



Thoughtful Giving

Newsletter of the Northern New York Community Foundation



» YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

Donors help foster love for the arts in the next generation

The **Brighton Beat** performs at the **Clayton Opera House** earlier this fall as part of the 2022 Jazz in the Classroom initiative.



Northern New York
Community Foundation
SINCE 1929

LOCATED WITHIN THE NORTHERN
NEW YORK PHILANTHROPY CENTER

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You bring strength to our community

We are incredibly fortunate to have such committed donors who join us each year in support of programs, projects, and initiatives that help create a better North Country for all. Through gifts of all sizes, those choosing to join in the annual **Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Fund** campaign make a difference in one of the broadest ways possible in our local region. These gifts help keep food pantries, soup kitchens, and backpack programs stocked and strong. Your gifts support basic human needs, health care, and quality of life efforts. Your gifts support investments in education and environmental and historic preservation efforts, as well as animal welfare. Annual donors also believe in the importance of the continuum of civic engagement fostered through the Youth Philanthropy and LEAD councils, and the Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge.



RANDE RICHARDSON

Each gift is a **strong statement** of the importance of **sharing blessings**, being part of a community, and a demonstration of a desire to not accept the status quo. For each of us, Northern New York holds a **special place in our hearts and minds**, and since 1929, many have joined together as one force for good. Throughout the year, we have shared with you stories of **the difference you have made**.

We know that every gift is a sacrifice. We know that you have numerous options when considering your year-end charitable contributions. We will continue to strive to maintain the **trust and confidence** you place in us to be **good stewards** of the way you desire to make a difference. We are eager to continue to **work alongside you** in the year ahead, as partners and friends, to help others and bring positivity and strength to our community. It is only **through your generosity** that these investments in Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties become a reality.

Thank you again for standing together with us in that important and enduring cause.

YOUR ANNUAL GIFTS SUPPORT ESSENTIAL NEEDS



PHOTO COURTESY WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

Nora Darling, left, and Jan Murphy, right, check spaghetti sauce they are making in the **Massena Meals on Wheels** kitchen in advance of the nonprofit's annual fundraiser. The Community Foundation awarded Massena Meals on Wheels a \$2,500 challenge grant this fall as part of its "Stock the Pot" initiative, continuing its support of its annual fundraiser for a third year. Massena Meals on Wheels is also a past recipient of a **Youth Philanthropy Council** grant that helped the organization upgrade kitchen equipment. Thanks to the generosity of Community Foundation annual donors, those in need throughout the Massena area are supported through the meaningful efforts of Massena Meals on Wheels.

TO OUR VALUED COMMUNITY FOUNDATION DONORS AND PARTNERS:

■ We are pleased to publish **Thoughtful Giving** three times a year to share the many meaningful stories about how your Community Foundation is working with donors and partners to strengthen the region. All active Community Foundation donors and partners will continue to receive a mailed copy. To reduce waste, those with no recent activity may not receive future issues by mail. All issues are available online at nnycf.org.

EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT: KENNETH TIMERMAN, LAFARGEVILLE



FOUNDATION

SCHOLAR AT WORK:

Kenneth J. Timerman, a 2018 recipient of the **Herring College Memorial Scholarship** of Northern New York Community Foundation, is a manufacturing engineer with **Allied Motion Technologies**, Watertown. A resident of LaFargeville, Kenneth was awarded educational support to help him complete a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering technologies at SUNY Canton. He is pictured in his company's Watertown manufacturing facility.

Community Foundation scholar: 'Trades are a great way to build experience'

Kenneth J. Timerman graduated in 2018 from **LaFargeville Central School**. He attended SUNY Canton, earning high honors and graduating with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering technologies. Because of generous donors like you, Kenneth was able to complete a bachelor's degree thanks to a **Herring College Memorial Scholarship** of the Northern New York Community Foundation that made his education more accessible. We recently met Kenneth and asked him about his experience and what advice he'd give young students who are considering their futures.

What put you on the path to a career in engineering? I have always had a passion for working with my hands and building. Engineering offered me a balance between this passion as well as the ability to properly design products I'm interested in. This knowledge and ability has bled over into all aspects of my life and understanding of the world.

How has your education helped you advance professionally? Due to my education, I had a manufacturing engineer position lined up six months before I graduated from college, as well as multiple offers from other companies. I am presently the only manufacturing engineer for assembly at Allied Motion Technologies. My education has made up for my lack of experience thus far.

KENNETH J. TIMERMAN**AGE:** 22**HOMETOWN:** LaFargeville

EDUCATION: **LaFargeville Central School District**, 2018; **SUNY Canton**, bachelor's degree, summa cum laude, mechanical engineering technologies, 2022; recipient, **Herring College Memorial Scholarship** of the Northern New York Community Foundation

FAMILY: Parents, **Mary** and **Matt**; brothers, **Mitchell** and **Nolan Timerman**

EMPLOYER: **Allied Motion Technologies**, Watertown

CAREER: Manufacturing engineer

PERSONAL: Very passionate about fabrication, machining, welding, and off-roading. Grew up on a farm, caring for cows and participating in hay and crop activities since I was 5. Worked at my family's hardware and feed store, **LaFargeville Agway**, bagging feed, stocking shelves, and helping customers. Volunteer with the **Stone Mills Agricultural Museum** where I'm still involved with the annual Farm & Home show.

What do you find special about Northern New York that keeps you committed to maintain your involvement and efforts to give back? During my senior year of high school, I considered many different colleges. I settled on SUNY Canton in part due to its program and practicality of a SUNY school. As an 18-year-old leaving his hometown for

the first time, the community I would be part of mattered the most. Canton is much like my hometown and the other villages and hamlets that surround it. SUNY Canton also did a great job with its community on campus through clubs and other organizational activities. Being a part of these clubs often pushed me to be a beneficial member, which, in turn, would often push me to focus more on my studies. Small communities are very similar in that direct impact is easy to achieve and will further push you to be a more rounded person.

What experiences in your community have helped develop your character and made you into the person you are today? I have been involved within the **Stone Mills Agriculture Museum** since I was a child, which has given me the opportunity to be around a lot of hardworking farmers. The experience has taught me the importance of family, honesty, and work ethic while also feeding my fascination for machines and innovation.

