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**ROSE** (roz) n. One of the most beautiful of all flowers, a symbol of fragrance and loveliness. Often given as a sign of appreciation.

**RASPBERRY** (raz'ber'e) n. A sharp, scornful comment, criticism or rebuke; a derisive, splatting noise, often called the Bronx cheer.

ROSES to the United Way of Benton County, for a bit of unexpected good news. The final tally for the organization's 2009-10 campaign was \$546,627 — a total that was a stunning 23 percent over the \$444,431 raised in the 2008-09 campaign and also reversed a trend of declines that's stretched back half a decade. The United Way has been through some rough times over the last few years, and so this news was particularly welcome — and stands as testament to the hard work of United Way staff members and the legion of volunteers that work on behalf of the charity. It's been a tough stretch recently for other nonprofit organizations in the mid-valley, and that makes this bit of news from the United Way a particular burst of sunshine.