

# Murray Center hosts canned food drive

*2,656 cans donated to  
Centralia Community  
Benevolent  
Association courtesy of  
Murray Center*

**BY MATTHEW PACKMAN**  
SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

CENTRALIA — The residents of Murray Center have embodied the holiday spirit, as they banded together to make the first-ever Murray Center Canned Food Drive, sponsored by the Centralia Community Benevolent Association (CCBA) a massive success, donating a whopping grand total of 2,656 cans to the organization.

The challenge would see all individual cottages and

departments of Murray Center facing off over a two-week span, to determine who could donate the most canned goods.

Of the five cottages on site and two departments participating, the Daisy Cottage arose victorious, donating an average of more than 1,300 cans of food, dominating the competition.

"This is our first year doing this," said Alicia Creed of Murray Center. "And this went so much better than we could have ever expected."

All 2,656 cans of food were taken to the CCBA Monday afternoon, and given as a donation. According to Creed, the CCBA feeds an average of 250 families a week, and cites the donation as a token of appreciation.

"The whole concept behind this canned-food drive was to give back," she said. "The CCBA does so much for this

community, and the community itself has done so much for Murray Center. We wanted to put something together that could help both."

And the residents of the Daisy Cottage will be rewarded for their outstanding contribution.

Creed says the winning prize of a dessert buffet will be provided for Daisy Cottage sometime during the month of January, and Murray Center certainly looks to bring the food drive back in years to come.

"We definitely were surprised with the outcome. I definitely think we'll be doing this again. This being our first year, we didn't know what to expect, but everyone here in Daisy Cottage, and all of the other cottages as well, really exceeded everyone's expectations."

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