

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

The United Way of West Central Connecticut, serving the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville and Plymouth, celebrated its seventeenth annual Day of Caring on May 16th, 2008.

Day of Caring gave individuals in our communities a chance to show how they “Live United” by giving, advocating and volunteering. It was a day to join hands, open hearts, lend muscles and find voices.

Despite the rainy weather, Day of Caring 17 experienced a record turnout! Nearly 550 volunteers completed 60 projects at over 30 non-profit organizations in our four communities, along with a very successful litter pick-up. This year, almost 250 middle school and high school students pitched in to help out. It was heartwarming to witness the spirit and enthusiasm of so many volunteers.

Volunteers who participated in Day of Caring 17 included employees of Advanced Printing, Associated Spring/Barnes Group, Briarwood College, Bristol Republican Town Committee, Bristol Resource Recovery Committee, Bristol Technical Education Center, CARL XII, #103 ASA Order of America, Cigna HealthCare, City TrueValue Hardware, Eastern Plastics, ESPN, Federal Hill Association, First Bristol Federal Credit Union, Furey, Donovan, Tracy & Daly, GE Consume & Industrial, Korean Veterans, Lisa Inc., People’s Bank, The Pines at Bristol, Town of Plainville, Valley Bank, and Webster Bank. Also participating were the following individuals: Lottie & Ed Archacki, Lynn Brazauskas, Mary Jane Johnson, Shirley Osle, Bill Stortz, and Mayor Art Ward. Youth participated through the Bristol Sports Hall of Fame, Bristol Youth Police Enrichment Program, Chippens Hill Goes Green, Kids in the Middle, and the United Way Youth Board with students from Bristol Eastern HS, Bristol Central HS, Lewis Mills HS, Plainville HS, St. Paul Catholic HS, and Terryville HS. Thank you to all of our hard-working and dedicated volunteers!

In addition, special thanks for the financial support of Day of Caring 17 from the following sponsors: 2-1-1, Advanced Printing Services Inc., Arthur G. Russell Co., Bailey Funeral Home, Barnes Group Inc., Beacon Prescriptions, Bristol Hospital, Bristol Preschool & Child Care Center, Bristol Sports Hall of Fame, Carling Technologies, Carpenter Companies, Citibank, CL&P – Northeast Utilities, Community Mental Health Affiliates, Covanta Energy, Crystal Rock Water Company, Dunkin Donuts, Emily's Catering, ESPN, Farmington Savings Bank, Fletcher-Terry Company, Forestville Village Association, GE Consumer & Industrial, Greater Bristol Chamber of Commerce, Greater Bristol Labor Council, Hartford Economic Development Corporation, High Meadow, JFC Endeavors Inc., Lake Compounce, Main Street Community Foundation, Mark Facey & Company, Mizzy Construction, Nuchies Restaurant, Patterson Enterprises, Ricci & Company, Roland Dumont Agency, S & S Sports, Song-Rhee Family, Attorney Christopher Storm, Tomasso Group, Tracy-Driscoll Insurance, Ultimate Companies, Valley Bank, Webster Bank and World Fulfillment.

Special thanks to Bill Englert at City TrueValue Hardware for donating gloves for our outdoor projects. They came in handy on such a rainy day!

Many thanks again to the planning committee and all of our volunteers and sponsors who made this day a great success for all involved!

Colleen Younghans
Operations/Communications Director
United Way of West Central Connecticut