



Thoughtful Giving

Newsletter of the Northern New York Community Foundation

A Season for Counting Blessings

Your belief in our work and mission guides us as we enter a new year



When North Country residents cite the reasons why they love spending their lives here, many mention that they are able to witness all four seasons in their full glory. However, if there is one season that generates

the most conversation (and trips south) it is winter.

While winter presents a whole set of obstacles and challenges, it also provides a wonderland of beauty and recreational offerings that are not available during other seasons. We also know there is renewal waiting around the corner. I find this time of year one of reflection and introspection. After the pace of the holiday season passes and a new year begins, I look back on all that has been accomplished in the context of a renewed energy and excitement for the great potential that is before us.

When winter arrives, almost perfectly on cue, it reminds me that, in the same way, our supporters continue to demonstrate in meaningful ways their steadfast belief that the Foundation is a treasured community asset worthy of their gifts.

What stands out most as I reflect upon 2010 is that, in addition to the generous support of long-time friends, we are seeing a notable increase in first-time donors. To me, this signals both an affir-

mation of our vigilant work on behalf of the community, but more importantly, extreme optimism and hope about our region's future. And while gifts come to the Foundation, we are simply the conduit through which those investments are responsibly returned to support the people, places and programs critical to the health, vibrance and growth of the region. If there is one thing the last few years has shown is the value in the resource of the North Country's permanent, flexible, charitable capital.

As I write in nearly every gift acknowledgement, your support is not something we take for granted. **Every gift** is a blessing. I am particularly mindful that each contribution is also a sacrificial one. It is important for each of you to know that it is in this context that we will carry out our mission throughout the year. Your gifts are not only affirmation of the work we have done, but a statement of faith and confidence in the work we are yet to do.



A fresh snow cover whitens the entrance to the Thousand Island Land Trust (TILT) Macsherry Trail on Crooked Creek Preserve near Alexandria Bay. Since 1988, the Foundation has provided grants of nearly \$75,000 to support TILT.

In the meantime, know that we are keenly aware of the blessing that each of you is to us. Your belief in our work and mission is a valued and treasured asset of this organization. The ability to be a pro-active force of community health and betterment relies on your continued commitment and passion.

Some of the best blessings are difficult to quantify. Whatever your philanthropic objectives, it is my hope that the joy you receive in helping others is one of your most treasured blessings. Helping you accomplish this is one of ours. 🌳

Scholarship Applications Available in February

Each year, the Foundation awards over \$600,000 in scholarships to North Country students. Applications are available for high school students preparing for their freshman year in college and college sophomores preparing to enter their junior year. Also, several non-traditional scholarships will be offered. Applications are available at most high school guidance offices, the JCC financial aid office and at the Foundation office. You can also download the application from the Foundation website: www.nnycf.org. The deadline is **April 1, 2011**.

FOUNDATION GRANTS - 4th Quarter 2010

Food Bank of Central New York • \$30,000

To supply food pantries in Jefferson, Lewis & St. Lawrence counties and the Watertown Salvation Army soup kitchen. This was made possible in part through a grant from the Renzi Foodservice Fund.

Jefferson Community College • \$6,000

To help fund the 2011 annual community surveys conducted by the Center for Community Studies. This grant was made possible in part through the Herring College Memorial Trust.

New Day Children's Center • \$5,000

To help fund completion of kitchen renovations. This grant was made possible in part through a grant from the Alex Velto Community Fund.

Pendragon Theatre • \$3,000

For performances in Jefferson, Lewis & St. Lawrence county schools.

New Bremen Community Improvement Association • \$1,500

To fund a new covered grandstand area at Wagner Field.

American Association of University Women Jefferson County Branch • \$1,000

For a full-day educational program for girls in grades 6 to 8.

Lyons Falls History Association • \$1,000

To purchase equipment for duplication of their photo collections for fundraising.

TOTAL 4th Quarter..... \$47,500

TOTAL 2010..... \$526,500

An Investment in St. Lawrence County

Over \$400,000 in grants and scholarships awarded over last several years

Although prior to 2008, the Northern New York Community Foundation made periodic grants in St. Lawrence County, since then, the Foundation has been aggressively seeking ways to demonstrate the impact a community foundation can have on a region. Since actively pursuing grantmaking opportunities there, over \$300,000 in grants and \$90,000 in scholarships have been awarded in the communities in St. Lawrence County.

