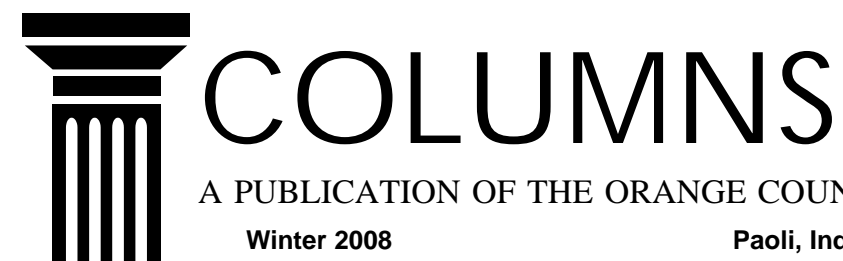




ORANGE COUNTY
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, INC.
112 West Water Street Paoli, Indiana 47454 (812)723-4150
www.orangecountycommunityfoundation.org

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COLUMNS

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Winter 2008

Paoli, Indiana

December 19, 2008

Donors HONORED with Annual Appreciation Dinner

Where can you find some of Orange County's most generous and caring people gathered together on a Tuesday evening? Well, on December 9, they were sharing a meal with one another in the Windsor Ballroom at the French Lick Resort.

On that evening, the Foundation hosted its annual meeting and donor appreciation dinner, as a way of saying "thank you" to those who have helped support Orange County through their benevolence in creating funds to benefit our community.

During the program, representatives of the Orange County Commissioners Supporting Organization, the Sol Strauss Trust, and the Orange County Development Commission spoke of their excitement for the things beginning to happen in our county—the improvements, the anticipation, the hope.

Keynote speaker for the evening was Brad Bumgardner, Executive Director of the Parke County Community Foundation. An avid philanthropist himself, Bumgardner inspired attendees to take risks, reflect more, and go ahead and do what needs to be done.

Special recognition was given to Donald Renner, outgoing OCCF president, for his many years of service in that capacity. Also honored were 2008 Philanthropists of the Year Carolyn Barnett, Phil Mininger, and Stori Sullivan, each of whom took time to share their thoughts with the audience.



Guests enjoy good food and great company at the OCCF annual meeting and donor appreciation dinner, held December 9 at the French Lick Resort.

OCC SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION ONCE AGAIN PROVIDES ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOL BOOKS — scholarships PLANNED

For the second year, the Orange County Commissioners Supporting Organization has provided funding for school books for students throughout Orange County.

Through casino funds received under the current LDA agreement, the OCC Supporting Organization is privileged to provide this service to families with children attending any of the county's three school systems.

More good news from the SO...beginning with this year's seniors, each student graduating from an Orange County school and planning some kind of further education or work training—including military service—will receive a \$1,000 education incentive from the Supporting Organization to help assist with educational expenses. The incentive includes students attending trade schools or vocational training.



OCCSO members John Anderson, Jim Mathers and Kevin Street present book payment check to students at Orleans Elementary School, with Supt. Jim Terrell looking on.

"Educating our young people is priority one," said OCCSO President Frank Hall. "They are the future of Orange County, and a better future for Orange County is our mission."

SPRINGS VALLEY EDUCATION FOUNDATION MATCHING GRANT OPPORTUNITY...

Recently the Springs Valley Education Foundation was pleased to be informed that the Springs Valley School Corporation would match funds raised by the Education Foundation through 2008, up to \$25,000. With more than \$16,000 in contributions already, members of SVEF are working diligently to raise the remaining funds needed to meet the \$25,000 matching funds offered by the school board. Going a long way toward meeting the SVEF's goal of providing scholarships for Springs Valley High School students, this matching grant is an incredible opportunity, and will be offered again in 2009.

Anyone who attended French Lick, West Baden or Springs Valley Schools are asked to become a friend of the Springs Valley Education Foundation by helping with this endeavor. Gifts may be sent to the Springs Valley Education Foundation c/o OCCF, 112 W. Water St, Paoli, IN 47454.



Speaker Jamie Levy from the IU School of Philanthropy instructs participants of the symposium on fund-raising strategies.



Panelists Hollan, Kendall and Mininger field questions from the audience. (Below) Participants listen closely to speakers at the event.



NON PROFIT Symposium benefits orange county

Representatives of 20 Orange County non-profit organizations gathered together in November to learn and discuss ways and means of working together toward the benefit of Orange County.

The symposium, sponsored by OCCF through SRD funds provided by the Lilly Endowment, featured local instructors as well as guest speakers from United Way of Southern Indiana and the Indiana University School of Philanthropy.

Guest speaker June Miller spoke on the importance of marketing and marketing strategies designed to deliver a non-profit organization's message. She stressed that every non-profit organization has a unique identity and mission, and those should be presented honestly and clearly to the target audience.

