



2022
*Holiday
Gift
Guide*

A Special Section of the
Sullivan County Democrat
December 2022 * Callicoon, New York * Section H

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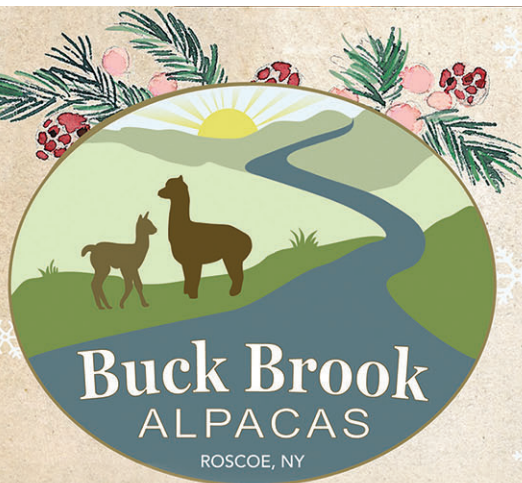
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The gift of gratitude

One of the major topics we touched on in our first Holiday Gift Guide was shopping local. Throughout this one (our Second Gift Guide of 2022), you'll see a number of the great small businesses we have in our community, as well as the products they have to offer.

While the holidays are a time for giving, more so than receiving, you may just get one of these amazing locally-produced gifts. That begs the question, what do you do when you receive a truly special gift that resonates at your core?

Gratitude gifts can be very simple, but sometimes it can be a challenge to think of the best way to express how you feel.

You could purchase a card with one of those cheesy, pre-written responses, but in an increasingly impersonal society, we'd recommend taking a

little bit of time to pen a letter or buy a blank card where you can express how you feel in your own words.

You could also choose, if you hadn't already purchased a gift for the person who gave the gift in which you want to express gratitude for receiving, to buy them something or perhaps get them a gift card.

In either case, it'd be a good idea to include a small message explaining what was so special about their gift, as well as how they made or make you feel.

While we're tackling gratitude



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

in regard to the holidays, it is important to note that birthdays, special occasions and/or holidays aren't the only time that it's acceptable to give someone a gift.

Maybe someone was there for you during a tough time in your life or has served as a mentor in your career and personal endeavors. In either case, a thoughtful gift or card can

drive home the point that they made a positive impact on your life in some way.

There is truly something wonderful about expressing gratitude and contributing to a positive memory in someone's life.

As American monk David Steindl-Rast has previously stated, "It is not joy that makes us grateful; it is gratitude that makes us joyful."

Holiday Gift Guide No. 2

'Shop Local, Support Local'

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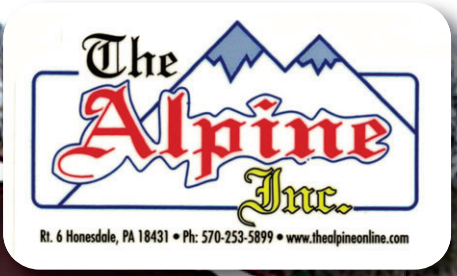
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Pets and Holidays

BY RUTH HUGGLER

Over the river and down the thruway and up the challenging Catskill foothills our relatives will come for this holiday's celebration. Here are some of the things we will do so that our pets can enjoy the visit too.

- We grownups keep the energetic kids busy with crafts and games and a leisurely stroll outdoors after the dinner mess has been cleared.

- Small children are encouraged to pet only those pets who like attention, and we keep an eye out when they do.

- Regular mealtimes are kept, as close as possible, so that no pet goes hungry and tries to eat something it shouldn't.

- No potpourri or fragrance burners in the house, these can be poisonous or irritating to pets. Sometimes pets will try to eat unusual things, so keep them out of reach and securely enclosed.

- To freshen the air before guests arrive, sprinkle some baking soda on area rugs and let it stand briefly, then vacuum thoroughly. In years past, I have rented a carpet cleaner but no one seems to appreciate the aftermath of fans blowing to dry the carpet—most notably the four-legged residents.

