

Area's largest food drive benefits Plano's largest pantry

Fill your yellow bag February 9 - 16 for the annual Scouting for Food drive. Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts in Plano and surrounding communities will be collecting canned goods as part of the largest food drive in the area and in the country.

Canned and packaged food items especially needed include soups; pasta and rice; canned meat including fish, ham, chicken, tuna, and chili; dry cereal and oatmeal; peanut butter and jelly; packaged dinners like Hamburger Helper; and canned spaghetti and ravioli.

Items will be donated to the Plano Food Pantry, serving more than 3,000 families. Last year, more than 550,000 canned and packaged nonperishable foods were collected in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex - 85,500 in Plano alone.

"The Scouting for Food drive is the major way we stock our shelves so that as many people as possible can be helped," said Sharon MacDuff of the Plano Food Pantry. "This year has seen a tougher economy than in many years. Fuel and living costs have made it harder than ever for families to make ends meet, but we do not ever want to say no to those who need food."

Scouts ranging from first grade Tiger Cubs to Boy Scouts who are high school seniors will participate in the drive. "Scouts learn that helping those less fortunate is one of the most important things they can do as a young citizen," said Jeanine Stevens, 2008 Great Plains District Scouting for Food co-chairperson along with her husband, David. "Even the youngest scouts feel a sense of pride because they know they are helping to feed hungry families decent meals."

Look for your yellow bag on your door between Saturday, February 9 and Friday, February 15. Scouts will also knock on doors Saturday, February 16 after 10 a.m. You may drop off donated items at Tom Thumb stores through February. Scouting for Food receptacles will be available inside stores, and a semi-trailer will be in the parking lot to drop off donations. The Scouting for Food drive is sponsored by Tom Thumb, WFAA-TV Channel 8, and the *Dallas Morning News*. For more information, call Jeanine or David Stevens at 972-442-6963 or e-mail tardam@aol.com.

Tea for two

Tea 'n Mystery

Who killed the Roving Romeo of the Red Feather Ladies? With "Doggie Sherlock Holmes" on the case, we will soon know. The Plano Newcomer Women's Club presents Tea 'n Mystery Thursday, February 14 at 11 a.m. Presented by Shelia Williamson, the tea will be held at VFW Post Casey Joyce All-America #4380 at Avenue K and Parker Road in Plano (3420 Ave. K Ste. 122). Call Phyllis Colomina at 972-398-1544 or visit www.planonewcomers.com.

Valentine's Tea

The Newcomer Friends of Greater Plano is hosting its annual Valentine's Tea on Tuesday, February 12. The Tea is being catered by Into My Garden Tearoom, and musical entertainment will be provided by Men of Note. The social will begin 9:30 a.m. at SMU-in-Legacy, located at 5228 Tennyson Pkwy. in Plano. Tea will be served at 10 a.m.. Reservations (\$6) are due by February 6. Call Sharon DeFalco at 972-231-1745, or e-mail sharondefalco@tx.rr.com, or visit www.newcomerfriends.org.



Profile photo

It's in the bag: Cub Scout Pack 480 will be collecting food in the Scouting for Food drive February 9 - 16.