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Thoughtful Giving

Newsletter of the Northern New York Community Foundation

NONPROFIT PARTNER PROFILE

An advocate for lasting success

North Country Children's Museum values Foundation partnership

JASON HUNTER PHOTOS | FOR NNYCF

"A Community Foundation endowment makes us invest in our own future. To take that step so early is a statement of our belief in the museum's sustainability. It also tells the public and potential donors that we have a future worth investing in."

—Sharon Vegh Williams, North Country Children's Museum executive director and co-founder

WHERE PLAY MEETS EDUCATION: Top, North Country Children's Museum Executive Director **Sharon Vegh Williams** with puppets from the museum's Maple Tree Puppet Theater. Above, **Viviana Mazzariello**, 4, floats a pingpong ball using hydro dynamic levitation at the North Country Children's Museum as Science Educator **Dan Bellinger** guides her Adirondack Water Play exhibit that explores the North Country's river-based ecosystems and hydropower dams.The museum has been a Community Foundation partner since 2014.

Long before **North Country Children's Museum** Executive Director and Co-Founder **Sharon Vegh Williams** moved to St. Lawrence County, she knew that one day she'd wind up living in the North Country. With family in the area, it was just a matter of time.

She also knew that even in small communities, an innovative, educational museum where children learn and have fun doing so could succeed with the right people and organizations behind it. She spent five years working at the Boston Children's Museum where she experienced large-scale success. Years later, while living in the Four Corners area of New Mexico, she often took her two young boys to the Children's Museum of Durango in southwestern Colorado where small-scale is done well.

"I thought to myself: 'This would be a great thing to bring to the North Country," Mrs. Williams said. "There was nothing quite similar in the area. We really appeal to the entire region."

Shortly after she and her family moved to Potsdam in 2008, she began searching for partners who could help bring to life her vision for a world-class children's museum that rivaled those found in larger metropolitan cities.

She soon met **April Vasher-Dean**, a neighbor and director of the SUNY Potsdam Art Museum who would become the Children's Museum's co-founder. By 2011, the two women began to transform ideas into museum programs and had organized as a nonprofit with an active board of directors. Months later, in 2012, a summer series launched as a traveling "Museum Without Walls," presenting educational programs at 10 festivals through the season. Early success generated demand for what they were doing in the region.

"We were able to leverage the creativity and

See CHILDREN'S MUSEUM on page 18

Northern New York Community Foundation
SINCE 1929

LOCATED WITHIN THE NORTHERN NEW YORK PHILANTHROPY CENTER

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Annual donors enable so much

Few things speak as loudly as those who make a deliberate and conscious choice to touch the lives of others. Contained in this edition of Thoughtful Giving are some wonderful examples of work that donors make possible throughout Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. The people of the region continue to affirm their commitment to helping make Northern New York a better place. While the Community Foundation is home to many legacies that touch our area in specific ways, we are also blessed that donors also choose to make a real difference through their annual gifts. The names of those individuals, families, organizations and businesses who make our collective work possible are listed as donors to the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund**. They understand there is value in strengthening the region by investing in what makes it a great place. But they also believe we must continue to invest in programs to encourage and inspire others and perpetuate a culture and heritage of charitable giving that shapes our communities.

We know all of our friends by name. All those who enjoy a better community owe you gratitude for your leadership. Because of you, lives are made better. Because of you, programs that help spark civic engagement among children, youth and the next generation become a reality. Because of you, efforts to promote sharing and collaboration among charitable organizations are sustained. Perhaps greatest of all, you have made a public statement that community is a priority in your life as an extension of your values and beliefs.

Your thoughtful generosity leads by example and affirms your recognition that the broad reach of a strong community foundation touches nearly every corner of Northern New York and helps ensure immediate impact in an enduring way. As the Community Foundation prepares to mark 90 years of giving, we first thank you. Every good thing that is accomplished this year is an extension of your caring. Your gifts today build upon those that have come before. Thank you for making a conscious choice not to be a bystander in your community. Your friendship, and all that it represents, is a blessing we never take for granted. We are grateful to you for allowing us to share with you in the special way the future of our region is shaped. We hope you take pride in the way you share with us in all the good that will happen because of your generous leadership.

Community Foundation welcomes HAFF

Heather A. Freeman Foundation board recently approves move

When **Heather A. Freeman** walked into a room, she lit it up. She was a person everyone would want to have as a friend; kindness, empathy and understanding came naturally to her spirit. Everything Heather did was with passion and grace, from her sense of community to her love for her family and friends. She sincerely lived to inspire the best in others.

Not long after her untimely passing in 2007, friends and family established the **Heather A. Freeman Foundation**, "to empower others to do the best they can in the pursuit of happiness."

Since it organized more than 10 years ago, reception from the community and those who loved Heather has been monumental for the work that the foundation does in her name, said **Lynn Pietroski**, a HAFF board member and Heather's best friend.

"We realized how influential Heather was to so many people and knew we needed to continue in sharing Heather's spirit," Mrs. Pietroski said. "Many generous donors and dedicated volunteers graciously support HAFF and its mission."

While HAFF's efforts have grown, those who manage its operations turned to the Community Foundation earlier this year to explore how it could reach new success and ensure that its work would continue in perpetuity. For HAFF board members, the solution was clear and exciting as a new partnership brings it to the Community Foundation as a component charitable fund.

"The Community Foundation complements the HAFF and a partnership like this makes our effort completely sustainable," Mrs. Pietroski said. "Why not align with an organization that does many of the things that we do, but on a much larger scale and with great success? This will be the next best thing for the HAFF and take it to a level we couldn't alone."

As HAFF marks a new milestone, it is excited to continue its mission and support for many worthy charitable causes and local community-based programs. The Community Foundation is proud to have the **Heather A. Freeman Foundation Fund** as a new partner and member of its charitable family. Our communities will see the good works of HAFF for years to come.

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Youth Philanthropy Council Class of 2018-2019

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SCHOLAR STORIES

A WELL-ENGINEERED SUCCESS: Clayton resident **David C. Powers** is a 2013-2017 Northern New York Community Foundation Scholarship recipient. He is a 2017 Clarkson University graduate and now works as an engineer at **Barton & Loguidice**, Watertown.

Foundation scholar: Give time to help others

Since 1980, through the generosity of donors, the Community Foundation has awarded scholarships for post-secondary education to thousands of students in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. For many recipients, scholarships have made college more accessible. We recently caught up with **David C. Powers**, a Community Foundation Scholar, who in 2013 graduated from Thousand Islands High School and was awarded a Community Foundation scholarship. For David, who completed Clarkson's civil engineering program with a 3.8 grade-point average, that meant $9,000 to pursue his education. We asked him about his experience and what he'd tell younger students who are now looking ahead to college and careers.

DAVID C. POWERS

AGE: 23

HOMETOWN: Clayton

EDUCATION: Bachelor of Science in civil engineering with great distinction, Clarkson University, 2017; Thousand Islands High School, 2013. Community Foundation Herring College Memorial Scholarship

FAMILY: Parents, **John**, a marine technician at **Clayton Marina**; mother **Christine**, vice president and commercial loan officer, **Watertown Savings Bank**; older brother, **Adam**, also a Community Foundation Herring College Memorial Scholar and Clarkson University engineering graduate

EMPLOYER: Barton & Loguidice, Watertown

CAREER: Civil engineer in the firm's water / wastewater group

How did you learn about the Community Foundation and its many scholarship opportunities?

From my high school guidance counselor and my older brother, Adam, who earned a Community Foundation scholarship.

What prepared you for the academic rigor and challenges of engineering you experienced while studying at Clarkson?

I was always self-motivated. My mother instilled the value of professionalism in everything I did. Whether it was homework in high school or sports, she helped develop in me a drive to go after things and put my best foot forward. The transition to college was pretty easy. I had taken some college classes while I was in high school and while the material was more difficult at Clarkson, I was prepared and got used to the workload. My work ethic and motivation were instilled in high school.

You wrote in your scholarship essay now six years ago that you hoped to complete undergraduate work in engineering and then live and work in the North Country. What is special about this area that keeps you here?

I have a lot of family ties here, so I wanted to stay local and close to family. The St. Lawrence River is another key for me. I grew up on the river — a river rat if you will; that was summers on the river, ice fishing in the winter and snowmobiling. I like all the seasons of the area. I think being able to stay local and have these professional opportunities that allow me to meet all those criteria of being close to family, staying in the area that I enjoy and having the opportunity to advance my career professionally, made it kind of a no-brainer.

