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United Way gives mini-grants to teachers in Straits area

By RICH ADAMS

Tribune Editor

CHEBOYGAN - The Cheboygan County United Way has announced the winners of the teacher mini-grant program for 2006-2007.

"We know how the state budget cuts have affected area schools," said Burnice F. Myers, executive director of the local United Way. "This is our way of showing support for our local schools and thanking the educators for the sacrifices they have made for our children."

The following grants were approved:

- Sarah Kassuba, Wolverine Elementary School, received a grant to purchase ink cartridges so she can print material for her special-education class.
- Dana Lavendar of Cheboygan Area High School, will use grant money to purchase a document camera/visual presenter for her math class.
- Shar Dodd at Inverness Elementary School will purchase books for her accelerated reading program.
- Donald Lucky, a seventh-grade teacher at Inland Lakes Schools in Indian River, received a grant that will allow him to fund an extended version of his Stock Market game for his students.
- Susan Nash of Bishop Baraga School will use her grant to purchase percussion instruments and music books for her students.
- Lisa Gibbons of East Elementary School in Cheboygan, will use her grant to purchase K'Nex simple machine model kits to augment her science curriculum.
- Erica Tower of Cornerstone Christian School in Cheboygan will purchase a sand and water table for her kindergarten class.
- Richard Waite of Mackinaw City High School, will use the grant to purchase goggles and a cleaning station for his chemistry class.

This is the second year of mini-grants from the United Way, Myers said.

"We are pleased with the feedback we get from our teachers," she said. "We plan to continue and possibly broaden this program in the coming years."