



Thoughtful Giving

Newsletter of the Northern New York Community Foundation



» YOUR GIFTS MAKE AN ENDURING IMPACT

Developing future generations of community leaders

Youth Philanthropy Council member Hailyn Buker, right, listens to a presentation at the Jefferson County Historical Society's Pink Schoolhouse with Council members Blake Edgar, middle, and Katherine Banazek, left, in the background.



Northern New York
Community Foundation
SINCE 1929

LOCATED WITHIN THE NORTHERN
NEW YORK PHILANTHROPY CENTER

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WATERTOWN, NY 13601

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A foundation for the community

The cosmos gave glorious color to our garden this summer. Their blossoms — palest of lavenders, richest of purples — have long since faded and become the seeds now stored in my repurposed margarine tubs where they await next spring's planting. In their progression from bud to bloom to seed, I am reminded of something Mary, Queen of Scots, once purportedly said: "In our end is our beginning."



KATE FENLON

What, you may ask, is the wisdom of quoting a person who, quite literally, lost her head shortly after saying this? Point taken! But, especially as this particular year ends and we turn our faces to the gift of the new one soon to begin, it is a thought that bears reflection.

For many of us, this year cannot end quickly enough. Here in our own North Country, 2020 yielded up its share of personal and community challenges. And, then, a pandemic landed on our doorstep bringing with it not only an assault on our health but also economic hardships, overdoses, school lessons interrupted, music

With all of us in partnership as this year ends and a new one opens, we can know with certainty that our Community Foundation is a foundation for the community.

silenced, families made hungry, uncertainty about what a new normal might be.

As a board member, I saw firsthand how our Community Foundation reacted with nimbleness and speed to the emerging needs caused by the COVID virus and made firmer the ground the pandemic had shaken. It was inspiring to see how so many individuals responded to the Foundation's lead with donations and acts of quiet good will.

With all of us in partnership as this year ends and a new one opens, we can know with certainty that our Community Foundation is a foundation for our community. And we can say with confidence: In our end is our beginning — as a community.

KATHERINE F. FENLON is chair of the Northern New York Community Foundation Board of Directors and retired Vice President for Academic Affairs at Jefferson Community College. She and her husband, Brian, live in Copenhagen.

You represent the best of our region

The challenges of 2020 have been relentless. The commitment of those who love Northern New York has been just as relentless. With countless acts of community caring, you have made a difference in real ways and have continued to support programs, projects and initiatives that touch all of our lives.



RANDE RICHARDSON

While everyone has been tested in ways they never have before, it is with fortitude and patience that we know there will be a time when we will again enjoy the full experience of being together. We will gather again in ways that make our lives more human.

Because of you, we are both addressing current community needs but, perhaps just as important, we are helping to keep our community positioned for how we will arise. Your steadfast support has allowed us to continue to sustain educational initiatives, health and wellness, arts and culture, environmental endeavors, and organizations that need a helping hand.

At the same time, you continue to invest in programs that promote future leadership

Our region owes you gratitude for ensuring that everything you've helped to invest in will emerge brighter and more vibrant than ever before.

and civic engagement among students and the next generation. Your belief in the power of our work together has never been more important. While you are part of a larger family that spans our region, you are also a part of our foundation family. Each of you is known to us by name, not simply as donors, but as partners and friends.

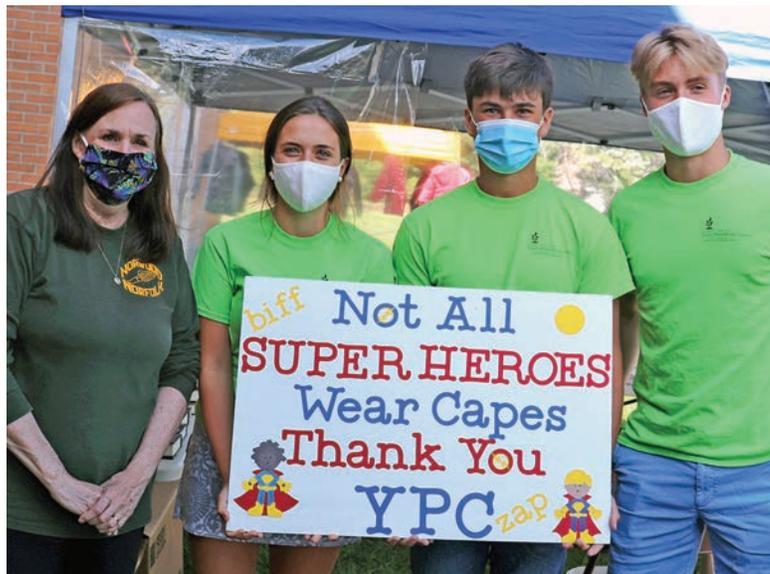
We hope you have enjoyed the stories told in our publications over the last year. You have been an important part of each of them. The names of all who have walked alongside us during this time through annual support will appear in our next publication.

You represent the best of the North Country, leading by example with your heart. Your gifts inspire more good things to happen. Our region owes you gratitude for ensuring that everything you've helped to invest in will emerge brighter and more vibrant than ever before.

YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL: YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT FUTURE LEADERS



YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL CLASS OF 2020-2021: Back row, from left: **Sidney Wheeler III**, South Jefferson High School; **Lucas Barney**, Watertown High School; **Philip Marra III**, Watertown High School; **Maxwell Gray**, South Jefferson High School; **Logan Hess**, South Jefferson High School; and **Tadd Ledoux**, Immaculate Heart Central High School. Middle row, from left: **Katherine Banazek**, South Jefferson High School; **Dakota Sloat**, Watertown High School; **Ella Arnott**, Watertown High School; **Eloise Johnson**, Watertown High School; and **Romi LaClair**, South Jefferson High School. Front row, from left: **Hailyn Buker**, South Jefferson High School; **Isabelle Boyce**, Watertown High School; **Blake Edgar**, South Jefferson High School; and **Anmolika Bolla**, Watertown High School. The new Council was seated in September for the 2020-2021 program year.



YPC students learn firsthand about local community needs

The Community Lunch Program for Kids recently hosted “BACK2SCHOOL 2020,” in Raymondville, that helped 178 children and their families from **Norwood, Norfolk and Raymondville**, prepare for the new school year. Members of the Community Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Council joined the effort. Earlier this year, the Council awarded a \$1,000 grant to support the program that provides students with critical supplies and healthy meals. Children received much-needed clothing, backpacks and other essential items, including new winter coats and boots. Since schools halted in-person instruction in mid-March, the Community Lunch Program for Kids has provided more than 26,000 meals to local children. Pictured, from left: **Wendy Chambers**, Community Lunch Program for Kids; 2020-21 Youth Philanthropy Council members **Romi LaClair, Logan Hess, and Maxwell Gray**, each of South Jefferson High School.

