THANK YOU
To our Founding Members!!!!!!!!

The Board of Directors thanks everyone who contributed to the Founders’ Campaign which helped to get the foundation off and running. Almost 1000 people donated during the campaign and helped us raise over $400,000.

The plaque recognizing Founding Members is almost finished and we will notify you when it is placed in Town Hall.

Thank you all for your vision, for your commitment to Niskayuna, and for caring about strengthening our “hometown” for current and future generations.

NCF has a website. You can find us at niskayunacf.org
Donations may be made online.
A Message from the NCF President

Dear Friends of the Niskayuna Community Foundation,

It seems like yesterday that we welcomed in 2006 and already most of the year has passed—we begin to think about celebrating the coming of the New Year even as we remember the events of the last eleven months. It is also that time when our Niskayuna Community Foundation comes to you with this newsletter to report on our activities this past year. In addition, since the Founders’ Campaign has been completed, we are beginning an Annual Campaign to raise funds for future grants. This Annual Campaign is vital to the Foundation’s existence and ability to fulfill its goal to enhance and preserve the quality of life in the Niskayuna community and school district. We very much hope you will support the work we do.

GATHER, GROW, GRANT. This is what community foundations do and what we do in Niskayuna. Since our formation on January 1, 2000 and through our five-year Founder’s Campaign, NCF has provided over $120,000 back to the community in grants for cultural, recreational, educational and civic projects. The Foundation also provides scholarships for community service, academic achievement, leadership development and students with extraordinary need. An annual recognition for teaching excellence provides Niskayuna High School staff with the means to further their professional development. Recently NCF has collaborated with Schenectady County and United Way to train young people county-wide to better serve and become fully involved in their own communities.

Returning to the Annual Campaign theme, I am again reminded of a practice that my parents had for gifting and that my mother continues today. Like all of us, they received many requests and knew of many good causes—more than they could ever support with four growing children and teacher’s salaries. They selected some they knew they would always annually support like the church and United Way and perhaps an organization of special interest. The other requests that they considered worthy were put in a separate drawer—the “November drawer.” Each November and December, they looked through the drawer and decided how much they were able to give and which requests they could respond to. They then gifted as best they could, explaining to their children why they felt it was necessary to contribute whatever they could and why they chose to give it in certain ways.

At NCF we work very hard to make sure our grants and gifts do good work in your community. We hope we can be on your list that you annually support and consider in the event you wish to establish long term funds or scholarships or do estate planning. If we are in your “November drawer”, please consider us and your community as part of your support this and future years. Whatever you can provide, we very much appreciate and will gather, grow, and grant it in trustworthy and beneficial ways.

Representing the entire Honorary Board and NCF Board of Directors, and those organizations and young people we can support, I thank you for your generosity to the Niskayuna Community Foundation.

Most sincerely,

J. Briggs McAndrews, President

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

NCF grants distributed through 2005 were used in the following ways.

1. 50% to town/larger community
   50% to school district

2. 32% for operating costs
   68% capital projects

3. 32% for short term use
   68% for long term use

4. 22% education
   25% community development
   18% recreation
   17% conservation and historic preservation
   13% arts and culture
   5% health and human services

Michael Patrick, an author participating in the Writer-In-Residence program, speaks to an English class at Niskayuna High School.
Have You or Your Family or Neighbors Benefited from One of the Following Organizations?

Almost every town or school district resident can benefit from the Niskayuna Community Foundation. Each enhancement or improvement to our community helps to make Niskayuna more attractive to potential residents, more satisfying for those who live here, and more competitive with the quality of life in other towns and school districts. To improve the quality of life for all, NCF funds a diversity of projects benefiting all age groups and which all serve to strengthen the community. The recipients during the first 4 years of the grant program are listed below.

- Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks
- Bellevue Hospital
- Birchwood School
- Challenger Learning Center
- Craig School
- Environmental Clearinghouse of Schenectady
- Friends of Forensics
- Friends of Music
- Friends of Niskayuna Crew
- Friends of the Class of 2006
- Friends of the Class of 2007
- Glencliff School, Scouts and After School Programs
- Hillside School
- Jewish Community Center
- Niskayuna Community Action Program
- Niskayuna Day Care
- Niskayuna Drama Club
- Niskayuna English Department
- Niskayuna High PTO
- Niskayuna Lacrosse Club
- Niskayuna Soccer Club
- Niskayuna Town Pool
- Niskayuna Youth Court
- Proctor’s Theatre
- Rosendale Theatre
- Safe, Inc.
- Safe Routes
- Schenectady Public Library - Niskayuna Branch
- Schenectady Symphony Orchestra Association
- Schenectady Theatre for Children
- SICM Food Pantry
- Umbrella of the Capital District
- Van Antwerp Middle School and Double “H” Hole in the Woods Camp
- WIRO television at Iroquois
- Young Musicians Forum
- Town of Niskayuna - Recreation Department
- Town of Niskayuna - Senior Center

NHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION


What? The Niskayuna Alumni Association (NAA) is an affiliate of the Niskayuna Community Foundation (NCF). Its purpose is to support the alumni network of Niskayuna High School and help maintain and build bonds between Niskayuna alumni. It will promote continued alumni support of Niskayuna by offering a philanthropic opportunity to give back to their hometown community through NCF.

When? JOIN NOW!!
Those who join the Alumni Association by 6/1/07 will be recorded as “Founding Members.”

Those who send an additional donation to NCF by 6/1/07 will be recorded as “Alumni Founding Members” of NCF.

Where? Here in Niskayuna. Join the Association by mailing a check for dues ($15.00 per year) payable to the Niskayuna Community Foundation - PO Box 9711 - Niskayuna, NY 12309. PLEASE consider including an additional tax-deductible donation for the community.

CLASS OF 2006

The Niskayuna High School Class of 2006 was the second class gift received by NCF. Previously the Class of 1964 had made a generous contribution at the time of their reunion. The gift was given in honor of: John Rickert, Principal; Shelley Baldwin-Nye and Mark Treanor, Assistant Principals; and Vincent Bianchi, Student Activities Coordinator. Thank you to the Class of 2006 and congratulations to the honorees!

SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED

In June 2006 the NCF Scholarship Committee, Kristine Gregory, Chairman and Judy Dannes, Katie Kelleher, Giny Gritmon and Kathy Putz announced the following recipients.

- Community Service Award
  Ahalya Nirmalan

- 50th Anniversary Scholarships
  Elizabeth Dressler and Timothy Colose

- College Promise Scholarship
  Anton Ushkir

OFFICE NEEDED

The foundation is growing and has several needs. One is a small office space. If you or someone you know has office space you would be willing to donate, please call Cindy Phillippe at 374-0326.
The Distribution Committee was pleased to award grants to the following organizations on Philanthropy Night, November 15th. Committee members included Co-Chairmen Bob Sowinski and Dave Putz and members Rich Holt, John Reilly, Bill McPartlon, Mike Mullaney and Vince Valenza. NCF received 29 grant inquiries seeking over $100,000 but was only able to budget $20,000 for 2006.

- **High School English Department- $1,500**  
  Funding to continue the Writer in Residence program. This individual will work with Niskayuna High School students to promote creativity and appreciation for the art of language construction beyond the classroom.

- **Schenectady Symphony Orchestra Association, Inc.- $3,000**  
  To provide in-school mentoring and shared stands concert between the Schenectady Symphony Orchestra and the Niskayuna High School Orchestra.

- **Catholic Charities of Schenectady County- $1,000**  
  To provide funding for clinical counseling to Niskayuna residents who need financial assistance.

- **Niskayuna Friends of Music- $1,050**  
  For presentation of workshop and performances to middle and high school students by South African musician. This provides students with a multifaceted musical experience, offers differing perspectives on classical and ethnic contemporary music and permits students direct access to South African music history and culture.

- **Craig Elementary School- $3,000**  
  To install and create an outdoor learning and event area in the school courtyard for use by the entire community.

- **Volunteer Physicians Project of Schenectady, Inc. - $2,500**  
  D/b/a Schenectady Free Health Clinic  
  To provide free health clinic services to Niskayuna residents without health insurance.

