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**For Immediate Release
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**Eunice Wishop Stromberg
Spelling Bee Endowment Challenge
CF will match donations up to \$50,000!**

Rockford, IL – The Community Foundation of Northern challenges the community to raise \$100,000 for the perpetual support of the Boone Winnebago Regional Spelling Bee.

Community members are encouraged to make contributions to the Spelling Bee Fund and every donation will be matched by the Community Foundation up to \$50,000!

The Spelling Bee was in jeopardy in 2010 until an anonymous donor stepped forward. IBEW Local 364 is sponsoring the 2011 Spelling Bee, scheduled for March 15. The establishment of the permanent endowment at the Community Foundation will guarantee that the expenses of the Spelling Bee will met each year into perpetuity beginning in 2012.

In October 2009, the Community Foundation received a bequest from the estate of Eunice Wishop Stromberg. Discussion with the family led to the establishment of the Eunice Wishop Stromberg Spelling Bee Endowment and the \$50,000 community challenge. Stromberg's family indicated that Eunice was a life-long Rockford resident, was particularly fond of children and encouraged the pursuit of academic excellence. The family has enthusiastically embraced the idea of the Wishop Stromberg Endowment, and the legacy it creates for Eunice.

Contribution checks can be made payable to the Community Foundation with *Spelling Bee* on the memo line. Checks can be sent to the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois at 946 N. Second Street, Rockford, IL 61107. Contributions can also be made on line at www.cfnil.org

The mission of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois is to attract, grow and preserve a permanent endowment for the needs of the people of Northern Illinois. In the past, the Community Foundation has attracted permanent funds for the purchase of public high school band uniforms through the Bandwagon Fund, and resources for victims of natural disaster through the Natural Disaster Fund.

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