For several years, Community Foundation donors like you have helped inspire high school students through your support of the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Annual Fund. This fund provides opportunities for local high school students to participate in the Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Council.

This past year, the Foundation teamed up with local theater group, Stage Notes, to initiate a new program to involve middle school students. Through the Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge, students in 7th and 8th grades competed for a total of $10,000 by participating in an essay contest in which they explored their definition of “community.” They were asked to designate a local organization to receive a grant in support of what they felt makes their community a great place to live. Winning students then visited their chosen charity to personally present their grant award and learn more about the organization’s work and mission.

Because of your continued support and generosity, the program will continue again this year and will be open to all 7th and 8th graders in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. We also welcome Community Bank as program partner. Initiatives such as these help fulfill our shared goal of honoring community legacies by helping inspire a multi-generational approach to civic engagement and investment. It is in this way that a culture of community commitment and responsibility is fostered so that the groundwork can be laid for future stewardship of our region’s quality of life. Thank you for demonstrating your commitment to your community and the region in this meaningful, enduring way.

“Community means more than just a group of people living in the same place. To me, a community should be all of the people who become one. A community should care for, love and support each other.”

—Mackenzie Wagoner, Clayton

“My community is a great place to live because everyone is here to help, whenever you need it.”

—Reagan Alexander, Theresa

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK, INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION: Winners of the first annual Northern New York Community Foundation Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge recently gathered at the Northern New York Philanthropy Center in Watertown. Nineteen organizations will receive grants ranging from $500 to $1,000. The program was made possible through a partnership with Stage Notes and with annual fund donors to the Community Foundation. Pictured, front (L-R): Adelyne Jareo (Sackets Harbor Central), Dallas Osier (Thousand Islands Central), Keerie Lyndaker (Lowville Academy), and Morgan Moser (Beaver River Central); back (L-R): Reagan Alexander (Indian River Central), Alison Swenson (Thousand Islands Central), Mary Connerton (Thousand Islands Central), Charritty Grant (Thousand Islands Central), Aubrey Stewart (Indian River Central), and Anna Exford (Lowville Academy). All Youth Giving Challenge winners are listed inside this newsletter.
THE DIFFERENCE YOU MAKE...

2017 Community Spirit Giving Challenge

Grant Winners:

$1,000 Meals on Wheels of Greater Watertown
   Adelyne Jareo, Sackets Harbor

$500 Croghan Free Library
   Mya Zehr, Beaver River

$500 Lewis County Humane Society
   Morgan Moser, Beaver River

$500 Credo Community Center
   Shantel Massia, Case Middle School, Watertown

$500 Jefferson County SPCA
   Nathan McNulty, Case Middle School, Watertown
   Yairis Matos, Case Middle School, Watertown
   Isabelle McDonough, Thousand Islands

$500 Carthage YMCA
   Reagan Alexander, Indian River

$500 Orchestra of Northern New York
   Jasmine Berasategui, Indian River

$500 Thousand Islands Emergency Rescue Service (TIERS)
   Aubrey Stewart, Indian River

$500 PIVOT
   Wyatt Parliament, LaFargeville
   Alison Swenson, Thousand Islands

$500 Children’s Home of Jefferson County
   Jenna Freeman, Lowville
   Trinity Westerman, Thousand Islands

$500 Children’s Miracle Network
   Anna Exford, Lowville

$500 Croghan Volunteer Fire Department
   Keerie Lyndaker, Lowville

$500 Historical Association of South Jefferson
   Emma MacIvonne, South Jefferson

$500 Cape Vincent Community Library
   Mary Connerton, Thousand Islands

$500 Clayton Figure Skating Club
   Dallas Osier, Thousand Islands

$500 Clayton Youth Commission
   Katelyn Solar, Thousand Islands

$500 Hawn Memorial Library
   Allie Victorino, Thousand Islands

$500 Relay for Life of Jefferson County
   Mackenzie Wagoner, Thousand Islands

$500 Thousands Islands Area Habitat for Humanity
   Charritty Grant, Thousand Islands

This program is made possible through the generosity and vision of Friends of the Foundation
Community Betterment Annual Fund donors and

“I think the Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge is a great idea and gives youth the opportunity to think about the challenges we face in our community and to encourage them to come up with creative solutions for these challenges.”

-James Scordo, Executive Director, Credo Community Center for the Treatment of Addictions
“Community is a group of people sharing both the joys and struggles of life. What I love about my community is how they can be counted on to lean on during difficult times or rally during times of joy. I feel a sense of belonging in my community.”

-Wyatt Parliament, LaFargeville

“The grant received by our organization has been designated toward the restoration of seven large stained glass windows in the Six Town Meeting House. We are honored that Emma chose our organization as the beneficiary of her efforts. We are also pleased to see the Community Foundation offering such valuable activities and opportunities to develop positive characteristics in our young citizens of tomorrow.”

-Alan Reed, President, Historical Association of South Jefferson

“Thanks to the Giving Challenge, we can provide 150 meals to our clients with the greatest need. This a huge impact on the life of someone who is struggling everyday.”

-Donna White, Director, Meals on Wheels of Greater Watertown
What is LEAD?
Community Foundation donors help inspire multi-generational civic stewardship

Over the span of nearly a century, the Community Foundation has encouraged more citizens of varying ages to assist the organization in championing its mission of making their communities prosper. The Foundation’s goal in recent years has been to establish programs and opportunities that inspire a lifetime of philanthropy. Three years ago, the Community Foundation introduced a young professionals advisory group known as the LEAD Council. More than 30 members have participated on the council with over 20 active members to date representing Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. The LEAD Council program helps complete the Foundation’s bridge of community leadership, beginning with the Youth Philanthropy Council and extending to the organization’s Board of Directors. LEAD was established to empower young professionals to be proactive in responding to the needs of the community through strategic grant-making, volunteerism and civic engagement.

DONORS HELP US TAKE THE LEAD: The LEAD Council’s activities include meeting with area nonprofit leaders to gain a greater appreciation and awareness of the region’s challenges and opportunities. The Council recently visited Hospice of Jefferson County.

Eli Anderson, Henderson
Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization

Krysta Aten-Schell, Adams Center
BCA Architects & Engineers

Hilary Avallone, Carthage
ACR Health

Andrew Boulter, Watertown
Watertown Savings Bank

Anthony Burgess, Watertown
Jefferson Community College

Jonathan Cole, Antwerp
Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization

Victoria Collins, Croghan
Conboy, McKay, Bachman & Kendall, LLP

Bridget Fetterly, Carthage
Carthage Savings & Loan Association

Kerry Kennett, Sackets Harbor
South Jefferson Central School

Cari Knight, Great Bend
ACR Health

Diane Leonard, Clayton
DH Leonard Consulting & Grant Writing Services

Joanna Loomis, Watertown
North Country Initiative

Steve Magovney, Watertown
Transitional Living Services

Kylee Monroe, Philadelphia
General Brown Central School District

Aaron Naklick, Watertown
Samaritan Medical Center

John Nuber, Clayton
RBC Wealth Management

Melissa Schmitt, Watertown
Samaritan Medical Center

Erin Simser, Watertown
WinCo Companies

Robert Siglar, Carthage
Carthage Savings & Loan Association

Kristin LaClair, Watertown
Children’s Miracle Network at Samaritan Medical Center

Jennifer Voss, Watertown
City of Watertown Planning Department

Matthew Waldroff, LaFargeville
Jade Stone Engineering

Leadership, Engagement, Access, Direction

I have always been an active volunteer because I really enjoy helping others and giving back to the community. The best part of the LEAD experience is knowing that as a group we can make a substantial community impact. LEAD brings together young professionals from all over the tri-county area, each bringing their own unique set of skills and experiences. Teaming up allows us to work toward goals that would be out of our reach as individuals. There is strength in numbers, and as a LEAD Council member, I am given the opportunity to make a difference on a larger scale.

Bridget Fetterly, Carthage

I had no idea how many nonprofit organizations existed in this community, and LEAD has given me an insight into the challenging and important work that these important organizations are doing to help all members of our community.

Kerry Kennett, Sackets Harbor

Aaron Naklick, Watertown

Kerry Kennett, Sackets Harbor
The needs of the North Country are constantly evolving. LEAD’s first initiative was to encourage philanthropy in school students, which was achieved through the LEAD Your School Challenge. South Jefferson and Copenhagen Central schools completed community projects, led by students, addressing trending needs in their communities. Each district was awarded a grant to help make their project sustainable.

LEAD is also playing a vital role in a local, anti-poverty endeavor led by the Community Action Planning Council and the Watertown Urban Mission. LEAD and the Community Foundation combined grant resources to bolster the “Getting Ahead” initiative designed to help local residents discover and resolve root causes for living in poverty. LEAD’s investment will allow the effort to be expanded across Northern New York.

The Council has also completed a number of volunteer opportunities and non-profit site visits, which included detailed conversations with each organization’s leadership. Recent meetings have included stops at the Thompson Park Conservancy, Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust, Salvation Army, and Hospice of Jefferson County.

The Community Foundation believes it is a responsibility to instill philanthropy in the North Country’s young professionals. It is important for all of us to encourage participation among the next generation for community betterment. To have a direct hand and personal investment in the enhancement of the villages, towns and counties where we live builds pride and ownership in the future of our region. The LEAD Council offers a perfect platform for young professionals to experience this and make a meaningful difference, now and in the future.

Because of you, and the generosity of others, the Community Foundation is able to provide the LEAD Council program to area young professionals. Your gifts to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Annual Fund is a belief in giving the next generation confidence to help address vital needs across the North Country. The experience is also possible because of thoughtful sponsors and partners like the Hyde-Stone Charitable Foundation, Carthage Savings and Loan Association, and BCA Architects and Engineers. We are forever grateful to YOU and these community businesses for collaborating with the Foundation to encourage civic-minded leadership and philanthropy.

This program is made possible through the generosity and vision of Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Annual Fund donors and

What has LEAD accomplished? What makes LEAD possible?
Long after his service from on the Northern New York Community Foundation’s board of directors from 1986 to 1996 (including serving as president), Lee T. Hirschey continued to dedicate time, talent and resources to advance its ability to impact the quality of life in the North Country. Whether it was continued service on the Foundation’s investment committee, ongoing conversations with staff, or his incredible generosity, he and his wife, Deborah (Debby), continue to leave a mark on the Foundation’s ongoing work and mission. Together with his brother, Urban, he successfully managed Climax Manufacturing Company for over 48 years. During that time, in addition to the Community Foundation, he found many ways to help uplift our region. Throughout his life, he believed firmly in the importance of giving locally and recognized that charitable giving on a local level had the potential to make a greater, lasting impact. He and Debby were major benefactors of the Philanthropy Center, affirming their belief in the Foundation’s ability to promote, inspire, encourage and perpetuate philanthropic thought and action. Lee believed strongly in the importance of the Foundation’s ability to adapt and evolve over time, in order to help address the changing needs of a region. He recognized the importance of empowering future boards to have the flexibility to respond nimbly both to address challenges and seize opportunities. To that end, the Lee Hirschey Memorial Fund at the Northern New York Community Foundation will be a permanent, board-directed grantmaking fund, which will allow current and future boards to allocate resources to meet community needs. In this way, Lee will continue to assist the Foundation in creating a stronger North Country, just as he did during his lifetime. Consistent with his belief in the enduring gift, he and Debby also created two permanent endowed funds within the Community Foundation that will provide annual support to two of their favorite Northern New York charities. We are grateful to Lee and Debby, and their family, for the honor of being the steward of such a thoughtfully generous and far-reaching community legacy. Their imprint on this organization and the North Country will continue to have a positive impact for many generations to come.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Lee T. Hirschey

Cynthia Ahlheim
Harold & Carolyn Anderson
Robert R. & Alice E. Andrews
Bruce & Rhonda Bezanilla
Robert & Emily Blaschke
Robert L. & Elethea H. Caldwell
Robert Caswell
Rev. Dr. Bruce & Marilyn Chapman
Community Bank, N.A.
Gregory & Katherine Couch
William & Kimberly Couch

Dr. William M. & Carol F. Cutler
Andrea & Eric DeLaGarza
Max & Sara DelSignore
William J. Erdle III
Ann & Harper Garrett
Janet J. George
Carl H. & Anne D. Hirsch
Urban & Sally Hirschey
Kevin A. Kieff
Thomas & Debra Leenhouts
Renee Lustick
Rocco J. Mangano
Ted & Mary Mascott
Patty & Bruce Matthews

Andrew & Jeanine McNally
Cyril & Marlene Mouaikel
Catherine M. Murphy
A. Neil Newman
Jim & Martha O’Donnell
Anne O’Heaney
Barbara H. Phillips
Cathy Pirsuk & James Burr
James C. & Margaret W. Pontious
Rande Richardson
Carl H. Skeele
Robert C. Skeele, Jr.
Lynn Skeele-Flynn
Sharon Skeele-Hogan

Richard & Carol Smith
Janet B. Taylor
Gina Ellis Truby
T. Uirling & Mabel Walker
Lee A. Wesselmann & Beatrice H. Wesslemann
George A. Whaling
Kay Woodruff
Mary-Lou & Stan Yarosewick
The Yayas
Gretchen, Linda, Nancy, Pat & Susan

To join others in helping build the Lee Hirschey Memorial Fund, gifts can be made to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601, with a designation for that fund.

Judith Hirschey Brooks

A graduate of Carthage High School and daughter of the late Charles and Alice Hirschey, Judith Hirschey Brooks, passed away in December at the age of 84. Judith was the sister of Urban Hirschey and the late Lee Hirschey. The Hirschey families are loyal and generous supporters of the Northern New York Community Foundation. We are grateful to her family for honoring her life through a gift to the Community Foundation so that her meaningful ties to the North Country will endure.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Judith Hirschey Brooks

William & Kimberly Couch
Lee* & Deborah Hirschey

Urban & Sally Hirschey
Rande Richardson
Donor honors parents by creating legacy fund for Potsdam

One of the things that the Community Foundation feels most strongly about is the thoughtful stewardship of legacies of lives of those for whom the people and places of Northern New York held special meaning. In this enduring way, their passions, values and interests can continue to be supported when they can no longer do so personally. Such is the case with Potsdam native, Susan J. (Van Ness) Sewall. Susan was the daughter of John S. and Dorotha (Ticknor) Van Ness. Susan came from a family that was very community-minded. Her father was active in Potsdam government and served as Potsdam mayor from 1955 to 1961. He also held leadership positions with the Potsdam Chamber of Commerce, Potsdam Rotary Club and was a trustee at Paul Smith's College. Susan’s mother began teaching at Potsdam High School in 1939 and later joined her husband in the management of Sunshine Stores. She served as president of the Canton-Potsdam Hospital Guild and was an active member of Potsdam United Methodist Church.