What has helped you nurture professional and personal relationships in your community? Growing up my family was always involved in the community, from barbecuing 600 chicken halves on Memorial Day and donating proceeds to town projects and scholarships, to running a farm and home show that takes place in Stone Mills every

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.**

See EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT on page 11

YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL: YOUR GIFTS DEVELOP YOUNG LEADERS



YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL CLASS OF 2022-2023: Back row, from left: **Owen Newton**, South Jefferson senior; **Jack Buckingham**, South Jefferson senior; **Zachary Kilburn**, Watertown High senior; **Grady Petersen**, Immaculate Heart Central senior; **Trey Augliano**, Watertown High senior. Middle row, from left: **Kaylee Fields**, General Brown junior; **Jack Mangan**, South Jefferson junior; **Olivia Wisner**, General Brown junior; **Adelaide Weir**, Watertown High senior; **Zachary Blevins**, South Jefferson senior; **Harper Lane**, Watertown High sophomore. Front row, from left: **Mia Kelly**, Watertown High sophomore; **McKenna Lee**, General Brown junior; **Olivia Urf**, Watertown High junior; **Maya Voss**, Watertown High junior; **Ella Smith**, Watertown High sophomore.

YPC grant opportunity

■ The Community Foundation's **Youth Philanthropy Council** is now accepting 2023 funding proposals in the fall. Contact **Kraig Everard**, Community Foundation director of stewardship and programs, **315-782-7110**, or kraig@nnycf.org, to learn more about how to apply for up to a total of \$20,000.



Lessons in leadership

In October, the **Youth Philanthropy Council** welcomed **John McNeely**, (standing at left) CEO of Skip-Line and Shaw Harbor Foundation founder; **Jeff Ginger**, (seated at table) director of career and technical education at Jeff-Lewis BOCES and a Community Foundation board member; and **Jill Parker**, (seated at right) executive director of the Victims Assistance Center of Jefferson County to the Philanthropy Center. The three community leaders presented an inspirational panel discussion about community leadership and shared lessons learned throughout their respective careers with students.

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

LEAD COUNCIL: YOUR GIFTS STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP



'CAN-STRUCTION' ZONE AHEAD:

The Community Foundation's **LEAD Council** recently began exploring ways to help bolster inventories at food pantries across the region in 2023. Several LEAD members recently gathered at the **Northern New York Philanthropy Center** to plan for the project and organize initial pantry items. Look for more about this creative effort to help with essential needs in the months ahead. Pictured, from left, LEAD Council Chair **Andrew Boulter** and his son, **Jack**, Watertown; LEAD members **Erin Simser**, Watertown, **Bridget Fetterly**, Deferiet, and **Allison Roselle**, Clayton; LEAD Vice Chair **Anna Platz**, Carthage; and LEAD members **Marc Piche**, Carthage, and **Jessica Piatt Walczyk**, Watertown.

LEAD Council Holiday Fund will match giving

The LEAD Council of the Northern New York Community Foundation is working to help bring joy to vulnerable individuals, children, and families in need this holiday season.

The advisory committee of young professionals recently kicked off its annual **LEAD Holiday Giving** initiative to support the tri-county region. To begin, the Council's LEAD Holiday Fund at the Community Foundation will provide a \$5,000 matching challenge. Each gift to the LEAD Holiday Giving Fund will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$5,000.

Total gifts contributed to the LEAD Holiday Giving Fund will be evenly distributed to the following community initiatives and nonprofit partner organizations:

■ **Christmas Crusade for Kids** — Led by Tunes 92.5/104.5 FM Intrepid Broadcasting, Watertown, this initiative provides holiday gifts to children and families across Northern New York. More than 1,200 families received support last year. The effort is a collaboration with the Community Action Planning Council of Jefferson County, Watertown Urban Mission, the Salvation Army Watertown Corps, Catholic Charities, and Toys for Tots.

■ **Christmas Sharing Holiday Assistance** — This



■ **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 strengthen the organization's voucher program this year.

LEAD members will also collect new toys, which will be donated to help brighten the holidays for local children in need. The Council's challenge runs through early December. Last year, the Council raised \$6,000 to support local holiday initiatives and distributed hundreds more in material donations.

To support LEAD's effort, make gifts to: **Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington Street, Watertown, New York 13601**, or online at **nnycf.org**. Please designate your thoughtful gift to the **LEAD Holiday Giving Fund**.

program of the Lowville Food Pantry distributes gifts, toys, food boxes, and more to children, families, and seniors in need across Lewis County.

What is LEAD?

■ The **LEAD Council** was formed in 2014 as advisory committee of the **Northern New York Community Foundation** empowered to identify and address strategic needs across Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties. The Council is comprised of 18 young professionals who live in the tri-county area with an interest in enhancing the quality of life for all in the North Country. **LEAD** is an acronym that reflects four important guiding principles of the Community Foundation's work: **Leadership, Engagement, Access and Direction**.

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

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



YOUR GIFTS STRENGTHEN ARTS AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

ALL THAT JAZZ:

Right: Acclaimed jazz band **The Brighton Beat**, New York City, perform a community concert at the **Clayton Opera House** in October. Below, right, members of The Brighton Beat work with music students at Carthage Middle and High schools as part of the annual **Jazz in the Classroom** program that began in 2017 as an offshoot of the Clayton Jazz Festival.



‘Jazz in the Classroom’ hits all the right notes

Program instills enduring appreciation for arts among student musicians

IN APPRECIATION



REMEMBERING A COMMUNITY LEADER:

We are grateful to have worked with **Jazz in the Classroom** founder **Michelle Grybowski**, who passed away earlier this year. Michelle understood the value of forging a lasting partnership with the **Community Foundation** through the creation of additional charitable funds that help ensure the program's future. Her kind heart and steady leadership will be missed.

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

This year, the initiative enabled interactive presentations with students at **Carthage and Thousand Islands Middle and High schools**, which included sessions with student musicians.

The program featured the New York City-based band, The Brighton Beat, whose influences range from modern cutting-edge New York City Jazz to classic New Orleans brass band Funk and Afrobeat. The school program included performance and sessions on brass, strings, and percussion sections.

This year's series capped off with a Saturday evening show Oct. 8 at the **Clayton Opera House**.

Carthage School District instrumental music teacher **Maresa Badour** called the Jazz in the Classroom presentation the “perfect mix of performance and hands-on experience.”



“This is the second time The Brighton Beat has visited our school. Both times have been met with great enthusiasm from our students,” Ms. Badour said.

Ms. Badour added that being able to have partners like the Community Foundation support Jazz in the Classroom means local schools can provide students with an opportunity they would likely not have access to otherwise.

