

## Marshfield Area United Way

United  
Way



Fall 2009

### Mazzas lead 2009 campaign



**2009 Drive Chairs  
Ginny and Joe Mazza**

Ginny and Joe Mazza have made a career of helping others, and the lessons they've learned in service extend far beyond the workplace and classroom. The Mazzas will bring this passion to the role of

Marshfield Area Drive Chairs in the annual fundraising campaign.

This year, as residents continue to face hardship because of economic challenges, the Mazzas will advocate for the support of 37 programs through contributions to the United Way campaign.

Few areas of central Wisconsin have been spared by the slow down, and everyone is feeling the strain of tightening budgets.

The increased cost of living adds another burden for people in our community who were already struggling. United Way programs help provide for resident's basic needs of food, clothing and shelter. They support and advocate for victims of domestic violence and help our aging population maintain their independence.

"It's easy to give when times are good, but it's important to give when our community is facing challenges," Ginny said.

The Marshfield area is a very generous community, proven year after year. "It's hard to know how to approach someone who doesn't feel that responsibility to give back—except to say that if you could give to only one organization, the biggest impact you can make with your money is to give to United Way," Dr. Mazza said.

*Continued on Page 3...*



**Top photos:** School supplies and backpacks collected in the [Fill a Backpack, Fulfill a Dream](#) supply drive, distributed to more than 300 children and area schools.

**Bottom photos:** [Day of Action](#) (L to R) Farmer's Insurance Agency-Kevin Krizan explaining the child identification kit, kid friendly activities inside, and blind man volleyball tournament. For more photos from these events and more visit [www.flickr.com/MarshfieldAreaUnitedWay](http://www.flickr.com/MarshfieldAreaUnitedWay)

### Five workshops to help you get money smart October 10-17

Do you want to learn more about your finances and how to save money through easy lifestyle changes? Are you interested in buying house but are unsure if you can afford it? Do you have questions about how to plan for your retirement—or how to adjust your

plans in a changing economy?

Marshfield Area United Way, along with area partners, is offering a series of free workshops to help you take control of your finances and your future during Wisconsin's Money Smart Week: October 10-17.

You do not have

to be in financial trouble to attend any of these sessions, rather if you're interested in learning how you can take control of your financial future, these sessions are for you.

Watch for more details about these free opportunities in October.

*Continued on Page 3...*

# Carve positive change in stone with your contribution

By Paula Jero, Executive Director



Volunteering or donating to Marshfield Area United Way is a bit like writing in sand and carving into stone. Writing in sand doesn't last. Time, wind and water will erase the writing, just as each year's drive chairs take on the challenge of leading the United Way campaign as

many drive chairs have before.

So why then do some of the most respected individuals in our community step forward to lead the campaign? I suspect the 2009 Drive Chairs Joe and Ginny Mazza, as well as all of the past drive chairs understand that while their efforts in leading campaign last only a few short months, the results of their efforts really do last a lifetime.

Similarly, when we donate to United Way it feels a bit like writing in sand. We write a check or fill out our pledge card and it feels like a here and now activity. Most of us take a few minutes and consider our budget and make a decision about our gift. I suspect many of us don't consider that gift is much more like carving in stone.

Don't believe me? Well then answer for yourself, providing tutoring and services for a youth struggling in school so they experience school success; is this writing in sand or carving in stone? Teaching someone who is illiterate to read? Providing quality day care so a teen mom can finish high school?

None of these services happen without the financial support of United Way contributors. The moment of

writing a check or filling out the pledge card leads to services that last a lifetime.

This year's campaign video features the stories of two families whose lives were changed because of your contributions. Sixteen years ago a single mom with four young children developed medical issues and was not able to work. She sought and received help from North Central Community Action Program (NCCAP) and Soup Or Socks (SOS), both current Marshfield Area United Way funded programs.

Through the housing assistance she received from NCCAP and the food her family needed from SOS this family was able to get through a difficult time.