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



Watertown Savings Bank



Wealth Management

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

JEFFREY KIMBALL, WATERTOWN

Honor a loved one through a scholarship

PERPETUATE A LEGACY:

A named scholarship at the Community Foundation honoring someone special is one of the many permanent ways donors can act to remember life legacies. Contact **Mary Perrine**, coordinator of partnerships, at maryp@nnycf.org or **315-782-7110**, to learn more.



Scholarship donor: 'Take a few test drives'

Jeffrey Kimball is right where he wants to be, working in his native Watertown as a financial advisor. He is proud to play an active role in his community and help support others through a scholarship he established at the **Community Foundation for Watertown High School** graduates. He is one of the youngest donors to do so, and it's a decision he says will bring him great joy for the rest of his life.

What led you to establish a scholarship at the age of 30 for your alma mater?

I was coaching an alumni basketball game at Watertown High School and thought about how there were a lot of people being honored who give back. We talk about a lot about legacy planning in my job. Some of that doesn't happen for people until after they pass away. I wanted to experience philanthropy in my lifetime, so I started something small that, over several years, I could build upon. It's a great chance to help young people now instead of when I am not around to see the results.

Who do you target for the scholarship?

As a business student myself, I decided to support students who plan to major in business. But I didn't want to set the criteria too high. It's open to students who graduate with an 85 or above academic average, who are driven and demonstrate leadership skills. So far, we've had four recipients.

How did you decide on a career in business and financial planning?

It started with an internship at Northwestern Mutual, and then I saw how much success some of the young advisors were having and I decided to try it out. After I qualified for a trip to our home office in Wisconsin, I was hooked. I never thought there would be an opportunity like this in the North Country and I am grateful to be able to do

JEFFREY W. KIMBALL

AGE: 35

HOMETOWN: Watertown

EDUCATION: **Watertown High School**, 2003; **SUNY Oswego**, 2006, bachelor's degree in business administration, economics and international business; **SUNY Oswego**, 2007, Master of Business Administration.

FAMILY: Mother, **Diane**, Florida; father, **William**, and stepmother, **Deborah**, Watertown; brother, **Ryan** and sister-in-law, **Krista**; step-sister, **Jana Cox** and brother-in-law, **Josh**; and four nephews.

EMPLOYER: **Northwestern Mutual**, Watertown, 2008 to present.

CAREER: Financial advisor

COMMUNITY: American Cancer Society Relay for Life, 2008 to present. Established the **Jeffrey W. Kimball WHS Class of 2003 Scholarship** at the Community Foundation for Watertown High School graduates, 2016.

PERSONAL: Penn State football fan; personal fitness, running, travel.

something with my life in my hometown that I love.

What do you most enjoy about your work as a financial advisor?

Seeing clients and their families grow, especially when they are young and they're hitting

their goals because of planning we did together. The feeling of having helped them along the way is very gratifying.

Who has helped instill in you the values of community philanthropy? My parents and grandparents have always supported their community and have done such a good job setting a positive example that they inspired me to give back. When I got involved in Relay for Life, it made me really think about how I could give back. With part of my job so focused on legacy and estate planning, I thought I should be involved in ways that are within my means. I know how important it is, and I have seen so many other people do it.

What's it been like for you to meet the students your scholarship supports and talk to them?

It's been a source of pride to talk to young men and women who are making their way and learn their plans and goals and know how, even in a modest way, my support is helping them to succeed. I'm sure for the students, it's a little different to see the person behind the award and learn how young they are.

What's your best advice to today's high school students as they consider college and career options?

Go out and experience different things you like until you find what you want to pursue as a career. Whether it's job shadowing in high school or a college internship, take a few test drives before you settle on something you may not enjoy after actually doing it for a bit.

What's important about the example of philanthropy we set for younger generations?

It's just so important to pay it forward, and to thank those who did so before you. Don't wait until you think you'll have more time. Do what brings you joy today and you'll make an impact.

What's your story?

INVESTING IN EDUCATION:

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

Childhood love of Lowville spurs support for school

Executive strengthens ties through educational foundation fund

Growing up in Lowville for more than a decade left such an impression on **James C. Mullen** that he has reconnected with the community to support the school district where his mother taught first grade and reading more than 50 years ago.

A longtime pharmaceutical industry leader, chemical engineer, and former CEO, Mr. Mullen now lives in Needham, Mass., and serves on the board of directors of **ThermoFisher Scientific**.

He recalls his years from age 2 to 13 in Lowville as a “very memorable and formative experience” in a community where neighbors genuinely care for one another, especially when children are concerned.

“My older brother, Richard, died in 1967 and my parents established a scholarship in his memory at Lowville Academy,” Mr. Mullen said. “To continue to remember and honor my brother and parents, we plan to increase charitable support for the scholarship. My family has been quite fortunate, and we are now able to give in other ways that can really make a difference in the lives of young people.”

Through the recently established **James C. Mullen Fund of the Lowville Academy and Central School Educational Foundation**, a permanent **Community Foundation** component fund, Mr. Mullen will support a three-year initiative to engage students in courses focused on applied math and science.

“When Mr. Mullen and the district began conversations on how we can better foster his appreciation and support for education, we looked to the district’s Educational Foundation at the Northern New York Community Foundation,” said **Rebecca Dunckel-King**, **Lowville Academy and Central School** superintendent.

During the first year, school leaders plan to focus on graphic communications, computer graphics, and the principles of engineering.

“Mr. Mullen had a keen interest in these areas because of his vast understanding of applied math and sciences and the importance that students begin to solidify these skills well before the high school years,” Mrs. Dunckel-King said.

Mr. Mullen said he hopes his support can help students learn the myriad ways that science and technology tie in with the greater Lowville and Lewis



Lowville Academy & Central School, North State Street.

“In a smaller community where you are closer to the issues, you can more easily influence positive change and outcomes. You can see what’s going on and it’s more tangible to us.”

James C. Mullen, director, ThermoFisher Scientific, Waltham, Mass.



James C. Mullen

County economy and its many community institutions.

“The question for many industry leaders today is how you get kids energized and excited about STEM,” he said. “It has to go further than programmatic investment and have some utility. How can we make it relevant to what exists in their backyards? That is critical to inspiring our students.”

Extending his charitable efforts in Lowville, he said, means seeing results and participating in giving

in a more meaningful way.

“We want to do something beneficial to students that has real impact and Lowville is an area where our giving can have a very significant impact,” Mr. Mullen said. “Most of the students graduating from high school in the communities of Needham, Mass., where we live don’t need our help.”

With his four children now grown and living in other parts of the country, Mr. Mullen said he is grateful he can get more involved in supporting his childhood school district.

