Limited Window on Tax Benefit to Donors

There is a limited window of opportunity of mutual benefit to both you and to the NYS District Kiwanis Foundation. There is a temporary suspension of limitations on charitable contributions between now and year-end. This presents significant opportunities for you as a donor, and for the BPO – but only between now and December 31.

Late last month, President Bush signed the Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005 (KETRA), also known as H.R. 3768. Under this Act, and during this limited window of opportunity, cash donations to charities are exempt from the 50 percent income limitation and the phase-out of itemized deductions if the donations are made before year-end. This provision creates a strong incentive to give larger gifts, especially from those motivated by this incentive, not just contributions to disaster relief organizations.

All gifts to charity are eligible for this incentive, not just contributions to disaster relief organizations.

Ontario Kiwanians Concur with Attorney General Spitzer on Need for Business Ethics and Integrity

ONTARIO DIVISION – Kiwanians and guests lauded New York Attorney-General Eliot Spitzer for his remarks about ethics in business and government, and what his office is doing to make sure the rules are followed.

Onondaga Hill Kiwanis Club hosted the luncheon meeting June 27 when Spitzer told about his office’s efforts to go after Wall Street brokerage firms that he said have been steering clients to unsound investments in order to benefit themselves.

Through the convictions obtained and $3 billion refunded to investors, Spitzer said his office has begun to change the way Wall Street behaves.

One Kiwanian noted, “Isn’t it refreshing to see an official work for honesty and ethics in business, rather than cave in to giant corporations and look the other way if they are not playing by the rules? Honesty and being ethical in our dealing with one another are certainly what we strive for in Kiwanis.”

Admittedly a possible candidate for state governor in 2006, Spitz noted, “I believe in aiding markets and strong commercial environment, but the market doesn’t work if there isn’t some core integrity underlying the way business is done.”

Spitzer called on state leaders to invest in the future, especially for young people…through education, energy, and transportation…because New York State has huge challenges. Residents and jobs have been moving out of state, but now those jobs and people are migrating even further to Asia and Latin America as well.

Rothman

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youth, “Be A Mentor.” This program works hand in hand with First Lady Debra’s Partners Project, working with our disabled youth and adults and the development of more Aktion Clubs.

I want to thank our district foundation and its President Lindy Marrazzo, JR and those clubs that participated with the Hurricane Katrina Relief. Donations were made to our district foundation, the American Red Cross and other organizations to help out the victims in the affected areas. In addition, we sent three tractor trailer loads of food, clothing and toiletries to the area. A special thanks to Lt. Governor Mike Malark for riding shot gun on the last two runs and his efforts coordinating the pick up and delivery of all of the items.

Money that was donated to our district foundation were then donated to the local clubs in the affected areas. We should take great pride in helping our fellow Kiwanians in their time of need. Till next year, remember, “TOGETHER WE CAN,” Do Anything!!

Peninsula Provides Twenty-Seven Years of Great Fun for Special Kids

Kiwanis Club of PENINSULA, Long Island Southwest Division – For the 27th year, club members and their families cooked more than 800 hamburgers and hotdogs for the special children affiliated with the Anchor Program in the Town of Hempstead.

This event has been chaired for all 27 years by Distinguished Past President Frank Mistero. The Peninsula members gave out more than 800 T-shirts to special children. They provided various rides for the kids to enjoy. The Town of Hempstead provided music so that the children could dance and have a great time.

Kiwanis Club of Westchester Village Supports Their Local Community

The Kiwanis Club of WESTCHESTER VILLAGE, Bronx Westchester South Division – recently donated the funds for a Communion Breakfast. Westchester Village volunteers assisted in serving breakfast and lunch to the “Handicapped Association for Dets”, with the help of the then LG Rocco Riti for about 100 people.

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