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THE GOOSE CREEK

GAZETTE

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THE GAZETTE

Creekers send books to troops

by Tabatha Blevins
Student intern

Tina and Tim McDuffie, of Goose Creek opened Here Be Books bookstore on August 2nd and decided they needed to do something helpful with their extra books. Two weeks ago they began Operation Books for Our Troops. The goal of this operation is to send at least one box of books per week to troops stationed throughout the world.

Tim, who was in the Navy for 20 years, recalls, "When you receive a package from home, it shows people are thinking about you. I always liked getting things I could share."

And share is what the McDuffies hope the soldiers will do with the books they receive. Each box can hold 15 to 20 paperbacks, so there will be plenty of books and what Tim calls "escapism" to go around.

The only problem the McDuffies are having with Operation Books for Our Troops is getting addresses to send the books to. The military no longer allows packages to be addressed to "any soldier". There must be a name and an APO or FPO.

The McDuffies are asking anyone with military family members



Photo by Tabatha Blevins

Tim and Tina McDuffie pack up a box of books to send overseas for Operation Books for Our Troops.

or friends deployed overseas to call and give them addresses or drop them off at the bookstore. Here Be Books, located at 4650 Ladson Rd. Suite 1 in Summerville, has forms for friends and family to fill out with the troop's address and book preferences.

"We'll give them a mixture (of books) and try to get some of their favorite authors and genres," said Tina.

Although the store doesn't need any book donations right now, they could use a few more boxes to have in stock once they receive APO and FPO addresses.

The McDuffies are also giving away textbooks to home schoolers. When The Charleston Christian Academy in Ladson closed, the headmaster donated all of their textbooks to Here Be Books. Tim and Tina decided to help out local home school students by allowing their parents to select textbooks for their children free of charge.

For more information about either the home school textbooks or Operation Books for Our Troops, call 695-1498 or visit www.herebebooks.com.