What discipline of engineering do you practice? What kind of projects are you engaged with?

Civil engineering with our water-wastewater group. We do a lot of water distribution projects like water storage towers, booster pumps, distribution mains; getting water to villages and towns. We work primarily with municipalities on water distribution and water treatment systems. In my hometown of Clayton, we're working on a new treatment

See SCHOLARS on page 17

Foundation partnership preserves local history

Cranberry Lake group working to restore former church as 'hub'

An effort to restore the centerpiece of community in the St. Lawrence County hamlet of Cranberry Lake has led to a project partnership with the Northern New York Community Foundation.

A group of residents who organized and formed the **Cranberry Lake North Shore Hub** is working to acquire the historic lakefront **Western Adirondack Presbyterian Church** in the heart of the hamlet on state Route 3.

Members of the Western Adirondack Presbyterian Church decided at the beginning of last summer to close and sell the church and the Presbytery of Northern New York affirmed the move. The congregation held its final Sunday service August 2018 with 38 people attending. Efforts to save the 19th-century building began almost as quickly as news of the church closure spread.

"The church couldn't continue, and we want to help preserve it," resident and board member **Denise Barstow** said. "Across the community there was a general sense of historic loss and we all thought we should at least take a shot at it. We didn't want to see the property purchased by someone who may tear it down."

"The Northern New York Commuity Foundation has been one of the primary assets in the growth of philanthropic projects here. We are their community. They believe in us; they invest in our projects and help us do the things we need to do."

— Susan M. Smith, Cranberry Lake resident

Within weeks, community meetings were held, and the Church Opportunity Steering and Advisory Committee formed with 16 community members and began planning to purchase the property. They talked with town officials who support the move but can't commit taxpayer resources. Meanwhile, the Cranberry Lake North Shore Hub filed earlier this year to incorporate as a New York State Charitable Corporation, under the name and plans to apply for 501(c)(3) designation very soon.

Cranberry Lake resident **Susan M. Smith** helped coordinate the early stages of the project. She has spent her professional career in fundraising and development and is a former Community Foundation board member. Mrs. Smith said restoring the church for use as a community gathering spot could make it a magnet to attract additional revitalization in a sliver of the Adirondacks that has struggled in recent years.

"This building was the heart of the community for decades," Mrs. Smith said. "When a piece of historic waterfront comes open and you don't have a community dock and you don't have a gathering place for people to get together on the water, it seems like a no-brainer to say, Shouldn't we at least take a shot at trying to own it?"

In partnership with the **Cranberry Lake Boat Club**, the project calls for lakefront public dockage. It has also gained wide-ranging support from current and past seasonal and year-round residents as well as community organizations like the **Clifton Community Library**, the **Volunteer Fire Department and** its **Fire Auxiliary**.

"General support for this project has been positively more than expected," Mrs. Barstow said. "People don't want to see the building either torn down and lose historic value for the town or just sit there and deteriorate for years and years. The only way we could fail was to do nothing."

While specific use of the property may evolve over time, "The idea is to create something that will serve the community, its residents and visitors forever," resident and board member June McWharf added.

As gifts poured in and began to total more than the volunteer board could easily manage, Mrs. Smith said she knew that the Community Foundation was the best choice as a partner.

"The Northern New York Community Foundation has been one of the primary assets in the growth of philanthropic projects here. They've given to the hospital and have given to build the pavilion and the playground — they've given to literally any project that's happened here," she said. "They helped us create the Clifton-Fine Community Fund with a challenge match. In one way or another, the Foundation has been a player in making positive things happen here. We are their community. They believe in us; they invest in our projects and help us do the things we need to do."

As important as the grantmaking and philanthropic support the Foundation provides, Mrs. Barstow noted the expertise and guidance from staff to volunteers is "invaluable."

Because donations for the church project are made to the Cranberry Lake Church Opportunity Fund, a component fund held at the Community Foundation, gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Donors have the flexibility to make gifts of stock or other appreciated securities. What's more, the partnership gives donors and volunteers who are managing the project assurance and peace of mind that finances are professionally managed.

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR A FUTURE: Cranberry Lake North Shore Hub Inc. board members June McWharf, left, and Darren Bullard, right, sit in the former Western Adirondack Presbyterian Church (below) with community member Susan M. Smith. The group started a project fund with the Community Foundation to help it acquire the church waterfront property and convert it to a community hub.

"We couldn't do this without the Foundation. We don't have the capacity to manage this much money ourselves," Mrs. Smith said. "The Foundation's help is also an endorsement of the effort; it gives our board credibility and affirms to donors that we are in full compliance legally and ethically."

Assembling the right people to help with the project has driven its early success, Mrs. McWharf said. Board members **Clint Farnsworth** and **Nick Hunter**, who are past commodores of the Boat Club, have helped to bring together seasonal and year-round residents.

Fundraising has continued a fast pace with now more than $200,000 in gifts and pledges.

PARTNER WITH THE FOUNDATION
If you or a charitable organization you represent would like to learn more about unique partnerships with the Community Foundation, **contact us at 315-782-7110.**

"We are honored by the wide range of donors, giving what they can to support a future for our community," board member **Darren Bullard** said. "It's garnered support from other areas, too. It's not just Cranberry Lake residents who are donating."

The building will be brought back to safe function due to the generosity and love the community has for the property. It will meet evolving needs as flexible space that can serve the community forever, Mr. Bullard said.

We are grateful to those who have made gifts in support of the Cranberry Lake Church Opportunity Fund

John & Dorothy Adami
Roger & Anita Backus
George & Eileen Ball
David & Anne Barr
Denise & Bob Barstow
Marci Dimon Bennett
Wendi & Scot Bigelow
Peter & Dottie Bragdon
Donna S. Boss Branstetter
Kirk & Connie Brown
Darren S. Bullard
Dolores Bullard, Edward E. Bullard & Loren E. Bullard
Tom & Lesley Burkard
Ronald M. Capone & William B. Gleason
Carol Cassidy
Gennaro & Sara Cibelli
Clifton Community Library
James & Susan Coughlin
Annette & Sherman Craig
Cranberry Lake Boat Club
Community Improvement Program
Cranberry Lake Fire Department Auxiliary
Cranberry Lake Volunteer Fire Department
Camille Cristaldi & Gary Pierce
Mark & Arlene Davis
Larry & Susan Denesha
Ashwin Dharman
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Herzer Family (Helen, Rick, Karl & Brian)
Clifford & Julie Higgins
Clifford & Lauren Higgins
Hiking the Trail to Yesterday
Sally & Ed Holden
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Holly Mackintosh & Rob Sidloski
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Primrose McVay
Scott, June & Braydon McWharf
Kathleen Mech
Robert & Evelyn Meredith
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David Zubin & Elaine Stathopoulos
K'Anne & Naomi Zubin

To join in helping support the Cranberry Lake Church Opportunity Fund, make gifts to the Northern York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 with a designation toward the appropriate fund. Gifts may also be made online at www.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. Community Foundation grants providing annual support to food pantries and soup kitchens across the region will appear in our summer issue.

Adams Center Free Library
Adams Center Volunteer Fire Department
Adams Fire Department
Adams Free Library
Adams Revitalization Committee
Adirondack Mennonite Camping Association
Alexandria Township Historical Society
Alzheimer's Association Central New York Chapter
American Cancer Society Eastern Division
American Maple Museum
American Red Cross of Northern New York
Antique Boat Museum
Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired of Northern New York
Canton Central School
Canton Day Care Center
Carthage Area Hospital Foundation
Carthage Area Rescue Squad
Carthage Central School District
Carthage Free Library
Catholic Charities — Diocese of Ogdensburg
Children's Home of Jefferson County
Children's Miracle Network at Samaritan
Colton Volunteer Fire Department
Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County
Cornell Cooperative Extension of St. Lawrence County
Credo Community Center Foundation
Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division
Dexter Historical Society
Disabled Persons Action Organization Foundation
Family Counseling Service of Northern New York
Food Bank of Central New York
Frederic Remington Art Museum
Friends of Lewis County Hospice
GardenShare
Gouverneur Foundation
Grasse River Heritage Area Development Corp.
Greater Watertown-North Country Chamber of Commerce
Hearts for Youth
Henderson Free Library
Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs
Henderson Historical Society
Hospice Foundation of Jefferson County
Indian River Lakes Conservancy
Jefferson Community College Foundation
Jefferson County Historical Society
Jefferson County SPCA
JRC Foundation
Lewis County Historical Society
Lewis County Hospital Foundation
Lewis County Humane Society
Lewis County Opportunities
Lorraine Volunteer Fire Company
Lowville Academy and Central School
Lowville Free Library
Lowville Rural Cemetery Association
Lyme Central School
Lyme Community Foundation
Lyme Free Library
Make-A-Wish Central New York
Massena Memorial Hospital Foundation
Mental Health Association in Jefferson County
Multiple Sclerosis Society Upstate NY Chapter
Nature Conservancy Central & Western NY
North Country Arts Council
North Country Family Health Center

See RECENT GRANTS on page 9

2018 AWARDEE

RIVER HOSPITAL: Ben Moore III, hospital CEO, **Stephanie Weiss**, hospital executive director of development, **Leo Greene**, Thousand Islands Middle School student and 2018 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner, and **Beth Todd**, Community Bank Alexandria Bay branch manager.

