

## Santa's Toy Box Collection a Success

Written by Ashley Wilson

Friday, 13 December 2013 08:01

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High Country Radio and GoBlueRidge.net's collection drive for Santa's Toy Box Friday netted \$1,300 and a truckload of toys for kids in Watauga County.

Numerous individuals and businesses stopped by the High Country Radio studios on Blowing Rock Rd. in Boone to make a donation of money or toys. High Country Radio would like to thank Ashe Country Ford, Freeman Gas, Hicks Tree Service, the High Country Chapter of Hunters Helping Kids, Cherokee Cove Camp, and the many others who contributed to the success of the event.

In its 27th year, Santa's Toy Box ensures that over 900 children in Watauga County are able to have gifts under the tree at Christmas. Started by the men's ministry at Deerfield United Methodist Church in Boone, Santa's Toy Box has grown to into a wide-reaching effort to provide toys, books, and cheer to children whose families are experiencing financial difficulties.

Parents participating in Santa's Toy Box are given an opportunity to peruse a makeshift toy store to pick out the most appropriate gifts for their children. Each child is provided gifts and a book which the parents take home to present to their kids on the holiday.

Those seeking to make donations can contact Gene Swift at (828) 266-3362 or can write a check to Santa's Toy Box at P.O. Box 1337, Boone, NC 28607. Santa's Toy Box is also seeking

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volunteers leading up to Christmas.