

# COMMUNITY MATTERS

February 2011

UNITED WAY OF VENANGO COUNTY

Dear Friends:

Last year represented United Way of Venango County's thirty-eighth year as a Countywide organization. We have seen countless changes in many aspects of our operations, but one thing that has remained constant from year-to-year is the outstanding leadership we have had at campaign time. Thanks to the tireless efforts of these caring leaders, many of whom are still volunteering to help those less fortunate in the community, United Way of Venango County has raised over \$14,825,850.

Thanks to the following individuals, who gave of their time and talents to lead the campaign which ultimately helped the people in our community: (1973) Thomas Mansfield; (1974) Jennie Brandon; (1975) Albert Smathers; (1976) Stanley Riordan; (1977) Richard Mong; (1978) John Comet; (1979) Spence Garvin; (1980) Ralph Montgomery; (1981) Charles Beck; (1982) James G. Anderson; (1983) Beverly Snyder; (1984) David Hershberger; (1985) Mary Jo White; (1986) R. Lee James; and (1987) Roberta B. Williams.

The following year, UWVC implemented a new campaign organization with Co-Chairpersons at the helm: (1988) Robert Spaulding and Lee James; (1989) Thomas Golonski & Peter Hughes; (1990) Keith Pemrick & Neil Todhunter; (1991) Eugene Bak & Lee Strickland; (1992) James Hawkins & Wesley S. Hill; (1993) Dennis Pascarella & Libby Williams; (1994) Pamela Watkins & Joseph Griswold; (1995) Connie Dainty & Patricia Feroz; (1996) Linda Greenfield & Frank Serbati; (1997) Joseph Pastor & James Caffrey; (1998) Kathleen Gatto & Kelly Donaldson; (1999) Rhonda Steigerwald & Judy Saltzman; (2000) Ronald Saunders & Stephen Pikna; (2001) Stella Kudlac & Bob Stubler; (2002) Barbara Frantz & Robert Carone; (2003) Karen Fischer & Millie Wible; (2004) Minnie Fink & David Hall; (2005) Jennifer Friedhaber & Dan Marlatt; (2006) Courtney Cox & Loretta Strawbridge; (2007) Lance Titus & Bob Cross; (2008) Donna Cornelius & Beth Harman; (2009) Kay Hopwood & Terri Wood; and (2010) Cindy Engel & Amy Uhler.

As another campaign year begins, I would like to say a very special "thank you" to Linda Routzhan and Jill Rhoads, 2011 Campaign Co-Chairpersons. Linda serves as Manager External Affairs of First Energy/Penelec in Oil City and Jill is Executive Director, Venango Riding for the Handicapped Association (VARHA).

These ladies are following a very distinguished list of volunteers, and they are going to need your support, just as the others did, year after year. When asked to serve in some capacity during the upcoming campaign, they would greatly appreciate it if you would volunteer your valuable time and talents, just as they will be doing throughout the rest of the year, to help the people in this community. Your service will be appreciated more than you could realize by the individuals who receive the vital services of our sixteen Partner Agencies.

## Inside this issue:

Dignity & Respect Campaign	2
Rev. Martin Luther King	2
Lunch & Learn	2
Casino Night	2
Student United Way	3
Bluegrass Festival	3
February's Calendar	3

**Jane**

A. Jane Klinger

# Dignity & Respect Campaign

The Venango County Dignity and Respect Kick-off for the Non-profit & Government Segment was held on January 19th Y.W.C.A. in Oil City.

“UPMC’s Dignity and Respect Campaign joins individuals, community leaders, community organizations, educational institutions, businesses and corporations under the common notion that everyone deserves dignity and respect.”



In this photo: (Left) Jane Klinger, United Way; Courtney Cox, UPMC Northwest; Denise Jones, County of Venango; Pam Watkins, SFPC; and Candi Castleberry-Singleton, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer.



# Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

2011 Marked the 25th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. death. The United Way partnered with Retired Senior Volunteer Program to celebrate the legacy of Rev. King, Jr. on Monday, January, 17 at the First Baptist Church in Franklin.

The event featured the story of the Underground Railroad in North-western PA. Mrs. Pat Young told the compelling story of the her handcrafted quilt. She described each block as signals to convey messages of the Underground Railroad.



## LUNCH & LEARN ... Here to Help

The United Way has partnered with the Pennsylvania CareerLink for Lunch & Learn ... Here to Help.

The event will give individuals the opportunity to learn about services available to them in Venango County.

This is service is for anyone, laid-off, dislocated, out of work, or just need information that will help your family survive in today’s economy. Information will be provided that will be beneficial to you and your family.