2017 AWARDEES

RELAY FOR LIFE: Don Boshart, senior community development manager, American Cancer Society Northeast Region, and **Mackenzie Wagoner**, Thousand Islands Central School District student and 2017 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner.

CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK AT SAMARITAN: Kristin LaClair, development manager, and **Anna Exford**, Lowville Academy and Central School student and 2017 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner.

THE DIFFERENCE YOUR GIFTS MAKE

2018 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge

Grant recipients & winning students

JEFFERSON COUNTY

$500 **American Cancer Society, Watertown**
Ryan Podvin, Case Middle School, Watertown City Schools

$500 **Food 4 Families — Food Bank of Central New York for Watertown City Schools**
Charlie Johnson, Case Middle School, Watertown City Schools

$500 **Jefferson County SPCA, Watertown**
Zachary Kilburn, Case Middle School, Watertown City Schools

$500 **Mental Health Association of Jefferson County, Watertown**
Trinity Thomas, Case Middle School, Watertown City Schools

$500 **North Country Arts Council, Watertown**
Kaidance LaFave, Case Middle School, Watertown City Schools

$500 **Stage Notes, Watertown**
Maya Voss, Case Middle School, Watertown City Schools

$500 **Watertown Lyric Theater, Watertown**
Olivia Urf, Case Middle School, Watertown City Schools

$500 **Indian River Lakes Conservancy, Redwood**
Peyton Gasser, Indian River Central School

$500 **Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson County, Watertown**
Lakaiya Butcher, Indian River Central School

$500 **River Hospital, Alexandria Bay**
Leo Greene, Thousand Islands Central School

$500 **Save the River, Clayton**
Franchesca Cartaya, Thousand Islands Central School

$500 **Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund, Clayton**
Alexandra Ives, Thousand Islands Central School

$500 **Watertown Urban Mission, Watertown**
Rebecca Leonard, Thousand Islands Central School

LEWIS COUNTY

$500 **American Maple Museum, Croghan**
Kennedy Becker, Beaver River Central School

$500 **Friends of Lewis County Hospice, Lowville**
Loryn Schack, Beaver River Central School

$500 **Lewis County Humane Society, Lowville**
Katelyn Adams, Beaver River Central School

$500 **Lewis County Opportunities — Croghan Food Pantry**
Valery Zehr, Beaver River Central School

$500 **Make-A-Wish Foundation Central New York, Syracuse**
Colin Kempney, Lowville Academy and Central School

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

$500 **Salvation Army of Ogdensburg**
Trevor Mooney, Ogdensburg Free Academy

$500 **St. Lawrence Valley SPCA, Ogdensburg**
Audrey Harradine, Ogdensburg Free Academy

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

Stage Notes
2017 Program Partner

Community Bank N.A.
2018 Program Partner

"Community is something that can survive the worst of conditions, and can spring up anywhere at any time. As long as you are around people who care about you, and you care about them, you are surrounded by community."

— Rebecca Leonard, Clayton, Thousand Islands Middle School

LEWIS COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY: Morgan Moser, Beaver River Central School student and 2017 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner, and **Margie Hedges**, Lewis County Humane Society.

Thanks to a gift from **Community Bank, N.A.**, and **generous donors** like **you**, the **Community Foundation** in February announced $10,000 in **Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge** grants to 20 North Country nonprofits.

Now in its second year, the **Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge** has grown to include St. Lawrence County schools. This year's program committee received and reviewed 87 applications from seventh- and eighth-graders.

The initiative was launched in 2017 to engage middle school students in exploring the meaning of community and empower them to recommend grants to support their concepts of strengthening the quality of life in the region. Students write an essay that articulates their definition of community and explains what makes it a great place to live, work and play. Students are then asked to name a charitable organization that makes their community a better place.

Consistent themes of "community" that appeared most often in the applications were: "people working together," "taking care of each other," "shared values," "feel safe," "supportive," and "able to be yourself."

Charitable organizations selected by students for funding range from those that provide support for basic human needs to those that enrich the region with arts and culture, environmental conservation, health care and the preservation and appreciation of regional history.

Students are now in the process of visiting their chosen charities to personally present their grant award and learn more about the organization's work and mission.

Initiatives like this help the Community Foundation fulfill its shared responsibility of honoring community legacies by helping to inspire a multigenerational approach to civic engagement and investment. Your gifts to the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund** help make this program possible.

"To me, community means a group of people living in the same town working for something better for all of them."

— Ryan Podvin, Watertown, Case Middle School

CARTHAGE YMCA: Reagan Alexander, Indian River Central School District student and 2017 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner; **Shawna Cutuli**, Watertown Family YMCA managing director of membership facilities, and **James Scordo**, Carthage YMCA Facility Supervisor.

Donors Establish New Funds

Charitable Funds
James Coughlin Fund
Heather A. Freeman Foundation Fund
Patricia E. Guldenpfennig Fund
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LEAD Council tackles child care access

Impact Grant Program launches with new annual strategic focus

The **Community Foundation's LEAD Council** has committed to address child care and early childhood development needs across the region as its strategic focus in 2019.

To help make meaningful investments that effectively address this issue and future needs, the advisory committee of 25 young professionals announced in February the launch of its **LEAD Impact Grant Program**. Eligible nonprofit organizations whose missions, programs and services target child care and early childhood development were encouraged to apply for funding through this grant opportunity.

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

The new grant program enables the Council to identify a strategic focus and allocate meaningful resources each year to address the changing needs of communities in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

The Council's decision to focus on child care and early childhood development initiatives comes at a time when the need for access to quality care in the region is at an all-time high. It is a vital component of the quality of life for many families, and investments that improve child care also help to strengthen the region and its communities. While evaluating the issue, the Council heard from several regional child care professionals who shared many strengths and challenges those in the sector face. Discussions with experts, parents, and employers helped to confirm the Council's choice to invest resources into this critical area that affects the North Country.

Many factors contribute to significant challenges for nonprofits that provide child care and early childhood development support. While some challenges in this sector may require additional resources or changes in legislation, the LEAD Council has identified a handful of areas locally where its program can make a sustainable impact.

Grant-making efforts to address this strategic focus will target four areas: programs, advocacy, accessibility and opportunities to support staff through training and professional development.

The Community Foundation has always intended that the LEAD Council's expertise and perspective would add value and help sharpen its approach in how it strategically approaches the region's challenges.

"It is a simple and an incredibly complex fact that a person's earliest years set the stage for the rest of their life," said **Joanna Loomis**, a LEAD Council member and director of provider strategy and transformation at the **North Country Initiative** in Watertown.

Across the country, advocacy for quality child care and early childhood development is building momentum. **Bruce Stewart**, executive director of the **St. Lawrence Child Care Council**, noted that raising awareness of the gaps in support is one of the north country's greatest challenges. Recent results from the **Center for Community Studies at Jefferson Community College** reflects good or fair outcomes related to availability of child care in Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties. But local municipalities continue will be used to evaluate feasible models to make improvements.

LEADING AND LEARNING: The LEAD Council learned about the strengths, gaps and hopes in the region's child care during a panel discussion with four local representatives who work in the sector in November.

"Child care and early childhood development should be thought of as infrastructure when it comes to community planning," said **Jennifer Voss**, LEAD member and senior planner with the **City of Watertown**. "It's an integral part of economic development. Child care is more than taking care of children, it's a vital component to a community's quality of life."

"Child care is more than taking care of children. It's a vital component to a community's quality of life."

— Jennifer Voss, LEAD Council member and City of Watertown senior planner

Applications for 2019 LEAD Impact Grant Program funding closed in April. The Council will evaluate proposals through the summer and announce awards in September following the Community Foundation's fall board meeting.

