

# Community Leader

April 2011

## United Way honors best campaigns Community Caring Celebrat10n

United Way recognized donors March 10 for their outstanding efforts to benefit kids and families in Snohomish County.

Despite a slowly recovering economy, United Way campaigns hit their goal and raised an estimated \$9.9 million, said interim president and CEO Dr. Dennis Smith. A final amount will be announced in June.

The President's Award went to Cascade Bank and Everett Public Schools, who ran exemplary campaigns. Mike Miller of Campbell's StockPot and Dr. Marci Larsen, superintendent of Mukilteo School District, were honored with the Chair Challenge Award for leadership.

Michelle Coates, Paul MacNaughton and Dwight Lawseth won a year's worth of gas, groceries and rent, respectively, as winners of the "Taking Care of Basics" Sweepstakes. Prizes were \$35 per week for gas, \$100 per week for groceries and up to \$1,000 per month toward rent or a mortgage.

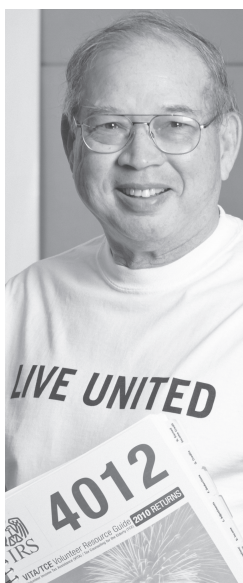
Thanks to 2010 Campaign Chair Kim Buike and April Zepeda for acting as masters of ceremony and to sponsors for making the evening possible.

To view pictures or a list of award winners, visit [uwsc.org](http://uwsc.org).



*Above top: President's Award winners Dr. Gary Cohn and Kristie Dutton of Everett Public Schools. Above bottom: President's Award winners Cecilia Johnson and Judy Austin of Cascade Bank.*

## Volunteer crunches numbers to create financial stability for families



Mike Dunn loves solving puzzles. That's why he LIVES UNITED by preparing income taxes for low-income families.

Mike's love for crunching numbers has helped families become financially independent by claiming Earned Income Tax Credits, which put real dollars back in the pockets hard-working families.

"Volunteering with United Way, I work with so many people that constantly remind me why I'm happy to help," Mike says. "There's a point in life to give back—you can't just take. By volunteering, I am giving back by helping people in need."

*Left: Tax site volunteer Mike Dunn*

### By the Numbers

- 67,000 Snohomish County residents live in poverty, up 14,000 from last year.
- Beginning in 2007, United Way volunteers have prepared 5,831 tax returns worth \$9.8 million\* in refunds for low-income, working families.
- United Way's free tax preparation sites in Marysville, north and south Everett, Monroe and Lynnwood are open until April 15. Call 2-1-1 for hours of the site nearest you.

*\* Figures current as of March 6, 2011.*



## United Way of Snohomish County

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## Who inspires you to volunteer? Nominate him or her for a Spirit Award!

United Way annually recognizes organizations and individuals that are advancing the common good with Spirit of Snohomish County Awards. We want your nominations for an adult, youth or company who is actively volunteering and encouraging others to serve.

Nomination forms are due Friday, June 10, and can be found at [uwsc.org/spiritnoms.php](http://uwsc.org/spiritnoms.php). Winners will be honored at the Spirit of Snohomish County Breakfast on Friday, Sept. 9.



## “Stamp out Hunger” by donating to Letter Carriers Food Drive May 14

Take part in the largest, single-day food drive in the U.S. on Saturday, May 14. Last year, a record-setting 77.1 million pounds of non-perishable donations were collected by letter carriers as they delivered mail. Volunteers are needed to help unload. Contact Suzanne Moreau at [suzanne.moreau@pslaonline.org](mailto:suzanne.moreau@pslaonline.org) or 425.252.1112 to volunteer.

## Calendar

- National Volunteer Week - April 10-16
  - Tax Site Volunteer Event - April 20
  - Family Fun Fair - May 7
  - National Association of Letter Carriers “Stamp out Hunger” Food Drive - May 14
  - Forever Starts Today Gala - June 11
  - Volunteer Appreciation Night - August 8
  - Spirit of Snohomish County Breakfast - Sept. 9
- For more information, visit [uwsc.org](http://uwsc.org).

## New address? Prefer email?

Contact Laura at [laura.walker@uwsc.org](mailto:laura.walker@uwsc.org) or 425.374.5518 with any changes.

## How will you step up during National Volunteer Week?

National Volunteer Week is this month! How will you give an hour to advance the common good April 10-16? Visit [uwsc.org](http://uwsc.org) and click “Volunteer” to find opportunities that suit your schedule and interests.

## Picnic and play at May 7 Family Fun Fair

Bring the kids to a free Family Fun Fair on Saturday, May 7, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Everett’s Forest Park. The event will feature activity booths, stage entertainment and educational programs for young children.



For more information, contact Bunny Walters at [bunny.walters@uwsc.org](mailto:bunny.walters@uwsc.org) or 425.374.5532.

## United Way of Snohomish County

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