



ELLEN O'CONNELL/Standard-Speaker

Participating in Tuesday's grant presentation are, from left: Bob Skulsky, executive director of the Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership; Jack St. Pierre, a member of the St. Pierre Foundation board of directors; Joe Yannuzzi, president of the Mountain Council of Governments and Donna Palermo, vice chairman of the Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership.

Area Civic Partnership Scholarship's grant request approved

Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership Scholarship's grant request was approved.

The St. Pierre Foundation, a San Juan Capistrano, Calif.-based foundation, approved a grant request for \$6,000 annually. The grant is renewable for five years to help fund the Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership Scholarship Fund.

Jack St. Pierre, board member of the foundation, presented a check for \$6,000 representing this year's grant to Joe Yannuzzi and Donna Palermo, co-chair, with Bob Skulsky, executive director, also present.

St. Pierre said. "The St. Pierre Foundation was established by my brother, Paul, and his wife, Nancy, as a way of giving back to society some of the rewards he has been able to achieve as a founder and officer of Corinthian Colleges, Inc., a Nasdaq traded company, with 125 schools coast to coast, that specializes in post-secondary education, primarily for individuals seeking re-training due to downsizing or in many cases, just seeking the necessary training to start a new career. "It is unfortunate that we have to go out of state for funding for a Hazleton bred scholarship since our local business community has

not supported this scholarship program to the degree that was expected, especially since they are ultimately the direct beneficiaries of our scholarship winners, once they graduate. Seeking grants such as this however, shows that our committee is dedicated to perpetuating this scholarships through any funding sources possible. I hope that this year's round of fund-raising will be more successful than past efforts and that we can look forward to awarding an increasing number of scholarships in years to come. We, of course, are grateful to past corporate contributors such as PPL, Bemis, UGI, Inland Paperboard and Packaging, International Paper Co., Summit Manufacturing, Thoren Caging Systems Inc., and private contributors."

Skulsky said that the 2004 fund-raising activity by the volunteers will be starting in September and asks local industries to please help this vital program for the area. The committee is prepared to visit with and brief local industry at their convenience. Please call Skulsky, executive director of the GHACP, to make an appointment at 455-1508.