Contact **Max DelSignore**, Community Foundation assistant director, **315-782-7110**, or **max@nnycf.org** to learn more about the LEAD Impact Grant Program.

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

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Safe Schools Endeavor grants support 15 schools

Community Foundation partners with donors to help keep children safer

The **Safe Schools Endeavor**, in partnership with the **Community Foundation**, awarded nearly $30,000 in grants to 15 schools in Jefferson and Lewis counties for the 2018-2019 school year.

The Safe Schools Endeavor Fund committee received and reviewed a series of grant applications for programs that empower and support students, parents and faculty to create the safest school possible for schools in Jefferson and Lewis counties. This is the first year that grant recommendations have been made from the fund. Earlier this year, the Community Foundation offered a $20,000 matching grant for gifts contributed to support the initiative.

RESPECTING DIFFERENCES: Students at Watertown's Sherman Elementary School participate in an anti-bullying exercise on March 7. A Safe Schools Endeavor grant brought national anti-bullying speaker Keith Deltano to the school. Visit dontbullyonline.com to learn more. (Photo courtesy of Andy Burns)

"The Safe Schools Endeavor committee is incredibly grateful to all the individual, group, and business donors who have made this possible," said **Erika Flint**, steering committee chairwoman. "Because of their generosity, students, teachers and administrators at these 15 school buildings have been empowered to make their school safer. We look forward to carrying this mission forward as each of the schools implement their funded projects."

Jeff-Lewis BOCES Superintendent **Stephen Todd** said the Safe Schools Endeavor is a "game-changer" because "it's all about empowerment."

"This program empowers the school community and its members to become active agents in coming up with and implementing ways to make our schools safer," Mr. Todd said.

Mr. Todd is also a member of the Community Foundation Board of Directors and serves on the Safe Schools Endeavor Committee.

"Any time we as a Community Foundation can empower people to take positive action, it's a wonderful thing," Mr. Todd added.

The Community Foundation believes efforts like this are always more powerful when the citizens and organizations of our communities take a proactive role to make it happen. Donor response to the Safe Schools Endeavor provided a very loud statement that it is something important and valuable to local schools, parents and students.

The Community Foundation Board of Directors unanimously approved the following **Safe Schools Endeavor** grants:

- **Alexandria Central School**, $2,200 to purchase the Raptor Security System.
- **Augustinian Academy**, Carthage, $1,234.25 to fund the "Child Lures Prevention" program.
- **Carthage Middle School**, $2,000 to fund "Positive Behaviors Interventions and Supports" campus assemblies.
- **Case Middle School**, Watertown City School District, $2,500 to purchase lockdown items.
- **Copenhagen Central School**, $1,945 to fund the "Mindful Educator Course."
- **Immaculate Heart Central School**, Watertown, $1,518 to fund the "Stop the Bleed" program.
- **Indian River Middle School**, Philadelphia, $2,467.90, to purchase safety vests, radios and trauma bags.
- **LaFargeville Central School District**, $1,418, to purchase manikins and an automated external defibrillator.
- **Lowville Academy and Central School**, $1,970.19 to purchase security monitors.
- **Lyme Central School District**, $1,518 to fund the "Stop the Bleed" program.
- **Sackets Harbor Central School District**, $2,100, to purchase security cameras.
- **Sherman School**, Watertown City School District, $2,500 to fund an anti-bullying assembly.
- **South Jefferson Middle and High schools**, $1,500 to fund a motivational speaker program.
- **Watertown City Schools Learning Center**, $2,500 to purchase a public address system.
- **Watertown Middle and High schools**, $2,000 to fund a "Campus Impressions" program.

RECENT GRANTS from page 5

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The Northern New York Community Foundation sincerely thanks all of last year's annual fund donors who help us support the quality of life in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. **Every gift, large and small,** enables a more effective pursuit of our collective work and mission to enhance the region. We hope you will consider renewing your support in the year ahead. **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

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Joan Grappotte Carlo

Kendrick F. Grosse, Jr.
Rande Richardson

Thomas F. Hanley
Cynthia R. Ahlheim
Robert Caswell
Jeff & Mary Perrine
Rande Richardson

Louise B. Haslam
Edwin & Debra Thompson

Jean B. Heady
Robert Caswell

Marian J. Hills
Betty G. Andrews
Robert Caswell
Rande Richardson

Lee Hirschey
Claire J. Cox

Sean D. Howard
Kelly & Brian Merchant

Rev. Kirk A. Hudson
Carolyn P. Hudson

Maria Isobel Ibanez
Robert Caswell

Patrick M. Jank
Robert Caswell

LaRue H. Jones
Robert Caswell

Phyllis Kirch
Margaret J. Cook

Edward J. Kirkland
Rick Barrisford
Robin & Kirsten Barrisford
Mary & Bill Dasno
Don & Lenore LaDuke
Evelyn & Michael Kormanik
Rande Richardson
Bonnie Turley

William Kissel
Rande Richardson
Ray & Janet Richardson

Margaret M. Loftus
Mary E. Loftus

Don Logana
David J. Males

Robert G. L'Huillier
Rande Richardson

Garrett Loomis
Gary A. Loomis &
Amy Summerville-Loomis

Timothy J. Maloney
Robert Caswell

Kris D. Marsala
Robert Caswell

Alan J. Merchant
Kelly & Brian Merchant

Elnora Mesires
T. Urling & Mabel Walker

Robert, Nicholas, Elnora & Mary Mesires
Maria Mesires

Dr. & Mrs. John Meyerdierks
William Shuman &
Elizabeth Meyerdierks

Andy Mider
Paul Wells

Daniel Moriarty
Rande Richardson

Emmeline Morris
Harold & Gloria Rothschild

Jane Munson
Linda J. Holley

My Parents
Virginia R. Palumbo

Jacob & Lena Navarro
Roxanne & Philip Pratt

Joseph & Angeline Oliver
Jan B. Oliver

Our Parents
Mari L. Cecil & Cynthia E. Brenon

Hon. John S. Parker
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

George Persson
Anthony Moshano

Patricia Phillips
Janet E. Phillips

Bill Pine
Sandra Haight

William Pinkney III
Robert Caswell

Douglas S. Quintin
Theresa L. Quintin

Merrick Reed
Alan Reed

Dr. William Reed & Rebecca Reed
Lucy Reed Foltyniak

Donald W. Reid
Sandra Haight

William Revelle
Cynthia R. Ahlheim

Ruth & Elmer Richardson
Ray & Janet Richardson

Mary Alice Robinson
Cynthia R. Ahlheim
Gregory & Katherine Couch
Windsor & Kay Price

Margaret Ryan
James T. Keel
T. Urling & Mabel Walker

Joseph P. Sanzone Jr.
Robert Caswell
Gregory & Katherine Couch
Andrea & Eric DeLaGarza
Dry Timber Lake Inc.
Rande Richardson

John Scarlett
Stephen & Vici Diehl
David Duff & Susie Wood

Henry Schick
Nancy A. Boynton
Claire Cox
Linda J. Holley
Roxanne & Philip Pratt

Donald Scott
Sally L. Scott

Emily Seaker
Hilliard G. Seaker*

MaeBelle Kissel Shearn
Ray & Janet Richardson

Louise Simmons
Dr. Henry J. & Jan Henderson

Wilfreda B. Stone
Sally Wodell Stevens
T. Urling & Mabel Walker

Clark W. "Bill" Stoodley, Sr.
Rande Richardson

Elizabeth Ann Storey
Robert Caswell

Dr. George S. Sturtz
Sherry M. Wilson

Sarah (Sally) Purcell Tebbutt
Cynthia R. Ahlheim
Robert Caswell
Gregory & Katherine Couch
William & Kimberly Couch
William & Margaret Couch
Rande Richardson

Therese T. Thomson
Ronald G. Thomson

Pauline E. Tidd
Dr. Lisa M. Scrivani-Tidd &
Mr. Roderick J. Tidd

John H. & Marcia S. Treadwell
Joan Treadwell Woods

John Wyatt Uhlein
Robert Caswell

Anthony Urbanczyk
LaRayne Sue Urbanczyk

Peter Van de Water
Elaine A. White

Alex Varakuta
Nancy A. Morse

Alex C. Velto
Lee & Shirley Clary
Jeanne Emery-Velto
Bob & Janet Quinn
Louise & Mark Scarlett
Susan L. Washburn &
Kristin V. Rehder
Sherry M. Wilson

Lawson M. Virkler
Carol B. Virkler

H. Sargent Whittier Jr.
Lynn B. Whittier

Henry & Emily Willmott
Thomas & Barbara Willmott

Donna M. Wise
William & Kimberly Couch
Rande Richardson

Donald W. Zahn
Rande Richardson

In Honor of
Given by

Shaun Bondellio's Birthday
Neil & Honey Katzmann

Elizabeth Chase, RN
Deborah W. Morrell

Margaret Clary
Lee & Shirley Clary

Gary Croniser
Richard & Ellen Bush

Constable Hall Association Inc.
Hon.* & Mrs. John S. Parker

Elinor Walton Ducat
Jack Ducat

Urla F. Raynor's Birthday
Dr. & Mrs. Glen D. Snell

*Deceased

JAY F. STONE 1937-2019

Our region has been blessed with individuals for whom community is at the core of their existence. **Jay Stone** lived his life always trying to improve the region and positively affect the lives of others. We are grateful that this path also brought him to serve on the Community Foundation's board beginning in 2010 and continued until he passed away on April 12, 2019, at the age of 81. He didn't just believe in the promise of what philanthropy can do for a community, he advocated for it through his devotion of time, talent and treasure.

