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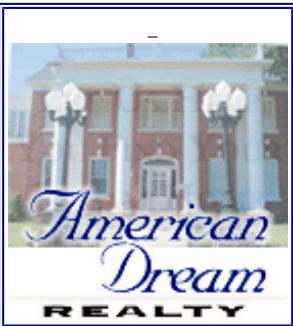
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Students collect for soldiers by Brian Payne

Staff Writer

Students in Silo are collecting care packages to send to soldiers serving overseas that do not receive mail from home.

Servicemen and women are in need of items that many people take for granted, such as beef jerky, phone cards, baby wipes and other snacks. In conjunction with anysoldier.com the members of Silo's 4-H Club and the student council are collecting items to send to the troops just in time for the holidays.

Susan Watkins and Melissa Bryant are spearheading the drive to collect as much as possible by Thursday to send to the troops. Bryant's son has been in Iraq for almost a year and really looks forward to receiving items from home.

Watkins said, "If people cannot help with the items, a letter, a child's drawing, anything to remind them of our support and of home is welcome. Any little bit helps, and we appreciate all the help we have received. We would like to thank Silo Superintendent Tim Smith for allowing us to use the schools and allowing the school organizations to participate in this."

The Choctaw Nation is helping out by paying postage on the items collected.

A list of items that are allowable and not allowed may be found on the Web site. Any questions may be directed to Bryant at 931-7484 or to Watkins at 916-6775.



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