Thoughtful Giving

Newsletter of the Northern New York Community Foundation

THE DIFFERENCE **YOUR GIFTS MAKE**

Donors help strengthen our region

Your generous gifts enable an incredible future for our communities

THE NEXT GENERATION OF PHILANTHROPY: The Northern New York Community Foundation 2019-2020 Youth Philanthropy Council. Back row, from left: **Sidney Wheeler III**, South Jefferson High School; **Lucas Barney**, Watertown High School; **Philip Marra III**, Watertown High School; **Maxwell Gray**, South Jefferson High School; **Logan Hess**, South Jefferson High School; and **Tadd Ledoux**, Immaculate Heart Central High School. Middle row, from left: **Ella Arnot**, Watertown High School; **Leatrice Kakolewski**, Sackets Harbor High School; **Dakota Sloat**, Watertown High School; **Romi LaClair**, South Jefferson High School; **Katherine DeLaGarza**, Watertown High School; **Shania Griffin**, Watertown High School; and **Madison Derouin**, Sackets Harbor High School. Front row, from left: **Samantha Farone**, Immaculate Heart Central High School; **Blake Edgar**, South Jefferson High School; **Hailyn Buker**, South Jefferson High School; **Katherine Banazek**, South Jefferson High School; **Anmolika Bolla**, Watertown High School; and **Isabelle Boyce**, Watertown High School.

The **Northern New York Youth Philanthropy Council** is made possible by donors like **YOU** who make gifts to the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund** and generous support from the following business leaders:

Renzi Foundation

Watertown Savings Bank

RBC Wealth Management

Each year, you are asked to give to many worthy causes. By supporting your **Community Foundation**, you help to enhance the work of all the organizations that serve our region. You also promote larger conversations about creative, proactive solutions to some of our most pressing challenges. In many ways, **your gifts help cast a wide net of support** that enhances the quality of life across Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

It is because of **your generosity** that we can make a meaningful impact on our region. **Together**, we make the **most enduring difference** for all. The impact of your gifts is great. At the Community Foundation, we continuously **strive to understand** how the gifts you entrust to us make the lives of people across Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties better.

Together, we make the most enduring difference for all.

How is this impact measured? Is it the number of families who have **access to a healthy meal** because of annual support to community food pantries and soup kitchens? Is it the students whose **post-secondary education** will be made a little more affordable? Is it the investment in the long-term viability of our region's charitable organizations? Is it much-needed investment in arts and cultural experiences? Or is it the scores of children who have a **safer place to play** in their community?

See THE DIFFERENCE YOUR GIFTS MAKE on page 12

OUR MISSION: **To inspire and celebrate giving, steward resources honorably, and foster vibrant North Country communities.**

OUR VALUES:

INSPIRE PHILANTHROPY
We inspire a spirit of giving across generations, celebrate generosity in many forms, and nurture meaningful legacies.

DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS
We connect donor interests to the community, build and sustain partnerships, and listen for emerging needs.

ACT RESPECTFULLY
We honor our heritage; appreciate the diversity of our region; and celebrate the stories, values, and generosity of people of the North Country.

HONOR STEWARDSHIP
We steward resources responsibly and act with the greatest regard for donor wishes now and for the future.

INSIDE: Partnerships strengthen our region's libraries, page 6 // Your gifts help expand a valuable student resource, page 10

Northern New York Community Foundation
SINCE 1929

LOCATED WITHIN THE NORTHERN NEW YORK PHILANTHROPY CENTER

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Love for community unites us

I continually feel blessed to have grown up, raised a family and spent my life's work in a community that values a culture of connectedness. Many, if not most, of the things that make the place we spend our lives so special were made possible because our friends and neighbors understood that we all have a vested interest in a vibrant community.

RANDE RICHARDSON

Unquestionably, the commitment of this generation and the generations that have come before us has enriched our lives here. At each period of transition in our region's history, everywhere we look, citizens have found inspiration in acts of thoughtfulness, kindness, gratitude and love by others. We stand on the shoulders of many who shared our belief that we can always do better, and we must continue to embrace the importance of working together to continue to make investments that build upon a heritage of love of community.

Each year, Community Foundation donors like you with a special place in their heart for the region encompassing Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties show appreciation for all the ways the community has supported their quality of life. They believe that one priority in their annual giving should include a broad reach that helps strengthen the other ways they invest in Northern New York. They also have spoken loud and clear that they see value in helping inspire, encourage and nurture a lifelong sense of civic engagement and giving across the generations.

In life, there will always be those who are passive in the enjoyment of a community that others have built. Throughout the past 90 years, donors like you have stepped forward to help others understand and appreciate the importance, value and fulfillment of being an active part of aspiring for something greater. We invite you to consider how your love of community can be made even stronger through a thoughtful act of generosity. Strong communities simply don't happen on their own.

My heart is filled with gratitude for all you make possible. With your help, we look forward to continuing to reach further in making a positive and enduring difference in the new year.

Our promise to endure, for you

We want to make a promise to you. As the **Northern New York Community Foundation** enters its **90th year**, we share a refreshed mission statement and values that reflect who we are. Together with you, we continue to serve individuals, families, businesses, nonprofits, and others for the betterment of communities in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. You helped shape the new mission and values. Your generosity and trust has been a compass to guide the Community Foundation's direction now and for the future. Because you have been thoughtful in helping so many, it is important to assure you of one more thing: **We will continue to be here for you.**

This edition of **Thoughtful Giving** offers a collection of some recent and meaningful stewardship stories. Your love and devotion for your community shines in each example. The organizations lifted through your charitable support build hope. The individual lives touched are endless. The generosity from you and donors of all ages is resolute and inspiring.

The Community Foundation is present in every North Country community. These stories highlight the geographic reach of your support, but also tangible areas where a difference is being made. Some examples include: career exploration and preparedness for students and adult learners, building sustainable support for nonprofits, preservation of local history and culture, access and promotion of the arts, hyperlocal support of child care and early childhood development initiatives, and much more.

MAX DELSIGNORE

Our responsibility remains in being the best stewards of your giving. We will be attentive to the interests of the region's residents. We have the ability to be nimble and to help facilitate donor passions and objectives. As needs evolve in our communities, the Community Foundation will be a steadying companion.

Most importantly, always know we will be here — to listen, to encourage and to nurture the spirit you created for a thriving and prosperous North Country — for everyone.

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YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL CLASS OF 2019-2020

Ella Arnot, Watertown
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Lucas Barney, Watertown
Anmolika Bolla, Watertown
Isabelle Boyce, Watertown
Hailyn Buker, South Jefferson
Katherine DeLaGarza, Watertown
Madison Derouin, Sackets Harbor
Blake Edgar, South Jefferson
Samantha Farone, Immaculate Heart
Maxwell Gray, South Jefferson
Shania Griffin, Watertown
Logan Hess, South Jefferson
Romi LaClair, South Jefferson
Tadd Ledoux, Immaculate Heart
Philip Marra III, Watertown
Dakota Sloat, Watertown
Sidney Wheeler III, South Jefferson

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FOUNDATION SCHOLARS: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
JEFFREY KIRKBY, RPh, EVANS MILLS

A HOMETOWN CAREER: Evans Mills resident **Jeffrey Kirkby,** is a 1986 Northern New York Community Foundation scholarship recipient and a 1991 graduate of Albany School of Pharmacy. He returned to his native North Country, where he has spent his entire career as a community pharmacist with Kinney Drugs, a move he has always cherished.

Foundation scholar: Make a local impact

FOR NEARLY 40 YEARS, through the generosity of donors like you, the Community Foundation has awarded scholarships for post-secondary education to thousands of students in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. For many recipients, a scholarship has made college more accessible. We recently caught up with **Jeffrey Kirkby,** a Community Foundation Scholar, who in 1986 graduated from **Indian River High School** and was awarded a Community Foundation scholarship. For Mr. Kirkby, who completed a five-year pharmacy degree at **Albany College of Pharmacy** in 1991, that meant some much-needed help with expenses — textbooks, as he recalls — to pursue his education. We asked him about his experience and his advice for students who are now looking ahead to school and careers.

What drew you to a career in pharmacy? I wanted to work in the medical field, but I didn't like the sight of blood and I didn't like the idea of putting my fingers in someone else's mouth, so I ruled out dentistry. And I really liked chemistry, so I got thinking about it. In our seventh-grade health book every chapter had a profession in it and one of the chapters was pharmacist, and I thought 'huh, that isn't too bad.' I had a cousin who worked for Kinney's in a non-pharmacy capacity, and I talked to him about how I could get a job. I started sweeping the floor, washing windows, cleaning the milk coolers and pestering the pharmacist, learning all that I could about a pharmacy career.

JEFFREY KIRKBY, RPh

AGE: 51

HOMETOWN: Evans Mills

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in pharmacy, Albany College of Pharmacy, 1991; Indian River High School, 1986

FAMILY: Wife, **Joanne Cratsenburg Kirkby**; sons **Dale "D.J.,"** 23, a 2018 Clarkson University graduate who works for Saint-Gobain Norton Abrasives, and **Alex**, 20, a junior at Clarkson University, and also a Community Foundation Scholarship recipient

EMPLOYER: Kinney Drugs, Watertown

CAREER: Pharmacist, **Kinney Drugs**, since 1991; started working at Kinney's as a part-time retail employee during high school in 1984

COMMUNITY: Past board member, **Jefferson Community College Foundation**; past annual campaign volunteer, **United Way of Northern New York**; active for 16 years with youth baseball in the Evans Mills area; town and county Republican Committee member; volunteer, **Trooper Joel Davis Legacy for Youth Sports**. Actively involved in corporate causes and activities through **Kinney Drugs**.

Did you always want to come home and work in the area professionally? I did, absolutely. My family was all alive back then and here, and I had a girlfriend who was a local and she wanted to stay in this area, so I made a decision when I got out of school to come home. I timed it right and I was very fortunate because there was a strong need for pharmacists in the market at that time. I'd like to think that I could have gone most places and worked, but I wanted to come home.

When you were in pharmacy school did see yourself working in a store pharmacy, helping patients? I enjoy community pharmacy most, connecting with people and helping them. I still like the business side of things and very much enjoy that aspect of retail pharmacy, too. Clinical pharmacy, hospital pharmacy; they're great, but it's a different atmosphere. In this environment, you know kind of what you're going to do every day, but beyond that it just takes a turn and you don't know who you're going to meet. I've met some great people. Community pharmacy is all I've wanted to do.

See SCHOLARS on page 7

LEAD Council awards first Impact Grants

Three nonprofits earn support for child care, early development

More than 600 children and their families in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties will benefit from funding the **Northern New York Community Foundation's LEAD Council** recently awarded to three nonprofit organizations to address child care and early childhood development needs.

LEAD Impact Grant Program awards will support an Imagination Library in the tri-county area, fund expansion of an after-school enrichment program in St. Lawrence County, and help to enhance curriculum at a Canton day care center.

The **North Country Library System**, Watertown, which serves residents in all three counties, has been awarded $12,000 to start an **Imagination Library**, a program that mails a free book to children monthly from birth to age 5 in participating communities. The library system already partners with the **North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council** to provide early literacy support materials to families enrolled in its accredited home visiting program, **Healthy Families Jefferson County**, and will work to identify where Imagination Library will have the greatest impact.

"Reading together is one of the most important brain-building activities parents and caregivers can engage in with children," said **Susan Mitchell, North Country Library System director**. "Our libraries want to give kids the best start possible and having books in the home is one of the best ways to support parents and caregivers reading with children."

A two-year pilot phase of the program begins Jan. 1, 2020, with enrollment limited to 100 children each year.

A $10,000 LEAD Impact Grant will help expand an after-school enrichment program at **St. Mary's School** in Canton, which partners with local colleges and community organizations to provide classes in robotics, Spanish, and crafts. The grant allows the program to double its enrollment to 100 students while keeping the cost to families affordable. Participants include students from the **Canton**, **Potsdam**, **Colton-Pierrepont**, **Lisbon**, **Madrid-Waddington**, **Norwood-Norfolk**, **Ogdensburg**, and **Hermon-DeKalb** school districts.

