

Community Humanitarian Award

Nomination Essay

Explain the reason(s) why you have nominated this individual for this award. Provide details and examples of how the nominee has applied his or her knowledge and expertise to help others within their community in a humanitarian effort. You can use as much space as necessary to answer the question completely. Refer to the judging qualifications on [Page 1](#) for specifics on what to cover. There is not a minimum or maximum word count.

Mrs. Laura Beetow is currently a member of our team at Inverness Middle School. She has been a part of this dynamic group for 6 years. During that time, Laura has been an active member of our local and state associations. In addition, she has also belonged to many civic organizations as well as been an active supporter of her children's extra-curricular activities.

Laura is a devoted mother and wife. Both of her children have attended or are attending our schools and her husband is a brave officer for our Citrus County Sheriff's office. As a Mom and Wife, Laura is second to none and volunteers her time to any and all activities her family is involved in.

She has always been an active member of any church that she has belonged to, in fact, that is where I first met her. She and I were both volunteers for the Children's Ministry when our kids were very young (now they are young adults). Whenever Laura is around, there is sure to be fun had by all. She was even responsible for teaching my son how to ride a two wheeled bike!

With the Boy Scouts of America organization, she has been instrumental in the following activities:

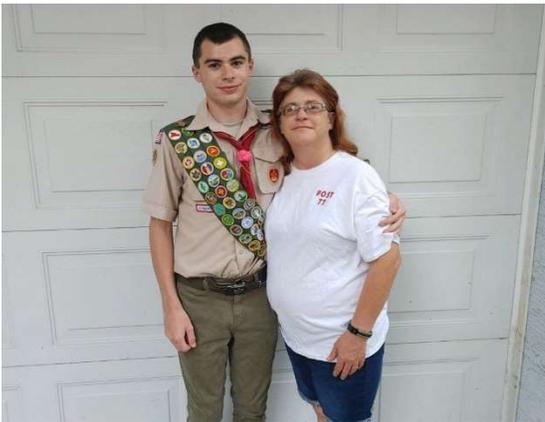
First Aide training, cooking classes to help the young men earn merit badges

Fundraising for camping trips

Flag ceremonies for soldiers

Christmas wreaths for fallen soldiers and veterans

Water distribution for bike-a-thon



For her volunteer work with the American Legion, Laura has been involved in the following:

Member of the Ladies Auxillary

Assists and coordinates fundraising activities (fish fries, bake sales, yard sales)

Cooks for members on Friday and Saturday nights as well as the occasional weeknight

The local Running Club has Laura "running" the following details:

Purchase water, snacks and handing out towels for races

First Aide for the participants

Set up obstacle courses and race courses

With regard to our Local and State Associations, Laura has been an active member, helping on various committees, as well as fundraising activities. She is always quick to volunteer and of course, bring the fun and laughter! As shown below, Laura was known to bring along a stuffed flamingo she affectionately named Felix. He made his conference debut at our beloved Julie Hedine's "Let's Flamingle" conference. Felix was even memorialized with a scrapbook and in our FSNA publication. Like I said, Laura always brings fun and enthusiasm!

Pictured below are events ranging from our participation at Shrimpapalooza, Walk-A-Thon, Christmas Parade, Conferences and more.



As you can see, she is a valuable member of our Food & Nutrition Services team, but our association and community as well. It would be an honor to have her recognized as FSNA Community Humanitarian for the 2021-2022 school year.