

# Giving Matters



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650 W. NORTH STREET  
P.O. BOX 111  
AUBURN, IN 46706

Phone: 260-925-0311  
Toll Free: 888-727-3834  
Fax: 260-925-0383  
www.dekalbfoundation.org

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John and Sue Stoops; Lyle and Sheri Holman.

the foundation's Agricultural Education Endowment Fund. Twenty donors have committed over \$20,000 to the fund which will support a variety of agriculture-related educational opportunities.

Our thanks to Beth Bechdol for her knowledgeable presentation and to DeKalb Farm Bureau, Inc. and DeKalb Farm Mutual Insurance for their gifts to help underwrite the cost of breakfast.

### The Art of Philanthropy

The community foundation hosted its 12th annual meeting in May. Community foundation president Donna Martin-Boseker shared a snapshot of the foundation's successes in 2008:

- Five new endowment funds established
- \$1.6 million awarded in grants and scholarships
- \$1.8 million received in gifts

President Martin-Boseker said, "There are as many ways to paint your personal picture of philanthropy as there are colors in a paint box. The community foundation can help you paint your personal picture of DeKalb County."

The event was held at the Garrett Museum of Art and guests enjoyed the opportunity to view local artwork displays.

The foundation's 2008 annual report, which includes its audited financial statements, is posted on the community foundation's website, [www.dekalbfoundation.org](http://www.dekalbfoundation.org), under 'News.' To request a printed copy call the office at (260) 925-0311.



Terry Rayle, National Military History Center; Lynn Shonka and Jeannette Randall, YMCA of DeKalb County.

## Our Mission

DeKalb County Community Foundation promotes *community philanthropy* by offering local citizens the opportunity to *leave a charitable legacy* that will *sustain and improve life* in our county.

## Learning Link Teams Present Goals *Submitted by Judy Sorg*

Imagine a county where nearly every child is ready to enter kindergarten, every senior in high school has a career goal, and every adult is gainfully employed and engaged in continuous learning. After listening to input from across the county last November, the following community vision was established:

*Working together through continuous learning to improve the quality of life for all in DeKalb County.*

Unlike a traditional steering committee and action teams, Learning Link's three action teams and steering committee are working to align programs that others are already doing. This work is done in consideration of what is best for the overall vision rather than the interests of any one segment of the county, allowing the community to come together.

Donna Martin-Boseker, President of the DeKalb County Community Foundation, noted that the foundation continues its effort to raise the level of educational attainment in the community with DeKalb County Learning Link. "We are creating a better future for all in DeKalb County by addressing one of the community's most critical challenges and uniting organizations and resources to produce lasting results."

Action teams presented their goals, measures and strategies to achieve those goals at a community meeting on July 14 at Bridgewater Golf Club. The next step is incorporating the community's input. Anyone in the county with an interest in learning across the lifespan is encouraged to get involved by calling or e-mailing Judy Sorg, 260-925-0311 or [jsorg@dekalbfoundation.org](mailto:jsorg@dekalbfoundation.org).



*Becky Stupeck, Kay Finchum, Cheryl Clark and Jerry Yoder (clockwise from left) participate on the Adult Lifelong Learning Action Team.*

## Newsletter Going Green

This new format for the foundation's newsletter uses less paper and adapts well to delivery via the Internet. We're doing our best to protect the planet and to use our financial resources wisely. Some of you received the newsletter via email and others received a printed copy. Please let us know which you prefer and we will do our best to keep in touch with you the best way possible. Call us at (260) 925-0311 or email [dwilson@dekalbfoundation.org](mailto:dwilson@dekalbfoundation.org).



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## Congratulations are in Order!

We're tipping our hats to these local projects/programs that were made possible through 1) committed volunteers, 2) generous donors and 3) grants from the community foundation.

- The **DeKalb Outdoor Theater** is open and attracting crowds with family-friendly musical entertainment. Check their website for (mostly free) events scheduled all summer long. Bring your lawn chair. [www.dekalboutdoortheater.org](http://www.dekalboutdoortheater.org)
- The **Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum** redesigned its entrance to include the museum store. The entrance and store now have the same "wow" factor as the classic cars on display in the museum. Very tempting.
- Ten participants recently graduated from the **DeKalb Leadership Development** course. The class of 2009 joins over 100 alumni who gained knowledge about DeKalb County while they learned practical leadership skills. We say - Go forth and lead!

## 2009 Honorary Gifts

Don Alleshouse's 102nd birthday  
Rebekah Graber's 19th birthday  
Rebekah Graber's High School graduation



**DEKALB COUNTY**  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

For good. For ever.®

## 2009 Memorial Gifts

Deloris Ault  
Veda M. Bellows  
Floyd C. "Butch" Coburn  
Bruce Custer  
Peggy Dircksen  
Alfred Ferrara  
Charles W. "Chuck" Fike  
Louise Herbolsheimer  
Vera L. Housel  
Roger Laub

Dorothy Marley  
Boyd Moore  
James Moses  
Michael J. Myers, Jr.  
Eleanor Neeld  
Matthew R. O'Connor  
Amy J. Robinson  
Donald Ruegsegger  
Floyd M. Scott  
Marjorie Shook

Michael Allen Shopp  
Sidney Albert Short  
Susan "Sudi" Sutton  
Dorothy Wagner  
Margaret "Peg" L. Waring  
Ronald E. Weimer  
Melanie Ann Yarian  
Dottie Zent  
Alphie, beloved dog of Nancy Mertz