From left, LEAD Council member **Cari Knight**, Great Bend; North Country Library System Director **Susan Mitchell**; library system Youth Services Consultant **Angela Newman**; and LEAD Council member **John Nuber**, Clayton. The library system received a $12,000 LEAD Impact Grant to help start an Imagination Library program.

"This makes a critical difference in our after-school program for affordable care and early childhood development," said **Devon Sutton, St. Mary's School**. "Creating opportunities for high-quality child care and enrichment while also supporting healthy families uniquely serves our community."

Canton Day Care Center was awarded an $1,800 LEAD Impact grant to help the nonprofit purchase materials, training resources and classroom items to enhance curriculum. The center is working to launch a new curriculum focused on social emotional development, literacy, motor skills, diversity, open-ended activities and play.

Last fall, the LEAD Council committed to address child care and early childhood development needs across the region as its strategic focus in 2019. To help make meaningful investments to effectively address this issue and future needs, the Council launched the LEAD Impact Grant Program earlier this year.

The LEAD Impact Grant Program had up to $25,000 in grant funding available for 2019. The investment is made possible thanks to donors to the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund** generous support from the **Hyde-Stone Charitable Foundation** at the Northern New York Community Foundation, **BCA Architects & Engineers**, and **Carthage Savings and Loan Association**.

The Council's decision to focus on child care and early childhood development initiatives comes when the need for access to quality care in the region is at an all-time high. It is a vital quality of life component for many families, and steps to improve child care will strengthen North Country communities. While evaluating the issue, the Council heard from regional child care professionals who shared many strengths and challenges those in the sector face.

WHAT IS LEAD?

The **LEAD Council** was formed in 2014 as advisory committee of the **Northern New York Community Foundation** empowered to identify and address strategic needs across Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. The Council is comprised of 22 young professionals who live in the tri-county area with an interest in enhancing the quality of life for all in the North Country. **LEAD** is an acronym that reflects four important guiding principles of the Community Foundation's work: **Leadership, Engagement, Access and Direction**.

The Council works to gain a deeper understanding of community needs, issues, and the nonprofit sector to augment the Community Foundation's mission and work.

The **Northern New York LEAD Council** is made possible by donors like **YOU** who make gifts to the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund** and generous support from the following business leaders:

NONPROFIT **PARTNERS**

Orchestra of NNY and the power of endowment

The Community Foundation's affiliation with the **Orchestra of Northern New York** has been one of our most long-standing and widespread. It is undoubtedly one of the most critical partners to advance the arts and culture in the region.

Now in its 32nd season, the Orchestra seeks to enrich the quality of life in the North Country through live performances of orchestral music by outstanding musicians and to emphasize the engagement of local youth in the appreciation of music. It is the only year-round professional symphony orchestra from Rochester to Burlington and Syracuse to Ottawa.

For several years, the Orchestra has capably filled the void left in the Watertown area by the dissolution of the Syracuse Symphony. The organization has been rejuvenated by its **Watertown Advisory Council's** recent work to boost attendance and overall community engagement.

AMANDA MORRISON PHOTO | FOR NNYCF

SUMMER CLASSIC: Concertgoers enjoy the annual Concert in the Park performance of the **Orchestra of Northern New York** at Watertown's **Thompson Park** in July.

"All we could have hoped for from this partnership has transpired over the past six years. My wife Jill and I will be pursuing estate planning with the Community Foundation that benefits the orchestra. We hope others will consider doing the same."

— Timothy Savage, board president, Orchestra of Northern New York

Thanks to Community Foundation donors, substantial annual investments have been made to continue to build the Orchestra's presence in the region. The Foundation also partners with the Orchestra for the annual summer **Concert in Thompson Park** as well at the **Clayton Opera House**. In 2013, the Orchestra, proactively established an endowment at the Community Foundation, guaranteeing future growth of those funds to help ensure its longevity. In the past two years, an additional $15,000 was added.

Timothy Savage has served as Orchestra board president since 2011 and became involved when his wife **Jill** joined the violin section in 1992. He is also the director of bands at **Canton Central School** and serves as an adjunct instructor at **SUNY Potsdam's Crane School of Music** and in the **St. Lawrence University** music department.

"We are encouraged by the growth we have realized in our endowment and look forward to continuing the trend long into the future," Mr. Savage said. "It is our intention to build it to the point that we can count on applying a sensible percentage of the interest earned toward our annual operating budget.

Just 10 years ago, the Orchestra held an endowment of $50,000. After additional donor gifts, the Orchestra established an $81,000 endowment at the Community Foundation. With additional gifts and growth through diversified, prudent investment, it has is now nearly $150,000.

"All we could have hoped from this partnership has transpired over the past six years, and our endowment currently stands at $145,000. With generous donor support, we hope to double this amount in the next three to five years," Mr. Savage said.

There is a special opportunity to create greater visibility of the Foundation's partnership with ONNY as well as affirming the importance of diversifying its revenue stream. The Community Foundation recently awarded the Orchestra a $10,000 matching grant to help build support for its endowment. "Financial stability depends on covering not only our operational budget but also in growing our endowment held by our partners at the Community Foundation. This year my wife and I have given to both, and will be pursuing estate planning with the Foundation that benefits the orchestra. We hope others will consider doing the same," Mr. Savage said.

Scholarship committee honors Lyme Central School Class of 2019 award recipients

Representatives from the **Lyme Central Scholarship Endowment Fund** recently presented awards members of the **Lyme Central School Class of 2019** during a gathering at the **Northern New York Philanthropy Center**. **Ryan Aubertine** attends **Jefferson Community College** where he studies engineering. He is the son of **Kirk** and **Gina Aubertine**, Three Mile Bay. **Grace O'Donnell** attends **Niagara University**, where she majors in social work. She is the daughter of **Todd** and **Jennifer O'Donnell**, Chaumont. **Nadia Moore**, Chaumont, attends the **Rochester Institute of Technology** where she studies computer science. **Ashlie Willis**, Three Mile Bay, attends **Jefferson Community College**. Pictured, from left, **Grace O'Donnell**, scholarship recipient; **Peggy Stevens**, scholarship committee member; **Terry Countryman**, committee member; **Bilkey Moore**, committee chairman and retired **Lyme Central School** superintendent; **Marilyn Peters**, committee member; and retired **Lyme Central School** teacher; **Ryan Aubertine**, scholarship recipient. Scholarship recipients **Nadia Moore** and **Ashlie Willis** were unable to attend. We are honored to steward this generous resource that supports Lyme Central School students and their educational pursuits.

STRENGTHENING OUR **REGION'S LIBRARIES**

Massena Public Library **latest to form partnership**

Permanent endowment established at Foundation to encourage long-term support

The **Massena Public Library** recently agreed to long-term partnership with the Community Foundation. The library's board of trustees approved establishment of a permanent endowment fund with the Community Foundation. The endowment provides past, present and future library donors and supporters with another charitable giving option to enhance the library's work now and in the future. Library officials hope to build the endowment over time, which will help support and strengthen the organization's programs, initiatives and operations.

The library joins the **Canton Free Library** as the second public library in St. Lawrence County to partner with the Community Foundation. In Jefferson County, four public libraries have permanent partnerships with the Foundation.

The advancement of our public libraries is a critical part of improving the quality of life in communities across our region. Public libraries have evolved to serve residents in ways that extend beyond the traditional lending of books and media. As technology has advanced, programs and resources available to public library patrons have also grown, making our libraries central hubs for community activities, education and the promotion of literacy. Helping to secure a prosperous future for such treasured assets in our communities is essential work for the Community Foundation.

"Massena Public Library is very pleased to partner with the Northern New York Community Foundation," said **Elaine Dunne-Thayer**, Massena Public Library director. "This partnership allows us to invest in the future of Massena Public Library and contribute toward the greater good of the Massena community and the future of the North Country."

More than 150 nonprofit organizations in Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties have created an endowment or charitable fund with the Community Foundation designed to advance the organization's purpose and work for the future. Massena Public Library joins a diverse number of St. Lawrence County organizations demonstrating a commitment to long-term sustainability through a Community Foundation partnership.

NEW PARTNERS: The **Massena Public Library** Board of Trustees recently approved the creation of an endowment fund and partnership with the **Northern New York Community Foundation**. From left, **Patricia Ryan**, library trustee; **Linda McDonald**, library trustee; **Joseph Savoca**, library trustee; and **Elaine Dunne-Thayer**, Massena Public Library director.

LIBRARY PARTNERSHIPS

■ The Community Foundation is proud to support our public libraries through permanent partnerships that enable some of our most treasured institutions to advance their missions. Library partners presently include:

- **Hay Memorial Library, Sackets Harbor**
- **Lyme Free Library**
- **Macsherry Library, Alexandria Bay**
- **Friends of Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library, Watertown**
- **Canton Free Library**
- **Massena Public Library**

As the Community Foundation continues to work to improve the quality of life for the people and places of Massena and St. Lawrence County, it is honored to partner with organizations like the Massena Public Library that share our common desire for more vibrant and enriched communities. The partnership will also enable the Foundation to find additional ways to help the library in the stewardship of its important work and mission.

Nonprofit organizations such as libraries, churches, schools, museums, human service agencies and others have formed partnerships with the Community Foundation to create an option that encourages charitable giving in perpetuity, including 49 in St. Lawrence County. To learn more about the Massena Public Library Endowment Fund, or opportunities to create nonprofit partnerships, contact **Max DelSignore**, Community Foundation assistant director, at **315-782-7110** or email **max@nnycf.org**.

Donors Establish New Funds

Charitable Funds
Sherry Goodnough Pay It Forward Fund
Elizabeth Joynt Haley Memorial Fund
In Bloom Foundation Fund
North Side Legacy Fund
Martha Pott Fund
Fremont & Sallie Powers Family Community Fund

Organization Funds
Densmore Church Endowment Fund
Hospice & Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley Endowment Fund
Norwood Village Green Concert Series Endowment Fund

Project Funds
#giveNNY Fund

Scholarship Funds
William "Bill" Bain Memorial Soccer Scholarship Fund
Paul R. Haley Memorial Fund
Florence B. Joynt Scholarship Fund
Ryan LaBarge Scholarship Fund
Richard A. Lyndaker Humanitarian Memorial Scholarship
Barb Richmond Moran — South Jefferson Scholarship
Pearson Family Scholarship
Gertrude Smith Scholarship Fund
Henry H. and Emily T. Willmott Memorial Scholarship

SCHOLARS from page 3

As an Indian River High School student, how did you learn about the Community Foundation and its many scholarship opportunities? My mother, who worked in Watertown, worked with someone who knew I was looking at college and told her that I should apply for a Foundation scholarship. I was the first kid in my family to go to a four-year school. I also think my school guidance counselor told me about what was available.

What is special about Northern New York that kept you focused on coming home to spend your career and adult life? A sense of community, first, and that it's a relatively safe place to live. The real estate, as an adult, that's something you look at, is definitely affordable. I like the weather, for the most part, with four seasons. The sense of community, and where my family was, left me with no great reason to go anywhere and nothing was pulling me away.

How have you been involved with the Community Foundation and its work in more recent years? My wife's best friend, Molly Bogenschutz, passed away several years ago and we helped to establish a memorial scholarship in her name at the Foundation (the **Molly J. Bogenschutz Endless Possibilities Award**) for General Brown students. That was my first exposure. I've since been involved with the **Trooper Joel Davis Foundation** of the Northern New York Community Foundation.

What's important for people to consider as they look for opportunities to serve through the Community Foundation or other avenues? Working with the Foundation is a chance to impact somebody else's life positively and it doesn't take a great huge sum of money, which some people mistakenly think; it really doesn't. It just takes a little bit and some initiative and a willingness to keep things going. It's a great way to help keep some money local. There's no shortage of need across the country or the rest of the world, but you have a greater impact if you can keep those dollars closer. The fact that someone you know may benefit from it, or someone you may meet will benefit is special, too. My wife and I have met some nice young people through the Molly Bogenschutz award, and they've been great. It's all about being able to impact local people who might not otherwise get a shot.