- We never offer people food to our pets, so no table begging. Fat scraps are just bad, and bones are put away before they tempt anyone. Small bones can lead to choking. Larger bones, such as pork chops or beef bones, can have sharp edges. If you do offer bones, keep an eye on your pet while they're gnawing on them. Take away what's left over when they're finished.

- No shellfish, oyster or clam shells

- No raw eggs or raw fish

- Plastic bags are off-limits. If chewed and swallowed, they can cause intestinal problems. Pets can also get hurt if a bag completely covers their head and they can't shake it loose. They may run into walls or fall down stairs or, worst case scenario: suffocate.

- Potato chip bags or other snack bags go in the garbage, which is



RUTH HUGGLER | DEMOCRAT

Decorate with the safety of your pets in mind: have a tinsel-free tree, with unbreakable ornaments, no low-hanging light strings, and no other goodies that they might chew on. Keep the number for your local 24/7 emergency veterinary hospital handy. If you suspect your pet has eaten something poisonous, call the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at (888) 426-4435.

always out of reach. Pets can get their heads stuck inside these types of bags too, and there's a risk of suffocation.

- Small boxes, like empty tissue boxes, are flattened for recycling.

- Pet toys are always available to de-stress from the "interlopers," and a bedroom door is always open for our pets to escape the traffic of a full house of guests.

- We also watch the outside door as guests come and go to be sure no pet retreats outdoors because of stress from having extra company.

We're always glad when we can have family with us for the holidays. We don't have them close often, and it's wonderful to share time with them when we do. We'll remember those who have passed on, and we'll miss those who can't join us this year because they no longer travel long distances.

I'm thankful for the time we've had with all family and friends, and I hope you readers will enjoy similar time with your loved ones.

They haven't said as much, but I'm fairly certain our pets would prefer if all holidays were always celebrated with guests joining via Zoom session.

Happy Holidays & Season Greetings To All!



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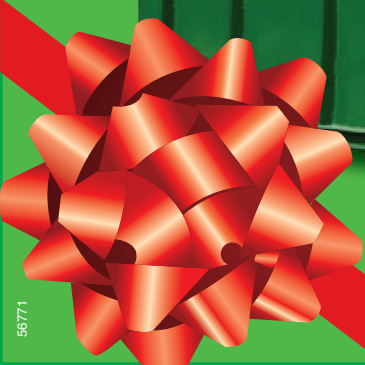
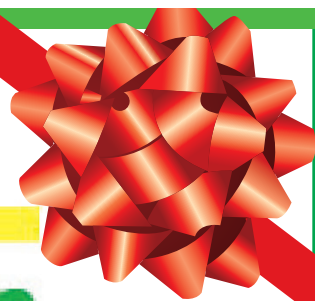
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A tradition continues

PHOTOS BY JOSEPH ABRAHAM

Each year the Holiday Open House at the Sullivan County Cultural Center & Museum in Hurleyville attracts a number of visitors to admire the themed trees decorated by local individuals and organizations that are on display.

Also, several vendors were in attendance with many great one-of-a-kind items at the open house, which is organized by the Sullivan County Historical Society in partnership with the Hurleyville Hub and Sullivan County Chamber of Commerce.

Here are some of the scenes of last Saturday's event



Sweet Treats Bar LLC Owner Mandtasia McKean was at the event with items that would satisfy any sweet tooth.

Sullivan West senior/student volunteer Lucia Kennedy (second from left) has been assisting the Sullivan County Historical Society (SCHS). She's pictured with SCHS' Suzanne Cecil, Judy Wolkoff and Patricia Burns.



Themed Christmas trees have been a staple at the County Museum each December.

Scott Delacruz was present with several items from his business, Twig and Hatchet, based out of White Sulphur Springs.



