

- home delivery
- subscriber services
- contact us
- about us
- site map

Fri, Oct 27 2006

Your connection to local news & information

OTTUMWA.com

Subscribe Now to the OTTUMWA-COURIER

Currently **45 F** Ottumwa, IA
High **54 F** Low **40 F**

CLICK FOR MORE WEATHER

- Homepage
- Local News
- Business
- Sports
- Entertainment
- Features
- Obituaries
- Digital Marketplace
- Online Forms
- Community Links

Resources

Published October 27, 2006 12:48 am -

- Print this story
- E-mail this story
- Post to del.icio.us
- Discuss this story

Wildwood elementary School students sending packages to troops

Treats can be dropped off for soldiers

By **MARK NEWMAN** Courier staff writer

OTTUMWA — Doing something for others can be a learning experience, especially when those others are troops 9,000 miles from home.

At Wildwood Elementary School, resource teacher Amber Nelson is mustering her troops; kindergarten through sixth-grade students are decorating boxes, addressing envelopes and stacking supplies for Iowa troops serving overseas.

“I’ve got a friend who’s overseas who I’ve sent a few packages to,” Nelson said. “So I was looking for a list of things to send and came across the anysoldier.com site.”

The Internet site lists soldiers who would like to receive mail from the United

Over 9,500 locations worldwide.

Visit our friendly staff

(641) 684-1869
1111 N. Quincy Ave., Ste. 117
Ottumwa, IA 52501

www.curvesinternational.com

WAPELLO COUNTY TIRE
(641) 684-1681

Find a business:

Enter name or type of business
Location:

Enter city & state, or zip code

Local Search powered by PremierGuide

Employment Opportunities

Cargill Meat Solutions is hiring for a first shift nurse
Job Duties include:
Daily employees care, Case management, Knowledge of OSHA required programs preferred, Ability ...>MORE

PLACE YOUR JOB OPENINGS HERE!!!!
Double the effectiveness of your advertising dollar by placing your job opportunities on www.ottumwa.com.
W...>MORE

States. They can request things they want, too, from letters about home to beef jerky to magazines.

"I saw how many names there were from Iowa and thought it'd be fun," Nelson said.

Sixth-graders were helping Nelson Thursday afternoon. They were decorating boxes to leave at Hy-Vee so residents can drop off treats for the soldiers. Each box will have a list of suggested items.

Meanwhile, sixth-grader Sadie Shaw was getting care packages ready to ship. That's the best part, Sadie said.

"[We're] giving this stuff to them because they really need it," she said. "They can't go to the store."

Nelson is well aware of that. Before becoming a teacher, she joined the U.S. Army Reserves and was assigned to the 389th Engineer Battalion out of Iowa City. After a particularly destructive hurricane, they were deployed to Guatemala to rebuild a bridge and a daycare center.

Getting the kids involved in the current project was an easy choice.

"You can do more that way, and I think it's good for them to do something for someone else," she said. "Plus, it makes them more interested in what's going on over there, and addressing boxes where the different countries are located."

As care packages pile up, the only expense the school needs help with will be shipping, she said: about \$8 per soldier.

Meanwhile, the students are learning things like social studies, geography and writing in a practical way.

In addition to letter writing to real people, the older kids are helping by actually filling out the customs forms that are required for each box.

Donations can be sent to the school and items can be dropped off at North or South Hy-Vee locations.

[Read more >>](#)

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

There is an immediate opening for a Senior Administrative Assistant in Eddyville IA.

Responsibilities include...>[MORE](#)

Assistant Branch Manager- Ottumwa

Responsibilities include: assist the branch manager with daily activities, collect & close loans, initiate & maintain r...>[MORE](#)

Commercial Loan Processor- Ottumwa

Seeking experienced professional, who is self-motivated with good problem solving skills, to process and administer comm...>[MORE](#)

[See all ads](#)



- [Click to discuss this story with other readers on our forums.](#)

More from the Local News section

[Wildwood elementary School students sending packages to troops](#)

[Historic commission reviewing 1998 plan](#)

[Mauro, Hanusa vie for secretary of state](#)

[Adam, Randolph face Alexander in Van Buren County Supervisors race](#)

[Similarities and differences between Leach, Loeb sack](#)

Today's Front Page



[RSS](#) [Subscribe to XML Feeds](#)

© 2006, The Ottumwa Courier
213 E. Second St.; Ottumwa, IA 52501-2902
(641) 684-4611; [Email news tips and feedback](#)

Community Newspaper Holdings, Inc. • CNHI Classified Advertising Network • CNHI News Service
Associated Press content © 2006. All rights reserved. AP content may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.
Our site is powered by [Zope](#) and our [Internet Yellow Pages](#) site is powered by [PremierGuide](#).
Some parts of our site may require you to [download the Flash Player Plugin](#).