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Foundation Announces Recipient of 2013 Spirit of Philanthropy Award

The Northern New York Community Foundation's 2013 Spirit of Philanthropy Award will be presented posthumously to Mary H. Macsherry in recognition of her years of generous and caring work on behalf of many area causes and organizations.

The Watertown and Alexandria Bay resident passed away in December; however her legacy lives on through the charitable work she accomplished both during her lifetime and through gifts made in her honor by her husband, Richard R. Macsherry. The Macsherry family is well known for their many acts of kindness and their strong belief in giving back. Both their philosophy and the multitude of acts embody the values that the Community Foundation's Spirit of Philanthropy Award was created to honor.

"There is no question that the North Country is a better place because both Mary and Dick have been so willing to invest in the communities where they have spent their lives. Undoubtedly, their example has also inspired others to do the same, and will continue to for generations to come," said Rande S. Richardson, Foundation executive director.

The award will be officially presented to the Macsherry family at the Foundation's annual meeting in June. Previous recipients include Alex Velto, Sherman Elementary School and the Clayton Community Band. Each year, a committee comprised of T. Urling and Mabel Walker, Robert and Jean Sturtz and Mr. Richardson make a selection based on the philosophy of paying tribute to individuals or organizations whose achievement exemplify a commitment toward helping and inspiring others through the spirit of giving. "Mary did that and so much more," Mr. Richardson said.

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