



Thoughtful Giving

Newsletter of the Northern New York Community Foundation



» YOUR GIFTS PROVIDE ESSENTIAL NEEDS

Foundation donors have broad impact across the region

Harrison Stark helps Cape Vincent Community Garden volunteer **Mary Ann Reid** plant vegetables earlier this year. A Community Foundation Micro-Grant provided funding for the garden this year. **More on page 17**

Kara Dry Photography /
For Thoughtful Giving



LOCATED WITHIN THE NORTHERN
NEW YORK PHILANTHROPY CENTER

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An enduring legacy for the River ... and beyond

The C. Arthur and Judith Frank Pearson Fund

For Art and Judy Pearson, spending time with their family in the Thousand Islands and along the St. Lawrence River brought them great joy.

Their summer home in **Cape Vincent** was the place where many cherished memories were made. During their lifetimes, they believed strongly in supporting local charitable causes that held special meaning to them.

Art and Judy had the vision that those endeavors would be supported after they were no longer able to do so personally. They explored the best way to achieve that. Through their discussions and planning with the **Northern New York Community Foundation**, a permanent fund was created that will forever annually support specific area organizations in their names.

Additionally, the Pearsons adopted a mod-

el that provides flexibility for their children to also award grants to support River-area and local programs, projects, and initiatives that arise in the future. They also can choose their own charitable interests within the communities they live, and beyond.

Through this generous and thoughtful way, the Pearsons help ensure the things that mattered most to them are sustained, while providing a regional and multi-generational approach that will make a difference for years to come.

We are grateful to be entrusted with the stewardship of this enduring legacy, reminding others of the guiding principles and values that Art and Judy held dear. Their example is inspirational and is a lasting gift to the River and the people and places of Northern New York.

This fund is one of several that Community Foundation donors have created to forever support their favorite charitable organizations and communities, including Cape Vincent, Clayton, and Alexandria Bay.

EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT: JOSHUA SHANNON, WATERTOWN



Foundation scholar: Don't be afraid to explore nontraditional paths to find your way to success

Joshua Shannon graduated in 2014 from **Watertown High School**. Joshua was the first recipient of the Community Foundation's **Frank Sacci Instrumental Music Scholarship**. After graduation, he pursued music studies at **Roberts Wesleyan University** in Rochester. A job in the communications field took him to California for a time before he returned to Northern New York and began working as a kitchen and bath designer. He recently completed professional certification at **Cornell University** as a programmer and is preparing to start a new career in **data analytics**. Recently, he made a gift to support the scholarship he once benefited from. We caught up with Joshua and asked about his experience and the importance of giving back to his community.

What experiences in your community have helped develop your character and made you who you are today? The **Watertown City Schools** music program truly prepared me most to face challenges in education, in business, and life. Under the leadership of thoughtful

JOSHUA SHANNON

AGE: 28

HOMETOWN: Watertown; lives in LaFargeville

EDUCATION: **Watertown High School**, 2014; **Roberts Wesleyan University**, Rochester, music studies; **Cornell University**, Python programming and data analytics, 2024

FAMILY: Parents, **Dawn** and **James Shannon**; Brothers, **Michael**, **Nicholas**, and **Nathan**

CAREER: Data science and analytics; Previous: Interior design, multimedia and communications.

COMMUNITY: Communications chair, **NKBA Central New York Chapter** (2020-21); **HarmonyNY**; **Trinity Concert Series**; **The Syracuse Orchestra**; and **Community Foundation** supporter.

PERSONAL: Hiking/mountaineering, music composition, event planning, and international travel.

and inspiring educators, I developed creative decision making and improvisation skills that enabled me to thrive in the workforce. In school, I attended student conferences through NYSSMA, and participated in the Honors Performance Series

at Carnegie Hall. Thanks to experiences like these, I have been able to confidently navigate changing career paths throughout my 20s, as well as attend, plan, and speak at events including national business conferences like the Kitchen and Bath Industry Show. I cannot overstate the value of having had a background in music education, and the opportunity to grow in a learning environment made possible by caring teachers and community support for the arts.

How did you learn about the Community Foundation and its many scholarship opportunities? **Andrea Wischerath**, director of the Instrumental Music program at Watertown High School, helped establish and raise public awareness of the Frank Sacci Music Scholarship. She and **Julie Houghmaster**, my high school guidance counselor, encouraged me to apply for scholarship opportunities through the Community Foundation.

See **EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT** on page 33

FOUNDATION SCHOLAR AT WORK: **Joshua Shannon**, **Watertown High School** Class of 2014, was the first recipient of the **Northern New York Community Foundation Frank Sacci Instrumental Music Scholarship**. A LaFargeville resident, Joshua recently decided to give back and help future scholarship recipients with a generous gift to the scholarship fund that supported him in 2014. He is pictured in Watertown's historic **Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library**.

Kara Dry Photography / For Thoughtful Giving

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**.

YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL: YOUR GIFTS DEVELOP FUTURE LEADERS

YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL GRANTS

The Youth Philanthropy Council of the Northern New York Community Foundation made the following grant awards to local nonprofits during its 2023-24 program year:

Wilderness HealthCare Foundation, \$6,000 to support Clifton-Fine Hospital's "Emergency Care Close to Home" capital campaign for the construction of a 9,300-square-foot addition to its emergency department. Grant funding will be used to purchase essential equipment for a new emergency room and trauma care space.

HarmoNNY Performing Arts Community, \$5,000 to help purchase a projector to screen films, enhance performances with visual aids, and facilitate presentations and expand the versatility for theater groups and other arts organizations at a new performing arts space opening in Watertown's historic Strand Theatre.

Potsdam Snack Pack Program, \$3,500 to help relocate storage and packing operations from New Hope Community Church to Lawrence Elementary in Potsdam. Funding will help acquire new equipment, shelving, bins, a refrigerator, a freezer, and a volunteer station.

Jefferson County Toys for Tots, \$2,500 to support local efforts for this year's U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program, ensuring that every child has a gift to open on Christmas, regardless of their family's financial needs.

Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs, \$2,000 to help purchase new safety equipment and provide needs-based scholarships for local youth to encourage participation in essential classes that teach Jefferson County residents drown-proofing and other critical swimming skills.

