

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 2025

### **Contact:**

MacKenzie Zarzycki Vice President of Marketing & Communications, Discover Saratoga MacKenzie@discoversaratoga.org O: (518) 584-1531

# Toys for Toga Kicks Off 13th Annual Holiday Fundraiser With Free Coffee on Caroline Street

## Business Community Fundraiser Donated \$40,000+ in Toys and Donations to Local Charities Last Year

**Saratoga Springs, NY** — The Toys for Toga holiday toy drive kicked off its 13th annual season today on Caroline Street in downtown Saratoga Springs, giving away free one-pound bags of Death Wish Coffee to raise awareness for the upcoming campaign, which officially begins Monday, November 3.

Now in its 13th year, Toys for Toga is a partnership of more than 100 Saratoga County businesses that join together each holiday season to collect toys and monetary donations for local children and families in need. In 2024, the campaign donated 4,500 toys valued at more than \$40,000 to three Saratoga County charities: Franklin Community Center (Saratoga Springs), CAPTAIN Community Human Services (Clifton Park), and Mechanicville Area Community Services Center (Mechanicville).

Those who donated a toy at Wednesday's kickoff received a Happy Hour punch card valid for special offers at participating Caroline Street bars and restaurants throughout the Toys for Toga campaign, which runs November 3 through December 13.

"Toys for Toga has become a cherished Saratoga tradition—one that perfectly reflects our community's generosity and spirit," said Darryl Leggieri, President of Discover Saratoga and a founding member of Toys for Toga. "It's amazing to see so many local businesses and individuals come together year after year to make the holidays brighter for children across Saratoga County."

Starting Monday, participating businesses—including restaurants, bars, hotels, retail stores, and more—will feature Toys for Toga collection bins in their lobbies for new, unwrapped toy donations. A complete list of drop-off locations is available at <a href="www.toysfortoga.com">www.toysfortoga.com</a>.

This year's kickoff also coincides with Discover Saratoga's 20th Annual Restaurant Week, taking place November 3–9, 2025. Diners can enjoy three-course dinners for \$25 or \$35 (plus tax and tip) or lunch specials for \$15 at restaurants across Saratoga County. For menus, participating restaurants, and details, visit <a href="https://www.discoversaratoga.org/restaurantweek">www.discoversaratoga.org/restaurantweek</a>.

In addition to donating a toy, the public can support Toys for Toga in several ways:

- Free Coffee for Toys: Donate a toy valued at \$20 or more at Death Wish Coffee, 260 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, Monday—Thursday, 11 AM—4 PM, and receive a free bag of coffee.
- Druthers Toys for Toga Winter Ale: Available in 4-packs at local beverage centers, grocery stores, and on tap at select Saratoga County bars and restaurants.
- Specialty Drinks: Order a Sun Cruiser Iced Tea Vodka, Green River Kentucky Bourbon, or Saratoga Water at participating downtown locations.
- Make a Monetary Donation: Visit <a href="www.toysfortoga.com">www.toysfortoga.com</a> to contribute via the campaign's GoFundMe or directly to the Saratoga County Foundation, Inc.

Toys for Toga will also host several special events this year, including:

- Toys for Tattoos at Saratoga Tattoo Company Saturday, December 6
- Quick Response Holiday Lights Toy Drive Friday, December 12 & Saturday, December 13 (starting at 5 PM)

"The Mechanicville Area Community Services Center is incredibly excited to be a part of Toys for Toga again this year," said MACSC Executive Director Megan Quillinan. "These local businesses will make the holidays shine for so many kids in our community. We truly appreciate and wish to thank every donor, sponsor and business involved. It truly takes a local community to make sure no one goes without."

100% of all toys and monetary donations stay in Saratoga County, divided evenly among the three beneficiary organizations.

Businesses interested in joining the campaign are encouraged to reach out via the Toys for Toga Facebook page or contact Discover Saratoga for more information.

