

Woodland Pond Seniors Collect Gifts for Families



COURTESY PHOTO

Residents at Woodland Pond at New Paltz bring the gifts they collected for the Adopt-A-Family program to the community's holiday tree.

JOURNAL STAFF

Residents at Woodland Pond in New Paltz recently collected gifts and donations for two families in need.

For seniors who have lived through the Depression era — and even through the most recent recession — going without, or with very little, is something they understand, according to a written release from the residential facility. The residents at Woodland Pond gathered the gifts and donations for two local families in need who are participating in Family of New Paltz's Adopt-A-Family program.

Toys, warm clothing, family games, music players, video games, jewelry, shoes and more were collected and placed under-

neath the community's holiday tree.

"You can actually see how giving back brings so much joy to the residents and how happy they become when thinking about a young, appreciative child opening a gift they hand selected," Sarah Hull, resident services director for Woodland Pond, said in the release. "They put a lot of thought into the gifts and are pleased to help those in need."

Between the two families, residents purchased gifts for a total of five children: a 5-month-old, a 2-year-old, a 5-year-old, a 7-year-old and an 11-year-old. The residents bought everything from baby toys to puzzles, Barbie dolls, action figures and electronics.

"The residents are not

only happy to give the kids a good Christmas, they're happy to ease the stress that comes from not being able to provide for one's children on Christmas," Michelle Gramoglia, executive director for Woodland Pond at New Paltz, said in the statement. "Families can now focus on what truly matters without stressing about how they will make Christmas happen. We are happy to assist these families and spread some holiday cheer."

Woodland Pond is operated by HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley, an integrated health care system that provides medical care for patients, their families and the Hudson Valley community. For more information, visit: <http://wpatnp.org>