

# Congratulations to our 2008 inductees

## **John A. Monteiro — Class of 1975**

As a longtime member of the South Colonie Board of Education and activist in local youth organizations, John A. Monteiro has spent tireless hours dedicated to the children of Colonie.

Monteiro was elected to three, five-year terms on the South Colonie Board of Education (1992-2007), serving as President from 2003-2005 and Vice President from 2001-2003. He was also a member of the Capital Region BOCES Board of Education from 2005-2007. He has presented at numerous national and state school boards conventions and helped organize cultural exchanges for South Colonie students.

Monteiro is employed as Director of Human Resources for the New York State Office of Children and Family Services where he manages a statewide work force of more than 4,000 employees. He is also very active in the community where he is Secretary for the Colonie Youth Center Board of Directors, coach in the New Scotland Soccer Club; Treasurer, coach and past President of the Colonie Soccer Club, member and past chairman of the New York State Personnel Council, and former Vice President of the West Albany Neighborhood Association and Colonie Work on Waste.

He has also been involved in the St. Francis de Sales mentoring program, South Colonie Dollars for Scholars, and the Shaker Road PTA among other organizations. Monteiro has earned numerous awards and merits over the years.

## **David M. Chico, DVM — Class of 1983**

David M. Chico is a friend to animals as a longtime veterinarian and organizer of animal emergency response teams in New York State.

He was a companion animal veterinarian in private practice for 12 years before joining the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets as an Emergency Programs Coordinator. In that position, he organizes animal response teams throughout the state. The response teams are comprised of community volunteers trained to help meet the needs of the animals during disasters and emergencies.

Chico also serves on the Board of Directors of the Albany Damien Center — a community center



for individuals and families living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. He helps organize and run wellness clinics providing free veterinary care to Capital District HIV/AIDS victims. The clinics help remove some of the financial barriers that may prevent these individuals from enjoying the support and companionship of their animals during their illness.

Chico is a member of the New York State and Capital District Veterinary Medical Society, the American Veterinary Medical Association, and the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians.

He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, earned a master's degree in Public Health from the School of Public Health at the State University at Albany, and a bachelor's degree in Toxicology from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science.

## **Lorenzo Hodges — Class of 1978**

As President of the Joshua Foundation of New York, Lorenzo Hodges has dedicated his life to helping poor countries of the world, especially Africa, and promoting quality health care and good living conditions. He is a glowing example of how one man can overcome personal hurdles in life not only to help people, but save millions of lives in the world.

In 2007, his organization raised enough money to purchase \$7.5 million in medical supplies which he personally delivered to needy people in the African nations of Ghana and Malawi. Starvation and disease have conspired to reduce life expectancy in these countries. This was enough medication to treat about 5,000 people for malaria and other diseases.

While in Africa, Hodges met a young girl at the Okomfo Anokye Teaching Hospital. The girl had suffered massive injuries in a road traffic accident on her way to do missionary work. She sustained facial scars and partial amputation of her left arm.

Hodges invited the girl to America where doctors performed plastic surgery on her face and fitted her for a prosthetics device at the expense of the Joshua Foundation. Hodges' humanitarian work has been recognized by President George Bush and Congress, and the foundation has been entered into the Congress Book of Records. His foundation's work will continue.

