

UNITED WAY MATTERS... News from Roane County United Way

Fall 2007

Our Mission

To improve the lives of Roane County residents by mobilizing the caring power of its communities

Our Vision

We will build a stronger Roane County by mobilizing our communities to improve people's lives

Contact Us

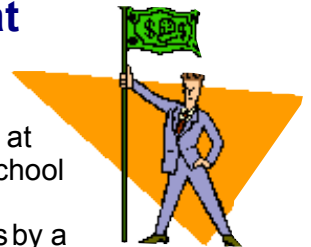
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Board of Directors

Darrell Akins
Ken Beauchamp, Treasurer
Dinia Burnette
Bob Capell
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Tom Pickel, Chairman
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Campaign 2007/08 Currently at 50% of Goal . . .

Another United Way campaign season is officially under way, having kicked off at a September 11 ceremony at The Henry Center. The Bowers Elementary School color guard presented the colors, and we were treated to several wonderful musical selections by a "nameless" group of teachers from Kingston Elementary School! Our featured speaker was Moira Kaye, co-host of WBIR-TV's "Style" program and a former Roane Countian, who discussed the far-reaching effects of even the smallest act of kindness. The ceremony closed with the reading of a poem, "September 11" by Amber Murphy.



Our Day of Caring t-shirts design contest this year was held at Trenton Street Baptist and Rockwood United Methodist Church Day Care centers. The winner was 10-year-old Chelsea Langley, daughter of Drack and Teresa Langley of Harriman. Her winning entry is featured on t-shirts that were worn by Day of Caring volunteers, and she received a \$25 savings bond donated by ORNL Federal Credit Union. The Day of Caring t-shirts can be purchased for \$10 through the United Way office. Available sizes are Lg-3Xlg.

Darrell Akins, our first vice-chair, is leading a wonderful campaign team who are working hard to help us reach our \$330,000 campaign goal. Campaign Team members are Kathy Cole, Missy Gallaher, Johnny Griffin, Becky Layne, Mary Ann Owings, and Tom Pickel.

Day of Caring projects completed . . .

Several Day of Caring projects have either been completed or are in progress. Project Teams and projects are:

- Kingston Rotary Club - Bulb-planting at Kingston Public Library
- Knights of Columbus - Classroom painting project at The Henry Center





- Oliver Springs High School Beta Club - Cleaning/painting project at Oliver Springs High School
- Roane County United Way Board of Directors - Landscaping project at United Way office
- Roane State Community College - Kitchen cleaning at Michael Dunn Center Gallaher Road facility; painting project at The Henry Center; landscaping at Harriman Riverfront Park
- TVA -Painting projects at Michael Dunn Center Gallaher Road facility

We could still use some volunteers to complete community projects. Any community groups interested in conducting volunteer projects during the course of the campaign can contact the United Way office at 882-7711. A BIG THANK YOU to all those volunteers that completed projects. Our agencies truly appreciate it!



Thank you to Local Businesses' support of our Campaign... United Ways pride themselves in low overhead costs. We want to thank the following businesses who give above and beyond their regular United Way gifts to support the UW campaign effort. The dollars that are contributed to our Campaign Sponsorship program offset costs associated with fundraising. Thank you to:

BWXT Y12
Bechtel Jacobs LLC
K-25 Credit Union

Citizens National Bank
United Community Bank
ORNL Federal Credit Union



Our annual pump day was held on Thursday, November 8th. Volunteer "celebrity pumpers" from around Roane County were on hand to pump gas at the Kingston Rocky Top, Rockwood Rocky Top, South Harriman Rocky Top Market and the Rocky Top Market at I-40/Hwy27 (Interstate Exit #347). Rocky Top Markets will donate five cents for every gallon pumped on this day to the Roane County United Way. We thank Rocky Top Markets for their continued support of this fun activity! This event raised \$1542. We want to thank all who pumped gas and to those that

came out and bought gas that day.