St. Lawrence County People Project, \$1,000 to purchase materials for a mental health awareness and education program, which introduces age-appropriate mental health and wellness concepts to St. Lawrence County K-12 students. Grant funding will support mindfulness tools, and program books for students.



2023-2024 YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL: Front row, from left: **Hannah Eldridge**, Watertown High junior; **McKenna Lee**, General Brown Junior/Senior High senior; **Anastaja Smith**, Watertown junior; **Mia Kelly**, Watertown junior; **Maya Voss**, Watertown senior; and **Rosamond Hunt**, Lyme High School junior. Middle row, from left: **Colden Marks**, General Brown junior; **Olivia Wisner**, General Brown senior; **Jack Mangan**, South Jefferson High senior; **Sienna Virga**, Watertown junior; **Finley Swartz**, Watertown junior; and **Olivia Urf**, Watertown senior. Back row, from left: **Bennett Pistner**, Watertown junior; **Justin Draught**, Watertown junior; **Vincent Knapp**, Watertown junior; **Harper Lane**, Watertown junior; and **Ella Smith**, Watertown High junior.

The Youth Philanthropy Council of the Northern New York Community Foundation's Class of 2023-2024 recently awarded \$20,000 in grants to six North Country nonprofit organizations that will support a wide range of community programs and projects.

The Council reviews requests annually from tri-county nonprofits to fund projects or initiatives that positively impact the quality of life in Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties. In addition to researching and recommending grants, Council members visit nonprofit organizations and learn about grant stewardship, community investment, leadership, governance, and nonprofit sustainability.

The Council received 25 funding proposals for this program year with seven agencies invited to present requests to the full Council.

Council Chair **Olivia Urf**, a second-year member and 2024 Watertown High School graduate, said the Council "had many deserving applications this year."

"Through an intricate and careful

selection process, the Council assessed which organizations would benefit our community most effectively with funding from the Youth Philanthropy Council," Ms. Urf said. "I am proud of the work this Council has done to maximize its impact upon our community."

Council Grants Committee Chair **Ella Smith**, a second-year member and rising senior at Watertown High School, said she and her peers "selected six organizations with the most confidence that each project will have a lasting impact and meet the needs in the communities they serve."

In addition, Council members this year awarded grant support to five regional nonprofits to strengthen their respective work and missions. **Children's Home of Jefferson County (CHJC)**, Watertown; **Double Play Sports Community Center**, Lowville; **Food Bank of Central New York**, Syracuse; **Jefferson Community College Center for Community Studies**, Watertown; and **St. Lawrence Land Trust**, Canton each received \$1,000.

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

Timerman Family Fund
Mart Liinve Family Charitable Fund

THE YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL EXPERIENCE



McKenna Lee
General Brown High School



Jack Mangan
South Jefferson High School



Olivia Urf
Watertown High School

Graduates share lessons from service

McKenna Lee

How has your tenure on the Youth Philanthropy Council helped you develop as a leader and collaborator? YPC requires members to advocate for their

opinions and helps with how to communicate those to others, which I have learned through our many meetings and discussions. I have been outvoted, convinced other members to support an organization, and overall learned to be a better collaborator. As a leader, YPC has given me the opportunity to run my own subcommittee meetings, which has taught me management and delegation to be a better leader.

How has YPC fostered connections and relationships within your community? My YPC experience has given me friendships that span across schools that I would have not

McKenna Lee
Years service: 2
YPC leadership: Service Committee Chair (senior year)
School: General Brown
Extracurricular activities: Class valedictorian; National Honor Society; Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA), Class treasurer, Math League, Key and International clubs; and varsity soccer
Parents: Jamie & Ryan Lee
College: St. Lawrence University
Major: International economics-Spanish combined major
Career goal: Work for the United Nations or in the nonprofit field.

crossed paths with otherwise. I have also met many adults and nonprofit directors who have given me new insights and a place to direct my philanthropy. I have so many new connections throughout my time on YPC that I deeply value.

How do you envision applying the lessons learned from YPC in your future endeavors?

From my time on YPC, I have gained and learned many new skills, all that will be beneficial to my professional path. I have learned more of the inner workings of nonprofits, the importance of networking and valuable professional skills. These lessons are crucial to how I will handle myself as an adult.

What surprised you the most as you learned more deeply about the needs of our region? I was surprised that everything is more

Jack Mangan
Years service: 3
YPC leadership: Immediate Past Chair (senior year); Grants Committee (senior year); Council Chair (junior year); Service Committee (sophomore & junior years)
School: South Jefferson
Extracurricular activities: Class valedictorian; National Honor Society; varsity wrestling, track & field, skiing, various bands, piano
Parents: Kate & Rich Mangan
College: University of Minnesota — Twin Cities
Major: Chemical engineering
Career goal: Succeed entrepreneurially following my time as an engineer.

connected than I previously thought. One issue relates or is a cause of a bigger issue and one solution thought of by an organization could help a different organization solve their challenges. There will always be needs, but I have learned collaboration is the best solution to help alleviate needs.

Jack Mangan

How do you plan to stay engaged with philanthropy and community service beyond your time on the Council?

While in college, I'd like to pursue more volunteer opportunities since I'll be in an urban area with lots of need. In the future, I hope to serve in a similar role as I am now, such as on a community foundation board.

What role can youth play in philanthropy and community leadership? The most significant

Olivia Urf
Years service: 2
YPC leadership: Service Committee (junior year); Council Chair & Grants Committee (senior year)
School: Watertown
Extracurricular activities: Class valedictorian; National Honor Society (president); WHS Select Choir; WHS Wind Ensemble; WHS Musical; Stage Notes; varsity swimming, volleyball & lacrosse
Parents: Laticia & Edwin Urf
College: Stony Brook University
Major: Biology — Scholars for Dental Medicine Program
Career goal: Pediatric dentist



YPC mission and vision

■ The Community Foundation's **Youth Philanthropy Council** was chartered in 2010 to promote positive youth leadership development and engage young people in meaningful activities that build their skills while educating them about community philanthropy and its impact on **Northern New York**. Council members grow to become critical thinkers and problem solvers as they engage in lessons that may never be taught in a traditional classroom.

See YPC SERVICE on page 6

THE YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL EXPERIENCE

YPC — Did you know?

