

Flemington boy helps Holiday Express

Cheryl Makin, @CherylMakin 5:01 a.m. EST November 15, 2015

Collecting since he was 5, Jack Ference has donated more than 8,000 toothbrushes for Holiday Express' annual goodie bags.



(Photo: -Courtesy of Holiday Express)

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FLEMINGTON – At 10 years old, Jack Ference has spent half his life making a difference. Since he was 5, Jack has collected more than 8,000 toothbrushes and donated them to the non-profit organization Holiday Express. Initially, Jack became involved with Holiday Express because he has an uncle with special needs.

Holiday Express includes the toothbrushes in the 20,000 gift bags the organization's volunteers pack every season. In turn, the goodie bags are given out to those in need during the holiday season.

This year Jack collected 1,836 toothbrushes along with a little help from his friends. His goal is to collect a total of 16,000 toothbrushes.

"I ask friends, family, people I play sports with, pretty much anyone I know if they will donate a toothbrush," Jack said.

On Nov. 3, Jack and 10 friends, ranging in age 7 to 13 years old, took a day off from school to come to the Holiday Express warehouse in Tinton Falls. There, they helped assemble the goodie bags.

Holiday Express, a non profit organization comprised of more than 1,600 volunteers, including 150 musicians, kicked off its 23rd season on Nov. 9. The organization visits the mentally and physically ill, the homeless, hungry and physically disabled. Holiday Express travels the entire state and makes stops in New York and Pennsylvania to deliver holiday cheer.

This season, they will travel to a record setting 81 locations, delivering music, food, gifts, financial support and friendship to those in need. For more information about Holiday Express, go to www.holidayexpress.org.

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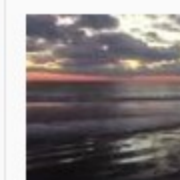
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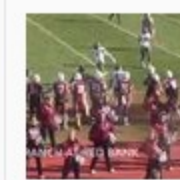
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