

Dear Editor:

I write today for three reasons:

1. As a belated thank you, we want to express appreciation for the support from county residents, churches, businesses and others exhibited toward the Hamilton County Food Pantry during the recent holiday season. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity shown, which enables us to continue serving those in need. It is heart-warming to receive support and encouragement from such a wide variety of donation bases.

We are a totally donation-dependent non-profit organization and it is through this support that we can function and serve families with nutritious food when their circumstances dictate need.

2. We also express appreciation to the Aurora News-Register for the positive publicity for our Pantry. The extended story at Christmas time of our holiday distribution, as well as coverage of numerous individual donations received, was welcomed as a way of telling the story about our mission to a wider audience. Continued support from local news media is most valued.

3. We will be resuming the Lenten project of offering coupons for customers of our two grocery stores, Aurora Mall and Super Foods. This carries on the project begun a few years ago by the United Methodist Church, Aurora.

Shoppers at either store will find coupons at check-out stands. If anyone wishes to donate an amount to the Hamilton County Food Pantry, she or he may hand the checker a coupon or coupons, each for \$1. The designated amount will be added to that person's bill. The project will begin on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 13, and continue through Easter Sunday, March 31. The HCFP will receive the amounts donated from the store management at that time. In advance we thank patrons for your continued support of our Food Pantry.

Hamilton County is a great place to live and raise families. Part of what makes it so is the generous and cooperative spirit which shows in so many ways. May we all continue these positive attributes and care for those who need support, in whatever situation we find ourselves

able to do so. On behalf of the HCFP, thank you to all for your part in continuing to make Hamilton County a good place to live by enhancing the quality of life for all our citizens.

Barb Johnson
Hamilton County Food Pantry