

REGIONAL
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
FOUNDATION nurturing community through education
AT NEW PALTZ

**REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOUNDATION AT NEW PALTZ
NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release (November 29, 2011):

****DIGITAL COLOR IMAGE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST****

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**Regional Chamber of Commerce Foundation at New Paltz Announces Launch of
Joyce Minard Scholarship**

(*New Paltz, NY*) The **Regional Chamber of Commerce Foundation at New Paltz** is pleased to announce the launch of a new scholarship, honoring retiring New Paltz Regional Chamber of Commerce President Joyce Minard's dedication to education and her vision to build a brighter future for the Hudson Valley. Minard's retirement will become effective on December 31, 2011. The Foundation is currently seeking donations to the scholarship fund and hopes to award its first Joyce Minard Scholarship in June, 2012.

Foundation Scholarships provide opportunities for graduating high school seniors, students pursuing post-secondary degrees or accreditations, and adult, non-traditional learners to accomplish their professional goals and promote a dynamic quality of life in the region. "The new Joyce Minard Scholarship joins the Foundation's annual Educational Scholarships and Special Merit Awards and will stand in tribute to Joyce's tireless work to materially improve the quality of life in the Hudson Valley by providing our region's business people, key employees, job seekers and students with opportunities to learn new skills and integrate into the local employment and entrepreneurial climate," said Foundation Chair Kathy Ferrusi of Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union.

Dr. Hadi Salavitabar, Dean of the SUNY New Paltz School of Business, said, "Joyce is one of the strongest advocates for the education of our students. Her unbelievable energy, untiring efforts, and devotion of her talent and time have made a significant difference in the educational experiences and training of our students and residents." Ulster County Executive Mike Hein concurs. "Joyce has always managed to forge connections between our talented young people

(more)

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and our area's vibrant businesses. Her efforts have positively influenced not only the organizations of our region such as the Workforce Investment Board but also countless numbers of Ulster County residents."

Donations to the Joyce Minard Scholarship Fund or any Foundation Scholarship may be made online through NYCharities.org by searching Regional Chamber of Commerce Foundation at New Paltz and clicking "donate now." Checks payable to the Regional Chamber of Commerce Foundation at New Paltz may also be sent to the Foundation office at 257 Main Street, New Paltz.

The Regional Chamber of Commerce Foundation at New Paltz aids and augments the New Paltz Regional Chamber of Commerce's current slate of successful educational programs. The Foundation also envisions a comprehensive program of educational activities and scholarships, all geared toward educating and supporting the community.

The New Paltz Regional Chamber of Commerce is an active and trusted voice in the regional business and residential community, advancing the business, industrial, agricultural and civic interests of the Hudson Valley. For more information about Foundation and Chamber programs and Visitor's Center hours of operation, visit www.newpaltzchamber.org, or call the Chamber at (845) 255-0243.

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