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Fundraising drive just 'fantastic'

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The United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley is looking to golf and hockey to strengthen what far, has been a successful fundraising campaign.

After six weeks, the organization's 2007 drive for donations has been just "fantastic," accordi President Scott D. Ferguson. It is \$439,801 ahead of where it was this time last year and the \$2,676,385 pledged represents 39 percent of the \$6.8 million goal.

"The community has been very generous," Ferguson said Thursday. "Our volunteers are work very hard."

Ferguson said two upcoming promotions will give folks in the area an opportunity to have fur help people in need.

The first will be Sunday at the Hollywood Connection on Whittlesey Road in Columbus.

Carmike Cinemas and the Columbus Cottonmouths are joining for what should be an entertai event.

At 1 p.m., members of the Columbus Cottonmouths, who open the season at home on Oct. 2 be available for autographs and pictures. At 3:30 p.m. the players will play a series of "broon games. Members of the public will be invited to participate. A private screening of a not yet-determined movie will be held and fans wishing to be involved may purchase tickets and on the opportunity to sit next to their favorite player.

There will also be food, games and musical entertainment as well as a silent auction with priz such as a chance to sit in the penalty box at a game and a dinner with Cottonmouths Coach Jerome Bechard on the list.

All of the proceeds will go to the United Way.

On Nov. 9 at the Lakewood Golf Course in Phenix City, the first Nite Lite Glow Ball Golf Tournament will be held. It is a four-man scramble with a team entry being \$350.

Teams will tee off at 2 p.m., then, after dinner, play will resume in the dark.

Company sponsorships for the tournament are available for \$1,000, \$750, \$500, and \$100.

Anyone interested in playing or being a sponsor should contact Brad Biesel at 334-291-4726.

"All of the money collected goes to help people locally," Ferguson said. The United Way funds programs in 24 agencies. Among those agencies are the Homeless Resource Network, Second Harvest Food Bank, Stewart Community Home, Open Door Community House, American Red and the Urban League of Greater Columbus.

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