“In a smaller community where you are closer to the issues, you can more easily influence positive change and outcomes. You can see what’s going on and it’s more tangible to us,” Mr. Mullen said.

School Educational Foundations

■ Educational Foundations and general endowment funds for the following local school districts are stewarded at the Community Foundation:

Adirondack Central
Beaver River Central
Copenhagen Central
Hermon-DeKalb Central
Immaculate Heart Central
Massena Central
Lowville Academy & Central School
Potsdam Central
Sackets Harbor Central
South Jefferson Central
St. James School, Gouverneur
St. Lawrence Central
Watertown City Schools

■ Learn how you can tailor a charitable gift to support your favorite school district. Contact the Community Foundation at **315-782-7110** or email **info@nnycf.org**.

■ Are you a school district or community leader? Learn how you can establish an educational foundation for your district. Contact **Rande Richardson**, executive director, **rande@nnycf.org**.

“When Mr. Mullen and the district began conversations on how we can better foster his appreciation and support for education, we looked to the district’s educational foundation at the Northern New York Community Foundation.”

– **Rebecca Dunckel-King**, superintendent, **Lowville Academy and Central School**

MAKING YOUR GIFTS GO FURTHER

LEADING THE WAY: Jennifer Hutteman-Kall, left, executive director of the Resolution Center of Jefferson and Lewis Counties and Erin Kiechle, Family Counseling Service of Northern New York clinical director, in the new shared location of the two agencies on Washington Street, Watertown.

Nonprofit Partners

A WIDE RANGE OF PARTNERSHIPS:

The Northern New York Community Foundation partners with more than 150 nonprofit organizations that serve residents across Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

From health and wellness to essential human services and arts, culture, history and education, the Community Foundation offers donors the opportunity to support nonprofits in unique and special ways. To learn how you can support organizations most meaningful to you, contact **Max DelSignore**, Community Foundation assistant director, info@nnycf.org, or **315-782-7110**.

Donor-Advised Funds

ANOTHER WAY TO GIVE:

If you have a **donor-advised fund** at the Community Foundation, consider a gift that supports Foundation programs or one of nearly 150 local nonprofits that partner with us, in addition to any qualified charitable organization.



Foundation grant helps two nonprofits strengthen operations in ‘strategic alliance’

A recent **Community Foundation** grant has brought two nonprofits together in a strategic alliance to ensure the services they provide Northern New York residents will continue well into the future.

The **Resolution Center of Jefferson and Lewis Counties** and **Family Counseling Service of Northern New York** are working to create a one-stop hub for conflict intervention, counseling, child advocacy and restorative practices.

Increasing local needs for timely mental and emotional health services, the importance of keeping families and businesses out of court, and the potential a meaningful partnership would deliver brought agency leaders to the Community Foundation. The Foundation Board approved a \$20,000 grant to support the alliance. The agencies also received a \$10,000 grant from the **Jane E. Deline Foundation** and a \$5,000 gift from **Watertown Savings Bank**.

The alliance enables the two nonprofits to share personnel, reduce operational overlap, streamline and expedite client referrals, and expand services while uniting in one location.

“This couldn’t have happened without the generous support of the Community Foundation,” said **Jennifer Hutteman-Kall**, Resolution Center executive director. “Their encouragement gave us the courage to partner with Family Counseling Service and really put our clients first.”

The unique-to-the-region collaborative model leverages strengths of each nonprofit to achieve a holistic practice

approach. It also enables development of entire families instead of the more transactional referrals for individuals while stretching limited resources.

The Resolution Center administers programs through trained volunteers and staff who empower individuals to resolve conflict and achieve positive outcomes for children, families and community. Formed in 1982 at the Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County, it became an independent agency in 1991. Last year, its team served more than 1,000 clients. Family Counseling Service of Northern New York was established in 1958 and provides a broad range of counseling and educational services for individuals, families, and the community. Support for the two nonprofits to take this important step enables the Community Foundation to be there for them now so they can become stronger and provide services more efficiently and effectively in the future.

“We are pleased to see the agencies move in this direction. They are leaders in

what likely will become more of a trend in the not-for-profit world as we move forward.” said **Mark Lavarney**, president and CEO of Watertown Savings Bank, and a Community Foundation board member.

In August the two nonprofits relocated offices to Watertown’s Rouse Building, 531 Washington St. “We had nothing to lose and everything to gain,” said **Erin Kiechle**, Family Counseling Service clinical director.

“The Community Foundation’s encouragement gave us the courage to partner with Family Counseling Service and really put our clients first.”

— Jennifer Hutteman-Kall, executive director, Resolution Center of Jefferson and Lewis Counties

New scholarship honors decades of care for children

For the first time in 40 years, Sally Wilson's Adams home is quiet, absent of the joyful sounds of children.

Since about 1980, Mrs. Wilson had opened her home as a childcare provider, ensuring a safe and nurturing environment for children, many of whom were sons and daughters of teachers and educators. This past spring, she retired and began to prepare for an empty nest with her husband of 57 years, Doug.

While she'll miss seeing children develop the enduring bonds of friendship and learn important life and academic skills like kindness and reading, she is grateful for how many of the 40 children she cared for have grown into successful adults, with some even trusting her to care for their own children.

"The kids really became one big family," she said. "It was really amazing to see how close they grew and got along with each other."

A former nurse, Mrs. Wilson began caring for children full time after her own daughter graduated from high school. Many children joined her care as infants and continued with her through their teen years.

She was more than humbled to learn that parents whose children she cared for had established a scholarship in her honor at the Community Foundation to forever support local students pursuing careers in childcare.

"I was very surprised and honored," Mrs. Wilson said. "It's important to help younger people who want to dedicate their lives to

caring for children in our communities."

Karen L. Todd-Blevins and her husband, Steven, turned to Mrs. Wilson several years ago when their three children needed care.

"Sally is a kind, caring, compassionate, hardworking woman who has left a legacy filled with the developmental and personal successes of each child who has crossed her doorstep," said Mrs. Blevins, a South Jefferson High School teacher.

After she was notified that a scholarship was being established to honor Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Blevins and her husband immediately knew it was something they would support.

"I'm so grateful to have such a meaningful way for us to say thank you to Sally for all of the love she gave our children and families," she said. "People who choose these professions are often the givers who find reward in making the lives of others better, very much like Sally Wilson."

Gifts in support of the Sally Wilson Scholarship

Carl & Jana Bingle
Gretchen G. Eysaman
Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Jeff & Brenna Ginger
Karen L. Todd-Blevins & Steven Blevins

To join others in helping to honor Sally Wilson, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601, or visit nnycf.org for secure online giving.