In addition, the Foundation board now has two seats designated for St. Lawrence County. In 2010, an advisory council was formed and held its first meeting in Canton. Those individuals will continue to help guide the Foundation's work in the years ahead.

Meanwhile, there has been an increased interest from donors who have noticed the Foundation's efforts and are willing to help build upon those investments. As more donors express an interest in supporting and leveraging the Foundation's grantmaking in this portion of our service area, there will be more opportunities to assist with worthwhile endeavors.

Scholarships & Grants Recently Awarded in St. Lawrence County

Scholarships.....	\$90,000
Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY).....	\$50,000
St. Lawrence County libraries.....	\$47,700
North Country Public Radio.....	\$45,000
E.J. Noble Hospital.....	\$30,000
Frederic Remington Art Museum.....	\$25,000
Canton-Potsdam Hospital.....	\$20,000
Hospice & Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley.....	\$15,000
Ogdensburg Command Performances.....	\$12,000
Canton Community Fund.....	\$10,000
Clifton-Fine Hospital.....	\$10,000
GardenShare.....	\$10,000
Orchestra of Northern New York.....	\$10,000
Riverview Park Association.....	\$10,000
Reading Room Association of Gouverneur.....	\$9,800
Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corp.....	\$5,000
St. James Outreach Center.....	\$4,800
TOTAL.....	\$404,300

PETER and KATHY WYCKOFF of Canton

looked at various options for making donations to their favorite organizations. They decided to establish a donor

advised fund with the Northern New York Community Foundation. The fund offers them an easy, efficient way to support their community. They are able to direct how their fund will be used, and the Foundation takes care of all the reporting, investing and filing requirements. In

addition, since appreciated stock was used to endow their fund, they will receive a tax deduction and avoid capital gains tax.



"We appreciate that our gifts to local not-for-profits will be in addition to any that the Foundation would be making in St. Lawrence County. Our Grassroots Fund will be a complement to the Foundation's expanding plans for St. Lawrence County and we are pleased to be a part of that effort. The Foundation has a great track record for developing and administering its endowment and various funds for the betterment of Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties."

Joe & Millie Vallelunga Fund

A family's lasting tribute helps others battling Alzheimer's Disease

The family of the late Joseph and Mildred Vallelunga recently established a fund at the Foundation to help ensure that other families will not have to endure what they did. Grants from the fund will assist with the implementation of Project Lifesaver in Jefferson County. The program supplies special bracelets for Alzheimer's patients and autistic children which transmits signals to the Sheriff's Department should the person wander away. Ten bracelets have been purchased and there is a waiting list for additional units. The hope is to replenish and build the fund so that the needs can be met for many years to come.

"We remember the look on Dad's face when we went to pick him up. That shy smile of his just about ripped our hearts out. He actually lit up when he recognized us. We are just so thankful he was found alive with minor injuries. Those twelve hours were so horrifying, not knowing where he was and what happened to him. We can only imagine how distraught, confused and terrified he must have been. Now every time we hear of an elderly person getting lost, the gripping fear takes a hold of us again. Our hearts go out to everyone affected by similar situations. Twelve hours was so terrible to endure we don't know how families survive days or months. The technology is here now to prevent this from happening to others. Now we can get it to the people who need it and



help them understand that they need to wear these bracelets to ease their loved ones' minds."

Gifts to build this fund are welcomed and can be made to:
Northern New York Community Foundation
120 Washington St., Suite 400, Watertown, NY 13601

Youth Philanthropy Council Makes Grant Recommendations

The Northern New York Community Foundation's Youth Philanthropy Council made a presentation at the Foundation's December Board meeting. They reviewed proposals from nine organizations and recommended four for funding. The Foundation Board provided \$5,000 in



Members of the Youth Philanthropy Council listen to a presentation from Jeff Kirkby, a representative of the Evans Mills Youth Commission.

funds for the sixteen Watertown High School students to distribute in the community. Members of the Council agreed that the decisions were not easy and they would have liked to have helped all nine organizations that applied. Beyond an increased awareness of the various community needs, these young adults learned valuable lessons in leadership and giving back.