As a board member, he challenged many points of view, working always to ensure the Community Foundation made the right investments for the right reasons at the right time. Jay was a deeply devoted family man, business leader, and selfless advocate for the North Country, giving generously of his time and talent while supporting a broad range of local organizations and endeavors. He recognized the good that charitable giving on a local level can do and how, when thoughtfully stewarded, it can make a bold and lasting impact. He was the owner and operator of **Hyde-Stone Mechanical Contractors**, Watertown, and upheld its commitment to give charitably and improve the quality of life for others in the North Country. In 2012, his company was the first to establish a charitable foundation within the Community Foundation. The firm's charitable foundation continues to formalize its reinvestment efforts in support of nonprofit organizations and schools. Since its inception, others have followed the example that the Jay and the **Hyde-Stone Mechanical Contractors Charitable Foundation** set.

"Our family and this company have always understood our responsibility to reinvest in the communities that have contributed so much to our success," Jay said at the time.

His generosity extended to other Community Foundation programs, supporting the LEAD Council and helping to develop future generations of North Country leaders. He and his wife, **Dawn**, and their three sons and daughter, were instrumental in making the vision for the Philanthropy Center a reality.

We are honored for the blessing of Jay and Dawn's friendship. We are grateful for having earned their trust, respect and support. We join Jay's family in expressing sincere gratitude to all who chose to honor Jay's life in this enduring and meaningful way. The work Jay accomplished in his lifetime will continue to positively impact the lives of others for this generation and the next. We will greatly miss his kind counsel, vision for a better region and steady hand of leadership.

Established by his family and friends at the time of his passing, the **Jay Stone Community Fund** will be a permanent, board-designated fund that will make grants to support his community, perpetuate his legacy and inspire others to do the same, just as he did in his lifetime. We are fortunate to have known Jay, and even more honored that he and his family placed their trust in the Community Foundation to remain partners in making this North Country the best it can be. Both the community fund and the charitable foundation are enduring reminders of the difference a caring, giving spirit can make.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Jay F. Stone

Ann Adams & Ronald Bovay
Mary & Lou Buddeson
Robert Caswell
Charlie & Jill Commeret
Max & Sara DelSignore
Kirk & Karen Denny
Frank A. Empsall III
Gretchen G. Eysaman
Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Josephine Frederick & Family
Jenny, Vickey & Greg Fredericks
Scott Frost / Lakewood Construction Services, Inc.
Jefferson Concrete Corp.
The MADA Group — Friends of Jay
Tony & Kay Morgia
Jeff & Mary Perrine
Mark & Maria Purcell
Rande Richardson
The Staff of Hyde-Stone Mechanical Contractors, Inc.
Dave & Mary Stone
Dawn M. Stone and family
Kathryn G. Stone
Janet B. Taylor
T. Urling & Mabel Walker
Dave & Karen Walton
Watertown Savings Bank

To join others in helping to honor Jay F. Stone, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Dr. Douglas M. Sanford

Dr. Douglas M. Sanford never stopped learning during a storied career as a physician in the North Country, providing care for others with genuine compassion for their well-being. An Ogdensburg native and valedictorian of his graduating class at Ogdensburg Free Academy, Dr. Sanford's passion for the North Country was a deep as his roots. Always with a generous spirit, Dr. Sanford practiced medicine for 34 years in Watertown as an ear, nose and throat specialist, retiring in 2001. He left a lasting imprint on his community, becoming a vital part of the lives of many families as he cared for their health. His love for community was equally matched by his love for country during service in the U.S. Army from 1958 to 1967. Dr. Sanford's service to others continued when he returned to the North Country and devoted himself to scores of patients in private practice in Watertown and on the medical and surgical staffs of the former Mercy Hospital and the House of the Good Samaritan. Throughout his career and life, he remained active in his community and church, supporting many worthy causes and organizations he held dear, including those that enriched the culture of our region through the arts and music he so loved. Together with his wife, **Mary Rose**, they raised a family of four children. As a fitting tribute to his devotion to countless children for whom he provided medical care and his love for family, the **Dr. Douglas M. Sanford Scholarship** has been established at the Community Foundation to honor his legacy of service. We are grateful to Mary and his family to be a part of the special way that Dr. Sanford will continue to touch the lives of our youth as they venture on paths of learning with the same zest that brought joy to a life so well lived.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Dr. Douglas M. Sanford

Cynthia R. Ahlheim & Family
Alfred University Wellness Center Staff
Betty G. Andrews
Kyle & Ticia Aumell
Waring & Audrey Blackburn
Paul W. & Martha J. Brown
Robert Caswell
CCSU Friends of Kathy & Dave Sanford
William & Margaret Couch
Aaron Curtin
Aidan Curtin
Martha & Kevin Curtin & Family
Edith Dundon
Harold & Marsha Ferguson
Christina Mesires Fournaris
Janet J. George
Eric & Joyce Gaglione
Marsha G. Goings
Dr. Henry J. & Jan Henderson
Kay F. Jenkins & Miriam K. MacKinnon
Jill H. Johnson
Michael & Nancy Johnson
Susan & Harold Johnson
Pamela A. Kennedy
Christy L. Kinne
Adam M. Kowalski
Janet Sanford Kowalski & David Kowalski
Jason Kowalski
Nathan Kowalski
Joanne & Mark Lavarnway
Joan E. Lehrack
Dennis & Kathy Lenfert
Paul & Jesi
Chris & Cassandra
Clara & Nate
Greg & Brittany
Renee Lustick
Brendan MacCurtin
Carolyn Marlowe
Virginia S. McCreary
Hope R. Metcalf
Karen Parsons & Andrew Kornick
Jeff & Mary Perrine
Noah Perrine
Dave & Michelle Pfaff
Peter & Laurie Pike
Dr. John & Gina Poggi
Theresa L. Quintin
Rande Richardson
Peter & Shirley Salmon
David C. & Kathy Sanford & Family
Mary Sanford
Pattie Schreck
Dale & Marianne Scott
William Shuman & Elizabeth Meyerdierks
The Thomas Family
T. Urling & Mabel Walker
Dave & Karen Walton
Sherry M. Wilson
Watertown Morning Musicales, Inc.

To join others in helping to honor Dr. Douglas M. Sanford, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Dennis J. Laemmermann

After the sudden passing in March of **Dennis J. Laemmermann**, friends and family responded to honor his life in a lasting and meaningful way. A skilled and creative chef, Dennis grew up in Watertown. He was well-known in the North Country culinary industry and was a longtime owner and operator of the Palace Luncheonette and the Palace Deli and Carousel Catering. He most recently worked in his "dream job" as head chef of Spokes, downtown Watertown. Dennis was a passionate advocate for his hometown and a faithful member of Trinity Episcopal Church. Along with his husband, **Thomas H. Peterson**, he was an enthusiastic patron of the arts and an active participant in local theater groups, working backstage, onstage and in the orchestra as a percussionist. With Thomas, he was a father to four children. Family and friends will always remember his infectious smile and compassion for others. The **Chef Dennis J. Laemmermann Culinary Arts Scholarship** is an enduring tribute to his life and love for the culinary arts and the place he called home. Contributions in his memory will help build this a permanent fund at the Community Foundation. We are honored to share with friends and family in this meaningful legacy.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Dennis J. Laemmermann