PUTTING CHILDREN FIRST: Sally Wilson, Adams, a longtime childcare provider, stands with twins Clara and Adele Ginger, Adams Center. A new Community Foundation scholarship honors Mrs. Wilson's 40-year legacy as a childcare provider. The Ginger twins, along with their older brother, Emerson, are among the 40 children she cared for throughout her career.

LEAD Council holiday fund offers \$5k match

With the holiday season under way, the Northern New York Community Foundation's LEAD Council has created a unique giving opportunity to augment three holiday initiatives, providing gifts and support to vulnerable individuals, children and families in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

The advisory council of young professionals has created the LEAD Holiday Giving Fund and introduced a \$5,000 matching challenge to donors interested in making a gift to the effort. The LEAD Council will match, dollar-for-dollar, each contribution to the holiday fund up to \$5,000. The challenge will remain open until early December. Total funds received at the conclusion of the challenge will be evenly split between the following community initiatives and nonprofit partner organizations:

■ **CHRISTMAS CRUSADE FOR KIDS** — This initiative led by **Tunes 92.5 FM / Intrepid Broadcasting** provides holiday gifts to children

and families across Northern New York. More than 900 families received support last year in collaboration with Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County, Watertown Urban Mission, and the Salvation Army.

■ **CHRISTMAS SHARING HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE** — This program of the **Lowville Food Pantry** distributes gifts, toys, food boxes and more to children, families and senior citizens in need across Lewis County.

■ **POTSDAM HOLIDAY FUND** — This nonprofit provides annual support to **St. Lawrence County** individuals and families in need with gifts, food baskets, and winter clothing. Funding from this matching challenge will bolster the organization's voucher program.

To support this endeavor, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601, or access secure online giving at nnycf.org. Designate your thoughtful gift to the **LEAD Holiday Fund**. Contact **Max DeSignore** at **315-782-7110** or max@nnycf.org to learn more.



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



Foundation grant aids YMCA childcare program

A Community Foundation grant will help the Watertown Family YMCA ensure childcare is available around the hybrid models of Jefferson County schools and COVID-19 restrictions.

The Foundation's Board of Directors recently approved \$30,000 in support for the YMCA's Childcare and Education Collaboration to strengthen available care. Additional funds provided support in partnership with the Community Foundation.

The YMCA, in collaboration with school district leaders, the **Jeff-Lewis Childcare Project**, **Jefferson Community College**, **SUNY Potsdam** and the **Retired Educators of New York**, have launched full-day Learning Center models at Jefferson Community College and Carthage Elementary School.

"We are grateful for our many supporters who have made this possible," said **Denise Young**, Watertown Family YMCA CEO. "We could not do it without our partners and the support of the Northern New York Community Foundation."

Earlier this year, the Community Foundation joined a corporate donor to provide a \$10,000 matching gift for the Y's "Open for Good" campaign to support emergency childcare during the COVID crisis.



What's your why?

INVESTING IN EDUCATION:

Are you actively engaged in community philanthropy? Tell us why you support efforts to strengthen your community and improve quality of life for all. **Contact our communications director at 315-782-7110 or ken@nnycf.org.**

Year-end giving alerts

GIFT DEADLINES:

■ Many advisors recommend grants at year-end. If you would like the organization(s) you wish to support to receive grant checks prior to **December 31**, submit your recommendations to the Foundation before **Friday, December 11**.

■ Many donors make gifts to their funds at year-end. Gifts mailed to the Foundation need to be postmarked by **December 31** in order to be recorded for that tax year. Stock gifts should be received into the Foundation brokerage account before **Friday, December 18**.

■ The federal **CARES Act** of 2020 provided an above-the-line deduction for total charitable giving of up to \$300. Community Foundation gifts must be received or postmarked by **Thursday, December 31**, to be credited in tax year 2020.



WHY I GIVE

A conversation with Nicole Intschert

What does community philanthropy mean to you? It's a phrase that evokes a sense of giving back, sharing with, and otherwise economically aiding individuals, businesses, and nonprofit agencies. It is often intended to benefit those who most need it — providing food to families through stocking food pantries — and to encourage those who can do the most good with it — aiding a start-up venture, funneling resources into schools that have gaps between their funding and student needs, fundraising for Hospice, or rounding up volunteers to serve the most vulnerable populations.

How did you learn about the Northern New York Community Foundation and become involved with it? My first general connection was in high school as a scholarship recipient. My first personal connection was through a former employer, the **Menter Law Firm** (which is now a part of **Barclay Damon, LLP**).

At the time, my supervisor, **Joseph Russell, Esq.**, was the Foundation board president, and I became reacquainted with a former coworker and fellow Sackets Harbor Central School alum, Max DelSignore. At Max's invitation, I joined the Community Foundation's LEAD Council.

How has your experience serving on the LEAD Council helped you personally and professionally? The LEAD Council provided an excellent opportunity to network with young professionals in an environment where the focus is community engagement, aid, activism, and general improvement. One of the best things to come from serving was my exposure to the concerns and focuses mentioned by voices from populations I had little experience hearing. I am an attorney; I spend my workdays with attorneys; I tend to socialize with other attorneys. Work and social talk revolve around our "legal bubble." To

NICOLE K. 'NIKKI' INTSCHERT, Esq.

AGE: 33

HOMETOWN: Grew up in Sackets Harbor; presently lives in Rochester.

EDUCATION: **Sackets Harbor Central School**, salutatorian, 2005; **Clarkson University**, Bachelor of Science with Great Distinction, 2009; **University at Buffalo School of Law**, Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, 2013.

FAMILY: Parents **James** and **Cindy Intschert**, and sisters **Danielle** and **Michelle Intschert**.

EMPLOYER: Principal Appellate Court Attorney, **New York State Supreme Court**, Appellate Division, Fourth Department, Rochester.

CAREER: Admitted to the **New York State Bar**, January 2014; formerly an Assistant District Attorney in **Onondaga County**, and, previously, an Associate Attorney at **Menter, Rudin & Trivelpiece, PC**.

COMMUNITY: Board member, **Greater Rochester Association of Women Attorneys** (media co-chair); Volunteer at **Barakah Muslim Charity Food Pantry**; former **Northern New York Community Foundation LEAD Council** member.

PERSONAL: Amateur singer (**Rochester Women's Community Chorus** member) and avid hockey fan.

speaking with others my age concerned with school sports programs, banking regulations, well-being of senior citizens, and access to vital medical care, was very eye-opening and a helpful reminder that my voice, my concerns, and my immediate network, are not the only ones that matter. I think that's carried over into my legal career; one of the key aspects of my work in my capacity as a Principal Appellate Court Attorney is to "keep the big picture in mind" while I review cases. Personally, it connected me with some brilliant and

compassionate people and helped expose me to the wide variety of organizations that the Community Foundation supports and works alongside.

How can philanthropy inspire others to take a leadership role to help improve a community's quality of life?

