

SUMMER 2011



## BRINGING IT HOME

*Lilly Scholar Steven Juszcak to  
put his talent to work in the region*

In 2007, Steven Juszcak was graduating from Portage High School, determined to be an engineer. He dreamed of going to the nation's top undergraduate college for engineering: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute. Two things stood in his way. First, admission to the school is highly competitive - more than 3,500 students apply for just over 500 spots each year. Secondly, it was expensive.

Juszcak's grades and test scores got him a coveted acceptance letter. And Lilly Endowment provided the funding. The Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship pays full tuition and fees to any college or university in the state of Indiana and \$800 each year for books. Juszcak did the region proud by making the dean's list every quarter of his college career and standing out as a member of the engineering honor society Tau Beta Pi. This spring he graduated from Rose-Hulman with a degree in mechanical engineering and he's bringing it home. He has accepted a position with ArcelorMittal in Burns Harbor as an Associate Engineer.

"I'm excited to return to Northwest Indiana. I wanted to stay close to family and do what I love too," said Juszcak who's been interested in engineering since childhood. "I was always interested in art and structures. I was fortunate to be able to take some engineering while still in high school, giving me a good idea of what to expect," he said.

Juszcak credits the Lilly scholarship with helping him to get the education he dreamed of. "I compare it to winning the lottery," he said. "I remember the call. My mom was crying and we were celebrating. I was relieved and so were my parents. It was a dream come true."

For Juszcak, the diploma and the job mean more than a paycheck and a title. "I know I want to give back to the Foundation and to Rose-Hulman. I look forward to helping to make it possible for others to get what I have achieved. It's a good feeling," he said.

### In this Issue:



Scholarship Recipients

Page 3



Scholarship Recipients

Page 3

Support  
A Cause



Page 4



P. O. Box 302 • Valparaiso, IN 46384

Barbara A. Young  
President

Brenda Sheetz  
Vice President

Carol Costakis  
Community Resource Director

Kim Kilander  
Administrative Assistant

Telephone 219-465-0294

Facsimile 219-464-2733

Email [info@portercountyfoundation.org](mailto:info@portercountyfoundation.org)

[www.portercountyfoundation.org](http://www.portercountyfoundation.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Fred Berglund**  
*Berglund Construction*

