



News Article

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Caruso's day of giving

3 shops will give proceeds to CFA

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COEUR d'ALENE - On Saturday, you can eat a sandwich and support Press Christmas for All.

The 10th annual CFA fundraiser will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Caruso's delis in Coeur d'Alene, Post Falls and Hayden.

"It is the small businesses that make these communities what they are," said Desi Freeman, owner of the Post Falls store with husband Mike. "If we can help in little ways like that, we can still give back even when a lot of businesses are aren't able to."

Each store will give 100 percent of its proceeds to CFA, and it's estimated that since the one-day benefit began it has raised more than \$25,000.

Hayden store owner Shelly Dutro and husband Dave believe they must always do what they can for their community, and giving to CFA is a great way to do it.

"No matter how hard you may think you have it, you always have room to give," Shelly said.

Coeur d'Alene store owner Amenoel Barfield and husband Darren agreed it's important to support the community.

"They support us so we support them," she said. "We have to take care of each other."

New this year will be drawings for baskets filled with gifts from Caruso's distributors including Odom, Pepsi and Food Services of America. Tickets will be \$1.

There will also be free coffee and lattes for \$2 provided by Avion Coffee.

The Caruso's delis are at: 121 W. Prairie Ave. Suite D, Hayden; 402 E. Seltice Way, Post Falls and 202 W. Ironwood Drive, Coeur d'Alene.

Caruso's franchise owners Vince and Chelle Caruso said they started the fundraiser as a way to celebrate the opening of their first store in Hayden, and to do something beneficial for the community.

Vince said the late Bob Paulos, considered the father of CFA, was a good customer of Caruso's and one day sat down and explained the program to them.

It was designed to brighten Christmas and help families with food, clothing and basic necessities.

"What else could you really ask for," Vince Caruso said. "So we got involved."

Chelle said this is a time of year when people's needs are great, so all the Caruso's store owners will be pitching in on Saturday.

"It's just a fun day. The Christmas spirit shows up," she said. "It makes it a neat place to be."