Prior to her untimely and sudden death in 2017, Susan worked with her advisors and the Community Foundation to appropriately honor her parents and their long-standing commitment to the betterment of the Potsdam area. Because of her foresight and thoughtful planning, the John and Dorotha Van Ness Family Fund within the Northern New York Community Foundation will be a permanent grantmaking fund that will forever support programs, activities and initiatives that support the general welfare of the Potsdam community. Susan believed that strong, healthy, quality-of-life enhanced communities help provide the backdrop from which many other aspects of community vibrancy and development can occur. The fund will forever be a resource to enhance Potsdam. We are honored and grateful to Susan to be entrusted with perpetuating her family’s love of Potsdam through such an incredibly thoughtful and enduring bequest.

John and Dorotha Van Ness Family Fund: For Potsdam, forever

Caring for others, now and forever

Teachers have a way of affecting lives in transformative ways. A lifelong local educator will continue to help students pursue their educational endeavors through the newly created Anna Mae Searles Cooper Scholarship. Ms. Cooper began teaching fourth grade at Adams Center School in 1954 and retired in 1988. During that time, she had a profound impact on the lives of countless students. After her passing in May, friends, including Dennis and Pamela Jerome, chose to honor her by establishing a scholarship at the Community Foundation in her name to assist students graduation from Jefferson County high schools. Preference will be given to those with average academic standing and pursing studies in music or physical education. The first scholarship will be awarded in June.

Anna Mae’s legacy will also continue through a fund established by her dear friend and fellow teacher, Sandra Haight. The Anna Mae Searles Cooper Caring Blessings Fund for Hospice is a permanent resource within the Community Foundation that will provide an annual gift, in perpetuity, to support the work and mission of Hospice of Jefferson County. Sandie felt strongly about showing grateful appreciation for the wonderful care Anna Mae received during her last days, and wanted to do so in an enduring, lasting way. The two funds, together, will be an ongoing reminder and honor the memory of the special friend Anna Mae was to so many, and provides a permanent expression of her life and love of people and the importance of education and caring for others.

To join in helping build either of these permanent tributes to Anna Mae, gifts can be made to the Northern York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 with a designation towards the appropriate fund.

Tribute gifts in memory of Anna Mae Searles Cooper

Sandra Haight
Dennis and Pamela Jerome
Randy & Laura Jerome
Rande Richardson
Nancy & Brad Smith
Philanthropy impacts people of all ages. Participation in philanthropy can also happen at any age. Giving back to others has a special meaning to Jeff and Brenna Ginger. The Gingers are Adams Center residents and educators at two area school districts. Jeff is the high school principal at South Jefferson Central School District. Brenna is a high school English teacher with the Watertown City School District.

In a recent episode of our Northern New York Community Podcast, Jeff and Brenna discuss the role of millennials in community philanthropy. They also share their first personal experiences in philanthropy and giving back, as well as the importance of instilling these values in their three children and today’s students.

Having benefited from philanthropy at an early age helped shape the Gingers’ philanthropic worldview. They are firm believers that you should “give where you live” and feel that if the place you make your home doesn’t offer the things that you believe it should, then it is incumbent on you to be the catalyst for those positive changes.

In the half-hour podcast, they also discuss their various philanthropic interests, their support of the Six Town Community Fund, and the positive impact observing even the simplest act of kindness has on their children and the next generation.
Philanthropy is an avenue. It's an avenue through which you can channel your energies. It provides structure. It provides meaning ... and once the choice is made, what you're doing is saying, I feel fulfilled inside, because it's been my conscious choice to do this. And by doing it, I'm making a difference in somebody else's life.

Allen and Marilyn Splete
Cranberry Lake

Without educating the young people, and showing them what can be accomplished, they will not have the interest in the North Country that we have today. It is imperative that we spend time with them, set examples for them. Our future depends on them.

Frank and Ann Cean
Henderson

I'd like to think that maybe some of the people that are going to benefit from our scholarship will not forget it. And, at some point down the road, share some of their success with this area. If they're graduating from our schools here, they've lived here, and benefited from life here, and if this scholarship helps them get to where they are going to be in another thirty years, hopefully they'll support this area.

Charles and Higouhi Owens
Gouverneur

The people you meet, the relationships you form when you're giving back are priceless. I think just for that, to get out in the community and volunteer in some fashion, helping when you're in a position financially to support any kind of worthy cause. Even helping to raise money, that's very important. And that's more volunteering, donating your time, rather than your financial assets. But I think that is so essential for the health of the community.

Dani Baker
Wellesley Island

► HEAR THE STORIES: www.nnycpodcast.com
WE ARE GRATEFUL to those who have participated or are planning to participate in the Community Foundation podcast episodes:

Richard E. Alexander Jr., Watertown
Lester Allen and Stephen Moyer, Wanakena
Dani Baker, Wellesley Island
Jeannie Brennan and Constance and Lawrence Barone, Sackets Harbor
Frank and Ann Cean, Henderson
Kay Church, Gouverneur
Lee Clary, Black River
Benjamin and Margaret “Peggy” Coe, Watertown
John and Mary Jo Deans, Sackets Harbor
Nancy Del Borgo, Cape Vincent
Frank Empsall, formerly of Watertown
Jeffrey and Brenna Ginger, Adams Center
John L. Gormley, Lowville
Sylvia Heap, Watertown
Don Hunt and Joe Widrick, Brantingham and Lowville
Bruce Irwin and David Stoodley, Watertown and Adams Center
Kevin Kieff, Watertown
Harold and Sally L’Huillier, Brownville
Mart Liinve, Watertown
*Richard R. Macsherry and Molly Macsherry MacWade, Alexandria Bay
Abigail and Camille Marshall, Ogdensburg
Charles and Higouhi Owens, Gouverneur
Joseph L. Rich, Watertown
Timothy and Jill Savage, Canton
The Sicley-Kubis Family, Mannsville
Robert and Jean Sturtz, Watertown
Allen and Marilyn Splete, Cranberry Lake
Becky Van de Water, Canton and Cranberry Lake
David O. Van Eenenaam, Watertown
T. Urling and Mabel Walker, Watertown
Donald W. Whitney, Adams Center
Peter and Katherine Wyckoff, Canton
Thomas J. Yousey, Lowville

Who inspires you? If you know someone from the North Country who willingly donates their energy, time or other resources to the community, please share their name(s) with us! Just share your suggestions at (315) 782-7110 or via email at max@nynyfc.org.

On the Northern New York Community Podcast, you can listen to the story of Mabel Sicley-Kubis and her battle with juvenile idiopathic arthritis. While enduring a difficult childhood with this exhausting condition, Mabel and her family have educated and inspired others to give and support their efforts. Pictured here are: Rebecca Sicley, Mabel Sicley-Kubis, John Kubis, Cora Sicley, and Joshua Sicley.

You are us

The Northern New York Community Foundation will mark its 90th birthday in 2019. As we approach that milestone, it provides a natural opportunity to assess our mission statement. As the Board begins that process, it has heightened the awareness of the amazing way community-minded citizens have enabled the Foundation to evolve and build upon its history and heritage. What began as an idea with no resources in 1929 has grown and expanded in ways that the visionaries of that time could only have imagined. I am confident our founders would be pleased to know that nearly every organization doing work to enhance the quality of life in the North Country has been touched by many years of thoughtful generosity, with gifts large, small, and in-between. They would be happy to know how many students have been given a boost as they embarked on their educational endeavors. They would be pleased to see those of all ages, interests and backgrounds explore ways to make their community a better place.

I am keenly aware every day of the amazing responsibility and honor it is to be part of the continuum of stewardship that has been a core piece of the Foundation’s role in the region. I know that we are thoughtfully carrying on the tradition of preserving community legacies, telling the stories of those whose lives have been spent making the area special, and who have been committed to making a difference.

It was fitting that the Community Foundation, with the help of its supporters, would aspire to honor the past by ensuring that we continue to adapt, change and be mindful of the importance of remaining relevant. I am proud that this is a place that welcomes all who want to make a difference. By remaining true to the core philosophy of the community foundation movement, we have seen a tremendous increase in both the diversity of donors and the variety and types of charitable approaches shown by individuals, families, organizations and businesses in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. This is healthy and it bodes well for those who will inherit our community.

The freshening of our mission statement would not be complete without acknowledging the move from being simply a transactional grantmaker to engaging in a more a hands-on community leadership role, both in thought, word and deed. The Philanthropy Center has been an empowering success. Every week, the first floor gathering rooms are filled with groups and individuals who go the extra mile through their efforts on behalf of all of us. The nonprofit collaboration third floor is fully occupied as six nonprofit organizations share space, ideas and resources. Often, you can witness firsthand the mult-generational approach to community service that the Foundation has been trying to hard to nurture. The Youth Philanthropy Council, LEAD Council, and Youth Giving Challenge programs continue to create new ways of engaging our community, for our community. Collectively, these have been a catalyst for shared community responsibility and the Center is a hub of energy and enthusiasm for nurturing stronger, healthier, more vibrant communities. It is powerfully tangible!

Never, ever doubt that all of us at the Foundation are touched and inspired by every act of kindness and generosity you’ve shown. We know all of our donors by name. The Community Foundation belongs to you. Realize, especially, that your support of the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Annual Fund signals and symbolizes to us and the greater community that you believe a strong Community Foundation is an important piece of the fabric of our region. Above all, know that none of this happens without you.
Helping ensure safer schools

Given a point in time where school safety is being discussed across the nation, this initiative was created in conjunction with the support of the Northern New York Community Foundation to encourage change at a local level. The Community Foundation provided a $20,000 matching grant for all gifts made in support of the initiative, which is being led by a volunteer steering committee. **Safe Schools Endeavor (SSE)** strives to support school safety for students, teachers, faculty and staff in Jefferson and Lewis county schools. Any concept that helps foster a safer school environment and is endorsed by the respective school district is eligible for consideration for grant funding from SSE. Examples of projects include costs associated with guest speakers or materials for movements out of national school safety initiatives, changes to the building/facility, and tailoring other school educational foundations.

"The purpose of this program is beyond the funding, it is to create a very clear message that the Safe School Endeavor values children as our greatest gift, our future. Safety is not the school system's burden to bear alone, it is our responsibility as a community to support and empower students, faculty and parents in a nonpartisan effort. It is very apparent to me that the Community Foundation embodies community and is the perfect partner in this endeavor. We are beyond grateful for their partnership and support." - Erika Flint, Chair, Safe Schools Endeavor

We are grateful to those who have made gifts in support of the Safe Schools Endeavor.

Jessica Barney  
Janelle Bossuet  
Thomas & Maryann Bozberger  
Bernard & Beverly Brown  
Lynn & Scott Brown  
Thomas & Irene Carman  
Cartaghe Federal Savings and Loan Association  
William & Ruth Chapin  
John W. & Mary Jo Deans  
Jane E. Deline Foundation  
Leslie DiStefano  
Brian & Kate Fenlon  
The First Presbyterian Church of Watertown  
Carolyn Fitzpatrick  
Erika Flint  
Foy Benefits Inc.  
The Heather A Freeman Foundation  
GEICO Insurance (Marsmith, Inc.)  
Brigitte Gillette  
Brett & Allison Gorham  
Jayn Maxon Graves  
Tracy Hart  
Jennifer Hodge  
Laurie L. Hulbert  
Erin Hunter  
Dr. Robert O. Kimball & Beth A. Linderman  
Rodger Klindt & Sandra Young Klindt  
Valerie LaClair  
James & Claire Lafferty  
Marjorie LaVere  
Joanna Loomis  
Nancy L. McCabe Agency  
Elsie McElheran  
Kevin & Vicki Meyer  
Bridgit Millard  
John P. Murtha & Pamela S. Beyor-Murtha  
The Northern Credit Union  
NYSCOPBA-Gouverneur  
Gilbert & Kathleen Pearsall  
Andrea Pedrick  
E. David & Michelle Pfaff  
Michael & Miriam Plummer  
Mark & Maria Purcell  
The RBC Wealth Management Foundation USA  
Renz Foodservice  
Charitable Foundation  
Melissa Reynolds  
Rande Richardson  
Peter & Shirley Salmon  
Brandy Shoen  
Kylie Simpson  
Slack Chemical Company  
The State C.S. Employees Federal Credit Union  
Stephen & Pamela Todd  
T. Uling & Mabel Walker  
The Watertown Savings Bank  
Westelcom  
Denise Young

To join in helping support the Safe Schools Endeavor, gifts can be made to the Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 with a designation towards the appropriate fund. Gifts can also be made online at www.nnycf.org

**School Educational Foundations**

**What you need to know...**

In New York, public schools cannot permanently endow funds, as they are limited in the way they can perpetuate scholarships, especially those created as a memorial, with the intention that they endure. Several schools in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties partner with the Community Foundation so that those funds can endure. In recent years, donors have also expressed interest in supporting their favorite local school in either a broader or more directed way, for things other than scholarships.

Through school educational foundations, alumni, parents, teachers, retirees and others for whom their school holds special meaning can leave a legacy to their school. Donors can also designate a specific use (music, athletics, library, etc.) and fund name.

Educational Foundations and general endowment funds within the Northern New York Community Foundation

**Adirondack Central School District**

**Beaver River Central School District**

**Copenhagen Central School District**

**Hermon-DeKalb Central School District**

**Immaculate Heart Central School**

**Massena Central School District**

**Lowville Academy and Central School**

**Potsdam Central School District**

**Sackets Harbor Central School District**

**South Jefferson Central School District**

**St. Lawrence Central School District**

**Watertown City School District**

To learn more about how you can tailor a charitable gift to support your favorite school district, contact the Community Foundation at 315-782-7110.
Since 1929, the Community Foundation has been built by those who have made the thoughtful decision to provide enduring support for the communities they love. We are so grateful for these acts of generosity that help perpetuate lives that have had great meaning, not only for those who knew and loved them, but for those who will forever benefit from their vision for a better region.

Elnora ‘Ellie’ Mesires

The life of **Elnora “Ellie” Mesires** was one of service to others. As a nurse, she affected the lives of many when it was needed most. As long-time members of the North Country community, she and her late husband and dentist, **Robert G. Mesires**, raised their family while finding ways to support the region they so loved. While living in Watertown, they spent summers at their home on the St. Lawrence River. After Bob’s death in 2015, Ellie and her family established the Robert G. Mesires Community Fund as a way to perpetuate their love of this area. Ellie remained committed to building the fund, even after moving to Pennsylvania, near her daughter. The fund will now be the **Robert and Elnora Mesires Community Fund**, which will continue to make a difference in the region that remained so deeply important to their family.