There will be valuable information available in the following categories:

- \* ENERGY & FOOD ASSISTANCE
- \* MEDICAL BENEFITS
- \* POTENTIAL TEMPORARY JOBS
- \* EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
- \* UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION



## Invitation

DATE: Wednesday, March 9

TIME: 11:00 am—2:30 pm

LOCATION: Rocky Grove Firehall

*Please RSVP your reservations no later than March 1 by calling the United Way at (814)676-6545*

“All of this information under one roof, AWESOME IDEA!!!”

A FREE community resource for surviving today’s economy and lunch is provided.

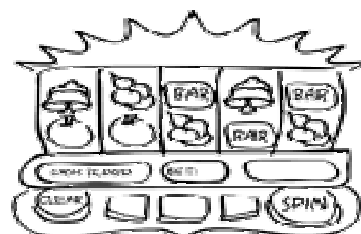
## 4th Annual Casino Night

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

**\$ 20 in Advance  
\$25 at the door**

**MARCH 19TH**

The doors open at 7:00pm and gaming is



*Please contact the United Way (814) 676-6545*

# Student United Way

The Student United Way has partnered with the Phi Theta Kappa Chapter and the Campus Activities Board for a Parents' Date Night.

Parents' Date Night is open to the Community. The event is held 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm on Friday, February 11. Pre-registration is \$5 and \$8 at the door. Parents can drop off their children, ages 4 - 12 for babysitting in the Robert W. Rhoades Center.

The event will feature the storyteller, Mary Morgan Smith, activities, and snacks.

The proceeds will benefit the Phi Theta

Kappa's "Totes for Tots Project," a Service project in which Phi Theta Kappa works with residents of the Presbyterian Home, Golden Living Center, Caring Place. And the local Boy Scouts Troop to prepare and fill bags of fun educational toys that are donated to area Head Start and pre-kindergarten classrooms.

Please contact: 814-676-6591 ext.1336

Student United Way members are eager to participate in the Bluegrass Festival.

Student United Way has its first meeting of the semester on Thursday, February 3. This is going to be an exciting semester.

## Mark your Calendars



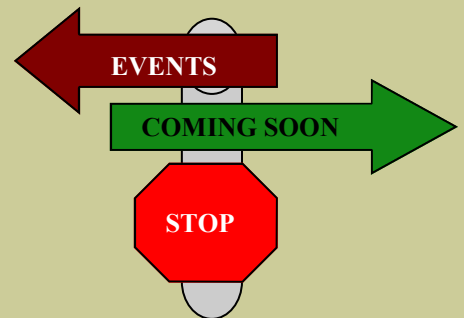
## Bluegrass Festival

**February 18, 19, & 20**  
**Arlington Hotel, Oil City**

*The United Way has once again partnered with the Oil City Arts Counsel for the Annual Bluegrass Festival. Many bands from around the region participate in the event. This year's event features a band competition. There are three prizes that will be awarded to the winners*

## February 2011

Sun	Mo	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					



- February 8 - Lunch & Learn Meeting  
8:00 am United Way Office
- February 11 - Casino Night Meeting  
8:00 am United Way Office
- February 17 - Executive Committee Meeting  
8:00 am United Way Office
- February 18- 20- Bluegrass Festival  
Arlington Hotel in Oil City

# United Way of Venango County

1999 Allegheny Blvd.  
P.O. Box 303  
Reno, PA 16343

Phone: 814-676-6545  
Fax: 814-676-4530  
Email: [uwvc@verizon.net](mailto:uwvc@verizon.net)

**LIVE UNITED!**

## LIVE UNITED!

The United Way of Venango County is working to advance the common good by focusing on the building blocks for a good life for all in our community on important issues such as education, income, and health.

Our goal is to create long-lasting changes that prevent problems from happening in the first place. Your support of the United Way goes to work bringing lasting change, right where you live.

We invited you to be part of this change. Together, United, we can inspire hope and create opportunities for a better tomorrow.

That's what it means to LIVE UNITED!



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

## Partner Agencies

- Allegheny Red Cross Chapter
- Community Ambulance Service
- Community Services of Venango County
- Easter Seals Society, Western PA Div.
- Family Service and Children's Aid Society
- Girl Scouts of Western Pennsylvania
- Salvation Army, Franklin Unit
- Sugar Valley Lodge
- Venango County Blind Association
- Venango Area Community Foundation
- VARHA
- Y.M.C.A., Franklin
- Y.M.C.A., Oil City
- Y.M.C.A.
- Youth Alternatives