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SPIRIT OF THE SEASON

BY KRIS FEDYSKY STAFF WRITER

In a season of giving, Edna Burgette has made it her goal to help children she knows only through photographs.

The 65-year-old Scranton resident spent the past three weeks collecting blankets to send overseas to victims of the earthquake that hit Pakistan late last month.

On Tuesday, she mailed 11 blankets to different charities.

“I might not be able to do much for them, but I can at least get some blankets together,” she said.

Reading about children dying because they could not stay warm and parents struggling to keep their families together under the disastrous conditions motivated her to ask her neighbors for the blankets.

“Babies, kids dying. Now that got my attention,” she said. “All of them dying just because they couldn’t be warm? We can’t have that in this world.”

Mrs. Burgette said thinking of her own children and grandchildren made it worth it.

“You show me a kid in need and here I am. They deserve the best we can give them,” she said. “If there wasn’t anyone there to help us (from the Underground Railroad), then I wouldn’t be here. Everyone needs to look out for everyone.”

Beginning on Election Day, she petitioned people to drop off blankets on her front porch at 810 Myrtle St. and she said she intends to continue the effort.

“There are even some judges and attorneys who said they would contribute,” she said. “But as long as there are blankets on my porch, I’ll send them out every week.”

Contact the writer: kfedysky@timeshamrock.com

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