

# Flood relief fund nears \$1 million

By BOB SMITH

Santa Cruz County flood victims have received more than \$890,000 in cash, services and material, a report issued by the Santa Cruz County-wide Citizens Disaster Relief Committee last week shows.

"With donations to the disaster relief fund still coming in and literally thousands of dollars of volunteer labor unreported, these figures

reflect only a portion of the massive, 4½-month effort," said Disaster Relief Committee Director Stephanie Hauk. "By the end of this year, contributions to local storm victims will easily exceed \$1 million dollars," she added.

The committee was established by local volunteers shortly after the Jan. 4 storm to raise \$1 million for Santa Cruz County storm victims and

to coordinate local relief activities.

The committee closed its offices in Santa Cruz June 1, but contributions are continuing to be accepted and disbursed to storm victims according to a priority system.

"Every application has been reviewed and ranked according to need so that all contributions to the disaster relief fund will be disbursed automatically to Santa Cruz

County families with the greatest and most immediate needs, Ms. Hauk said. "Our disbursement committee will conduct quarterly reviews until all applications have been paid."

The Santa Cruz County Assn. of Churches is taking over the job of coordinating the reconstruction work. The church committee can be contacted at 426-6801.

"Church groups have contributed more than \$85,000 in cash and services to local storm victims and have performed a vital role in relief activities since the day of the storm," Ms. Hauk said.

Other major groups supplying either cash, services or material include the University of California, Santa Cruz, \$50,000; Soledad prison inmates, \$30,000; Santa Cruz Sentinel Storm book, \$27,000; local service clubs, \$22,000; and the Volunteer Bureau, \$9,000.

"It is impossible to estimate the thousands of dollars in materials and services contributed by

the local business community and by individuals and groups who anonymously and generously helped their neighbors," Ms. Hauk said. "It was truly a community effort which once again demonstrates how very special Santa Cruz County is."

A breakdown of the committee's cash disbursements by area shows the San Lorenzo Valley received the largest share of the \$490,000 in cash collected by the committee.

The Lompico-Zayante area received \$94,405; Felton Grove, \$80,821; Boulder Creek, \$35,340; Gold Gulch, \$30,810; Ben Lomond and the Highlands, \$37,415.

The South County area received \$104,882 in aid, and the Santa Cruz-Scotts Valley area, \$41,908.

Tax deductible contributions to the disaster relief fund can still be sent to the Disaster Relief Fund, c/o County Governmental Center, 701 Ocean St., Santa Cruz, Calif., 95060.

## Fixing up the village

The Soquel Chamber of Commerce is continuing its campaign to beautify and clean up the community's business district.

Redwood baskets filled with star jasmine have been hung in front of the Flower Mill Florists, Soquel Drive and Daubenbiss Avenue, and the chamber is asking other merchants along Soquel Drive and Porter Street to follow through with the floral theme.

Chamber president Dave Tunno told directors

last Wednesday morning that a permit has been obtained from the county Public Works Department to build a brick flower planter on the traffic island in front of Monterey Savings and Loan.

Replacements for the street trees destroyed in the Jan. 4 flood have been planted by the Chamber in the village, Tunno said.

The Chamber directors decided to contribute \$75 to the Capitola-Soquel Little League picnic scheduled for June 27 in

Soquel; and the Soquel-orama committee will hold a fundraiser June 25 at the Supercade, Soquel Avenue and Capitola Road, with a portion of the profits going to the Chamber-sponsored committee.

The directors also voted to send a letter to Sheriff Al Noren commending his department for the work they have been doing in the Soquel Village area, including extra foot patrols at night in the business district.