



PAIGE GODDEN|TIMES VEDETTE

Faith Hockenberry helps her dad, Howie, unload a truck full of items for the New Opportunity food pantry in Guthrie Center.

Faith's Food Drive



PAIGE GODDEN|TIMES VEDETTE

18-year-old Faith Hockenberry collected items for the food pantry instead of collecting gifts for herself on her 18th Birthday. Faith, of Guthrie Center, set a goal to collect 1,800 items for the pantry.

Local 18-year-old uses birthday to help raise items for food pantry



PAIGE GODDEN|TIMES VEDETTE

Faith Hockenberry, center, smiles after she donated dozens of boxes of items to the food pantry in Guthrie Center. She's pictured with her parents, Howie and Patsey Hockenberry, of Guthrie Center.

By PAIGE GODDEN
editor@gctimesnews.com

Guthrie Center's Faith Hockenberry made it a point to put her community before herself on her birthday.

The now 18-year-old decided to collect 1,800 items for the New Opportunity Food Pantry in Guthrie Center.

She collected the goods through her birthday on October 29, and dropped off dozens of boxes at the pantry Tuesday.

Faith said she decided to collect for the food pantry because it'll give people who don't have much food something to put in their cabinets.

Plus, she said, being able to help out her community makes her feel "happy."

Faith's dad, Howie, said he and his wife have lived in Guthrie Center for a long time and have raised kids in town.

"We just look at it as a blessing to live in a small community where people should take care of each other," Howie said. "We've seen that a lot in all of the years we've lived here – the community has backed us 100 percent."

He said the businesses and people who donated to Faith's collection should get credit for helping out.

Rhonda Huggins, Guthrie County's Family Development Center Coordinator, said everybody in the county is always helping out and it's "beyond amazing."

"This means a lot," Huggins said. "This time of year we've got a lot of people coming in. It's winter, it's cold and people are hungry."

She said it's always important to keep the food pantry stocked, but it's even more important in the winter time.