

May 5, 2010

DeKalb County Community Foundation, Inc.

DeKalb County Community Foundation Celebrates its 13th Year



Larry Moore, Butler Public Library Board President.

DeKalb County Community Foundation hosted its 13th annual meeting on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, at the newly renovated and expanded Butler Public Library. The community foundation supported the building project with a \$10,000 grant. Butler Public Library Board President Larry Moore welcomed the foundation's sixty-one guests and invited them to tour the facility.

Meeting Highlights

Allen Haynes, Natural Resource Coordinator, introduced the new **DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation Fund** as an opportunity to make charitable gifts to support conservation. Grants from the fund currently go to educational programs but Haynes and the Soil & Water board of directors hope to attract permanent gifts to perpetuate a variety of conservation programs.

Butler Early Education Director Sherry Hanchar shared how grants from the community foundation help her to overcome obstacles that get in the way of delivering quality care for children. She expressed gratitude to a previous center board and staff that raised money for a community foundation endowment fund that provides cash for general operating support every year. In addition to grants from its endowment fund, Hanchar noted that the center has received grants from four other community foundation funds for educational materials, staff training and building repairs.



Hanchar



DeKalb County Community Foundation's
13th Year

Randy Deetz, current president of the community foundation, reported that in 2009 the community foundation received \$2 million in gifts, awarded \$804,000 in grants and scholarships and ended the year with \$11 million in assets. He cited the 2009 launch of DeKalb County Learning Link as a continuation of the community foundation's interest in raising the educational attainment level in the community.

Deetz announced that in 2010, the foundation's Community Grantmaking Fund will award \$50,000 through its competitive grantmaking process. Proposals for any type of charitable program or project will be accepted through July 1, 2010.

The community foundation awarded **Heart of Gold Awards** to the Gene and Julie Sonnenberg family of Garrett for their volunteer support at St. Martin's Healthcare and to Barbara Olenyik Morrow for volunteer efforts with her church, Crop Walk, Rieke Park and Eckhart Public Library.

The community foundation distributed copies of its 2009 Annual Report which includes its audited financial information. Printed copies or an electronic version of the report are available by contacting the community foundation office at (260) 925-0311 or email Diane Wilson, dwilson@dekalbfoundation.org.



Butler Public Library's new community room
filled with annual meeting guests.