Orange County Extension Educator Mary Jo Robinson's presentation covered collaborations. Following an extensive overview of collaborative endeavors, Robinson led an exercise designed to teach participants the importance and the mechanics of successful collaborations.

From the IU School of Philanthropy, Jamie Levy made an extensive presentation on fund development. He offered a wide array of statistics and research findings, which in turn have changed the face of fund-raising throughout the non-profit field. Levy noted that Americans are the most giving people in the world, giving almost nine times more of their income to charity than the second most giving country, Canada. He stated that, even in economic hard times, the American people are touched by the plight of those less fortunate and reach out to help others in need.

Capping off the day was a panel discussion on fund-raising. Featured panelists were Larry Hollan of Orange County Players and Throop Elementary School, Lori Kendall of the BHOC Foundation, and Phil Mininger of Orange County Habitat for Humanity. The three discussed ways in which their organizations procure funding, and fielded questions for the audience regarding fund-raising strategies.

Participants in the symposium included various government agencies, libraries, Hoosier Uplands, United Way, churches, and other non-profit organizations benefitting Orange County and Orange County citizens.

Best Wishes to All...

The Orange County Community Foundation, its staff and Board of Directors wishes all of you a very merry Christmas and a very happy and prosperous New Year.

We are truly grateful to each and every one of you who has given from your heart this year to help make Orange County a better place for all of us. We the people of Orange County are truly blessed to have amongst us such loving and caring individuals as yourselves, who share your love of humanity in such significant and sincere ways...giving of your time, talent and treasure for the benefit of others.

Thank you, from everyone in Orange County...



Host Larry Hollan (center) raises a toast to his guests at his holiday open house, celebrating Orange County's donors and their generosity.

GOOD NEIGHBOR SHARES CHRISTMAS CHEER

"Good Neighbor" Larry Hollan once again opened his lovely historic home to entertain the friends of Orange County's community foundation. On Saturday, December 6, Mr. Hollan welcomed guests into his house for music, refreshments and good company on behalf of the Foundation.

For the second year, Mr. Hollan has been gracious enough to help us say "thank you" to donors for their generosity of spirit throughout the year. During this very special season, the warmth and sincerity of true benevolence is the very best present Santa can bring to Orange County; and Mr. Hollan helped celebrate the philanthropic hearts of Orange County's generous donors by helping them celebrate the season.

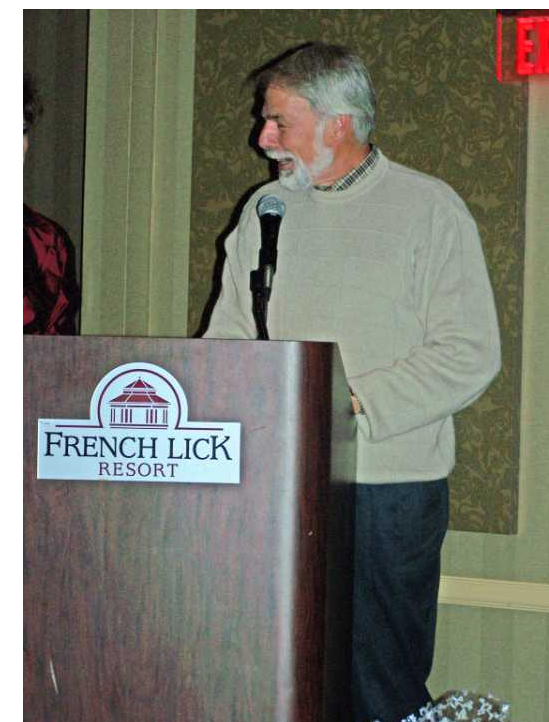
MININGER NAMED 2008 MALE PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR

Nearly everyone knows the name, or at least the smiling face, of Phil Mininger. So it came as no surprise that, at the 2008 annual meeting of the OCCF, Mininger was named 2008 Male Philanthropist of the Year. The announcement was welcomed by a standing ovation in his honor.

Mininger, pastor of the Paoli Mennonite Fellowship, has served for many years as president of Orange County Habitat for Humanity. In that capacity, he has helped oversee construction of numerous homes for needy families throughout Orange County, as well as spearheaded Habitat's many fund-raising and marketing endeavors. As pastor he has dedicated countless hours to his congregation and the needs of many.

A skilled carpenter as well as minister and local volunteer, Phil Mininger exemplifies philanthropy at its barest roots...the simple love of humanity. His helping hands have carved a legacy of caring throughout Orange County, and will continue to do so for many years to come.

Phil is welcomed to the ranks of philanthropic celebrity here in the Orange County community, being preceded in the honor of Male Philanthropist of the Year by Wendell Gooch, Joe Summers and Leon Johnson.



A surprised Phil Mininger accepts his award with characteristic humility.