



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
**Northern New York
 Community Foundation, Inc.**

Foundation Launches Youth Philanthropy Partnership

Initiative to focus on promoting youth development through experiences of giving back

The Northern New York Community Foundation board of directors recently approved the formation of a Northern New York Youth Philanthropy Council. To launch this exciting new initiative, the Foundation has allocated \$5,000 from its annual grant budget and will work with officials from Watertown High School to form a committee of students that will make recommendations to the Foundation board by December 2010 on how the funds should be awarded.



The Foundation believes an important component of its mis-

sion is to be the center for philanthropy in Northern New York and a source for programs that educate, highlight and promote the concepts of giving back. "By engaging young people in this process, it not only helps develop future community leaders but also can instill an appreciation and understanding of the various community needs and how they can best be addressed," said Rande Richardson, Foundation executive director.

A planning committee comprised of Mr. Richardson, Watertown High School principal Stephen J. Todd, and faculty mentors Emily Sprague and Elizabeth Stephens has developed a

student application which has been distributed at the school. Approximately fifteen members will be selected to serve on the Council, which will have its first meeting in mid-May.

"We will recruit an eager, committed group of young council members who will mirror our student body at large, bringing a variety of experiences, strengths, and backgrounds to the table. We are honored to be part of this worthwhile venture," said Mr. Todd. 



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Samaritan Project Takes Shape

\$1.5M Foundation grant helped provide early momentum to campaign

Progress can clearly be seen as the new Samaritan Medical Center patient pavilion on Watertown's Washington Street has begun to take shape. In May 2007, the Northern New York Community Foundation awarded the largest grant in its history to the "Advancing Health Care...Close to Home" campaign. The \$1.5 million gift represented the Foundation's belief in the importance of helping Samaritan to continue offering quality health care now and for generations to come. Since then, over \$13.5 million has been raised in support of the project.

The new patient pavilion will provide 130,000 square feet of patient care space and will relocate and modernize the emergency department, surgical suites, critical care center and medical/surgical units. As the former space is vacated, it will create opportunities to centralize outpatient services, expand the maternity department, provide a new neonatal intensive care unit and provide private medical/surgical rooms.

By expanding and modernizing, Samaritan will be better able to accommodate new technologies for improved medical and surgical diagnosis and treatment, showcase modern, efficient space to attract new physicians and staff, and enhance quality, comfort and convenience for patients. The Foundation is proud to be a partner in this exciting investment in our community's future. 



Standing in one of the rooms in Samaritan's new patient pavilion are (left to right) Kari Smith, NA; Kathryn Adams, NA; Faith Campanero, RN; Gerald Chamberlain, RN.

River Fund Established at Foundation

Former Board President Everett Foster had long history with Foundation

Everett G. Foster had a long affiliation with the Northern New York Community Foundation, including serving as a member of its board from 1985 to 1995. Many organizations benefited from Rett's commitment and passion for enhancing the quality of life for the residents of the North Country. His wife, Judy, currently serves on the Foundation's board.

To honor and perpetuate that legacy of giving that symbolized Rett's life's work, his family established a new fund in his memory. **The River Fund** will become a permanent fund administered by the Foundation to benefit organizations of the River communities. Many generous gifts have been made to provide initial funding for this initiative. As the fund continues to grow, it has great potential to positively impact an area of Northern New York that held great meaning for Rett and will continue to hold a special place in the hearts of his family and friends.



Gifts to help grow the newly created River Fund can be made to the Northern New York Community Foundation, 120 Washington St., Suite 400, Watertown, NY 13601.

