



Join us for an Evening of Traditions as we celebrate the holidays as families in Fairfield County may have done years ago.

This free event runs from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 13. We will gather in two downtown Lancaster historic houses, the Reese-Peters House and the Sherman House. The evening will include a little history, children's activities, light refreshments and music by the Fairfield Keyboards and Strings.

We will also remember men and women from Fairfield County who are stationed overseas by accepting items for care packages that will be sent by our local chapter of Blue Star Mothers. Once the gift boxes are filled, remaining items will be delivered to veterans in Fairfield County nursing homes. You may bring a small item to include or make a donation to help pay for postage.

We will also have Christmas cards that you can sign for our service members and veterans.

## **SUGGESTED CARE PACKAGE ITEMS**

**Developed by the American Blue Star Mothers from actual troop suggestions**

### **Food Items\* (individual sizes are best):**

- BEEF JERKY- (the #1 requested item), pepper jerky, slim jims
- Tuna or Chicken Creations / Lunch Kits with condiments
- Individual Microwavable foods- Easy Mac, canned soups, stews, etc
- Instant Oatmeal or Cream of Wheat packets

**\*No Home-Baked Goods**

**\*No Perishable Foods**

**\*No Pork Products**

### **Drink Items (smaller containers please):**

- Tea- herbal/flavored (in individually wrapped)
- Good Ground Coffee
- Creamer and sweetener and sugar packets
- Pre-sweetened powdered drink mixes (Crystal Light, Gatorade, lemonade, etc.)
- Hot Chocolate/Hot Cider Packets

### **Snack Items\* (individual sizes are best):**

- Breakfast Bars, Granola Bars, Protein Bars
- Microwavable Popcorn/Chex Mix
- Chips- (in cardboard containers only)- Pringles, Fritos, Doritos
- Nuts – pistachios, peanuts, cashews, sunflower seeds, corn nuts
- Trail Mix
- Salsa (no glass containers)

**Candy/Sweet Items:**

- Candy- Gummy Bears, jelly beans, Twizzlers
- Gum, Breath Mints
- Fruit Snacks
- Rice Krispie Treats
- Cookies- chocolate chip, Oreos, oatmeal, Girl Scout Cookies

**Hygiene/Clothing Items:**

- Good razors & shaving cream (no aerosol)
- Body wash (smaller size) NO BARS OF SOAP PLEASE
- Shampoo, Conditioner, Lotion (smaller size)
- Deodorant (no aerosol)
- Toothpaste/toothbrushes
- Good quality boot socks for women and men – black, green
- Boxer Type underwear - all sizes
- Tee Shirts- all sizes
- Sports bras/panties
- Sunscreen

**Recreation:**

- Puzzle & word game books
- Hand held or board games (small size)
- Disposable Cameras
- Batteries all sizes in original packaging-including Lithium 123 size for flashlights
- Squishy Balls, Velcro Darts, Nerf footballs, (Any small sport type)
- Recent magazines- especially sports, car, health, women's (not older than 3 months!)
- DVDs (TV series, comedy movies, NO VHS tapes please)
- CDs- Rock, Country, R&B, Rap, Alternative

**Miscellaneous:**

- Small plastic bowls to heat microwavable items
- Zip Lock Baggies (snack and sandwich sizes)

**CARDS AND LETTERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOMED!**