How would you define philanthropy, especially to a younger person who may think it requires great financial means? First, the Community Foundation is a great vehicle and is excruciatingly well run. I have complete faith in its financial abilities. It can also pool like-minded people together or aim you in the right direction. If someone wanted to help all Northern New York baseball teams, or all the music programs or help EMS, whatever the case may be, there is a channel to do it. The Community Foundation, to me, is like a mutual fund of charitable efforts. It's just a combination of like-minded people trying to do something that, as long as everyone does their part, makes a significant difference in the lives of others.

What is important about participating in community service that younger generations should know? Community service is part of leaving a legacy or building your legacy. It can certainly help you professionally, too, and cast your social net a little wider. You will see how there are different ways of doing things or doing the same thing differently and how many different things there are to be done. The quicker you can learn that at a younger age I think it helps you when you are older.

What would you tell students who may not know about the Community Foundation and its many scholarship opportunities? As a student, you're going to need financial help, and any bit helps. There's always a need for it, always a spot for it, and it all adds up. The Foundation presents a local opportunity and students have a better chance in a pool of 500 candidates than in a pool of 500,000 candidates from across the country. The world is a big place, but opportunities to help achieve your goals are here, at home. Start local, see what your options are, and then expand your net.

What's your best advice to today's high school students as they consider their college and career options? It is pretty much standard, people say, 'find your passion and follow that,' but the more research I do as a parent, it seems like younger people will hold anywhere from six to nine jobs until they retire. I think it's great to work in something you're passionate about, but you've got to fund your passion, too, so you've got to be realistic. I would never say take a job just for the money, but you have to understand how you're going to make a living. Young people, through multiple jobs and experiences, will eventually find their passion. Don't go crazy trying to find it, but do something, see if you like it, and don't be afraid to try something else. Vocational training and the trades are other things kids should really explore. We have a huge gap in high-skilled jobs, and we need young people to fill those gaps. Also, take advantage of earning college credit in high school. If you can do it, that's kind of like winning a scholarship itself.

There's no shortage of need across the country or the rest of the world, but you can have a greater impact if you can keep those dollars local. The fact that someone you know may benefit from it, or someone you may meet will benefit is special, too.

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Are you a Community Foundation scholar who has completed your post-secondary education and is now working in your field? Share your story of how the Foundation helped you achieve your goals. **Contact** our **communications director** at **315-782-7110** or **ken@nnycf.org.**

RECENT FOUNDATION GRANTS

This list includes competitive grant recipients the Community Foundation Board of Directors has recently approved and those suggested by advisors of individual named funds.

American Maple Museum
Antique Boat Museum
ARC Jefferson-St. Lawrence
Rotary Dodge Pond
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired of Northern New York
Canton Community Fund
Canton Day Care Center
Canton Free Library
Cape Vincent Arts Council
Cape Vincent Community Library
Church and Community Program of Canton
Clifton Community Library
Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corp.
Cranberry Lake North Shore Hub
Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division
Densmore Church
Friends of Lewis County Hospice
Friends of Thompson Park
GardenShare
Garrett W. Loomis Firefighters Fund
Gouverneur Hospital
Hay Memorial Library
Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs
Hospice & Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley
Hospice Foundation of Jefferson County
Immaculate Heart Central School
Jefferson Community College Foundation
Jefferson County Historical Society
JRC Foundation
Ken Deedy Environmental Internship Fund (TILT)
Lewis County Humane Society
Lyme Community Foundation
Make-A-Wish Foundation of CNY
North Central Zone of the New York State Retired Teachers' Association
North Country Library System
Norwood Village Green Concert Series
Ogdensburg Boys & Girls Club
Orchestra of Northern New York
Paws4Potter
Point Vivian Preservation Corporation
River Hospital
Rotary Club of Watertown
Safe Schools Endeavor
Save The River
South Jefferson Central School
St. Mary's School (Canton)
Thousand Islands Arts Center
Thousand Islands Emergency Rescue Service (TIERS)
Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund
Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT)
United Way of Northern New York
Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson County
Volunteer Transportation Center
Wanakena Historical Association
Watertown Family YMCA
Watertown High School
Watertown Lyric Theater
Watertown Urban Mission
WPBS-TV

PHOTOS COURTESY WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES ARCHIVES

BREAKING GROUND: Left, the **North Side Improvement League** marked a groundbreaking for its new headquarters at 633 Mill St., Watertown, on July 15, 1969. Right, the league's headquarters, opened during a dedication ceremony on Nov. 21, 1969. Participating in a ribbon-cutting were: **Fred W. Bence**, league past president; **Ronald G. Forbes**, Watertown city manager; **Theodore Rand**, City of Watertown mayor; **Arnold E. Knight**, league president; **Harry S. Dawson**, league financial secretary; **Charles K. Scott**, league vice president; and **Clarence B. Cooley**, league recording secretary. The league dissolved its assets in 2018. Board members recently created an endowment at the Community Foundation to continue the league's charitable efforts.

North Side League **establishes legacy fund**

Community Foundation endowment enables others to continue support

A rich history and legacy of civic involvement and community betterment that spanned more than a century will endure thanks to a new **North Side Legacy Fund** permanently established at the **Community Foundation**. The fund will forever honor and perpetuate the heritage and good works of the **North Side Improvement League**, which dissolved its assets last year and invested proceeds from the sale of its Mill Street property in the **Legacy Fund**.

Staring next year, the fund will award scholarships to graduating **Watertown High** and **Immaculate Heart Central School** seniors. Students will be invited to apply through the Community Foundation. The Legacy Fund will also make grants to charitable organizations that serve city residents. A **North Side Legacy Fund Advisory Committee** will work in partnership with the Community Foundation to recommend scholarships and grant awards. Other than scholarships, grant awards will only be awarded to nonprofit organizations that broadly serve the community.

The fund is also an opportunity for those to whom the **North Side Improvement League** holds special meaning to support through tax-deductible gifts and long-term legacy planning.

"This is our best choice to continue and we are very happy to join the Community Foundation," said **William Parody**, former league vice president who has dedicated 25 years of service to the organization. "People who have done a lot of work for our community aren't going to be forgotten as we continue the good works of the league."

Mr. Parody notes that he and others involved in creating the legacy fund are "thrilled to be represented by the Community Foundation in such a nice and respectable way."

The Community Foundation is honored to be entrusted as the permanent home for the league to continue the charitable work that countless people throughout a 107-year history were so committed to seeing succeed as they worked to improve quality of life for Watertown residents.

> **"We are very happy to join the Community Foundation. People who have done a lot of work for our community aren't going to be forgotten as we continue the good works of the league."**
>
> — William Parody, past vice president, North Side Improvement League

A group of Watertown citizens formed the **North Side Improvement League** in 1911 after they were discouraged with voters' defeat of a city bond measure to construct a bridge that would have connected West Main and Jackson streets across the Black River.

Robert Cahill, who was later elected mayor, was determined that similar projects would not realize the same fate, so he helped to start the league with 13 others who were known as the "bridge boosters." A year later, in August 1912, the league incorporated and bought the former **Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart** at Thompson and Gale streets, which served as its clubhouse for 58 years. In 1969, the league opened a 9,600-square-foot clubhouse that could accommodate more than 700 people.

In its early years, the league took a progressive role in many issues before **City Council** and its members wielded political influence as politicians seeking office at nearly every level — city, county, state, and national — visited the league's Mill Street headquarters. At its peak in the 1990s, the league had 1,600 members.

The Mill Street club was once a hub of activity with events like Bingo games, class reunions, dinners, and social and civic functions held four or five times a week. The league also sponsored **Little League Baseball** teams and **Boy Scout** troops and awarded scholarships.

Human service and community engagement were trademarks of league membership. At one time, the league was represented in more than 30 community organizations, and nearly every church, charitable and civic organization in the city. Volunteer service was a hallmark of those who belonged to the league. At the height of its charitable efforts, the league supported 49 charitable and youth service organizations in the Watertown areas and provided financial assistance to 25 college students. Thanks to this permanent endowment, the league's civic works and community pride will forever continue.

SUPPORT THE NORTH SIDE LEGACY FUND

■ To join others in helping build support for the **North Side Legacy Fund**, make gifts to the **Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601**. Online gifts may be made at **nnycf.org**. Contact the Foundation, **315-782-7110**, to learn how you can include the **North Side Legacy Fund** through your will or other long-term charitable planning.

To ensure the things you care about most ENDURE

We commend the following organizations for creating Community Foundation funds to provide donors with options to support their work both now and in perpetuity

Jefferson County

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
Alexandria Township Historical Society
Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired of Northern New York
Carthage Central School District
Carthage YMCA
Child Evangelism Fellowship
City of Watertown
Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County (Camp Wabasso)

Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division

Densmore Church
Dexter Historical Society
Disabled Persons Action Organization (DPAO)
Faith Fellowship Christian School
Foundation for Community Betterment (Alexandria Bay Chapter)
Friends of Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library
Friends of Thompson Park
General Brown Central School District
Hay Memorial Library
Henderson Historical Society
Herring College Memorial Educational Trust
Historical Association of South Jefferson
Honor the Mountain Monument
Hospice of Jefferson County
Immaculate Heart Central School
Indian River Lakes Conservancy
Jefferson County Historical Society
Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida BOCES
Jefferson Rehabilitation Center
JRC Foundation
Knights of Columbus Council #259
Lorraine United Methodist Church
Lyme Central School District
Lyme Free Library
Macsherry Library
Meals on Wheels of Greater Watertown
Minna Anthony Common Nature Center
National Association of the 10th Mountain Division
Nature Conservancy
North Central Zone of the New York State Retired Teachers' Association
North Country Council of Social Agencies
North Country Family Health Center
North Country Goes Green Irish Festival
Northpole Fire Company
NYS Zoo at Thompson Park and Conservancy
Ontario Bays Initiative (OBI)
Point Vivian Preservation Corp.
River Hospital
Sackets Harbor Central School District
Sackets Harbor Historical Society
Samaritan Medical Center
St. John's Episcopal Church, Cape Vincent
Save The River
Six Town Community Fund
South Jefferson Central School District
SPCA of Jefferson County
Stage Notes
Thousand Islands Area Habitat for Humanity
Thousand Islands Arts Center
Thousand Islands Emergency Rescue Service (TIERS)
Thousand Islands Foundation
Thousand Islands Land Trust
Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund (TIPAF) at Clayton Opera House
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
United Way of Northern New York
Village of Dexter
Volunteer Transportation Center
Watertown City School District
Watertown Evening Rotary Club
Watertown Lyric Theater
Watertown Musicales
Watertown Noon Rotary Club
Watertown Sunrise Rotary Club
Watertown Urban Mission
WPBS-TV

Lewis County

Adirondack Mennonite Camping Association
Adirondack Central School District
American Maple Museum
Beaver River Central School District

Constable Hall Association

Copenhagen Central School District
Double Play Sports Community Center
Friends of Lewis County Hospice
Fund for Hope of Lewis County Hospital Foundation
Lewis County Agricultural Society
Lewis County General Hospital
Lowville Academy and Central School
Mountain View Prevention Services

St. Lawrence County

ARC Jefferson-St. Lawrence & Rotary Dodge Pond
Brasher Falls Central School District
Canton Community Fund
Canton Fountain Fund
Canton Free Library
Cerebral Palsy Association of the North Country
Church & Community Program of Canton
Clifton-Fine Community Fund
Clifton-Fine Hospital
Colton-Pierrepont Central School
Community Health Center of the North Country
Edwards-Knox Central School District
Fort La Présentation Association
Frederic Remington Art Museum

A better way to give

1) Choose your favorite charity

2) Give to a Community Foundation fund, or create your own named fund, to support your favorite charity, church or school FOREVER

3) Place restrictions or specific use provisions on your gift, or leave flexibility for future needs

4) Provide an additional layer of stewardship and accountability

5) Ensure your gift lives a long, healthy life and can be repurposed should the organization cease to exist

6) Can be done during your lifetime, as part of your legacy, or both

Friends of the Potsdam Museum
Gouverneur Hospital
Grasse River Heritage
Hammond Presbyterian Church
Hermon-DeKalb Central School District
Hospice and Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley
Indian Creek Nature Center
Little River Community School
Madrid-Waddington Central School
Massena Central School District
Massena Music Friends
Massena Public Library
Morristown Central School District
New Beginnings Clothing and Food Outreach
North Country Children's Museum
North Country Public Radio
Norwood-Norfolk Central School District
Norwood Village Green Concert Series
Ogdensburg Boys & Girls Club
Ogdensburg Command Performances
Ogdensburg Free Academy
Orchestra of Northern New York
Police Activities League of Massena
Potsdam Central School District
Potsdam Holiday Fund
Potsdam Humane Society
St. Lawrence Central School District
St. Lawrence County Historical Association
St. Lawrence Land Trust

St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum

Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY)
United Church of Madrid
United Helpers
Wanakena Historical Association
Wilderness Health Care Foundation

Advantages of supporting your favorite charity through a fund at the Community Foundation include:

- Additional layer of stewardship and oversight
- Ability to ensure donor intent remains intact as organizational leadership changes
- Ability to designate alternate uses for your gift should the organization cease to exist
- Unique legacy naming opportunities
- Greater diversification of pooled investments
- Ability to endow your annual giving by establishing parameters for annual distributions to the charity or charities

■ If you or an organization you represent are interested in learning more about options for supporting your favorite school, church or charity in perpetuity, **contact the Community Foundation, 315-782-7110** or **info@nnycf.org.**

‘GPS for Success’ guides local career exploration

Community Foundation donors help expand valuable student resource

A collaboration that began in 2015 between **WPBS**, industry and education leaders, and the Community Foundation is helping local students make informed decisions about their career choices that will last a lifetime.

