



Fall 2009

CONNECTION

Generosity, Leadership & Service

LCCF & United Fund aid food providers



At a Good Samaritan Fund distribution are: (left to right) Janet Eagleson, Larry Schlatter, Ted Peachey, Clothes and Food Basket; Gary Zehr, Shippshewana Retail Merchants (SRMA); Loren Heinlen, LCCF; Lora Tormanen and Winford Jones, SRMA; Laura Lemings, LCCF; Martha Lou Neff, Clothes and Food Basket; and Angie Kresse, United Fund of LaGrange County.
(Standard-News Digital Photo)

LaGrange County Community Foundation (LCCF) and United Fund of LaGrange County (UFLC) accumulated nearly \$50,000 to support county organizations which are providing critical assistance to families in need.

Half of the money, \$24,872, came through a grant from Indiana Association of United Ways, while the community match portion was provided by groups and individuals throughout the county including: Parkview LaGrange Hospital, Olive B. Cole Foundation, LaGrange County Community Foundation, Shippshewana Retail Merchants Association, LIFE Philanthropy Youth Group, Howe Military School, Mrs. Jewell Wolfe, Mrs. and Mrs. Michael Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Steven Olinger, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Hostetler, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Gage, Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon Bontrager, Mr. and Mrs. Burvel Lemings, Mr. and Mrs. Loren Heinlen and Mr. and Mrs. Preston Pilgrim.

The United Way grant agreement specified that community representatives would decide how the funds would be distributed. The committee determined that LaGrange County Clothes and Food Basket was providing nearly 60 percent of the current assistance going to county residents, and awarded them a comparable percentage of the total grant funds. Lima Scott Food Pantry, Community Harvest Farm Wagon, Topeka Ministerial Association, Council on Aging Senior Mart and Senior Pak, Berea Missionary Church and LaGrange Ministerial Association were other recipients, with amounts based primarily on the percentage of people currently being served.

LCCF and UFLC are pursuing other options for grant funding. Grant money is distributed through the Good Samaritan Fund at LCCF. Anyone desiring to contribute to the fund may contact the office at 463-4363.



Waiting in line for Community Harvest Food Wagon distributions has become part of life for many LaGrange County residents.

Plans for future gifts

Friday, December 4, 2009, a gift planning seminar will be held on the lower level of the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne, 555 E. Wayne St., Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46802. The meeting is sponsored by Northeast Indiana Community Foundations and the Indiana Grantmakers Alliance and will focus on bringing up to date information on gift planning to the area.



A morning breakfast meeting will be aimed toward professional advisors, attorneys, CPAs, investment managers or any professional interested in estate planning. Continuing education credits (CPE /CEU) are available for participants.

The lunch meeting will be geared toward community foundation board members, staff and potential donors.

Pamela Jones Davidson, J.D., will be the speaker. Davidson has over 16 years experience in planned giving, and will discuss current issues in charitable giving, including an update on what is happening with federal estate taxes.

LCCF and Parkview LaGrange Foundation will be scheduling a “write a will” day in connection with the upcoming National Philanthropy Week. Planned Giving Council of NE Indiana lists the following reasons wills are necessary:

1. This is the only way to appoint who is to take charge of your affairs at your death.
2. This is the only way to appoint a guardian for minor children or for a person for whom you serve as parent or guardian.
3. This is the only way you can direct that your estate can be administered as an “unsupervised estate,” the most efficient and streamlined manor of administration.
4. This is the only way to legally direct who will take your personal property.
5. Without a will, your estate administration may be chaotic and far more costly than if you have a valid will.

LCCF supports Habitat for Humanity

As part of an intentional focus on meeting basic needs for county residents, LaGrange County Community Foundation board of directors opted to support LaGrange County Habitat for Humanity as they build houses in partnership with people in need.

Habitat for Humanity held their 14th annual auction in August, but the organization also sought funds from other sources. They were recently awarded a \$27,500 HUD grant to purchase building lots for two homes—one in Woodland Hills, west of the hospital, and the other in Wolcottville, one block west of the school. The grant requires one house to be completed by the

end of 2009, which will create some pressure. Habitat Executive Director Mont Arnold said he believes the dedicated volunteers will meet the deadline.

Arnold says this is the first time the organization has received grant funding, but he expects to seek more in the future. “Nobody else is addressing the need of low income families in our county for assistance toward home ownership,” he said. The organization receives \$40,000 per year in mortgage revenue, but an average build requires nearly twice that amount.

Arnold believes auction 2009 included more shared respon-

What’s in the bags?

Could you and your family eat for two weeks with the food shown in this picture?



We’ve all been encouraged to put ourselves in someone else’s shoes. Have you ever wondered what would be in the bags of groceries a family receives when visiting a food pantry for help? What would it be like to live on the amount we’re helping provide for others?

Volunteers at Lima-Scott Food Pantry provided a sample distribution for us to consider.

The bags contained: potatoes, canned, mashed and scalloped and a mix to make gravy; canned beef, smoked turkey and ham; cereal and quick oatmeal; peanut butter and jelly; soups and crackers, dried beans, spaghetti, macaroni and noodles; mustard, mayonnaise, vegetable oil and syrup.

In addition to food, the distribution contained toothbrushes, soap, dish soap and laundry soap, and shampoo, and families receive vouchers for 1 pound of hamburger, bread and milk, and two dozen eggs.

Would your family be able to eat for two weeks on this allotment? Or would you like to help it increase? Donations for distribution to food pantries and meal sites may be made to the Good Samaritan Fund at the LaGrange County Community Foundation. Call 463-4363 for more information.

6. Without a will, your estate will be distributed to family members according to the laws of intestacy of your state.

Further information on “write a will” day will be available at the office of LCCF.

sibility than in earlier years and hopes it will be the beginning of the Amish and non-Amish communities working even more closely together. “I believe we are moving in the right direction,” he stated.



