

## Hawthorne Volunteer Ambulance Corps Celebrates New Headquarters

For Immediate Release: November 6, 2006

Contact: Kimberly Allen, (202) 226-8364; (202) 420-1524 [cell]

### Hawthorne Volunteer Ambulance Corps Celebrates New Headquarters

(Hawthorne, NJ)— On Thursday, November 2, 2006, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) and the Hawthorne Volunteer Ambulance Corps (HVAC) celebrated the grand opening of the new HVAC Headquarters on Goffle Road. More than a year in the making, this building was made possible by the Borough of Hawthorne and individual donations.

"Not every town in America has a volunteer ambulance corps," said Rothman. "It is a testament to the dedication and character of the people of Hawthorne that you've had one right here since 1932."

HVAC's mission is to provide basic life support and ambulance transportation services to the Borough of Hawthorne. Its work is fully funded through private contributions from the public. In the last year alone, HVAC volunteers answered over 1,400 calls, traveled over 15,000 miles, and donated to the Borough over 21,100 hours of their time.

"Our organization appreciates the town building this much-needed facility for us. I am also grateful for all of the time that our volunteers put in week after week to serve our Borough residents," said Chief Ken Houtsma.

"This Corps would not be possible without the commitment of the 38 volunteers who serve the 18,218 residents of this community. In many cases, they work 40 hours a week or more at their regular jobs and yet still fit in another 10-25 hours more helping their neighbors," added Rothman.

Pictured (L-R): Assistant Chief Kim Urquhart, Mayor Patrick Botbyl, Chief Ken Houtsma, President Dan Vanderhook, Congressman Steve Rothman, Councilwoman Shirley Shortway-English, State Senator John Girgenti, former Mayor Fred Criscitelli, life member of HVAC and former Councilwoman Marge Shortway, Councilman Frank Matthews, and Corps Member John Lane.

###