More than 120 industry leaders and partners joined WPBS and **Jefferson-Lewis** and **St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES** to create and launch “**GPS For Success**” three years ago. The Foundation was an early supporter, awarding a grant to assist with the multimedia project and develop the **mygpsforsuccess.com** website. The Foundation recently awarded a second grant, made with support from the **Herring College Memorial Fund**, to help WPBS target local schools to have GPS For Success become a reliable career exploration tool for all students in grades 6 through 12.

CAREER CONNECTOR: Indian River High School freshmen **Trinity Dority**, left, and **Victoria Huffman** research career opportunities on the **WPBS GPS For Success** website. The Community Foundation recently renewed support for the initiative that helps students at earlier ages discover career pathways.

Before her middle school guidance counselor introduced her to GPS For Success, **Trinity Dority**, now a freshman, had no knowledge of the smaller jobs that are available in the fields of teaching and acting that interest her most.

“When you look at the videos and all the information, you see the opportunities and realize you have choices,” Miss Dority said.

The site features content in 16 career clusters relevant to local residents and professions across the region with resources for students, educators, employers and residents to learn about career expectations and requirements.

Victoria Huffman’s experience is similar. She hopes to pursue music production or education.

“When you’re young, you don’t really know what other jobs are available. GPS really helps you learn a lot more about a career area and what education is needed,” Miss Huffman said. It’s nice to have it local and connect with people in your community who make you feel like your goals are attainable,” Miss Huffman added.

The GPS site and its resources are vital tools to showcase a variety of career opportunities within the North Country, while encouraging students to return to the area for employment and reinvest in their communities.

Indian River Middle School Counselor **Jodi Castello** uses GPS For Success with her students.

“It’s really important to have these conversations about where they want to go as early as possible and narrow down what they may want to do in school to prepare,” Ms. Castello said.

Kraig Everard, WPBS director of advancement, said the regional initiative is a major focus for the future of WPBS and public media.

“When you can pull together hyperlocal resources like this and leave a meaningful impact on future generations, it really improves the entire community,” he said.

With its partners, WPBS plans to increase engagement with schools through personal visits, workshops, development of a mobile app, on-air promotions, and more.

The Foundation’s previous investment in the endeavor was because of its impact across many community sectors: education, youth, economic development, and more. With the BOCES support region-wide, the Community Foundation is pleased to continue its support.

CELEBRATING A RIVER LEGACY

Staff and supporters of the **Thousand Islands Land Trust**, **Save The River**, and the **Minna Anthony Common Nature Center**, recently gathered on Wellesley Island to celebrate the The **Kenneth Deedy Environmental Internship Fund**, established in 2018 at the **Northern New York Community Foundation**. Pictured in back row, from left: **Terra Bach**, Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT); **Margaret Hummel** and **Patricia Shulenburg**, Save The River (STR); **Anna Kellner**, **Darlene Sourwine**, **Lauren Eggleston**, and **Max Koch**, Minna Anthony Common Nature Center (MACNC). Front row, from left: **Spencer Busler** and **Brandon Hollis**, TILT; **Bridget Wright**, **Kendall Hathaway**, and **John Peach**, STR; **Matt Elliott** and **Andy Kane**, MACNC; **Jake Tibbles**, TILT; **Gaby Padewska**, MACNC; and **Kate Breheny**, TILT.

SUPPORTING NONPROFIT LEADERS

Abigail German is the 2019 **Northern New York Community Foundation Jefferson Leadership Institute Nonprofit Award** recipient. She is the customer care & opportunity manager for the **Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways**, Watertown, a **Philanthropy Center** tenant. The award is a partnership with the **Greater Watertown-North Country Chamber of Commerce** to help nonprofit professionals attend **JLI**. **Kylie Peck**, **GWNC Chamber of Commerce** president & CEO, left, is pictured with **Abigail**.

WHY I GIVE *A conversation with Torie Hasseler Collins*

What does community philanthropy mean to you? Giving of time, talent and resources, not only as an individual, but also as a family. I am fortunate to be able to give my time to a number of organizations, but I couldn’t do that without the support of my husband.

How did you learn about the Community Foundation and become involved with it? I learned of the Community Foundation when an estate planning client wanted to set up a private foundation and we were exploring other options. With the Community Foundation, we were able to work together instead and avoid all the legal issues and time and expense of setting up a private foundation. Later on, about two years ago, Max DelSignore, the Foundation’s assistant director, approached me about becoming a member of the LEAD Council.

How has your experience serving on the LEAD Council helped you personally and professionally? LEAD has allowed me to meet a lot of other young professionals in the community; people who my path wouldn’t necessarily cross with otherwise. It also has allowed me to learn of a number of nonprofits that I wouldn’t otherwise know about or know about in detail. Most recently, LEAD focused on the need for child care in the community. Through that I was able to learn about not only child care facilities and needs in Jefferson County, but also the needs in St. Lawrence and Lewis counties.

How can philanthropy inspire others to take a leadership role to help improve a community’s quality of life? There certainly has to be the people who are willing to spearhead the effort and run the various organizations and be the rainmakers to bring people into the Community Foundation for involvement, but I don’t think it’s necessary for everybody to be in a leadership role. The behind-the-scenes work is just as important at a small community level; the people who are baking for the auxiliary bake sale or who are supporting their child’s Cub Scout Troop, that work is just as necessary as the active leadership role we sometimes see more in the spotlight.

How would you encourage others to get to know about service opportunities and take up some involvement? One of the best ways to encourage others is just in the day-to-day conversations at the water cooler as you’re talking to your coworker about what’s going on in your life: ‘Oh, and I’m also involved in this charity, and here’s something neat that we’re doing, would you like to participate? Here’s an event that’s going on, would you like to come? Here’s a board that I know of that’s looking for a new board member, a new committee member, who might be able to bring in some ideas that seem to fit with what’s important to you.’

What is broadly important to the quality of life in a community and how can private philanthropy help? Meeting the diverse needs of the community is broadly important to quality of life, be it housing, education, literacy with our public libraries, health care, arts and culture, that the community has opportunity to engage its members. Private philanthropy supports the various small not-for-profit organizations that meet those needs and the Community Foundation, I see as sort of the overall umbrella that supports the littler organizations that then directly impact each of the small communities in the area. The little food pantry in each specific community, for example, gets support potentially through the larger umbrella of the Community Foundation. Giving to the Community Foundation allows support at a micro level.

Why is it important to you to give locally? I want to see that my contribution is affecting my immediate community. I chose to live in this area, I want this area to benefit directly. This is where I am raising my family. As much as I want the whole world to prosper, I really want my community to thrive.

In your work as an attorney what is valuable about the “give-where-you-live” approach of Community Philanthropy? Geographic giving and the ability to have restricted funds in general is important. I’m thinking scholarships, as an example, may be geographically restricted to a specific school district, or restricted to a future occupation or area of study. It allows the Community Foundation to meet the needs of donors by letting them give broadly or restrict their gifts to specific wishes. Otherwise, donors may be trying to set up private scholarships for schools or set up private foundations. By being flexible, the Community Foundation meets that need.

What does the word legacy mean to you and why is it important to get people to think about their legacy? I see legacy as not just a financial gift, but how I will teach my daughter the importance of giving. How I will leave my community a better place through my contributions to it. It doesn’t have to be that there’s a wing in a new building named after me, it’s that I gave back; I gave my time, my talents, my resources while I was able. Professionally, legacy is an interesting thought. I do work with some clients who are looking to do tax planning and wealth preservation, but I also do estate administration. You can’t take it with you when you go, as much as we would like to. Personally, I would much rather see my gift, my contribution, be enjoyed while I am here to see that.

How does the value of service help to shape the person you’ve become and your personal philanthropy? I was raised with parents who instilled in me the value of giving financially and of volunteering, so that’s shaped my personality and my values, certainly. My parents, growing up, modeled giving of time, talent and treasures. They taught me to be grateful of the opportunities that I had to give back. I want to model that for my daughter, specifically, and for those who I come into contact with, generally. It’s just part of being a good steward of the resources that we’ve all been entrusted with.

TORIE HASSELER COLLINS, Esq.

AGE: 37

HOMETOWN: Lives in Croghan; grew up in Carthage

EDUCATION: **SUNY Cortland**, Bachelor of Arts, summa cum laude, in political science, environmental policy concentration, 2003; Juris Doctor, summa cum laude, concentration in estate planning with high honors, **Albany School of Law**, 2006.

FAMILY: Husband, **Adam**; daughter, **Abigail**, 16 months; dog and two cats

EMPLOYER: Partner, **Conboy, McKay, Bachman & Kendall LLP**, Watertown and Carthage

CAREER: Admitted to the **New York Bar** and the **Vermont Bar** in 2007. Member of her firm’s Business and Estate Practice Groups.

COMMUNITY: Board member: **Meadowbrook Terrace**, Carthage; **Hospice of Jefferson County**, Watertown; **Thousand Islands Area Habitat for Humanity**, Watertown (board secretary). Member of the **Northern New York Community Foundation LEAD Council** and the **Community Foundation Cultural, Historical and Recreation Committee**.

PERSONAL: Gardening, hunting, motorcycle riding, and quilting.

THE DIFFERENCE **YOUR GIFTS MAKE**

Here, we ask you to take a **315-mile drive** through the regions we serve as we present **10 examples** of **how your gifts improve quality of life** in communities across **Jefferson**, **Lewis** and **St. Lawrence counties**. From **Lyons Falls** to **Lowville**, **Watertown** to **Deferiet**, **Clayton** to **Ogdensburg**, **Norwood** to **Potsdam** and **Canton**, and **Star Lake** to **Watertown**, your gifts have a **broad and lasting impact** that is **felt near and far**.

Because of you, we can support programs and organizations dedicated to the **arts and culture**, **recreation**, **history**, **education**, **libraries**, **food pantries**, **leadership and youth development**. **Thank you** for the honor to **make a profound difference** in our communities **with you**.

1) YOUTH ENGAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND NEXT-GENERATION PHILANTHROPY. A series of Community Foundation programs encourage philanthropy in our future generations. From the earliest of ages, the **Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge** (more on page 24) gives **middle school students** a chance to award a grant to a local nonprofit organization. Also, because of you, **18 students** from four different high schools — **Sackets Harbor**, **South Jefferson**, **Watertown** and **Immaculate Heart Central** — serve on the Foundation's **Youth Philanthropy Council** (photo on page 1), stewarding an annual grant program that awards **$20,000** to a wide range of organizations. Your generosity also enables our **LEAD Council**, comprised of **22 young professionals** who live and work in your communities, to take on some of the region's biggest challenges like pathways out of poverty and access to child care. Your generous annual giving makes each of these important endeavors possible.

2) A SAFER PLACE TO PLAY. Donors enabled the Foundation to award a **$5,000 grant** to help build a new playground at **Samuel Millich Park** on Riverside Drive in the **Village of Deferiet**. The playground plays an important part in revitalizing the village and will serve families for many years to come.