**Debora Butterfield**  
*Deb Butterfield Communications*

**Laura Campbell**  
*Centier Bank*

**Dr. John Felton**  
*Retired Ophthalmologist*

**Tricia Geno**  
*Community Volunteer*

**Stephanie Gerdes**  
*Centier Bank*

**Minakshi Ghuman**  
*Century 21 Pace Realty*

**John Hannon**  
*Great Lakes Engineering*

**Heather Harrigan**  
*Prudential Executive Group*

**Bill Higbie**  
*Moeller Funeral Homes*

**David A. Kelly**  
*Retired Executive - NiSource, Inc.*

**Susan Kelly-Johnson**  
*Attorney at Law*

**Sharon Kish**  
*United Way of Porter County*

**R. Bradley Koeppen**  
*Douglas, Koeppen & Hurley*

**Jon Leetz**  
*North Coast Distributing*

**William P. Maar**  
*Thrivent Financial for Lutherans*

**Mark Maassel**  
*Northwest Indiana Forum*

**Jane Maxwell**  
*Maxwell Farms, Morgan Township*

**Jonathan Nalli**  
*Porter Health System*

**Ralph Neff**  
*Mechanical Concepts, Inc.*

**Doug Olson**  
*SEH of Indiana, LLC*

**Gerard Pannekoek**  
*IPXI*

**Leslie Plesac**  
*Purdue North Central*

**Paul Reisen**  
*Emerson Power Transmission*

**David Rose**  
*Horizon Bank*

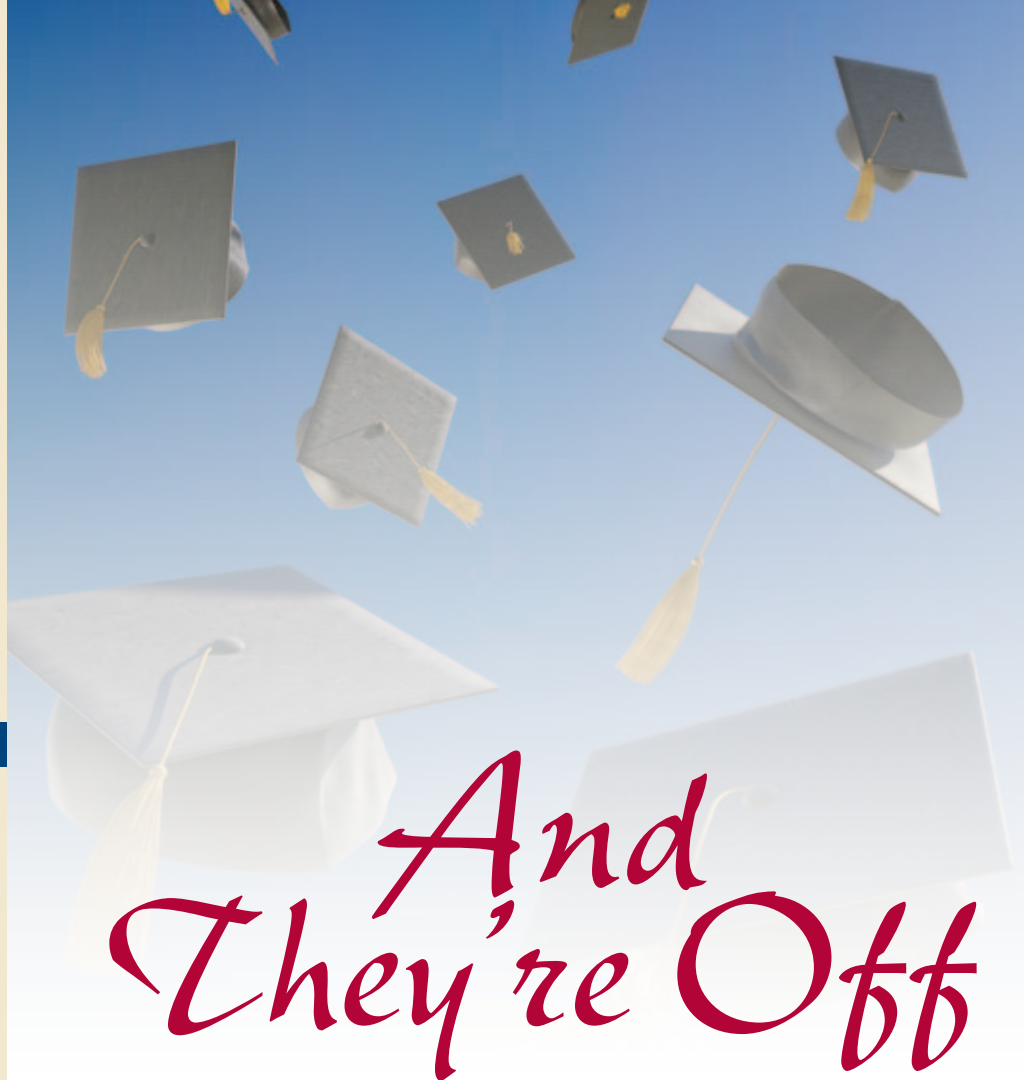
**Gregory Sobkowski**  
*Hodges & Davis*

**Spero Valavanis**  
*Design Organization*

**William Wagner**  
*Hoeppner, Wagner & Evans, LLP*

**Katharine Wehling**  
*Community Volunteer*

**Linda Woloshansky**  
*Center of Workforce Innovations*



# And They're Off

*Foundation has Awarded  
205 scholarships since 1998*

*With the help of scholarships, 20 local students are off to college with big ideas and even bigger plans for the future. Recipients and their parents were recently honored at the Foundation's annual Scholarship Banquet. "Each year we're amazed at the talent and dedication we find in graduating seniors and we're excited to be a part of their next step," said Jon Leetz, Foundation Board member and Scholarship Committee Chair.*