2010 Youth Philanthropy Council Grants

North Country Children's Clinic.....	\$2,000
<i>Purchase of replacement hemoglobin machines for use in school based health centers</i>	
Watertown Urban Mission.....	\$1,500
<i>Support of their Critical Needs program</i>	
Evans Mills Youth Commission.....	\$1,000
<i>Improvements to their sports field</i>	
Flower Memorial Library.....	\$500
<i>Support the expansion of the Library's Teen Space</i>	

2010 Contributors to the FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION Fund

PLEASE NOTE:

Gifts made to specific funds (such as donor advised funds, scholarship funds, or designated fund such as the Alex Velto Community Fund or the River Fund) will be listed separately, by fund, in the Foundation's 2009-2010 biennial report.

Norman and Cynthia Ahlheim
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Allen
Betty G. Andrews
Christopher K. Angus
Aubertine and Currier
Architects, Engineers and
Land Surveyors, PLLC
Mollie L. Bangs
Mr. and Mrs. William B. Barden
James Barrick
Peter and Barbara Beekman
Mal and Sandy Biedekapp
Bart and Lisa Bonner
Harry and Margaret Bracken
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar A. Bradberry
Douglas S. Brodie
Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Brown
Richard and Marlene Bucci
John and Cindy Bufalini
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Burgess
Joseph and Sandie Butler
Dr. and Mrs. David N. Camaione
Donald and Wendy Canfield
Salvatore and Lisa Cania
Mary and Keith Coughlin
Janice L. Charles
Lee and Shirley Clary
Benjamin P. and Margaret B. Coe
Mr. and Mrs. William C. Couch
Michael and Joanne Crowley
John and Mary Jo Deans
Mary Robinson Dembs

Les and Marsha Deming
Alfred and Linda Dening
Bill and Vickie Devlin
Amy and John Doldo III
Patricia and John Doldo, Jr.
Jean Dowe
Steven P. Duffany
Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Duffy
John Y. Duncan
John S. Dunk
Dyson Foundation
Juliana A. Eames
Mr. and Mrs. William Ebersbach
Marion C. Empsall
John Eppolito, DDS
Rodney and Nancy Esley
Warren G. Fargo
Brian and Katherine Fenlon
George W. Forbes
Judith J. Foster
John J. Gaffney
Rick and Chris Gallinger
Elaine and Jeff Garvey
Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Geiss
Janet J. and Henry L. George III
Al and Jean Gianfagna
Judith C. Gibson
David and Gail Goings
Mr. and Mrs. H. Pim
Goodbody, Jr.
Charles and Linda Goolden
A. Edward and Helene Gordon
Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Gough
Jeffrey Graham
David G. Gregor, MD
Jack and Sharon Hammond
Thomas and Mary Anne Hanley
Dr. and Mrs. J.L. Harrington
Jean B. Heady
Mark and Constance Holberg
Susan B. and Robert G. Horr III
Teresa Ierlan
Martha B. Jablonski
Johnson Newspaper Corporation
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Kanik