■ Since 2010, the Foundation's Youth Philanthropy Council has awarded **145** grants totaling **\$255,070** in support to nonprofit organizations that serve tri-county residents, and nearly **160** students from **seven different North Country high schools** have served as Council members.



Maya Voss
Watertown High School



Olivia Wisner
General Brown High School

YPC SERVICE from page 5

benefit to engaging youth in philanthropy is ensuring that some will continue to pursue it in the future. Seeing youth involved in community leadership can also inspire older generations to remain committed to improving the world around them.

How do you envision applying the lessons learned from YPC in your future endeavors?

My time on the Youth Philanthropy Council will be perpetually relevant in the future—I've grown significantly as a team member, communicator and leader, gained confidence and ambition, and have become passionate for a form of philanthropy I was previously unfamiliar with.

The YPC experience helps position students to continue their civic and community service. Would you consider board service? If so, what

type of nonprofit and why? I would absolutely serve on a nonprofit board and hope to do so in the future. Serving with a community foundation like our own would be perfect, but I'd also like to work with an organization focused on providing opportunities to underprivileged children.

Olivia Urf

How has your tenure on the Youth Philanthropy Council helped you develop as a leader and collaborator?

It has allowed me to become a confident, effective leader. I have learned that the best leaders have a strong, reliable team of people to help them succeed. All the YPC advisors and fellow council members have played a role in shaping me into the leader I am today.

How can philanthropy play a role in addressing challenges our communities face? Philanthropy is about loving and caring for your community. Any amount of generosity is beneficial to

communities in need.

Can you highlight a challenge you faced while serving on the council and how you overcame it? As chair, it was my responsibility to facilitate discussion during council meetings. At first, this task was daunting, as I had never been the leading voice in a professional environment.

However, after gaining experience and confidence, I have overcome this challenge and have successfully led YPC through a very successful year.

What surprised you the most as you learned more deeply about the needs of our region?

In general, I was surprised how many residents of Northern New York rely on assistance from nonprofits and the Community Foundation. YPC opened my eyes to the issues present within our community and I will move forward in my life being more aware, considerate, and sensitive to these needs.

Maya Voss

How has YPC fostered connections and relationships within your community? I have been able to connect with students from other schools as well as members from nonprofit organizations. These relationships have helped me mature and improve my communication skills.

How did you balance your commitments to YPC with your academic and extracurricular activities? I have always made YPC my top priority and chose to →



Support the YPC endowment

■ To contribute to the Youth Philanthropy Council Endowment Fund, make gifts to the **Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601**, or visit **nnycf.org** for secure online giving.

THE YOUTH PHILANTHROPY COUNCIL EXPERIENCE



attend meetings over other commitments. My teachers and coaches have been very supportive and understanding of my commitment to YPC, which has helped greatly.

How do you envision applying the lessons learned from YPC in your future endeavors? The leadership skills that I have gained from YPC will help me greatly throughout college and my career in the medical field. The professional skills that I have learned will also benefit me greatly in the future.

What surprised you the most as you learned more deeply about the needs of our region? I was most surprised by the number of volunteers who are needed to run a nonprofit organization. Most of these organizations rely solely on volunteers to be able to stay afloat. I think that volunteering is a simple way to make a generous impact on the community.

Olivia Wisner

How has your tenure on the Youth Philanthropy Council helped you develop as a leader and collaborator? Through my experience on the Youth

ONLINE EXTRA

Extended interviews with Class of 2024 Youth Philanthropy Council graduates may be found online at nnycf.org/youth-philanthropy-council. Each graduate was asked a series of 12 questions to reflect upon their Council service. Only four questions and answers for each student are published here.

Philanthropy Council, I have honed my ability to communicate effectively, advocate for causes I believe in, and mobilize others toward a common goal. It has provided invaluable opportunities to work with diverse teams and navigate complex challenges in the pursuit of meaningful change.

What role can youth play in philanthropy and community leadership? Engaging youth in philanthropic efforts not only empowers youth to make a difference in their communities, but also fosters a sense of civic responsibility and leadership skills that can benefit society. By amplifying youth voices and providing platforms for active participation like the Youth Philanthropy Council, we can

empower their potential to drive meaningful change and shape a more compassionate world.

What do you hope future generations of Youth Philanthropy Council students will accomplish?

I envision future generations of Youth Philanthropy Council members expanding the reach and impact of the Council's initiatives, tackling emerging social issues with creativity and compassion. I hope they will cultivate a culture of service, collaboration, and empathy, all while inspiring others to become active participants in philanthropy and community leadership.

What surprised you the most as you learned more deeply about the needs of our region? One of the most surprising aspects as I delved deeper into understanding the needs of our region was the extent of interconnectedness among various social issues. I discovered that issues such as poverty and health care disparities were often intertwined and exacerbated by systemic factors. Additionally, I was surprised by the resilience and resourcefulness of community members in the face of these challenges.

YPC SENIOR

SENDOFF: From left: Youth Philanthropy Council Senior Advisor and Community Foundation Board of Directors Vice Chair **Emily Sprague**; **Jack Mangan**, South Jefferson; **Olivia Urf**, Watertown; **Maya Voss**, Watertown; **McKenna Lee**, General Brown; **Olivia Wisner**, General Brown senior; YPC Advisor **Leslie Renzi**; and YPC Advisor and Community Foundation Director of Stewardship and Programs **Kraig Everard**, at the **Henderson Harbor Yacht Club**.

Kara Dry Photography / For Thoughtful Giving

2024-25 Grant opportunity

The Community Foundation's **Youth Philanthropy Council** will accept 2024-25 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 \$20,000 in support.



THE DIFFERENCE YOUR GIFTS MAKE

Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge

Grant recipients & winning students

“Credo has been a valuable organization in our community since 1973 to help those who struggle with mental health and substance abuse. Having happy, healthy community members is important for creating an environment where people can thrive.”

