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**Debra Blubaugh**

## Letter from the Executive Director

Grand Prairie United Charities is off to a great start and is entering the second half of 2008.

With the Valentine Luncheon and the Golf Tournament behind us, GPUC has much to be excited about.

Pratt & Whitney donated \$1,500 to assist in our mission.

Lone Star Park Charitable Foundation awarded the agency \$9,000 to help.

Hillcrest Foundation granted \$3,000 to provide food for the hungry.

The Emergency Food and Shelter Program (FEMA) committed \$35,320 in order to

assist Grand Prairie residents in Dallas County with their rent or mortgage.

Telemundo 39 contributed \$1,500.

TXU Energy and GPUC are celebrating 25 years in partnering to assist low-income residents with their energy bills. Last year they pledged \$70,000 to our community and this year the amount will be greater.

Wal-Mart Grand Prairie gave a grant to the agency in the amount of \$3,000.

Once again, we will collaborate with Grand Prairie's Weed &

Seed program and Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, by providing breakfast and lunch at a summer camp. The camp will start June 2, and be held at Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, 2251 El Paso Street, from 7:30a.m. - 1:00p.m., ages 4-12. The program would not be possible without the assistance from: Quaker, Sara Lee, and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP).

Grand Prairie is the Greatest!

Debra Blubaugh

Executive Director

## Results: Valentine Luncheon 2008

The Valentine Luncheon allowed guests to encounter the ultimate rock 'n roll experience. Elvis Tribute Artist, Bennie Wheels, opened the luncheon with Elvis' opening song in Las Vegas, the theme from 2001: A Space Odyssey.

During the performance, scarves were passionately wrapped around the necks of many young ladies waiting to encounter just a small portion of the thrill that only Elvis fans could experience. It was most obvious during those unforgettable moments; those who arrived were able to go back in time and re-experience their youth.

The day was great and the event raised approximately \$12,000. We would be remiss not to mention our contributors for this fundraiser. Thank You's go out to: Mayor Pro Tem Ruthe Jackson, Auctioneer Jeff Copeland, Raffle Prize & Auction Items Coordinator Doranna Corley, Doug Bryan Photography, Thorne, Skinner & Thorne, Duncan Disposal, State Representative Kirk England, City of Grand Prairie Parks & Recreation, Ford Photography, Outlaws Barbecue, Texas Roadhouse, Grand Bank, Terri Dirba, Commcentral, Inc. , Moore Construction, City Glass & Mirror, Target, Holden Graphics, TXU Energy, Integra Specialty Group, City Council Members Bill Thorn, Tony Shotwell, Ron Jensen, Lee Herring, and Rick Sala, Constable Roma Skinner, Jo Campbell, Dallas County Commissioner Ken Mayfield, Jody Morris, Mayor Charles England, City Manager Tom Hart, City Attorney Don Postell and Chamber of Commerce Membership Director Greg Cashman.

THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!!

**GPUC Staff Honored by The University of Texas at Arlington, School of Social Work**

Chelsea Archer, GPUC's Special Projects Coordinator, was honored on April 14, 2008 during "Academic Excellence Week" by the UT Arlington, School of Social Work. Chelsea was recognized as an "Outstanding Baccalaureate Student" for having completed at least 12 hours with a grade point average of 3.50 or higher. **Congratulations!**

**US Postal Service  
National Association of Letter Carriers  
"Stamp Out Hunger"  
Food Drive**

On Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup>, Grand Prairie United Charities participated in the "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive sponsored by the Postal Service. GPUC was the recipient of 175 boxes of food collected by Letter Carriers from both the Central and Westchester Post Offices. This food will stay in the community to benefit citizens of Grand Prairie who come to GPUC

**Sharing with others...  
Part of the Grand Prairie United Charities Beliefs**

Recently, GPUC was able to share clothing generously donated by Wal-Mart with KIDS I.N.C. , a charity of the Grand Prairie Women's Club. This clothing will benefit needy children in Grand Prairie ISD with the thing most of us take for granted and bring smiles to many faces.

## Results: Golf Tournament 2008

The GPUC Golf Tournament was held April 30<sup>th</sup>, at Prairie Lakes Golf Course in Grand Prairie was a CLASSIC success! Approximately \$12,000.00 was raised this year allowing the agency to help more clients with crisis intervention.

The tournament would not have been possible without the faithful support from local businesses and Prairie Lakes Golf Course. We would like to thank the following companies for participating or sponsoring holes:

American Steel & Aluminum, Holden Graphics, TXU, State Farm –Brain Ownby, Creative Embroidery, City of Grand Prairie, Pollock Paper, Pro-Crate & Assembly, Custom Building Products, Grand Prairie Memorial Gardens, Ruthe Jackson Center, American Eurocopter, Sunset Baptist Church, Giessner Insurance, Integra Specialty Group, State Representative Kirk England, Lockheed Martin, Wal-Mart and Grand Prairie Parks & Recreation.

We would also like to express our gratitude to the following companies and individuals for making donations: Holden Graphics, TXU, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Lone Star Park, Grand Prairie Parks & Recreation, Arnold Bros. Dry Cleaners, The Thompson Group at Classic Chevrolet, Texas Roadhouse Restaurant, Thorne, Skinner & Thorne, City Councilman Dick Fregoe, Spring Creek Barbecue, Target, City of Grand Prairie, Men's Wearhouse, and Wal-Mart.

## Mark Your Calendar!

### A Tribute to:

## Johnny Cash & June Carter Cash

**Saturday, September 13, 2008, 6:00 P.M.**

**Dinner, Dancing & Entertainment**

**Ruthe Jackson Center**

**3113 S. Carrier Parkway**

**Grand Prairie, Texas 75052**

**Individual Tickets: \$65 – Table of 8: \$520**

Come enjoy an evening of entertainment while you help Grand Prairie United Charities assist families and individuals in crisis.

## Feinstein Foundation

For the eleventh year, Alan Shawn Feinstein will divide \$1 million dollars among agencies who aid in the fight against hunger. Grand Prairie United Charities will be the recipients of the matching gifts program sponsored by the Feinstein Foundation. From March 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 the Feinstein Foundation assists agencies who provide food to those in need by challenging others to give and have their donation matched by the Foundation. This is the most successful grassroots campaign to fight hunger and has raised a record \$760 million dollars among the participating agencies between funds raised by the agencies and the matching Foundation dollars.