Philanthropy is a gateway to leadership in the community. Once you start contributing to organizations that work to improve your community, you start to learn more about who and what makes up that community outside of your inner circle. Leadership manifests in a variety of ways, but once those in your peer group see the changes you make, the fulfillment you get, and the fun you have, you inspire by example and alert others to opportunities that they may not have known existed.

How would you encourage others to get to know about service opportunities and take up some involvement?

Start small. It can be intimidating to jump in, thinking you have to organize a 5K or a \$1,000-a-plate benefit dinner as your first venture. But sponsoring a child or senior citizen at the holidays, giving a Saturday morning to collect cans and bottles, or simply cleaning out your closet to donate gently used professional wear are great places to start. Those are the kinds of efforts that can grow from connections you make during those initial forays, as you start to learn about what organizations exist, what sorts of needs they have, and how you can help fill them.

What is broadly important to the quality of life in a community and how can private philanthropy help?

As the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted, a strong network that supports children, families, seniors, and anyone who is down-and-out is absolutely essential. Private philanthropy is especially important in these kinds of situations, because it allows for the flexibility to give immediate aid and shape that aid in ways that are tailored to the need.

Despite moving away from Northern New York, you remain an active donor, supporting your native region. Why is it important to you to continue that effort and give to an organization that supports your hometown?

I will always consider myself a Northern New Yorker. Much of who I am was shaped from growing up in Sackets Harbor, attending a wonderful undergraduate institution in Potsdam, working a host of jobs in a handful of areas in the North Country before I set off for law school, and from getting to be a part of the legal community for a period of time.

"I would not have achieved my goals without the love and support of my hometown area. I want to make sure that others have the opportunities and fond memories that I do. My family and many friends are in Northern New York and I know that the Community Foundation is there to help them, too. Knowing that my efforts just may benefit them is definitely a driving factor."

– Nicole Intschert, attorney and former Community Foundation LEAD member, on why she continues to support her hometown

As much as I want to be a part of and contribute to the community in which I now reside, I would not have achieved my goals without the love and support of my hometown area. I want to make sure that others have the opportunities and fond memories that I do. Moreover, my family and many friends are here; I know that the Community Foundation is there to help them, too. Knowing my efforts just may benefit them is definitely a driver.

In your work as an attorney, what is valuable about the "give-where-you-live" approach of community philanthropy?

The reward of seeing the immediate impact of how your gifts and contributions improve the lives of those around you is hard to overstate. Furthermore, knowing generally where and to whom your giving will go helps motivate

others to reach deeper and give a little more than in the case where it's just to "a cause" with no face or name: a give-where-you-live approach benefits your family, friends, and neighbors.

What does the word "legacy" mean to you, and why is it important to get people to think about their legacy?

Like so many, I was swept up in the Lin-Manuel Miranda "Hamilton" craze over the last few years, and one of the lyrics from that trailblazing show is, "God help and forgive me, I wanna build something that's

gonna outlive me." That's how I think of a legacy: what goes on, and makes you think of me, after I'm gone. Many of us want to say we left our mark and had a positive impact on our friends and families and the places we've lived, and that's something that takes time and effort to do well. Leaving a legacy means that you are thought of and known by many people. If you do not get out and get involved in your community, it's much harder to leave a memorable legacy.

How does the value of service help to shape the person you've become and your personal philanthropy?

Service is about helping someone else and lifting them up. Service helps me to check my privilege, connect with others, and be more open and generous with my giving.



THE INTSCHERT FAMILY: from left, sister, Danielle; Nicole; parents, Cindy and James; and sister, Michelle. Cindy Intschert is a retired Jefferson County District Attorney.

Family legacy fund to help health care students

North Country will forever benefit from support for local workforce needs

A FAMILY LEGACY OF SERVICE: Dr. Walter Sydney Atkinson, wife, Mary Gamble Atkinson, and children John Gamble Atkinson, Jeanne Atkinson Remington, and Grace Atkinson Wright, pictured in 1933.

JOIN IN SUPPORT:

To extend the effort to help honor Dr. Walter Sydney Atkinson and Mary, make gifts to the **Dr. Walter and Mary Atkinson Legacy Fund** at the **Northern New York Community Foundation**, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601. Visit nnycf.org to access secure online giving.

As a tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. Walter Sydney Atkinson and his wife, Mary, and their devoted service to Watertown and the region, a permanent Community Foundation fund was recently established to assist and inspire nontraditional students pursuing health care careers.

Dr. Walter Sydney Atkinson followed his father, **Dr. Martin G. Atkinson**, and brother, **Dr. John Hedley Atkinson**, into medicine. After training in ophthalmology at McGill University, Montreal, and New York University, Dr. Walter Atkinson joined his father and brother in Watertown where, in 1911, they established the Atkinson Hospital on Sterling Street. The brothers joined the Canadian Army in 1917 and returned to family practice in Watertown after service in World War I. In 1921, Walter married Watertown native **Mary A. Gamble**.

Mary and Walter Atkinson lived in Watertown the remainder of their lives and made many lasting contributions.

Dr. Walter Atkinson was dedicated to quality patient care. He was also a professor and lecturer at the New York University Post-Graduate Medical School. In 1958, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science at St. Lawrence University in recognition of his contributions to medicine.

He was known worldwide as a prominent eye surgeon. An authority on ophthalmic anesthesia, he developed the Atkinson needle used for anesthesia. In 1972, he received the Howe Award in Greece, one of the highest medals awarded in ophthalmology.

Both served in leadership roles for various North Country organizations, especially in the health care field. For many years Walter Atkinson was director of the Watertown Foundation, now the Northern New York Community Foundation, and initiated interest-free student loans, the precursor to the Foundation's scholarship program.

The next generation, **Jeanne Atkinson Remington**, **Dr. John Gamble Atkinson** and **Grace "Gay" Atkinson Wright** all continued their parents' legacy in medicine, civic engagement, and athletics.

The **Atkinson Family Legacy Fund** will help provide encouragement, inspiration, support and great access for those seeking to serve others through careers in local health care.

It is the family's hope that those who may not have other sources of financial aid may find a pathway to pursue their dreams. Students will find opportunities for easier access to health training and the region will forever benefit by having hardworking residents supply the workforce needs for area hospitals and clinics.



"It is the family's hope that those who may not have other sources of financial aid may find a pathway to pursue their educational and career dreams and the region will forever benefit by having hardworking residents supply the workforce needs for local hospitals and clinics."