- **Challenger Learning Center of the Greater Capital Region, Inc. - $1,050**  
  For building a technology based program to educate middle-school students in science and math concepts. The learning centers were started as a memorial of astronauts lost in the Space Shuttle. Funding will help off-set capital costs of acquiring and installing state of the art space simulators and mission control equipment.

- **Schenectady Theater for Children, Inc. - $1,500**  
  Funding to underwrite the performances of the Great Minds program in Niskayuna.

- **Rosendale Elementary School - $1,200**  
  To expand the Leveled Book Library and provide more students with access to reading materials that will meet each student’s need and interests.

- **Umbrella of the Capital District, Inc. - $1,000**  
  To provide comprehensive home inspection to low income elderly and disabled Niskayuna homeowners.

- **Hillside Elementary School - $1,000**  
  To help replace playground equipment now considered hazardous by the State.

- **Niskayuna Safe Routes - $500**  
  To take a long term look at development of new and existing roadways in order to make them more bike and walker friendly. Tee-shirts for Ride to School Day provide visual indication that people support the Niskayuna Safe Routes concept and raise public awareness that the effort exists.

- **Caitlin’s Memories, Inc. - $655**  
  To fund Caitlin’s Memories Project at the Bellevue Women’s Hospital supporting Niskayuna residents who have suffered the loss of a child.

- **Van Antwerp Middle School- $475**  
  To fund the middle school project to help critically ill children at the Double H Ranch.

- **Friends of the Class of 2007- $600**  
  To fund rental location for a safe, substance free, after prom alternative.

**2006 Grants Awarded**

Distribution Committee Co-Chairmen, Bob Sowinski and David Putz, have announced that $20,000 will be available in 2007 for community grants and mini-grants. No single grant may exceed $5,000. For larger grants a letter of inquiry is required by March 1, 2007. It should not exceed two pages, and should include: introduction to the organization’s mission, recent achievements, problems or opportunities to be addressed, specifics about the grant, and total costs. Eligible organizations will be invited to submit a final application by April 13th. Mini-grants up to $1,000 may be applied for throughout the year and require a letter with pertinent information.

To be eligible, the applicant organization must qualify under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code as a non-profit organization, operate under the fiscal sponsorship of an organization that does, or be sponsored by either the Niskayuna Town or the Niskayuna School District. NCF places the highest priority on projects that address significant community issues, are result-oriented, encourage the involvement and participation of diverse and ethnic groups, demonstrate a true funding need, and empower residents to take responsibility for their community. For further information please contact Bob at 393-4729 or Dave at 785-0764.
Thank you to the additional donors who contributed between December 1, 2005 and November 14, 2006. Please accept our apologies if we have errored by misspelling or omitting your name in reproducing our donor list. Please contact us so we do not error in future publications at 374-0326 or dputz@nycap.rr.com.

