

G-P mill employees help build Community Chest funds \$26,000 contribution marks larges in several years

*By Heather Acheson
Post-Record staff*

Camas mill employees reached deep into their pockets this year to donate money to an organization that helps a broad range of local organizations.

During a 44-day effort to raise funds for Camas-Washougal Community Chest, Georgia-Pacific mill employees donated a total of \$21,000. This is in addition to the company's annual \$5,000 donation to the organization.

G-P employees including LaMont Lucas, Ellisa Schiffman and Marinda Ledgerwood formed a committee and kicked off a campaign on Oct. 27 that involved speaking one-on-one with their fellow employees and leading trips to a variety of places — the Inter-Faith Treasure House and United Way — so that their co-workers could see first hand where the funding goes and who it helps.

The strategy worked.

“We had some really good success rates this year and we hope to keep bringing that up each year,” Schiffman said.

The substantial contributions from the mill bring this fundraising cycle's totals so far to more than \$41,000. A mock wood thermometer, constructed by Camas High School shop teacher Con Tornow, that keeps track of the fundraising efforts is being displayed near the main entrance to the mill on Northeast Adams Street in downtown Camas.

The yearlong Community Chest fundraising cycle begins each fall. During the 2005-06 cycle \$35,400 in grants were given to local organizations and groups including J.D. Currie Youth Camp, Camas-Washougal Children's Fund, Kiwanis Camp Wa-Ri-Ki, Foster Grandparent Program, Children's Home Society, Camtown Youth Festival, Boy Scouts — Cascade Pacific Council, Girl Scouts — Columbia River Council, Inter-Faith Treasure House, Camas Performing Arts Series, C-W Special Olympics Boosters, and the Camas-Washougal Community Chest Emergency Fund.

Community Chest is run by a volunteer board and is a registered, non-profit organization founded in 1946 that collects dollars each year to be dispersed to organizations that apply for funds annually.

CWCC board members are President Jerry Moss, vice president Peter Nicholls, co-secretaries LaDene Mattson and Linda Dietzman and Treasurer Bob Howe.

Tax-deductible donations to Camas-Washougal Community Chest can be sent to P.O. Box 960, Camas, WA 98607.

For more information, contact Moss at 817-4423.

Cutline: Georgia-Pacific clock room attendants Ellisa Schiffman Marinda Ledgerwood place the red bars on the thermometer indicating the amount of funds raised by the Camas Washougal Community Chest. The thermometer, built by Camas High School shop teacher Con Tornow, is located near the mills main entrance on Adams Street.