Named Donor Advised Funds Simplify Giving

Easy to establish fund through the Community Foundation

One of the ways of supporting the Foundation is through the creation of a named donor advised fund. Simply stated, a donor advised fund is a charitable vehicle which allows people of various income levels to make their communities stronger. Donors (either individuals or businesses) make an irrevocable contribution to a fund, claim a charitable deduction on their income tax returns, and then make recommendations as to how the money in the fund might be distributed to non-profit organizations. Many donors with a passion for their causes and their communities choose this vehicle to express their generosity. **What are the primary benefits of this type of philanthropy?**

Ease and Flexibility

If you make numerous charitable gifts throughout the year, a donor advised fund provides a simple, flexible, and economical way to manage your charitable contributions. Because the Foundation supervises activities and ensures that fund distributions are for legitimate charitable purposes, there is no need for a donor to establish a new organization or seek IRS approval. The Foundation administers the details, freeing donors to focus on philanthropy. A single gift to the Foundation eliminates the need to collect multiple receipts from each charity. The Foundation handles all of the administration and paperwork thereafter. As well, if you have recently received an inheritance or have sold your business, a fund allows you to make gifts to your favorite charities as needs arise and as you have more time to research them.

Create a Culture of Giving

Whether for a family or a company, a donor advised fund is a good way of introducing children, grandchildren or employees to philanthropy and its resulting community benefit. You can also involve them in the process of making suggestions on the use of the fund.

Legacy

Donor advised funds can be set up as permanent funds, preserving the donor's legacy long after the donor has passed away. Also, a fund might be created in the name of a loved one you wish to memorialize. Through such a fund, you can suggest periodic gifts to charities that he or she cared about.

Donor advised funds are expressions of individual philanthropy in a public charity setting. These funds make a positive impact in our community, supporting a diverse range of worthy causes. **To discuss the possibility of establishing a donor advised fund with the Northern New York Community Foundation, simply contact our office at (315) 782-7110.**

Organizational Sustainability Conferences in 2010

Available free of charge to all area non-profit organizations

A recently approved Foundation grant will provide three web/audioconferences **free of charge** to any non-profit organization in Jefferson, Lewis or St. Lawrence counties. **The topics are focused on building organizational capacity and sustainability and will be offered on July 27, October 7 and November 16** at locations in Jefferson and St. Lawrence county. For more information, call (315) 782-7110.

Recent Foundation Grants

Food Bank of Central New York • \$70,000

For \$700,000 worth of food for food pantries in Jefferson, Lewis & St. Lawrence counties and the Salvation Army Soup kitchen.

Volunteer Transportation Center of Jefferson County • \$53,500

To assist them in providing their level of services during a time of unprecedented demand

Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY) • \$50,000

In support of their capital campaign to create a folklife center to showcase the culture and living traditions of the North Country

Watertown Teen Center • \$25,000

To equip the kitchen at their new location

Jefferson County Historical Society • \$23,000

To repair their deteriorated, leaking roof

Sherman Elementary School • \$11,000

To complete funding for a handicapped accessible school and community playground

Sarah House, Syracuse • \$10,000

To provide new evening and weekend staffing for an organization which serves many North Country residents

Antique Boat Museum • \$5,000

For their "Made in Clayton" exhibit

Constable Hall Association • \$4,450

To install a new fire alarm and security system

City of Watertown • \$4,500

Tree planting at various locations

Lewis County Opportunities • \$4,500

Safe dwelling yard improvements

Constable Hall Association • \$4,450

To install a new fire alarm and security system

Thousand Islands Land Trust • \$1,725

Community garden at Zenda Farm

Association of Fundraising Professionals CNY Chapter • \$520

To provide web/audio conferences regarding sustainability free of charge to all non-profits in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties

A COMMUNITY FOUNDATION...

...is a collaboration of diverse interests, organized for **permanence**, which attempts to **strengthen** a geographically defined community by providing **support, services** and nurturing **leadership** among charitable donors, nonprofit organizations and the community at large. By maintaining **flexibility**, it is **uniquely positioned** to address changing community needs.

To discuss ways you can assist with the mission of the Northern New York Community Foundation either now or through your will or other legacy planning, simply contact us.