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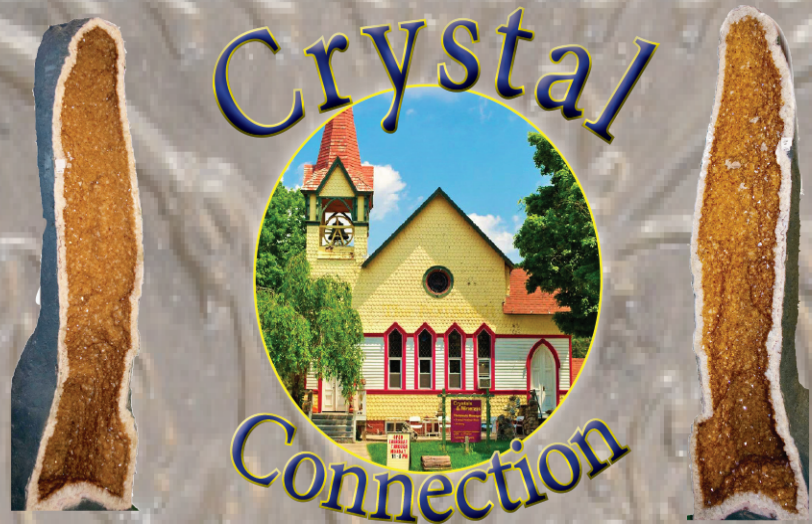
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STORY BY JOSEPH ABRAHAM
PHOTOS BY DEREK KIRK

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DV Farm and Garden Center, located on 30 Viaduct Road in Callicoon, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 12H



The weather is getting colder, so friends and family will surely welcome a nice hat to keep their ears warm this winter.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11H



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SHOP SULLIVAN

Gift giving can be a challenge for some, with many pressures on finding the one that's just right. Luckily there are many local and small businesses that have amazing options for you to consider. While many cave to the convenience of ordering online, aside from a few dollars

STORY BY DEREK KIRK

and cents via a tax, there is no other benefit to the community in which they live.

It is statistically supported that shopping and supporting local businesses bring more dollars to your own backyard. Also, keeping these businesses thriving is also crucial for our main streets and keeping them healthy. Not

supporting them means an increased likelihood of abandoned storefronts, which does nothing for the fabric of our towns, villages and County as a whole.

So please shop local this holiday season. While there are so many great businesses to choose from, here are a few of the treasures we have across the region.



Morgan Outdoors Don't wait until the spring to get your outdoorsy necessities, stop in at Morgan Outdoors at 234 Main St, Hurleyville. They're open Monday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm, and Sunday from 10 AM to 3 PM.



Kay Birds Flowers, bouquets, and all things floral can be found at Kaybirds, located at 125 Wheeler St, Hancock. They're open Tuesday and Friday from 9:30 AM to 5:00PM, Wed and Thursday from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM, and Saturday from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM.



Duck Harbor Find something antique and give it new life at Duck Harbor Antiques Etc. at 617 Duck Harbor Rd, Equinunk, PA.

* All photos in this spread are contributed.

SHOP SULLIVAN



Annie's Ruff Cut Try one of Annie's Ruff Cut's signature roast beef sandwich, drinks, and desserts. Located at 90 Forman Road, Cochecton, they are open Wednesday from noon to 8 PM, Thursday from noon to 9 PM, Friday and Saturday noon to 9 PM, and Sunday noon to 8 PM.



Hilly Acres Hilly Acres Farm has homegrown, farm-fresh meat and other products available. They are located in Jeffersonville. To order online on their website, visit www.hillyacresfarm.com.



Domestic Novelties Domestic Novelties holds what could be your future treasure at the antique store at 120 E Kenoza Pl, Smallwood. They're open on weekends, Friday from Noon to 5 PM, Saturday from 11 AM to 5 PM, and Sunday from 11 AM to 4 PM.



Callicoon Theater Take the family or some friends to the cinema at Callicoon Theater at 30 Upper Main St, Callicoon. See their movie schedule on their website, www.thecallicoontheater.com/schedule.



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Liberty Trading Post Hardware, home improvement supplies, and all-things for your favorite handyman are available at Liberty Trading Post, located at 1966 State Route 52, Liberty. They're open Monday-Saturday from 8 AM to 6 PM, and Sunday 8 AM to 5 PM.