– Max Simser, Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner



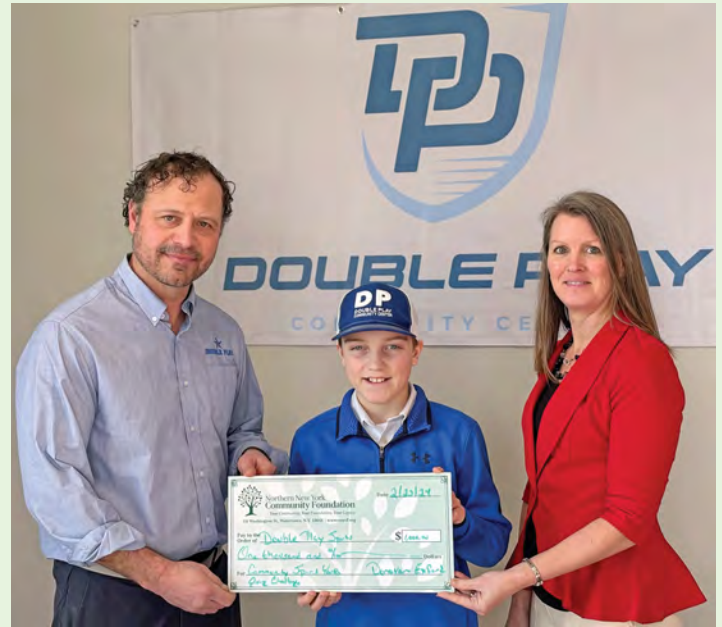
CREDO COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE TREATMENT OF ADDICTIONS: From left, Max’s parents, **Erin** and **Shane Simser**; **Max Simser**, Case Middle School student and Youth Giving Challenge winner; and **John Wilson**, Credo executive director.

“Potsdam Humane Society shows what a great community we have. In this great place, people work as a team to give unwanted animals a second chance to find a loving home.”

– Hallee Bullock, Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner



POTSDAM HUMANE SOCIETY: **Hallee Bullock**, left, Canton Central School student and Youth Giving Challenge winner and **Kathy Hughes**, Potsdam Humane Society executive director.



DOUBLE PLAY COMMUNITY CENTER: From left, **Dan Myers**, Double Play Community Center executive director; **Donovan Exford**, Lowville Academy & Central School student and Youth Giving Challenge winner; and **Mandy J. Evans**, Community Bank Lowville branch manager and vice president/district manager.

“Girl Scouts are a perfect representation of community. They use teamwork, communication, and so much more. You may even make some friends along the way. To make a community, you need things like Boy and Girl Scouts to bring people together.”

– June Demers, Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge winner



GIRL SCOUTS OF NYPENN PATHWAYS: From left, **Erin Barrett**, membership support manager, Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways; **Abigail German**, lead membership data manager, Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways; **June Demers**, Morristown Middle School student and Youth Giving Challenge winner; and June’s grandmother, **Laurie Demers**.

The 2023-2024 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:



Air Products partners to establish community, scholarship funds for greater Massena area

Air Products, a world-leading energy company, has partnered with the **Community Foundation** to establish a community fund and a separate scholarship fund to benefit the greater Massena area.

Earlier this year, the company provided a \$50,000 gift from the Air Products Foundation to establish the **Air Products Greater Massena Community Fund** at the Community Foundation. A second, \$25,000 gift was provided to establish the **Air Products Greater Massena Scholarship Fund**.

Students in St. Lawrence and Franklin counties pursuing all avenues of education, including adult learning, who plan to continue their education in an accredited post-secondary program are eligible to apply for scholarships of up to \$5,000.

“Air Products is committed to sus-

tainable operations and supporting the communities where we live and work. There is no better way to express that commitment than through the growth and support of a highly skilled workforce that will help sustain



the Massena community for generations to come,” said Trip Oliver, Air

Products director of government and community relations.

Air Products has partnered with the Community Foundation to administer both funds and manage its grants and scholarships.

The **Air Products Greater Massena Community Fund** will award grants of up to \$7,500 per applicant to qualified nonprofit organizations and local governing bodies for programs, projects, and initiatives that improve the quality of life for residents in the **Greater Massena** community and the **St. Regis Mohawk Reservation**.

YOUR GIFTS DEVELOP FUTURE EDUCATORS



Olivia F. Adsit and Spencer J. Purvis are the 2024 recipients of the **RENY-Retired Educators of New York North Central Zone Scholarship for Future Educators**. Olivia graduated in June from **Alexandria Central School**, and **Spencer** is a **South Jefferson Central School** graduate. They were each presented with a \$1,000 award in June to help them on their paths to become teachers. Established at the Community Foundation in 2014, the scholarship is awarded annually to high school seniors pursuing careers in education. The **RENY North Central Zone** represents retired teachers and educators across Jefferson and Lewis counties. **Olivia** and **Spencer** will each attend **SUNY Cortland**. Olivia plans to study secondary education in science and Spencer plans to study physical education. Olivia is the daughter of **Andrea** and **David Adsit**, Redwood. **Spencer** is the son of **Christine** and **Travis Purvis**, Adams. Pictured, from left, scholarship recipient **Spencer J. Purvis**; **Rick Morris**, **Retired Educators of New York North Central Zone** president; scholarship recipient **Olivia F. Adsit**; and **Mary Perrine**, Community Foundation coordinator of partnerships.

Double your gift: Twice the impact with matching challenges

We are presently doubling gifts for some of our nonprofit partners. **Each gift designated to the respective organization’s Community Foundation fund will be matched, dollar-for-dollar.** This is a meaningful opportunity to provide long-term support for an organization you care deeply about. This is a gift that is both immediate and lasting and will provide twice the impact.

Endowment Funds

- Cape Vincent Village Green Endowment Fund
- Church and Community Program Endowment Fund
- Densmore Church Endowment Fund
- Friends of Thompson Park Endowment Fund
- Grasse River Heritage Endowment Fund
- GWNC Chamber of Commerce JLI Community Fund
- Hawn Memorial Library Endowment Fund
- Hospice & Palliative Care of St. Lawrence Valley Endowment Fund
- Jefferson County Historical Society Endowment Fund
- Lyme Free Library Endowment Fund
- North Country Public Radio Endowment Fund
- OBI Land Trust Endowment Fund
- Save The River Endowment Fund
- St. Lawrence County Arts Council Endowment Fund
- Stage Notes Endowment Fund
- The Nature Conservancy Adirondack Chapter Endowment Fund
- Thousand Islands Arts Center Endowment Fund
- Traditional Arts in Upstate New York (TAUNY) Endowment Fund
- Wanakena Historical Association Endowment Fund
- Wanakena Preservation & Vibrancy Fund
- Watertown Community Fund
- Watertown Lyric Theater Endowment Fund
- Wilderness Healthcare Foundation Endowment Fund

Operating & Project Funds

- Jefferson-Lewis Board of Realtors Backpack Program
- Zoo New York Animal Wellness Fund

■ Contact the Community Foundation, **315-782-7110**, to learn more about how you can maximize your gift and support any of these Foundation partners. All gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Access secure online giving at **nnycf.org**. Do you have a favorite nonprofit organization you’d like to support? Contact us to learn how you can perpetuate your giving and extend your impact.

