

American Legion Post 113 shares Christmas meals

By Kelly Cantrall

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More than 70 volunteers worked with a local veteran's group to ensure area families had a Christmas meal this weekend.



American Legion Post 113 worker Brigette Harbin helps arrange a food basket Thursday afternoon. The basket is one of three being prepared and delivered to a family of seven.

American Legion Post 113 in Elizabethtown distributed food boxes to 60 families Thursday. The post gives food to chosen families every year.

The post begins collecting food in October, and members sponsor a family by suggesting them as recipients and ensuring the family receives the food.

Families got three to four boxes of food this year, which came to about 80 to 100 pounds of items, said Stephen Stewart, second vice commander of the post.

A typical box of food contains a turkey or ham, canned vegetables, boxes of stuffing, rolls, cold and hot cereals, canned fruit, fresh fruits like oranges and bananas, fresh vegetables such as potatoes and onions, and refrigerated items such as eggs, butter and milk, among other things.

The post also purchases some food to ensure all of the boxes have a balanced amount of items, Stewart said. Several companies help them purchase items as well. Stewart said the project gives post members a good volunteerism opportunity, and he likes "knowing that the families that need it receive it," he said of the food.

Aubrey Williams, a senior at Elizabethtown High School, was working the sign-up table as part of a Y-Club project. Williams said she hopes the club stays involved with the event in the future. "I think it'd be a really good project to work with," Williams said.

Jesse S. Hall, commander of the post, said the annual event is one of many ways the post is charitable toward the community, and it shows residents that the post is there to help them. "It's just our way of giving back, giving to the community," he said.

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