**Tribute gifts in memory of Elnora ‘Ellie’ Mesires**
- William & Kimberly Couch
- William & Margaret Couch
- Andrea & Eric DeLaGarza
- Georgia D. Dusckas
- Russ & Teresa Gallup
- Chester & Nancy Gray
- Lee & Deborah Hirschey
- Beverly T. Lamica
- Mark & Joanne Lavarnway
- Renee Lustick
- Maria Mesires
- Mary* & Tony Mesires
- Tony & Kay Morgia
- Maxine & Joe Quigg
- Rande Richardson
- Peter & Shirley Salmon
- Dr. Douglas & Mrs. Mary P. Sanford
- Jan K. Turcotte
- Dave & Karen Walton

Margaret A. ‘Peggy Ann’ Ryan

Educators touch the lives of others in ways that few other professions do. In her very special way, **Margaret A. ‘Peggy Ann’ Ryan**, had a tremendous impact on generations of area students. A teacher in both Dexter and Watertown, she found ways to connect with young people as they were beginning their life journey. Peggy also made her community a better place through her commitment to various civic organizations and her church. For several years, she served on the Community Foundation’s education committee, and also helped interview and select students for the Foundation’s nontraditional scholarships. All those who knew Peggy will remember her for her genuine interest in others, her desire to encourage students to reach their maximum potential, and for her unwavering generosity.

**Tribute gifts in memory of Margaret A. ‘Peggy Ann’ Ryan**
- Henry L.* & Janet J. George
- Roseanne Laverty
- Jeff & Mary Perrine
- Cathy Pircus & James Burr
- Roxanne & Philip Pratt
- Rande Richardson
- Ron & Margaret Roberts
- Dr. Douglas & Mrs. Mary P. Sanford
- Michael & Jacquelyn Schell
- Ruth Seaman
- William Skye
- Janet B. Summerville
- Jan B. Taylor
- Sonja C. Thompson
- Elaine Thurston

Wilfreda B. Stone

An attorney for many years in the Watertown area, **Wilfreda B. Stone** not only made her mark on the legal profession, she also became immersed in her community, serving in various capacities with many local organizations. She was the first woman president of the Jefferson County Bar Association and served on the Northern New York Community Foundation board of directors from 1976 to 1983. She also served on the Watertown City School District Board of Education. She and her late husband, **Dr. Irwin K. Stone**, were donors to many causes, including the Community Foundation. The North Country was fortunate to have Billie and Irwin in its midst, and their caring and concern for this area will be remembered for many years to come as an example of a lives well lived in service of others.

**Tribute gifts in memory of Wilfreda B. Stone**
- Betty G. Andrews
- Rande Richardson
- Dr. Douglas & Mrs. Mary P. Sanford
Dr. Henry L. George III

A 1948 Watertown High School graduate, after completing his education and residency, Dr. Henry L. George III joined his father, Dr. H. Louis George, in the practice of pediatrics. Well known as a physician in Watertown for over 40 years, Henry left a lasting imprint on the fabric of his community, becoming an integral part of the the lives of multiple generations of families. Throughout his life and career, he remained involved in both his community and his church. Together with his wife, Janet (who served on the Community Foundation board from 1994 to 2004), they raised a family of four children. As a fitting tribute to his life’s devotion to children, the Dr. Henry L. George III Memorial Fund will be a permanent fund within the Community Foundation that will used to provide support for programs, projects and initiatives that benefit children. We are grateful to Jan and her family to be part of the special way Dr. George will continue to touch the lives of our community’s youngest citizens.

Tribute gifts in memory of Dr. Henry L. George III

- Aisha DaCosta
- Nancy W. Del Borgo
- Marsha L. Deming
- Sally J. Doxtater
- Josephine Frederick & Family
- Anne George
- Bill & Liz George
- Judith George
- Michael George
- T. Christian George
- Wendell D. George Jr.
- Dr. Alfred & Jean Gianfagna
- Lu & Ralph Green
- Carol Hills
- Jill H. Johnson
- Susan & Harold Johnson
- Christopher & Hope Johnston
- Pamela A. Kennedy
- Kevin A. Kieff
- Marjorie Knuuti
- Joan E. Lehrack
- Renee Lustick
- Dr. & Mrs. Norman C. Lyster
- Sally, Judy & Pat Marshall
- Virginia S. McCreary
- Karl & Sharon McGrann
- Hope R. Metcalf
- Elizabeth Montgrole
- Judith Morley
- Burr & Linda Morris
- Hannah Nazci
- Scott Nance
- Alex Neckles
- Kayleigh Nutting
- Robert & Monique Pearson
- Dave & Michelle Pfaff
- Diane Phillips
- Peter & Laurie Pike
- Lucy J. Pullen
- Elizabeth A. Rice
- Rande Richardson
- Dr. Douglas & Mrs. Mary P. Sanford
- Sally L. Scanlon
- Michael & Jacquelyn Schell
- Sarah George Slabchuck
- Paul & Joan Alfke
- Brandon W. Shuman
- Toni & Loron Stillman
- Susan Smith
- Daphne L. Sterling
- John & Ann Sudduth
- Janet B. Summerville
- Peter & Elaine Thurston
- Jan K. Turcotte
- Dr. & Mrs. W. Barton Van Slyke
- T. Uring & Mabel Walker
- Dave & Karen Walton
- Joan & Roger (Ted) White Jr.
- Sherry M. Wilson
- Mary Alice Wistman
- Verena E. Young

To join others in helping build the Dr. Henry L. George III Memorial Fund, gifts can be made to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Mary Alice Burke Robinson

Mary Alice Burke Robinson was an elementary school teacher, with most of her career spent in the Indian River Central School District. She also served as an adjunct professor at SUNY Potsdam. Mary Alice had a passion for genealogy and history. She and her husband, the late Eugene Westover Robinson, DDS, raised four daughters while remaining active and committed to their community. She served on the boards of local organizations, including serving on the Northern New York Community Foundation’s education and scholarship committees. The Eugene W. and Mary Alice Robinson Fund at the Community Foundation will be an enduring reminder of their shared desire for a better community for all. We are honored to join the family in extending their life’s work in this meaningful way.

Tribute gifts in memory of Mary Alice Burke Robinson

- William & Kimberly Couch
- Andrea & Eric DeLaGarza
- Katherine Felice
- Mary Robinson Grow
- The Heifetz Family
- Jill H. Johnson
- Pamela A. Kennedy
- David & Jean Kenney
- Kevin A. Kieff
- Harold & Sally L’Huillier
- Renee Lustick
- Jim & Martha O’Donnell
- Rande Richardson
- T. Uring & Mabel Walker
- Roy & Peggy White
- Stewart & Sally Keene Young

To contribute to the Eugene W. and Mary Alice Robinson Fund, gifts can be made to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.
Beverly S. Colligan

The North Country was Beverly S. Colligan's home for over 90 years. Several years before her death, she decided to create a scholarship fund that would forever benefit students of the area. During her lifetime, she was able to experience the joy of meeting the recipients of the Beverly Colligan Family Scholarship. Even though she is no longer here to personally meet the students she helps, her family will experience firsthand the important way Bev's care and concern for others will continue for years to come. Bev had a unique way of making people feel special. Her ability to do that will continue, and, in so doing, we have an enduring reminder of what made her so special.

Tribute gifts in memory of Beverly Colligan
Betty J. Gill
Carlton & Shirley Goodwin
Bob & Teena Gregory
Margaret H. Hayes
Edward & Sheryl Lachenauer
Rick & Cindy Mason
Jeff & Mary Perrine
Rande Richardson
Lee Rolf
Wilhelmina O. Russell
David & Lynne Shelanskey
Marie B. Shelanskey
Vincent Siragusa
Norine Thomas
Luanne E. VanBrocklin
George & Shirley Weber
Gary, Kim & Helen West

To join others in helping build the Colligan Family Scholarship, gifts can be made to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601

Barbara Rothhaupt Meyerdierks

Barbara Rothhaupt Meyerdierks moved to Watertown with her late husband, Dr. John J. (Jack) Meyerdierks (IV), in 1957, where they raised their six children. In her years in the North Country, Barbara was active in a variety of civic and charitable organizations. The family owned a cottage on Point Salubrious and were members of the Crescent Yacht Club in Chaumont. Upon her death, the family requested memorial gifts to the Northern New York Community Foundation’s Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division Fund, which will help improve and sustain a program that held great meaning for Barbara and continues to enrich the lives of generations of young people.

Tribute gifts in memory of Barbara Meyerdierks
Cynthia Ahlheim
James & Sandra Branski
Robert Caswell
Andrea & Eric DeLaGarza
Janet J. George
William & Elizabeth George
Romayne Hartsborn
Renee Lustick
Marshall & DeEtte Marshall
James M. & Mary F. Murphy
Dave & Michelle Pfaff
Peter T. Quimby
Dr. Eugene & Joyce Renzi
Joan Rogers
David & Suzanne Seiffert
Paige T. Shuman & Terry J. Chapko
Tom & Judy Shuman
Kris & Bob Smith, Jr.
Carol Tsao
Dave & Karen Walton

Richard D. Connell

Richard D. Connell's life was one of service to his country and others. After service in the United States Navy, he served as a medic for most of his adult life. He and his late wife, Betty Jean Connell, a registered nurse, raised two sons. Both when Richard and Betty passed away, the family chose to direct memorial contributions to help grow the Copenhagen Central School District Educational Foundation, a component fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation. In this unique way, their lives will continue to help advance our community's future by enhancing the educational experience for students. We are incredibly thankful to share with their family in this meaningful legacy.

Tribute gifts in memory of Richard D. Connell
Copenhagen Central School Employees
Max & Sara DelSignore
Nancy Finnegan
Mary Jane & Terrance Fleming
Bernard C. & Mary H. Jones
Marcia A. & Roger E. Mundy
Thomas J. & Laurie A. Roman
Brenda & Warren Shelmidine
John E. Snyder
Jim & Robin Spaulding
Steven L. & Kirsti K. Zaluski
Benjamin Winkler

A number of North Country families and friends responded to honor the life of Benjamin Winkler, who passed away earlier this year. A son to Stephen and Lisa Winkler, Ben grew up in Rodman and graduated from Immaculate Heart Central School. An accomplished three-sport athlete in high school, Ben became a standout lacrosse player at Utica College. He finished his playing career as the school’s third-ranked, all-time leader in career points, along with a variety of additional athletic accolades. Ben earned his Bachelor’s Degree from Utica College in 2012. After graduation, Ben entered the Mohawk Valley Police Academy and joined the Utica City Police Department in 2015. Ben’s love for family, friends, service and athletics will be reflected as part of the charitable fund in his name at the Community Foundation.

Tribute gifts in memory of Benjamin Winkler

Kirk & Karen Denny
William H. Dingman D.C., P.C.
Dino’s Sausage & Meat Co., Inc.
Christine L. & Edward N. Doldo
Mary E. & John P. Fitzpatrick
Tom, Kim, Craig & Kay Forbes
Linda Scheipis-Forte & Paul J. Forte
Chris & Jenn Gibbs
James & Denise Giruzzi
Gold Medal Packing, Inc.
Wanda B. & Stephen J. High
John & Heather Johnsen
William Johnson
David Kunz
Joseph N. & Toni R. Leone
Kathleen & Kyle Llewellyn
Russell & Karen Moseley
John P. Murtha & Pamela S. Beyor-Murtha
Oneida County Sheriff’s Law Enforcement Foundation
Board of Directors
Payne-Bourcy Consulting Services
The Philip S. McDonald Police Benevolent Association, Inc.
Steven N. Piacentino
Kenneth & Judith Piarulli
Kyle Piersall
Carol A. & Jesse I. Porter
Greg & Lisa Porter
Jacqueline M. Reid
Steven & Elizabeth Robinson
Thomas J. & Judy A. Rookey
Frank J. Schepis, DDS
Linda & Scott Shaffer
David & Lyne Sischo & Family
South Jefferson Teachers’ Association
Carolyn & Nelson Symonds
Donna M. Tasior
Janet B. Taylor
John Trumbell & Nicole Wittbrodt
Upstate Lacrosse Association
Cynthia L. & Robert E.
Van Coughnett
Weedsport Central School
Board of Education
David & Barbara Zembiec

Howard Earl Lechler

Long time Clayton and Gouverneur resident, Howard Earl Lechler, was a successful businessman and benefactor for many charitable causes, including the Northern New York Community Foundation. He and his wife, Mary Lou (Rouse) Lechler were particularly generous in their support of Clarkson University, and the Gouverneur Foundation and were founders and dedicated supporters of the Thousand Islands Foundation. Their generosity and steadfast dedication to the North Country will continue to touch the lives of future generations, especially those in the pursuit of their educational endeavors. Contributions made in his memory will help build the Lechler Award of the Thousand Islands Foundation, an affiliate of the Community Foundation.

Tribute gifts in memory of Howard Earl Lechler

Philip D. & Sarah V. Cusano
David W. Jessen
Richard F. Nordan
Elizabeth Diaz
Mary & Ted Mascott
Rande Richardson
Padgett Gerler
James Mason
Paul T. Stecko
Bannister Family

Irene V. Wilson

After attending school in Massena and later SUNY Cortland, Irene V. Wilson went on to become a lifelong educator, having been a reading specialist and teacher in Clinton, New York. She relocated to Watertown with her two children in 1985 and served as principal at Knickerbocker, Ohio and North Elementary School. Throughout her career and after retiring in 2014, she was active in her community. During her 36 years in education, she touched countless lives. Through the Irene V. Wilson Scholarship Fund, she will continue to have a positive impact on students. We are grateful to join with her family and friends in perptuating her commitment to education.

Tribute gifts in memory of Irene V. Wilson

Cary L. & Jacqueline A. Derrigo
John & Bonnie McLaughlin
Geraldine C. Fink
North Elementary PTO
Stella A. Garitz
Rebecca O’Brien
Linda J. Holley
Marnie O’Connor
Robert & Mary Hughes
Kimberly M. Oliver
Jefferson County Youth
Rande Richardson
Advisory Board
Ann & George Schenk
Cynthia L. & Robert E.
Beau Trumbell
Upstate Lacrosse Association
Tom, Kim, Craig & Kay Forbes
John & Bonnie McLaughlin
Mary & Ted Mascott
Carol A. & Jesse I. Porter
Rande Richardson
Ann Marie Simmons
Greg & Lisa Porter
Mark & Tammy Taylor
Jacqueline M. Reid
Todd A. Thiebeau & Marilyn H. Trainor
Frank J. Schepis, DDS
Pamela S. Beyor-Murtha
Linda & Scott Shaffer
Mary Lou (Rouse) Lechler
Mary E. & John P. Fitzpatrick
South Jefferson Teachers’ Association
Cynthia L. & Robert E.
Upstate Lacrosse Association
Cynthia L. & Robert E.
Van Coughnett
Weedsport Central School
Board of Education
David & Barbara Zembiec

To join others in helping honor Benjamin Winkler, gifts can be made to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

To join others in helping honor Howard Earl Lechler, gifts can be made to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

To join others in helping build the Irene V. Wilson Scholarship Fund, gifts can be made to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.
Perpetuating a lifetime of River stewardship
Kenneth Deedy Internship Fund established; $25,000 matching grant offered

This summer, the North Country and the 1000 Islands region lost a passionate environmental advocate with the passing of Grindstone Island resident Ken Deedy. His love for the St. Lawrence River culminated in his founding of the Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT) in 1985. He remained active in the organization, serving on the board for 33 years. He was also involved with other River-area organizations. For several years, he maintained a charitable fund at the Northern New York Community Foundation that benefited River-area programs.