YOUR GIFTS HELP DELIVER ESSENTIAL NEEDS

PARTNERING TO AID ESSENTIAL NEEDS:

Salvation Army of Massena Officers in Charge Lieutenants **Nicholas** and **Jennifer White** in the existing kitchen at the Victory Road facility. A recent \$10,000 Community Foundation grant will help the Salvation Army complete a new commercial kitchen to help alleviate food insecurity in the greater Massena area.

Jason Hunter / For Thoughtful Giving



Grant helps Massena soup kitchen Victory Road facility plans to aid more food insecure families

A \$10,000 Community Foundation grant will help the **Salvation Army of Massena** complete a new commercial kitchen at its Victory Road facility to alleviate food insecurity in the greater Massena area.

“Over the past year, we have seen more households new to us coming to access our services, including our meal programs and case management,” Salvation Army of Massena Officer in Charge **Lt. Nicholas White** said. “With no community meal program or soup kitchen in Massena, we plan to expand our services and create a commercial grade kitchen to accommodate this need.”

The Salvation Army has been a critical partner in the Massena community to assist and provide support to families experiencing food insecurity. The Massena Central School District relies on the local Salvation

Army to provide resources and support for district families experiencing hard times.

The new kitchen will allow the organization to offer clients at least three hot meals each week, improve programming, and help establish a job training program for people seeking employment in the local food service and hospitality industries. It is also projected to increase the number of families and individuals served each week by up to 150 and enhance after-school and summer youth programs.

The Salvation Army of Massena is working to thoughtfully address critical needs in two towns and surrounding communities. In the past year, the organization has served more than 3,500 individuals through its emergency food service program at its facility and through its Mobile Mission Center that travels to six

locations in St. Lawrence County.

Soup kitchen and food pantries are often the only source of free, healthy, and nutritious food in a community.

Consumers of the services of the Salvation Army have other needs met as well. While they visit for food assistance, they may also receive education and social interactions.

The Foundation also provides support annually to organizations that operate in partnership with the Food Bank of Central New York, Syracuse, including several in St. Lawrence County.

According to the **Food Bank of Central New York**, a Foundation partner, one in eight people in Northern and Central New York are classified as “food insecure.” Each dollar local food pantries and soup kitchens spend with the Food Bank can provide enough food for at least three meals.

“The Community Foundation has played a vital role in the Salvation Army of Massena’s ability to provide the greater Massena area with quality wrap around care and support. On behalf of our community, we are blessed to have its continued support for all we do to help change lives.”

– Lt. Nicholas White, Salvation Army of Massena officer in charge



A growing need in our region

■ The nonprofit **Feeding America** reports that **14.2 percent** of **St. Lawrence County** residents — or **15,430** people — are food insecure. Child food insecurity in the county is **17.7 percent** with **18,808** children considered food insecure. Some **17.9 percent** of county residents live below the federal poverty line.

YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE



HELPING TO IMPROVE CRITICAL EQUIPMENT:

From left, **Lowville Food Pantry** Board members and volunteers **Margaret Everson**, **Jane Peters**, **Bob Adams**, Board President **Mike Hanno**, **Sara Brooker**, **Nancy Hanno**, and **Bob Fort** point to where a new 12-by-30-foot walk-in freezer will be installed next to the loading garage at the Lowville Food Pantry's Trinity Avenue facility. Bottom: Pantry Board President **Mike Hanno** shows a pair of old freezers that will be retired after the new walk-in freezer is installed.

Kara Dry Photography / For Thoughtful Giving

Foundation aids Lowville Food Pantry

New equipment will increase capacity to serve local clients

The **Lowville Food Pantry** will soon be able to increase its capacity to serve clients thanks in part to a \$20,000 Community Foundation grant to purchase and install a new walk-in freezer at the Trinity Avenue facility.

As needs among the most vulnerable in the community increase, the Food Pantry has seen a steady uptick in the number of neighbors in need it serves, which often reaches several hundred clients a month.

The new 360-square-foot walk-in freezer will enable the pantry to focus on completing additional facility improvements while reducing food spoilage and improving client service by providing more quality foods to those it serves.

"We really appreciate partners like the Community Foundation," Food Pantry Board President Mike Hanno said. "It's nice to have strong local support for our mission that's made possible by people who take time to visit our facility to know and understand our needs and how to support them."

The Foundation's grant support includes \$5,000 from the **George R. Davis Fund for Lowville**.

Mr. Hanno said the walk-in freezer, itself a nearly \$100,000 project, will also enable the pantry to end its reliance on several older, small chest freezers that are a bigger burden on the facility's utility costs.

"An efficient walk-in freezer will

increase our capacity for frozen foods well beyond what we can manage today," he said. "The Community Foundation's support really put us over the top and fully enabled this project to come to life."

The Foundation also provides annual grant support to the pantry for food inventory in partnership with the **Food Bank of Central New York**.



Community Support Fund

■ Food pantries, soup kitchens, and backpack programs throughout **Jefferson**, **Lewis**, and **St. Lawrence** counties are encouraged to apply to the Community Foundation for annual support through the **Community Support Fund**. Grant support is awarded to purchase food items through the **Food Bank of Central New York**.

Grant supports Food Bank warehouse expansion

\$30,000 award helps increase capacity, storage while eliminating waste

A \$30,000 Community Foundation grant helped the **Food Bank of Central New York** expand its Interstate Island Road distribution center to more effectively support neighbors in need across the North Country and its 11-county service area.

In Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties, the Food Bank partners with 70 food pantries, soup kitchens, backpack programs and other organizations to provide nutritious foods below cost. In turn, those organizations serve hundreds of North Country families, providing emergency food assistance to residents who couldn't otherwise access nutritious foods.



