



Families may pick up bags containing enough goods for at least one meal for four to five people from Farmington Hills' Special Services Department in compliance with the governor's directive.



Food donated by residents of Farmington Hills to the needy can be obtained by calling 477-0115, Ext. 277. Recipients needn't be residents of the city but will be asked to state that they're not getting goods from other cities involved in food distribution efforts.

The more food donated, more poor will get

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month of double digit unemployment with more than 700,000 individuals out of work. Roughly 30,000 workers exhaust their regular unemployment benefits every month and well over 100,000 have exhausted their extended benefit period.

Gaynor characterizes many of the Farmington area's needy as "the new poor."

"We have a cross section of people from different economic backgrounds here. We're hearing it everyday now,

but if the metropolitan area of Detroit has survived and thrived on the auto industry, we now have auto executives out here that may have been canned.

"There's a whole new set of unemployed, the new poor, who are out there."

So far, response in the community has been enthusiastic.

Great Scott grocery stores donated 1,000 bags for packaging donated goods, while a Farmington Hills resident has pledged to 10-15 bushels of apples.

Assessing how much need exists in the Farmington area is difficult, but there have been indications recently that it is increasing.

The Farmington area Auto Club, senior citizens groups, the Goodfellows and local churches have distributed more food baskets this holiday season than ever before, Gaynor and Conway said.

"We've had several people calling in," said Conway. "St. Alexander's had been distributing cheese, and they weren't able to handle it all at Christmastime. They wanted us to take over their program."

Another shipment of cheese and butter is expected for Farmington Hills. "It'll be given out by the feds through the state and county, but we're not pos-

sitive when it will be here," said Gaynor.

Although this winter may see Farmington area residents sign up for \$30-40 ski programs and others "picking up a food bag five minutes later," Gaynor says it's nothing "strange or unique."

"The government's job is to provide services whatever is needed. Maybe it's just that we've grown up a little and

become a little more educated, or that we're providing for a need we didn't recognize 10 years ago."

ART CLASSES

The Art Alcove is now offering a series of fine arts classes starting Jan. 10th, taught by the area's finest professionals. Registration is now being taken.

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Jaycees look to New Year

The Farmington Area Jaycees are looking forward to a busy calendar of upcoming events.

Leading the project list is a wild game dinner prepared by Dave Clappison.

Jaycee Week is scheduled for Jan. 16 through 22. Highlight event of the week will be the annual community prayer breakfast planned for Jan. 18 at 7:30 a.m. at the Botsford Inn.

Farmington Observer

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