

For Immediate Release:



LIVE UNITED

April 20, 2010

United Way of Marshall County

2701 N. Michigan Street

Plymouth, IN 46563

Phone: (574) 936-3366

Fax: (574) 936-8040

www.marshallcountyuw.org

For further information contact

Jennifer S. Maddox, Executive Director

Francis Ellert recognized as Volunteer of the Year by the Indiana Association of United Ways

Plymouth—Francis K. Ellert, 2009 Campaign Chair, was named “Volunteer of the Year” by the United Way of Marshall County at the 2010 United Way and Funds State Leaders Conference held April 13th at the Hilton Indianapolis North Hotel, Indiana.

“Francis led the 2009 campaign as the Marshall County campaign chair. In spite of a declining economy, Francis and his campaign cabinet were able to exceed our campaign goal of \$375,000 by more than \$45,000 to fund community efforts to improve lives. He devoted many hours each week throughout the campaign to personally make calls and work closely with campaign volunteers. Francis’s commitment to United Way was evident in everything he did—especially increasing the number of leadership givers and attracting new employee campaigns,” said Jennifer Maddox, executive director, United Way of Marshall County.

“It is an amazing feeling having received this award,” said Francis Ellert. “While I was working on the 2009 campaign, I really had no expectation this was coming. I am honored and humbled to be acknowledged this way by the Marshall County community. I would like to share this award with all those who helped with the 2009 campaign, including my cabinet chairs, volunteers, and most importantly the citizens of Marshall County. Without the combined efforts of this entire community we would not have had such a successful campaign. The achievement of the 2009 campaign really was a result of the efforts of many, many people. To all those who contributed to the 2009 campaign, I again give my sincere thanks.”

Community service comes easily to Francis. He has served on the Board of Directors of the United Way of Marshall County since April 2007. In addition, he currently serves on the

following not-for-profit boards: Marshall-Starke Development Center – Chairman of the Board of Directors; Ancilla College Board of Trustees – Secretary; Plymouth Rotary Club – Past Treasurer and President Elect; St. Joseph Regional Medical Center – Board of Directors; Culver Club of Culver – President; and the Culver Baseball League. Francis also maintains membership in the Chamber of Commerce in Culver (Past President); Culver Planning Commission; Marshall County Convention and Visitors Bureau – (Board Treasurer); and the Plymouth Industrial Development Corporation (Past Treasurer)

He graduated from John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio with a Bachelor of Arts in History degree. Francis has served as the General Manager of the Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Plymouth Division since 2001. Francis and his wife, Susan have been married for 16 years and have four children: Betse (11), Pierce (9), Fritz (7) and Cabot (5).

ABOUT THE UNITED WAY OF MARSHALL COUNTY

The United Way of Marshall County is creating lasting changes by advancing the common good. The community organization invests in the building blocks for a good life: Education, Income and Health. In 2009 the United Way served over 30,000 individuals in Marshall County!

“We invite you to be part of the change. Together, united, we can inspire hope and create opportunities for a better tomorrow. When we reach out a hand to one, we influence the condition of all. That’s what it means to Live United,” Maddox said

For more information contact Jennifer S. Maddox, Executive Director, United Way of Marshall County at (574) 936-3366 or visit our web site at <http://www.marshallcountyuw.org/>.

###

Attached Picture (left to right): Susan Ellert, Francis Ellert, 2009 “Volunteer of the Year”, Maria Pantaleo, Board Chair of the Indiana Association of United Ways, Jennifer S. Maddox, Executive Director of the United Way of Marshall County and Rick Kreps, Board President of the United Way of Marshall County.