



Basketball team volunteers at food bank

The boys' basketball team decided to do some work off the court this season and traveled to the East Texas Food Bank just before Christmas to help prepare meals for area people in need. They spent the day helping to put together 6,270 meals.

"It brings a smile to all our faces to help the community," sophomore Ryan Rath said. "With our organization and the coaching staff, it's the least we can do."

The boys said they did not mind giving up a Saturday to do something for the community.

"I liked helping out," freshman Dirk Kilgore said. "Even though it wasn't a huge help, I like that we were able to lend a hand."

The team worked side by side by on a conveyer belt with boxes moving along it. Underneath the belt was a number indicating how many food cans to put into the box. The boys were separated into different stations according to the different types of food.

"We used the conveyer belt to push boxes to each other," Rath said. "It's a good feeling knowing that we can also work as a team off the court."

Once the boys were done with all their hard work they played hide and seek and had a competition to see who could do the most boxes.

"It was a really fun experience," Rath said. "I would absolutely be more than happy to come back and help the community. There is always spare time for a good cause." - by *Nadia Garcia*



Groups work together to help children's hospital

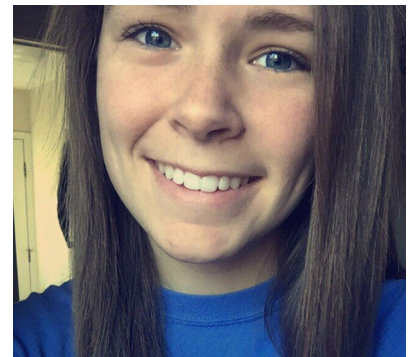
Several groups on campus teamed up with one goal in mind: to make a child's stay in the hospital a little happier.

"We wanted to do something special this year to help out community," FCCLA leader Wendy Neyland said. "We decided to help the nearby children's hospital."

The project, which started off with FCCLA, Student Council and the Belles working together, soon added Forensics and Theatre to the mix. Crayons and coloring books started to pour in.

"So many people wanted to help with the project," Neyland said. "We collected more than we ever imagined." - by *Lilah Adams*

Packing it in. Senior Emmelee Weathers loads boxes full of superhero bags and coloring books as part of her FCS class. Several groups worked together to put together the donation, which will go to a children's hospital. scott photo



stand OUT

"I stand out by having a positive attitude and making other people happy."

- *Kynlee Driskill, 11*

