Humboldt Bay Firefighters "Share the Magic of Christmas" Toy Drive and "Santa for Seniors"

Press Release & Informational Sheet November 2015

When:

We will kick off our annual "Share the Magic of Christmas" Toy Drive at The Bayshore Mall on November 27th, 2015 at 10:00 am. Humboldt Bay Firefighters will be escorting Santa Claus through the mall from the food court to Santa's Pavilion. Children will have the opportunity to have their picture taken with Santa Claus and local firefighters. The media is encouraged to attend.

We will be collecting toys for our Toy Drive at the Bayshore Mall on the November 27th & 28th.

We will be collecting toys at the Humboldt County Artisans Craft Fair at Redwood Acres on December 4th, 5th and 6th. Bring a toy and get in free!!

We will also be accepting cash donations for the Santa for Seniors program. All funds go to help support the Humboldt Senior Resource Center's "White Bag" Program.

How Long: We will collect toys and donations until December 20, 2015

Who:

Humboldt Bay Firefighters are collecting toys and giving them to The Salvation Army for local distribution. We hope to distribute toys to over 600 **local** families this year! We will also be accepting donations for the 6th Annual Santa for Seniors program which provides holiday meals for local seniors in need.

Where: All Humboldt Bay Fire Stations

State Farm Insurance Offices All Eureka locations

Eureka City Hall

George Peterson Insurance

Starbucks Coffee

Starbucks Coffee

Provident Credit Union

531 K Street
416 E Street
1117 Myrtle Ave
326 5th Street
2916 Central Ave

Central Office Copy Center 326 I St

Redwood Acres Office 3750 Harris Ave

Humboldt Bay Tourism Center 205 G St

Contact: Eddie Blevins at Humboldt Bay Fire (707) 441-4000

"SHARE THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS" TOY DRIVE

All donated toys are given to local Humboldt County Kids!

Our Toy Drive is the oldest and longest running toy drive in Humboldt County. Firefighters began in the 1920's by collecting and fixing old toys for local, underprivileged children. Using their own money on their days off firefighters would collect broken bicycles, dolls, etc. and refurbish them to like new. This tradition has continued to grow ever since and we now have partnered with The Salvation Army to distribute toys to children in our community that may not otherwise receive a new toy for Christmas. This event continues to be funded by firefighters from their own pockets as well as through generous support and donations from local area businesses and citizens. All the toys collected are distributed to local children ages 0-12 in Humboldt County. We hope to help over 600 Families this year! This event provides an opportunity for citizens and firefighters to "SHARE THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS", and do something positive for local children.

<u>New</u> and <u>unwrapped</u> toys can be dropped off at any Humboldt Bay Fire Station or numerous businesses throughout Eureka.

We will also be collecting toys at the Bayshore Mall November 27th & 28th.

We will also be collecting toys at the Humboldt County Artisans Craft Fair at Redwood Acres on December 4th, 5th & 6th. Bring a toy and get in free!!

SANTA FOR SENIORS

In addition to the Humboldt Bay Firefighter's Toy drive, we are proud to be continuing the 6th Annual "Santa for Seniors" program. This year we are partnering with the Humboldt Senior Resource Center.

All donations to "Santa for Seniors" will go to the Humboldt Senior Resource Center's White Bag Program. This great program provides local Senior citizens with a Holiday bag that has been decorated by local school children. The bags are filled with food treats for the holidays as well as a warm, nutritious meal. They hope to assemble, wrap, and deliver over 400 bags this year! By making a cash donation to the "Santa for Seniors", you can help share the gift of Christmas with an elderly person in our community who is less fortunate than yourself!

For further information regarding the "Santa for Seniors" or the Humboldt Bay Firefighter's "Share the Magic of Christmas" Toy Drive, you can contact Eddie Blevins at Humboldt Bay Fire (707) 441-4000.