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel G. Alcorn
Margery K. Amerling
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Sally Arnds-Willette & Hugo Irizarry-Quinones
Kip and Joanne Arnold
Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Bailey
Mr. and Mrs. Gabriel J. Basil
Douglas M. Bennett
Ms. Ingrid Bergh Kelly
Walter and Wendy Berninger
Vincent and Tina Bianchi
Dr. Susan and Mr. Eric Bieber
L. Ann Bish
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bracken
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Burke
Ms. Gretchen Burns
Ed and Kathy Carangelo
George Chelius III and Lynn Derry
Frederick and Rebecca Chu
Christine Gioffi and John Sharkey
Harold and Margaret Clements
Stuart and Carole Cohen
Bonnie and Willard Daggett
Norman and Joan Dennis
Lillian Bertalan and Michael DePetrillo
Ellen F. Elliott
Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Evers
Frank Feiner and Rose Cooper
Richard and Joan Felak
Richard and Betty Ferencik
James Ferguson, Jr.
Lori Mullane Finch
Jack and Lolly Fitts
Maria Freund and John Brojakowski
Bob and Flossie Fritz
Craig and Nina Fuehrer
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Michael and Diana Gelfand
General Electric Energy Financial Services
Helen George
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Clark and Millie Gittinger
Jane Carol Glendinning and Joel P. Brainard
Sy and Judy Gluck
Dorthea F. Godfrey
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Gladys Graubart
John and Katherine Greenthal
Hank and Mary Ellen Haase
Robert B. Hamilton
Cynthia W. Hamilton
Marjorie “Midge” Haydon
John and Janet Henderson
Roy and Nancy Hershey
Alan and Nancy Hickenbottom
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Holt
John and Carol Hudson
Richard J. Huether
Karen Huggins
Joan and Peter Ipsen
John and Lana Jensen
Fred and Sandy Kaplan
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Kaufmann
Mr. Kevin E. Keller and Ms. Laurel Burns
Maria and Larry Krause
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Kuzma
Barbara Lapidus and Carl Snyder
Dan Lazarek
Harry and Kathleen Leader
Bill and Denise Leader
Joseph V. and Ann Lemmond
Mr. Christopher Lindsay
Louisa Lombardo and James Dillon
Michael and Kay MacLaury
Pamela Maloy
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Markey
Lisa and Bernard J. Martines
Bernice and Joe Matula
Kristine Maxwell
Briggs and Isabelle McAndrews
Lisa Mullane McCarthy
William McColl
Kathleen and Peter McManus
Kent and Carol Molino
Hans-Friedrich and Terri Mueller
Mike and Debby Mullaney and Family
Rosemary Mullaney
Nan and Hugh Murphy
Timothy M. Nace
Niskayuna Community Action Program
Niskayuna High School Class of 2006
Jenny C. Overeynder
Kirk and Fran Panneton
Carl and Joann Paulsen
Susan Penny
Christine Perlee
Dick and Cindy Phillippe
Edith and Ennis Pilcher
Richard and Barbara Preisman
Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Randall
John and Tara Reilly and Family
The Rivera Family
Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Rivest
Anne and Walt Robb
Randall and Patricia Roeser
Rodney and Janet Rosenberg
Elizabeth Russell
Marcy Schaefor
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Ms. Julie Shanebrook
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Katherine C. Stevens
John and Susan Sweeney
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Mr. and Mrs. David G. Tieman
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Van Wert
Harriet F. Wall
Bill and Linda Ward
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Weiss
Beth, Mark and Ev Whitaker, Jr.
Roy and Virginia Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Anthony J. Wilson
Allen and Barbara Wood
Ann and Dick Wyles

TEACHERS RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

The Murray Award for Excellence in Education was presented to two Niskayuna High School teachers. The 2006 recipients were Michelle Stopera, a teacher in the Business Department, and Kathy Ylvisaker, a Special Education teacher. Once again the teachers were surprised in their classrooms in front of their students.

Each recipient received $2500 for use in the professional development activity of their choosing. The award recognizes the belief of the Murray Family that outstanding educators who continue to learn are essential to improving schools and enhancing the education of students.

Michelle Stopera was a recipient of the 2006 Murray Award for Excellence in Education. Pictured (l. to r.) Kevin Baughman, Superintendent of Niskayuna Schools; Stopera; John Rickert, High School Principal; and Tyler Ashley, Committee Member.
Gifts were given in honor of special occasions in the lives of these people by those who care.

Gifts were given in memory of special people by those who were touched by their lives.

Given in honor of...

Shea K. Carangelo...by
Grandparents, Ed and Kathy Carangelo

The Faculty and Staff of Craig (Nation) School...by
Ed and Kathy Carangelo

Elizabeth DePettrillo's graduation from Niskayuna High School...by
Parents, Lil Bertalan and Michael DePettrillo

Sarah Gage's Birthday...by
Mike and Debby Mullaney
Dick and Cindy Phillippe

Dr. Barry Loffredo...by
Dr. and Mrs. Michael DeLuke
Dr. and Mrs. Robert DeLuke

John Rickert, Shelley Baldwin-Nye, Mark Treanor and Vince Bianchi...by
The Niskayuna High School Class of 2006

Steven Sommer's graduation from Niskayuna High School...by
Sy and Judy Gluck

Given in memory of...