3) SUPPORT FOR MUSIC AND EDUCATION. For the past three years, your gifts have enabled **grants of $15,000** to help students of nearly every Jefferson County high school experience jazz through the **Clayton Jazz Festival's Jazz in the Classroom Program** (more on page 22.) More than 250 young talents have enjoyed the opportunity to learn from professional jazz musicians while also performing alongside them in concert at the **Clayton Opera House**.

4) A WALK THROUGH HISTORY. In Ogdensburg, a **$4,500 grant** is helping to deepen the population's understanding of local history through the use of digital technology that highlights the community's past. The **"Take a Walk Through History"** project links smartphone users with a video or podcast by scanning signs next to historical attractions.

5) FEEDING CHILDREN DURING SCHOOL BREAKS. A **$1,000** Community Foundation **Youth Philanthropy Council grant** helped to fund the **Community Lunch Program for Kids**, providing healthy meals and snacks for nearly **200 children** in the **Norwood**, **Norfolk** and **Raymondville** areas during their school breaks last year. The program was able to distribute **8,350 meals** to more than **60 families**.

6) MUSIC & MEMORY. Your gifts enabled a **$1,600** Community Foundation **Youth Philanthropy Council** grant to support the **Music & Memory Program** at **Hospice and Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley** in **Potsdam**. The initiative helps patients who live with a dementia-related illness, providing therapy as they listen to familiar and meaningful music. The award helped to purchase equipment, including iPods and music, and train staff and volunteers.

7) PRESERVING THE PAST. Your gifts made possible grants of **$35,000** to the **St. Lawrence County Historical Association** — **$10,000** to create a permanent **Community Foundation endowment** and a **$25,000 matching grant** for a campaign to help build that endowment. This will help provide an **enduring resource** to deliver an ongoing, reliable income, while helping to expand educational outreach activities, especially for children. It will also fund new exhibits and programming, sustain operating costs, and create greater awareness of the cultural treasures housed at **Canton's** historic **Silas Wright House Museum**.

8) ACCESS TO RURAL HEALTH CARE. Residents in rural **southeastern St. Lawrence County** can continue to **access critical care** without traveling at least 35 miles to the next closest hospital. Grants to the **Wilderness Health Care Foundation/ Clifton-Fine Hospital** — **$20,000** to **support a capital** improvement **project** and a **$25,000 matching grant** to build an endowment at the Community Foundation — will go a long way for this **Star Lake** organization serving the health care needs in their area.

9) GROWING A COMMUNITY ASSET. Community Foundation gifts enabled a **$3,500 grant** to **Lowville's Double Play Sports Community Center** to support planning for a future building project. This **Lewis County** nonprofit provides significant **access to** a range of **recreation**, **wellness** and related **community programs** that **serve all ages**.

10) LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS. Generous donors like you made possible **$10,000 in grants** to **Lyons Falls Free Library** — **$5,000** to **support a capital** improvement **project** and a **$5,000 matching grant** to build community support for much-needed upgrades.

Donna Sheldon Powers Barber

Donna Sheldon Powers Barber was deeply rooted in her community. She cherished many meaningful friendships with others who, through the years, became extended family. She always looked for ways to make life for those around her better, giving to help the local causes she valued. Along with her husband, **Tom**, she shared a love for travel. Donna held dear many friendships from her childhood in Watertown and her summers on Round Island on the St. Lawrence River. She also valued the natural beauty of the North Country and spending time at her family camp in Harrisville. She was the third of six daughters, and was a 1960 graduate of Watertown High School. She spent her professional career in banking while devoting her time, talents and treasure to many local organizations. She married **Thomas Barber** in 1962 and, together, they raised three children. A devoted mother and grandmother and proud great-grandmother, she was looked to as the heart of her family. She was devoted to Trinity Episcopal Church in Watertown, where she was honored in 2018 for her 52 years of service to the Altar Guild. Prior to her death, Donna joined her sisters to establish the **Fremont and Sallie Powers Family Community Fund** at the Community Foundation to honor her parents and perpetuate support for many local organizations the family cares deeply about. **"Freem" Powers** was widely known and respected for his many years of work in developing the physical education and interscholastic athletic programs in Watertown schools. Many have made tributes to Donna through gifts to help build this permanent fund. We join her family, **Tom**, **Andy**, **Jim**, **Beth**, **Neil**, **Jean**, **Kinny**, **Sue**, and others in mourning the loss of a caring friend to many. While her presence will be deeply missed, we are honored to be part of the special way she and her parents will be remembered and continue to leave an imprint on the community they loved.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Donna Sheldon Powers Barber

Cynthia R. Ahlheim
Mark R. Ahlheim
Thomas H. Bradley 3rd
Jane S. Cagwin
Crappy Crafters
Constance E. & Kevin J. Davison
Kirk & Karen Denny
Margaret Fiorentino & Children
Nicholas Fiorentino
Meredith Fox
Jack & Sharon Hammond
Mark & Joanne Lavarnway
James B. Oliver, D.D.S.
Faye R. & David L. Powers
The Powers Group
Rande Richardson
Smith, Harris & Grant Families
Janet B. Taylor
Kim Taylor
Mark & Tamara Taylor
Daniel Thomson
Courtney E. Washburn
Susan P. Washburn
Watertown Savings Bank
Chuck Woodell

To join others in helping to honor Donna Sheldon Powers Barber, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Janet Craig Summerville

Janet Craig Summerville was a champion for her community and the North Country. A long-time Sackets Harbor resident, she devoted her time to many local organizations that worked to improve the quality of life. A Harrisville native, Janet married **David "Skip" Scobell Summerville** of Sackets Harbor in 1948. Together, they raised three children. Janet was a proud graduate of Watertown High School and Cornell University, and later earned a master's degree from the University of Massachusetts. After living in Washington and Massachusetts, Janet returned to Sackets Harbor in 1984 with her family and remained an advocate for many local organizations. Her service to community extended to time spent on the boards of Hay Memorial Library, the Art Association of Northern New York, and All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, Watertown, where she was a lifetime member. For Janet, working to enrich our region didn't end there. She was also a committed volunteer for many local causes and organizations, including the Pickering Beach Museum, and the local chapters of the Wanderlust Club and the Association of American University Women. Her love for the outdoors also brought her great joy. She enjoyed many years sailing with her family at the Crescent Yacht Club and at Navy Point Marina, and skiing at Snow Ridge. She treasured her family and loved visiting with her grandchildren. An avid painter, Janet was a fan and patron of the arts, and especially respected artists from the North Country. A friend to many, she was active until the end of her life. Janet's family has chosen to honor her legacy through gifts to the **Assistant Fire Chief Garrett W. Loomis Scholarship Fund** at the Community Foundation. **Garrett** was Janet's grandson and a local firefighter and assistant fire chief in Sackets Harbor who passed away in 2010. We are grateful to Janet's family to be a part of the special way she will be remembered. We join Janet's family and friends in expressing our appreciation for those who made memorial tributes in her name.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Janet B. Summerville

Arts Association of NNY
Paul & Judy Bassette
Brian & Mary Bettinger
Janet Blakeman
Sue Brockmann
Robert Caswell
Betsy & Mike Cuccinello
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rocco & Jean Derrigo
John & Eileen Ditch
Antonette Ellinger
Day Hills
Jill H. Johnson
Florence Martino
Briggs & Isabelle McAndrews
Virginia S. McCreary
Thomas & Genie McKay
David L. & Karen E. Nellis
Mary Lou Reed
Rande Richardson
Sackets Harbor Fire Department
Ladies Auxiliary
Ann Sanderson
Ann Stewart
Jeff & Starr Stockwell
Stephen & Kezia Sullivan
Sharon L. Thornber
Morgan A. Verrillo
T. Urling & Mabel Walker
Wanderlust Club
Joan Treadwell Woods

To join others in helping to honor Janet B. Summerville, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Dr. Andrew E.C. Crossley

Dr. Andrew E.C. Crossley, son of **Dr. David** and **Joyce Crossley**, lived to serve others. Upon completion of medical training, he returned to Watertown to join his father's dental practice. The decision to pursue dentistry allowed him to further his desire to assist neighbors and friends in his hometown. Andy grew up in Watertown, graduating from Watertown High School in 1983 and in 1987 from Union College. He worked for two pharmaceutical companies after earning his undergraduate degree and before entering the study of dentistry. He also held a Master of Business Administration from Wake Forest University Babcock School of Management. He completed his medical education at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine in 1997. He met and married his wife, **Daphne**, in 1994. With his wife, he had two children, **Maclean** and **Merritt**. He felt strongly for their success and encouraged them at every opportunity. The St. Lawrence River was a beacon that drew him there often for swimming, water sports, and boating with family and friends. An avid tennis player, he had a competitive spirit and enjoyed a good match on the court with friends. We join his parents, wife, children, brother, **Gareth**, as well as friends, in expressing our gratitude and appreciation for those who made memorial tributes in his name, with many directed to the **Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division Fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation**.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Dr. Andrew E.C. Crossley

Cynthia R. Ahlheim
Mark R. Ahlheim
Robert Caswell
William & Kimberly Couch
William C. & Margaret C. Couch
Nancy W. Del Borgo
Bill & Liz George
Janet J. George
Chester & Nancy Gray
Scott Green & Family
Virginia S. McCreary
Burr & Linda Morris
James B. Oliver, D.D.S.
Rande Richardson
Bill Shuman &
Betsy Shuman Meyerdierks
Anthony Tarzia
T. Urling & Mabel Walker
Edward R. Wardwell
Nathaniel P. & Julie S. Wardwell

To join others in helping to honor Dr. Andrew E.C. Crossley, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Recent Tribute Gifts

Includes only gifts made to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Fund from Aug. 7, 2019, to Nov. 6, 2019, or for those who have just recently passed.

In Memory of
Given by

Daniel A. Buduson
Sylvia J. Buduson

John M. Burgess
Rande Richardson

Anne Del Borgo
Nancy W. Del Borgo
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

Jeanne Emerton
Rande Richardson

Kenneth J. Eysaman II
60th Wedding Anniversary
Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Dolores (Dolly) Fitzsimmons
Mary E. Loftus

Roswell G. Gotham
Robert Caswell

Sandra R. Kirkby Hathaway
Rande Richardson

Patricia A. Horton
Rande Richardson

Barbara I. Hyneman
Burr & Linda Morris

Dennis J. Laemmermann
Ann I. Morosini
Bottlecaps Beverage Center
Spokes

Ron Maneeley
Jennie M. Maneeley

Michael E. Maser
Susan A. Carmichael
Don Davey/Disciplined Equity
Management, Inc.
Marla & David Dean
Jim & Alice Dickson
Audrey D. Dominy
Karen & Dave Goetz
Janet A. & George
F. Hoaglin, Jr.
Rita Hornburg
Teresa (Terry) Ierlan
Candi & Keith Kittle
Pamela S. Kubik
Cynthia M. Maser
Harry & Bettyanne May
Members of Crossfit Southie
Nick Alonso
Christopher Baretta
Tory Belliveau
Daniela Bitto
Meredith Bloomquist
Michelle Boutet &
Brendan Caslin
Haley Byrnes
Katelyn & Eli Cleveland
Colby Colarossi
Phil Dudley
Ted Duffy
Brian Frawley
Christopher & Amy Gosier
Aaron Kraus
Dave Lovely
Richard "Toby" Maguire
Shane McWeeny
Christina Morris
Michael Quigley
Sarah Radford
Paul Salvatore & Mandi Leigh
Bhavesh Shah
Jason Thornton & Family
Leonard O'Brien
Marcia & Marlin Ryan

Duane Ormsby
Rande Richardson

Higouhi Owens
Kitchen Staff at Gouverneur
First United Methodist Church
Donald K. & Ann H. Reynolds

