

# 'Secret Santa' brings kids joy

One Farmington businessman hopes a program he launched this Christmas season will spur others to give of themselves.

His donations and collections from other businesses allowed Santa, Mrs. Claus and two elves to pay surprise visits on 18 families with 56 kids during the weeks before Christmas.

Families were selected through the Farmington Public Schools Head Start program and through Neighborhood House — a clearing-house agency for needy families.

Santa then matched gifts to kids on the list and made surprise trips to each house.

"It's all worth it," said the man, who prefers to be known only as "Secret Santa." "You should see the faces on these kids."

Santa and his troop spent evenings during the past two weeks visiting the families. "Secret Santa" hopes more donations to the Farmington Emergency Fund through the school district will allow even more families to participate next year.

Donations can still be made this year. "Depending on when it comes in, we might be able to use it this year," said Phyllis Howard, acting director of Neighborhood House. "If not, it will definitely be used next year."

The new program is separate from the area Goodfellows drive, but Howard said there is talk of linking the programs next year.

Anyone interested in donating to this cause can send a check to the Farmington Emergency Fund, The Farmington Community School, 39415 Shawasssee, Farmington Hills, 48336.

## Residents needed to serve city

Several positions are open on boards and commissions in the city of Farmington, according to City Manager Robert Deadman.

Slots on the city's Traffic and Safety Board, the Planning Commission and the Beautification Committee are available, and city officials are seeking residents to fill them.

Interested residents can send a letter and/or resume in care of the city manager, Farmington City Hall, 23500 Liberty, Farmington, 48335. In the letter, detail which positions interest you and offer any background which might be helpful.

The city council will schedule interviews and, subsequently, make appointments to fill the positions.



The "Home of the Brave" poster conceptualized by Cherie Maslowe and designed by Mark Koenig is one local resident's attempt to focus attention and draw support for the homeless in America.

# Poster depicts plight of nation's homeless

By Anne Sullivan staff writer

Concern for a social issue and a class assignment were the instruments that lead Cherie Layne Maslowe of Farmington Hills, to visualize a poster depicting the plight of the homeless and contract with artist Mark R. Koenig to design it.

"I guess it's my way of becoming unbothered," said Maslowe, who says the homeless issue in America has been bothering her for some time. "Home of the Brave" is an illustration of a young man wearing torn blue jeans, wrapped in a flag, sitting on the ground, against a building, surrounded by garbage. Maslowe copyrighted the poster in 1989, and is currently pursuing means to have it marketed.

"It can be sold as a poster, a t-shirt, or any medium people want to buy," Maslowe said. "And the organization the message is trying to help will get the majority of the proceeds after the expenses (for creating, printing, copyrighting, etc.) are recouped."

"I'M ESPECIALLY concerned now about the homeless," Maslowe continued. "Something has to be done."

She hopes her poster will reach people who can do something about this social dilemma. She has given copies of the poster to U.S. Rep. William Broomfield, who told her he would submit it to various departments in Congress. Maslowe has also submitted it to homeless organizations to see if they would be interested in using it.

Maslowe had great response to her poster, and is willing to have the posters sold on any type of medium.

The posters will be available to the public soon. For further information, contact Maslowe at 626-2021.

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