Kyle & Ticia Aumell
Nancy A. Boynton
Donald & Gail Butterfield
Robert Caswell
Gregory & Katherine Couch
Mary Coe Foran & Chris Foran
Jane Gendron
Brett & Allison Gorham
Bonnie & Tom Howard
Tom & Sue Hunt
Jill H. Johnson
Michael & Nancy Johnson
Wendy Keeney-Kennicutt
Sherry Laemmermann
Liz, Glenn, Dan & Anne Marie LaFave
David & Nancy Mance
Jane Montgomery
Deborah W. Morrell
Darcy, Ted & Shane Peterson
Thomas H. Peterson
Cathy M. Pircsuk & James Burr
Anne E. Piroli
Jim Randall & Carmen Sweet
Rande Richardson
John & Ann Sudduth
Laurie Collier Taylor & Thomas Collier
Paul D. & Lynn W. Trimper
Steven & Ruth-Ellen Van Arnam
Sherry M. Wilson

To join others in helping to honor Dennis J. Laemmermann, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Lis S. Couch

During her lifetime, **Lis Couch** sought ways to improve the lives of others. Her love of the place where she and her husband, **George**, raised a family was an integral part of her life. She supported many local organizations with time, talent and treasure. She was a generous benefactor for many charitable causes in the North Country, including the Samaritan Medical Center Auxiliary, Trinity Episcopal Church, Flower Memorial Library, and the Jefferson County Historical Society. She also loved her time volunteering and painting with her friends at the Thousand Islands Arts Center in Clayton. While much of her example will live on in all those whose lives she touched, including through her five sons, a part of her will always remain as an extension of her thoughtful generosity. The North Country was fortunate to have Lis in its midst. Her passion for goodness will long be remembered as an inspiring example of a life well lived. The Community Foundation is grateful to join with her family and friends in helping to extend her acts of kindness in the community she loved so much.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Lis S. Couch

Cynthia R. Ahlheim & Family
Robert Caswell
Gregory & Katherine Couch
William & Kimberly Couch
John & Martha Crapser
Dr. William A. Dallas
Andrea & Eric DeLaGarza
Dry Timber Lake, Inc.
Christina Mesires Fournaris
Margaret Fiorentino
Janet J. George
Jayn Maxon Graves
Deborah Hirschey
Kevin A. Kieff
Mary & Ted Mascott
The Meyerdierks Family
Jim & Martha O'Donnell
The Quigg Family
William Shuman & Elizabeth Meyerdierks
Rande Richardson
George S. Smith
Janet B. Taylor
T. Urling & Mabel Walker
Dave & Karen Walton
Walda Wildman & Mack Maguire
Watertown Morning Musicales, Inc.

To join others in helping to honor Lis S. Couch, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Edward R. Watkins

Edward R. Watkins was an educator who spent 35 years influencing the lives of students at Lowville Academy and Central School. He began teaching at Vergennes High School in Vermont and moved to Lowville in 1955 where he taught social studies and coached football, track, and basketball. He later became a guidance counselor, summer school principal and Director of Guidance until he retired in June 1990. As a young man, he proudly served in the U.S. Navy as an airman apprentice. Ed was married to **June** for nearly 69 years. Together, they raised six children. During his lifetime, he impacted many individuals and families. His legacy is the hundreds of students he guided to make decisions to enable success and the athletes who called him "coach" until his passing in April. He was a very active member of St. Peter's Catholic Church and his community, serving on the boards of many local organizations. The **Edward Watkins Determination Scholarship Award**, a permanent fund at the Community Foundation, will serve as an enduring reminder of Ed's legacy and desire to help others. We are honored to join **June** and Ed's family in extending his life work in this special and meaningful way.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Edward R. Watkins

Kelly & Anthony Adsit
The Bodden Family
William & Patricia Burke
Richard & Ellen Bush
Ernest T. & Henie P. Campany
Cherry Road School Employees
Renee M. Cobb
Jen & Herb Condrey
Rodney & Joanne Dicob
Mary K. & Paul K. Gothe
Pamela Hanno
Katie & Kevin Hebbel
Edward & Laurel Leahy
Phyllis C. Mattis
Maureen Mulderig
Richard Nailing & Janet E. Schoff
Ann M. Persons
Candice & John Pietruch
Ellen J. & Thomas J. Pietruch Sr.
Kelly Pietruch
John & Susan Ross
Randall Schell
James A. & Anne Schoff
William L. & Susan J. Schoff
David L. & Laurie E. Sparks
Karen E. Stowell
Debra B. Strianese
John & Ann Sudduth
Robin L. Urbaniak
William H. & Mary B. Wormuth
Thomas J. Yousey II

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

A love for others that will last forever

Scholarship reflects kindness, spirit of generous drive to serve

Throughout his 18 years, **Luke A. Tyrrell** demonstrated a zeal for life made richer by the connections he made with those he met in ways that made them feel loved. His unbridled enjoyment of life — especially the outdoors — led to many adventures while fishing, hunting, dirt-biking and snowmobiling. Dozens of North Country families and friends responded to honor his life after his tragic passing in December following a snowmobile accident. A son to **Neal A. and Tina M. (Smith) Tyrrell**, Luke grew up in Adams and graduated in 2018 from South Jefferson Central School. He was attending Jefferson Community College with the ambition of becoming a New York State Trooper. Luke had recently been accepted into the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol Internship Program, where he would have served locally. He also held a part-time job while he continued his education. To honor his life and memory, family and friends have established the **Luke A. Tyrrell Memorial Scholarship** for South Jefferson Central School graduates, permanently home at the Community Foundation. The trust that his parents, **Neal** and **Tina**, and his three sisters, **Samantha**, **Lia** and **Megan**, have placed with the Foundation to ensure that his legacy will continue in perpetuity, is remarkable. There is no greater honor than to be the steward of such a precious gift.

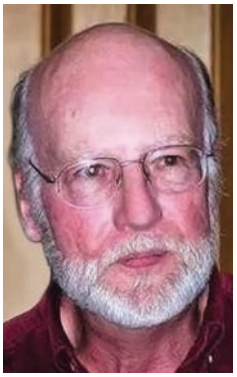
Tribute gifts in memory of
Luke A. Tyrrell

Nancy & Howard Abbott
Adams Center Free Library
Adams Village Baptist Church
Michael & Tamera Alexander
Ames Brothers Service Center
Azz Dogz — Northern Chapter / Jennifer Woodard
The Backus Family
P.J. & Jennifer Banazek
Thomas Barber
Gerard Barry
Berry Brothers Lumber LLC
Christa Bertram
Barbara Betrus
Betty J. Brett
David & Polly Brown
Doris Votra Brown
Maureen Burns-Gorman
Richard & Ellen Bush
Charles & Donna Casler
Tammy L. Castor
Catherine M. Clark
Claudia Davies & Greg Le Claire
Edwin & Kelly Davis
Kirk & Karen Denny
Mike, Mary & Shea Denny
DeWitt Construction Corp.
Deborah & Steven Doe
Loretta Eastman
Brian & Heidi Edgar
Dennis & Mik Espinoso
Danny & Sherrie Estal
Mark & Yvonne Getman
David & Melanie Geurtsen
Dan, Maja, Spencer & Maxwell Gray
Ralph & Christine Green
Scott & Jolie Green
Julie J. & Gregory M. Hall
Lori Hamilton
Marian Higgins
Hi-Lite Group Charitable Foundation
Carol J. Hodkinson
John Hoffman
Patricia Isham & Hannah Isham
JRW Auto Rental Inc
John & Mary Kelley
Jody L. Kennedy
Dr. Scott & KI LaClair
Carolynn E. Dorman LaPointe
Heather Lavarnway
Gloria Lawrence
Erik Lowe
Michael A. & Maryellen McCarthy
Linda & Chris McDonald
Jessica Messler
Tony & Kay Morgia
Mary M. Mulligan
Deanna R. Nelson
Ron & Judy Newton
Steven R. & Elizabeth E. Newton
Northern Credit Union
Brian & Tricia Nortz
George W. Nugent
Maren Ann & Richard C. Percoski
Betty Tyner Pine & Family
The Family of Eric & Cynthia Pominville
Sharon K. Pope
Gregory G. & Lisa P. Porter
Dave & Andrea Precourt
Christine A. Robinson
Samaritan Keep Home Employees
Samaritan Medical Center Human Resources Department
Samaritan Summit Village Employees
Kenneth L. & Fiona Santoianni
Dale & Marianne Scott
Brian Sheley
Sally & Dave Smith
Jon & Laura Snow
South Jefferson Central School
James & Nancy Spicer
Tim & Paula Strough & Family
Pamela E. B. Thomas & Whitney, Madison & Andrew Thomas
Roger & Anne Tibbetts & Family
Jodi Towne
Ann Tyrrell
Bob & Cindy Tyrrell
Jeff & Carrie Tyrrell
Patricia & Bruce Tyrrell
Donald Votra
Marvin Votra
Barry & Ellen Waite
Fred & Gail Walker
Grailey, Brad, & Ella Walton
Kelly Widrick
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Wilson & Family

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

Generosity will endure in perpetuity with memorial scholarship

Harry L. Minnich Jr.'s family honors a life well lived for man known as Watertown's 'Mr. Fix-It'



Harry L. Minnich Jr. was a generous man who was well known for his ability to repair everything from watches and clocks to wheelchairs. Affectionately named Watertown's "Mr. Fix-It," in a *Watertown Daily Times* story, former *Times* writer Jim Higgins described him as "somebody who can look at a machine or a gadget, and can understand how it works, and then fix it." Through his skills, he impacted the lives of many in the greater Watertown area.

