

This feature is your opportunity to highlight the accomplishments of special people you know. We will recognize students, long-time volunteers and community groups celebrating anniversaries. To submit information, email neighbors@coxohio.com and note "Achievers" in the subject line. Be sure to include contact information, including email address and phone number of person submitting information.

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**By Mark Gokavi**  
Staff Writer

**BEAVERCREEK TWP.** — This is the third year troops in remote locations overseas will get "a piece of home" from the Heroes Supporting Heroes initiative led by the Beavercreek Fire Dept.

From Oct. 10 through Oct. 24, items can be dropped off at any Beavercreek Fire Station. Lt. Leigh Ann Brewer said she works with the Ohio Blue Star Mothers to gather donations of packaged food, socks and toiletries.

Last year, 130 boxes were shipped, after about 110 the year before. Brewer hopes to eclipse that number this year.

"It's really a big blessing to them. It gives them some hope and it's like a piece of home," she said.

"They know there are people at home caring about them."

The only toiletries requested are toothbrushes, toothpaste and unscented wipes. Due to extreme heat, scented items would ruin the food and no homemade food will be shipped. Other items to be collected include packaged potato chips, cookies, gum, beef jerky, hard candy, wet wipes, nuts, microwave foods, cheese crackers, tuna fish, chicken (vacuum packed), drink mixes for water bottles, canned food with pop tops, including fruit, sausages, beans and stationary.

The idea grew out of Brewer's church adopting a family for Christmas. The husband was serving overseas and Brewer also wanted to ship him something for Christmas, not just provide for his family.

The donation locations are Sta-

tion 61 at 2195 Dayton-Xenia Road; Station 2 at 3777 Dayton-Xenia Road; Station 63 at 3100 Kemp Road; Station 64 at 3633 Indian Ripple Road.

All but Station 62 have vestibules open so donations can be left if crews are out on a call. At Station 62, items can be left at Peace Lutheran Church at 3530 Dayton-Xenia Road.

The effort also includes collecting money to offset shipping costs, which are about \$13 per box. Checks can be made out to: Beavercreek Fire Local No. 2857 - Care Package Drive and sent to Professional Firefighters Local No. 2857, Box 192, Alpha, OH 45301.

Contact this reporter at (937) 225-6951 or mgokavi@DaytonDailyNews.com.

## EDUCATOR OF THE WEEK

**Educator:** Jessica Godsey

**Position:** Seventh- and eighth-grade reading and English language arts

**School:** Emerson Academy of Dayton

**Favorite book:** Sookie Stackhouse series

**Years in position:** Six years

**What is the best part of being a teacher?** Being able to show how much fun reading can be, then actually seeing students take up

reading and discovering how great it can be for themselves.

**Her advice to students:**

Always do your best in everything you do, and always keep looking forward.

Educators are a special breed of people. During school, they are responsible for inspiring young minds and teaching children how to think. The Dayton Daily News wants to hear about the special educators you know. Answer these questions about a special teacher so

we may consider publishing their information in the newspaper. Submissions may be from parents, principals, fellow teachers or educators themselves. Submit the Name, Grade taught, School, How long have you been a teacher?, What is the best part of being a teacher?, Favorite book and your best advice for students. Please send this information to neighbors@coxohio.com with a jpeg photo that is 4 inches by 6 inches and 200 dpi. Be sure to include contact information (including email address and phone number).



**Jessica Godsey teaches at Emerson Academy of Dayton.** Contributed photo



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