

Donate to Second Chance Toys at Investors Savings Bank sites

Posted by [mcerdeir](#) November 19, 2008 10:26AM

AREA -- A nonprofit created by Sasha Lipton, Governor Livingston High School, Class of 2007, is the focus of a holiday toy drive sponsored by Investors Savings Bank.

From Dec. 1 to 9, Investors Savings Bank's 52 branches includes those in Summit, New Providence and Berkeley Heights, will serve as sites for families to drop donated plastic toys.

The drive will benefit Second Chance Toys. Once the collection is complete, 1-800-GOT-JUNK? will step in to transport the toys to local organizations that serve children and families in need.

Ms. Lipton formed Second Chance Toys in the summer of 2006, her junior year at Governor Livingston in Berkeley Heights. Her nonprofit combines an element of recycling and community-based nonprofit work. It rescues plastic toys that are bound for the landfill, refurbishes them, and donates them to needy children around the U.S. and internationally. To date, Ms. Lipton's nonprofit has donated close to 8,000 toys to children.

"We are so happy to be conducting this expanded program made possible by the generosity of Investors Savings Bank and 1-800-GOT-JUNK?," says the GL graduate. "This is a time of the year when families make room for new toys for the holidays and we want to take advantage of this timely opportunity to keep them out of the landfills and put them into the hands of children that need them."

For information about how to donate gently used plastic toys, visit www.secondchancetoys.org. Toys should be clean, have no small or missing parts, and battery operated toys must be fully operational and they should be dropped off in large plastic garbage bags.

Ms. Lipton was an early volunteer. She delivered for Meals on Wheels, sponsored a needy child through Children International, and volunteered as a counselor at Camp Sunshine, a retreat for children with life threatening illnesses and their families.

Her nonprofit has been featured in The Star-Ledger, and she has been recognized by NJ Senator Thomas Kean, Jr. and Assemblymen Eric Munoz and Jon Bramnick. Ms. Lipton was selected to receive a bronze Distinguished Finalist medallion in the 2008 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. She also qualified for the President's Volunteer Service Award on behalf of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. She received a Resolution from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Her Second Chance Toys Getting Started Kit allows individuals, schools and community groups, and corporations to start local Second Chance Toys programs. A freshman at Northwestern University, Ms. Lipton's vision is to build Second Chance Toys into a thriving national entity with community involvement coast to coast. In December, she will be a speaker at the Green Marketing Conference, Good and Green, in Chicago, Ill.

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