In partnership with Save The River and the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center, TILT has established the Kenneth Deedy Environmental Internship Fund. The fund, which will be held by the Northern New York Community Foundation, will be a permanent resource to assist in recruiting students for summer internships working for all three River organizations. Prior to his death, Ken made the initial gift to establish the fund, continuing to build upon his legacy as a lifelong environmentalist.

To help assist with this endeavor, the Community Foundation has made a $25,000 gift to continue to build the fund and is offering an additional $25,000 challenge match for all new gifts made. We feel that to partner with TILT and two other organizations that do so much to benefit our region makes the investment in this initiative especially powerful. We also strive to honor the legacy of someone whose life embodied what this fund will serve to forever perpetuate. It will create a collaboration of resources that will encourage, across the generations, an ongoing belief in the importance of partnerships that make the region stronger.

“The River communities have been blessed to have such a strong Community Foundation working alongside them for the betterment of the entire Thousand Islands region. As one of our longest standing partners, the Northern New York Community Foundation has been a champion of TILT’s land conservation and environmental efforts. The Foundation’s support of the Kenneth Deedy Environmental Internship Fund is yet another example of its unparalleled leadership and its dedication to being a catalyst for positive change.” -Jake Tibbles, TILT

To join in helping build the Kenneth Deedy Internship Fund, gifts can be made to the Northern York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 with a designation towards the fund. All donors to the fund will have their gifts doubled by the Community Foundation, up to $25,000. Gifts can also be made online at www.nnycf.org.

Making a difference, now and forever
Pauline and Alfred Lyng Scholarship to benefit Sackets students

Pauline (Polly) Gorman Lyng, was looking for a way to show her appreciation and fondness for the Sackets Harbor area, while also honoring her late husband. To do this, Pauline recently established the Pauline and Alfred Lyng Scholarship. She felt this was especially appropriate, as Al had graduated from Sackets Harbor High School president of his class in 1942, while Polly graduated president of her class two years later in 1944. Neither Polly’s nor Al’s parents or grandparents had attended college. As a subsequent graduate of Boston University, a physical education teacher and a guidance counselor, Polly had a special appreciation for the importance of learning and inspiring future generations.

In an interesting twist of fate, Al and Polly dated for years in high school, even attending his senior prom together. Separated by Polly’s college and Al’s service in WWII, they pursued different paths. Polly married James R. Gorman Jr. and raised three children. Al married Eleanor LaRock of Ogdensburg and raised six children. It wasn’t until a Sackets High School reunion in 2002, by which time both were widowed, that they reconnected. They were married in 2004, and summered near Sackets Harbor until Al’s death this past January. Polly and her family still spend summers at Campbell’s Point.

So that she could experience the joy of meeting the students who will be helped by the scholarship, Polly decided to fund a portion of the scholarship now, and to make plans for a future gift to ensure that the fund will continue in perpetuity. In this special way, she is honoring Al and making a lasting impact on the community where she and Al grew up. We look forward to joining Polly and her family in greeting the first recipient of the scholarship this coming June.
In his shortened life of 24 years, **Spencer Jeffrey Parsons** was known by friends and family as genuine, loyal, loving, caring and charismatic. His smile, sense of humor and positive personality and character followed his desire to bring out the best in others. He lived life with purpose and joy, and was in pursuit of a doctoral degree in chiropractic medicine. To honor his life and memory, family and friends have established the **SPENNY15 Scholarship**, and it now has a permanent home at the Community Foundation. The scholarship is awarded each year to a South Jefferson Central School senior who works hard, respects others, values family and friends and understands the value of goal setting in order to reach milestones in one’s life. The recipients should also demonstrate qualities of a servant leader who has a positive impact on others. There is no greater honor than to be the steward of such a precious legacy on behalf of his parents Jeff and Lisa, his siblings Hailey and Pearce, and all those who Spencer touched during his lifetime.

To join in helping perpetuate the spirit of the life of Spencer Parsons, gifts can be made to the Northern York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 with a designation towards the SPENNY15 Scholarship.

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New fund honors the memory of Andrew Stevenson

As a teenager, **Andrew J. Stevenson**'s life revolved around family, sports, and community. Whether it was spending time as a three-sport athlete at South Jefferson Central School, or devoting time in the pit crew of the family’s auto racing team, Andrew thrived on every minute spent with parents, siblings and relatives in athletics. Those activities and success created a network of support from families and friends within the South Jefferson community. A tragic event in June 2017 resulted in Andrew's passing, as well as his cousin, Lorenz (Enzo) Greenwood Coinco, but his parents, Jeffrey and Debra Stevenson, family and closest friends are determined to keep his legacy alive.

The **Andrew J. Stevenson Memorial Fund** was established at the Northern New York Community Foundation earlier this year to award grants and scholarships that will enhance the quality of life for area students. Scholarships will be awarded annually to graduating high school seniors from South Jefferson Central School. Eligible recipients must have confirmed plans to continue their education – whether through an accredited institution, university or vocational program. Students are also required to have participated in at least one varsity sport, demonstrate strong moral character, as well as good sportsmanship, citizenship, and a positive attitude. The memorial fund is also designed to offer grant funding to noteworthy programs and projects for the benefit of students and families residing in Jefferson County. This past June, Kaitlyn Mesler and Lucas Vaadi were the first scholarship recipients from South Jefferson. Andrew’s twin brother, Tyler, and older sister, Alyssa, presented the first awards to the recipients.

“We are honored, in Andrew’s memory, to provide this fund to support students and their families with their pursuits in education and community activities. Andrew was a big hearted kid who was very active in the South Jefferson school community and who would very much want to help others.” - The Stevenson Family

To join in helping build this permanent tribute to Andrew Stevenson, gifts can be made to the Northern York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 with a designation towards the Andrew J. Stevenson Memorial Fund.
To ensure the things you care about most ENDURE...

We commend the following organizations who have created funds at the Community Foundation to provide donors with options for supporting 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)
- Diocese of Syracuse
- Faith Fellowship Christian School
- Foundation for Community Betterment (Alexandria Bay)
- General Brown Central School District
- Hay Memorial Library
- Henderson Historical Society
- Herkimer 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
- 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
- Thompson Park Conservancy
- Ontario Bays Initiative (OBI)
- Point Vivian Preservation Corp.
- River Hospital
- Friends of Rosewell 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 Musicals
- 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
- St. Lawrence Central School
- 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
- House River Community School
- Madrid-Waddington Central School
- Massena Central School District
- Massena Music Friends
- Morristown Central School District
- New Beginnings Clothing & 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 County Historical Association
- St. Lawrence Land Trust
- St. Lawrence NYSARC and 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 Community Foundation fund 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 at (315) 782-7110.
Welcome new partners!

We thank the following organizations who have recently established funds within the Community Foundation for their long-term sustainability and to provide their most loyal supporters with additional ways to provide for their work and mission in perpetuity.

- Adirondack Mennonite Camping Association*
- Canton Fountain Fund
- Canton Free Library*
- Community Health Center of the North Country
- Constable Hall Association
- Fort La Présentation Association*
- Foundation for Community Betterment (Alexandria Bay)*
- Gouverneur Hospital*
- Indian River Education Association
- Lewis County Agricultural Society
- Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs
- Meals on Wheels of Greater Watertown
- Minna Anthony Common Nature Center*
- New Beginnings Clothing and Food Outreach*
- Mountain View Prevention Services*
- Norwood Village Green Concert Series*
- Ogdensburg Command Performances*
- Sackets Harbor Historical Society
- Save The River*
- St. John’s Episcopal Church (Cape Vincent)
- St. Lawrence County Historical Association
- St. Lawrence Land Trust
- Theresa Progress Group (Veterans Monument)
- United Helpers
- Wanakena Historical Association
- Watertown Sunrise Rotary Club
- Wilderness Health Care Foundation (Clifton-Fine Hospital)*

*Community Foundation currently matching gifts to these funds

Scholarship honors the memory of ‘66 Norwood-Norfolk graduate

A scholarship honoring a 1966 graduate of Norwood-Norfolk Central School now has a permanent home at the Northern New York Community Foundation. The William “Billy” Todd Memorial Scholarship was recently transferred from Norwood-Norfolk Central School to the Community Foundation for long-term stewardship. Mr. Todd, passed away in 1994 at the age of 46. He was also a graduate of Canton ATC and Potsdam State University and was the father of three sons.

The scholarship is awarded each year to a graduating Norwood-Norfolk senior who participated in sports and exhibited strong character, judgment, and perseverance in all areas. It is an honor for the Community Foundation to work with his brother, Richard (Dick) Todd and other family members and friends to perpetuate his legacy by assisting graduates of his high school alma mater as they pursue their educational dreams and endeavors. The Community Foundation also partners with Norwood-Norfolk Central School through administering the John G. Pircsuk Scholarship and the Wing/Bishop/Patterson Scholarship Fund. We are honored to be part of perpetuating all of these meaningful legacies which help continue to make our world a better place.

Physician’s lifetime of service continues to impact others

The first recipient of the Dr. Arthur C. Peckham, Jr. Medical Scholarship is Cassidy Mills. Cassidy, a graduate of Watertown High School, attending SUNY Geneseo majoring in biology/pre-med. Her goal is to become a pediatrician. Pictured with Cassidy (standing, right) are Dianne Peckham (seated) and April Fallon (standing, left). Dr. Peckham was born in Watertown, graduated from Watertown High School and became a partner of the North Country Orthopaedic Group in 1977. He practiced at local hospitals and community clinics in the Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

The Community Foundation scholarship will provide an annual scholarship to a graduating high school senior, pursuing a degree in medicine.

To join in helping build this permanent tribute to Dr. Peckham, gifts can be made to the Northern York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 with a designation towards the scholarship fund. All donors to the fund will be listed in a future issue of this newsletter.

“The St. Lawrence County Historical Association (SLCHA) recently chose to become an official Community Foundation partner and was subsequently awarded a $10,000 matching grant to help build their fund for long-term sustainability. Their membership responded favorably, and they were able to meet the matching challenge. The SLCHA now has another layer of stewardship and diversification, as well as additional options for their supporters that were previously not available. We commend them for embracing a partnership with the Community Foundation and look forward to many more years of collaborating to support and sustain their important work and mission.

The St. Lawrence County Historical Association (SLCHA)
Louise E. Simmons was a special place to Louise E. Simmons. Mrs. Simmons was the school's valedictorian in 1944. She attended the Watertown School of Commerce and worked in a series of administrative positions at New York Air Brake, National Biscuit, Prudential Insurance and a local family counseling organization. During that time, she lived across the road from the school for several years, and eventually became the district’s clerk, serving for more than 20 years, before retiring in 1988. After a lifetime of school and community engagement, she died on January 1, 2018 at the age of 90.

The family of Mrs. Simmons decided to honor her commitment and legacy to LaFargeville Central School with the creation of the Simmons Family Scholarship Fund at the Community Foundation. The scholarship was established to recognize her lifelong devotion to the school and community by her children, Michael Simmons, and his wife, Ann Marie, of Clayton, and Cindy, and her husband James Kennedy, of Pleasantville, New York.

Graduating senior Melissa Russell was selected as the first recipient of the Simmons Family Scholarship in June. The scholarship will be awarded annually to a graduating senior from LaFargeville Central School demonstrating the best version of themselves – morally, socially, emotionally and academically. Applicants who have participated in at least one sport and one extracurricular activity will receive strong consideration. Applicants meeting the scholarship criteria will be eligible, regardless of academic class rank.

“"We and our parents loved LaFargeville and LaFargeville Central School. Our mother had a special connection to the school that we can celebrate with this scholarship." - The Simmons Family

Louise E. Simmons

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Gifts to support the James T. Farrington Memorial Fund can be made to the Northern York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Gifts to support the Simmons Family Scholarship Fund can be made to the Northern York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

"You’re never quite sure what’s going to be here 10, 20 or 30 years from now. But I know if we give the Community Foundation guidance about how we want our fund used, we can trust it to find a way to honor our wishes in an enduring and relevant way.” - Community Foundation donor
A legacy of excellence in athletics

Two seniors were recently recognized as the top graduating athletes at Watertown High School and the recipients of the William I. Graf Award. Haleigh Foster was selected as the school’s female recipient and Brian Netto was chosen for the school’s male honor this year. The William I. Graf Award was created in 1954 by the Italian American Civic Association to honor Mr. Graf’s leadership and civic engagement in the community. Mr. Graf was a multi-sport coach and athletic director at Watertown High School. Graf award honorees are expected to have participated in at least two or more varsity sports in their senior year and showcase exceptional individual characteristics in sportsmanship, discipline, fair play, training, ability and academics. More than 100 graduating high school seniors have received the Graf Award. Watertown High School’s athletics staff selects the recipients each year, and the Italian American Civic Association presents the award, in partnership with the Northern New York Community Foundation. Following the death of Mr. Graf’s son, William A. Graf, in 2013, the family decided to honor him by funding a financial award for recipients. William A. Graf, who also exemplified the traits of the award, attended Watertown High School and played several varsity sports coached by his father, William I. Graf.

Seeing the difference you make, the lives you touch

A friend of long-time North Country educator and administrator Gary F. West recently offered a $5,000 matching challenge to create a permanent scholarship. Colleagues, friends and family rose to the occasion and met the match. Recently, Mr. West presented the first annual award to Margie Barton. Mr. West retired as Immaculate Heart Central elementary school principal in June. He has served for 40 years in various capacities in both public and parochial education in Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties. The Gary F. West Faith-Based Education Scholarship is a component fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation and will provide financial assistance to elementary students attending Immaculate Heart Central School in perpetuity.

“Thank you for all you have done for so many people in Northern New York. I appreciate so much all the support you have given over these many years. You are an inspiration to those of us who have been fortunate to know you.”

–Kenneth Andrews, Music Director & Conductor, Orchestra of Northern New York
2017 Friends of the Foundation Annual community betterment fund

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. As year-end approaches, we hope you will consider renewing your support. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

PLEASE NOTE: This list includes ONLY gifts made to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Annual Fund. Gifts to donor advised, scholarship, or other named designated funds, will be recognized separately, by fund, in other publications.

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The Community Foundation supports organizations and individuals working to make a stronger, healthy and vibrant community for all, through the generosity of past, present and future Northern New Yorkers. Join us.

Every Gift Matters! Thank You!

The Jeffrey W. Kimball MBA, WHS Class of 2003 Scholarship was recently awarded to Chase Baytos and Benjamin Cisco.