The community foundation supports non-profits that are changing lives for county residents. “Things are looking up for us after a very dark time,” said Kellie Wetzel. Wetzel and her five children are the newest Habitat partner family.

This is *YOUR* LIFE

Youth philanthropy group sets two 2009-2010 grant cycles

Seasoned veterans and new members of LCCF's youth philanthropy group, the LIFE Youth Pod, will work together to reach a decision concerning grant requests they receive for 2009-2010. Deadlines are **Friday, November 6, 2009**, for the first cycle and **Friday, February 5, 2010**, for the second cycle. The group members look forward to reviewing a variety of grant requests focused on educational opportunities for young people.

Grant applications are available to be downloaded, completed and then printed from the LIFE page of the LCCF website at www.lccf.net.

Students research requests, then discuss and debate at a monthly meeting how the funding can have the most impact in lives.

The LCCF Board gives final approval to recommendations.



2009-2010 LIFE officers are (left to right) Brochia Beachy, president; Naomi Carr, vice president; Allison Whitlock, secretary; Ben Robbins, treasurer; and, Kristin Steider, recorder.

2009-2010 scholarship season launches

■ 21st Century Scholarship sign up

As the 2009-2010 school year begins, LCCF is again partnering with area schools to present junior high students and their parents with information concerning the 21st Century Scholarship Program which provides students with family incomes qualifying them for "Free and Reduced Lunch" the possibility of a scholarship for four years of further education.

When students choose to enroll in the program, they and their parents must sign an agreement that they will graduate from high school with at least a 2.0 grade point average, not illegally use controlled substances, not drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs, not commit any delinquent acts, and apply to college and for any available federal and state aid.

Any student who qualifies for the program and abides by the agreement, will be assured financing for an education at qualified Indiana colleges.

More information is available at the schools or by calling the foundation office at 463-4363.

■ Free SAT/ACT workshops scheduled

LaGrange County high school students are invited to participate in free SAT/ACT workshops sponsored by LCCF and taught by Freedom Academy instructor Jim Warrenner.

The workshops are open to any high school student but preference will be given to juniors and seniors and seating will be limited to 25 per workshop.

Pizza and sodas will be served at each event. Pre-registration is required.

Currently scheduled workshops include:

9/24/09	4-6 p.m.	Prairie Heights, room 128
9/26/09	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Prairie Heights, room 128
10/06/09	4-6 p.m.	Lakeland, community room
10/10/09	11 a.m.-1 p.m.	Lakeland, community room
10/14/09	3:30-5:30 p.m.	Westview, 166 study hall
10/21/09	3:30-5:30 p.m.	Westview, 166 study hall
10/22/09	3:30-5:30 p.m.	Howe Military, TBA

■ Scholarship deadline Feb. 26, 2010

Friday, February 26, 2010, is the deadline for all scholarships administered by the LaGrange County Community Foundation with the exception of the LCCF Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship.

Applications are available online at the LCCF website, www.lccf.net, where they can be downloaded, printed, and then completed. A document with the details of scholarships including the amount of each award can also be accessed from the website.

Program officer Loren Heinlen has scheduled a series of free scholarship workshops in the three county public high schools. The Prairie Heights workshops will be held Thursday, November 12, 2009, from 8:20 to 9:35 a.m. and 12 noon to 1:40 p.m., both in the Media Center.

One evening session will be hosted in the Community Room at LaGrange County Community Foundation from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

At Westview High School one session will be held Friday, November 13, 2009, from 12:45 to 1:35 p.m., and at Lakeland High School the sessions will be in the auditorium from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 18, 2009.



Previous scholarship workshop

■ LaGrange County Community Foundation Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship program continues

For the 12th year, LCCF has been invited to apply for participation in the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program. The LCCF Board and staff expect a number of changes will be made in the selection process, pending final approval from Lilly Endowment.

When the LaGrange County process is approved by administrators of the LECS program, two scholarships will be awarded to LaGrange County students.



109 E. Central Ave., Ste.3, LaGrange, IN 46761
Ph. 260-463-4363, Fx. 260-463-4856, www.lccf.net

The LaGrange County Community Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization founded in 1991 to serve residents of LaGrange County. The foundation assists donors from all walks of life who want to create interest earning funds to improve the community they care about. The foundation currently manages assets of nearly \$7.5 million and in 2008 awarded over \$270,000 in grants and scholarships to local non-profit organizations and individuals (scholarships only).

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- | | |
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| Jan Olinger, Vice President | Colleen Hostetler |
| Paul Johnston, Secretary | Ryan Riegsecker |
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- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
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| Loren Heinlen, Program Officer | Rebecca Ramer, Communications |
| Jan Pilgrim, Exec. Assistant | |

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 Wabash County
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(Donors continued)

Howe Military School
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 Foundation
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 Mrs. Jewell Wolfe

Honoring (Mar. 1, 2009—Aug. 12, 2009)

Maurice Atwater Mr. & Mrs. Jac Price

LCCF Calendar

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Oct. 20, 2009 | Finance Committee, 12 noon |
| Oct. 27, 2009 | Executive Committee, 5 p.m.; Board, 6:30 p.m. |
| Nov. 6, 2009 | LIFE grant application deadline |
| Nov. 12, 2009 | Scholarship Workshops, Prairie Heights media center, 8:20 a.m. & 12 noon; LCCF community room, 5:30 p.m. |
| Nov. 13, 2009 | Scholarship Workshop, WV auditorium, 12:45 p.m. |
| Nov. 18, 2009 | Scholarship workshops, Lakeland Auditorium, 9:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. |
| Nov. 24, 2009 | Board, 6:30 p.m. |