



United Way of Western Nebraska  
1517 Broadway, Suite 106  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

PRSRJT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GERING, NE  
PERMIT NO. 93

*Please remember the United Way of Western Nebraska in your financial and estate planning, and notify the United Way office when you do so. Your generosity will be remembered always.*

**Win a Seven Night Western Royal Caribbean Cruise**

You and a guest could be on board a ship to the Caribbean with your annual gift of \$130 or more to the United Way of Western Nebraska. The trip includes airfare from Denver, transfers, insurance, and \$200 ship board credit. But, most importantly your gift helps ensure that United Way funded services are available to everyone in the community who needs them.

Any person who donates a minimum of \$2.50 per week or \$130 per year for Campaign 2008 will be eligible for the cruise drawing. An official entry form must be completed and returned to United Way of Western Nebraska by December 1, 2007. For a complete list of rules and an entry form, please contact the United Way of Western Nebraska office.

**10th Annual United Way of Western Nebraska Golf Tournament Results**

The 10th Annual United Way of Western Nebraska Golf Tournament, sponsored by The Star-Herald, had a record number 33 teams play during a beautiful Nebraska Spring day at the Scotts Bluff Country Club. At the awards banquet following the tournament, a golf cart donated by Embard was given away along with hundreds of prizes and awards. Everyone enjoyed a great day of golfing and fun to support United Way. Results are as follows:

- 1st Place - Western Nebraska Community College
- 2nd Place - Panhandle COOP
- 3rd Place - Fisher Roofing & Restoration
- Best Dressed: - (tie) Runza & Target
- Wackest Dressed: - Regional West Medical Center
- Golf Cart Winner: Dave Groshans, WNC

**United Way of Western Nebraska**  
Contact Information  
Phone (308) 635-2522  
Fax (308) 635-7219

Shelley Krutson, Executive Director  
shelleykrutson@yahoo.com  
Shanna Heisterad, Administrative Assistant  
shannahs1tead@yahoo.com  
Jama Allen, Special Events & Marketing Coordinator,  
Newsletter Editor  
jeanaallenn@yahoo.com



Steve Rumpke, Embard, presents the golf cart donated by Embard to the drawing winner, Dave Groshans.



**UNITED WAY OF WESTERN NEBRASKA**  
**WHAT MATTERS**

AN ANNUAL  
NEWSLETTER  
FALL 2007

**2007-2008 Member Agencies**

- \*American Red Cross
- \*Buckboar Therapeutic Riding Academy
- \*CAPstone
- \*Carpenter Center
- \*CASA of Scotts Bluff County
- \*DOVES
- \*Gering Organized Baseball
- \*Gering Senior Citizen Center
- \*Guadalupe Center
- \*Guiding Star Girl Scout Council
- \*Longs Peak Council, Boy Scouts of America
- \*Panhandle Independent Living Services
- \*Project Success
- \*Safe Kids Scotts Bluff County
- \*Scotts Bluff County Volunteer Center
- \*Scottsbluff Jaycee Senior Center
- \*Spak Out
- \*Summer Program For Handicapped Children
- \*Team Mates



Members of the WNCSS basketball team work on a home for the Day of Caring. Photo by Roger Holsinger, The Star-Herald

**Campaign 2008 Kickoff and Day of Caring**

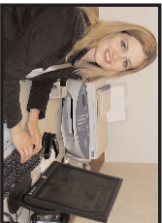
The 2008 United Way of Western Nebraska Campaign kicked off in typical United Way fashion with more than 100 volunteers spending an entire day cleaning, repairing and painting on nearly 10 homes in the community for the annual Day of Caring. Volunteers from area businesses and Western Nebraska Community College athletic teams worked hard in the September sun to help those in need, from elderly to developmentally and physically challenged people. A wide variety of supplies were donated for the projects by Diamond Vogel



Team Valley Bank & Trust Co. proudly show off the United Way Cup and their winning office chair.

**Scotts Bluff County Volunteer Center**

There is a new face at the Scotts Bluff County Volunteer Center. Jill Allen has been hired as the Executive Director. She comes to the organization with enthusiasm and a resume fit for the position, including a degree in Human Services and volunteer roles with CASA, Jaycees and numerous church activities.



Jill Allen inputs volunteer information for the Disaster Volunteer Resource Center Database.

"I feel the Scotts Bluff County Volunteer Center is a huge asset to the community. The programs that we provide offer seniors the opportunity to be able to stay in their own homes rather than a care facility and we are able to offer hot meals, groceries, and commodities delivered right to the clients homes," Allen said.

Along with the three regular programs and volunteer services offered by the Volunteer Center, Allen is busy collecting information from volunteers for the Disaster Volunteer Resource Center. Information that will be used to provide a secure setup in the time of a community disaster. Volunteers can complete an enlistment form to become a disaster response volunteer in the area. The questionnaire includes volunteer contact information and skills. A background check of the volunteer will also be conducted for security. The information will be inputted into a database and be used to help disaster coordinators contact the appropriate volunteers to better aid in disaster relief. For more information on volunteering, please contact the Scotts Bluff County Volunteer Center at 308-632-3736 or via email at [schvolcenter@yahoo.com](mailto:schvolcenter@yahoo.com).