What matters most to you? Consider establishing a fund to support the causes, organizations and communities that you care about. We’re here to help. Call us at (315) 782-7110 to discuss the best way to accomplish your charitable objective and tailor your legacy.

The 2018 Jefferson Physician Organization’s (JPO) Lewis D. Yecies, M.D. Memorial Scholarship was recently presented to Cassidy Mills of Watertown. Cassidy is pursuing a degree in biology and pre-med at SUNY Geneseo with the goal of becoming a pediatrician. The award was presented by Dr. Jason White, chairman of the JPO. The annual $1,000 scholarship is designated for Jefferson County residents entering pre-medicine studies. We are grateful to the JPO and all those involved in helping make this investment in future medical professionals, and our community, possible. Encouraging our youth to pursue a medical career, and, hopefully, share their talents by returning to our local medical community to practice, and is a vital piece of sustainability for the North Country.

Congratulations to the first recipients of the Jeffrey W. Kimball MBA, WHS Class of 2003 Scholarship. Chase Baytos will be attending Clarkson University this fall and Benjamin Cisco will be attending LeMoyne College.
Malcolm Goodridge, the great-grandson of George C. Boldt, recently announced that he would match all charitable gifts, up to $50,000, to help establish and build a scholarship in Mr. Boldt’s honor and memory. Following a family gathering at Boldt Castle last summer, Mr. Goodridge and other Boldt descendants decided to move forward with the concept of creating a permanent scholarship fund that would forever benefit the students of the region. The George C. Boldt Scholarship will be awarded annually to a Jefferson County high school senior attending a 2- or 4-year college or a trade or technical school. In addition to academics, school and community service will be considered. Each year’s recipient will be invited to Heart Island, where their scholarship award will be presented. The scholarship will be administered by the Northern New York Community Foundation. We are grateful to Mr. Goodridge and all those listed below who have made lead gifts to help establish this meaningful tribute.

“As a third generation descendant of George C. Boldt, I, along with other family members, wish to establish this scholarship both to honor our great-grandfather and to give back to the River and adjoining communities which have been so supportive of preserving our family’s history and legacy. Establishing a scholarship fund locally seemed to be a fitting tribute, as well as an extension of the Boldt family’s mission to support higher education.” -Malcolm Goodridge

Thank you to the following who have made lead gifts to help establish the George C. Boldt Scholarship:

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HAVE YOUR GIFT DOUBLED: For those wishing to join in establishing the scholarship, matching gifts can be made to the Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 or online at www.nnycf.org, with a notation for the George C. Boldt Scholarship. Those making a gift of $1,000 or more will be acknowledged on a permanent plaque at Boldt Castle and those making a gift of $5,000 or more will be listed on the plaque as founding donors. All donors will be listed and recognized through listings in local newspapers and in Community Foundation publications.

An enduring passion for the arts

A packed Clayton Opera House featured the Orchestra of Northern New York (ONNY) for the annual Northern New York Community Foundation Sidney T. Cox Memorial Concert. The nearly sold-out August 25th event featured music from Leonard Bernstein including selections from West Side Story, Candide and On The Town. The concert was held on what would have been Bernstein’s 100th birthday. The Orchestra was also joined by vocalists Colleen Skull and Donald George. The Community Foundation is grateful to be the steward of legacies which include specific interests, including the arts and this concert was especially meaningful as it involved collaboration with two of our partners, ONNY and the Clayton Opera House (TIPAF). In case you missed it, they will perform again for next year’s Sidney T. Cox Memorial Concert, planned for August 24, 2019.
Recent Tribute Gifts
Includes ONLY gifts made to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Fund from October 19, 2017-October 25, 2018 or for those who have just recently passed

In Honor of
Given by
2018 Retirees from Watertown City School District
Dr. Marilyn Trainor

Henry & Emily Willmott
Benjamin & Kristen Willmott
Thomas & Barbara Willmott
Mary Jane Yarmer
Patti Scordo
Ruth Seaman
Joan Carlo
(2018 Elks Citizen of the Year)
Elinor Walton Ducat
John & Elinor Ducat
Sarah Miller
Francine Petersen
Roxanne & Philip Pratt
Rande Richardson
Annette & Sherman Craig
Mary Alice Robinson
Chris & Marcy Robinson Dembs

We greatly appreciate those who choose the Foundation to express their affection for a friend or loved one. Gifts can be made at any time to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 and are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

New component fund supports professional development

The Dr. John A. Wrape Professional Development Fund of the Watertown City School District Educational Foundation recently provided a grant to provide supplement support for staff to attend Learning Environments for Tomorrow: Next Practices for Educators through the Harvard Graduate School of Education. This type of fund demonstrates the unique way donors can support the things that matter most to them. We are grateful for Dr. Wrape's vision and thoughtful generosity that has made this a reality.

Without this grant, we would be unable to experience an amazing opportunity to learn from some of the most highly-skilled architects and learning environment designers. We can reflect on our own practices, acquire new contacts and contexts for our work, and be proactive in our decisions to create learning environments beneficial to all. We are deeply appreciative that the Dr. John Wrape grant affords us this opportunity and look forward to bringing new ideas to the table at Watertown City School District.

-Stacey Eger, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, Watertown City School District

Making it happen: The Community Foundation is currently working with donors in Cranberry Lake to help convert a church into a community center through a recently established project fund.

Foundation assists anti-poverty efforts

The Jefferson Leadership Institute Class of 2017 held its second Race Against Poverty event on June 9 in Watertown. A combination of area contributors and proceeds from the competition resulted in $23,000 raised to support the Race Against Poverty Fund at the Northern New York Community Foundation. Pictured (L-R) Front row: Joanna Loomis, Watertown Urban Mission; Carol Gardner, Volunteer Transportation Center; Jennifer Voss, City of Watertown; Back row: Dustin Clark, Barton & Loguidice; Bryon Perry, Knowlton Technologies; Aaron Naklick, Samaritan Medical Center; Corey Zeigler, Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization; Max DelSignore, Northern New York Community Foundation.

Community Foundation project funds help facilitate charitable giving

Another way the Community Foundation works with donors to make good things happen is to act as a conduit for charitable gifts for project-specific funds. Often there are community projects that have a defined fundraising period, with no reason for a stand-alone charitable entity. Over the last several years, the Foundation has worked with local individuals and organizations to help facilitate tax-deductible giving for projects, programs and initiatives that have public benefit. In this collaborative way, the Foundation extends its ability to assist when it is the will of donors to accomplish good things. Some of these projects include:

- A Night to Remember Fund
- Concert in the Park Fund
- City of Watertown Fountain Project Fund
- Cranberry Lake Church Opportunity Fund
- Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division Fund
- Downtown Block Parties Fund
- Friends of Thompson Park Fund
- Governor Roswell P. Flower Monument Fund
- Henderson Harbor Yacht Club
- Water Sports Programs Fund
- Honor the Mountain Monument Fund
- North Country Community Cup Fund
- I Can Bike Fund
- Jefferson County Businesses Against Drugs
- Playscape at Ives Park Fund
- Potsdam Pavilion Project Fund
- Point Vivian Preservation Project Fund
- Race Against Poverty Fund
- Safe School Endeavor
- Theresa Veterans Monument Fund
- Thompson Park Splash Pad Fund
- Watertown Rotary Club Fitness Trail Fund
**WHY I GIVE**

"Philanthropy is so important because it creates a culture. It creates a culture that, the more we give, the better it is for everyone. So that's very, very important. We can always do more. We have to remember that. We model for the youth. This is what we do, this is what works for the community. Then we get them involved. We get them involved by saying, 'join us.' And then celebrate and recognize those things the youth have done.”

Donald Whitney

Adams

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**New scholarship honors Massena native**

A new, permanent endowed scholarship fund has been established at the Northern New York Community Foundation to honor the legacy of Massena native, Lorraine Power Tharp. Mrs. Tharp graduated as salutatorian in 1966 from Massena Central School. She was the daughter of former St. Lawrence County District Attorney, William H. Power Jr. and Oske S. Power.

A 35-year practicing lawyer, Mrs. Tharp began her career as an attorney in the 1970’s and went on to become the 105th president of the New York Bar Association in 2002, the third woman to lead the State Bar. She was also the first woman to serve as a commissioner on the New York State Racing Commission. Mrs. Tharp was also a member of the Third Judicial District Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commission, part of the statewide network for screening judicial candidates. She also served on the New York State Continuing Legal Education Board.

Mrs. Tharp died in October 2008 at the age of 60. The scholarship was recently established by her husband, Russell C. Tharp Jr. to perpetuate her legacy in the Massena area. The Lorraine Power Tharp Scholarship will be awarded each year to graduating seniors at Massena Central School. Selections will be based on academic merit, and service to school and community. Other special needs or circumstances will also be considered.

We are honored to be part of the special way Lorraine will continue to be a force for positive good in her hometown by bringing out the best in others as they begin their educational journey to make our world a better place.

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**Clayton educator continues to help students**

Virginia Hyde Moriarty and her family have established a new scholarship honoring Mrs. Moriarty's mother, Hazel Northrup Hyde, who taught Latin and was a guidance counselor in the Clayton area from 1934 until her death in 1957. The Hazel Northrup Hyde Family Scholarship will be administered by the Northern New York Community Foundation with recipients chosen by the Thousand Islands Foundation selection committee. Mrs. Moriarty, a 1947 graduate and valedictorian of Clayton Central School, and her family chose to create this permanent scholarship to “honor Mrs. Hyde's devotion to education and efforts to improve the lives of others and as a tribute to her work and life-long devotion to the Clayton area.” The first award will be presented this year. First preference will be given to graduating seniors who have demonstrated high academic achievement as well as involvement in extracurricular and community activities. To be able to honor a person whose life was devoted to education by inspiring others to pursue their own educational endeavors is especially meaningful. This is an enduring way for that type of legacy to live on. The Thousand Islands Foundation promotes education beyond high school by awarding scholarships to residents of the Thousand Islands area. It became a permanent component fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation in 2014.

We recognize that the support means so much to these young people eager to pursue the next level of education and we certainly applaud your very fine efforts on the behalf of these young North Country scholars. Thank you for providing the mechanism for us to continue to assist students from the same area that she taught their predecessors in the classroom so many years ago. - The family of Hazel Northrup Hyde
Donors Establish New Funds

Charitable Funds
- Norman and Cynthia Ahlheim Community Fund
- Blackburn Family Foundation
- Kenneth Deedy Environmental Internship Fund
- DelSignore Family Fund
- Domser Family Children’s Fund
- Leonard C. Ferguson Fund
- Dr. James B. and Ruth M. Fish Community Fund
- Dr. Henry L. George III Memorial Fund
- John L. Gormley Foundation
- Chris and Hope Johnston Fund
- Kevin A. Kleff Fund
- Parker Leikam’s Shining Stars Fund
- Frances Anderson Luck Foundation
- John Shaw McNeeley Charitable Fund
- Murray Family Fund
- New Beginnings Clothing and Food Outreach Endowment Fund
- Pfaff Family Fund
- Robert L. and Linda A. Saiff Family Fund
- Jeanette Talcott Pitcher Memorial Fund
- Rande S. Richardson Charitable Fund
- Dr. Eugene W. and Mary Alice Robinson Fund
- Kenneth V. and Jeannette Remp Sawyer Community Fund
- Andrew J. Stevenson Memorial Fund
- Thompson-Weatherup Family Charitable Foundation
- John and Dorothea VanNess Family Fund
- Watertown Sunrise Rotary Club Foundation
- George E. Woodruff Palliative Care Fund
- Dr. John A. Wrape Professional Development Fund

Project Funds
- A Night to Remember Fund
- Cranberry Lake Church Opportunity Fund
- Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division Directed Fund
- Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs Junior Yacht Club Facilities Repair and Renovation Fund
- Jefferson County Businesses Against Drugs
- Governor Roswell P. Flower Monument Fund
- North Country Community Cup Fund
- Safe Schools Endeavor
- Theresa Veterans Monument Fund

Organization Funds
- Canton Free Library Endowment Fund
- Canton Free Library Nancy Wilder Palmateer Fund
- Constable Hall Association Endowment Fund
- Constable Hall Association Sustaining Fund
- Anna Mae Searles Cooper Caring Blessings Fund for Hospice Gouverneur Hospital Endowment Fund
- Grasse River Heritage Arts Park Fund
- Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs Endowment Fund
- Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs Sustaining Fund
- Lewis County Agricultural Society Endowment Fund
- Meals on Wheels of Greater Watertown Endowment Fund
- Minna Anthony Common Nature Center Endowment Fund
- Mountain View Prevention Services Endowment Fund
- Mountain View Prevention Services Foundation
- Save The River Endowment Fund
- St. Lawrence County Historical Association Endowment Fund
- St. Lawrence Land Trust Endowment Fund
- St. Lawrence Land Trust Flexible Fund
- United Helpers Canton Nursing Home Fund
- United Helpers Independent Living Corporation Fund
- Wanakena Historical Association Endowment Fund

Scholarship Funds
- George C. Boldt Scholarship
- Enzo Greenwood Coinco Scholarship Fund
- Anna Mae Searles Cooper Scholarship Fund
- Dr. and Mrs. Reams A. Domser Scholarship Fund
- Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs Scholarship Fund
- Hazel Northrup Hyde Family Scholarship
- Indian River Education Association Scholarship Fund
- Pauline and Alfred Lyng Scholarship Fund
- John P. McCreary, MD Scholarship Fund
- John Shaw McNeeley Scholarship Fund
- Richard C. Jr. and Linda A. McNeely Scholarship Fund
- Ann B. Northrop “You’ll Never Walk Alone” Scholarship Fund
- Kyle E. O’Brien Scholarship Fund
- Daphne A. Pickett Scholarship Fund
- Jeanette Talcott Pitcher Memorial Fund
- William P. Plante Memorial Scholarship
- Rise Scholarship Initiative Fund
- Friends of Michelle D. Salisbury Memorial Scholarship
- Jeannette and Katrina Seiter Scholarship Fund
- Stevens Family Scholarship Fund
- SPENNY’S Scholarship Fund
- Lorraine Power Tharp Scholarship Fund
- William “Billy” Todd Memorial Scholarship
- Watertown High School Class of 1967 Scholarship Fund
- Watertown Lyric Theater Scholarship Fund
- Irene V. Wilson Scholarship Fund
- Benjamin Winkler Scholarship Fund

Remembering lives, changing lives

In June 2017, the world lost a wonderful young man who made life better for others. Lorenz (Enzo) Greenwood Coinco, 18, passed away along with his cousin, Andrew J. Stevenson, following an accident in Henderson. Friends and family recall Enzo’s creative spark and ability to get along with everyone. The son of Emily D. Coinco and Barbara A. Greenwood, he was born in the Philippines and attended several international schools before moving to the United States, graduating in 2016 from South Jefferson Central School.

