

Local church aides veterans in need

Nathaniel Klein
The Clackamas Print

U.S. soldiers are trained to be independent, and for that reason they often don't take to asking for help very easily. But a service on campus has set up a program for veterans who need a little help to make ends meet.

Every Tuesday, in the Bunker in the Clackamas Community College VET Center, a veteran can walk in and collect a box of food donated by the Damascus Community Church.

These boxes are packed with varying amounts of canned and dry food that the church donates. The boxes weigh between 40 and 45 pounds and are filled with a mix of food that allow the people who are receiving them to make full meals.

Greg Myers, veteran affairs coordinator, called the program very useful.

During the Christmas season, the VET Center handed out 14 boxes to veterans in need, he said.



Patty Salazar, The Clackamas Print

Here is an example of a 40-50 pound box filled with donated goods that veterans can come collect. For more information, vets can call Greg Myers at 503-594-3438.

A normal week is usually seven to eight boxes. Any leftover boxes are donated to the Associated Student

Government for their own donation programs.

The Bunker is a veterans-only recreational center on

campus that provides veterans with a variety of services, including computer stations, food and research materials.

The center also has an Xbox360 for veterans to unwind between classes.

Phil Blake, who works in the office of the Damascus Community Church, said the church started the veterans ministry to help veterans who fought to preserve freedom. The church works mostly with Oregon National Guard units, he said.

ARE YOU A VETERAN WHO NEEDS HELP MAKING ENDS MEET?

- Call 503-594-3438
- Email vetinfo@clackamas.edu
- Stop by the Community Center Room 100



Denee Shelton, The Clackamas Print

A squirrel The Print has named Squeaky enjoys Goldfish crackers with students in the courtyard by the cafeteria. Squeaky has been spotted all over campus and has made many friends so far.

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