



Shaw Media file photo

Program director Anita Zurbrugg is recognized during the DeKalb County Community Foundation 25th Anniversary dinner Nov. 15 in the Duke Ellington Ballroom at Northern Illinois University.

DEKALB COUNTY

Community Foundation encourages Giving Tuesday

By **KATIE FINLON**
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SYCAMORE – In the aftermath of Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday, DeKalb County philanthropy officials are urging people to consider participating in the seventh annual Giving Tuesday national event.

Although the DeKalb County Community Foundation doesn't host a countywide event for Giving Tuesday, foundation staff are still encouraging individual residents to participate, said Anita Zurbrugg, program director for the DeKalb County Community Foundation.

"I think it's a great way to refocus priorities of what's important to each of us," Zurbrugg said.

Zurbrugg said the community foundation's main countywide philanthropy day, Give DeKalb County, happens every May and is the reason why the foundation doesn't actively participate in Giving Tuesday. She said a lot of local nonprofits rely on individual's donations to stay afloat.

If it weren't for those donors, a lot of those organizations would be struggling just to stay in operation and the community would be missing out on a lot of services and culture without those organizations, Zurbrugg said.

"When there is so much focus on

purchasing and buying, it's a good idea to remember all of those nonprofits," Zurbrugg said.

DCCF Executive Director Dan Templin said there are a wide range of areas that nonprofits support in various communities in the county, whether it's helping children, the elderly, animals or the arts. He said the nonprofit sector within DeKalb County brings value and quality of life to residents of the county, and people around the county either have directly benefited from those nonprofits or know people who have.

"Giving Tuesday is a way to recognize those values of those organizations and to provide them with some financial support," Templin said.

Templin said there were record highs of charitable giving in the U.S. in 2017. Out of the billions given to charities in the country, individual donations were the biggest revenue source and not from foundations or corporations, he said.

"It's from you and I that donate to things that are important to us," Templin said.

Potential donors can find a list of nonprofit organizations that are members of the community foundation's DeKalb County Nonprofit Partnership on their website at dcnp.org. They can also find an organization to donate to that is meaningful to them at #ILGive's website at ilgive.com.

FARGO HOME FURNISHINGS

BLACK FRIDAY BLOWOUT

40% Off

Select items

20% Off

Everything Else

November 25th-27th

Monday - Thursday 10-8
Friday & Sunday 10-5
Saturday - Closed

355 West State Street
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