

VOLUNTEER.

GIVE.

ADVOCATE.

United Way  
of Greater Stark County



*Annual Meeting*  
**CAMPAIGN AWARDS BREAKFAST**  
**DAY OF THANKS 3.24.10**



**Annual Meeting, Campaign Awards  
Breakfast & Day of Thanks**  
One event on Wednesday, March 24

Kent State University  
University Conference Center, Stark Campus  
7:30 a.m. Breakfast buffet  
7:45 a.m. Program begins

March 24 is your day! At the Day of Thanks event volunteers, companies and coordinators who have given time, talent and donations to United Way and the annual campaign will be recognized. Gold Key service award recipients will be recognized and the annual State-of-the-Agency address will be delivered. Find out how your single gift to United Way changes lives right here in Stark County!

**If you haven't already, please RSVP today!**  
at [www.uwstark.org](http://www.uwstark.org)

or to Judith Cross at  
330-491-9960 or [judith.cross@uwstark.org](mailto:judith.cross@uwstark.org)

\$20 per person  
Up to two complimentary admissions per company for Campaign  
Coordinators

**Gold Key Service Award**  
**Three winners announced!**

Leaders In Giving  
2009 Book wins  
Gold Addy in  
competition!



Kudos go to Innis Maggiore and designer Cheryl Henderson for receiving a Gold Addy at the local design competition sponsored by the Canton Advertising Federation. The award qualifies the 2009 Leaders In Giving book to go to the regional level of the national American Advertising Federation competition. Congrats!



Since 1961, the United Way has recognized community leaders and volunteers for the impact that they have made on the Stark County community. The Gold Key Award recognizes those volunteers who have continually demonstrated the highest degree of personal dedication and service in a voluntary capacity to the United Way and/or United Way service providers. **The awards will be presented at the Day of Thanks Annual Meeting & Campaign Awards Breakfast on Wed., Mar. 24.** Please RSVP today to see these honorees receive their Gold Keys!

**Gold Key honoree James Edwards** is an active volunteer with the American Red Cross, both with the Stark County Chapter and as a National Disaster volunteer. Since 1999, Jim has been involved with our disaster response program. He and his wife Mary were the first to volunteer to take the local Emergency Response Vehicle to New York City leaving on Sept. 12, 2001. Jim has been on 14 national assignments and has responded to countless local disasters. He has been a member of the Stark County Chapter's board of directors representing the disaster program, served a term as the Stark County representative to the Northern Ohio Blood Region and for the past three years has coordinated the calendar for the entire Disaster Action Team. In addition to his organizational efforts, as a Disaster Action Team volunteer, Jim is on call for one week each month for 24 hours per day. His willingness to volunteer allows the Red Cross, any time of day or night, to assist families and individuals when they experience total loss.

**Dr. Mona Shay** will be presented with a Gold Key award for her support of the Western Stark Free Clinic as a board member, chairing the Medical Committee, and for organizing and making a personal commitment to a unique 2009 Day of Caring event at the Clinic and to those in need in our community. At the time, the Clinic was booking new patients for appointments averaging 60 to 90 days out. At the Day of Caring event she coordinated, Dr. Shay not only spent many hours of her own time seeing patients and overseeing residents from Ohio University Osteopathic Residency Training and Medical Education programs as they saw patients, but also closed her private office to allow her nursing staff to volunteer that day as well. In all, 64 new patients were seen that day including 35 new patients. The backlog was significantly reduced from months to days. However, her contribution did not stop there; Dr. Shay also provided food and beverages for the volunteers who had signed up to assist on the United Way Day of Caring.

**Gold Key award recipient Mack Smith** has served as the Board Chairman of the Greater Stark County Urban League since the merger between the Canton and Massillon affiliates in 2006. Mack was responsible for doing what many saw as improbable, making a Massillon and a Canton organization work together. However, the real test of his leadership began in July 2008 with the realization that the agency was in a financial crisis. At that time Mack stepped out of his role as chairman and into an administrative capacity. He notified key constituents of the problem, including the national

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organization. He spoke with the funding agencies to advise them of the situation and then he took the lead to address staff and his fellow board members. It's at those times that a Board Chair becomes a crisis management expert, a media relations guru and a strategic management provocateur. Mack has been consistently focused during some of the roughest times in the Urban League's history. At a time when he could have abdicated his responsibilities, Mack redoubled his efforts to make sure that he left nothing to chance and every possible avenue for improvement explored. Mack has taken countless hours from his full time employment to meet with key constituents and to draw up a recovery plan. In the end, Mack has been the guiding light through a very difficult time. Because of Mack's commitment to the organization there continues to be a resource for the inner-city communities of Stark County.

[Click here for a list of previous Gold Key winners.](#)

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