Forward to the present day, and this woman is now serving on NCCAP Board of Directors, donates to SOS when she is able to and encourages each of her children to be involved and donate to those in need.

Did you give to Marshfield Area United Way in 1993, the year this woman and her family were served by these programs? If you did, please know that your donated dollars are still reaping benefits today.

Those donations helped this woman build a better life for herself and her children, and the help she received then still influences her actions and the actions of her children today.

Jeffery Nelson from Saint Joseph's Hospital was 1993's Drive Chair, and his efforts along with the efforts of volunteers and donors made a lasting difference.

This fall Joe and Ginny Mazza will ask each of us to step forward to carve in stone. Please be generous, for what we give today is not a temporary, fleeting gift – but one that can make a profound difference in the lives of people in our community.

## Stay connected, spread the word, volunteer and more with new online opportunities

Stay connected to United Way all year with these easy online sites you may already be using. Advocate your favorite causes, learn about events, let us know your opinions and view pictures. Visit our new Web site [www.marshfieldareaunderway.org](http://www.marshfieldareaunderway.org), click on Social Media or use the information below to visit the sites directly.

 **Event Photos**  
[www.flickr.com/  
MarshfieldAreaUnitedWay](http://www.flickr.com/MarshfieldAreaUnitedWay)

 **Inside Marshfield Area  
United Way Blog**  
<http://maunitedway.blogspot.com>

 **Find us on  
Facebook** **Become a Fan  
on Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com), search  
Marshfield Area United Way

 **Follow me on  
twitter** **Follow United  
Way on Twitter**  
[www.twitter.com/MAUW01](http://www.twitter.com/MAUW01)

Take your volunteering experience to the next level with the Volunteer Center's new Web site. Be the first to know about Volunteer opportunities with the new Web site. Sign up for annual special events like **Make a Difference Day Saturday, October 24**, learn more about board and committees or how you can apply your talents to needy programs throughout the year.



Just click on Volunteer on the United Way Web site, click the Volunteer Center logo, complete a quick registration and customize your profile.

For more information or questions about creating your profile e-mail [unitedway.sarah@tznnet.com](mailto:unitedway.sarah@tznnet.com) or call 384-9992.

## Volunteers decide 2010 program funding

Marshfield Area United Way's Board of Directors approved the recommended \$715,535 in 2010 funding for 37 local health and human service programs serving the community's most critical needs and core services.

Funding recommendations are made by trained volunteers who looked at each program's request and prior year's outcomes and weighed it against community needs and identified priorities.

United Way volunteers utilized results from the Community Assessment Survey to help determine funding levels in 2010. The survey, distributed in 2009 workplace campaigns, by mail and Internet asked individuals to identify the three top needs they faced.

701 surveys were completed, and the top identified needs were elderly services, domestic violence and hunger.

"We also look to the agencies to try to help us assess what kinds of needs may be on the rise, like hunger, domestic abuse or even homelessness. There was a time when we could focus more attention on preventative programming; however, right now we are putting the greatest focus on basic needs," said Marsha Barwick, CIC Chair and Marketing/Investor Relations for Marshfield Clinic.

Because of increasing needs, volunteers also gave priority to programs creating opportunities for a better life by focusing on creating financial stability and those serving at-risk populations.

To view the complete list of 2010 funded programs and program details visit [marshfieldareaunitedway.org](http://marshfieldareaunitedway.org) and click Our Partners.

## Continued from Front: Money Smart

Wisconsin's Money Smart Week 2009: October 10-17

**Home Buyer Workshop—October 8 & 15: 6-9 p.m.  
Holiday Inn (750 S. Central Ave, Marshfield)**

Learn more about the home buying and lending process. Presented by Central Wisconsin Home Buyer Coalition.

**Watch for more information about dates and times for these Wisconsin's Money Smart Week sessions:**

- Decode what your credit score means and how to reach and maintain your ideal score in **Improve Your Credit Score**
- Learn how to be a savvy grocery shopper with **Stretch that Dollar**
- Pick up tips on improving your home's energy efficiency in **Become Energy Smart**
- Prepare for your future in **Retirement Planning**

For more information or to register call 384-9992 or email [unitedway.sarah@tznet.com](mailto:unitedway.sarah@tznet.com).

