

PRESS RELEASE

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WOODBINE CELEBRATEDS "RED RIBBON WEEK"

Woodbine—Mayor Pikolycky was pleased to proclaim the week of October 27 through 31 as "Red Ribbon Week" in Woodbine with a Municipal Alliance theme of "Paint the Town Red", as red ribbons were tied around lampposts throughout the Borough.

The Proclamation was read at Woodbine Elementary School's Assembly for New Jersey Positive Behavior Support in Schools (**PBSIS**) and Red Ribbon Week, which was followed by Red Ribbon Week give-aways.

That Thursday students wore team jerseys on for "Team up against drugs and alcohol".

Red Ribbon Week is an annual commemoration of the ultimate sacrifice made by DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who died at the hands of drug traffickers in Mexico while fighting the battle against illegal drugs to keep our country and children safe, and thus a reminder to stay alcohol, drug, and violence free.

The school food drive (which had been going on for all of October) ended Friday, with all donations given to the local food bank. For Red Ribbon Week students also donated pet food to recall "Keep your paws off drugs".

*****Winner of: essay contest for Red Ribbon Week.*****

Woodbine Elementary School physical education and health teacher Jacklyn Merollo and her crew of student peer leaders planted red tulip bulbs especially in Woodbine's Lincoln Park as part of "Plant the Promise". Lincoln Park is the focus of the Woodbine Municipal Alliance "Re-Visit Your Park" initiative. This year's bulbs were planted along the Born Learning Trail, a first installation in this initiative.

In past years the peer leaders planted Red Ribbon red tulip bulbs both at the Woodbine Municipal Building's "Holly Garden" and at the State Police Barracks in Woodbine. The bulbs were donated by the Woodbine Municipal Alliance. Alliance co-ordinator Evelyn Perez, assisted by grandchildren Lucas and Sanaya, red-ribboned the town at the start of the week.

The purpose of this bulb planting is to “Plant the Promise” to live a drug-free life. When the tulips bloom in the spring, it will be a reminder that the world is more beautiful drug-free.

This activity reminds the community to stay drug-free as bulbs planted in the Fall bloom as signs of renewal in the Spring.

The students also did a Community Clean-Up on November 3 as part of their community clean-up grant and will be doing another in the spring as the bulbs come into bloom. This fall they picked up over 15 bags of trash!

Students participating in the planting were:

Tyler Cruz, Christopher Cruz, Torey Harris, Orlando Torres, Alberto Gaytan, Karl Brown, Daesha Beachamp, Jaelyn Murphy, KayLee Murphy, Lacey Murphy, Ashton Murphy, Victoria London, Arcolia Holton, Jenessa Rivera, Gianna Young, Karilyn McNear, Keith Palek, Eddyanna Rivera, Jonathaen Torres, Kadin Boyd, Alyia Rivera, Nadia Price, Neveah Whateley, Carlos Camacho IV, and Timothy Price.

“Our thanks to the peer leaders for their plantings about town, and to the Woodbine Municipal Alliance for their continuing work on substance abuse awareness, as well as our congratulations to the essay winners, all of which made for a very successful Red Ribbon Week,” added Mayor Pikolycky.

(PROCLAMATION ATTACHED)

Pictures: students are Orlando Torres and Alberto Gaytan planting bulbs; Victoria London cleaning up.

Carlos Camacho, Alberto Gaytan, Tyler Cruz, Timothy Price, Jaelyn Murphy, Eddyanna Rodriguez and Victoria London in the group shot at the dumpsters.