EXPANSION SUPPORT: From left: **Michele Jeican**, Community Foundation finance coordinator, **Patti Waldner**, Food Bank of Central New York agency relations coordinator, and **Molly Johnson**, Food Bank of Central New York outreach coordinator. Patti and Molly are based in the **Northern New York Philanthropy Center**.

The Community Foundation provides grant support annually to organizations that operate in partnership with the Food Bank.

The Food Bank is a longtime Community Foundation partner. In 2017, officials opened a North Country office on the third floor of the **Northern New York Philanthropy Center**. It also has a permanent endowment and charitable fund at the Community Foundation to support its work in the tri-county area.

The Food Bank's warehouse expansion will allow it to store and distribute more than one

million pounds of additional nonperishable foods. Weekly volunteer packing events will also increase from four to 10, enabling the Food Bank to distribute an additional 1,440 boxes to those in need each week.

The immediate impact will be an increase in storage for nonperishable foods, a reduction in food waste, and greater capacity to offer programs focused on the dietary and health-related needs of individuals.

"We are thankful to the **Northern New York Community Foundation** for its recent

support of our 34,000-square-foot expansion of our distribution center. Every day, thousands of pounds of nutritious food is distributed throughout our 11-county service area which includes the North Country," Food Bank of Central New York Executive Director **Karen Belcher** said. "The decades-long partnership between our organizations has provided critical support of our work, and the work of our community partners, by helping to secure access to nutritious food."

WILLIAM I. GRAF AWARD HONORS ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

Three **Watertown High School** seniors were recognized in June as the top graduating athletes and the 2024 recipients of the coveted **William I. Graf Award**.

Alexandra Macutek and **Mallory J. Peters** were selected as the women's recipients, and **Jack T. Rathbun** was named as this year's men's honoree.

Alexandra will attend Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa., this fall to study sports broadcasting. She aspires to work in journalism as a sports broadcaster. Alexandra is the daughter of **Kelly** and **Joe Macutek**, Watertown.

Mallory will attend Jefferson Community College this fall where she plans to study allied health. She aspires to work in the medical



field. Mallory is the daughter of **Lori** and **Eric Peters**, Chaumont.

Jack will attend Jefferson Community College this fall where he plans to study business. He aspires to work in his family's business, Rathbun's Plumbing,

Heating, and Electrical. Jack is the son of **Amy** and **Chris Rathbun**, Watertown.

Pictured, from left: **Lee "Gus" Murray** and **Phyllis Johnson**; **Alexandra Macutek**, **Jack T. Rathbun**, and **Mallory J. Peters**; **Italian-**

American Civic Association President **James P. Scordo**, and **Italian-American Civic Association** Vice President and Award Selection Committee Chairman **Michael Lettiere**. Phyllis Johnson is William I. Graf's daughter and Lee "Gus" Murray is Mr. Graf's nephew.

The **Italian-American Civic Association** established the **William I. Graf Award** in 1954 to honor Mr. Graf's leadership and civic engagement in the community. Mr. Graf was a multi-sport coach and athletic director at **Watertown High School**. Since 1954, 123 Watertown High School athletes have been named recipients of the **William I. Graf Award**. View a list of all past Watertown High School recipients online at bit.ly/Graf-All-Time.

YOUR GIFTS CREATE PUBLIC PLAYGROUNDS



A PARTNERSHIP FOR PUBLIC SPACES: From left, Adams Community Park Committee members **Karen Denny, Lory Cobb, Tanya Dunn, Marlene Norfolk, Kate Albrecht Fidler,** and **Laurie Hudson** at the new playground in Adams Community Park off Wardwell Street in the village.

Kara Dry Photography / For Thoughtful Giving

Parks strengthen quality of life

■ Through several grant awards in recent years across our region, the Community Foundation has invested in public park improvements to strengthen the quality of life for all, including:

- Alexandria Bay Village Playground
- Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence Playground, Watertown
- Augustinian Academy Playground, Carthage
- Carthage Community Kids World Playground
- Canton Village Park
- Deferiet Playground
- Erwin Park, Boonville
- Fish Island Park, Dexter
- Garner Park, Potsdam
- Gouverneur Village Park
- Grasse River Heritage Park, Canton
- Hand In Hand Playground, Lowville
- Ives Park, Potsdam
- Lucy Colello Playground, Sherman Elementary, Watertown
- New Day Children's Center Playground, Watertown
- Santway Park, Theresa
- St. James School Playground, Gouverneur
- Brasher-Stockholm Recreation Park
- Thompson Park, Watertown
- Veterans Memorial Park, Lowville
- Village Park, Lowville

Foundation grant helps redevelop Adams community playground in village

A \$30,000 Community Foundation matching grant helped the Adams Revitalization Committee reach its fundraising goal for a new playground and community park in the heart of the village off Wardwell Street. All gifts made by individuals, businesses, and organizations in support of the project were doubled, up to \$30,000.

Adams Community Park Committee Member **Karen Denny** said the matching grant from the Foundation “came at the perfect time.”

“The committee was working hard to close the funding gap to complete the project when we received the news,” Mrs. Denny said. “Around the same time, we received word that site work would soon begin, and playground equipment was on its way.”

She added that the matching grant, which dozens of local donors helped to meet, was “a great opportunity for businesses and individuals to support a community park.”

“The Adams Community Park committee is especially grateful for the Community Foundation’s



“The Community Foundation plays an important role in supporting nonprofit organizations and community projects across the region.”

— Karen Denny
Adams Community Park Committee

generous support.”

Officials celebrated completion of the new playground at the site of the former Adams Elementary School with a ribbon cutting and grand opening in June.

The Community Foundation has been a strategic partner as the project has evolved.

In 2022, the Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Council awarded a

\$4,500 grant to support architectural and design planning for the park. Grant funding helped complete research and community outreach to engage the community in the project.

That same year, the **Six Town Community Fund**, a charitable affiliate of the Community Foundation, awarded a \$3,250 grant to help purchase new playground equipment.

Several Adams residents formed a committee in 2019 in partnership with the Adams Revitalization Committee to embark on the project. The Village of Adams acquired the land adjacent to the former school to create a playground and central location for community recreation.

