



Monday, June 21, 2010

Helping dreams come true

By

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Six spires stood out high among the sun-setting skyline in Noblesville as lord and ladies alike made their way through an arched entrance, stepping into an evening of fantasy, fun and making dreams come true under a large tent at the Sagamore Country Club the scene of the annual Noblesville Mayor's Ball.

As guests steadily arrived enjoying appetizers and conversation they perused the many silent auction items and learned more about the night's beneficiaries. Proceeds of the evening went to Helping Hands of Noblesville, Janus Developmental Services, Promising Futures of Central Indiana and the Noblesville Firefighters Food and Toy Drive.

Teri Ditslear, first lady of Noblesville, and dressed accordingly, said the ball had seated 450, many of whom were also dressed in similarly medieval, fairy tale guise. Costumed guests ranged from the aforementioned lords and ladies, fairies and knights. One guest wore, or didn't wear, a costume of the Emperor and his new clothes but no one seemed to mind. Mayor John Ditslear, appropriately, was costumed complete with.

The event was emceed by Dick Wolfsie and featured music from Jayne Bond and the Pink Martini's.

Among the fun were the messages of the evening, the reason the charity ball was held, to help those in need when needed.

Teri Ditslear said it was important to remember why all were there and encouraged them to be generous as the live auction started and silent auction



The Times photo by Steven Furlow Noblesville Mayor John Ditslear with First Lady Teri Ditslear.

continued. Blessed is how she described those in a position to help and give back stressing the importance of doing so.

"There's a sense of community spirit, people coming together for a good cause," she said proudly.

Mayor Ditslear also happily noted the number of guests saying it was a sign of how the community valued the work, service and dedication by the beneficiary groups to residents.

"It's been very busy," Teresa Steege, program director at Janus Developmental Services, one of the non-profits benefiting from the ball, said in between talking with guests. "It's been wonderful, we're so appreciative to be included."

Steege said in addition to raising money for the organization the event was a good way to raise the profile and awareness of what Janus does. Even if people have heard of Janus, they may not be fully aware of the how's, what's and role in the community the organization plays,

She said talking with attendees about Janus had been fun and easy with so many positives to point out.

Stephanie Lyons, Executive Director of Promising Futures of Central Indiana, said she was having fun and was happy seeing so many from the community showing their support for all the beneficiary groups.

"The weather's holding out, the turnout has been great," she said. "We're having fun."

While the weather held out Saturday night, Friday was another matter with the strong storms that moved through the storm wreaking havoc on the area and temporarily knocking the tent down but was re-set without problem. Also a victim of the weather, the Ditslears', among several others, had been in Kansas City Friday for the announcement of the All-American City Top 10 which Noblesville was competing for and when trying to head back to Indiana, found flights delayed because of storms. One car ride later, they arrived back in town around 4 p.m. - the event started at 6 p.m.

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Hamilton County Area Neighborhood Development's, from left, Colleen Buesching, Sage Hales and Stephanie Boettcher dressed up with fairy wings, tiaras and scepters at the Mayor's Ball Saturday in Noblesville.

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