

A season of giving ...

A&T Subaru donates 132 children's winter coats

In Bucks County, approximately 41,406 people live in poverty — 10,996 of them are children. When money is tight, families often do without. That is why A&T Subaru in Sellersville is once again partnering with the Auto Dealers CARING for Kids Foundation for Driving Away the Cold. A&T Subaru has increased their donation to 132 new winter children's coats for the Bucks County Opportunity Council (BCOC) to distribute to local children in need.

With coats for children are: From left, Debbie Rosenberg, site supervisor; Bucks County Opportunity Council, Jeff Allen, president; A&T Subaru; and Jackie Akers, Housing Link coach, Bucks County Opportunity Council.



Started in 2008 by the Auto Dealers CARING for Kids Foundation, Driving Away the Cold is a philanthropic initiative with one important mission: to provide new winter coats to underprivileged children living in the five-county region of Philadelphia. This year, 180 local

auto dealers and the Auto Dealers CARING for Kids Foundation are donating more than 50,000 brand-new coats.

Staff, scientists, students and entrepreneurs within the PA Biotechnology Center in Doylestown donated non-perishable food items and monetary donations to help feed local community members in need. Students in the Masters of Biomedical Sciences program at the Biotechnology Center and Moody Movers of Doylestown were partners in the annual holiday food drive, sponsored by the Hepatitis B Foundation.



Biotech Center's holiday food drive collects 770 items

For the 11th consecutive year the staff, scientists, students and entrepreneurs located within the PA Biotechnology Center in Doylestown donated non-perishable food items and monetary donations to help feed local community members in need.

The annual holiday food drive is sponsored by the Hepatitis B Foundation and the overwhelming generosity of all the individuals resulted in 770 food items plus cash and gift card donations totaling \$1,195 for the Bucks County Housing Group food pantry.

Students in a Masters of Biomedical Sciences program at the Biotechnology Center, offered jointly by Geisinger School of Medicine and the Baruch S. Blumberg Institute, and Moody Movers of Doylestown were also partners in the annual holiday food drive. The students solicited donations, while Moody Movers donated a truck and drivers to transport the food to the pantry.

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A Woman's Place receives grant

A Woman's Place of Bucks County is the recipient of a \$20,000 unrestricted grant donated by The Mary Kay Foundation. The Mary Kay Foundation is named after Mary Kay Ash, founder of Mary Kay Cosmetics Inc. Local independent directors and Consultants nominated A Woman's Place for the grant.

The Mary Kay Foundation awarded \$20,000 grants to 150 domestic violence shelters across the U.S., Guam and Puerto Rico. The Mary Kay Ash Foundation was created in 1996. The mission is twofold: To fund research of cancers affecting women and to help prevent domestic violence while raising awareness of the issue.



From left: A Woman's Place staff and Mary Kay directors and consultants Jen Storer, Gerry Schmidt, Anita Campbell, Ziegler Oliver, Marie Costello, Lyn Haney, Marnie Young, Carole Ziemly, Jesse Steel, Gloria Walker and Susan Ehrnstrom.

Special Equestrians receives Commonwealth Foundation grant

Special Equestrians therapeutic riding center recently received a \$15,000 grant from the Commonwealth National Foundation, a nonprofit charitable foundation formed in 1999 by members of the Commonwealth National Golf Club.



The funds were donated to support and grow Special Equestrians' (SE) programming for children and adults with disabilities. SE provides therapeutic horseback riding and other equine-assisted experiences that offer proven physical, emotional, and cognitive benefits for participants. These life-changing equine-assisted therapies are offered to anyone who can benefit from them, regardless of their ability to occur.

Brett Rhode from the Commonwealth National Foundation stands with therapy horse Sonja at the Special Equestrians facility in Warrington where he presented a \$15,000 foundation grant to the organization.

Community support like that from Commonwealth helps fulfill the Special Equestrians mission.

Univest awards \$5,000 to Logan's Heroes Animal Rescue

Logan's Heroes Animal Rescue was the winner of Univest Corporation's sixth annual Caring for Community Giveaway, a contest that awards \$5,000 to a local, nonprofit organization.



Logan's Heroes Animal Rescue was selected as the recipient of Univest's \$5,000 Caring for Community Giveaway. From left are: Kim Dewitler, senior vice president and director of corporate communications; Univest Corporation; Claudette Baringer, board member; Logan's Heroes; Kelly Kalb, board member; Logan's Heroes; Chris Baringer, president and founder, Logan's Heroes; and Nicole Heverly, public relations and social media manager, Univest Corporation.

Family Service program receives gift

The Young family recently delivered a \$15,000 gift on behalf of the Lauren Nicole Young Memorial Fund to Family Service Association of Bucks County in support of its School-Based Counseling program.