He lived his life to the fullest and was active in several sports. He had just completed his freshman year at Elmira College. His family chose to continue his caring spirit through a scholarship created in his name. The Enzo Greenwood Coinco Scholarship will forever benefit graduates of South Jefferson Central School. Enzo’s parents recently had the opportunity to meet and spend time with the first recipients, Islam (Liam) Kemelov and Natalie Tucker. Liam is attending SUNY Polytechnic Institute and Natalie is attending Jefferson Community College.

The Community Foundation feels great honor and responsibility to be entrusted with perpetuating this very precious legacy, knowing the great meaning it holds for his family, friends, and those whose lives it will touch.

What do you believe in?
Set up a fund to keep your passions alive or honor a friend or loved one—forever. Contact the Community Foundation at (315) 782-7110 or info@nnycf.org

Pictured (center) are the first recipients of the Enzo Greenwood Coinco Scholarship, Islam (Liam) Kemelov and Natalie Tucker, accompanied by Barbara Greenwood (left) and Emily Coinco (right).
McNeely Scholarship provides first awards

The newly established Richard C. Jr. and Linda A. McNeely Scholarship at the Community Foundation recently named its first two recipients, Desirae Dorling of Pulaski and Jacob Hess of Adams Center. The McNeelys, active in the family business, Hi-Lite Airfield Services, created the scholarship to assist students at Pulaski Academy and Central School District and South Jefferson Central School District. The ideal recipients must demonstrate dedication, promise and potential for success. The McNeelys hope to provide inspiration, encouragement and support to those students who have tried their best but may not be as eligible for traditional scholarships.

Pictured (L-R): Desirae Dorling, Linda and Richard McNeely and Jacob Hess.
Beyond grantmaking...making your nonprofits stronger

We are pleased that the following partners have chosen to make the Northern New York Philanthropy Center their home, joining in our shared vision to look for ways to share, collaborate and support each other. As a Community Foundation, it is an additional way for us to support organizations doing important work in our region, an extension of our mission beyond grantmaking.

The North Country Arts Council (NCAC) began as the North Country Artists’ Guild in 1948. In 2009, the mission was expanded to promote growth in and through all creative art forms including, but not limited to, music, theater, dance, literature, and visual arts. The NCAC is a tool for developing and celebrating cultural opportunities in our community, and is currently embarking on a renewed effort to be a promoter and collaborator to encourage public and private support of and involvement in the arts. The Community Foundation is currently helping fund a mission coordinator position for NCAC as they strive to further advance their focus on arts and cultural opportunities in the region.

Stage Notes is a nonprofit local theater organization whose purpose is to help students realize their passion for musical theater and make a difference in their community. Education in theater and philanthropy is the cornerstone of their organization. Since their founding in 2009, they have donated more than $50,000 to local organizations and recently partnered with the Community Foundation through the Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge. We are excited to have the opportunity to be more closely associated with the meaningful work they do.

Participants of Stage Notes recently gathered to move into their new space in the Philanthropy Center. The Center is now fully occupied, housing Stage Notes as well as the North Country Arts Council, Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired of Northern New York, Food Bank of Central New York, Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways and the Northern New York Community Foundation.
The following organizations used the Northern New York Philanthropy Center for their gatherings:

- ACR Health
- Adirondack Club, Black River Chapter
- American Association of University Women
  Jefferson County Branch
- Association of the United States Army
- Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
  of Northern New York
- Businesses Against Drugs
- City of Watertown Charter Commission
- City of Watertown Parks & Recreation Department
- Community Action Planning Council
- Development Authority of the North Country
- Downtown Business Association
- Food Bank of Central New York
- Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization
- Heather A. Freeman Foundation
- Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization
- Friends of the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library
- Garrett Loomis Foundation
- Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways
- Greater Watertown-North Country Chamber of Commerce
- Guitars for Vets Watertown Chapter
- Herring College Memorial Educational Trust
- Jefferson Community College
- Jefferson Community College Foundation
- Jefferson County Children’s Home
- Jefferson County Drug Free Committee
- Jefferson County Planning Board
- Jefferson County SPCA
- Jefferson Leadership Institute
- Jefferson-Lewis Library Association
- Knights of Columbus Council #259
- LEAD Council
- Little Theatre of Watertown
- Lyme Central School Scholarship Committee
- Mayor’s Charity Ball Committee
- National Association of the 10th Mountain Division
- Neighbors of Watertown
- North Country Arts Council
- North Country Bird Club
- North Country Family Health Center
- Ontario Bays Initiative
- Orchestra of Northern New York
- Philanthropic Educational Organization (PEO)
- Preservation League of New York State
- Race Against Poverty
- Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library
- Safe Schools Endeavor
- Snowtown USA
- St. Lawrence County Arts Council
- Salvation Army of Watertown
- Samaritan Medical Center
- Six Town Community Fund
- Stage Notes
- Thompson Park Conservancy
- Thousand Islands Area Habitat for Humanity
- Thousand Islands Book Festival Steering Committee
- Tug Hill Commission
- United Way of Northern New York
- Watertown Family YMCA
- Watertown Lyric Theater
- Workforce Development Board
- Youth Philanthropy Council

Since opening in 2017, the Northern New York Philanthropy Center has been a gathering place for many community organizations, including the Guitars for Vets (G4V), who regularly hold sessions there. Guitars for Vets currently operate more than 80 chapters in 40 states with the assistance of over 200 volunteers nationwide. Over the past seven years, their organization has refined a guitar instruction program aimed at providing Veterans struggling with physical injuries, PTSD and other emotional distress a unique supportive program. G4V pursues its mission to share the healing power of music by providing free guitar instruction, a new acoustic guitar and a guitar accessory kit in a structured program run by volunteers.
COMMUNITY CHAT
Dennis Caughlin

As the Community Foundation continues to grow, so do the relationships with supporters of all ages. Dennis started with the Foundation as a Watertown High School student participating in the Youth Philanthropy Council (YPC) program. Upon graduating from SUNY Geneseo, Dennis returned to the area, but maintained his commitment to the community in many ways. He agreed to join the Foundation’s LEAD Council program for young professionals and also served as a volunteer advisor for YPC. With a passion for performing arts, Dennis reflects on his personal experiences and demonstrating his philanthropy through Community Foundation programs.

Personal File
Age: 24  Hometown: Watertown, NY
Residence: Astoria, NY
Former Position/Employer: Customer Experience Officer, Watertown Savings Bank
Parents: Keith and Mary Caughlin
Siblings: Brother, Tim

Key Community Involvement: Community Foundation’s LEAD Council, Youth Philanthropy Council graduate and advisor, Mentor at H.T. Wiley Intermediate School in Watertown, “Community Cup” team captain

Q: You’ve had an affinity for the arts since you were younger. How did that passion come to be?

A: I think that an affinity for the arts is inherent. Some children line up their blocks by color and quantity, others make a picture. The kid that makes a picture has that innate ability, but it doesn’t come to life without a little help. I can cite a few teachers from early on who saw an artistic side in me and fostered it. I was also blessed with incredibly supportive parents who encouraged me to be myself and gave me the tools to figure it out.

Q: How important are the arts to the quality of life in a community?

A: The arts are important because they challenge life as much as they enrich and celebrate it. All art has to say something, and good art has important things to say. Done effectively, a play from the 17th century can make you think about the world you live in and the community you call home. A romantic painting can make you reflect on love and loss in your own life. Art encourages people to be thoughtful and open, and everyone can benefit from its lessons.

Q: How did your participation in the arts impact your willingness to give back to the community?

A: I’m not sure there’s a direct correlation, but I will say that performing gave me the confidence to speak out more. It didn’t so much impact my willingness to give back as facilitate my ability to do so in a public space. If there was a point I wanted to make in a Youth Philanthropy Council meeting, I was never afraid to speak up and say my piece.

Q: You were one of the first members of the Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Council (YPC) program. What did that experience mean to you?

A: It meant a great deal to me. It felt like we were really doing something meaningful and I remember that even in those first two years, the community started to take notice of what we were doing. It was an amazing experience and one that I still take a lot of pride in, looking back.

Q: How did YPC shape the person you’ve become and your personal philanthropy?

A: YPC taught me how to listen to the opinions of others, consider them with care, and make a decision based on consensus. It showed me that disagreement was OK, as long as it created a dialogue.

Q: What has the experience of serving on the Foundation’s LEAD Council and being a mentor to our current council meant to you?

A: Working with both groups concurrently was amazing because it allowed me to straddle two generations of activism. With LEAD, I got to meet and work with likeminded individuals who care about the community and want to see it flourish. YPC, on the other hand, gave me an entirely new perspective. With YPC, I provided a little insight based on my own experiences and, in exchange, I had the privilege of watching the community’s brightest students come into their own as stewards of the Foundation’s grant. I was consistently inspired by their drive and their determination to support the organizations that needed it the most. Working with the council was a joy, and it’s one of the things I’ll miss most about Watertown.

Q: How can the Community Foundation continue to engage the next generation in its work and mission?

A: I think the Community Foundation is already doing a wonderful job, especially with the growth of YPC and the creation of LEAD. I think the key is for people to realize just how accessible the Foundation is and how easy it is to give back. Philanthropy is not reserved for certain people. It’s open to everyone who is willing to put some time aside and do the work. If you can’t give money, give your time. Volunteer for causes that matter to you, cultivate the garden in front of you, and in turn the entire community will grow.
INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE, TODAY

Scholarship program has awarded $90,000 in St. Lawrence County

Ten St. Lawrence County high school students were recently awarded the Northern New York Community Foundation’s Evergreen STEM Scholarship. Students received the award due to their interest in studying science, technology, engineering or mathematics when attending college. Students apply to this scholarship during their junior year in high school and selection is held over the summer. Recipients will receive a one-year, $3,000 scholarship toward their freshman year of college.

The Evergreen STEM scholarship is made possible through the generosity of Gouverneur residents and Massena natives Charles and Higouhi Owens. This scholarship, in its third year, is a permanent component fund of the Community Foundation and will provide a total of $30,000 each year to high school students residing in St. Lawrence County. $90,000 in scholarships have been awarded since its inception. A recognition dinner was held October 16 in Canton to present scholarships to this year’s recipients. Joining the students were their families, school guidance counselors, principals, superintendents and Community Foundation representatives. Students had the opportunity to meet and personally thank Mr. and Mrs. Owens and their family for their generosity.

TIME TO SHINE

Legacy fund created to honor life of Parker J. Leikam

Few students performed or shined brighter than Parker Leikam. A South Jefferson Central School student, Parker had an affinity for the expression and creativity of the arts. He brought an enthusiasm for life into each day. His energy around his family, friends, classmates and peers was always positive and lasting. Even following his passing in 2016, Parker’s presence will continue to influence local students with a passion for the arts.

Family and friends have established the Parker Leikam’s Shining Stars Fund at the Northern New York Community Foundation. This charitable fund will support youth between the ages of 5-18 in their pursuits of gaining experiences and opportunities in the arts. These experiences may include, but are not limited to: music, instrumental, or performing arts.

Parker is a son to Charles and Kristen Leikam. As part of a military family, Parker resided in Adams Center for seven years. During that time, he was an exceptional performer for area organizations such as Stage Notes and Watertown Lyric Theater, and in an assortment of theatrical events at South Jefferson. He was an all-state tuba performer, and also played the french horn and bass guitar. Parker also volunteered his time mentoring younger students and across several community events. The Community Foundation is pleased to partner with Parker’s family and friends to create a meaningful legacy that will impact area young children and their love for the arts in perpetuity.

“Parker was a theatre showman, all state tuba player, an amazing singer, dancer, football player, a barbershop member and whiz quiz international champion, but more than that, he was a humanitarian. He loved helping with special needs kids, rolled up his sleeves to give blood, and helped students struggling in school or struggling with life. He was a friend to all no matter your age, gender or affiliation, not just embracing friends, but embracing their whole families. He was known for his bow ties, hugs, rainbow tie dye cat shirts and overflowing heart. He accepted everyone for who they were by just being uniquely Parker. Parker’s Shining Stars will carry on his giving spirit by helping kids 5 through 18 to obtain dreams in the arts which will boost confidence, help with grades, grow compassion and show them how to be involved with community.”

- The Leikam Family

To make a contribution to the Parker Leikam’s Shining Stars Fund, please make a gift to the Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601, and place “Parker Leikam’s Shining Stars Fund” in the memo line. You may also contribute online at www.nnycf.org.
JEFFERSON COUNTY BUSINESSES AGAINST DRUGS
Working together to help break the cycle of addiction

Jefferson County Businesses Against Drugs, an initiative of the Knights of Columbus Council #259 of Watertown, is working collaboratively with the Northern New York Community Foundation and local organizations and businesses through the establishment of a fund that will help enable a pro-active and visible approach to combating drug and substance abuse with a focus on children, parents and families in Jefferson County. By providing for unique, ongoing prevention education and awareness programs, it strives to save and change lives and improve the health and vibrancy of our community and the future of its citizens. A steering committee comprised of representatives from local law enforcement, educational and human service organizations, as well as business leaders meets regularly to both secure resources and develop programming to help address the drug abuse related issues in the region. We are grateful to the following who have contributed to help make this effort possible:

Knights of Columbus Council #259
Knowlton Technologies
Northern New York
Pala Wood Services Company, Inc.
Renzi Foodservice
Charitable Foundation
Senator Patty Ritchie
Anthony Sligar

To join in helping support Jefferson County Businesses Against Drugs, gifts can be made to the Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601 or online at www.nnycf.org.

REACHING THOSE IN NEED OF HOPE
Sharing a story of addiction and recovery with students and families

As issues of mental health and substance abuse continue to affect our region, the Northern New York Community Foundation teamed up with New York State Senator Patty Ritchie to bring former NFL quarterback Ryan Leaf to the North Country to share his struggles with behavioral health and addiction and carry a message of hope and recovery to area students and families. After a highly decorated football career, Leaf began to abuse prescription drugs and endured a decade-long mental and emotional battle with substance abuse that eventually led to a failed suicide attempt and nearly three years in prison.

Since then, Leaf has become an advocate for those struggling with such issues and encourages audiences to transform the way they think about mental health issues and addiction, professing that “asking for help is a sign of strength, not weakness.” He travels the country in hopes of helping others through his cautionary tale. In May, Leaf spoke to approximately 1,600 high school students from Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties. That evening, he hosted a community forum for parents and families. Leaf’s inspiring message helped those attending better understand the struggles of addiction and realize that there is light at the end of the tunnel. Every day, our young people are faced with challenges from a variety of different sources which often stand in their paths to success. The more we collectively and proactively address this reality, the stronger our communities will be. The Community Foundation felt honored to partner with Senator Ritchie to give students, families and the public the opportunity to hear Ryan’s story and be inspired by the way he overcame life’s challenges and is now helping others make our world a better place.

YOUR GIFTS AT WORK: Bringing positive messages to the area’s students: Former NFL quarterback Ryan Leaf address approximately 1,600 students from Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties during his visit to Watertown High School on May 24.