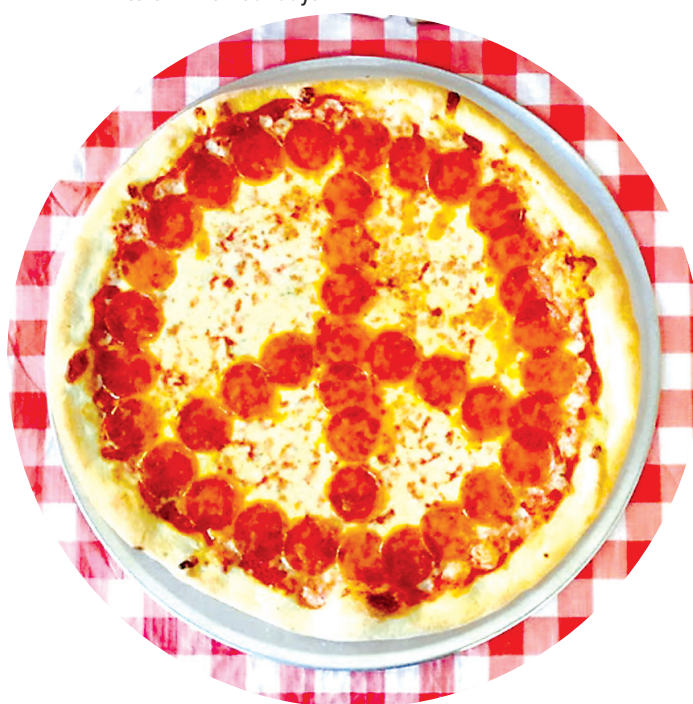


Grizzly Bagels

Pick up some 'unbearably delicious' bagels and merchandise at Grizzly Bagels located at 43 Lower Main St., Callicoon. Open Friday through Sunday, 9 AM to 2 PM.



52 and Vine Select wines and spirits for the special holiday occasion can be found at 52&Vine, located at 4921 NY-52, Jeffersonville. They're open 10 AM to 8 PM Monday through Saturday, and noon to 5 PM on Sundays.



Woodstock Oasis Snacks, drinks, and other necessities are available at the Woodstock Oasis to help pass on the peace of 1969, located at 2166 NY-17B, Bethel, NY. Open from 8AM to 7 PM every day except Thursday.

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Find the best flowers for the holidays

STORY AND PHOTOS BY DEREK KIRK

The holidays always call for an abundance of holly jolly decorations, endearing gifts, and beautiful flowers that bring in the feeling of the giving season.

Right on Main Street in Honesdale, PA awaits Honesdale Greenhouse Flower Shop to assist you in all your festive floral needs this winter! Weddings, funerals, proms, and of course, upcoming holiday gatherings are just a few of the many occasions that the flower shop provides for when you need it.

Originally opened in 1922, the historic flower shop has provided fresh flowers and other decorative flora for the surrounding area for decades for a variety of occasions, ranging from birthdays, to proms, to funerals and more.

But of course, nothing would be merry and bright within the season without fresh flowers to sweeten the air and give peace to the eyes. That's where Honesdale Greenhouse Flower Shop comes into the picture with products perfect for the backdrop of this year's holiday greeting card.

Under the nine years of guidance of owner Joy Shulatta, along with the dedication from flower shop assistant Katie Brosky and delivery driver Andy Duley, the products offered by Honesdale Greenhouse Flower Shop reach their customers throughout the region with a personal touch.

With each and every one of her customers, Shulatta said she pursues a hands-on approach to create a personal connection.

Shulatta has garnered a wealth of experience in handling the power of the flowers. Prior to spearheading the Honesdale Greenhouse, she owned and operated a similar flower shop in the Florida Keys before relocating to



Also available for purchase are holiday themed decorations, stocking stuffers, and other festive trinkets to go alongside the fresh flowers from the Honesdale Greenhouse flower shop.



Honesdale Greenhouse flower shop owner Joy Schulatta prepares personalized flowers alongside shop resident and trusted feline companion Jack.

