More than 300 supporters of the Daniel Torres Hispanic Center gathered over breakfast Wednesday at the Crowne Plaza Reading to celebrate the holidays, to say thanks to a community leader for the support provided and to honor a longtime advocate for his many contributions.

Clover Dairy Farms was the guest of honor at the center's Holiday Breakfast of Thanks.

The event also marked the first breakfast without Paul Roedel.
Roedel, the retired chief executive officer of Carpenter Technology who died last month, was remembered at the event as a respected community member and generous philanthropist.

Michael Toledo, president of the center, highlighted the role Roedel played in assisting the center — from seeing it through tough financial times to mentoring its leaders.

The sound of holiday music and smell of breakfast food filled the Wyomissing hotel as more than 300 community members met to eat and socialize. They heard performances from local musical groups as they mingled around the ballroom.

Toledo said the breakfast has grown each year since it began seven years ago. He said the intent is to gather people who are involved with the center’s programs and support the efforts financially and in other ways for a community celebration.

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