## Continued from Front: Mazza

Contributions to the campaign fund programs that work with all age ranges from the very young to the very old. Programs work to prepare youth for success in school and life, give people the tools to become financially stable and improve the health and well being of all residents.

Dr. Mazza retired from full time practice three years ago and transitioned to part time work researching and consulting. Ginny was a pediatric nurse for eight years and taught at MidState Technical College for a decade. Both have a long history of volunteering and advocating for their community.

Dr. Mazza is a member of the Lawton Society, a member of the YMCA board, chairman of the YMCA Strong Kids Campaign in 2007 and former Director of Medical Education at Marshfield Clinic.

Ginny is current president of Habitat for Humanity and has been an active participant in Rotary Winter Wonderland, Noon Rotary and Partners with Saint Joseph's Hospital.



**Vicky Peterson wins \$42,678 in Dare to Dream Raffle**  
Pictured from Left to Right: Paula Jero, Vicky and husband Randy Peterson the night of the raffle drawing. 1,796 tickets were sold in the first annual raffle. Special thanks to Wisconsin Homes for partnering with United Way. Look for details of the next Dare to Dream raffle in 2010.

## Donate your harvests to area food pantries

Marshfield area, how does your garden grow? As the fresh fruits and vegetables are ready to harvest, please donate the surplus to area food pantries to feed neighbors who are struggling. Your donation will help relieve some of the stress pantries are feeling as needs and pantry use increases. Dial 2-1-1 for complete Marshfield area pantry locations and hours or visit [www.getconnected211.org](http://www.getconnected211.org) and click F for Food.

**United  
Way**



NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

MARSHFIELD, WI 54449

PERMIT NO. 75

**Marshfield Area  
United Way**

101 West 29th Street, Suite 104  
PO Box 771  
Marshfield, WI 54449

Phone: 715-384-9992

Fax: 715-384-0043

[unitedway@tznet.com](mailto:unitedway@tznet.com)

[www.marshfieldareaunitedway.org](http://www.marshfieldareaunitedway.org)

***Return Service Requested***

**Board of Directors**

**President**

John Baur

**Vice President**

Lori Gropp

**Treasurer**

Jeff Graves

Marsha Barwick

Debbie Bauer

Lori Belongia

Darlene Berry

Al Chaney

Jo Anne Firestone

Donna Follen

Tim Herr

Tom Hill

John Hutchinson

Sharon Kostroski

Jeff Meece

Mike Murrell

Amy Nystrom

Cindy Puent



**United Way staff Paula Jero, Sarah Krenn and Stacey Oelrich pose for a picture with Paul Wesselmann after Kick off.**

United Way's 2009 Campaign kicked off with a splash as Paul Wesselmann of The Ripples Project reminded all of us that so many people who are struggling depend on the daily work of United Way funded programs.

"Even though we live in a world where frustrating and scary things happen, we also live in a world where one person can improve your day with a single act of kindness," Paul said.

Thank you Paul for reinforcing the idea that by LIVING UNITED we create positive Ripples.

**Calling all Loyal Contributors**

Have you given to any United Way for 10 years or more? If so, you are a Loyal Contributor. We want to recognize and thank you, our long-time contributor for helping create lasting change through United Way.

We published our first Loyal Contributor list in the 2008 Annual Report, but the list is far from complete.

United Way's giving records do not span a complete 10 years, so we need you to identify yourself on your pledge card by indicating the year you began giving.

If you are a Loyal Contributor and not on our list, we are sincerely sorry we missed you. We will update our list throughout the year. To view the Loyal Contributor list visit [www.marshfieldareaunitedway.org](http://www.marshfieldareaunitedway.org). You'll find the Loyal Contributor page under Thank You in the right sidebar.

Thank you for your support throughout the year. You help improve lives in the Marshfield area.