

Boosting a culture of giving

Oct. 29, 2013 |

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More information

To learn more on the Wayne County Foundation's Challenge Match program, contact Andrea Stuckey at Andrea@waynecountyfoundation.org or call (765) 962-1638.

Looking for that perfect gift to give as the holiday season so rapidly approaches?

Perhaps, like many others, you are saying — and you certainly are not alone — that things remain tough economically. And that makes giving amid so much uncertainty and past personal sacrifice an especially tough thing to contemplate.

But it is precisely that kind of prolonged difficulty that invariably takes an even bigger toll on those who start out with less, which sadly includes a lot of people today.

Besides, we have to believe most Americans simply do not choose to be dependent upon others, nor upon government, which is another form of being dependent upon others. Government, after all, has nothing to give except what it collects from others in taxes and property.

For those in need, it matters less whether one gives from the heart for all their own reasons, or gives as a way to check the frightening growth of governments awash and drowning in their own rivers of red ink.

What is important is that a lifeline is being provided. And, in Wayne County for the third consecutive year that lifeline has been provided a boost by the Wayne County Foundation.

From Nov. 12-25, contributors to any of 35 county non-profit organizations could see their donations matched in the Wayne County Foundation's 2013 Challenge Match Initiative.

The one-to-one matching grant opportunity offers a unique and targeted way of helping local non-profit organizations cultivate new donors and encourage added giving from current contributors.

Whether it's to bolster youth education efforts, Hope House, or HELP the Animals, local food banks, Safety Village, or the YWCA's Genesis Shelter for domestic violence victims and the homeless, Wayne County boasts many organizations providing desperately needed services.

And they meet those needs only with your help.

The challenge match program makes it possible to get more bang for the charitable buck, or spread those bucks in a way that nurtures adding giving to other organizations, such as United Way of Whitewater Valley or the Dec. 7 Alternative Gift Fair, area churches and more that do their own great work in the community.