“The arts are such a huge part of our daily lives but their importance

to the development of children is sometimes overlooked. Any organizations that can foster appreciation in the community and support our schools in providing high quality music and other fine arts opportunities to students are extremely important.

It is my hope that what **Michelle Grybowski**, **Sam Wagner**, and others started with Jazz in the Classroom continues for years to come and that our students are able to benefit again from this experience.”

FIRST ELIZABETH MAY DUVALL SCHOLARS

Graduates embrace challenge to 'Live like Liz'

First recipients of Elizabeth May Duvall Scholarship embody the best of late teacher

Two Class of 2022 LaFargeville High School graduates were named the first recipients of a \$2,500 Elizabeth May Duvall Foundation Scholarship during the school's commencement earlier this year.

Amaria Walker, Watertown, began her first year this fall at Jefferson Community College where she studies social services. While a student at LaFargeville, Amaria was a class officer, a peer mentor, and a two-sport varsity athlete, competing in soccer and basketball. She aspires to become a psychologist and eventually run her own practice. She is the granddaughter of **Brian Walker**, Watertown.

Vivian Silva, LaFargeville, began her freshman year at SUNY Oswego this fall where she studies business. While a student at LaFargeville, she was a member of the drama club and a three-sport varsity athlete, competing in soccer, basketball, and softball. She aspires to continue her education in graduate school and hopes to open a sports leadership business. She is the daughter of **Angela Sinkbeil**, LaFargeville.

Members of the **LaFargeville Class of 2020** made a generous gift to support the **Elizabeth May Duvall Foundation** at the Community Foundation to help



Elizabeth M. "Liz"
May Duvall

perpetuate her legacy and award scholarships to LaFargeville graduates.

Liz was a passionate and tireless advocate for all children, particularly those in need.

She dedicated her life in service to others. As a teacher and coach, her students would run to embrace her everywhere she went. Liz was intuitive and compassionate, and many people she helped in her 34 years credit her unwavering encouragement as having saved their lives.

When Liz passed away suddenly in May 2000, the North Country lost a

deeply committed mentor to all who held a seat in her classroom and a place in her heart. Her kindness and compassion for those around her was genuine, and she often saw in others the potential for greatness before they saw it in themselves.

Liz was a lifelong learner and believed education was a door that opened lifelong opportunities. She began her teaching career in the South Jefferson School District and was an elementary school teacher at LaFargeville Central School at the time of her passing.

FIRST ELIZABETH MAY DUVALL SCHOLARS:

From left: Elizabeth May Duvall's mother, **Patricia Esford**, Class of 2022 LaFargeville High School graduates and Elizabeth May Duvall Foundation Scholarship recipients **Amaria Walker** and **Vivian Silva**; Elizabeth's brother, **Gabriel May**, after LaFargeville Central School's commencement ceremony in June.

CLASS OF 2023 EVERGREEN STEM SCHOLARS

The Evergreen STEM Scholarship is awarded to high school juniors who live in St. Lawrence County and plan to study and work in the STEM — science, technology, engineering, and mathematics — fields. The scholarship was established at the **Northern New York Community Foundation** in 2014 by Massena natives and former Gouverneur residents **Charles Owens** and his late wife, **Higouhi**. The couple wanted to inspire high school students to pursue post-secondary studies and careers in STEM. Mr. Owens spent his professional life as a pharmacist and later in senior management at Kinney Drugs. Each year, 10 St. Lawrence County high school students are awarded a \$3,000 scholarship toward their first year in college. Students apply during their junior year of high school with recipients selected during the summer. Mr. Owens and two of his children recently met the **Class of 2023 Evergreen STEM Scholars** during an appreciation and recognition dinner in Canton. The Community Foundation is honored to administer the Evergreen STEM Scholarship.



EVERGREEN STEM SCHOLARS: Back row, from left: **Paul Cheng**, Hugh C. Williams High School, Canton; **Jessica L. Harman**, Ogdensburg Free Academy; **Gracie M. Friot**, Hermon-DeKalb Central School; **Caeleigh N. Burke**, Madrid-Waddington Central School; **Grace Southwick**, Clifton-Fine Central School; **Grace Smith**, Lisbon Central School; **Shane Frances N. Muyano**, Gouverneur Central School. Front row, from left: **Claire H. McFarland**, Potsdam Central School; **Bruce Owens**, Evergreen STEM Scholarship founder, **Charles Owens**; **Sandy Owens Hosier**; **Elizabeth Riutta**, Gouverneur Central School; and **Christopher M. St. Andrews**, Colton-Pierrepont Central School.

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.



Jay Edward Barry

A Watertown native, **Jay Edward Barry** spent his professional life working as an engineer for the Boeing Corporation in the Pacific Northwest. Despite having moved away as a young man, he never forgot his deep roots in Northern New York. Jay graduated from Watertown High School in 1974 and from Clarkson University with a bachelor's in civil engineering in 1978, and a master's in structural engineering in 1979. Throughout his 37 years as an engineer for Boeing, Jay earned a reputation for his integrity, leadership and his engineering expertise. In August 1980, Jay married **Lisa Cook**. The two forged a wonderful life together, raising a daughter, **Sarah**. Jay developed many interests and skills throughout his life and always sought ways to make his community and the world around him better. Jay's greatest legacy is his family. He was happiest engaging his grandchildren in many of his passions. Jay passed away in September after a courageous fight with cancer. We are honored to be part of the special way that Jay's family has

chosen to remember him. The **Jay Edward Barry Memorial Scholarship Fund** was recently established at the Community Foundation to help Watertown High School graduates attend Clarkson University. We join Jay's wife, Lisa, his daughter, Sarah, and family and friends in expressing our deepest sympathy while commemorating his life and legacy with gratitude for the expressions of affection given in his memory.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Jay Edward Barry**

Susan Bartholomew
Kathleen Burgess
Cathy Cerne
Sheila Comerford
Tom & Carolyn Cook
William A. Cook

Steven M. Daub
Roxanne (Ruthie) Griffith Delarge
& Steve Delarge
Max & Sara DelSignore
Ed Duffy
Richard & Constance Griffith
Julie & Gordy Grigg

Stephen J. Kibling
Lisa & Jerry Grandage Link
The Linscott Family
Janet McNamara
Ran & Joann Meade
Claudia & Ron Menard
Kim & Mark Nadel