### **Important links:**

More information and full list of donation locations: www.toysfortoga.com

GoFundMe page: <a href="https://www.gofundme.com/f/toys-for-toga-fundraiser-to-help-saratoga-county-kids-2025">https://www.gofundme.com/f/toys-for-toga-fundraiser-to-help-saratoga-county-kids-2025</a>

Toys for Toga Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/toysfortoga">www.facebook.com/toysfortoga</a>

Discover Saratoga Restaurant Week: <a href="https://www.discoversaratoga.org/restaurantweek">www.discoversaratoga.org/restaurantweek</a>

###

### **About Toys for Toga**

Founded in 2013, Toys for Toga is a locally run community partnership and fundraiser that collects toys and raises money to give local kids happy holidays. Partners include Discover Saratoga, Death Wish Coffee, DeCrescente Distributing Company, Druthers Brewing Company, Quick Response Restoration, Ball Corporation, Brewnited, Saratoga Water, Sun Cruiser Iced Tea Vodka and Franklin Square Market. Everything collected is split between three local charities: Fraklin Community Center (Saratoga), CAPTAIN Community Human Services (Clifton Park) and the Mechanicville Area Community Services Center.

(Continue to next page for Toy Bin & Beer Locations)

**Toy Bin Locations:** Forno Bistro

30 Park at Hilton Garden Inn Franklin Square Market

Arvin Hart Fire Company G. Willikers Toys

Bailey's Cafe Genesis of Albany

Bentley's Tavern Grit + Grace Salon

Bevs (Maple Ave & Malta) Hamlet & Ghost

Boca Bistro Harvey's Restaurant and Bar

Booker & Bangtail Henry Street Taproom

Boscov's Clifton Park High Peaks Canna

Broadway Coffee Co. Holiday Inn Saratoga Springs

Bucciero's Hotel Brookmere

Carson's Woodside Tavern Impressions of Saratoga

Chianti Il Ristorante Jacob & Anthony's American Grille

Clancy's Kaliber Fitness

Clifton Park Beverage Kindred Wine Bar

Cooperstown Distillery La Fiesta Clifton Park

Dark Horse Mercantile Lago By Druthers

DeCrescente Distributing Company Land Rover Albany

Death Wish Coffee Legends Barbershop

Del's Wine & Spirits Max London's

Desperate Annie's McGovern Volvo Cars Albany

Dizzy Chicken Barbecue Mechanicville Library

Dog Haus Biergarten Milton Tavern

Dozer's Bar & Grill Nail Trix

Druthers (Clifton Park & Saratoga) New Country Toyota

Eddie F's New England Seafood Panza's Restaurant

Eddy's Beverage Peddlers Bar & Bistro

Embassy Suites Pennell's Restaurant

Fillies on Phila Prime at Saratoga National

Purdy's

Putnam Place

Quick Response Restoration

Ravenswood Pub

Rhea

Roots Barber Company

Samantha Nass Floral Design

Saratoga Auto Museum

Saratoga Federal

Saratoga Joinery

Saratoga Strike Zone

Savemore Beverage

Shirley's Diner

Skidmore Shop at Skidmore College

Spa City Tap & Barrel

Spare Time Clifton Park

Suarez Physical Therapy

Taverna Novo

The Bunker (Clifton Park & Saratoga)

The Coat Room

The Diamond Club at Embassy Suites

The Edison Club

The End Zone Sports Pub

The Horseshoe Inn Bar & Grill

The Inn at Saratoga

The Local Pub & Teahouse

The Mill on Round Lake

The Misfit

The Publik House

The Rusty Nail

The Ugly Rooster Cafe (Mechanicville &

Malta)

The View at Brookhaven

The Wild Horse

Therapeutic Horses of Saratoga

Tin 'N' Lint

Trick Shots / Wicked Eatery

Trotters Bar and Grill

Uncommon Grounds (Saratoga)

Val's Sporting Goods

West Side Mobil

West Side Sports Bar & Grill

Wheatfields Clifton Park

Young & Bloom Skin Care