William Palmer
Phyllis G. Johnson &
Gus Murray

Charles Partridge, ALS patient
Donna M. Partridge

Sally A. Perkins
Robert Caswell

Martha W. Pott
Bernice B. Taylor

Carroll P. Rogers Jr.
Rande Richardson

Edward Ruble
Drs. Marvin & Sylvia Reimer
Watertown High School
Music Department

Dr. Douglas M. Sanford
The Du Brin Family

Phillip Dene Savage
Rande Richardson
T. Urling & Mabel Walker

Henry Schick
Ron Shoemaker

Mary Schweitzer
Robert Caswell

Frank J. Skye Jr.
William Skye

Edward Watkins
James T. & Joanne M. Galasso

In Honor of
Given by

Jennie Adsit
Rande Richardson

Gretchen G. Eysaman
60th Wedding Anniversary
Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Michael Miller
Rowena Miller

Maureen E. Littlefield

Maureen E. Littlefield loved the St. Lawrence River community of Clayton and her experience growing up in the Thousand Islands helped to shape a woman who cared deeply for family and the North Country. Born in Queens in 1944, Maureen's family moved to Clayton. She graduated from Clayton High School and attended Canton ATC and the Watertown School of Commerce. She married **Dan G. "Tuffy" Littlefield** in 1964. Together, they raised two daughters. Following work at a restaurant and for the American Process Co. in Watertown, Maureen began a career at Thousand Islands High School. She was an educational aide, receptionist, and eventually retired as secretary to the high school principal. Maureen was a devoted communicant of St. Mary's Church in Clayton. She led an active lifestyle and enjoyed bowling, golf and dancing, but spending time with her family brought her the greatest joy. Maureen's family has decided to honor her memory through gifts to a scholarship that bears her mother's name: the **Margaret Maser Scholarship**. It is awarded to Thousand Island High School graduates who excel in English, reading and community activities. We are honored to help steward Maureen's legacy in this most enduring and selfless way. Gifts in her memory will help build this permanent fund at the Community Foundation. We join her family in mourning her loss and express our appreciation for all who made memorial tributes in her name.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Maureen E. Littlefield

Harry & Pati Bazinet & Family
Mike & Liz Brennan
Susan A. Carmichael
Judy S. Corbett
Kathryn L. Farkas
Karen & Dave Goetz
Teresa (Terry) Ierlan
Susan L. Kenyon
Candi & Keith Kittle
Cynthia M. Maser
Peter & Joyce (Littlefield) Papin

To join others in helping to honor Maureen E. Littlefield, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

New scholarship a tribute to Lowville man's kindness

A new, permanent scholarship fund has been established at the Community Foundation to honor the life and legacy of a gifted young man and Lowville native who gave freely of his time and talents to others. **Richard Alexander Lyndaker** graduated from Lowville Academy in 2004 and became a very successful professional online and live tournament poker player, competing on some of the world's largest stages.

Rich was academically gifted in math, English, and the sciences. He was also a standout athlete, especially in his beloved sport of soccer and passionate about fishing, fantasy sports, experiencing cultural events, and living abroad. Rich was known to be extremely tenderhearted toward animals, supporting causes and organizations like the World Wildlife Foundation. Quietly philanthropic, he often shared his success anonymously through many selfless acts of kindness. Rich also helped nurture talents in others, notably friends within the poker community. He made a point to help and promote other causes he deemed worthy, but neither wanted nor expected recognition. Rich appreciated his deep ties to family and gave of himself to those closest in many special ways. He always recognized the importance of the pursuit of higher education and continued learning throughout life, encouraging people to prepare for a lifetime of learning so they could enjoy that experience as much as he did.

Rich died unexpectedly in July 2019 at the age of 33. This scholarship was recently established by his family to perpetuate his legacy in Lowville and the North Country. The **Richard A. Lyndaker Humanitarian Memorial Scholarship** is being offered to a graduating senior at Lowville Academy who is pursuing post-secondary education. The scholarship honors Rich, for those who selflessly act to help others. Through this effort, Rich's family will acknowledge and reward a student for his or her character, integrity and acts of kindness, while recognizing that the pursuit of a lifetime of learning is a key component of personal development and happiness. We are honored to be a part of the special way that Rich will continue to be a force for kindness and good in his hometown by bringing out the best in others as they begin their journey of lifelong learning.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Richard A. Lyndaker

Denny & Kathy Lane
Jeff & Mary Perrine
Rande Richardson

To join others in helping to honor Richard A. Lyndaker, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Young woman's passion for learning will help others

Throughout her 26 years, **Rebecca Adeline Gerene Rhodes** filled her days with life and was endlessly curious about the natural world around her. A gifted student of science and the Earth, she valued the mystery of rocks. At the time of her passing in 2018, she was graduating with a Master of Science in engineering science focusing on geological engineering from the University of Mississippi, Oxford, Miss. (Ole Miss). Rebecca was a loving and gentle woman whose kindness and passion for learning was infectious. A 2010 Belleville-Henderson Central School graduate, she studied geology, math and physics at SUNY Brockport. She was part of the Green, Gold, and Presidential Leadership Development Program, graduating magna cum laude from the Brockport Honors Program in 2014. She was also president of the Earth Science Club and the Sigma Gamma Earth Science Honor Society. Rebecca interned at the Wyoming Dinosaur Center, excavating bone sites. She was also one of the few in recent years to earn an internship as an undergraduate researcher at the University of Texas at Austin Environmental Science Institute in its program for Global Change and Sustainability. While studying at Ole Miss, Rebecca was a graduate teaching assistant and awarded a full scholarship. Rebecca's love for rocks captivated her as she saw each stone as a clue to more completely understanding our planet. A rock garden was established in her memory at her family's business, Rhodes Greenhouses, in Henderson. To honor her life and memory, her family has established the **Rebecca Rhodes Memorial Scholarship** to help undergraduate juniors and seniors as well as graduate students. The scholarship is awarded annually to Jefferson County students who attend SUNY Brockport or Ole Miss and to those in the STEM sciences, specifically geology. There is no greater honor than to be the steward of such a precious gift. Her parents, **Gary** and **Jolene**, her sister, **Amanda**, and brother, **Jonathan**, have placed a special trust with the Foundation to ensure that Rebecca's legacy will continue in perpetuity.

NEW FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP FOR EDWARD BLACKFORD IV MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Family members recently presented the **Northern New York Community Foundation Edward Blackford IV Memorial Scholarship** to two 2019 recipients. **Clara Marlowe** is a 2019 **South Jefferson High School** graduate who studies biomedical engineering at **SUNY Binghamton**. She is the daughter of **Kathleen** and **Michael Marlowe**, Adams Center. **Ryan Blevins** is a 2019 **South Jefferson High School** graduate who studies physical education at **Jefferson Community College**. He is the son of **Karen** and **Steve Blevins**, Watertown. The Edward Blackford IV Memorial Scholarship is awarded to graduating seniors from South Jefferson High School who are pursuing post-secondary education, have an academic average of 90 or greater, participated in two or more sports and held leadership roles in at least one. Clara and Ryan met Ed's sister and wife, who presented each of them with a $1,000 scholarship award. Pictured, from left, **RaeAnn Thomas**, sister of Edward Blackford IV; **Clara Marlowe** and **Ryan Blevins**, scholarship recipients; and **Janet LaLone**, wife of Edward Blackford IV. This is the first year that the Community Foundation has partnered with the Blackford family to award the **Edward Blackford IV Memorial Scholarship**. We are honored to be a part of this enduring way that Ed's family has chosen to honor his memory.

INAUGURAL **PAULINE & ALFRED LYNG** SCHOLAR

Alex Pisarski is the inaugural recipient of the **Pauline and Alfred Lyng Scholarship**. Alex is a 2019 graduate of **Sackets Harbor High School**. He attends **Eckerd College** in St. Petersburg, Fla. He is the son of **Sarah Aubin** and **Jason Pisarski**. **Pauline (Polly) Gorman Lyng** established the scholarship in 2018 to benefit Sackets Harbor students and to show her appreciation and fondness for the Sackets Harbor area, while also honoring her late husband, **Alfred**. Alex recently met Polly, who presented him with a $2,000 scholarship award. Al graduated from Sackets Harbor High School president of his class in 1942, while Polly graduated president of her class two years later in 1944. As a graduate of Boston University, a retired physical education teacher and a guidance counselor, Polly has a special appreciation for the importance of learning and inspiring future generations. In this special way, Polly is honoring Al and making a lasting impact on the community where she and Al grew up.

Foundation helps lift #giveNNY campaign

$10,000 match culminates with day of giving to support participating nonprofits

The Community Foundation has joined to support the 2019 **#giveNNY** campaign, a local effort that works to unite tri-county nonprofits in a day of giving on the international **#GivingTuesday, Dec. 3**. All nonprofit organizations in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties were invited to participate as partners, with 27 organizations joining the campaign.

The following nonprofits are participating in this year's campaign: **ACR Health**, Watertown; **Antique Boat Museum**, Clayton; **Association of the Blind & Visually Impaired of NNY**, Watertown; **Carthage Area Hospital Foundation**, Carthage; **CHJC**, Watertown; **Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center Foundation**, Ogdensburg; **Clayton Opera House (TIPAF)**, Clayton; **CREDO Community Center**, Watertown; **Hand In Hand Early Childhood Center**, Lowville; **Hospice of Jefferson County**, Watertown; **JRC Foundation**, Watertown; **New Day Children's Center**, Watertown; **North Country Family Health Center**, Watertown; **Orchestra of Northern New York**, Potsdam; **Planned Parenthood of the North Country**, Watertown; **Samaritan Medical Center Foundation**, Watertown; **Save The River**, Clayton; **SPCA of Jefferson County**, Watertown; **St. Lawrence County Historical Association**, Canton; **Thousand Islands Area Habitat for Humanity**, Watertown; **Thousand Islands Land Trust**, Clayton; **United Way of NNY**, **Volunteer Transportation Center**, **Watertown Family YMCA**, **Watertown Lyric Theater**, **Watertown Urban Mission**, and **WPBS TV**, all Watertown.

The Community Foundation has committed $10,000 to match donations to participating tri-county nonprofit organizations made during the effort. Partner organizations benefit through an equal share of gifts made to the campaign distributed as grants from the Northern New York Community Foundation. The Foundation is also stewarding all gifts made to this year's #giveNNY campaign with opportunities to give online or through traditional methods. Visit **nnycf.org/givenny** to learn more.

The campaign, now entering its third year, kicked off Monday, Nov. 4, and culminates with a day of radio broadcast on **Tunes 92.5 FM** on **#GivingTuesday, Dec. 3**. Several events to drive awareness and support take place throughout the month leading up to #GivingTuesday.

The #giveNNY effort began in 2017 as a community-based, grassroots effort to unite tri-county nonprofits in a local day of giving on #GivingTuesday. This year, the event team has partnered with the Community Foundation to help grow the effort and expand its reach.

Last year, 14 nonprofits that serve residents of Jefferson, Lewis and St, Lawrence counties participated in the campaign and were each awarded a share of nearly $5,000 that was raised during the campaign. With the Community Foundation's support, the campaign hopes to double gifts to the campaign and increase support to the region's nonprofits.

Foundation partners to award 537 scholarships

Many donors provide assistance to Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence county students

In partnership with donors, **32** public school districts and two private schools, Community Foundation this year awarded scholarships to nearly **500 Jefferson**, **Lewis** and **St. Lawrence** county students that will help them pursue post-secondary educational goals.

Thanks to the generosity of hundreds of donors who continue to make gifts that support Community Foundation scholarships, opportunities for students this year have grown through the establishment of new awards and partnerships. Awards were made to **492** students in the three counties. In the past year, donors created **21** new scholarships at the Community Foundation. Another **29** scholarships were transferred to the Foundation from donors and partnering school districts to administer on their behalf.

Support of educational opportunities in a variety of forms remains one of our largest annual investments in the people and future of the North Country.

Support of educational opportunities in a variety of forms remains one of our largest annual investments in the people and future of the North Country. It continues to be a long-standing part of the history and heritage of the Community Foundation. Many of the awards also honor the legacies of many caring individuals who believed in the value of making education more accessible.

In **Jefferson County**, **256** students from **13** public and two private schools, as well as **two** home-schooled students, received Community Foundation awards. In **Lewis County**, **139** students from **five** public schools were awarded scholarships, and in **St. Lawrence County**, **97** students from **16** public schools received awards.

An additional **22** students from schools located outside the three counties were awarded scholarships administered through the Foundation. In most cases, these awards were established by local donors who maintain strong ties to specific out-of-area schools.