Andrew & Marianne Nigolian
Ron & Lynn Ossola
Rosemarie & Tom Salsarulo
Peter & Elaine Thurston
James P. Waldron
Thomas U. Walker
The Woodfield Mermaids
of Vero Beach



Richard F. Fabend

A teacher for more than 30 years, **Richard Frederic Fabend** made a lasting imprint on his students and community. Richard was born in Brooklyn and grew up in Nyack, graduating from Nyack High School and later SUNY Cortland. He taught in the Truxton and DeRuyter school districts before he joined the faculty at South Jefferson School District as a special education teacher. Early in his career, he taught history and health and coached varsity basketball. Richard was a mentor and father figure to many of his students, positively impacting countless lives throughout three decades in the classroom. Despite a life changing injury in 1999 that left him in a wheelchair, he continued to enjoy the outdoors and teach, serving as an inspiration to all whose lives he touched. Together with his wife, Margaret, they raised a son and a daughter. He was a devoted family man who cared deeply about his community and strived to set an example for others by never letting his physical challenges limit his potential to inspire his students. After

Richard passed away in June, his family directed memorial gifts in his name to the Community Foundation for a scholarship that was established in his memory. We are honored to be a part of the enduring way Richard will be remembered and we express our deepest sympathies to his wife, Margaret, and his children, as we celebrate his life and legacy.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Richard F. Fabend**

Anonymous
Jill Bach
Carl & Janna Bingle
Amy & Rob Briggs
Jeanne Burnash

The Chamberlain Family
Jill & Tim Cook
Kirk & Karen Denny
Carl & Firth Fabend
Roger & Marilyn Gollinger
Doris Goodnough
Linda Grimes

Carole & John Hoffman
George & Jill Hyde
Carolyn & Dick Kitchen
Teresa M. Marriner &
Planned Results
Lloyd & Martha McCall
John & Jamie Moesel

Linda & Peter Obourn
Marcia O'Neill & Family
Patricia & David Pfeil
South Jefferson Teachers'
Association
Donald Walz
Carole F. Watrel



Gerald J. Reinman

Gerald J. "Gerry" **Reinman** was a staunch advocate for education throughout his lifetime. He grew up on the St. Lawrence River and graduated from Clayton High School in 1954 and Clarkson College in 1958 with a bachelor's degree in engineering. He later moved to the Rochester area where he worked for the Eastman Kodak Company for many years and owned a small business in Honeoye Falls until he retired. Despite settling in Western New York, Gerry maintained close ties to Northern New York his entire life. In 1976, he married **Judith Kuhn**, and the two enjoyed 39 years of marriage before Judith passed away in 2015. He established the **Gerald J. Reinman Class of 1954 and Judith Reinman Scholarship** at the Community Foundation in recognition of the importance of higher education that would be out of reach for some. Gerry valued a strong work ethic, a quality he respected in many of the students he was proud to support. For nearly 10 years, Gerry helped many graduating high school seniors from Clayton and Fishers

Landing pursue their educational goals. He passed away earlier this year at age 85, but wanted to continue to help the community where he grew up for years to come. We are honored to steward Gerry's legacy that will make an enduring difference in the lives of future generations.



Julie A. Gardner

Julie A. Gardner was a positive force in her community who enjoyed serving countless students during her nearly 40 years of work in the Watertown City School District. Born in 1964 in Watertown, Julie attended Watertown High School. She joined the school district staff as a custodian in 1984, proudly working to create a safe environment for others until she retired. Julie enjoyed seeing students succeed in the classroom and the community and became a beloved "aunt" to many children at the school. Above all, she cherished her family and friends. After Julie passed away in August following an unexpected illness, her friends and family responded to honor her life and legacy in the most enduring way. The **Julie A. Gardner Memorial Scholarship** was established at the Community Foundation to support future Watertown High School graduates for years to come. We are honored to be the permanent home of Julie's legacy. Her thoughtfulness and kind affection for Watertown's students and those with whom she worked will be genuinely missed.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Julie A. Gardner**

David & Alicia Bach
Holly E. Booth
Susan & Frederick Buduson
Barbara Cole-Russell &
Edward Russell

Dan & Sandy Cross
Ronald C. & Ann F. Fillhart
Mary Anne Hanley
Beth James
Karen Loftus
Joseph & Marianne Malatino
Carl & Weslie McLaughlin

Maria Mesires
Michael L. O'Neill
Kathleen & Mark Pierce
Kathryn & Steven Puccia
Rande Richardson
Margaret & Ron Roberts
Sheri Russell

Patti Scordo
Ruth Seaman
Ann Marie Simmons
Carole Siver
Catherine & Cabot Stone
Penny Sweredoski



Lewis C. Kibling Jr.

An inspirational coach and teacher, **Lewis C. "Lou" Kibling Jr.** left an indelible mark on countless students through his nearly 35 years in the classroom and on the sidelines. Lou was born in 1934 in Watertown and grew up on the city's North Side where sports were always his prime interest and pursuit. A gifted athlete, he excelled at track, baseball, basketball, and football. Lou graduated from Watertown High School and later earned bachelor's and master's degrees in physical education and health sciences at Cortland State. While at Cortland, Lou met his future wife, Ann Henneman. The two were married in 1955 and soon after, they began teaching and coaching at Lowville Academy. Together with Ann, they raised two sons and two daughters and enjoyed nearly 60 years together before Ann passed in 2014. In 1968, Lou joined the staff at Watertown High and became the boys varsity basketball coach and later took charge of the cross country team. As a coach, he was a tough competitor who lived to win. While

Lou loved teaching and coaching at Watertown and Lowville, he cherished his family. He strived to instill in his children, students, and athletes a love for family, self-discipline, perseverance, courtesy, and respect. To mark his success as a coach, Lou was inducted into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame and The North Country Sports Hall of Fame. The Community Foundation is honored to be the permanent home of the **Margaret "Ann" Kibling Memorial Scholarship**, which honors Ann's life and legacy. We express our sincere condolences to Lou's children, **Steve, Sandy, Sue, and Lew III**, as we honor a life of dedicated service to students and community.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Lewis C. Kibling Jr.**