Jennifer Bossman...by
Sally Arnds-Willette & Hugo Irizarry-Quinones

Glenn Davis USMA, 1947...by
Ronald & Marilyn Tamoschat

Dr. James M. Lafferty...by
Ms. Marceline Schaefer

Margaret (Peg) Leader...by
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Clements
Dr. & Mrs. Norman Dennis, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Evers
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Felak
James Ferguson, Jr.
Maria Freund and John Brojakowski
General Electric Energy Financial Services
Ms. Helen George
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Gillis
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Grandy
Maria and Larry Krause
Bernice and Joe Matula
Niskayuna Community Action Program
Dick and Cindy Phillippe
Elizabeth Russell
Van der Bogert Shanklin
Dr. John T. Sheridan
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Weiss
Beth, Mark, and Ev Whitaker, Jr.

Marguerite Little...by
Briggs and Isabelle McAndrews
Cindy and Dick Phillippe

Scott McAndrews...by
Greg Aidala
Bob and Carolyn Akland
Benita C. Allaire
Melvin and Margaret Andrews
Carol Andrews
Sally Arnds-Willette and Hugo Irizarry-Quinones
Fran and Mark Aronowitz
Prue Arthur

Charles and Jennifer Assini
Avon Crest North -Section 5
Mary Aylward
Duane and Cindy Ball
Dr. Robert and Mary Anne Balmer
Anthony and Sue Bango
Michael Basile
Bill and Mary Lou Bates
David & Cynthia Battiste
Charles Becker and Mary Druke Becker
Joyce Beckley
Bethlehem Central Physical Education Department
Bethlehem Middle School Happiness Committee
Vince and Tina Bianchi
Birchwood Elementary School
James and Veronica Blendell
Shirley J. Bliss
Mrs. Gytelle Bloom
Lee and Felicia Bordick
Lance and Helen Bosart
Jane Carol Glendinning and Joel P. Brainard
Mr. and Mrs. Brandone
Brokers Network
Thomas & Claire Brown
George and Anne Brown
Mary Jane Brown
Linda Conforti-Brown, Larry Brown
and their children:
Liz, Andrew, Nate & Ali
David W. Bundy
Mr. & Mrs. William J. Burke
George and Kathy Butterstein
Jennifer Byrnes
Mr. and Mrs. Francis Caimano
Mrs. Santina Caldara
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Joseph and Pauline Carlo
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Tom and Carole Doody
Duanesburg Central School District
Amy Dufort
Early Childhood Education Center-Guilderland Site
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Richard and Asha Evans
Faculty and Staff of Glen-Worden Elementary School
Brian Fisher
Patrick and Cheryl Foy
Gus and Grace Franze
Deb and Art Friedson
Friends of the Schenectady Museum
Sue Fryling
Kimberly and Joseph Fuda
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Darla Gullotta
Marymel, Ed and Kelly Hart
Janice Harvith
Paul Hasler
Joel and Julia Helfman
Kristin Hetman
Dorothy Hickok
Hillside Elementary Staff
Nancy Hoffman
Tina Hogle
Rich and Lisa Holt
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Karen Huggins
Diane Isenberg
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Mr. John Jacobs
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Vaila and Ed Joy
Rochele and Patrick Kehoe
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Peter and Susan Kopcha
Valentina Krauss
Olive L. Krouse
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Mark and Joan Laplante
Rachel and David Latessa
Diane Lazarichak, Laurie St. Jeanos, Kristi McCabe
Bill and Denise Leader
Cynthia Leder
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Lee
Lynne and George Lenhardt
Marya Levenson
Steve and Lois Lewis
Louisa Lombardo and James Dillon
Les and Betsy Loomis
Kathlene Lyman
Diane M. Macpherson
Linda Mahoney
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Thomas J. Manko
Cindy and Mike Marsche
Jeffrey and Kelly Masline
Lynn Massaroni Chrys
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Catherine and Brian McAndrews
Jean McAndrews
Harold and Joann McCarthy
Patricia McDermott
Tom and Genie McKay
Ms. Harriett McNeal
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Ernest and Virginia Mills
Mary Ann Mitchell
Mardy and Chuck Moore
Maureen and Jim Moran
Bill Morrison
Bud and Ro Mosmen
Ms. Jennifer Mosmen and Sean and Sam Murphy
Mike and Debby Mullaney
Michol Murphy
Charlene Murphy
Kaye Nardella
Nassau County Council of School Superintendents
Officers, Executive Committee & Staff of NYS Council of School Superintendents
Niskayuna Community Action Program
Niskayuna Educational Support Personnel
Niskayuna High School Faculty and Staff
Niskayuna School Administrators
Niskayuna Schools’ District Office
North Pocono Volleyball Team
Sue and Ken Nutting
NYS Association of School Business Officials
NYS School Boards Association, Inc. Art & Tricia O’Donnell
Mark and Kathryn Opdyke
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Trish O’Sullivan
Nick and Vera Peek
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Domenico and Victoria Salamone
Helen, Bob, Becky and Sara Salamone
Lou Scharpf
Katherine Scheib and Dave Holodak
Al and Jeanne Schrempf
Scotia-Glenville Administrators
Norman Shartzer
Mr. and Mrs. J. Robert Sheehan
Herbert and Cynthia Shultz
Mr. Albert Simidian, Jr.
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Slingerlands Elementary School Faculty Assn.
Slingerlands School P. T. A.
Kathy Smith
Tom and Gail Sobolewski
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Sosnow
Nancy and Bill Sperry
St. Helen’s Church
George and Dorann Stagnitta
Mr. and Mrs. Thaddeus Stefanski
Jayne Steubing
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The Stroebel Family
Margaret and Richard Syrett
Colleen Taggerty
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Jennifer L. Toussaint
Mike and Ann Trier
Van Antwerp Faculty & Staff
Jennifer VanAernem
Mr. and Mrs. Villanti
Jeffrey Voorhees
Henry Voorhees
Kate and John Vrtiak
Emile and Ann Walraven
Lorraine Waterhouse
Wayne-Finger Lakes Superintendents Association
Pat and George Webb
Ken and Beth Webb
Abigail Weber
Edward and Anne Wilson
Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Wittmann
Bill Wohlleber and Marian Tate
Peter and Jan Xeller
JoAnne York
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Zinn
Mr. & Mrs. Franz Zwicklbauer
GREAT OPPORTUNITY!!!!
Are YOU 70 ½ or Older?

