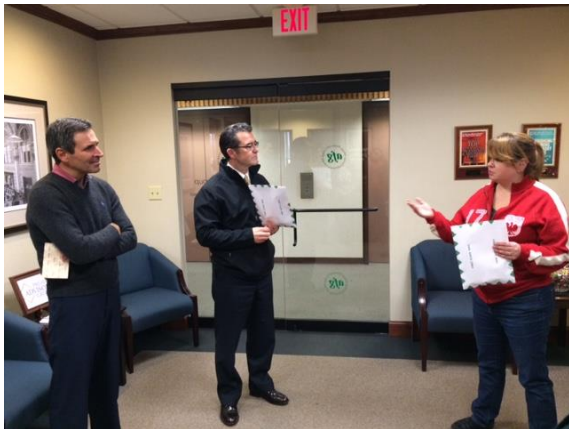


Holidays 2016



Albany Financial Group was once again honored to help children and families in need this holiday season.

"For the fifth year, Albany Financial Group has decided to give back to the community through a couple of great organizations," said AFG Principal Leonard Valletta.

This year, Albany Financial donated hundreds of toys, books, art supplies and sporting goods to two local organizations, which will help make the holidays a little brighter for more than 1,000 local children.

Employees of Albany Financial filled ten shopping carts, overflowing with gifts for our children from birth through age 12. In addition, the Group provided 50 Target gift cards to help families in need to purchase their own gifts or basic necessities.

The goods purchased were divided between the Schenectady City Mission and Catholic Charities, both of which provide a Christmas Toy Store for the families they assist throughout the year to shop, free of charge, for their children this holiday season.

The Schenectady City Mission expects to provide gifts for 1,500 children through the programs it offers, which include a toy store for the "working poor," said Executive Director Mike Saccocio.

Likewise, Catholic Charities aims to help 360 households this Christmas. Each family can pick out up to 5 gifts for each of their children, said Salley Zgolinski, director of Community Services. Families begin lining up at 6 a.m. for the toy store which opens at 9 a.m. on December 20, she added. Once again, AFG partnered with the local Target store on Central Avenue, which generously discounted the purchases by 10%, allowing AFG to provide for more children, and dedicated two checkout aisles and several employees to help process the purchases.