ALEX C. VELTO

Community Leader, Mentor, Visionary

On December 17, 2009, the North Country lost one of its most staunch advocates. Alex C. Velto became executive director of the Northern New York Community Foundation in 1992. Over those seventeen years, he transformed the organization in ways that will continue to benefit the citizens of the North Country for years to come. Although his accomplishments are too numerous to detail, he was a champion for the less fortunate, and was instrumental in helping direct assistance to families who needed food, to children who needed health care and for a variety of other important initiatives that improved the quality of life for all the area's citizens.

Alex was also a great mentor, and held such great passion and love for the work that could be accomplished by a community foundation. This included his understanding of the challenges of students pursuing their higher educational dreams, especially those who were returning to school to better themselves, despite the challenges that faced them. His life was all about helping others, either through the grants and scholarships he administered, the advice and counsel he provided to a multitude of organizations, or simply his clear desire to see good projects and good people succeed.

While his legacy lives on in the continued good work of the Northern New York Community Foundation, it also lives on through the ongoing good work of the individuals and organizations that benefited from his guidance and support. He is missed each day, however, his appreciation of those things that make Northern New York so wonderful continues on in those who have been entrusted with his legacy. The gifts he gave to us are many, and we look to his legacy as an inspiration to forge ours. 🌱



Photo courtesy Watertown Daily Times

The Alex Velto Community Fund

On December 15, 2009, two days before Alex's untimely death, the board of directors of the Northern New York Community Foundation established the Alex Velto Community Fund "in recognition of Mr. Velto's dedication and commitment to the Northern New York Community Foundation and his steadfast efforts to positively impact the lives of the citizens of the North Country." Fortunately, prior to his death, the Foundation was able to make Alex aware that this had been done in his honor.

In creating the fund, they allocated \$10,000 in seed money. Since then, through the contributions of many, the fund has grown to over \$35,000.

It is our hope to build this fund to \$50,000 with additional contributions over the next year. This permanent fund will be a tangible symbol of Alex's legacy and his tireless efforts on behalf of the Foundation and the community. We will work in conjunction with Alex's family to award grants that are consistent with the spirit in which he led his life.

We thank all who are listed to the right who have contributed to the fund as of April 12, 2010.

Gifts to help build the Alex Velto Community Fund can be made to the Northern New York Community Foundation, 120 Washington St., Suite 400, Watertown, NY13601.

Contributions received after April 12 will be listed in the Foundation's annual report, to be published later this year.

Adirondack Mennonite
Heritage Association
Norman & Cynthia Ahlheim
Timothy Asteff & Margaret Ogden
Rita Bevington
Bruce Bigelow
Michael Brown
Paul & Martha Brown
Bernard & Beverly Brown
Neal & Barbara Burdick
Donald & Wendy Canfield
Keith & Mary Caughlin
Central New York
Community Foundation
Lee & Shirley Clary
Ben & Peggy Coe
Mary Colton
Community Foundation of
Herkimer & Oneida Counties
John & Mary Jo Deans
Gary & Laura Dicovitsky
Stephen & Vici Diehl
Andre Donikian
Jeanne Emery
Food Bank of Central New York
Everett & Judith Foster
M. Margaret Foti
Mary Beth Foti-Bova
Royal Garlock II
Patricia and Gary Garofolo
Dr. & Mrs. Henry George III
Barbara Hanrahan-White
Paul Harkness
Lee & Debby Hirschey
Nathan & Kathryn Holloway
Dorothy Horr
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Horr III
Terry Ierlan
Jefferson County Job
Development Corporation
Richard Johnson II
Marvin Kelley
Richard & Candace Kuhta
Donna Macsuga
Kimberly Maphey
Mary McDonald Mascott
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Linda & Edgar Merrell 3rd
Cyril & Marlene Mouaikel
North Country Bird Club
George Nugent
Deborha O'Connor
Michelle & David Pfaff
Cathy Pirsuk
Purcell Construction
Mr. & Mrs. William Quencer
Robert & Janet Quinn
Terry Reed, DDS
Joseph & Charolyne Rich
Rande & Shelly Richardson
Edward & Denise Robertson
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Salmon
Dr. Douglas & Mary Sanford
Louise & Mark Scarlett
Jacquelyn & Michael Schell
Shari Scott
Richard & JoAnn Seiler
Thomas Slater
Philip & Emily Sprague
Marie & Nick Surdo
Justin & Debra Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Wilford Thomas
Nathan Thompson & Missy Givey
Stephen Todd
Sheldon & Anne Trapp
John Tucker
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
Jan Turcotte, M.D.
Peter & Becky Van de Water
Janet & Robert Wakefield
Susan Washburn
H. Sargent & Lynn Whittier
Barbara & Hector Williams
Anderson Wise