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A portal to the past Gardner & Co. General Store open full-time

STORY AND PHOTOS
BY ANTHONY MORGANO

For Cindy Herbert, owning and running a store had always been something she wanted to do. With Gardner & Co. General Store, that dream became a reality. What began as a holiday pop-up in the hamlet of Hortonville, has

now become a year-round operation that highlights artisans from around the county and beyond.

Cindy grew up in Jeffersonville before moving to Hortonville in 1998. She knew when she bought the property that she wanted to do something with the building on the property that was built in 1850.

“I’ve been building towards a theme of sustainable products but keeping a rustic, almost antique feel to it.”

And so far, that theme seems to be working. Customers that stop in comment on the old-timey feel of it all, from the products for sale to the display shelves and layout that Cindy came up with.

When asked



Cindy Herbert is the owner/curator of the store. Her dream of owning a shop came to life when the store began as a holiday pop-up and has developed into a full-time project.



The General Store, curated by owner Cindy Herbert, is all set up for the holidays. The shop originally started as a holiday pop-up before becoming a full-time operation.



The building in which Gardner & Co. resides was erected in 1850. The store’s rustic theme fits with the age of the building.

about some of her favorite parts about running the store and being able to sell local products Cindy said, “Meeting everyone and learning about them and their stories has been such a great experience. From the artists to the customers that come through the door, everyone has their own unique story.”

One of the biggest hits within the walls of the store has been local ice cream from Myers Century Farm.

“During the summer we had tables and chairs where some of the Christmas displays are, giving customers a place to sit and enjoy their ice cream.”

Opening an old-fashioned soda fountain is another of Cindy’s to-do’s for the store, adding to the vintage feel and keeping with the

theme of the past brought to the present.

While she explained that the store is slightly off the beaten path, there is still plenty of traffic to the store from the road that connects Callicoon to North Branch and beyond.

For now the store is open from Thursday to Sunday each week, and the hours vary. On Thursday, they are open from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. On Friday and Saturday they are open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Sunday they are open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you are looking for some nice gifts from local artisans, Gardner and Co. General Store should be a stop on your holiday shopping circuit!

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Cuppie Cake Desserts has you covered when it comes to holiday-themed baked goods.

Holiday treats in Narrowsburg

BY JOSEPH ABRAHAM

For Heather DeGori, baking was not initially her story. Even though she did it her whole life, she never saw herself making a career of it. That was more the ambition of her sister Kim, who returned home in 2013, after living down south.

Wanting to pursue baking, but not wanting to go off to school alone, Kim convinced Heather to go with her and they attended the Wilton School of Cake Decorating just outside of Chicago.

It was at Wilton where DeGori fell in love with the decorative and design aspects of baking. When the sisters came back to Sullivan County, equipped with their new skills, they started K & H Confections, which grew naturally.

After Kim recently moved away, Heather attempted to continue the business, but due to work and school, she didn't have the time and the business dissolved.

The baking bug, however, didn't go away. She decided in December 2021 to go back after her dreams and rebrand. She started Narrowsburg-based Cuppie Cake

Desserts and recently decided to make it her full-time occupation, which she has found very rewarding.

"I love thinking out something in my head, seeing it come together and looking at the final product," she said of baking. "I enjoy seeing my customer's faces and making them happy, gearing my desserts towards what they'd like."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
DeGori's Strawberry Crunch Cake.



Heather DeGori has been baking her entire life, but while at the Wilton School, fell in love with the decorative and design aspect of it.

DeGori does everything from regular cookies (like chocolate chip), to fancier decorated/themed sugar cookies to custom cakes, and has even done a desert-style charcuterie board for weddings.

While recent inflation has made it difficult to price items, due to the increase cost of supplies, DeGori has made it a priority to keep prices affordable and fair.

If you need some baked goods for the holidays, you can contact DeGori through Cuppie Cake Desserts' Facebook page or by emailing cuppiecakedesserts@gmail.com. DeGori asks that you call at least a week in advance of when you need the treats.

