

Food drive exceeds goal

By Stephanie Salmons Messenger-Inquirer | Posted: Thursday, May 14, 2015 12:00 am

More than 30,000 pounds of food were collected locally Saturday as part of the U.S. Postal Service and the National Association of Letter Carriers' 23rd annual Stamp Out Hunger food drive.

Local food drive coordinator Rick Miller, a city letter carrier, said 32,637 pounds of food was collected, more than their goal of 32,000 pounds.

Apart from "just the little bit" of donations that trickled in after the drive, Miller said the food was not only collected but distributed on Saturday as well.

Miller said previously that local participation is "part of the largest one-day food drive in the country" and is also the largest food drive in Owensboro.

According to Miller, this year, the United Way of the Ohio Valley also helped with a pilot program to bring in food through the schools. This year, Burns Middle School and Foust Elementary School participated, "and we hope to build on that next year."

Donations were made to the Salvation Army, OASIS, Centro Latino, The King's Table, Journey Fellowship, Eaton Memorial Baptist Church and CrossRoads.

It was also the first food drive with new Postmaster Deon Ashley in place.

"For this food drive, for the first time in a long time, we had a postmaster living in Owensboro and (who) intends to stay here," Miller said. "He and his management team were very supportive this year."

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