend Sandra Lee visits Food Bank for Westchester in Millwood

Posted by: Elizabeth Ganga - Posted in New Castle on Feb 09, 2011

New Castle resident Sandra Lee, the famous TV chef and amour of Gov. Andrew Cuomo, recently visited the Food Bank for Westchester to draw attention to the issue of hunger in the county. Read the food bank's release below:

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“ Millwood, NY– February 8, 2011: Sandra Lee, Food Network television host, magazine editor and book author, visited the Food Bank for Westchester and toured its warehouse Monday, January 31. Ms. Lee's visit to the Food Bank for Westchester is part of a statewide tour of Feeding America member food banks she is conducting to focus attention on the issue of hunger.



Ms. Lee initially met with Food Bank for Westchester staff, board members and representatives from local food pantries and soup kitchens to learn about local hunger issues and concerns.

According to Food Bank for Westchester's Executive Director, Christina Rohatynskj, "We estimate that 200,000 people in Westchester County are hungry or at risk of hunger. Nearly half of them are seniors; approximately one-third are children under the age of 18. Last year, Food Bank for Westchester distributed six million pounds of food, which was one million pounds more than the year before. We also had a 30% increase in household food requests by June 2010, and that increase has held steady every month since. The need just keeps growing."

Ms. Lee then spoke with the media about the problem of hunger in Westchester and her own passion for addressing the need. After answering questions and posing for photographs, she rolled up her sleeves and joined volunteers to repack fresh produce for Project Green Thumb, through which the Food Bank distributes fresh New York State produce to local food programs.

As part of the event, Jennifer Logan, from Sam's Club, a division of Wal-Mart, Inc., presented a check for \$10,000 to the Food Bank for Westchester. The check was accepted by Rohatynskj and President of the Board of Directors, Spencer Barback.

The Food Bank for Westchester is located at 358 Saw Mill River Road, Millwood, NY 10546.

About the Food Bank for Westchester: Food Bank for Westchester, one of eight food banks in New York State, acquires, warehouses and distributes more than six million pounds of food annually to over 200 Westchester County hunger-relief organizations, including food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters. Its mission is to lead, engage and educate Westchester County in creating a hunger-free environment. Its core activity is the collection and

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distribution of donated, government and purchased food.

Photo: At the Food Bank for Westchester (FBW) warehouse in Millwood, Sandra Lee, Food Network television host, book author and magazine editor, repacks produce. At right, James Degree, FBW's Warehouse Manager, presents Ms. Lee with a tee-shirt.

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[May 2010](#)
[April 2010](#)
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[February 2010](#)
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[December 2009](#)
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