

RUSTY BUGGY ENTERPRISES, INC.
Contact: Billie Nicholson (850) 433-4087

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2016 Rotary Tree of Remembrance a Big Success!

The Fourth Annual Rotary Tree of Remembrance was on display at Cordova Mall in Pensacola from Sunday December 4 through Tuesday, December 27, 2016. Pensacola Cordova Rotary, Rotary E-Club of the Southeast USA & Caribbean, sponsored the [Rotary](#) Tree of Remembrance at Cordova Mall, located at 5100 N. 9th Avenue in Pensacola, FL. Local Combined Rotary Clubs of Greater Pensacola members served as volunteers during shopping hours at the mall to share the purpose of the tree.

The opening ceremony, held outside Dillard's entrance at 3:00 PM on Sunday, December 4th, included entertainment by the Tate High School Choral Group, under the direction of Cynthia Domulot.

It also included an observance of the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day, the Japanese attack that resulted in the US entering World War II. Lt. Col. Cass Phillips, USN (ret.) represented our local Pearl Harbor survivors.

"I am really proud to be in this place with our local Pearl Harbor survivor, Cass Phillips," said Mayor Ashton Hayward. LCdr Phillips was among many who filled out ribbons of remembrance for the tree.

Tree of Remembrance Touches Hearts

Holiday shoppers were touched as they stopped to remember loved ones and place gold ribbons on the tree. "This is an opportunity to extend the spirit of holiday giving by making a contribution to local youth organizations," said Dave Reed, Pensacola North Rotary member. This year's contributions totaled \$11,023.00. Checks were presented to recipients at the January 5th meeting of the Cordova Rotary.

Donation Beneficiaries

Donation beneficiaries include Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart, Gulf Coast Kid's House, Simon Youth Foundation, Rotary's Camp Florida, Covenant Hospice and Reading is Fundamental Pensacola.

Rotary participants from:

Pensacola Cordova
E-Club of Southeast USA & Caribbean
Cantonment
Five Flags
Gulf Breeze
Milton
Pace
Pensacola North
Pensacola
Perdido Key
Seville
SubWest

spent many hours at the tree assisting shoppers as they placed ribbons on the tree. There were over 1,000 ribbons placed on this year's tree.

Students from Interact Pace High School, Interact Gulf Breeze High School
Rotaract from University of West Florida & Pensacola Rotaract also volunteered to work at the tree.

A special thanks to volunteers from Naval Air Station Technical Training Command (NATTC) Pensacola who manned the tree during it's first week.

After the holidays, Scouts will retire the ribbons placed on the Tree of Remembrance at the Boy Scouts' annual U.S. Flag Retirement Ceremony. This service will be scheduled for later in the year.

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For additional information: Contact Carl Backman 850 602-1825

Photos:

IMGL7969.jpg – Cynthia Domulot leads Tate High School Choir

IMGL8008.jpg – LCdr. Cass Phillips, USN (ret) and Mayor Ashton Hayward

IMGL7978.jpg – LCdr. Phillips filling out ribbon

Gulf Breeze Interact at tree

IMGL3115tm.jpg – final tree

IMGL9695.jpg – Check presentation

Final video available for viewing at: <http://www.rustybuggyenterprises.com/2016-rotary-tree-of-remembrance-a-big-success/>