



2009-2010 HOLIDAY SEASON OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

The following is important information about the community projects and activities that we are organizing this holiday season in Puerto Aventuras, and we need your support to make them a success!

Our three projects this holiday season are:

1. Gift and food packages for local families in need;
2. Piñatas for each preschool and elementary school classroom in the *Poblado* to help them celebrate Three Kings Day; and
3. Construction and painting of a wall around the local middle school.

Anybody who would like to donate or help out with any of these projects can contact Christina Alexander at christina@fcrivieramaya.org or 984-873-5603, or Gilda Peregrina at gipes@hotmail.com or 984-873-5554

All donations can be dropped off at the Puerto Aventuras *Colonos* office before January 7, or you can contact Christina or Gilda to arrange for a pick up at your house.

1. NEW YEARS GIFT AND FOOD PACKAGES

This holiday season we are organizing the distribution of basic food items, clothing, and toys for some of Puerto Aventuras's neediest families.

This year has been particularly challenging for many local families. The tourism industry in the Riviera Maya has been extremely hard hit by the public fears over the swine flu combined with the global economic crisis. Many have lost their jobs, and hunger is increasing, particularly in children.

Approximately 200 families in the *Poblado* have been identified as particularly vulnerable by the local family and children services agency (the "DIF"). We have been given access to information about these families, including a socio-economic assessment that outlines their current housing, employment and economic situation.

We would like to provide some temporary support to as many of these local families that we can by collecting food, clothing, shoes, and toys that we can then organize and distribute in early January. **Attached is a list of items that we hope to collect.**



All donations should be brought to the *Colonos* office before January 7, or you can contact Gilda or Christina to arrange for a pick-up at your home.

We will be distributing the gift packages out of the DIF offices at the childcare center in the *Poblado* during the second and third weeks of January. Volunteers will be needed to help us organize and distribute all of the gifts to the families. Please contact us if you would like to help!

2. THREE KINGS DAY PIÑATAS AND GOODIES

This year, in celebration of Three Kings Day, we plan to give one piñata filled with goodies to each classroom in the primary school and preschool in the *Poblado* to help the children celebrate this holiday with their friends and teachers. There are approximately 30-40 children in each class, and there are 23 classes total between the two schools.

Piñatas are sold in Playa del Carmen at several party supply stores on and around *Constituyentes* Avenue, and in many other locations. They cost approximately 200 pesos. Donations of piñatas and bags of treats can be brought to the *Colonos* offices before January 7.

3. TELESECUNDARIA WALL PROJECT

With the support of students from Sandia Preparatory School in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and the Dave Harris Memorial Fishing Tournament, we have been able to coordinate the construction of one end of a concrete wall that will surround the entire *Telesecundaria* (middle school) in the *Poblado*, offering needed security and privacy for students and teachers. Additionally, a group of students from Sandia Prep visited Puerto Aventuras in early November to meet some local students and work with them on a decorative mural for the wall, entitled "Hands Around Puerto Aventuras."

We would like to complete construction by spring of 2010. For approximately **350 pesos**, you can give the lasting gift of **one horizontal meter of wall** to the school and the community! This cost includes materials and labor, and all donors will be invited to participate in several community mural painting days throughout early 2010, including one in January!

So don't wait, contact either Gilda or Christina **TODAY** to contribute and be a part of this community project.





New Years Food and Gift Packages

The following is a list of items that we would like to collect, or purchase, for distribution to local families in need in early January.

If you would prefer to make a cash donation, we will purchase the items on your behalf. For approximately 260 pesos, you can provide one family with a complete food package that will provide them with some temporary relief.

Each Anat Kah Food Package Will Contain:

- 1 liter bottle of Vegetable Oil
- 1.5 kilogram bag of Flour (corn or wheat)
- 1 kilogram bag of Sugar
- 1 kilogram bag of Rice
- 1 kilogram bag of Beans
- 1 can of Nido (powdered) milk
- 2 packages of soup
- 1 can of vegetables
- 2 cans of tuna
- 1 can of fruit cocktail
- 1 package of oats or cereal
- 1 container of instant coffee
- 1 roll of cookies
- 1 container of hand sanitizer

Gift Items:

- Children's Clothing (new, all sizes)
- Children's Shoes (new, all sizes)
- Children's Toys and Games (under 200 pesos, please)

**ALL DONATIONS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE
PUERTO AVENTURAS COLONOS OFFICE BEFORE JANUARY 7.**

THANK YOU!