Rande Richardson



Dr. George W. Forbes

Dr. **George W. Forbes** was a dedicated educator and staunch advocate for many causes and organizations in the Clayton community throughout his lifetime. Born in Englewood, New Jersey, he graduated cum laude in 1949 from Montclair State Teacher's College. He later earned a master's and a Doctor of Education from New York University. George began his decades-long career teaching mathematics and science in New Jersey schools before moving to Farmingdale, Long Island schools, where he served as an assistant superintendent. In Farmingdale, he met **Mary Elizabeth McCollum**, a reading teacher, and the two were married in 1959 and enjoyed 43 years together before Mary passed in 2002. George and Mary moved to Clayton in 1964 following his appointment as district principal for Clayton Central Schools. After a merger created the Thousand Islands Central School District, George served as its superintendent until he retired in 1982. George was enthusiastically involved with activities and achievements of his students, and

he cared deeply about the well-being of each one. Retirement for George meant another 12 years serving in various professional and leadership roles as an educator. From interim superintendent to lecturing as an adjunct education instructor at St. Lawrence University and SUNY Potsdam, and working as a private consultant, he became a highly respected authority on many issues and challenges facing public education in the region. George was a very active leader in his River community, serving on the boards of many nonprofit and civic organizations. George was a citizen of the world, a friend to all he met, a trusted advisor and counselor, with an abiding love for his family and community he so loved. It is fitting that when he passed away in September, his family chose to honor his life and legacy by directing memorial tributes in his name to the **Mary M. and George W. Forbes Thousand Islands Central School Scholarship Fund of the Thousand Islands Foundation**, a permanent Community Foundation affiliate. We are grateful for having known George and thank all who made meaningful gifts of affection in his memory.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Dr. George W. Forbes**

The Bannister Family
Nancy Boynton
Melinda & John Comstock
Max & Sara DelSignore

Steven R. & Carol T. DeMay
Mark & Donna Dutton
R. Dennis & Joanne E. Faulkham
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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**.

Honor a loved one at the Foundation

PERPETUATE THEIR STORY, FOR GOOD:

A named fund at the Community Foundation honoring someone special is one of the many permanent ways donors can act to remember life legacies. Contact **Max DelSignore**, assistant director, at max@nnycf.org or **315-782-7110**, to learn more.



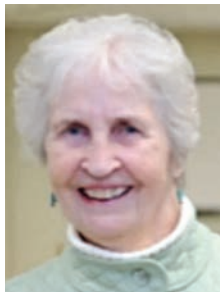
Anita M. Tucker

Anita M. Tucker cherished her family and friends and gave her time and talent to serving her community as a longtime member of the Dexter Volunteer Fire Department. She was born in 1946 and graduated from Watertown High School in 1964. She married **Craig W. Tucker** in 1971, and together, they raised three daughters. She worked for many years at JC Penney before joining cafeteria staff at General Brown High School, where she remained until her retirement in 2013. As a member of the fire service, Anita enjoyed caring for her community when neighbors needed help the most. Anita was most at home spending time with her children and grandchildren at her family cottage in Three Mile Bay. When she passed away in August, her family

chose to remember her through memorial gifts to the **William K. Archer Irish Festival Scholarship Fund** of the Community Foundation. We join Anita's husband, Craig, her daughters, **Sarah, Emily, and Martha**, and her extended family and friends in mourning her loss and celebrating her life and legacy of kindness and service to others.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Anita M. Tucker

William & Beth Maguire
Gail M. McIntyre



Margaret P. Vining

A respected leader in the nursing profession for more than 40 years, **Margaret P. "Maggie" Vining** dedicated her life to the care of others. For more than 30 years, she was a mentor to hundreds of young health care professionals on their educational journeys at SUNY Canton where she led the nursing program. Maggie was born in 1934 in Easton, Pa., and graduated from Watertown High School in 1952. She earned a nursing diploma from the House of the Good Samaritan in 1955. Maggie married **William Carey Southwell Vining** in December 1955. Together, they raised two sons and two daughters and enjoyed 45 years of marriage before Bill passed away in 2000. Maggie was a lifelong learner who valued education. She spent her early years as a staff nurse at Watertown's House of the Good Samaritan and Canton's

E.J. Noble Hospital before becoming an instructor in 1968 at SUNY Canton. In 1996, she retired as Associate Dean of the School of Health and Medical Technology, having inspired many young health professionals. A longtime Hermon resident, Maggie was extensively involved in her community, serving on many boards, and supporting a wide range of local charities and organizations, including the **Community Foundation**. We are grateful for having known her and express our deepest sympathy to her children, **Timothy, Daniel, Julie, and Carrie**, as we honor her life and legacy of compassion and kindness for all who were in her care.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Margaret P. Vining

Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson



Susan Fuller Woodward

Susan Fuller Woodward was an exceptional woman whose strength of character helped her guide her family as they moved 30 times in 35 years, keeping pace with the demands of military life. Susan was born in 1946 in Burlington, Vt., and moved as a child to Watertown, graduating from Watertown High School. She married **Jack Woodward** in 1967. Together, they raised a son and a daughter and enjoyed 55 years of love. Susan was proudly dedicated to her family and her kindness made everyone feel welcomed. As a military spouse, she supported the home front and was an active civic leader, volunteering for and supporting a wide range of causes and organizations, including the **Community Foundation**. After Jack retired following 35 years in the Air Force, they settled on Wellesley Island where their final home

together was perched on the beautiful St. Lawrence River in The Thousand Islands. We are saddened by her sudden passing in September and express our sincerest sympathies to her husband, Jack, and children, **Rob and Erin**, as we honor her legacy and a life well lived.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Susan Fuller Woodward

Rande Richardson



Steve Arthur Boggs

Steve Arthur Boggs was a gentle soul whose kindness and generosity made him long-lasting friends. Steve joined his adoptive family of **Alex and Jeanne Velto** and their son, **Bill**, in 1969 at age 6, as a foster child, in Chicago. The family moved to Watertown in 1972 and they adopted Steve at age 12. Steve graduated from Watertown High School in 1982. Steve was fiercely independent, and never let an obstacle he faced keep him from living a full life. He was blessed to have had caring and mutually supportive friends who always offered their help, friendship, and support. After he passed away in June, Steve's family chose to honor his life by

directing memorial gifts to the **Alex Velto Community Fund** at the Community Foundation. Gifts will be directed to those in greatest need. We express our heartfelt condolences as we honor Steve's life and perpetuate his legacy of kindness toward others.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Steve Arthur Boggs

Jeanne Emery
Jill H. Johnson
Carolyn Marlowe
Rande Richardson
Emily & Phil Sprague
Sherry M. Wilson

Recent Tribute Gifts

Includes only gifts made to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Fund from July 16, 2022 to Oct. 31, 2022 or for those who have just recently passed.