Dr. Walter and Mary Atkinson Legacy Fund Charitable purposes and goals

- Provide educational support and remove barriers for those pursuing a career in health care who have limited access to other forms of financial aid.
- Assist students who have a desire to better themselves but face additional barriers to education, including work and family commitments.
- Direct resources to students who have a higher likelihood of remaining in the North Country and will help strengthen the local health care workforce within the community at hospitals, clinics, and physician offices.
- Have flexibility that other forms of assistance do not, thereby allowing students to cover expenses related to the pursuit of education, including transportation, childcare, books, equipment and related supplies.
- Work closely with Jefferson-Lewis BOCES and its network of 11 school districts, as well as Jefferson Community College, local hospitals, and workforce development agencies to identify potential students for whom the scholarship will have the greatest transformative effect.
- Boost confidence in those students who may have thought pursuit of higher education was not attainable.

Perpetuate a family legacy

WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU?

Consider a **charitable fund** to keep your passions alive, honor a friend or loved one, or to support the causes, organizations and communities that you care about, forever. We're here to help. Contact **Max DelSignore**, assistant director, **315-782-7110** or max@nnycf.org.

A lifelong legacy of learning will endure

Permanent Lyme Library fund honors Barbara Bates Cousineau

Barbara Bates Cousineau dedicated her life to her family and to a career in education that touched countless lives. A Watertown native, she spent 24 years teaching high school special education in Windsor Locks, Conn., and was also an adult education mentor, helping men and women earn their high school diplomas later in life.

Despite settling in Connecticut, her family maintained strong ties to the North Country, spending time at their property on Three Mile Point where the cottage Barbara's parents built in the 1950s still welcomes them. After she retired in 2004, Barbara summered at the cottage.

"Our family ties to the area are strong. Barb grew up at the cottage," husband, Rick said. "We've made a lot of good friends up here and Barb loved the local library. It was a special place to her."

When she passed in August 2019, her husband, Rick, and children, Lisa and Scott, wanted to find a meaningful way to forever honor the woman who inspired success in her students and brought out the best in others.

To that end, they recently established the **Barbara E. Bates Cousineau Lifelong Learning Fund** at the Community Foundation to support the **Lyme Free Library**. The fund will help the library purchase new books and manage educational programs and initiatives that benefit the community.



"My mother always stood for education. Even in her final days when she couldn't speak, she was teaching us."

— Lisa Cousineau, daughter of Barbara Bates Cousineau



"Barb wanted to support the library. This honors her love of reading and dedication to teaching," Rick said.

Rick and Barbara are both Watertown High School graduates who first met while singing in their church choir.

"We thought we would just donate to the library's endowment in her memory but being able to establish a fund in her name to support her passion is a much more meaningful step," daughter, Lisa said. "Working with the Community Foundation has made it happen."

Barbara was diagnosed with glioblastoma in October 2014. Her family cast a wide net of support and became involved with

the Connecticut Brain Tumor Alliance Path of Hope.

"Her passion for learning was her essence," Lisa said. "My mother was always about education. Even in her final days when she couldn't speak, she was still teaching us. This is a chance to see the results of philanthropy. Not only does this speak to what she believed in, but it also speaks to her love of Northern New York."

Rick said it was important to his family that they honor his late wife in a way that would have a lasting impact. A permanent fund at the Community Foundation, he said, will "forever keep her legacy alive."

"She would be delighted to know that the support is going to continue and grow," he said.

A PASSION FOR EDUCATION AND LEARNING: Top photo, Barb, flanked by her daughter, Lisa, and husband, Rick. Bottom photo: Barbara Bates Cousineau pictured as a young woman in the mid-1960s.

JOIN IN SUPPORT: To extend the effort to help honor Barbara Cousineau, make gifts to the **Barbara E. Bates Cousineau Lifelong Learning Fund for the Lyme Free Library** at the **Northern New York Community Foundation**, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601. Visit nnycf.org to access secure online giving.



Dr. George Glynn Couch

Dr. George Glynn Couch was a devoted family man, passionate sportsman and physician who leaves a notable legacy and memories of friends, families, colleagues and patients. George was born in 1928 and graduated from Watertown High School in 1945. He attended Williams College, completing a biology degree with honors in 1948 and advancing to the School of Medicine at Temple University where he earned a Doctor of Medicine in 1952 and was a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1953 to 1955 in the 1st Army Division in Germany, where he met his wife, **Lis Svenson**, who was a USO employee. George and Lis returned to the U.S. in 1955 and were married before George began an obstetrician-gynecologist residency at Yale University. George returned to Watertown in 1960 and established his medical practice. He served as chief of staff of the House of

Good Samaritan, was a longtime member of the Crescent Yacht Club in Chaumont, serving as Commodore and member of Trinity Episcopal Church, Watertown. Lis passed away in 2019. He, Lis and members of their family have been supporters of various Community Foundation initiatives. We join his five sons, **William, Gregory, Peter, Mark, and George**, grandchildren, and extended family in honoring his memory and life of service to others, healthcare and his community.

Tribute gifts in memory of Dr. George G. Couch

Robert Caswell
Gregory & Katherine Couch
William & Kimberly Couch
Joyce & David Crossley
Andrea & Eric DeLaGarza

Max & Sara DelSignore
Deborah Hirschey
Kevin A. Kieff
Rande Richardson
Bill Shuman &
Betsy Meyerdierks
David & Karen Walton



Remember your community in your will

The projects and programs in this newsletter are made possible, in part, because people left **bequests**. You can tailor your legacy or honor a loved one through a meaningful gift, forever. Contact **Rande Richardson**, executive director, **315-782-7110** or rande@nnycf.org to discuss your legacy planning and learn more.



Barbara D. Hanrahan-White,
pictured in the Watertown
High School library in 2009.

THOUGHTFUL LEGACIES

Barbara D. Hanrahan-White

An educator, administrator and friend who will be remembered for her tireless contributions to teaching and learning; for the inspiration she offered those who worked with her; for her forward-thinking commitment to equality among students; and for her endless kindness, empathy and grace with which she changed the lives of others and made our community and world better and stronger.