We all know how bad the drug problem has gotten in not only our community, but across New York State and the entire country. We need to increase the education we provide to our children while they are in school so they will begin to understand it isn’t a good idea to pick up a pill or accept an offer of drugs from someone else.

- John Morgia, Jefferson County Businesses Against Drugs
Partners...for good
Community Foundation helps organizations build sustainability

Since 1929, the Northern New York Community Foundation has connected donor interests with community needs. Strengthening the nonprofit sector is a fundamental aspect of our philanthropic endeavors as we develop partnerships and seek solutions that will serve the North Country’s future. In addition to providing grants and scholarships, building nonprofits’ capacity and collaborating with community organizations, the NNYCF also offers the opportunity to build a dedicated endowment as an income stabilizer and to help ensure overall long-term sustainability. We see this as a critical part of our mission and we have built the infrastructure to accommodate it. To that end, some organizations embarking upon an endowment campaign have obtained matching funds from the Community Foundation for endowments placed here. To begin a conversation about how a Community Foundation partnership might be helpful to your or an organization you care about, contact us at 315-782-7110.

Double your gift...
The following matching grants are currently being offered by the Community Foundation. Each gift received will be matched, dollar-for-dollar. This is a great opportunity to provide support for an organization you care about, and have the value of your gift doubled by the Community Foundation.

Adirondack Mennonite Camping Association
Alexandria Township Historical Society
American Maple Museum
Canton Park Fountain Fund
Canton Free Library
Church and Community Program of Canton
City of Watertown Community Fund
Fort La Présentation Association
Foundation for Community Betterment (Alexandria Bay Chapter)
Friends of the Potsdam Museum
Friends of Thompson Park
Gouverneur Hospital
Grasse River Heritage
Greater Watertown-North Country Chamber of Commerce JLI Community Fund
Hospice & Palliative Care of the St. Lawrence Valley
Indian River Lakes Conservancy
Lewis County General Hospital Foundation
Lyme Central School Scholarship Fund
Minna Anthony Common Nature Center
Mountain View Prevention Services
New Beginnings Clothing & Outreach
North Country Council of Social Agencies
Norwood Village Green Concert Series
Ontario Bays Initiative
River Hospital
Save The River
Stage Notes
St. Lawrence County Arts Council
St. Lawrence NYSARC-Rotary Dodge Pond
SUNY Canton
Thousand Islands Area Habitat for Humanity
Thousand Islands Arts Center
SUNY Canton
Watertown Lyric Theater
Wilderness Health Care Foundation (Clifton-Fine)

For more information about maximizing your gift to support any of these Community Foundation partners, contact the Foundation at (315) 782-7110.

“The Canton Free Library is thrilled to receive this generous matching grant from the Northern New York Community Foundation and looks forward to using these funds to provide more library resources and programming for the Canton community.”

–Chris Buck, Canton Free Library Trustee
Robert & Esther Thompson: A St. Lawrence County family legacy

Life-long St. Lawrence County residents Robert M and Esther Weatherup Thompson committed themselves to family and community. Even though they have roots in DeKalb, Rensselaer Falls, Canton and Lisbon, they have left their imprint on the entire landscape of our North Country. After graduating from schools in St. Lawrence County, most of their lives were spent on the family farm in Lisbon. While raising a family of ten children, they found time to remain active in civic activities. Esther was a 4-H Club leader and Sunday School teacher for many years. Bob also was a Sunday School teacher and served on the Lisbon Central School District board of education as well as service as a St. Lawrence County legislator.

As an extension of their volunteer service, the Thompson family has supported numerous charitable endeavors through the Thompson-Weatherup Family Charitable Foundation. Their Foundation has also provided many scholarships to North Country students. Recently, the Thompson-Weatherup Family Charitable Foundation, previously a private foundation, became a component fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation. In addition to allowing the family to focus greater energy on the mission of their foundation rather than its administration, it also provides greater opportunities for those who share their vision to contribute to it. We are honored to partner with the Thompson family to continue to make a positive impact in St. Lawrence County in ways that are most consistent with upholding their beliefs and values.

"About ten years after establishing the Thompson-Weatherup Family Charitable Foundation in 2005, the Board of Directors decided to become a component fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation (NNYCF) so that the assets would be managed and invested by NNYCF with guidance from a family advisory group. Although our advisory group has no independent legal status, we are able to steer the use of funds in keeping with the original vision, mission, and strategy established to honor Robert M and Esther Weatherup Thompson. Also, the family foundation is no longer restricted to raising monies from family members only. Already we have challenged others who value quality day care to join us in supporting the capital campaign of the Canton Day Care Center and who value education to help us create a permanent scholarship fund at NNYCF for graduating seniors at Lisbon Central School." -The Thompson Family

Tribute gifts in memory of Robert M Thompson

The Mort Backus Family
The Mort Backus Family
Thomas M. Ballagh
Bernier, Carr & Associates, P.C.
Bruce & Rhonda Bezanilla
Margaret M. Cullen
Walter P. & MaryAnn Cummings
William & Sally Ebersbach
Chuck & Linda Goolden
Hiawatha Fasteners
Carol Ann & Walter L. Kissam Jr.
Elizabeth A. Kuhl
The Larocks
Carole & Glen
Scott & Lacey
Matt & Jenn
Shannon & Scott
Mark & Wendy Losee
Mr. Grant Contr. Inc.
Northern Glass Company Inc.
Rich & Sharon Norton
Elizabeth H. Patrick
Rande Richardson
Mary Lou & Roger Robinson
Frank J. Schepis, DDS
John Shatraw
Mark & Carole Thompson
Roger Watters

To join others honoring Robert M. and Esther Weatherup Thompson through the establishment of a scholarship for the benefit of Lisbon Central School graduates, gifts can be made to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Frances Anderson Luck Foundation Supports Veterinary Medicine Studies

The Northern New York Community Foundation and Frances Anderson Luck recently established a formal partnership through the establishment of the Frances Anderson Luck Foundation. This fund will provide scholarships to residents of Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties who have been accepted to, or are enrolled in, American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) accredited veterinary doctor or veterinary technician programs, with a focus on small animal practice, especially canines. The ideal recipients will have a sincere desire to remain in or return to the North Country to pursue their career. Scholarship applicants must be enrolled in college-level studies or programs in the summer or fall of the current year and will be awarded based upon academic achievement, accomplishments and interests, as well as participation in and demonstration of leadership in both school-oriented and community activities.

The scholarship fund was established to recognize the lifelong love of animals, especially dogs. Mrs. Luck is especially fond of dachshunds and currently has a seven-year-old female, named Dolly. Her goal is to make a tangible difference in the life of animals by increasing the number of qualified veterinary staff the region. We are grateful to Mrs. Luck for the honor and opportunity to be part of supporting her passions both now and in the future.
RECENT FOUNDATION GRANTS

This list includes some of the many nonprofits we fund. This list includes competitive grants to the recipients and those suggested by advisors of individual named funds.

1 World Foundation
10th Mountain Division (Light) Wounded Warrior Fund
10th Mountain Division Scholarship
Adams Center Free Library
Adams Center Volunteer Fire Department
Adams Volunteer Fire Department
Adams Revitalization Committee
Adirondack Community Chorus
Adirondack Men's Tennis Association
Alexandria Bay Food Pantry
Alexandria Bay Food Pantry
Alexandria Town Historical Society
Alzheimer's Association
Central NY Chapter
American Cancer Society
Eastern Division
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Maple Museum
American Parkinson's Disease Association
American Red Cross of Northern New York
Antique Boat Museum
Antwerp Food Pantry
Associated Blind and Visually Impaired of Northern New York
Beaver River Central School District
Best Friends Animal Society
Boonville Black River Canal Museum
Boonville Youth Athletic Association
Boys and Girls Club of Massena
Beaver River Central School
Canton Day Care Center
Canton Free Library
Canton Neighborhood Center Pantry
Canton Park and Project Pantry
Canton Town and Village
Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County
Cape Vincent Arts Council
Cape Vincent Community Library
Cape Vincent Food Pantry
Cape Vincent Improvement League
Carthage Area Hospital
Carthage Central School District
Catholic Charities
Diocese of Ogdensburg
Chamont Food Pantry
Children's Home of Jefferson County
Children's Miracle Network at Samaritan
Christian Fellowship Center
Food Pantry
Christjohn Fellowship
Grace Food Pantry
Church and Community Program of Canton
City of Watertown
Clarkson University
Clayton-Hepburn Medical Center Foundation
Clayton-Council of Churches
Food Pantry
Clayton Figure Skating Club
Clayton Improvement Association
Clayton Jazz Festival
Clayton Volunteer Fire Department
Clayton Youth Commission
Clifton Community Library
Clifton-Fine Central School
Food Pantry
Clifton-Fine Economic Development Corporation
Colton-Pierrepont-Parishville
Food Pantry
Concert in the Park
Constable Hall Association
Constableville Library Association
Constableville Volunteer Fire Company
Credo Community Center Foundation
Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division
Croghan Free Library
Croghan Volunteer Fire Department
Dekalb Food Pantry
Double Play Sports Community Center
Diabetes Persons Action Organization
P.S. Banford Elementary School
Family Counseling Service
of Northern New York
Feed Our Vets Watertown Food Pantry
Flower Memorial Library
Food Bank of Central New York
The Foundation for Community Betterment
Alexander Bay Chapter
Frederic Remington Art Museum
Free Community Meal Soup Kitchen
Free Will Meal Program Soup Kitchen
Friends of Lewis County Hospice
Friends of Potsdam Public Museum
Friends of Thompson Park
GardenShare
Garrett W. Loomis Foundation
Gouverneur Foundation
Gouverneur Neighborhood
Center Food Pantry
Gouverneur Volunteer Fire Rescue Squad
Grasse River Food Pantry
Grasse River Heritage Area Development Corporation
Greater Watertown-North Country Chamber of Commerce
Guitars for Vets
Gwen's Food Pantry
Hammond Area Food Pantry
Hammond Presbyterian Church
Harrisville VFD Rescue Squad
Hassan Memorial Library
Hearts for Youth
Heather A. Freeman Foundation
Henderson Harbor Performing Arts Association
Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs
Henderson Historical Society
Henderson Memorial Food Pantry
Historical Association of South Jefferson
Hospital and Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley
Hospice of Jefferson County
Immaculate Heart Central School
Indian River Baptist Church
Food Pantry
Indian River Lakes Conservancy
Jefferson County Businesses Against Drugs
Jefferson Community College
Jefferson County Historical Society
Jefferson County Volunteer Firefighters and Firefighters Association
Jefferson Leadership Institute
Jefferson Rehabilitation Center
JRC Foundation
Kenneth Deedy Environmental Internship Fund
Lewis County Historical Society
Lewis County Hospital Foundation
Lewis County Humane Society
Lewis County Opportunities
Life in His Arms Soup Kitchen
Lifted Out Of Poverty
Literacy of Northern New York
Little River Community School
Little Theatre of Watertown
Lowville Academy and Central School
Lowville Fire Department
Lowville Food Pantry
Lowville Rural Cemetery Association
Lyman Central School Scholarship Fund
Lyme Community Foundation
Lyme Free Library
Lyons Falls Free Library
Mackenzie Library
Make-A-Wish Central New York
Mannsville Free Library
March of Dimes
Belleisle-Henderson School
Massena First United Methodist Church
Soup Kitchen
Massena Meals on Wheels
Massena Memorial Hospital Foundation
Massena Neighborhood Center
Food Pantry
Meals on Wheels of Greater Watertown
Minna Anthony Community Center
Adirondack Nature Conservancy
New Beginnings Clothing and Food Outreach
Norfolk-Raymondville Food Pantry
North Country Arts Council
North Country Children's Museum
North Country Family Health Center
North Country Public Radio
North Country Troopers
Assisting Troops
Northern Choral Society
Northern New York Cerebral Palsy Association
North Valley Voluntary Green Concert Series
Ogdensburg Boys & Girls Club
Ogdensburg Command Performances
Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center Pantry
Ogdensburg Public Library
Ontario Bays Initiative
Orchestra of Northern New York
Partnership Against Substance Abuse
Council of Jefferson County
Potsdam Central School
Potsdam College Foundation
Potsdam Neighborhood Center
Food Pantry
Potsdam Public Library
Potsdam Public Museum
Resolution Center of Jefferson and Lewis Counties
Rhode Community Center
Richardland Baptist Chapel Food Pantry
River Hospital Foundation
Rohde Center
Rotary Club of Watertown
Rotary International Foundation
Rotary Purple Heart Scholarship
Rotary Spray Pool Project
Sackets Harbor Fire Company
Sackets Harbor Historical Society
Safe Schools Endavor
Salvation Army North Country Kitchen
Salvation Army of Massena
Food Pantry
Salvation Army of Ogdensburg Food Pantry
Salvation Army of Watertown
Samaritan Medical Center
Save The River
ShelterBox Ride
Six Town Community Fund
St. Lawrence County Arts Council
Samaritan Auxiliary
Samaritan Medical Center Foundation
Smile Train
South Jeff Backpack Program Inc.
South Jefferson Central School
South Jefferson Rescue Squad
SPCA of Jefferson County
St. Mary's Outreach Center Food Pantry
St. Mary's of the Woods Food Pantry
St. James Church
St. Lawrence County Fire Training Facility
St. Lawrence County Historical Association
St. Lawrence Land Trust
St. Lawrence NYSTAR Rotary Dodge Pond Camp
St. Lawrence University
St. Mary's Food Pantry
St. Paul's of Redwood Food Pantry
St. Vincent de Paul of Massena
Food Pantry
Stage Notes
Star Lake Food Pantry
SUNY Canton
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY)
Theresa Food Pantry
Thomson Park Community Conservancy
Thousand Island Park Preservation
Thousand Islands Area Habitat for Humanity
Thousand Islands Arts Center
Thousand Islands Central School
Music Department
Thousand Islands Museum
Three Mile Bay Fire Department
Thousand Islands Emergency Rescue Service (TIERs)
Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT)
Thousand Villages Performing Arts Fund
Town of Diana Historical Museum
Town of Watertown Fire Department
Tri-Town Community Services
Food Pantry
Trinity Concert Series
Tug Hill Central
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
Union Academy of Boonville
United Way of Northern New York
USO Fort Drum
Victory Assistance Center of Jefferson County
Village of Boonville
Village of Constableville
Village of Deferiet
Village of Lowville
Village Ecumenical Ministries (VEM)
Food Pantry
Volunteer Transportation Center
Waddington Family Resource Center
Panimarian Historical Association
Town of Watertown Ambulance Service
Watertown City School District
Watertown Family YMCA
Watertown Lyric Theater
Watertown Morning Musicales
Watertown Urban Mission
West Leyden Fire Company
What A Racquet Music and Dance
Wilderness Health Care Foundation
Wilderness Hunter Food Bank
Transportation Association
WPBS-TV
WRVO Public Radio
Youth Advocate Programs
Zonta International Club
of Ogdensburg

In addition to the grants listed above, over 600 Community Foundation scholarships are awarded each year to students in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

A little kindness...
The Northern New York Community Foundation is providing a grant to support the Classroom Kindness Challenge, in partnership with NBC Watertown and participating schools in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties. The program encourages schools and teachers to promote the importance of acts of kindness. Five teachers will be awarded $250 each for classroom activities in recognition of World Kindness Day in November.
Norman R. Ahlheim served both his country and his community proudly. His life embodied that of a true community servant, and his service had a profound impact not only on the organizations he was involved with, but also the lives that were touched by their work. The list of organizations are too numerous to list, ranging from education to healthcare and human and community services to civic and business leadership. Together, he and his wife, Cynthia (Cindy) raised their family in Northern New York, and were steadfast supporters of a variety of charitable and philanthropic endeavors. He served on the Northern New York Community Foundation board of directors from 1985 to 1995 and remained loyal in his advocacy for the Foundation’s work and mission. During his lifetime, Norm and Cindy laid the groundwork for a fund that would perpetuate their support of the region forever. The Norman and Cynthia Ahlheim Community Fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation will provide annual grants in their family’s name, forever. Norm was quoted as saying, “We only pass this way once and I have always felt that one needs to serve their fellow citizens and community have life’s fulfillment.” Through this fund, not only will this sentiment continue to be realized, but it can inspire others to consider that same dedication and heartfelt passion for service. The Community Foundation is so grateful for Norm’s efforts on our behalf, but also for the foresight he demonstrated that will continue to touch and shape lives in ways he could only imagine.