Through the pandemic, a volunteer subcommittee persevered with its planning, advocating for the project in the community, initiating fundraising and developing plans to bring the project to life.

The playground and its recreational spaces will positively impact thousands of children and families in the southern Jefferson County region.



Compassionate Care Foundation founder **Monica Behan** outside her Dexter home. Recent Community Foundation grant support is helping the new health and wellness nonprofit organization grow its work and mission across the region to aid local cancer patients.

Kara Dry Photography / For Thoughtful Giving

PARTNERING FOR A SUCCESSFUL STARTUP

Strengthening LOCAL CANCER CARE

Community Foundation grant support helps new nonprofit

A pair of Community Foundation grants totaling \$50,000 are helping a new health and wellness nonprofit provide access to complementary and integrative therapies for local cancer patients.

Compassionate Care Foundation was established in 2022. It aims to ease the emotional trauma of a cancer diagnosis through education, family support, community involvement and integrative therapies.

A recent \$25,000 grant is supporting the organization's work, while a \$25,000 matching grant built charitable support in the community for its mission.

"We are so grateful to the Northern New York Community Foundation. Your generous gift will make it possible for us to fulfill our mission to support our North Country cancer community with access to complementary, integrative therapies that improve quality of life and the cancer care experience. As a result, we will be able to impact more lives," Compassionate Care Foundation founder **Monica Behan** said.

Since she founded the nonprofit, Ms. Behan, a Northern New York native and Dexter resident, and her team have helped more than 150 clients with nearly 1,000 care sessions.

Collaborating with Samaritan Med-

ical Center's Walker Center for Cancer Care, Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center's Richard E. Winter Cancer Center, and Hospice of Jefferson County has led to a swift increase in patient referrals.

Because of the success of integrative therapies, Ms. Behan was motivated to develop infrastructure to support the organization's capacity and growth.

Integrative cancer care combines evidence-based treatments with standard treatments to provide supportive and preventative care. Examples include: Acupuncture, Reiki, massage, yoga, counseling, and nutritional support. The approach gives patients options to choose therapies that will treat the whole person.

Working together with the Community Foundation for the past two years, the Compassionate Care Foundation has created a model to support its mission and services.

The Community Foundation has offered advisement and guidance on the nonprofit's growth and development.

Ms. Behan noted that her many conversations with the Community Foundation about activities, impact, outcomes, funding sources, partner-

ships and sustainability have helped her organization sharpen its focus and clarify its message.

"The team has listened and understood the need, and this support will help shift mental models about how we care for our own community members living with cancer," she said.



**Compassionate
Care™
Foundation**

Compassionate Care Foundation aims to deepen charitable support for its work. Grant funding is directed toward practitioners who provide integrative therapies and care, in-home visits, education materials, and more.

"You know how important partnership is for the Compassionate Care Foundation's success — with our patients, their families, our network of practitioners, other cancer treatment providers and institutions, and the broader community," Ms. Behan said. "Your matching gift to build charitable support will assist us in that aim. The Community Foundation's recognition will give our future donors confidence that CCF is worthy and substantial."

"We are particularly thankful for the partnership we have developed with the Community Foundation and how its team has nurtured us and this emerging nonprofit over time. Throughout the process, we have experienced the Community Foundation as a true ally. That is a valuable gift in and of itself."

— Monica Behan, founder, Compassionate Care Foundation, Dexter

YOUR GIFTS STRENGTHEN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

HELPING TO POWER A WORKFORCE

PARTNERSHIP: From left: **North Country Family Health Center** Dental Director **Nicole Quintin**; Health Center Chief Executive Officer **Joey Marie Horton**; and **Jefferson Community College** President **Daniel Dupee**, in a dental operatory at the Health Center's Arsenal Street offices in Watertown.

Kara Dry Photography
/ For Thoughtful Giving



WITH APPRECIATION

Margaret E. McCarthy

Margaret E. McCarthy was a kind and generous woman who cherished her family and community. Throughout her life, Margaret was active in many community organizations, volunteering her time and talent to help those in need. When Margaret passed away in April at the age of 82, her family designated memorial gifts to support the **North Country Family Health Center Endowment Fund** at the Community Foundation. We are grateful to Margaret's children, **Dawn** and **Scott**, for choosing to support a local organization that was meaningful to Margaret and thank those who made special tribute gifts in her memory.



Tribute gifts in memory of
Margaret E. McCarthy

Kathryn L. Baker
Brownville-Glen Park
Busy BG's
Art Montondo
North Country Family
Health Center
Leadership Team
Janet M. Oatman
John & Patty Spicer
The Scott Family



Grant helps restart dental hygiene program \$15,000 award closes funding gap for Jefferson Community College

A \$15,000 Community Foundation grant will help **Jefferson Community College** launch a dental hygiene program.

Jefferson Community College and **North Country Family Health Center** are collaborating with **Monroe Community College** to create a two- to three-year dental hygiene education program. The college and health center identified the need for local hygienists and partnered to revitalize the once-active college program.

Jefferson plans to offer courses to local students through its partnership with Monroe and students will complete clinical hours at the health center's Watertown dental clinic. Community Foundation grant funding will help with equipment, supplies, and student costs.

"Dental hygiene plays a crucial role



in our community's health, ensuring better overall well-being and quality of life. This program not only meets a significant workforce need, but also empowers individuals to pursue careers that directly impact public health," Jefferson Community College President **Dan Dupee** said. "Jefferson extends its gratitude to the Community Foundation for its support in helping us bring a dental hygiene program to the North Country."

The program will increase the number of registered dental hygienists in the North Country, growing

the dental workforce to meet the community's oral health needs.

"The oral health needs of those in our rural communities are significant. Unfortunately, our region lacks the adequate workforce to care for the patients in need," NoCo Family Health Center CEO **Joey Marie Horton** said.

Community Foundation grant support extends the Foundation's investment in education, assists two community partners, and makes a direct impact in an essential area of the region's workforce.

Meanwhile, a separate grant totaling \$11,050 was recently awarded to the health center to purchase a dry vacuum pump for its **Lowville dental office**. The equipment will allow dental providers to deliver nitrous oxide safely to patients and ensure successful treatment.

"This program, and the Community Foundation's financial support, are true examples of community collaboration improving the lives of countless individuals and families."