Foundation Supports TAUNY Campaign

\$50,000 grant made to assist with folklife center

The Northern New York Community Foundation recently awarded a \$50,000 grant to Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY) in support of their Evergreen Campaign. The TAUNY Center is envisioned as the region's interpretive center for folklife and local culture, to be a dynamic place, with year-round activities for audiences of all ages.

There are so many things that unite us as a North Country and TAUNY helps remind us of that truth. As the Foundation looks to invest in worthwhile initiatives in St. Lawrence County, it sees the merits of this project on a variety of levels. TAUNY plays an important role in the enhancement of the quality of life for area residents and also offers a strong educational component that benefits people of all ages and backgrounds. In addition, the Foundation is especially pleased when it is able to be a part of helping build continued momentum for a project that has the ability to positively shape the region for years to come.



The Northern New York Community Foundation recently awarded a \$50,000 grant to Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY) in support of their Evergreen Campaign to create a folklife center at their Canton facility. Pictured, left to right, T. Urling and Mabel Walker, honorary campaign co-chairs, Rande S. Richardson, Northern New York Community Foundation executive director, Dr. Joseph L. Kennedy, campaign co-chair, and Varick A. Chittenden, TAUNY heritage center project director.

Foundation Scholarship Amounts Allocated

Over \$696,000 in funds projected to be awarded in 2010-2011

The Northern New York Community Foundation increased its allocation for scholarships for the 2010-11 academic year by nearly \$50,000, bringing the projected total to \$696,775. This reaffirms the Foundation's commitment to helping provide assistance to students in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties who are pursuing their higher educational dreams. Applications were received through April 1 and recipients will be announced later this spring.

Scholarships will be awarded for the first time from the following funds recently established at the Foundation: the Daisy Allard Jamerson & Dorothy Jamerson Eckford Scholarship, Janet Ostanek Memorial Scholarship, Donald J. "Dutch" Grant Scholarship and the Matt Doheny Scholarship.

The Foundation is grateful to be able to add these new scholarships to its offerings. *If you would like to discuss establishing a scholarship fund through the Foundation, contact us at (315) 782-7110.*

DID YOU KNOW? The Northern New York Community Foundation administers several scholarship funds for area high schools. This allows the schools to remain involved in the process of selecting students, eliminating the financial administration and benefiting from the pooled resources and professional management that a community foundation can provide.



Northern New York
Community Foundation, Inc.

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Staff

Rande S. Richardson, Executive Director

Louise E. Scarlett, Program Director

Shari Scott, Controller

The Northern New York Community Foundation raises, manages and administers an endowment and collection of funds for the benefit of the community, built and added to by gifts from individuals and organizations committed to meeting the changing needs of Northern New York.

Guided by a board of community leaders, the Foundation makes grants to support the work of non-profit organizations and provides scholarships to individuals in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties. Donors who wish to establish funds within the Foundation receive professional administration, significant tax savings, and the opportunity and satisfaction of benefiting our community now and in the future.

The grants and initiatives described in this newsletter are made possible through the generosity of annual donors as well as those who have established charitable funds with us during their lifetimes or through their wills. Donors who have made gifts on an unrestricted basis have provided the Foundation with the financial flexibility to respond to the community's changing and emerging needs over time. If you would like to learn more about how to most effectively do this, please contact us at (315) 782-7110.

Upcoming grant deadlines-

April 23, August 27, October 22, 2010