

# **Area schools, individuals and businesses honored at United Way's annual meeting**

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The Review

Quite a bit of local effort put in during the recently ended 2008-09 fundraising campaign was recognized at United Way of Greater Stark County's annual meeting and awards breakfast on Wednesday morning, held at the Kent State University Stark Campus Center in Canton.

During the event, also called the "Day of Thanks," recognition for Special Achievement was given to Alliance City Schools for a 48 percent increase over the previous year's fundraising campaign.

R.G. Drage Career Technical Center employees were noted as the highest employee per capita for giving in this year's campaign, and Stark State College received special recognition in the higher education category for its outstanding 2009 campaign.

Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter was placed on the agency's Honor Roll for its contribution.

Jim Edwards of Louisville was given a Gold Key Service Award for 14 years of volunteer work for American Red Cross (a United Way funded agency), along with two other individuals from Canton who "demonstrated a high degree of dedication and service for United Way or one of its service providers."

Among those outgoing United Way of Greater Stark County board members, Phil Braisted of Copeland Oaks in Sebring, was one who was honored. Renewing board members included Richard Giese, president of Mount Union College.

Chairman's Award for the top three giving campaigns was given to Aultman Health Foundation, The Timken Company and Diebold Inc.

Other area Chart Toppers listed for the 2009 campaign included Biery Cheese Company of Louisville, Alliance City Schools, Louisville City Schools, R.G. Drage Career Technical Center, Terry's Tire Town of Alliance, Early Childhood Education Alliance Inc. of Alliance, Mercy Medical Center, Stark Parks, Altercare of Ohio and the Pro Football Hall of Fame, among many others. A very long list of loyal individual contributors was also included in the presentation consisting of many from the greater Alliance area.

For a detailed listing of those recognized during the awards breakfast, visit [www.uwgsc.org](http://www.uwgsc.org).