Other Campaign events... A variety of fund-raising and community awareness events are taking place during this year's campaign:

A gospel sing benefit featuring Grammy-award-winning vocalist Sherman Andrus was held September 15 at the Harriman United Methodist Church. Joining Sherman were the Evans Family and the Roane County Community Chorus. The event raised about \$700.

A United Way booth at the recent Kingston County Fair featured fried pies for sale to benefit the campaign. The pies were a sell out netting nearly \$200.

A golf tournament benefiting Roane County United Way was held by TVA (Kingston Fossil Plant) on Monday, October 8 (Columbus Day), at Centennial Golf Course in Oak Ridge. Sexton Automotive will give away a car for a hole-in-one! TVA estimated that \$10,000 was raised for United Way! Thank you to all those that participated in this event.

United Way hosted an agency fair at the Rockwood Wal-Mart on Thursday, October 11. Many agencies were on hand to provide information to the community on available services. We want to thank Mid-East Community Action Agency for providing hot dogs.



Salvation Army Mobil Unit was on hand serving coffee and tea

Allocations Panels are under way. . . Community volunteers have met with agencies to review budgets and program goals. The United Way's Budget and Allocation Committee will be meeting in November to review panel recommendations before presenting the proposed budget to the Roane County United Way board of directors at their November meeting. Agencies should be notified in December of funding decisions.



Meet our newest board member, Una Coffman . . . We welcome Una Coffman to our board of directors. Una is well known in the Roane County community. Having served on various boards and with many organizations, Una is recently retired from the County Commission where she served as the first woman to be elected chairman.



United Way gives support to RAM Clinic... Roane County United Way provided \$5,000 to the Remote Area Medical Clinic held in Roane County in August. Anna Waldman staffed a United Way table at the event with popcorn and program information. United Way board member Kathy Cole of the Roane County Health Council said eye exams and dental care were provided to a total of 528 patients, with a value of care (based on the lowest end of the Medicare scale) of \$97,460. Total cost of the event was approximately \$6,000; Roane State provided the additional \$1,000. RAM is expected to return to Roane County in three years.

Second-year matching funds provided to Pre-K Program... Roane County United Way has provided the second installment of a three-year, \$60,000/year grant to Roane County Schools for the funding of five pre-K classrooms. The grant is a result of Governor Bredesen's challenge to Tennessee United Ways in 2006, after which United Ways across Tennessee secured match funding for 47 new Pre-k classrooms. Roane County's funding comes through the collaborative efforts of the United Ways of Metropolitan Nashville and Williamson County.



On-line donations now possible... Our web site, www.unitedwayroane.org is now set up so that we can receive campaign contributions on-line via PayPal. If you haven't visited the web site yet, please do so... Dan and Kathy McDowell of Roane County's Light Weaver Group have done an excellent job of creating and maintaining it. Many thanks to them for donating their services!

Volunteer Income Tax Program goes into fourth year... Once again this year Roane County United Way will be providing income tax assistance by hosting the local Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. United Ways nationwide partner with the IRS to locate or provide sites for this important service, and are particularly interested in focusing on households that meet the criteria to receive the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Care credits. VITA returns are filed electronically; personal information is secure and confidential.



The **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program** is now recruiting volunteers to help with tax preparation. You do not have to be

**we would love
for you to join our team!**

a CPA to help us out. If you like helping people and are looking for a flexible and unique volunteer opportunity, contact the United Way office at 882-7711 for more information.



Angel Food Ministries... As of July, Roane County United Way has become an order and distribution site for Angel Food Ministries for this area of the county, supplementing the Luminary United Methodist Church

site. Hands of Mercy, First Baptist Church of Kingston, and Bethel Presbyterian Church are providing the volunteers and administrative support for the program, which provides monthly menu items for sale to the community for a basic rate of \$28. Orders can be placed at the United Way office and at First Baptist Church (Kingston) from 9 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday (closed noon to 1 p.m. for lunch).

Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit non-denominational organization that began in 1994 as a small outreach ministry serving rural Georgia. Their mission is to help relieve hunger throughout the United States and their goal is to help neighbors who needed a hand up in a tough economic time. Today, "Angel Food Industries", can be found in 3200 communities in 34 states and helps over 500,000 families a month.

Angel Food partners with churches and community organizations throughout the country to help distribute food to anyone interested in saving money on groceries. For \$28.00 you can receive a box of food containing both fresh and frozen items. The retail value would be double the current pricing. Menus change each month. In addition to a regular box purchase, special boxes of meat are offered as well. Cash checks and EBT cards are accepted. Some sites do require exact change.

There are no income qualifications. All individuals and families can come into the following locations and order their monthly selections. It is suggested you call ahead as sign up times vary from site to site. Orders are placed and picked up at the same site with the exception of First Baptist Church in Kingston. They pick up at the United Way.

Mid Roane County

First Baptist Church
215 N. Kentucky St.
Kingston
865-376-6041

East Roane County

New Midway Baptist Church
240 New Midway Road
Kingston
865-376-1975

Roane County United Way
2735 Roane State Highway
Harriman
865-882-7711

South Roane County

Luminary United Methodist Church
3401 River Rd.
Kingston
865-376-7040

North Roane County

Oak Ridge Family Bible Church
1978 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge
865-483-7171

Morgan County

Storehouse Ministries
1710 Main Street
Wartburg
423-346-5267 or 423-346-6286

For additional locations you can go to www.angelfoodministries.com

These churches and United Way are proud to bring this program to Roane County and help our residents stretch their hard earned dollars. The November menu is now available so come in and place your order. The

deadline for ordering is November 2 and pick up is November 17. For additional information you can call the Roane County United Way at 882-7711.

Agencies/Organizations invited to attend The Roane County Inter Agency Council. . .

These monthly meetings are open to any organization (including churches) providing social service/benevolence programs to the Roane County community. This is an opportunity to learn about programs and services that are available in our county. It is also an opportunity to network with other organizations. We would welcome anyone interested in participating. We feel the more that participate, the better connected and efficient we can become in providing services to our community.



The Inter Agency Council meets the second Tuesday of every month from 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the United Way offices which are located in the Rescue Squad building in midtown. A pot luck lunch is offered. The meeting format is informal with time being allotted for agency announcements, networking and then a featured speaker. Feel free to contact the Roane County United Way for more information.

United Way partners with GoodSearch... What

if the Roane County United Way earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Well, now we can! GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results. Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter United Way of Roane County as the charity you want to support. Just 500 of us searching four times a day will raise about \$7300 in a year without anyone spending a dime! And, be sure to spread the word!



Volunteer Opportunities

United Way -- VITA volunteers needed We are looking for volunteers to help expand our **volunteer income tax assistance program**. Training is provided. If you would be interested in helping us out, give the United Way a call.

Landscaping project – The UW office has a small flower bed that needs some attention. We would appreciate the donation of some bedding plants and/or a bird feeder and birdbath to help spruce up our entrance.

- ❖ **CASA of the Tennessee Heartland** is looking for individuals to serve as court advocates for their program. Training is provided. If you are interested in learning more about the program, you can call Lou Devlin at 882-6111.
- ❖ **Child & Family Tennessee** will take **your old cell phones**. You may drop them off (along with the charger) at the Roane County United Way offices.
- ❖ **The Salvation Army** will be needing individuals or groups to ring bells during their **Kettle Campaign**. The campaign will begin the day after Thanksgiving and continue up to Christmas. For information or to volunteer, call Marie Ruby at 882-3398

More volunteer opportunities may be available – contact United Way for information.

Staff --

Diana Knobloch, Executive Director

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Paulette Lawson, Administrative Assistant/
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