

Awards presented at Second Harvest's 30th anniversary

Food Banks
REGISTER-PAJARONIAN STAFF

The 2002 Hunger Fighter Awards were presented to Terry Dorsey, Lead Holiday Food Drive Coordinator for the County of Santa Cruz and Audrey J. Carrithers, Co-Coordinator of the All Saints Church Homeless Ministry at Second Harvest Food Bank's 30th Anniversary Dinner on Friday.

The public joined public officials and representatives of 120 Central Coast pantries, soup kitchens and other agencies and programs served by the food bank, in a dinner and ceremony celebrating the presentation of the 2002 Hunger Fighter Awards.

Terry Dorsey, who has worked in the Board of Supervisors office for 27 years, has led the County of Santa Cruz's participation in the Holiday Food Drive since 1996. In that time she has raised donations from 4,898 pounds of food and cash equivalent in 1995 to 53,166 pounds in 2001. Her enthusiasm for the food drive is legendary throughout the County offices.

She meets with 26 department coordinators throughout the fall and insures 100 percent



Audrey Carrithers (left to right), Bob Forney, and Terry Dorsey.

participation by the office of the Board of Supervisors. As a caring and energizing person, she inspires her "county family" to enjoy their participation in the food drive and feed thousands of people.

Considering community service a "labor of love," Terry has also worked with Loaves and Fishes, The Christmas Project and Valley Churches United col-

lecting gifts for children in juvenile hall and migrant camps over the years. As a child she remembers wrapping presents for the needy at the Soquel Grange.

Audrey Carrithers, a prime mover with All Saints Homeless Ministry, has been fighting hunger for many decades. In the 1970's she worked with the Community Action Board to set up breakfast

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programs for children in the Pajaro Valley schools. As a nutritionist she planned and cooked meals for COPE daycare centers. For seven years she served on the Board of Second Harvest Food Bank.

Despite health problems, she is still "in the trenches" feeding the hungry. She organizes volunteers and plans Tuesday night dinners prepared by All Saints Church and served at the Salvation Army. She personally cooked a roast beef and potato dinner, as well as obtaining and wrapping gifts for the Christmas dinner.

Second Harvest Food Bank distributes more than 4,000,000 pounds of food per year to over 38,000 people per month through a network of 120 agencies and programs on the Central Coast.

"We are proud of the major milestone represented by our 30th anniversary" notes Executive Director, Willy Elliott-McCrea. "But we realize that without these community agencies, and hundreds of volunteers and individuals like Terry Dorsey and Audrey Carrithers, we could never get the job done."

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