Mr. Minnich's legacy will continue in perpetuity through the establishment of a scholarship at the **Community Foundation** that will support **Jefferson County** students who pursue vocational education and trade school. We are honored to work with Mr. Minnich's family to steward a scholarship that will bear his name and serve as one of the lasting ways he will be remembered.

Mr. Minnich died in September at the age of 74. His wife and children recently established the **Harry L. Minnich Jr. "Mr. Fix-It" Memorial Scholarship** to perpetuate his legacy. He was owner and operator of the Copper Tree Gift Shop in Watertown from 1978 to 2003, and later worked in the IT department at Marra's Homecare, retiring in 2010.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Harry L. Minnich Jr.

Patricia A. Minnich
Watertown Internists, PC
Sherry M. Wilson

To join others in helping to honor Harry L. Minnich Jr., make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Life that brought joy, inspiration to so many lives on

Ann B. Northrop 'You'll Never Walk Alone' Scholarship will help music, arts students

For many years, **Ann B. Northrop** was an integral part of arts in her community. She shared her talents with people of all ages as a piano and voice teacher, performer and director. Not only did she contribute to this region's quality of life, she sparked an interest in others to discover their own personal connection with music and theater.

When someone has such an ability to bring joy to others during their lifetime, it is fitting when a path is found to perpetuate that energy and provide a tangible reminder of the importance of continuing it. Each year, the **Ann B. Northrop "You'll Never Walk Alone" Scholarship** will be awarded to a student for whom music and the arts are an important part of their story and who embody Ann's caring, giving spirit.

The scholarship takes its name from Rodgers and Hammerstein's Carousel, which Ann directed for Watertown Lyric Theater in November 1981. May we always look to Ann's example in our own lives and may we celebrate the ability of one life to touch others in ways that shape our human experience and cause us to find our own paths toward caring, nurturing, inspiring and reassuring students that they are not walking alone.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Ann B. Northrop**

Nancy A. Boynton
Susan Buduson
Robert Caswell
David & Jean Kenney
Rande Richardson
Mary Sanford
Barbara A. Strauss
Steven & Ruth-Ellen Van Arnam
Susan L. Whitney

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

Legacy will impact countless lives for generations

Scholarship honors music educator, affirms importance of music as part of human experience

Educators touch the lives of so many in amazing ways. Each of us can think of teachers who have positively influenced our lives and helped shape who we have become. The North Country's classrooms have been blessed with incredibly committed, passionate and caring individuals. **Edward Ruble** was a music teacher for the **Watertown City School District** for decades. Those who were fortunate to have known Ed, knew of his amazing gift to lead young minds to seek a deeper relationship with the arts. In doing so, we celebrate the power of one individual who will indelibly impact lives for generations. With Ed's death, we lost a man of great inspiration, and through the **Edward Ruble Music Scholarship** at the Community Foundation, the importance of music as an essential part of the human experience will be affirmed. In so doing, we hold up Ed's life as an example of how one life can touch so many others. We are honored to help continue his legacy well into the future.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Edward Ruble**

Cinda Alteri
Carole Amedeo
Honorable Martha E. Bellinger, Ret.
John & Sharon Bondellio
Nancy A. Boynton
Joseph & Mary (Bura) DiMasi
Harold & Marsha Ferguson
Janice P. & Thomas W. Fife
Bob & Jane Golden
Cindy & Stanley Graham
Floyd C. & Susan S. Kitto
Roxanne & Barry Pratt
Lee (Ruble) Prugar & John Prugar
Holly L. Prugar
Nancy L. Relyea
Rande Richardson
Andrea L. Wischerath

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

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project there. It's been very rewarding to be able to work in the communities that shaped me and be able to give back.

You credit your parents for developing your character and helping you to become the man you are today. What service activities are you involved with today that you have continued from your formative years?

I'm involved with community service and still volunteer at the food pantry in Clayton and, during the holidays, ring the bell for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign. I like to stay active as well, participating in a golf league in Clayton enables me to interact with the community and meet many different professionals. My firm encourages professional development, so that keeps me busy and focused on never settling for mediocrity. I'm also preparing for the Professional Engineering licensing exam. You have to practice under a licensed professional for four years before you can sit for that. In May, I'll be two years into that.

What's important about participating in community service for younger generations?

Everyone needs to realize that no matter what situation you're in, there's always someone who is dealing with something worse. When you have the time and the resources to try to better the lives of others, it goes a long way. You have to help those who can't help themselves.

What would you tell high school students now considering college and career options?

You really need to do your research. I was lucky to have my brother who had just gone through Clarkson. I learned quite a bit about the engineering program through him. I also had thought about dentistry in high school. Thousand Islands High School has a mandatory internship program and you have to do a weeklong internship in your senior year. During that week I went to Dr. Kellie Sanzone, where I had my braces. I spent a week with her learning about orthodontics and found out that it wasn't for me. Had I gone down that path and realized halfway in then it would have been worse for the wear. Do your research ahead of time, talk to professionals in the fields you're considering, and make the most informed decisions you can. Don't just rush into it just because you want to go to college.

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.**

Charitable contributions a 'non-factor' in domicile

Can a donor make a contribution to a New York-based charity and not have it affect his or her legally declared "domicile" in another state? Absolutely!

Clients frequently ask how they can effectuate the change of their "residence" from New York to another jurisdiction with a more friendly tax code.

However, the change of "residence" is not really the issue. In order to avoid New York income and estate tax, a donor must change his or her "domicile."

Individuals may have many residences, but they can only have one home — or domicile — for purposes of income and estate taxes. Your domicile is where you call home, it is the place to which you return to when you are away for any reason. It is where you vote, collect your mail, where your medical providers are, and where you have made your roots into the community.

When taxpayers attempt to leave New York for another jurisdiction, they must prove that they intended to, and then actually did, effect the change from the former jurisdiction to the new one. A mere change in residence without an intention to actually change your domicile — for example, make your new home — will not be sufficient to escape New York taxes. Again, the mere move to another jurisdiction is not enough. The taxpayer must "abandon" New York State as his home and establish all of the ties which constitute a new domicile in the new state.

New York State has issued guidelines for its auditors which include the "rules" the auditors are expected to follow when auditing a taxpayer with regard to a change of domicile. These guidelines divide the factors to be considered into two groups: primary factors, and secondary factors. If the primary factors are not satisfied, auditors do not even consider the secondary factors. None of the primary factors is alone, significant. They must be evaluated together. Primary factors are:

MARCY ROBINSON DEMBS

Significantly, the (state) auditor's guidelines specifically state that the taxpayer's charitable contributions are a "non-factor" and are not to be taken into account in determining domicile.

HOME — The taxpayer's and his immediate family's idea of home, and where the taxpayer has established ties to his community, the size and value of the residence in New York as compared to the other jurisdiction, whether the residence in New York is for sale, or is seasonal.

ACTIVE BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT — The taxpayer's continued employment or active participation in a New York business.

TIME — Where the taxpayer spends his time when not in New York. If the taxpayer is not in New York State, but is not in the new jurisdiction he claims is his domicile, the evidence that he has established his domicile in the new jurisdiction is more difficult to establish.

NEAR AND DEAR — The location of the taxpayer's pets, family heirlooms, family photographs, and those items of tangible personal property which "enhance the quality of the taxpayer's life."

FAMILY CONNECTIONS — Where the taxpayer's family members live, where holidays are celebrated, how often the taxpayer returns to New York to see his grandchildren, for instance.