Tribute gifts in memory of Norman R. Ahlheim
Louis B. Adams, Jr.
Andy & Carolyn Anderson
Anne & Brian Ashley
Nora Bajajaly
Mary S. Barber
William & Mary Lynn Barden
Bernier, Carr & Associates, P.C.
Gary L. & Bonnie S. Bird
Waring & Audrey Blackburn
Janet F. Blakeman
Liz Bonisteel
William Bonisteel
Linda & John Brehm
Bernard & Beverly Brown
Paul W. & Martha J. Brown
Robert & Carole Brown
Carolyn W. & Charles A. Brox, Jr.
Donald & Gail Butterfield
Don, Julie, Ian & Eric
Cannan & Families
Robert Caswell
The Law Office of Terry J. Chapko
Terry J. Chapko & Paige T. Shuman
Children’s Home of Jefferson County
Delos M. Cosgrove, MD
Gregory & Katherine Couch
William & Kimberly Couch
Dr. David & Joyce Crossley
Donald W. Curtis
Richard & Janet Danhevy
Audrey Danielsen
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Deighan
Andrea & Eric DeLaGarza
Marsha L. Deming
Thomas J. & Ruth M. Desimone
John A. DeVito
Jeliselle (Vicky) Duncan
Stanley & Barbara Eldridge
Kay D. & Guy G. Frederick
Bill & Liz George
Janet J. George
Chester & Nancy Gray
Daniel, Maja, Spencer & Maxwell Gray
Lu & Ralph Green
Romayne Harts horn
Kevin, Meg & Jaimie Hartwell
Marlynn Hibbard
Lee & Deborah Hirschey
Linda J. Holley
Jill H. Johnson
Christopher & Hope Johnston
Pamela A. Kennedy
Carol J. & Brian D. Kidwell
Kevin A. Kieff
Charles & Janet Kilmer
Charles H. & Judy D. Killmer
Dr. Robert O. Kimball & Beth A. Linderman
Vikki L. LaVean
Harold & Sally L’Huillier
Daniel Machold
Nancy & Jack Machold
Kris Mangone & Bob Smith
Polly & Rich Matarrese
Virginia S. McCreary
John & Bonnie McLaughlin
Hope R. Metcalf
Elizabeth Montgrolle
Tony & Kay Morgia
Judith Morley
Burr & Linda Morris
Cyril & Marlene Mouai kel
Jim & Martha O’Donnell
Thomas & Barbara Peck
Carl & Julie Pecko
Dave & Michelle Pfaff
Peter & Laurie Pike
James C. & Margaret W. Pontious
Phyllis Putnam
Christine C. & John E. Ramus
Paul E. & Lillian F. Reese
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Dr. David O. Van Eenennaam
Dr. D. Peter & Dacia Van Eenennaam
Dr. & Mrs. W. Barton Van Slyke
T. Ur ling & Mabel Walker
Dave & Karen Walton
Nathaniel P. & Julie S. Wardwell
Joan & Roger (Ted) White Jr.
Jody L. & Jeffrey W. White
Mary Alice Wistman
Kay Woodruff
Mary-Lou & Stan Yarosewick

To join others in helping build the Norman and Cynthia Ahlheim Community Fund, gifts can be made to:
Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION DONORS:
Strengthening, Growing, Nurturing, Enriching, Inspiring
Because of donors like you, the Community Foundation is able to offer assistance to help programs that might not otherwise happen, become a reality. The Foundation was a presenting sponsor to enable the Clayton Jazz Festival to offer its first Jazz in the Classroom program. This new initiative enabled three, two-hour student music workshops over a two-day period at Thousand Islands, General Brown and Carthage School Districts. The program featured the Boston-based band, Brighton Beat, whose influences range from Afrobeat to modern cutting-edge New York City Jazz and classic New Orleans brass band Funk. The school programs included both performance and breakout sessions focusing on particular band sections, including brass, strings and percussion. Band members also shared some music history and their own experiences in jazz performance. The interactive and engaging program was a hit for the students. The band later performed in concert at the Clayton Opera House. We are grateful for the opportunity to put our donors gifts to work supporting meaningful experiences such as this, that help enrich lives and leave a lasting impact with our next generation.

“The master class with Brighton Beat was amazing. It helped all of us to really get into the spirit of jazz. Music certainly has had an impact on my life. This was truly a unique experience.”

- Jeremy McHatton, student, Carthage Central School

Representatives from the Stages Notes Foundation (a component fund of the Community Foundation) recently presented a grant to support the Ann B. Northrop “You’ll Never Walk Alone” Scholarship. The grant was made possible through a portion of the proceeds from the group’s summer performance of A Chorus Line. Ann, shown holding the check, is well known for her work in local musical endeavors, including Watertown Lyric Theater and Northern Choral Society, as well as having taught piano for over 30 years in Watertown. The scholarship was recently established at the Community Foundation in Ann’s honor by one of her former piano students. The annual award provides scholarships to Jefferson County students pursuing post-secondary education. The ideal student will have been active in music or music programs, either through school or extracurricular, including, but not limited to, Watertown Lyric Theater. To join others in helping build this scholarship fund, gifts can be made to the Northern New York Community Foundation with a designation for the Ann B. Northrop “You’ll Never Walk Alone” Scholarship.
Through your **Community Foundation**...

- Can I create a fund that will **continue my annual giving after my lifetime** to my favorite charities or church, knowing that if an organization ceases to exist, the fund is protected and can be re-purposed?

- Can I establish a named fund that will **allow my children and grandchildren** to make community grants in perpetuity?

- Can my charitable legacy be directed to **support a specific city, village, town or county**? Can I further designate the type of things that will be supported within that geographic area, and name the fund?

- Can I establish a **charitable gift annuity** with tax-deductible benefits that will provide me with guaranteed income (up to 8%) during my lifetime, and then the remainder can support my charitable interests or a specific Foundation fund after my death?

- Can I name the Community Foundation as a **beneficiary of an IRA or life insurance policy** either to support the Community Foundation or a specific fund within the Foundation?

- Am I able to start a fund at the Community Foundation to support my interests now and then endow it later as part of my estate planning?

- Can I start a fund to **support my church**, providing stipulations on how it is to be directed (i.e., music ministry, buildings & grounds, education) and also have assurance that if the church should ever cease to exist, my charitable provisions can be re-purposed for another designated interest or charitable cause?

- Can I create a **scholarship fund for a specific school district or college**, with certain criteria, or support some other aspect of my school or college (music, arts, athletics, library, reading, professional development)?

- If I own a business can I give more effectively, efficiently and in a more formal and structured way, with enhanced visibility, coordination, branding and impact?

- Can I make a gift of appreciated stock to start a donor-advised fund, avoid capital gains, receive a tax deduction and then make grants to charitable causes I recommend over time?

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

The answer to each of these questions is....**YES!**

**The best gift planning begins with a conversation.**

**HERE FOR YOU:** Contact us today to learn about the many ways to tailor and customize giving YOUR way at (315) 782-7110.

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Take advantage of current charitable tax laws prior to December 31, 2018 that allow deductions as well as avoidance of taxation of capital gains. Also, donors age 70½ and older, currently can distribute up to $100,000 of Individual Retirement Account assets directly to the Community Foundation for unrestricted, field of interest, scholarship or designated funds without triggering federal income taxes or penalties. The IRA Charitable Rollover amount donated directly is excluded from Adjusted Gross Income (AGI).
YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL
Your gifts help inspire lifelong civic engagement, leadership and investment

Several years ago the Community Foundation launched the Youth Philanthropy Council to help promote leadership and encourage civic engagement among area high school students and increase the awareness of the next generation about community needs, quality of life and the means by which they are supported. By empowering youth through active involvement in investing in the place they live, it is our hope that our region will be better positioned for the future. Currently, participants come from Watertown High School, Immaculate Heart Central School and Sackets Harbor Central School. Past schools have included Potsdam Central School and Ogdensburg Free Academy. Throughout the school year, with the support of Community Foundation staff and the guidance of retired educator a long-time mentor, Emily Sprague, the Council learns more about their community, visits area organizations, builds organizational and leadership skills and discusses ways to address issues related to essential services and quality of life. At the end of this past school year, the Council relied upon all they had learned to make recommendations on a total grantmaking fund of $20,000. Graduates of the program frequently list their time with the Council as one of the most transformative of their high school career. Together, we inspire the next generation and help ensure brighter futures for them and our region. As you contemplate your year-end giving, consider a gift to the Friends of the Foundation Annual Fund to help these important and inspirational programs flourish.

2018-19 YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL
Lucas Barney, Watertown  Sofia Gray, Sackets Harbor
Isabelle Boyce, Watertown  Leatrice Kakolewski, Sackets Harbor
Grayden Brunet, Sackets Harbor  Philip Marrara III, Watertown
Alicia Cloe, Sackets Harbor  Caroline McPherson, IHC
Katherine DeLaGarza, IHC  Marialena Mouaiiel, IHC
Madison Derouin, Sackets Harbor  Rozanna Pasowicz, Watertown
Dominic Duah, IHC  Hannah Pitcher, Sackets Harbor
Kehinde Fasehun, Watertown  Lauryn Quinn, IHC
Madeline Gist, Watertown

Members of the Northern New York Community Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Council recently visited the Jefferson County SPCA to see first hand the work that their recent grant is accomplishing.

This program is made possible by gifts from donors like YOU who make contributions to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Annual Fund and the following business leaders:

2018 YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL GRANTS
The following grants were made by the Community Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Council in 2018:

Jefferson County SPCA – $5,000 to help replace outdated surgical equipment that will enhance surgical operations for animals at the shelter.

Boys and Girls Club of Massena – $4,000 to support the organization’s “Teen Adventure Club” activities and increase access for disadvantaged youth in 2018.

Thousand Islands Emergency Rescue Service – $2,040 to provide support for the organization’s Junior EMS program through 2019.

Guitars for Vets – $2,000 to be used to purchase new guitars for graduates participating in the Watertown-based program, which is designed to share the healing power of music with veterans struggling with physical injuries, PTSD and other emotional distress.

Massena Meals on Wheels – $1,800 will help upgrade and update kitchen equipment and the entrance to its facility.

Resolution Center of Jefferson and Lewis Counties – $1,600 will assist with the purchase of new furniture, decor, and supplies to enhance the organization’s conflict resolution rooms.

Move Along – $1,500 will help with the launch of an adaptive cycling program and other recreational opportunities in Watertown for area residents with disabilities.

Community Lunch Program for Kids, Norwood – $1,000 awarded to support distributions to help feed children during the summer months and outside of regular school days.

Frederic Remington Art Museum – $1,000 granted toward the purchase of easels and art supplies to expand their hands-on art studio for all ages.

Community Action Planning Council – $1,000 to start a pilot program to assist parents in need with initial childcare costs.

The Youth Philanthropy Council will be accepting grant proposals for 2019 funding in the coming months. For more information on how to apply for the up to $20,000 available, please contact the Community Foundation.

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”
-Aristotle
Especially at this time of year, we have a heightened sense of awareness and appreciation that our work would not be possible without the generous leadership, vision and friendship of donors like you. Because of your thoughtfulness, over the last several years the Community Foundation has been able to expand its reach and move from being a transactional grantmaker to a greater force to inspire more to consider including philanthropy as a fulfilling part of their lives. This, in turn, helps the region to rally to increase capacity for all of the area’s nonprofit organizations, increasing the value of ALL of your charitable contributions in the region!

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

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

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

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

Summer learning...

We were excited to have two summer interns join us this year at the Community Foundation. Evan Richardson (top) and Lucas Barney (bottom), both rising sophomores at Watertown High School, performed various duties during July and August. In addition to helping with a variety of projects, this also provided Evan and Lucas with the opportunity to learn more about the community. We hope to expand summer internship programs in the years to come!

The little things...

The Community Foundation and its LEAD Council were honored to help with the construction of Little Libraries at three playgrounds in the City of Watertown. Children and adults of all ages are able to take a book for their enjoyment through the fall. The “Little Libraries” are located at playgrounds on Academy, Portage and North Hamilton streets in the city. This initiative is in partnership with Friends of the Flower Memorial Library, the City of Watertown, and the North Country Library System. A great way to encourage reading and literacy in a perfect community space.

Pictured (left to right): LEAD Council members Steve Magovney, Aaron Naklick, and Kristin LaClair; Yvonne Reff, Director, Flower Memorial Library; LEAD members Melissa Schmitt, and Erin Simser.

The Board, Committees and Staff of the Northern New York Community Foundation
The grants, programs and initiatives mentioned in this newsletter are only possible because of the generosity of donors like you.

As you consider your year-end giving, know that a gift to the Community Foundation is not only tremendously valued and appreciated, it helps create a better quality of life for us all, in a broad, diverse and enduring way. A gift of any size to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Annual Fund will go a long way to help us continue this important work in the year ahead, and affirm your belief in the value of a Community Foundation to the people who live, work and play in Northern New York.

ALL gifts made to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Fund will be listed in the Foundation’s next newsletter, 90th anniversary commemorative annual report, and also on our legacy wall, to be located in the Philanthropy Center lobby.

“This is one donation I enjoy giving, because I know it will be used to benefit all of Northern New York, the area I love. Thank you for all you do for our North Country.” —Community Foundation Annual Fund Donor