

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

A local baseball league that's truly a miracle

The Miracle League of Blair County, which provides disabled children and adults with a place to play baseball, is the recipient of the 2008 Blair County Sports Hall of Fame Community Service Award.



Joe Reed

The award will be presented tonight during the Hall of Fame's 13th

induction ceremony at the Blair County Convention Center.

The Miracle League of Blair County is one of just 76 of its kind nationally and the second in Pennsylvania.

League organizers raised nearly \$500,000 over the past several years through local and regional business donations and grants and unveiled its new field in Eldorado on July 21, 2007.

More than 40 players and 100 volunteers participated in the league's first season.

Joe Reed, who spearheaded



The Miracle League of Blair County allows challenged youngsters the chance to play baseball.

the fundraising efforts of the Miracle League, will accept the Hall of Fame award.

"I was amazed that we were chosen to receive this award," Reed said. "I have been following the prior awards, and they have all been very deserving. I didn't

realize that the Miracle League was that well known. It's sometimes nice to be wrong."

Previous Hall of Fame Community Service winners include John Conlon (1998), Johnny Robertson (2000), Tom Stout (2002), Harry Sickler (2004) and Skip Dry (2006).

"The Miracle League of Blair County has made it possible for all individuals regardless of their challenges to participate in sports," Hall of Fame president David Andrews said. "What they've done for our community is a true inspiration. We look forward to honoring Joe Reed and all the members of the Miracle League for their great work in the community."



The local Miracle League is one of only two of it's kind in Pennsylvania.

Past recipients

1998:	John Conlon
2000:	John Robertson
2002:	Tom Stout
2004:	Harry Sickler
2006:	Skip Dry