Significantly, the auditor's guidelines specifically state that the taxpayer's charitable contributions are a "non-factor" and are not to be taken into account in determining domicile. Indeed, an "Opinion of Counsel" issued on Nov. 22, 1984, specially stated that … "it is the policy of the Department that the making of contributions to a New York State charity will not be taken into account in determining domicile under New York's personal income tax."

MARCY ROBINSON DEMBS is a North Country native and a partner in the regional law firm Barclay Damon. She is based in Syracuse and Watertown. She focuses her practice in the areas of trusts and estates. Marcy has been practicing for more than 30 years throughout Central New York while maintaining a large presence in the North Country, furthering a commitment to families and business owners in New York. She serves as a Trusts & Estates Practice Area co-chair. She holds a Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from Syracuse University College of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from Middlebury College.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM from page 1

brain power of the university in Potsdam and the theater program at Crane School of Music," Mrs. Williams said.

Still, they needed a partner that was willing to invest in the museum's future and help it transition to a sustainable organization. That's what "naturally developed with the Community Foundation," Mrs. Williams said.

"When we started talking about a children's museum in Potsdam, some people thought of a basement playground; I thought 'Smithsonian standard,'" she said. "If it was going to take a little longer, we were going to do it right."

Doing it right, as it happened, is exactly how it went with the Foundation.

In 2014, the Foundation awarded a grant to develop the museum's "Sound Experience" prototype. It was coupled with a matching grant to establish an museum endowment at the Community Foundation, which was met within a year and gave the organization an enduring resource.

SHOP AND LEARN: Victoria Mazzariello, 2, center, buys groceries at the North Country Children's Museum Kids Co-Op and Bakery. The interactive exhibit encourages imaginative play, healthy eating, and mathematical concepts like numeracy and measuring, while giving kids a hands-on natural food store experience right at their eye level.

"A Community Foundation endowment makes us invest in our own future. To take that step so early is a statement of our belief in the museum's sustainability, Mrs. Williams said. "It also tells the public and potential donors that we have a future worth investing in."

What's more, Mrs. Williams said an endowment has been important evidence of a plan for sustainability as the Children's Museum applies for larger, national grants and funding to grow and expand programs.

In 2017, the museum purchased a historic building in the center of downtown Potsdam at 10 Raymond Street to house its permanent exhibits and programs. Through its move, the Community Foundation has been a consistent supporter, granting $15,000 in early 2018 to help the museum reach a →

JASON HUNTER PHOTOS | FOR NNYCF

Noah Burgoyne, 7, interacts with the Everbright Wall at the North Country Children's Museum. The wall is an interactive feature in the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) Power exhibit.

$1 million campaign goal and later complete a wheelchair ramp at the facility.

The North Country Children's Museum is this area's first cultural institution geared toward children and their caregivers. To date, it has successfully raised more than $1.5 million to create the museum. It is devoted to creating a cultural and educational center for North Country families that encourages a hands-on learning experience.

From its humble beginnings as a traveling museum, it is now a permanent fixture for learning in St. Lawrence County, attracting more than 10,000 visitors and 440 member families in its first eight months of operation.

PARTNER WITH THE FOUNDATION
If you or a nonprofit organization you represent would like to learn more about unique partnerships with the Community Foundation or other options to support your favorite school, church or charity in perpetuity, **contact us at 315-782-7110.**

"Our partnership with the Community Foundation has been a catalyst to open," Mrs. Williams said. "They've been there since the beginning, believing in an idea and stepping in to help us open our doors."

Mrs. Williams said she and her board of directors see the partnership continuing "for years to come."

"We're just getting started in our first year here," she said. "We have a big, empty upstairs that within five years we want to fill with more high-quality exhibits and programs. But we didn't get here by one person trying to do everything. Collaboration and good relationships with partners like the Community Foundation have meant the difference between something that lasted a few summers and something that has a future."

The North Country Children's Museum is open to visitors Wednesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is $8 for all ages; 12 months and younger and museum members are admitted free. Learn more at **northcountrychildrensmuseum.org**

To ensure the things you care about most ENDURE …

We commend the following organizations for creating funds at the Community Foundation 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
Dexter Historical Society
Disabled Persons Action Organization (DPAO)
Faith Fellowship Christian School
Foundation for Community Betterment (Alexandria Bay Chapter)
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
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 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
Friends of Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library
Sackets Harbor Central School District
Sackets Harbor Historical Society
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
Friends of Thompson Park
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

Boys & Girls Clubs of Massena
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
Gouverneur Hospital
Grasse River Heritage
Hammond Presbyterian Church
Hermon-DeKalb Central School District
Indian Creek Nature Center
Little River Community School
Madrid-Waddington Central School
Massena Central School District
Massena Music Friends
Morristown Central School District
New Beginnings Clothing and Food Outreach
North Country Children's Museum
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
Potsdam Central School District
Potsdam Holiday Fund
Potsdam Humane Society
Friends of the Potsdam Museum
St. Lawrence Central School District
St. Lawrence County Historical Association
St. Lawrence Land Trust
The Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence & Dodge Pond Camp
St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum
Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY)
United Church of Madrid
United Helpers
Wanakena Historical Association
Wilderness HealthCare 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.**

Northern New York
Community Foundation
Since 1929

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Double your gift

The Community Foundation presently offers the following matching grants. Each gift will be matched, dollar-for-dollar. This is a meaningful opportunity to provide support for an organization you care about, **and have the Community Foundation double the value of your gift.**

Adirondack Mennonite Camping Association
Alexandria Bay Township Historical Society
American Maple Museum
Canton Free Library
Canton Fountain Fund
City of Watertown Community Fund
Church and Community Program, Canton
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
Lewis County General Hospital
Minna Anthony Common Nature Center
Mountain View Prevention Services
New Beginnings Clothing & Outreach
Norwood Village Green Concert Series
Ogdensburg Command Performances
Ontario Bays Initiative
River Hospital
Save The River
St. Lawrence County Arts Council
Stage Notes
The Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence & Rotary Dodge Pond
Thousand Islands Area Habitat For Humanity
TI Arts Center
Watertown Lyric Theater
Wilderness HealthCare 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.

WHY I GIVE

Gil Pearsall grew up in Michigan but has called the North Country home with wife, **Kathleen**, for nearly 25 years. They first arrived in Northern New York in 1993 with three young children when Mr. Pearsall was serving as an active duty Army officer at Fort Drum. Two years later, Mr. Pearsall was transferred to Fort Polk, La., where he served until 1997 before he received orders to return to Fort Drum. In 2002, Mr. Pearsall retired from the Army as a lieutenant colonel and decided to keep his family in Carthage. He and his wife are active in many community organizations and causes. Mr. Pearsall helped to lead the effort to build a monument to honor the 10th Mountain Division in Watertown's Thompson Park and actively serves in the Watertown Rotary Club, contributing to the success and stewardship of the Rotary Purple Heart Scholarship. His three children — **Jennifer**, **Gil III**, and **Robert** — are each grown and married and live out of state. The Community Foundation talked with Mr. Pearsall about why community philanthropy is important to him.

Why do you give locally?

I used to give to a lot of various medical and national causes, and I still do, but to a lesser degree. But my wife and I are part of this community and have been for more than 20 years. We decided that it was best to start giving back to the local community. I thought we'd be better served by serving our community since we finally feel like we're part of a community that's home and not moving around like we did for all our years in the Army.

How did you choose to direct your giving through the Community Foundation?

The Northern New York Community Foundation is a very strong, worthy organization and locally focused. I have been involved in the Watertown Rotary Club and its Purple Heart Scholarship that the Community Foundation stewards, so I knew the staff and reputation. We have had a donor-advised fund at the Community Foundation for a few years and the relationships staff cultivate with donors are very personal. They make fund management much less transactional. The Foundation is very, very responsive in its ability to move money rapidly and very efficient once you have a fund with them. The wide range of options for giving is also attractive. For people who want to give, the Community Foundation can help them achieve their goals in the best, most personal way.

What's satisfying about giving?

I don't really look at it as something that I am rewarded for; I don't really like to think of it that way. It does a great deal for the community and I appreciate the fact that I see people in need and organizations in need prosper and gain through mine and other people's participation in those organizations. There are a lot of worthy causes with a lot of need. I am blessed with the ability to help in some fashion and this is my way of doing it. This is a community where neighbors and even strangers help each other. That sense of helping your neighbor is ingrained here; it's a small enough community that many people know each other.

What is important to you about the "give-where-you-live" approach that is Community Philanthropy?

You get to see firsthand the results and impact that you and others have on your community in providing support to organizations in need. I would rather give to organizations and causes that mean something to me and provide help to them knowing that it's going to be used for good.