Barbara D. Hanrahan-White provided decades of leadership and wisdom as she dedicated her life to education. Her compassion and commitment to countless students, teachers, staff, friends, and family members throughout her 92 years was unmatched. Born in 1927, she graduated from Syracuse University in 1949 and began her career in education as a physical education teacher. She was passionate about health and wellness and believed that all children should have access to the resources and encouragement to build fulfilling lives. She married **Robert J. Hanrahan**, an attorney, in 1952. Together, they raised two daughters, **Leslie** and **Clare**. In 1956, Barbara began teaching kindergarten and first grade in Watertown. She became principal of Sherman School in 1967. She became responsible for two additional schools, Massey Street and Meade Street and transferred to Harold T. Wiley School in 1979. Barbara always made time to learn the name of every child and parent in her schools with great care and deep interest. She was very active in many community and professional organizations. She passionately guided grantmaking and scholarships while serving on the board of the **Northern New York Community Foundation** for more than a decade. When Barbara turned 90, the impact she had on her students and teachers through the years was evident in many birthday cards and letters she received. She was an adoring mother who always made time for her family, despite an ambitious career. In 1987, Barbara took a step back from the responsibilities of principal, but continued to support future educators by mentoring student teachers through Potsdam College and remained civically engaged. Robert passed away in 1997 after 45 years of marriage. Barbara later met **Roger W. White Sr.** and in him found a



PHOTO COURTESY WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES ARCHIVES

Watertown City Schools Superintendent **Harold T. Wiley**, left, and **Jane Munson**, right, Central Council of Parent Teachers chair, present a citation honoring **Barbara Hanrahan**, center, as an Academy Street School teacher in 1966.

second chance at love. They enjoyed nearly 20 years of marriage before Roger passed away earlier this year. We are grateful to Barbara's family to be a part of the special way she will be remembered through the **Barbara D. Hanrahan-White Memorial Fund**. We join Barbara's family in expressing our deep appreciation for those who made memorial tributes in her name. In this way, she will continue to move countless local students forward with kindness, love and dedication. Her legacy will have a permanent home and her story will be told to those who may not have known her personally. Those whose lives will continue to be touched by her guiding spirit will be an enduring part of the fund's work, creating a never ending wave of positivity and reminder of the importance of an educated society.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Barbara D. Hanrahan-White**

Ann M. Adams
Betty G. Andrews
Kimberly Askins
Alicia Bach
Barbarajeane Blodgett
Nancy A. Boynton
Robert Caswell
Gary W. Charlebois
Children's Home of Jefferson County
Helen G. Chisholm
Barbara Cole-Russell & Edward Russell
Mark Cosgrove
Douglas & Cherie Danforth
Lori David
Max & Sara DelSignore
Joanne Doherty

Sally Doxtater
Juliana Eames
Barbara Eldridge
Laura Fragasso
Elaine Gehrman
Eileen Hewitt
David Hodge & Jennifer Cross-Hodge
Linda J. Holley
Elizabeth James
Michele & Tim Jeican
Kevin A. Kieff
Bridget King
Dianne & Richard Loonan
Renee Lustick
Barbara Marshall
James & Kimberly Oliver
Roxanne & Philip Pratt
John & Lee Prugar

Carol & Joe Rich
Rande Richardson
Mrs. Mary Peyton Sanford & Family
Martha Sanford Curtin, R.N.
Dr. Janet Sanford Kowalski
Engineer David C. Sanford
Dr. Douglas M. Sanford Jr.
Louise & Mark Scarlett
Patti Scordo
Ruth Seaman
Francie & Ron Shoemaker
Bill Shuman & Betsy Meyerdierck
Ann Marie Simmons
William Skye
Joy L. Swensen
Bernice B. Taylor
William R. & Wanda L. Wachob
T. Urling & Mabel Walker
Donald W. Whitney

To join others in honoring Barbara D. Hanrahan-White, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.

Thoughtful Legacies

TOUCHING LIVES, FOREVER:

Since 1929, the Northern New York Community Foundation has been built by those who have made the thoughtful decision to provide enduring support for the communities they love. We are very grateful for these acts of generosity that help perpetuate lives of 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. To learn how you can **honor a loved one's** legacy, contact us at info@nnycf.org, or **315-782-7110**.



Lois W. Stevens

Lois W. Stevens was a passionate advocate for her family and a kind friend whose greatest joy was spending summers at her Chaumont cottage surrounded by the beauty of Lake Ontario and the North Country. Lois lived each day with kindness toward others and an unconditional love that endured throughout her lifetime, an example that made her friendship even more special. Born in December 1920, Lois passed away in Pittsfield this fall, just three months before her 100th birthday. A native of Montreal, Quebec, Lois spent her early years growing up in Canada. In 1941, she married **Gordon M. Wendell**, just two weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Together, they raised four sons — **Alec, Gordon, Jay** and **Fred**. An outdoor enthusiast, Lois loved skiing, tennis, birding and swimming. She enjoyed many years with her family at the Crescent Yacht Club and treasured visits with her nine grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. No

one was a stranger to Lois as she befriended people from all walks of life who were drawn to her cheerful personality and sense of humor. Her home was always a hub of activity as she welcomed all. A voracious reader, she was also a devoted student of her Christian faith. Widowed in 1980, she met **Dr. Roland E. "Rollie" Stevens** through mutual friends, and they were married in 1983. Above all the two shared a gratitude for life together. Following Rollie's passing in 2000, Lois spent the remainder of her full life with many new friends and an ever-expanding family. Lois's family has chosen to honor her legacy through gifts to the **Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division Endowment Fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation**. We are grateful to Lois's family to be a part of the special way she will be remembered. We join her sons **Alec, Gordon, and Fred Wendell**; stepsons, **Chip** and **Peter Stevens**; and stepdaughters **Caroline Mayher, Debbie Rutherford, Pam Scinto, and Betsy Palmer**; and her extended family and friends in celebrating a life well lived and expressing our appreciation for those who made memorial tributes in her name.

Tribute gifts in memory of Lois Stevens

B. Andrew Dutcher & Margaret Scott
Mrs. Richard Macy "Molly" Harris
Bill Shuman
The Stevens Family

Caroline & Bill Mayher, Betsy Palmer, Debby & Dave Rutherford, Pam & Dal Scinto, Chip & Georgia Stevens, and Peter & Susan Stevens
John* & Marcia* Treadwell
John & Sara Treadwell
Bradford A. & Carol W. White

*Deceased

To join others in helping to honor Lois W. Stevens, make gifts to: **Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.**

Recent Tribute Gifts

Includes only gifts made to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Fund from Aug. 20, 2020 to Oct. 28, 2020, or for those who have just recently passed.

In Memory of Given by

Matthew Branski

Kevin Kent
Ralph S. Palmer

Robert Brennan

Jeannie Brennan

John W. Cobb

John & Lory Cobb

Henry & Anita Colby

Vivian Setzer

Raymond Cooley

Joan E. Carlo

Ed Coombs

Max & Sara DelSignore
Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Michele & Tim Jeican
Mary E. Loftus
William & Beth Maguire
Kelly & Brian Merchant
Jeff & Mary Perrine
Rande Richardson

Sally M. Cornish

Linda J. Holley

Darren DeVito

Rande Richardson

Ronald R. Durham

Paul F. Brown
Nicholas & MaryLou
D'Argenio

Jennifer Doldo
Kara Richardson
Rande Richardson

Elizabeth May Duvall

Ivy Allen & Family
David & Susan Belloff

Jennifer Doldo
Catherine Duvall
Geoffery Duvall &
Kristan Peck

Richard L. Halpin
Richard & Karyl Irvine
Jennifer E. (Duval) Nelson
Thomas O'Riley

