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## Big Flats girl surpasses holiday card goal

Jeff Murray , [jmurray@stargazette.com](mailto:jmurray@stargazette.com) | [@SGJeffMurray](https://twitter.com/SGJeffMurray) Published 12:31 p.m. ET Nov. 23, 2015 | Updated 4:26 p.m. ET Nov. 23, 2015

(Photo: JEFF MURRAY / STAFF PHOTO)

A Big Flats girl who hoped to collect 15,000 holiday gift cards for the troops this year reached her goal and then some over the weekend.

Sophie Kartzman, 12, the daughter of David and Denise Kartzman, of Big Flats, got her start two years ago when she and a friend made 50 cards each for the American Red Cross Holiday Mail for Heroes program.

She picked up the pace after that, leading efforts locally to collect 13,000 holiday cards last year for active military and veterans.

As of last Wednesday, Sophie had nearly 12,000 cards, thanks to support from area schools, community organizations and individuals.

After a flurry of activity over the weekend, the grand total as of Monday morning was 19,379 cards, her mother said.

"This was a great weekend that started at the Corning Youth Center where she went over 15,000," Denise Kartzman said. "Then she went to the Corning UPS with the help of WENY and the UPS where 10,000 cards were delivered to Japan, South Korea, Afghanistan, Pensicola, Fla., Cananadaigua VA, Guam and Georgia, just to name a few. Then she was off to events at Orange Leaf and Barnes & Noble."

Sophie planned on wrapping up the card drive Monday, but said that the date will probably be extended as she expects to get more cards through the end of November.

For information on how to help, go to [dreambigsophie.org](http://dreambigsophie.org) (<http://dreambigsophie.org/>).

Follow Jeff Murray on Twitter [@SGJeffMurray](https://twitter.com/SGJeffMurray).

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A promotional banner for Sling Television. On the left, a man with long dark hair and a beard is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark tank top. The background is dark. Text in yellow and white reads: "LA MEJOR TV EN ESPAÑOL \$10/mes SIN VERIFICACIÓN DE CRÉDITO". On the right, the Sling Television logo is displayed in blue and white.