Carleton and Beverly Lamica
Edward P. Lashomb
The LeClerc Family
Steve Lyndaker, MD and
Shereen Palmer, MD
Mr. and Mrs. David W. Mance
Leonard and Elsa Marsh
Aileen and Joe Martin
Ted and Mary Mascott
Kenneth and Marion McAuliffe
Dr. and Mrs. John McCreary
Edgar and Linda Merrell
Bob and Janet Montford
Lynn K. Morgan
Cyril and Marlene Mouaikel
Carol and Dick Munro
Mr. and Mrs. David Murray
Douglas and Helen Murray
Roger and Connie Murray
Dr. and Mrs. James Newell
Mr. and Mrs. James L. O'Donnell
Dr. Manuel and Sally Palao
Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Parise
John S. and Patricia Parker
Thomas Patterson and
Linda Griffin
Elizabeth K. Payne
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Pearson
Burt and Barbara Phillips
Patricia Phillips
Peter and Laurel Pike
Cathy M. Pircsuk and James Burr
Dr. and Mrs. John J. Poggi
Roxanne and Philip Pratt
Purcell Construction Corp.
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Quencer
Vicki and Michael Quigley
Bob and Janet Quinn
Robert J. Reddick
Terry M. Reed, DDS
Margot Remington
Joseph and Carol Rich
Rande and Shelly Richardson
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Robertson
RSI Roofing, Inc.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Russell
Margaret A. Ryan
Louise and Mark Scarlett
Christina J. Schneider
Shari Scott
Ruth Seaman
Elaine Shapiro
Louis and Shirley Siegemeier
Slye and Burrows
Susan and Andrew Smith
Susan A. Sovie, Esq.
Mr. and Mrs. Philip J. Sprague
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel E. Stern
Charles and Janet Stewart
Wilfreda B. Stone
Mr. and Mrs. David C. Stoodley
Dr. and Mrs. George S. Sturtz
Marie and Nicholas Surdo
Alyce Tavernier
Bob and Debbie Thomas
Stephen J. Todd
Jan K. Turcotte, MD
Paul Vandermill, Jr. and
Sonya R. Barney
Peter and Becky Van de Water
David O. Van Eenenaam, MD
Dr. and Mrs. D. Peter
Van Eenenaam
Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Virkler
Janet and Robert Wakefield
Susan L. Washburn and
Kristin V. Rehder
Patricia A. Wilder
Phyllis Wingerath
Anderson Wise, Esq.
Dr. John A. Wrape
Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Young
David and Barbara Zembiec
Anonymous (8)

This list reflects gifts made from January 1, 2010–December 31, 2010. Those listed above making gifts as memorials will be listed as such separately in the Foundation's 2009-2010 biennial report.

The first grant from the Alex Velto Community Fund was recently awarded to New Day Children's Center. The \$5,000 grant (\$2,500 from the Velto Fund) was used to help complete renovation so the Center's kitchen facilities. The fund, established by the Foundation Board in December 2009 and added to through the generosity of many, has reached a value of nearly \$60,000. It will be a resource for community initiatives and a tribute to the life and legacy of Alex Velto in perpetuity. All gifts made to the fund through December 31, 2010 will be listed in a special tribute section of the Foundation's next annual report. *Additional gifts to help continue to build the fund can be made to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 120 Washington St., Suite 400, Watertown, NY 13601.*



Pictured with New Day students are (l-r): Rande Richardson, Megan Dyer, New Day Children's Center Executive Director, and Jeanne Emery (widow of Alex Velto).

New Foundation Funds

Designated & Field of Interest Funds

George R. Davis Fund for Lowville
Dial Fund
Garrett Loomis Firefighters Fund
Jan B. Oliver Lifelong Reading Fund
River Fund
Walker Family Community Fund

Scholarship Fund

Charlotte J. Smith Scholarship Fund

Donor Advised Funds

Grasseroots Fund
Renzi Foodservice Fund
Philip J. & Emily G. Sprague Fund
Joe & Millie Vallelunga Fund

Agency Endowment

Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY)

To discuss establishing a fund, contact the Foundation at (315) 782-7110.

Investing in Our Future

Susan B. Horr

Serving on the Board of Directors of the Northern New York Community Foundation these past eight years has been an amazing experience for me. The Foundation's commitment



to our community has helped so many people in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties to live more enriched, healthy lives that otherwise might not get any help.

I never knew or understood how many non-profit organizations there were in this area whose only purpose is to help those in need. The Foundation has given funds to many organizations such as the Food Bank, the Teen Center, the Volunteer Transportation Center and many of the hospitals in this area. It has helped buy winter coats for children in need, helped make health care affordable through the Children's Clinic, and gave families a place to stay when someone they love was in the hospital through Sarah House.

The Foundation has also supported so many cultural, recreational and historical organizations that are located throughout the community. These organizations are helping to preserve our history, entertain us and teach us. We have awarded grants for concerts, grandstands, libraries, museums, schools, performing arts and so much more.

My favorite part of being on the Board of Directors is seeing how much the Foundation invests in the future of

this area by giving hundreds of thousands of dollars every year for scholarships to traditional and non-traditional students. The cost of education has skyrocketed and without these scholarships many of these students would not be able to afford to go to college. I have read letters from some of the recipients who have thanked the Foundation for their help and have vowed to "pay it forward" by volunteering their services and giving back to the community.