In Memory of Given by

Elizabeth H. "Betty" Boulter

Robert Caswell
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

Daniel A. Buduson

Sylvia J. Buduson

John P. Burns

Margaret J. Cook

William W. "Sandy" Conde III

David & Karen Walton

Robert Derouin

Friends at the Black River Valley
Horse Association (BRVHA)

Michael J. DeVoe

Max & Sara DelSignore

Joseph J. DiGregorio

Rande Richardson

Patricia A. Esposito

Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

Ruth M. Fish

Michael & Margaret Alteri
Donald & Geraldine Fager

Robert Gormley

Joyce & David Crossley

Glenn H. Gough

T. Urling Walker

Diane E. Gow

Andrea M. Patten

Michelle G. Grybowski

Bonnie Baron
Richard L. Halpin

Robert V. Harper

Rande Richardson

Michael J. "Hayser" Hayes

Michele & Tim Jeican

Urban C. Hirschey

Dr. Kurt & Kim Gormley

Sandra Sargent Holcombe

Erin & Dick Greene

Tina Partridge Hyneman

Michele & Tim Jeican

Barbara Ann Kirk

Antoinette J. Ellinger

Mary Ellen Knight

Max & Sara DelSignore

Chiara J. Krafft

Rande Richardson

Nancy "Nan" Adeline Lyttle

Margaret J. Cook

John MacAleese

Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Mary MacAleese

Kenneth J. Eysaman III

John "Jack" Ward Machold

Bill Shuman & Betsy Meyerdericks

Rose McEvoy

Rande Richardson

Alfred T. Netto

Rande Richardson

Dr. C. Arthur Pearson

Jeff & Sheri Huenniger & Family
Carolyn A. Smith
T. Urling Walker

Theodore A. "Ted" Peterson

Rande Richardson
WHS 2022 Reunion Committee

Judy Carroll

Bob Coppola

Linda Flanagan

Cindy Frederick

Becky Freeland

Fred Gerloff

Dave Johnson

Deb Morrell

Marty Murray

Judy S. Rockwood

Rande Richardson

Sally Ann Romano

Rande Richardson

Barbara Rose

Joyce & David Crossley

William L. Salisbury

Erin & Dick Greene

Roy J. Sauter

Max & Sara DelSignore
William & Beth Maguire
Rande Richardson

Bea Schermerhorn

Clarence F. Giles Jr.

Charles R. Sharlow

Margaret J. Cook

Gerald A. Smith

Rande Richardson

Karen E. Soule

Friends at the Black River Valley
Horse Association (BRVHA)

Linda Stinson

Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Friendly Service, NCZ

Gerald A. Storey

Michael & Terri Belden

Susan Townsend

Friends at the Black River Valley
Horse Association (BRVHA)

Laverne R. VanDeWall, Jr.

Rande Richardson

Sarah Van de Water

Karen Crowley
Elizabeth B. Van de Water
T. Urling Walker
Patricia Wells

Evelyn A. Virkler

Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Rande Richardson

Peter B. Washer

William & Kimberly Couch
William & Beth Maguire

Donald W. Whitney

Friends at the Black River Valley
Horse Association (BRVHA)

Steven R. Wilson

Max & Sara DelSignore
Gail Joyner & James E.
Frazier Jr.
Rande Richardson

In Honor of Given by

Birth of Sonny Soluri Cavallario & Ruth Patricia Cavallario

Max & Sara DelSignore
Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Rande Richardson

Constance A. "Connie" Elliott's 85th Birthday

Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Birth of June Lucille Harrington

Rande Richardson

Debby Hirschey's Birthday

Rande Richardson

John Shaw McNeely's Birthday

Rande Richardson

Birth of Brooks Thomas Penn

Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Marriage of Noah Perrine & Gina Meola

Rande Richardson

Marriage of Taylour Lynn Scanlin & Ricky Leone

Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Allyson Elisabeth Stone's 30th Birthday

Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Kay Woodruff

Rande Richardson

In our next issue ...

■ Our spring 2023 issue of *Thoughtful Giving* will feature stories and memorial tributes about the lives and legacies of several Community Foundation supporters who recently passed including:

Nora N. Bajjaly
Lynda M. Carney
Daphne Henri-Foley
Ralph & Joan LaClair
James O. LaPlante
Barbara N. Phillips
Gabriel A. Renzi
Doris E. Rushlo
Laverne R. VanDeWall, Jr.
June H. Watkins

EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT from page 3

August. Growing up in that environment taught me the value of helping others and just how much impact one person can have in their community.

What would you tell high school students who are now considering college and career options? I highly recommend looking into trade schools and technology degrees. My degree at Canton is mechanical engineering technologies, which ensures I can talk the talk and walk the walk. Not only can I design something and have all the calculations to back up its functionality, but I can also build it using processes such as CNC machining, welding, and additive manufacturing (3D printing). This makes someone

with my degree very versatile in the world of manufacturing as I have the background to fill many positions. The trades are also a very important avenue that did not get enough credit when I was in high school. As we have seen with the supply chain issues throughout the COVID pandemic, the U.S. needs more production stateside. Trades are a great way to build experience and be part of a community with a large knowledge base. It is imperative that the knowledge that has taken generations to obtain is passed on before it dies out.

How can we best lead younger generations to be involved in their communities? I think the most effective way to encourage future gener-

ations is to inspire and generate pride. This should start at the school level with inclusive sports teams and positive extracurricular activities. Clubs should be implemented to provide further knowledge on trades and other practical topics not covered in school. This would involve another crew of people who may not enjoy sports but may enjoy things such as shop classes (both metal and wood), cooking classes, or sewing to name a few. This also creates a more self-sufficient community and increases involvement. One other avenue that could gain interest is clubs or events regarding video games as that would again appeal to other crowds of young people within the community.

YOUR GIFTS BUILD ENDURING PARTNERSHIPS



The 2022-23 class of **Northern New York Community Foundation Jefferson-Can Community Scholars**, pictured with **Stephen and Pamela Can**, in September.

Local investment pays long-term dividends

For 15 years, a unique partnership has brought together three investors to support local students attending college locally. Since 2007, the **Jefferson-Can Community Scholars Program** has provided scholarships for the first year of study at **Jefferson Community College** for students from **Jefferson or Lewis counties** who graduate in the **top 15 percent of their high school class**. Since that time, more than 750 students have essentially attended their freshman year at little or no expense, for a collective investment of nearly \$1.6 million.

