

Sheboygan & Plymouth Area United Way
Sheboygan Press Column
Week of November 23, 2009
By Nancy Jusky

Things We are Thankful for at United Way

Thanksgiving – that wonderful holiday that allows us to take the time to count our blessings and appreciate the sacrifice our forefathers made to commemorate this special holiday. At United Way we have so much to be thankful for. These are a few of our favorite things:

- A dedicated board of 22 directors led by President Jon Scott.
- An energized Campaign Cabinet of 31 volunteers led by 2009 Campaign Chairs Ralph & Shelly Stayer.
- Twenty-six partnering agencies who share our mission to provide leadership in building a stronger and healthier Sheboygan County, by uniting resources and human needs to empower individuals to improve their lives.
- Nine terrific Pacesetters – Johnsonville Sausage, UPS, Wigwam Mills, Heartland Business Bank, US Bank, Feider, Tiboris & Bistan DDS, M&I Bank, Acuity and the United Way Agencies – whose August campaigns raised over \$333,000 to jump start our 2009 Campaign.
- Bob Chesebro, the CEO of Wigwam, who donated 1200 pairs of socks to keep the feet of Sheboygan Area School District children warm this winter.
- Bob Feider, Gus Tiboris and Matt Bistan, the generous dentists who donated 1000 toothbrushes and toothpaste to area shelters and food pantries for distribution to those in need.
- Heartland Business Bank employees who collected 25 brand new blankets for the Salvation Army Emergency Lodge and Safe Harbor.
- Employee food drives at Johnsonville, M&I Bank, Kohler Co. and many more which contributed thousands of non-perishable food, personal hygiene, cleaning and paper products to 9 food pantries throughout Sheboygan County.
- Road America, US Bank, Rocky Knoll, the Weill Center and the 80+ volunteers who partnered with United Way to present a first-ever drive-in movie night fund raiser at the race track.
- The “As One” Task Force community collaborative which, with United Way, is addressing the needs of the unemployed and underemployed facing foreclosure, food shortages and related personal and financial sustainability issues.
- The Volunteer Coordinators’ Network which, with United Way, hopes to establish a Volunteer Center in Sheboygan County.
- The progress of a Free Community Health Clinic for Sheboygan County, an ongoing community collaborative joining both major hospitals in the community and other health care partners which stemmed from a \$20,000 grant from United Way.
- The over 10,000 donors whose contributions to the 2009 United Way campaign will improve the quality of life for the over 64,000 individuals who turn to United Way for help.

Thank you, Sheboygan County, for Living United.