Nine scholarships were also awarded to nontraditional students who may be returning to post-secondary studies after a break from school or who are older adults, pursuing college, vocational, or technical education for the first time. Through partnerships with the **10th Mountain Division Association** and the **Watertown Rotary Club's Purple Heart Scholarship** program, the Foundation facilitated **12** scholarships to students with ties to the U.S. military. The Foundation also administers the **Herring College Memorial Fund**, which provides freshman scholarships for students pursuing studies in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and related fields.

In 2014, the **Thousand Islands Foundation** became a component fund of the Foundation, which now helps to administer scholarships awarded to graduates of **Thousand Islands**, **Alexandria**, **LaFargeville** and **Lyme** high schools on its behalf.

The Foundation awards hundreds of scholarships annually and, in many cases, students may receive more than one award.

Contact **Mary Perrine**, coordinator of partnerships, **maryp@nnycf.org**, or **315-782-7110** to learn more about how you can establish or support a Community Foundation scholarship today.

SCHOLARSHIPS BY THE NUMBERS

TOTAL AWARDED: $950,000

NO. SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED: 537

JEFFERSON COUNTY: 256

LEWIS COUNTY: 139

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY: 97

PARTNER SCHOOL DISTRICTS: 32 public, 2 private

NEW AWARDS: 21 created in past year

NONTRADITIONAL STUDENT AWARDS: 9

SCHOOL DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATIONS: 12

CLASS OF 2020 EVERGREEN STEM SCHOLARS

The **Evergreen STEM Scholarship** is awarded to high school juniors who live in St. Lawrence County and plan to study and work in the STEM — science, technology, engineering, and mathematics — fields. The scholarship was established at the **Northern New York Community Foundation** in 2014 by Massena natives and Gouverneur residents **Charles** and **Higouhi Owens**. The couple wanted to inspire high school students to pursue post-secondary studies and careers in STEM. Mr. Owens spent his professional life as a pharmacist and later in senior management at Kinney Drugs. Each year, 10 St. Lawrence County high school students are awarded a $3,000 scholarship toward their first year in college. Students apply during their junior year of high school with recipients selected during the summer. The Northern New York Community Foundation is honored to administer the Evergreen STEM Scholarship. Mr. Owens and two of his children recently met the **Class of 2020 Evergreen STEM Scholars** during an appreciation and recognition dinner in Canton that also paid tribute to **Higouhi Owens** and her passion for education. She passed away earlier this year.

Back row, from left: **Abigail Paro**, Edwards-Knox Central School, environmental science; **Arianna Whittaker**, Hugh C. Williams High School, Canton, neuroscience; **Ethan Northrop**, Clifton-Fine Central School, robotics engineering; **Nolan Parow**, Harrisville Central School, civil engineering; **Leon Lufkin**, Potsdam Central School, applied mathematics; and **John Erdman**, Gouverneur Central School, aerospace engineering. Front row, from left: **Jillian Chapman**, Massena Central School, biology/pre-med; **Alexa McKee**, Lisbon Central School, chemistry; **Charles Owens**, Gouverneur, Evergreen STEM Scholarship founder; **Karli Thompson**, Lisbon Central School, biology; **Maria Allen**, Madrid-Waddington Central School, biology.

JEFFERSON-CAN COMMUNITY SCHOLARS

COMMUNITY SCHOLARS: Stephen H. Can visited the 2019-20 class of **Jefferson-Can Community Scholars** in September. The program is a partnership with the Community Foundation, the Jefferson Community College Foundation and Mr. Can.

The **Jefferson-Can Community Scholars** program, is administered by the **Northern New York Community Foundation**, in collaboration with **Jefferson Community College** alumnus **Mr. Stephen H. Can** and his wife, **Pam**, and the **Jefferson Community College Foundation**.

The Jefferson-Can Community Scholars Program awards high school seniors who are in the top 15 percent of their graduating class a merit-based scholarship of at least $1,200 for the first two semesters of study at Jefferson Community College. Since its inception in 2007, the Jefferson-Can Community Scholars program has provided scholarships totaling approximately $1.3 million, supporting 661 students.

This year, 35 students were named Jefferson-Can Community Scholars. Mr. Can had the opportunity to meet the 2019-2020 recipients during a recent visit to Watertown.

Mr. Can, New Hope, Pa., is the executive chairman and founder of Strategic Partners, a Blackstone Group subsidiary, Manhattan.

Mr. Can sits on the Investment Committee for each of the Strategic Partners funds. In February 2019, he transitioned from co-head to executive chairman. Mr. Can earned an Associate of Science in Business Administration from Jefferson Community College 1980; a Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, in Accounting from SUNY Plattsburgh in 1982; and a Master of Science in Finance from the Krannert Business School at Purdue University in 1984 where he was named outstanding graduate instructor. Mr. Can subsequently earned a Certified Public Accountant license and Certified Management Accountant and Certified Financial Manager designations.

We are honored to continue to partner with Mr. Can and the JCC Foundation to provide this unique opportunity to Jefferson and Lewis county students. This investment in local students is made possible through Mr. Can's generous commitment to the future of our community, our region, and our country.

2019-20 JEFFERSON-CAN COMMUNITY SCHOLARS

Adams
Ryan Blevins
Nimue Rimiller
Mitchell Scoville

Adams Center
Madison Neukirch
Crystal Rivers

Alexandria Bay
Katie Ryan

Antwerp
Karlee Call

Brownville
Jenna Buzyniski
Madison Cloonan
Jacob Heller
Kyle Nichols

Carthage
Cassondra Hayes

Constableville
Lydia Metzler

Copenhagen
Olivia Aubin

Dexter
Reina Guerriero
Evan Klindt
Hannah Reinhardt
Mackenzie Rust

Evans Mills
Madison Canell
Chelsea Coss

Glenfield
Brooke Everson

LaFargeville
Isabella Soluri
Isahic McGraw

Natural Bridge
Maria Buskey

Philadelphia
Abigail Welch

Sackets Harbor
Grayden Brunet

Three Mile Bay
Ryan Aubertine

Turin
Elizabeth McGuire

Watertown
Alexis Charlton
Ethan Fiorentino
Dylan Hudon
Sebastian Mastin
Gabrielle Rarick
Kaitlynn Stevens
Cameron Strock

Teacher's impact continues as first Anna Mae Searles Cooper Scholarship awarded

Michaela Rounds is the first recipient of the **Northern New York Community Foundation Anna Mae Searles Cooper Scholarship**.

Michaela is a 2019 **South Jefferson Central High School** graduate who attends **Jefferson Community College** where she studies nursing. She is the daughter of **Sarah Matteson** and **Mike Rounds**.

Established in July 2018, at the Community Foundation, the scholarship honors the legacy of longtime **South Jefferson Central** teacher **Anna Mae Searles Cooper** and is awarded to South Jefferson High School graduates who demonstrate exceptional motivation and potential. Michaela met scholarship founders **Dennis** and **Pam Jerome** and Anna Mae's longtime dear friend, **Sandra Haight**, who presented her with a $1,000 scholarship award. We are honored to be part of the special way that **Anna Mae** will be remembered in perpetuity.

From left, **Pamela** and **Dennis Jerome**, scholarship founders, **Michaela Rounds**, 2019 recipient, and **Sandra Haight**, longtime friend of **Anna Mae Searles Cooper**.

THE ADVISOR'S **PERSPECTIVE**

Foundation connects clients to many legacy options

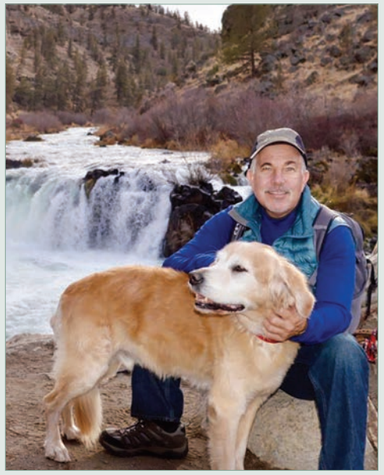
During my 31 years as a financial advisor and Certified Financial Planner, I had the privilege to learn about the hopes and dreams of all my clients as they related to their financial situation. Very often they would share some details that they had not yet shared with family, especially those related to estate planning, an important component of financial planning.

The most gratifying aspect of this work has been getting to know clients — their families, their stories, and their interests and hobbies outside of work. One of the easiest ways to open a discussion about estate planning goals is by asking the simple, but not easy, question: "How do you want to be remembered by your family, friends, and community?" This led to some interesting conversations and gave me the opportunity to introduce them to our Community Foundation and its broadly diverse work. I found that a surprising number of people are unaware of the scope of the Northern New York Community Foundation's reach, or that they could benefit a specific organization much more efficiently through the Foundation.

My experience as a Community Foundation board member from 2013 to 2018 deepened my understanding of how I might help clients create their legacy during their lifetime. I gained an appreciation of not only the sheer number of organizations the Foundation serves, but also the number of ways the average person can be part of something bigger. Here are a few examples:

■ **A CLIENT RECEIVED SOME STOCK AS PART OF AN** inheritance several years ago. It wasn't an important source of income, and she intended to leave it to her grand-nieces and nephews when she died. I knew that she had some fondness for Hospice, and we eventually decided that by gifting the stock through the Community Foundation, she could do something to honor her sister's memory and see her gift help Hospice during her lifetime. She paid no capital gains taxes and received a significant charitable deduction for her gift.

■ **ANOTHER CLIENT IN HIS 70s WAS TAKING A** Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from his Individual Retirement Account (IRA), but he was giving cash for his charitable deduction. By giving the RMD directly to the Community Foundation, he was able to lower his tax obligation while meeting his charitable intent and goals.



KEN PIARULLI, CFP

■ **WHEN A DEAR CLIENT PASSED AWAY,** her children thought about how they would honor their mother's support of faith-based education. They pooled a portion of their inheritance and created a named family scholarship at the Community Foundation, which manages and administers the annual award. Every year they see the gratitude of the family whose student may not otherwise be able to afford full college tuition and expenses.

A common thread with these clients is the sincere gratitude I saw in them when they realized that they didn't have to wait until they died to create their legacy; a legacy is very much an act of the living.

■ **FOR ONE MEMORABLE CLIENT, A COMBINATION** of tax-saving strategies worked to help achieve her estate planning goals while increasing charitable contributions. She received a large inheritance from her mother and did not need the additional money as income. It became obvious that since a large part of her estate was held in IRAs (both hers and her mother's), passing that on to her family would mean that they'd have to start taking taxable distributions after she died. We decided that she would make the charities the beneficiaries of the IRA, through an agreement with the Community Foundation. Since she still wanted to benefit her nieces and nephews, she purchased a life insurance policy to replace the amount of the IRA. The adult children would receive a more meaningful inheritance, since the life insurance proceeds would be tax free. She is also giving through appreciated stock and her IRA Required Minimum Distributions.

A COMMON THREAD WITH THESE CLIENTS IS the sincere gratitude I saw in them when they realized that they didn't have to wait until they died to create their legacy; a legacy is very much an act of the living. This became more personal, as my involvement with the Community Foundation grew during the last few years of my career.

I've always believed in the importance of the performing arts to a community's quality of life, and now I had another way to influence that. Aside from being directly involved in performing with musical organizations, as a board member I could advocate to connect performing arts with the Foundation. I believe that we can make a real difference when we unite with others who are dedicated to making our community a better place, and there's no better example than the Northern New York Community Foundation.

KENNETH R. PIARULLI is a Certified Financial Planner who spent his 31-year career helping clients in Northern New York. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from SUNY Oswego and a master's from Syracuse University. He served on the Board of Directors of the Northern New York Community Foundation from 2013 to 2018. Ken and his wife, Jude, retired from Watertown to Redmond, Ore., in 2018 where they explore the great outdoors with their golden retriever, Otis, their son, Kevin, and daughter-in-law, Haley. He continues his community involvement as founder and music director of the 80-voice Redmond Community Choir.