While the work is manifested through the dollars, the collaboration represents so much more. A program of the **Northern New York Community Foundation**, in partnership with the **Jefferson Community College Foundation**, would not be possible without the long-standing support of North Country native **Stephen H. Can** and his wife, **Pamela**. Referred to by colleagues as “one of the private equity industry’s original pioneers,” Mr. Can is no stranger to making smart investments. Recently retired from a career in finance as senior managing director, executive chairman and founder of Strategic Partners, he knows a good thing when he sees it. With \$66 billion under management, Blackstone’s Strategic Partners is a market leader in secondary private equity, real estate and infrastructure fund investing.

Having worked closely with Stephen over the past decade, I know that he sees the potential rate of return through students of this area as one of his most meaningful investments; certainly one of the most personal.

“I wouldn’t have the opportunities in my life now if it weren’t for the help I received, and I’m passionate about giving back. You can’t take it with you and it’s nice to see good

things happen during your lifetime,” Mr. Can said. “I love the idea of young, smart people having the opportunity to go to college and finish their first year with no debt.”

In September, like he has every fall (except during the pandemic), he traveled to Watertown with his wife, Pamela, to meet the students whose lives he is helping shape. For the Cans, it is so much more than a scholarship. It is a chance to share a story of starting local, overcoming challenges and perseverance. His consistent message of hard work, effort, time management, focus

in the people and places of our region. And, like Stephen and Pamela Can, they provide much more than financial support. At the Community Foundation, we are blessed to be able to witness firsthand the importance and value of the relationship between the giver and receiver. Education, and the support of education, is at its best in that form.

Retired English professor, academic dean and immediate past chair of the Northern New York Community Foundation, **Kate Fenlon** knows this well. In remarks made at a past Jefferson-Can Community Scholars

“I wouldn’t have the opportunities I have now if it weren’t for the help I received, and I am passionate about giving back. I love the idea of young, smart people having the opportunity to go to college and finish their first year with no debt.”

– Jefferson-Can Community Scholars Program founder Stephen H. Can

and discipline is weaved with life advice regarding the importance of the human connection, networking and building relationships. There is nothing quite like meeting the human beings you are helping, and it is a two-way street. Knowing the person who is making an investment in your future creates a different dimension and often a higher sense of gratitude and responsibility two of the community foundation’s core values.

The 30 scholarships awarded this year through the program, complement nearly 600 other scholarships the community foundation is honored to steward on behalf of individuals, families, organizations, businesses and public school districts, totaling \$1.25 million this year. Just as is the case with area nonprofit organizations, donors help provide a higher level of investment

reception, she shared, “When you are standing on the very peak of what you know, it’s good to remember there’s probably a whole sea of things around you yet to discover. It’s good to remember that learning doesn’t end with what we know. It only begins there.”

She is right, just as she was 30 years before, when Stephen Can was a student in her class. We are grateful for the leadership shown by the Cans and so many others like them. These investments benefit our community and our world. Never doubt that an investment in others, of whatever shape or size, creates a wave of returns that reaches further than you’ll realize for the lives of others, and yours.

Note: This column, by Northern New York Community Foundation Executive Director Rande Richardson, originally appeared in NNY Business magazine. It is reprinted here with permission.

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 during my lifetime, and then the remainder can support my charitable interests or a specific Foundation fund after my death?
- Can I name the Community Foundation as a **beneficiary of an IRA or life insurance policy** either to support the Community Foundation or a specific fund within the Foundation?
- Am I able to start a fund at the Community Foundation to support my interests now and then endow it later as part of my estate planning?
- Can I start a fund to **support my church**, providing stipulations on how it is to be directed (i.e., music ministry, buildings & grounds, education) and also have assurance that if the church should ever cease to exist, my charitable provisions can be re-purposed for another designated interest or charitable cause?
- Can I create a **scholarship fund for a specific school district or college**, with certain criteria, or support some other aspect of my school or college (music, arts, athletics, library, reading, professional development)?
- If I own a business, can I give more effectively, efficiently and in a more formal and structured way, with enhanced visibility, coordination, branding and impact?
- Can I make a gift of appreciated stock to start a donor-advised fund, avoid capital gains, receive a tax deduction and then make grants to charitable causes I recommend over time?

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

The answer to each of these questions is YES!

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

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

Take advantage of current charitable tax laws that allow deductions as well as avoidance of taxation of capital gains. Also, donors age 70½ and older, 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).

YOUR GIFTS BROADEN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

North Side Legacy lives on for local students

Four graduates with strong family ties to former civic league share \$2,000 in support

A LEGACY FOR THE NORTH SIDE:

From left: North Side Legacy Fund Advisory Committee member **Terry Williams**; Advisory Committee member and past League president **William "Bill" Parody**; North Side Legacy Scholarship recipient **Victoria Ledoux**, Immaculate Heart Central graduate; scholarship recipient **Martin J. Hutchins**, Immaculate Heart Central graduate; scholarship recipient **Hannah M. Reichard**, Cicero/North Syracuse High School graduate; and Advisory Committee member Terri Mallette. Absent from photo: scholarship recipient **Loise A. Pador**, Watertown High School graduate.

The North Side Legacy Fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation recently presented four members of the Class of 2022 with scholarships totaling \$2,000 to support their post-secondary educational pursuits.

The North Side Legacy Fund was established in 2019 as a permanent fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation to forever honor and perpetuate the history and heritage of the North Side Improvement League.

Graduating high school seniors who live in the City of Watertown as well as students from other areas who have family ties to the League are encouraged to apply.

Scholarship recipients enrolled in a post-secondary educational program for the first time this fall. Each student received a one-year award of \$500 and were selected based on combined test scores, cumulative high school GPA, rank in class, personal data, essay scores, and applicant appraisals.

Class of 2022 North Side Legacy Scholarship recipients are:

■ **Victoria Ledoux**, Immaculate Heart Central, The Frederick Gunn School, Washington, Conn., undecided; daughter of **Tricia** and **Michael Ledoux**, Watertown. Victoria's great-grandmother, the late **Helen Irene Spicer**, and her family were actively involved in the League.

■ **Hannah M. Reichard**, Cicero/



North Syracuse High School, University at Buffalo, speech and hearing science; daughter of **Jodi** and **David Reichard**, Cicero. Hannah's grandfather, the late **Richard J. Castagnier** was an active member of the League.