All scholarships were awarded based on financial need, academic accomplishment, ability to communicate, motivation/desire to succeed, activities/leadership, and capacity to succeed. Porter County high schools are invited to submit nominations. In addition, Porter County residents who attend high school elsewhere are invited to submit applications directly to the Foundation. Each applicant submits a written narrative explaining why the scholarship would be important to achieving future goals. The Foundation's Scholarship Committee reviews applications, interviews applicants, and makes selections based on the criteria above. For more information about establishing a scholarship fund, contributing to an existing fund, or applying for a scholarship, visit our web site at [www.portercountyfoundation.org](http://www.portercountyfoundation.org) or call the Porter County Community Foundation at (219) 465-0294.

# *This year's recipients are:*



## **Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships**

Since 1998 the Porter County Community Foundation has awarded 61 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarships to Porter County students, totaling over \$4 million. The scholarship pays full tuition and fees to any college or university in the state of Indiana and \$800 each year for books. This year's winners are Mayra Martinez (Portage High School), Adam Alamillo (Valparaiso High School), and Ian Ansborg (Boone Grove High School).



## **NIPSCO Sponsored Scholarships**

NIPSCO has partnered with the Foundation to provide the following \$1,000 scholarships: Robert Conrick (Chesterton High School), Cassandra Gibson (Washington Township High School), Samantha Loza (Portage High School), Rachel Lundstrom (Valparaiso High School), Laura MacNeill (Hebron High School), Jana Prochaska (Morgan Township High School), and Rebecca Shutske (Kouts High School).



## **Porter County Community Foundation Scholarships**

The Porter County Community Foundation is pleased to provide \$4,000 scholarships to Caitlyn Ludington (Wheeler High School), Sarah Sanchez (Andean High School), and Nicole Green (Chesterton High School).



## **Launch Your Career Scholarships**

The Launch Your Career scholarship is available to students attending the Porter County Career and Technical Center. North Coast Distributing is a partner in awarding these \$1,000 scholarships. Recipients are Rebeka Dres (Valparaiso High School), Krystle Koedyker (Valparaiso High School), Carissa Martinez (Chesterton High School), Megan Price (Portage High School), and Kayla Turner (Portage High School).



## **Shawn Moyer Scholarship**

Shawn Moyer was a 1999 Lilly Endowment Community Scholar who passed away during his sophomore year at Taylor University. Lilly Endowment and the Foundation endowed the remaining balance of Shawn's scholarship to create this award for graduates of Kouts High School. Keren Kandel and David Hershberger received \$1,000 scholarships in memory of Shawn Moyer.





**John Wiktor**  
Reed Smith Attorney

# SUPPORT A CAUSE AS YOU REDUCE YOUR TAX BURDEN

## *Gifts of Retirement Assets*

One of the great things about charitable giving, in addition to the difference it can make to a worthy cause, is that there are so many creative ways to give. Virtually everyone can find a way to contribute. One creative giving option that's often overlooked is the gift of retirement plan assets.

Naming a charity as beneficiary of retirement assets is an excellent way to benefit the nonprofit organization while helping to reduce the tax burden on other beneficiaries. Giving in this way means more of your retirement assets can be put to work in a positive way rather than paid out through taxes. Here's how it works: Because a charity generally is not subject to income tax, the charitable beneficiary will not have to pay income tax on the appreciation of the retirement asset. Second, the gift to the charitable beneficiary will also generally qualify for a federal estate tax charitable deduction, there will be no federal estate tax payable on the retirement asset and inheritance tax will be reduced for remaining beneficiaries. In essence, the charity benefits from the full value of the retirement asset while reducing the tax burden on other beneficiaries. However, to realize these benefits, it's important to name the charity as the beneficiary of the retirement asset either on a beneficiary form or as a specific bequest in a will or trust.

So many people work all of their lives and pay into retirement plans, profit sharing, 401(k) plans, and IRAs so that they can decide how to spend the dollars they've earned. By naming a charity to benefit from these remaining funds, you can continue to direct these funds in a positive way once you're gone.

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**NOV. 12!**