Sarah & Alexsi Pienik
Kim & William Rapin
Brianna M. Tousant
John & Cindy Trombly
Ben & Sandi Timerman
Dan & Amy Timerman
Matt & Mary Timerman
Paul Timerman
Ralph & Sandy Timerman
Susan Timerman

Betty J. Evans

Mary Gleason Colton

Dennis J. Gehring

Michele & Tim Jeican
Rande Richardson

Chester F. "Chet" Gray

Don & Linda Blauvelt
Gretchen & Steven Fields
Dr. Carl & Karen Lundborg
Renee Lustick
Christina Mesires Fournaris
Marzano Real Estate

Henry Henderson

Helen G. Chisholm
Mrs. Mary P. Sanford

Henry R. Hooker

Sharon Satterlee
Ruth Seaman

Caryl Hutchens

Deborah Hirschey

Lawrence (Larry) Jones

Judy Jones

Bill LaFrance of

Cranberry Lake
Peter W. Bragdon

Arlene Loomis

Wayne & Lida Small

Polly G. Lyng

Mary Gleason Colton

Angeline Marra

Harold & Sally L'Huillier

Dr. Hugh Morris & Emmeline Morris

Harold & Gloria
Rothschild

O'Reilly Family

Deceased Members
Arnie & Ann O'Reilly

Charles M. Partridge

Donna M. Partridge

Frances E. Stern

Joel Torres

John C. Sudduth

Ruth Seaman

Lynn Weldon Trimper

Robert Caswell
Max & Sara DelSignore
Jan B. Oliver
Rande Richardson

Georgiana "Georgie" Veley

Cindy & Jim Intschert
Jeff & Starr Stockwell

Alice G. Virkler

Bernice Zehr

Roger W. White Sr.

Kevin A. Kieff

In Honor of Given by

Concerned Citizens of River Hospital

Nellie, Pat, Dick & Bob

William C. Couch's 90th Birthday

William & Kimberly Couch
Rande Richardson

Dr. Alfred Gianfagna's Retirement

Rande Richardson

Debby Hirschey's 80th Birthday

Rande Richardson

The Marriage of Sandra L. Haight & John Samuel (Sam) Orr

Rande Richardson

Elena Jane Cecile Murray's Birth

Michele & Tim Jeican

My Friends

Stephanie Williams

Bruce Rippeteau's Birthday

William J. Cosgrove

David Walton

Rande Richardson

AN ASSET FOR EDUCATION



LEARNING LIBRARIES: Public libraries play an increasingly vital role in supporting our communities. The **Orleans Public Library** was recently awarded a \$2,000 grant to help with tutoring classes for local students. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the library has creatively led several tutoring sessions to help children with their studies. The library will continue to offer assistance to students while they are back in school. The grant was made possible by the **Herring College Fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation**. Pictured, from left: **Stacy Snyder-Morse**, Orleans Public Library director; **Dan Timerman**, Orleans Public library trustee; and **Kacy Appleton**, Orleans Public Library assistant.

STRENGTHENING RESOURCES FOR ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY NEIGHBORS

FIGHTING HUNGER IN OUR REGION:

Canton-based nonprofit **GardenShare** recently held its first **"Fight Hunger Your Way"** virtual event to support efforts to help families access healthy foods and other essential needs. The **Community Foundation** helped GardenShare raise nearly \$13,000, besting its fundraising goal. A \$2,500 grant from the Foundation's **COVID-19 Community Support Fund** was provided through a registration challenge, contributing \$100 to support 25 event



participants. Organizers credit the challenge grant for also helping to increase participation as 111 people joined GardenShare, walking, running, biking, and kayaking in the Canton area between September 25 and 27. "The Community Foundation's support helped energize our registrations and allowed us to generate more excitement," said **Angela Villeneuve-Bronson**, GardenShare board member and event organizer. "For this we are very grateful." Pictured, from left: **Salma Mouden** and sister, **Amal**, Canton.

In **Massena**, the Community Foundation recently provided a challenge grant to support **Massena Meals on Wheels** all-day **"\$Stock the Pot"** Roadside Collection held September 25. The Foundation matched \$2,500 in gifts. Massena Meals on Wheels volunteers took to the streets with collection pots during a "socially distanced" event held in front of the East Hatfield Street Meals on Wheels building. The all-day fundraiser was part of **"Meals on Wheels Day"** that helped build support for the community-based program and help stock critical food supplies that are distributed to hundreds of people they serve in the greater Massena area.

THANKFUL GRATEFUL

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

Thanks to you, we now have programs that help to instill values of civic engagement, responsibility and leadership with students and youth. Together, we engage young professionals in ways that perpetuate the type of commitment that the last 90 years of Community Foundation donors like you have demonstrated. Our home at the Philanthropy Center is a place where nonprofits collaboratively work to ensure greater sustainability for our region.

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

Always know how much it means for us to have you as a vital part of our family as we strive to make the wonderful North Country the best place it can be to spend our lives together. October marked the beginning of our 91st year of working with donors like you to build a better community for all. We look forward to finding ways to celebrate this important milestone and recognize the vital role you play in that noble cause throughout Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

With gratitude always,

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

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Twitter: @nnycf @nnyypc • [Instagram.com/nnycommunityfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/nnycommunityfoundation)

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



YOUR GIFTS MAKE A MEANINGFUL IMPACT

YOU help enable a better future for all

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



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

In its first three years, 63 students have been selected to present 59 grants totaling \$30,000 to 51 different nonprofit organizations that serve tri-county residents.

The Giving Challenge is one of the most important initiatives donors make possible. Program support builds our community's future and helps ensure we continue to nurture and grow awareness, interest and appreciation for the value and fulfillment of civic engagement and responsibility.



LEWIS COUNTY SEARCH & RESCUE: From left: **Tammie S. Lambert**, Community Bank Lowville branch manager; **Mariah LaFountain**, South Lewis Central School and 2019-2020 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner; **Josh Genter**, Lewis County Search & Rescue assistant chief; **Josh Levesque**, Lewis County Search & Rescue chief.

"Lewis County Search & Rescue is an amazing example of a support system in our community. With volunteers who are always focused on helping people, they make our community a better place to live."

— Mariah LaFountain, South Lewis Central School, Turin

OGDENSBURG BOYS & GIRLS CLUB: From left: **Matthew Honeywell**, Community Bank, vice president/Ogdensburg branch manager; **Walker Belile**, Morristown Central School and 2019-2020 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner; and **Thomas Luckie**, Ogdensburg Boys & Girls Club executive director.



The 2020-2021 **Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge** is made possible by gifts from generous donors like YOU who contribute to the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund** and a leadership gift from an anonymous donor, and generous support from the following business leader:

Community Bank N.A.
2018-21 Program Partner