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA) offers people 70 ½ or older a special giving opportunity. These individuals with traditional Roth IRA's can make tax-free gifts directly to qualified charities in any amount up to $100,000 per year in 2006 and 2007. The donor must complete each years transfer prior to December 31. Married couples, with each having their own IRA, could EACH give up to the $100,000 limit.

IRA funds that are subject to tax if withdrawn voluntarily or under mandatory withdrawal requirements would therefore be tax-free. The donor would not be able to also declare the donation as a tax deduction. Funds accumulated in other types of retirement accounts, would not qualify.

Over Age 59 ½?

Contributions may not be sent directly from retirement accounts to charity. They can, however, be withdrawn from IRA's and other retirement accounts and then donated to charity without the 10% penalty for early withdrawal. Although these withdrawals must still be reported as income, they may be deductible as charitable contributions.

YOUTH AND PHILANTHROPY PROGRAM

This program offers an opportunity for young people to get involved in the grant process, teaching them about the importance of making philanthropy a priority in their lives by learning about the needs in the community. The program brings together students from across the county to work together to determine which grant applications are most worthy of support. Funding came from the United Way, the Schenectady Youth Bureau, and the McAndrews Fund of NCF. The leadership and initiative of Briggs and Isabelle McAndrews helped bring this program to fruition. 2006 grant recipients chosen by the students were: Read Write Now of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Schenectady; Girls Lit of Girls Inc. of the Capital Region; Word Up! of the Hamilton Hill Arts Center.

NCF, an affiliate of The Community Foundation for the Capital Region

What’s happening here in your community?
See news inside!

Please Support Niskayuna with a Gift