Through your **Community Foundation ...**

- Can I create a fund that will **continue my annual giving after my lifetime** to my favorite charities or church, knowing that if an organization ceases to exist, the fund is protected and can be re-purposed?
- Can I establish a named fund that will **allow my children and grandchildren** to make community grants in perpetuity?
- Can my charitable legacy be directed to **support a specific city, village, town or county?** Can I further designate the type of things that will be supported within that geographic area, and name the fund?
- Can I establish a **charitable gift annuity** with tax-deductible benefits that will provide me with guaranteed income (up to 8%) during my lifetime, and then the remainder can support my charitable interests or a specific Foundation fund after my death?
- Can I name the Community Foundation as a **beneficiary of an IRA or life insurance policy** either to support the Community Foundation or a specific fund within the Foundation?
- Am I able to start a fund at the Community Foundation to support my interests now and then endow it later as part of my estate planning?
- Can I start a fund to **support my church**, providing stipulations on how it is to be directed (i.e., music ministry, buildings & grounds, education) and also have assurance that if the church should ever cease to exist, my charitable provisions can be re-purposed for another designated interest or charitable cause?
- Can I create a **scholarship fund for a specific school district or college**, with certain criteria, or support some other aspect of my school or college (music, arts, athletics, library, reading, professional development)?
- If I own a business can I give more effectively, efficiently and in a more formal and structured way, with enhanced visibility, coordination, branding and impact?
- Can I make a gift of appreciated stock to start a donor-advised fund, avoid capital gains, receive a tax deduction and then make grants to charitable causes I recommend over time?

Can I make a small gift that will make a BIG difference?

The answer to each of these questions is YES!

The best gift planning begins with a conversation. We are always HERE FOR YOU:

Contact us today to learn how you can tailor and customize giving YOUR way, 315-782-7110 or info@nnycf.org.

Take advantage of current charitable tax laws prior to December 31, 2019, that allow deductions as well as avoidance of taxation of capital gains. Also, donors age 70½ and older, currently can distribute up to $100,000 of Individual Retirement Account assets directly to the Community Foundation for unrestricted, field of interest, scholarship or designated funds without triggering federal income taxes or penalties. The IRA Charitable Rollover amount donated directly is excluded from Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).

Donors continue support for Jazz in the Classroom

Gifts help to nurture lasting appreciation for the arts among student musicians

Community Foundation **donors like you** make possible support for programs that otherwise might not happen in the North Country. For the third consecutive year, the Foundation was a presenting sponsor of the **Clayton Jazz Festival's Jazz in the Classroom** program.

This year, the initiative enabled interactive presentations with students at **South Jefferson** and **Sackets Harbor** high schools, and **Lyme Central School**, which included sessions with grades six to eight, as well as high school musicians. The program also implemented its first-ever elementary school clinic for grades kindergarten through five at Clayton's **Guardino Elementary School** and the first **music teachers' workshop** at the **Clayton Opera House**, which gave local educators a chance to hone their skills.

The program featured the New York City-based band, **Brighton Beat**, whose influences range from modern cutting-edge New York City Jazz to classic New Orleans brass band Funk and Afrobeat. The school programs included performance and sessions on brass, strings and percussion sections. Band members also shared music history and their own experiences in jazz performance. The engaging program was a hit for students and teachers. Many band members are full-time faculty at some of the most respected music education facilities in the Northeast — **Berklee College of Music**, **New England Conservatory**, **NYU**.

The weeklong series capped off with a Saturday evening show Oct. 12 at the Clayton Opera House, during which a combined jazz band of Alexandria Bay and Thousand Islands high schools also performed.

"They are not only amazing musicians, but also great teachers and human beings. They have become friends and our students look forward to spending time with them every year," said Katherine Wiley, Thousand Islands Central Schools' music teacher. "I am thankful to the Northern New York Community Foundation and to sponsors **Dr. Stephen** and **Michelle Grybowski** for allowing our students and me to have these experiences over and over again. We are so lucky."

"Jazz in the Classroom with Brighton Beat has brought our jazz band to levels that I could not have predicted when our band formed three years ago. I learn many new things from them with every encounter."

— Katherine Wiley
Thousand Islands Central School
music teacher and jazz band director

Top, **The Brighton Beat**, New York City, perform at **Guardino Elementary School** in Clayton as part of the week-long **Jazz in the Classroom** program. Above, students listen to the band perform.

Double your gift

We are presently doubling gifts for some of our nonprofit partners. **Each gift designated to the respective organization's Community Foundation endowment fund will be matched, dollar-for-dollar.** This is a meaningful opportunity to provide long-term support for an organization you care deeply about. This is a gift that is both immediate and lasting and will provide twice the impact.

Adirondack Mennonite Camping Association
Alexandria Bay Township Historical Society
Canton Free Library
Canton Fountain Fund
Cape Vincent Village Green
Church and Community Program, Canton
City of Watertown Community Fund
Densmore Church
Fort La Presentation Association
Friends of Thompson Park
Gouverneur Hospital
Grasse River Heritage
GWNC Chamber-JLI Community Fund
Henderson Harbor Water Sports Program
Hospice and Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley
Indian River Lakes Conservancy
JRC Foundation
Lewis County General Hospital
Lyme Free Library
Minna Anthony Common Nature Center
Mountain View Prevention Services
New Beginnings Clothing & Outreach
New York State Retired Teachers' Association of the North Central Zone Scholarship Fund
North Country Public Radio
Ogdensburg Command Performances
Ontario Bays Initiative
Orchestra of Northern New York
River Hospital
Save The River
St. Lawrence County Arts Council
St. Lawrence County Historical Association
Stage Notes
The Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence & Rotary Dodge Pond
Thousand Islands Area Habitat For Humanity
Thousand Islands Arts Center
United Helpers
Watertown Lyric Theater
Wilderness Health Care Foundation

Contact the Foundation, **315-782-7110**, to learn more about maximizing your gift and to support any of these Foundation partners. All Community Foundation gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Watertown couple's support for education will continue

Henry H. and Emily T. Willmott were passionate supporters of the arts of all kinds, champions of education, and deeply rooted in the Watertown community.

Mrs. Willmott, who passed away in October 2004, was born and raised in Maryland, graduating from high school in 1936 and Hood College in 1940 with a Bachelor of Science degree in home economics. During World War II, she worked for the Red Cross in Washington, D.C., where she met Henry H. Willmott, an Army infantryman.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Willmott were extremely active in civic affairs in the Watertown area. Mrs. Willmott's community service and support of education also included several years as president of the Sherman Street School PTA. Mr. Willmott was counsel to the Watertown Board of Education from 1949 to November 1971, serving with four superintendents. He was a member and dean of the Jefferson County Bar Association, serving as president in 1960-61. He served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the House of the Good Samaritan Hospital for more than 20 years. They were each deeply committed to Trinity Episcopal Church, Watertown, where both served in various leadership roles, including members of the vestry. Mrs. Willmott was especially artistic — she loved to sew, act, sing, and play the piano — and was a life member of Little Theatre of Watertown, participating in many plays.

Led by the Willmott's eldest grandson, **Benjamin Willmott**, and his wife, **Kristen**, the family recently chose to create this permanent scholarship at the Community Foundation to honor the lives and legacy of his grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. Willmott instilled in their family the immense values of devotion to community, education, and the arts. Through the establishment of the **Henry H. and Emily T. Willmott Memorial Scholarship**, their passion and love will continue well beyond their lifetimes and shine as an example to others to continue the leadership they so willingly gave. To join in helping perpetuate the legacies of **Henry and Emily Willmott**, make gifts to: **Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601**.

GRAF AWARD HONORS ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

Two **Watertown High School** seniors were recognized in June as the top graduating athletes and the 2019 recipients of the **William I. Graf Award**. **Julia Lavarnway** was selected as the women's recipient, and **Ryder Simser** was named as the men's honoree. Julia attends **Clarkson University**, Potsdam, where she studies business and plays Division III lacrosse and Ryder attends **Le Moyne College**, Syracuse, where he studies biology and plays Division II lacrosse. Each recipient was presented a $1,000 award. Julia is the daughter of **Mark** and **Joanne Lavarnway**, Watertown. Ryder is the son of **Erin** and **Shane Simser**, Watertown. Pictured, from left, **Ryder Simser**, **Phyllis Johnson**, **Lee "Gus" Murray**, **Julia Lavarnway** and **David Graf**. Mrs. Johnson and David Graf are William I. Graf's children and Mr. Murray is Mr. Graf's nephew. The **William I. Graf Award** was created in 1954 by the **Italian-American Civic Association** to honor Mr. Graf's leadership and civic engagement in the community. Mr. Graf was a multi-sport coach and athletic director at **Watertown High School**. Graf Award honorees are expected to have participated in at least two or more varsity sports in their senior year and demonstrate exceptional character and sportsmanship, discipline, fair play, training, athletic ability and academics.

Especially during this time of year, we have a heightened sense of awareness and appreciation that our work would not be possible without the generous leadership, vision and friendship of donors like you. Because of your thoughtfulness, over the past several years the Community Foundation has been able to expand its reach and move from being a transactional grantmaker to a greater force that inspires people of all ages to consider including philanthropy as a fulfilling part of their lives. This, in turn, helps the region to rally to increase capacity for all of its nonprofit organizations, increasing the value of ALL of your charitable contributions in the area.

Because of you, we now have programs that help to instill values of civic engagement, responsibility and leadership with students and youth. Together, we engage young professionals in ways that perpetuate the type of commitment that the last 90 years of Community Foundation donors like you have demonstrated. The Philanthropy Center now helps six nonprofits be more sustainable and its common spaces come alive as more than 100 community groups gather there.

Your decision to support the Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund is one of the most meaningful ways that you can help nurture our collective work each year. Your gift touches your community in ways both broad and deep, and enhances essential community services and quality of life. We want you to know that your conscious choice to change and shape lives, in partnership with us, is something we appreciate, value, and never take for granted.

Always know how much it means for us to have you as a vital part of our family as we strive to make the wonderful North Country the best place it can be to spend our lives together. October commemorates the beginning of our 90th year of working with donors like you to build a better community for all. We look forward to finding ways to celebrate this important milestone and recognize the vital role you play in that noble cause throughout Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

With gratitude,

The Board, Committees and Staff of the Northern New York Community Foundation

Northern New York
Community Foundation
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1929 2019 TOGETHER WE CELEBRATE 90 YEARS OF COMMUNITY GIVING

THE DIFFERENCE YOUR GIFTS MAKE

YOU help to inspire our region's future

Thanks to generous donors like you, the Community Foundation began a program in 2017 to engage our region's middle school students in philanthropy. The **Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge** asks seventh- and eighth-grade students in Jefferson, St. Lawrence and Lewis counties to explore their communities as they compete, through an essay contest, for an opportunity to award a local nonprofit organization one of 20 grants of $500, for a total of $10,000.

Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge
A Northern New York Community Foundation initiative

This is the third year of the program, which is made possible by all who support the **Community Foundation's Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund** and a gift from **Community Bank, N.A.** The initiative aims to have students explore their view of "community" and select a local charitable organization for a grant award that reflects what makes their community a great place to live.

In its first two years, **43 students** have been selected to present grants totaling $20,000 to **39 different nonprofit organizations** serving tri-county residents.

The Giving Challenge remains one of the most important initiatives that our donors make possible. Support for this program is an investment not only in our community's future, but also a way to help ensure that we continue to nurture and grow an awareness, interest and appreciation for the value and fulfillment of civic engagement and responsibility.

LEWIS COUNTY OPPORTUNITIES / CROGHAN FOOD PANTRY: Mary Miller, Lewis County Opportunities; **Valery Zehr**, Beaver River Central School and 2018-19 Youth Giving Challenge winner; and **Katelin Dawley**, customer service representative, Community Bank N.A.

"Community means people of all ages, races, and types coming together, sharing talent, and teaching others. The people in a community work together to make the environment a safer and better place to live."

— Maya Voss, Watertown, Case Middle School

JEFFERSON COUNTY SPCA: Heather Spezzano, Jefferson County SPCA executive director; **Zachary Kilburn**, (now former) Case Middle School student and 2018-19 Youth Giving Challenge winner; and **Shauna Dupee**, retail services officer, Community Bank N.A.

The **Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge** is made possible by donors like **YOU** who make gifts to the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund** and the generous support from the following business leader:

Community Bank N.A.
2018-20 Program Partner