Rande Richardson, with the help of Louise Scarlett and Shari Scott, researches, interviews, and does site visits in the community to obtain a wealth of information. This allows the Board to make high quality decisions concerning grants and scholarships. Not only does he speak with people who request help, but he actively goes out into the community searching for people and organizations that need help but don't know where to turn.

One of the most exciting things Rande and the Community Foundation did in 2010 was to establish the Youth Philanthropy Council. This Council is made up of students from Watertown High School and is designed to help promote, educate and encourage participation in giving back to the community. This year the Council awarded \$5,000 to various organizations.

Through generous donations, whether outright or bequeathed, the Foundation is able to wisely invest funds to help support the well-being of our community. These donations are given, managed, and distributed through grants and scholarships by people living in the area in which we serve. Investing in the NNYCF is a great way to invest in our community and its future. 🌳



120 Washington Street • Suite 400
Watertown, New York 13601
(315) 782-7110 • info@nnycf.org
www.nnycf.org
www.facebook.com/nnycf

Board of Directors

Kenneth J. McAuliffe, *Lowville*
President

Cathy M. Pircsuk, *Watertown*
Vice President

Joseph W. Russell, *Alexandria Bay*
Secretary/Treasurer

William J. Bonisteel, *Henderson Harbor*

Bernard H. Brown, Jr., *Sackets Harbor*

Michael J. Burgess, *Gouverneur*

Judith J. Foster, *Clayton*

Gregory A. Gardner, *Pierrepoint Manor*

Susan B. Horr, *Sackets Harbor*

Harold B. Johnson II, *Watertown*

Linda S. Merrell, *Lowville*

Laurel W. Pike, *Watertown*

Catherine B. Quencer, *Dexter*

Jay Stone, *Watertown*

Peter E. Van de Water, *Canton*

D. Peter Van Eenenaam, *Watertown*

Staff

Rande S. Richardson, Executive Director

Louise E. Scarlett, Program Director

Shari Scott, Controller

Since 1929...
Perpetuating Legacies
of Thoughtful Giving

Partnerships Feed Those in Need

\$30,000 grant brings total support to over \$410,000 since 1997

At its December board meeting the Northern New York Community Foundation Board of Directors approved a \$30,000 grant to supply a total of 31 food pantries as well as the Watertown Salvation Army soup kitchen for 2011. Food shipments occur throughout all twelve months of the year, and the Food Bank works with the individual food pantries to time those appropriately. This ongoing partnership with the Food Bank helps leverage significantly more food, dollar-for-dollar, than would be available by other means.

This year's effort included a new partnership with Renzi Foodservice, who provided a generous financial gift to increase the grant's impact in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. "We believe in giving back to the communities that have supported us for many years. It was a natural fit for us to assist with a program that fits our overall mission as an organization," said Jude Renzi, Vice President of Sales & Marketing for Renzi Foodservice.

Jefferson County: VEM Food Pantry of Carthage, CAPC of Jefferson County, Rohde Community Center (Adams), Watertown Salvation Army, Theresa Pantry, Watertown Urban Mission, Indian River Baptist Church Pantry, Council of Churches Pantry (Clayton), St. Mary's Church Pantry (Evans Mills), St. Paul's Church Pantry (Redwood), Faith Fellowship Church Pantry (Watertown), Gwens Food Pantry (LaFargeville), Depauville Pantry

Lewis County: Harrisville, Lowville, New Bremen and Port Leyden Pantries, First Congregational Church Pantry (Osceola)

St. Lawrence County: Canton, Gouverneur, Ogdensburg & Potsdam Neighborhood Centers, Massena Salvation Army, Norfolk/Raymondville Pantry, Ogdensburg Salvation Army, St. James Outreach Center (Gouverneur), Star Lake Pantry, St. Vincent De Paul Pantry (Massena), Richville Baptist Chapel Pantry, Tri-Town Community Services (North Lawrence), Christian Life Fellowship Grace Pantry (Gouverneur), Hammond Food Pantry



"The Community Foundation has provided local food pantries with core products to fill their inventories and has made a significant difference in many lives throughout the three counties for over a decade. This forward thinking approach has proven to be an effective model that we have duplicated throughout our eleven county service area." -Thomas Slater, Food Bank Executive Director