

# Doggy Bags Back Again



Janet Mansour (left) and Lesley Doonan are running the second annual Janet's Doggy Bags Pet Food Drive until August 14.

Jessica Boisclair/Daily Times

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COVENTRY —Janet Mansour will be hosting her second annual Janet's Doggy Bags Pet Food Drive, and she hopes this year's event will be as successful as last.

Mansour, a teacher at the Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School in Coventry, thought up the idea of a pet food drive after seeing her students donate to various pet shelters for

school.

Lesley Doonan, Coordinator of Volunteer Services for Animals (VSA) Warwick has partnered up with Mansour again this year to help collect pet food items.

VSA is a non-profit humane organization started in 1979. Doonan said the VSA spays, neuters and feeds animals that have been brought into shelters.

The pet food that is collected through this two-week drive will be

donated to various non-profit, privately owned organizations.

Mansour explained that last year's drive was a great success. Organizations such as Pawswatch, N.W. Animal Protection League, The Pet Refuge and the Coventry Community Food Bank benefited from the drive.

"Last year I also took some of the food to the West Bay Community

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## JANET'S DOGGY BAGS PET FOOD DRIVE

- Held August 1-14.
- Pet food donated to various non profit, privately owned organizations.
- Bins located at 3 local Stop & Shop stores: 900 Tiogue Ave. Coventry 575 Greenwich Ave. Warwick and 300 Quaker Lane Warwick.

# Bags of pet food, supplies can be left at 3 markets

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Action,” said Doonan. “I brought them a lot of items and within a day or two they were calling asking for more.”

She said many of the individuals that try to take in stray animals are not getting funding and the VSA and this food drive help them tremendously.

“In tough economic times people are having difficulty putting food on the table for their families, let alone for their pets,” Mansour said.

She explained that families bring their pets to the shelter when times get tough and they can't afford them. She said that currently, many of the shelters are full.

“The food we collected last year really impacted a lot of needy animals for months throughout the state,” she said.

The items donated will be

made into “doggy bags” for the animals.

Mansour said people can drop off items such as cat food, dog food, treats and dog bones to the collection bins that will be located inside three Stop & Shop locations.

She expressed her appreciation to Stop & Shop for supporting the cause.

“Stop & Shop came forward and cared about the community and helped us help them,” said Doonan.

Mansour said she will occasionally check the bins to take an inventory of the items and empty the bins if they are full.

The Janet's Doggy Bags Pet Food Drive began today and will continue until Aug. 14.

Bins will be located at the Stop & Shop stores at 900 Tiogue Ave. Coventry, 575 Greenwich Ave. Warwick and 300 Quaker Lane Warwick.