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Groups offer ways to send to troops

Catherine Pritchard

Q: I belong to a blog group that wants to send care boxes to a group of soldiers to be distributed among them. Can you tell me an address for them to send to as well as a helpful list to get them started? — D.M., Fayetteville

A: We'll direct you to a Web site with links to dozens of nonprofit groups that help U.S. military personnel in a variety of ways, including care packages, financial assistance, scholarships and support for the wounded.

You and your friends can look them over to decide which group best suits your aims.

The clearinghouse site — www.americasupportsyou.mil — is run by the Defense Department. Click on "homefront groups" to get to the page that categorizes the groups in terms of the kind of support they provide. The "send care packages" link will take you to links to dozens of groups that do that.

Some send packages to soldiers in your name.

If your group would like to deal directly with a soldier and his or her unit, you might want to check www.anysoldier.com. There, deployed soldiers post their unit's wants and needs. You send your packages directly to the soldier, who then distributes the items.

Q: Where can I recycle the old telephone books? Does the landfill have a container? Or can these items be incorporated with items to be recycled, starting this July? — I.S., Fayetteville

A: If you're in the city, dump your old phone book(s) in your blue recycling bin. They're among the many items that the city plans to recycle.

If you're in the county, you can recycle your old phone books at the Ann Street landfill or at one of the 17 container sites. For those locations, call 321-6830 or check www.co.cumberland.nc.us/solid_waste_mgmt.

You can also find links to those locations and much more local recycling information at the Live Wire blog under the "trash and recycling" heading.

Q: I saw a USPS truck tailgating, speeding and weaving in and out of traffic in Raleigh the other day. Is there a number I can call to

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report this unsafe driving? — J.H., Fayetteville

A: Yep. It's the same number you call to communicate with the Postal Service about pretty much anything — (800) 275-8777.

Just be sure to give the truck's vehicle number, its location at the time of the incident, the date and the time.

Q: Is there an organization or charity in Fayetteville that accepts furniture donations? I would need the organization to pick up the furniture.
— G.M., Fayetteville

A: Several charities will pick up donated furniture.

They include American Way Value Center (860-0900), Hope Harbor Christian Mission (424-8800) and the Salvation Army (307-0361).

Call to see if the charity picks up in your area and if there's a charge. Donations to tax-exempt charities are tax-deductible.

Live Wire seeks to answer questions of general interest and consumer topics within two weeks. Initials are used to identify questioners when names are given. Contact Live Wire at livewire@fayobserver.com, <http://blogs.fayobserver.com/livewire> or 486-3516.

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