

Giving Matters



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Donors Rose and Stanley Means left a generous **educational legacy** to the community when they died in the early 80s. Five DeKalb High School students will benefit from their generosity when they become the first recipients of \$10,000 Means Scholarships in May 2010.

Rose, an elementary teacher, and Stanley, a farmer and cattle inspector, left instructions with the Auburn Foundation to use their assets for educational loans to family members for 25 years. By 2009 the family restriction was over and the Auburn Foundation transferred the fund to us "because of the administrative ability of the DeKalb County Community Foundation," said Auburn Foundation President Donald T. Mefford. We say thank you to the Auburn Foundation for their confidence in the community foundation.



Twenty-two people learned about creating a charitable legacy of their own when they attended a **Will Power** presentation by Butler attorney Jerry McNerney in November. The presentation was held at the Butler Public Library during National Philanthropy Week. McNerney urged people to create or update their will and to consider leaving a gift to charity. He pointed out that the newly-expanded (and beautiful!) library is a perfect example of a community project that cannot happen without local charitable support. The Eastside Area Community Foundation and DeKalb County Community Foundation co-sponsored the event. Thanks, Jerry!

The **Mother Goose on the Loose giving circle** supports the DeKalb County Literacy Endowment Fund to address local literacy needs. When giving circle members reached their first endowment building goal of \$50,000 they challenged themselves to raise \$20,000 more! They succeeded in meeting that goal before the end of 2009. "I believe so strongly in this cause!" says one member and many others share her passion. In October giving circle members gathered to award six grants totaling \$4,000. Check out the grant details on the community foundation's website www.dekalbfoundation.org. Click on "Grants" then "Literacy Fund."



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.

As **Learning Link** works toward its vision of improving the quality of life in DeKalb County through continuous learning, the early childhood team is far ahead of the K-12 and Adult Lifelong Learning teams. "Team members came to the table recognizing the importance of children being prepared for learning in kindergarten," states Judy Sorg, Director of the foundation's education initiative, DeKalb County Learning Link.

The early childhood action team will soon unveil a checklist of kindergarten readiness skills for families and program providers. What's on that list?

- Readiness skills aligned with the most current educational research
- Skills agreed upon by the team as the highest priorities for children's success in kindergarten

Early childhood team members include kindergarten teachers and early childhood educators across northeast Indiana along with community members interested in doing what's best for children and for DeKalb County's future. "This team can feel proud of what they've accomplished," states Sorg. Action teams will present their reports during a public meeting on Tuesday, March 16 from 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the Garrett Middle School cafeteria. Community members *countywide* are invited to attend. To RSVP, call Diane Wilson at the community foundation, 260-925-0311, or e-mail dwilson@dekalbfoundation.org.



Submitted by: Judy Sorg



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4th Quarter 2009 Honorary & Memorial Gifts

Honorary Gifts

Allen W. Haynes

Dr. James O. and Karen A. Farlow

Crystal Hite

Cornerstone Wealth Management, LLC

Gaylord Toll

The Dekko Foundation

Memorial Gifts

David Aschelman

James A. and Jackie A. Hoff

Anita Bower

John W. and Esther G. Bower

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Harold and Carole Wilhelm

Shirley Ruegsegger

Mary Scheumann

Gary A. and Kathleen Scheumann

James A. Souder

Ronald W. and Constance S. Dicke

Mark Allen Wilmes

Helen K. Stark

Kathryn C. Winans

Dr. Richard A. Dirksen

Farmers and Philanthropy

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Celebration Hall, 1346 S. Randolph Street, Garrett

Speaker Steven Howell, Deputy District Director for Congressman Mark Souder, will address how our local agriculture community is affected by current government policy.

This free breakfast event is held in conjunction with the Purdue University DeKalb County Extension office and through the generosity of local sponsors. Join us!

