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4-H members to collect goods for troops

June 19, 2007

By John Andrew Prime
jprime@gannett.com

Helped by the LSU AgCenter, local 4-H Club members will collect CARE packages for deployed troops later this month.

The collections will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 30 at Shreveport's two County Market locations, 3709 Greenwood Road and 6363 Hearne Ave.

In addition to the good feeling people will get by helping U.S. men and women laying their lives down in the field, on the sea and in the air, people making donations will be treated to free hot dogs and soft drinks, planners say.

Items suggested for the packages include DVDs, CDs, books, magazines, nuts, cookies, chips, fruit bars, candy, tuna, peanut butter, coffee, gum, combs, vitamins, razors, hand sanitizer, nail clippers, foot and body powder, deodorant, first aid kits, lip balm, toothpaste, floss, shampoo, tissues and lotions.

All food items must be pre-packaged, and no glass containers or pork products are allowed.

"Many men and women receiving the packages have no shopping facilities and are on the move weeks at a time," a release from the LSU AgCenter says. "Items must be compact and able to withstand being in backpacks for extended periods of time. Letters and cards are also welcome."

As a result of a May 23 column in The Times by LSU AgCenter Extension Educator Connie Aclin offering pointers for sending care packages overseas, local member stations of Access 1 Communications/The Radio Group of Shreveport suggested the project, the AgCenter said.

A detailed listing of items acceptable for donation are listed on the Internet site www.ansoldier.com.

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