

*****Press Release*****

(This release is also attached as a PDF & Word Document.)

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Monkey Love Valentine Drive in Shelton an Amazing Success

This year, Luther's Garage in downtown Shelton collected 2,387 stuffed monkeys to give to children for Valentine's Day.

The purpose of this community drive is to collect stuffed monkeys for Valentine's Day for abused, neglected, needy, impoverished children and children of soldiers currently stationed abroad. Luther's Garage is happy to report the monkeys all found homes with children through the following agencies: Boys & Girls Club of LNV of Shelton, T.E.A.M. (Training, Education and Manpower, Inc.) of Derby, Valley YMCA of Ansonia, Area Congregations Together, Inc/Spooner House of Shelton, Birmingham Group Health Services, Inc. of Ansonia, The Shelton Safe Home, Covenant to Care for Children, Casey Family Services of Bridgeport, Yale Hospital Children's Cancer Center and Griffin Hospital.

According to Megan Cardinal of the Covenant to Care for Children, "The Adopt a Social Worker Program is able to serve about 30,000 children a year through the help and generosity of groups like Luther's Garage."

Various groups held their own monkey collection. They include Beardsley Zoo of Bridgeport, Splash Car Wash of Shelton, Pilgrim Bar-B-Que of Ansonia, Lifecare, Inc. of Shelton, The Learning Studio of Derby, Future Industries of Milford, Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce of Shelton, Keith Urban's "Monkeyville" National Fan Club and Tauton Press of Newtown.

Dana Palermo's Sixth Grade Cadette Troop 60826, from Long Hill School in Shelton, held an inter-generational craft project with the residents of Wesley Village in Shelton. They produced 40 pillows decorated with monkeys.

The Huntington/Shelton Exchange Club donated \$500.00 which was used to purchase 189 stuffed monkeys. Target of Ansonia donated a gift card.

The North Chittenango Service Center in Chittenango, New York also held their own stuffed monkey drive and donated to a local organization that assists children in need.

“We would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who donated and got involved,” states John Landry, owner of Luther’s Garage. “The outpouring of donations this year was absolutely amazing.”

For more information regarding upcoming charity events, visit www.luthersgarage.biz and click on the Community button, or email luthersgarage@aol.com.



(Pictured from left to right: David Guliuzza, Owner of The Pilgrim Bar-B-Que; Mike Pellegrino & Brian from Splash; John Landry, Owner of Luther's; Jeff Lowden, Luther's Technician; Gregg Dancho from the Beardsley Zoo; Todd Kipperman, Program Director of the Shelton Safe Home; Arlene Greco of Birmingham Group Health Services, Inc.; Lily Cardinal [who blends right in w/the monkeys] and her Mom, Megan Cardinal from Covenant to Care for Children.)



(Pictured from left to right: Gregg Dancho from the Beardsley Zoo; Todd Kipperman, Program Director of the Shelton Safe Home; Arlene Greco of Birmingham Group Health Services, Inc. and Lily Cardinal held by her Mom, Megan Cardinal from Covenant to Care for Children.)

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As always, thank you for helping us spread a good word! 😊