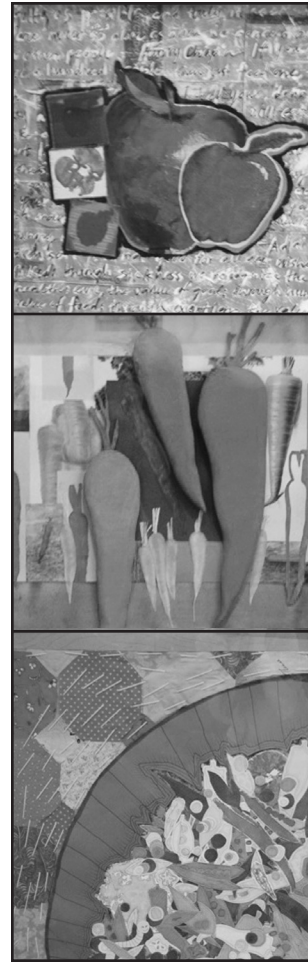


New Artwork Creatively Highlights Fresh Produce

Art and Community, a recent addition to the Department of Art's curriculum under the direction of Allyson Comstock, gives students the opportunity to explore ways that art can benefit their local community. This semester, students spent time teaching and making art with elderly clients of the East Alabama Services for the Elderly Adult Day Care Center in Auburn. The art students incorporated some of the small art projects created by daycare clients into these colorful mixed media depictions of fruits and vegetables.



EASE artist Tim Love at work.



45 savvy shoppers did their Christmas shopping at the Community Market this past holiday season by sending a contribution in honor of friends and family, and we were happy to notify the honorees. 35,710 meals were provided through these gifts that gave twice—once to the honorees and then to the people fed by our program.

And speaking of Christmas....

Watch for information



Open House event at Community Market.

Tony Hall

"If you let Him, God will use you--no matter how small the work or large the work. If you want to be used, you will be. That's how God works. He works through people."



Community Market
of the Food Bank of East Alabama
375 Industry Drive
Auburn, Alabama 36832

FEEDING the HUNGRY



THE NEWLETTER FOR COMMUNITY MARKET

SPRING 2011

I Am A Witness to Hunger...

Our food pantry is a window into this tough economy...

...and the scene is grim: families who never before counted on our services are lining up at the door, hoping it's just for this month. People who were once faithful donors now come to our pantry in need themselves. The past several issues of the Community Market newsletter have featured volunteers who witness hunger. In this issue our witnesses are several CM clients who have a front row seat to hunger.

In their own words....

Michael came to the Community Market having eaten nothing for two days. *"It's not a good feeling,"* he says. *"You have to think about it like fasting, like they did in the Bible, and pray for another blessing. That's the only way to get through it."*

Wendy's family of three lives on \$1,000 a month in disability income, far below the poverty level for a household of this size. She says her family was doing well until her husband had a massive heart attack. Now life is a struggle. *"Our family's biggest mistake was not planning for hard times and we didn't save."* Now she says they *"often beg for food while going hungry."*

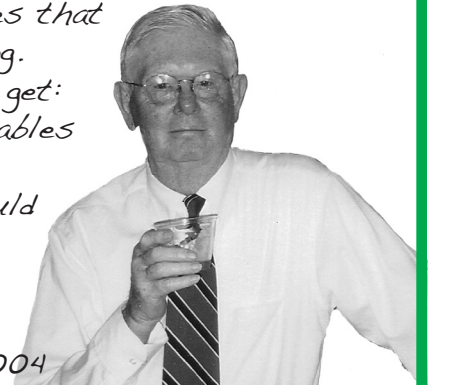
For John and Beverly, married for 46 years, life has been far from easy. From expensive medical bills

following brain surgery, loss of insurance, it can be a struggle putting food on their table. Being in the Brown Bag Program has given them one less thing to worry about. *"We aren't picky by any means, but I feel like a normal human being going grocery shopping when I come here,"* she says. *"The Community Market has gotten us through the hardest of times."*

Melissa comes only when it's an absolute must. Since health problems forced her to leave her job last year, it is sometimes a struggle for her household of five. She especially appreciates how she's treated at the Community Market. *"They don't make anyone feel like a charity case or like less of a person for having to come here. They understand what we are going through and are always there to help us."*

We lost one of our friends and faithful volunteers in March with the death of **Jack Hough**. Since 2003, this gentle and kind man faithfully volunteered at the Community Market. His time was often spent in the interview booth listening to people share their need for food. Dr. Hough, Professor Emeritus at Ohio State University, found great satisfaction in direct service to people in need. The following excerpt is from his journal.

Another day volunteering at the Community Market. Week after week the food keeps pouring through the agency to feed hungry people. The shelves that I stocked last week were empty today and ready for restocking. I am impressed with the variety of nutritious food that they get: meats, dairy products, fruit juice, cereals, pasta, canned vegetables and produce in season. The volunteers are a dedicated bunch. Without them it would never work, without them hunger would be a lot worse. Between the volunteers and the clients at the Community Market and the dance of spring, there is no need to ask, "Where is God in all of this?"



- MARCH 2004

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"HUNGER REMAINS A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN OUR COMMUNITY, WHICH IS WHY WE ARE SO INDEBTED TO YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS OF *TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE.*

Thanks to all our Donors and Supporters (November 2010 - March 2011)

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Tim Beasley
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The Community Market believes that every single person can do something to end hunger in our community. Whether you have one dollar to give or one hour to share, you can make a difference in the lives of the hungry people right here in our midst.

THREE CHEERS FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

Your help puts food in the mouths of hungry families

In 2010 you came out in record numbers to help us accomplish great things. We are delighted to report that last year 11,100 hours of service were given to the Community Market—the equivalent of more than 5 full-time employees! With this help, we distributed the equivalent of 671,720 meals. Outstanding!