United Way of Western Nebraska

"To unite people and resources of Western Nebraska to build a stronger, healthier and more compassionate community."

### United Way of Western Nebraska Board of Directors President

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Time marches on and in the process some things change and some things remain the same. One thing that is a constant is this community's dedication to making Western Nebraska a better place in which to live. Whether it's in the form of generous donors, dedicated volunteers or needed agencies with their employees, no one can say we don't take care of our own. It always amazes me how generous people truly are. Take for example, the recent duck dash. We sold nearly 16,000 ducks and had great support for our largest fund raiser of the year. Melvin Rein was the "lucky duck" who won the Dodge Ram truck. In addition to the grand prize, there were 19 additional prizes awarded. Thanks to all our sponsors who enabled us to offer such great prizes and thank you to all who purchased ducks. Also a big thanks goes out to the Special Events Committee who spent hundreds of hours sorting ducks, selling quack sacks and carrying out other tasks too numerous to list.



Another good example of the community's generosity is the Stuff the Bus project. Hundreds of dollars worth of school supplies were donated so children throughout the Panhandle will have the supplies they need even if their families are unable to afford them. The campaign year is well underway. Our campaign co-chairs, Paul Holmeister and Rick Parhamdale have been out in the community making presentations. Our Morehouse, as well as a very able pool of loaned executives, have been out in the community to provide needed services for hundreds of local individuals. The volunteers and employees of United Way of Western Nebraska work hard and donate hundreds of hours to the cause. Without your support and their efforts we would never be able to reach our goal. We truly appreciate your help. It makes us proud to say we live in Western Nebraska.

Cathy Hefti

### Special Events Committee Co-Chair

What a blessing it is to live in a wonderful community where the people are so generous. That is why it is an honor to serve on the United Way Special Events Committee. We work hard, have fun, and help others!



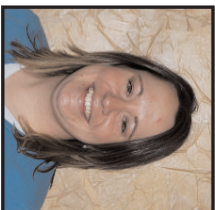
Our committee has amazing volunteers that give so much. We all work for the common goal of helping others. If you want to be a part of something great, I encourage you to join our committee. Your involvement on the committee allows you to help out the United Way agencies as well as create great friendships.

It brings me so much joy to help someone else. Volunteering touches people's lives. Of course, you may never know the difference you've made, but the impact is there and that is WHAT MATTERS!

Tori Smith

### Special Events Committee Co-Chair

Each and every year, I am truly astounded by the support that is received for United Way. There are so many people who give so much of their time and donate financially to make this campaign so successful. With the support of this community, United Way is able to support some of the most important agencies and organizations in Western Nebraska.



I am so honored to be a part of the Special Events Committee which is comprised of so many wonderful people. This committee works so hard, puts in so many hours and drives so many miles to put together the events that contribute to the success of this campaign. What is so great about this committee is that it never feels like "work", we honestly enjoy what we do and have so much fun doing it.

Roxann Backer

Be sure to check out the updated United Way of Western Nebraska website on the world wide web at [www.unitedwayofwesternnebraska.com](http://www.unitedwayofwesternnebraska.com). The website includes valuable information about the organization and each of the agencies that it funds. The current newsletter can be viewed online and there is also information about upcoming United Way events. Suggestions for improving the website and its contents are welcomed via email at [panhandle@yahoo.com](mailto:panhandle@yahoo.com).

### Photo Gallery



Bill Bolenpaw, BNSF Train Master, presents a \$3,000 check from the BNSF Foundation for Scotts Bluff County and surrounding counties along with an \$18,000 check for Box Barn Camp to United Way President Cathy Hefti and United Way Executive Director, Sherry Paulson.



Campaign 2008 Co-Chairs Rick Morehouse (left) and Paul Holmeister (right) get ready to race their office chairs at the PaceSetter Kickoff. Photo by Roger Holsinger, The Star-Herald.



Carly Wiersma, Justin Murphy, Mark Smith & Zac Kempf, all of Platte Valley Companies, were all smiles after having their hair shaved off for United Way. These men shaved their scalps because PVC exceeded their United Way goal of \$20,000 by more than 20%.



Dave Koutson prepares lunch for the volunteers at the Community Kickoff and Day of Caring. Photo by Roger Holsinger, The Star-Herald.



Gary Kelley, Gary Kelley, Fred Lockwood, and Bill Black, visit during the annual Leaders in Giving Banquet. Thanks to Dr. Black for hosting the event at his beautiful home. Photo by Roger Holsinger, The Star-Herald.



Jason Brown, Julie's owner/operator, Sharon Walker, from Scottsbluff Schools, Carly Hefti, United Way President, George Schuchman, Lincoln Elementary Principal, and Todd Meyer, Lincoln Elementary School, present the award to Julie's owner/operator, Julie Meyer, for her donation of 11 new school buses. Photo by Sarah Koutson, Shutterstock Photography.



Carly Hefti, United Way President, presents Sandra Massy, Alliance Data Corporate/Corporate Leader, award during the PaceSetter Kickoff July 19th. Photo by Roger Holsinger, The Star-Herald.



More than 500 people lined the North Platte River to watch nearly 75,821 ducks race to the finish line. See official Duck Dash results on inset.