On a separate note, she is currently competing in "The Greatest Baker" contest and you can vote for her daily by going to <https://greatestbaker.com/2022/heather-3>.



Order your holiday-themed sugar cookies today, so they're ready for your friends and family to enjoy.

We wish everyone a joyous Holiday Season & Happy, Healthy New Year!

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Clay creations in Jeffersonville



These gnome-themed pieces are a mix of ornaments, knick knacks and a Christmas tree that lights up.

BY JOSEPH ABRAHAM

Pearl Gain became interested in opening a ceramic shop about 30 years ago when she bought a small shop from a friend in order for her and her daughter to use their artistic abilities to create beautiful pieces. The shop, named Catskill Country Ceramics, is located on 4852 NY-52 in Jeffersonville.

“For several years we were partners in this enterprise until she moved away,” said Gain. “Since then I have carried on alone, often with volunteers or employees.

“I offer in-house classes during open hours as well as greenware, fired bisque and all the supplies necessary for customers to create at home,” she continued. “Side projects include green candles and jewelry making supplies.”

Finished pieces in the shop’s gift area include Christmas trees in all sizes, a variety of gnomes, tree ornaments, outside ornaments and much more. A free gift is given to

all who visit the shop.

Shop hours are normally Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. but call ahead. The shop number is (845) 482-3651.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

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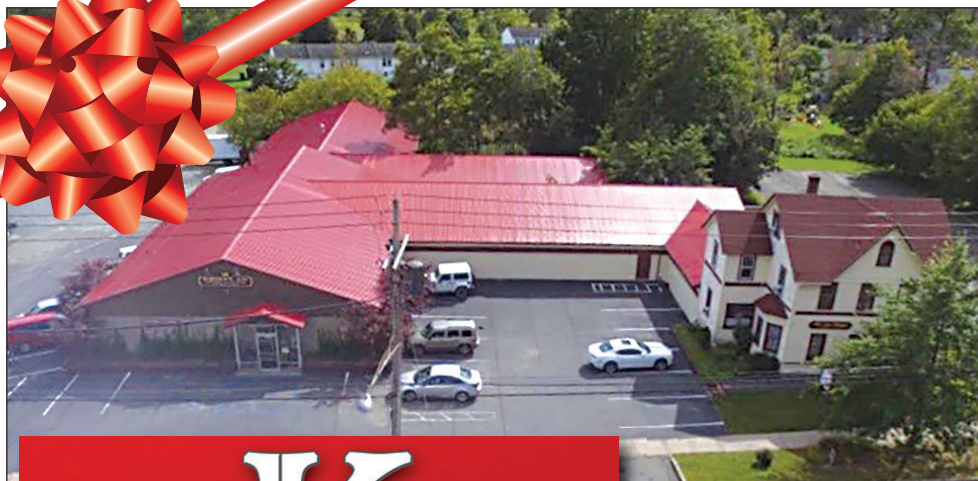
7 Erie Avenue, Narrowsburg, NY 12764
<https://www.narrowsburgunion.com/holiday-market-2022>



PHOTO BY ERIC ORD

*Callicoon Kiwanis
helps make
season bright*

The Callicoon Kiwanis Club held its Annual Christmas Holiday Party on Sunday, December 4, handing out more than \$10,000 to various organizations to help benefit the youth of the Upper Delaware Valley region. The event was held at Catskill Provisions on Upper Main Street, Callicoon and each organization that received a donation got to speak about their group. Receiving support from the Callicoon Kiwanis Club was: Delaware Valley Junior Rifle Club, Kingfisher Project, Sullivan West Music Program, Interfaith Outreach United, Literacy Partners, AYSO Soccer, Delaware Community Center, IOU Toy Drive, Red Dogs Football, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts – Jeffersonville Troop, Sullivan West Toy Drive, Sullivan County 4-H, Sullivan West FFA program, and Blessing Food Pantry. The Callicoon Kiwanis has been in existence for 76 years, dedicated to helping the youth of the area.



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