■ **Martin Joseph Hutchins**, Immaculate Heart Central, SUNY Canton, eSports management; son of **Julie M. Hutchins**, Watertown. Martin's maternal grandfather, **John J. Trombly, Sr.**, was a member of the League for many years.

■ **Loise Allen Pador**, Watertown High School, University at Buffalo, psychology; daughter of **Luzviminda** and **Allan Pador**, Watertown. Loise grew up on Watertown's North Side where her family still resides.

Since it was established, 16 stu-

dents with family ties to Watertown's north side and the former North Side Improvement League have been awarded educational support totaling \$7,500.

The North Side Legacy Fund also supports nonprofit organizations that serve Watertown residents.

The North Side Improvement League's rich history and legacy of civic involvement and community betterment that spanned more than a century continues through the North Side Legacy Fund.

Members of the North Side Legacy Fund Advisory Committee include: **Sylvia Buduson**, **Allison Crossman**, **Michael Dupee**, **Jacob Johnson**, **Laurie Koelmel**, **Terri Mallette**, **Bill** and **Pat Parody**, and **Terry Williams**.

Is the North Side part of your story?

To help build the North Side Legacy Fund, send gifts to the Northern New York Community Foundation, ATTN: North Side Legacy Fund, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601, or through secure online giving at nnycf.org.

WATERTOWN SAVINGS BANK CUP SCHOLARS



Watertown High School graduates **Cain Roberts** and **Tatum Overton** are the 2022 recipients of the **Watertown Savings Bank Cup Scholarship**. Cain attends **SUNY Cortland** where he studies physical education and competes on the wrestling team. Cain is the son of **Mike Roberts**, Watertown. Tatum attends Nazareth College, Rochester, where she studies political science. Tatum is the daughter of **Leslie** and **Travis Overton**, Watertown. She aspires to work in politics or a related field in the North Country. Awarded annually to two graduating seniors, the Watertown Savings Bank Cup Scholarship of the Northern New York Community Foundation is a \$1,000 award to help students pursue their post-secondary educational goals. We are honored to grow our partnership with the bank to help support its meaningful investment in education that has helped dozens of local students realize their dreams. Thanks to the generosity of local businesses like Watertown Savings Bank, partnerships like this help strengthen opportunities for North Country students.

FIRST CHESTER F. "CHET" GRAY SCHOLARS



Ashley G. Rose, above left, and Aidan M. Mills, below left, are the first recipients of the Northern New York Community Foundation Chester F. "Chet" Gray Scholarship.

Ashley is a 2022 **LaFargeville High School** graduate who is now in her first year at **Jefferson Community College**. She plans to continue her undergraduate studies at **SUNY Potsdam** to study adolescence education, with an emphasis on social studies and history. She aspires to become a middle or high school social studies teacher and hopes to teach in a Jefferson County school district. During high school, she also completed the auto body repair course at Jeff-Lewis BOCES, an experience she described as "truly wonderful, from having an excellent teacher, to working with amazing classmates." She is the daughter of **Rebecca and Kevin Rose**, Clayton.

Aidan is a 2021 **Watertown High School** graduate who began his sophomore year this fall at **SUNY Albany** where he studies human biology. Aidan plans to continue his education in medical school after he earns a bachelor's degree. He aspires to become a radiologist. He is the son of **Kristyna and James "Jim" Mills**, Watertown. Aidan and Ashley met Chet Gray's wife, **Nancy**, who presented each of them with a \$500 scholarship.

Chet Gray was deeply devoted to family, community, and country, volunteering to serve upon graduation from high school in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II as part of the Greatest Generation. After his Army service, Chet graduated from Ithaca College and enjoyed a successful career in education as a teacher and elementary, junior high, and high school principal, before moving to central administration primarily in New York's Hudson Valley region. Upon retirement from education, Chet and Nancy moved to Watertown and purchased the Watertown Tennis Club in 1979. Chet always sought ways to strengthen his community through a life of service to causes that were meaningful and special to him.



As we begin the 2022 holiday season, we are especially mindful of how donors like YOU make our work possible through your generous leadership, vision and friendship!

Because of your thoughtfulness, over the past several years the Community Foundation has been able to expand its reach and strengthen its impact across Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties as a force that inspires people of all ages to consider making philanthropy a fulfilling part of their lives. Your support helps our region rally to increase capacity for its many nonprofit organizations, extending the value of **ALL** of your charitable contributions in the area. We appreciate the many ways your partnership and belief in our work enables us to continue our mission across Northern New York.

Thanks to you, we can continue programs that help instill values of civic engagement, leadership, and responsibility with students and youths. Together, we engage young professionals in ways that perpetuate the type of commitment that the last 93 years of Community Foundation donors like **YOU** have demonstrated. Our home at the Northern New York Philanthropy Center is a place where nonprofits can collaboratively work to ensure greater sustainability and impact for our region.

Your decision to support the Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund is one of the most meaningful ways you can help nurture our collective work each year. Your gifts touch your community in broad and deep ways, and enhance essential community services and quality of life. Your conscious choice to change and shape lives, in partnership with us, is something we appreciate, value, and never take for granted. You are the very foundation of our work.

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 93rd year of working with donors like **YOU** to build a more vibrant and caring 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*



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.

The program is now in its sixth year, 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 five years, 102 students and an entire class have presented 99 grants totaling \$50,000 to 82 different nonprofit organizations that serve tri-county residents.

The Giving Challenge is one of the most important initiatives donors like YOU make possible. Program support builds the future of our communities 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 AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY: From left: **Rachel Lisk**, fair manager; **Cullen Miller**, Lowville Academy and Central School and 2021-2022 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner; and **Tammie S. Lambert**, Community Bank Lowville branch manager.

LEWIS COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY: From left: **Amber Zehr**, shelter manager; Cheryl Steiner, board president; **Stella Burke**, Lowville Academy and Central School and 2021-2022 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner; and **Tammie S. Lambert**, Community Bank Lowville branch manager.



"In my heart, community means having kind friends, helping lost animals find a home, and building memories with one another on life's journey. The Humane Society is very community focused. It is great at helping people find happiness, a new friend, and joy!"

— Stella Burke, Lowville Academy and Central School

The 2022-2023 **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**, a leadership gift from an anonymous donor, and generous support from the following business leader:


**Community
Bank**
2018-2023 Program Partner