

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gold Key, Community Volunteer Service Award nominations due Apr. 10

(Canton, OH) March 12, 2009 – Since 1961, the United Way has recognized community leaders and volunteers for the impact they have made on the Stark County community. The Gold Key Service Award recognizes those volunteers who have continually demonstrated the highest degree of personal dedication and service in a voluntary capacity to the United Way or its service providers. For the second consecutive year, individuals, groups, organizations, families, youths 18 years or younger and businesses or corporations with less than 200 employees and larger will also be recognized with Community Volunteer Service Awards.

Nomination forms are available online at www.uwstark.org and are due no later than Apr. 10 at 4:00 p.m. Submissions should be mailed or delivered to: United Way of Greater Stark County, Attn: Elizabeth Ramsburg, 4825 Higbee Ave. N.W., Suite 101, Canton, Ohio 44718. Nominations will be reviewed by the United Way selection committee composed of staff and volunteers. Any questions regarding nominations can be answered by contacting Elizabeth Ramsburg at (330) 491-9953.

“The Gold Key Service Award is one of the many ways United Way thanks those impacting our community on a daily basis,” says Maria Heege, President and CEO, United Way of Greater Stark County. “The opportunity to recognize individuals, families, and corporations for the Community Volunteer Service Awards is a significant one. We never tire of honoring volunteers who make a difference.”

The public is given an opportunity to make nominations for both the Gold Key Service Award and Community Volunteer Service Awards. Nominee applications will be evaluated for scope of responsibility; motivation, initiative and length of service; impact of service and attitude, commitment and determination. Eligible nominees should have performed volunteer activities for nonprofit or charitable organizations or other organizations aimed at improving or promoting the general welfare of the community during the past year.

Community Volunteer Service Award nominations will be accepted for an individual, group, family or corporation. Nominees should not have received any compensation for their volunteer work, excluding reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses.

2008 Gold Key recipients were Vera M. Burton of The Timken Company and Ken Douglas of Ernst & Young LLP.

Awards will be presented at the United Way of Greater Stark County’s Annual Meeting at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 30 at The University Center of Kent State University Stark Campus, located at 6000 Frank Avenue N.W. in North Canton.

United Way of Greater Stark County is a not-for-profit organization that seeks to improve lives in measurable and lasting ways by mobilizing thousands of people around a common goal: advancing the common good. United Way funds programs that focus on Early Education & Care, Graduation & Training and Family Stability. United Way believes these are the building blocks for a good life and that a quality education leads to a stable job, enough income to support a family through retirement, a safe place to live and good health.

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For more information about United Way visit www.uwstark.org. Headquarters are at 4825 Higbee Avenue NW, Suite 101, Canton, Ohio 44718. Dial (330) 491-0445 to reach the offices.

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