Family Service has partnerships with 20 schools across eight school districts to provide counseling for children and adolescents directly in the schools they attend each day.

Fran and Maria Young present their donation to Family Service Association while holding a photo of Lauren Nicole Young.

The gift from the Lauren Nicole Young Memorial Fund will be used specifically to provide middle and high school students with mental health counseling and substance abuse treatment in an effort to reduce drug and alcohol abuse and prevent possible deaths from occurring.

Because most adolescents spend a significant part of each day in a school building, Family Service's school-based program provides a convenient option for families, making it easy to access services and treatment. In addition, the school environment is a familiar

place for students, and they may be more comfortable receiving counseling and substance abuse treatment in the school setting rather than at an outpatient facility.

To learn more about School-Based Counseling, visit fsab.org/school or contact Remi Freeman, clinical supervisor of behavioral health, at 215-757-6916 or rffreeman@fsab.org.

Rug hooking guild supports victims of domestic violence

Members of the Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild collected clothing for women and children escaping from domestic violence in Hunterdon County, N.J.



Hunterdon County Rug Artisans Guild Officers Ellen DiClemente, vice president, membership, and Weezie Huntington, Jan and Fred Cole, co-presidents, stand with clothing collected for domestic violence victims.

They were Hope Against Heroin, St. Isidore School, The Granmie Project, Vets for Vets and the Bucks County SPCA.

Ivy Hill receives grant for support lift

Ivy Hill Therapeutic Equestrian Center, located at 1811 Mt. Road in Perkasie, was awarded a \$10,000 Capital Improvement Grant for the installation of a Sure-Hands Body Support Lift from Foundations Community Partnership.

Hance said, "The installation of a Sure Hands Body Support Lift removes the threat of injury and overcomes the physical barriers that create exclusion and limit inclusive participation."

The award was presented by FCP Executive Director Ron Bernstein on Dec. 13.

Ivy Hill Therapeutic Equestrian Center's riders include those individuals with diagnoses of autism, epilepsy, developmental delay, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, traumatic brain injury, traumatic accident, stroke and genetic birth defects, and serves vulnerable populations of seniors, women, children and veterans. Ivy Hill's mission is to create therapeutic programs for individuals with cognitive, physical, emotional, behavioral and psychological needs utilizing the equine experience.

The Sure-Hands Body Support Lift, which will be mounted in the indoor arena on Ivy Hill's ADA-compliant mounting ramp, will provide a safe and easy way for immobile and mobility-impaired riders to be mounted and unmounted on the back of a therapy horse without the fear or danger of injury to rider, horse or staff.

Program Director Megan Hance explained that as a therapeutic equine program and community center, it is imperative that all clients, visitors, employees and volunteers have full access to use of Ivy Hill's facility and horses.

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Grant for Hispanic Mentoring Initiative

The Comcast Foundation has awarded Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bucks County (BBBSBC) a \$25,000 grant to support its Hispanic Mentoring Initiative, a community-based mentoring program which encourages Latino children to embrace their cultures, while also developing new relationships within their communities.

Each volunteer mentor "Big" meets with his or her "Little" two to three times per month, doing a wide range of activities together. Research has shown that children with mentors are more motivated academically, develop healthier relationships with their family and peers, and are less likely to skip school or use drugs and alcohol. The simple act of having a consistent adult, who reinforces positive decision-making, has been changing lives and communities for more than 100 years. Every volunteer is carefully screened, and receives ongoing training and support by staff, for as long as the match is together. The goal is to help each Little in the program to grow and be successful.

Bucks Opportunity Council receives \$50,000 grant

KeyBank Foundation has awarded a \$50,000 grant to the Bucks County Opportunity Council (BCOC) to start a housing preservation program for low-income homeowners living in mobile homes.

The two-year KeyBank Foundation grant will be used for necessary repairs to 20 to 25 households and is part of the foundation's focus on supporting neighbors.

The money goes to support the Doylestown shelter for various needs of local homeless families. For example, the first year the gift was used to buy a computer for the residents. Profits were also used to help BCGH recover from a fire approximately 10 years ago.

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St. Paul's donates \$13,400 to Bucks Housing Group

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Doylestown presented a gift of \$13,400 to Bucks County Housing Group at the church's 10 a.m. service on Sunday, Jan. 14.

This year, 975 tickets were sold, resulting in the largest Christmas fundraiser to date, and one half of the profits were donated to the Bucks County Housing Group.

This is the 25th year that St. Paul's has shared its income with the Housing Group (since 1993). The money goes to support the Doylestown shelter for various needs of local homeless families.

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