– Joey Marie Horton, North Country Family Health Center chief executive officer

New Micro-Grant Program provides immediate impact

A community garden in **Cape Vincent** will continue to provide those in need with fresh produce thanks to a \$1,000 Community Foundation Micro-Grant.

Garden Manager **Joanne Faulkham** said the grant will help ensure the **Cape Vincent Improvement League** continues its mission to stock a community food pantry with locally grown foods.

Led by volunteers, the garden was started in 2016 and has expanded as needs for the most vulnerable in the community have grown.

The grant is one of more than two-dozen awarded in recent months through the Community Foundation's **Micro-Grant Program**, which launched in October.

To date, grants totaling nearly \$35,000 have been awarded to 25 nonprofit organizations to support a wide range of quality-of-life initiatives across Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties. From a pair of summer concert series to youth and educational programs to essential needs and health and wellness projects, the Micro-Grant Program is working to quickly deploy essential grant support across the region.

The Micro-Grant Program aims to provide greater access and minimize barriers while providing an appropriate avenue for eligible organizations to request Community Foundation funding. Micro-Grants may not exceed \$2,500 and applications are received on a rolling basis.

Eligible nonprofit organizations may seek Micro-Grant funding for programs and projects that align with the Foundation's mission and demonstrate clear community benefit.

MICRO-GRANTS / 2023-24 ORGANIZATION & PROJECT SUPPORT

Adams Revitalization Committee
2024 Adams Community Concert Series

Boy Scouts of America Longhouse Council
10 camp scholarships for Watertown-area youth

Cape Vincent Improvement League
Community garden support

Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center Foundation
50 cancer care kits

Clear Path for Veterans
Food box program for Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence County veterans in need

Experience A Reward
Philadelphia Town Park summer concert series

Hand in Hand Early Childhood Center
Matching support to purchase a new boiler

Hospice of St. Lawrence Valley
Counselor and social worker support for grief camp

Indian Creek Nature Center
Purchase educational items

Jefferson County Toys for Tots
2024 Christmas campaign

Mannville Free Library
Books for community- and school-based events

Massena Fire Department
CPR Anytime Training Kits

Massena Meals On Wheels
Purchase reusable trays and kitchen supplies

New Horizons Bands of Northern New York
Support for Expanding Musical Horizons program

North Country Arts Council
Community arts education series

North Country Music Project Fund
Support for inaugural concert event

Police Activities League of Massena
Help youth to attend summer program field trips



Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center Cancer Care Kits: From left: **Erica Sullivan, RN**; **Helen Schneider, RN**; and **Kendall Wilson, oncology coordinator**

Potsdam Snack Pack Program
Purchase a refrigerator, freezer, and other items associated with relocating

ReNew Bremen
New branding project

Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library
Items for children's play room and story time areas

St. Lawrence County People Project
Mental health programming for K-12 students

Talking Rivers
Nature governance educational tool kit

The Arc Oneida-Lewis
Support for a deck project in Lowville

United Service Organizations
Items for a new kids zone following recent center renovations

Watertown Noon Rotary Club
2024 tree planting project

HAWN LIBRARY MEETS MATCH, BUILDS ENDOWMENT



Thanks to many generous donors, **Hawn Memorial Library** in Clayton met its matching challenge earlier this year for a \$10,000 Community Foundation grant it was awarded in 2023. Funding helped the library with a new roof and window project.

"We are grateful for the Community Foundation's support to help improve our building in the heart of Clayton," **Hawn Memorial Library Board of Trustees President Deborah Hunter** said. "Thank you for a successful capital project."

Library officials also established a permanent endowment fund at the Community Foundation that will ensure long-term sustainability for patrons. A second \$10,000 grant that includes a \$5,000 matching challenge was awarded to build the endowment at the Foundation. The endowment fund will provide past, present, and future donors with another charitable giving option to enhance the library's work.

Pictured, from left, Community Foundation Director of Finance **Steve Magovney** and Hawn Memorial Library Director **Laura Orvis**.

YOUR GIFTS STRENGTHEN RURAL HEALTH CARE

BREAKING NEW GROUND:

From left: Clifton-Fine area residents **Pat Farnsworth, Paul Flynn, Allen** and **Marilyn Splete, Steve Moyer** and **Lester Allen**; Community Foundation Youth Philanthropy Council Immediate Past Chair **Jack Mangan**; and Community Foundation Assistant Director **Max DeSignore** shovel dirt at a groundbreaking ceremony for the new **Clifton-Fine Hospital** emergency department project in Star Lake.

Kara Dry Photography
/ For Thoughtful Giving



Grant helps transform Clifton-Fine Hospital \$150,000 award strengthens campaign while investing in future

Community Foundation grant funding totaling \$150,000 will help transform the 75-year-old **Clifton-Fine Hospital** in Star Lake into a more modern, patient-centered facility that will serve rural southeastern St. Lawrence County residents for years to come.

The Foundation recently approved a series of grants for the **Wilderness HealthCare Foundation**. An initial \$50,000 award is directed toward the “Emergency Care Close to Home” campaign, which includes \$25,000 from the **Paul J. Flynn Fund of the Community Foundation**. The total grant award includes a \$25,000 contribution to the hospital’s endowment at the Community Foundation.

The Wilderness HealthCare Foundation is engaged in a \$1 million community fundraising campaign to help secure the remaining support for the \$23 million project to construct and equip a new emergency services wing.

“The Northern New York Community Foundation is investing in the future of health care in southeastern St. Lawrence County,” Clifton-Fine Hospital CEO **Dierdra Sorrell** said. Clifton-Fine Hospital serves a

sprawling geographic area of St. Lawrence County within a 50-mile radius of Star Lake. It is a rural emergency hospital that delivers emergency and primary care services, among other offerings for patients.

“This leadership gift paves the way for a successful emergency room upgrade, and we are forever grateful.”

– Dierdra Sorrell,
Clifton-Fine Hospital CEO

With an average of more than 1,300 patients visiting the emergency room in the past three years, improvements to emergency services are a major focus of the project. The capital campaign now underway will help the hospital complete a 9,300-square-foot addition to its emergency room, adding private exam and treatment rooms, as well as a fully equipped trauma space.

The project celebrated a groundbreaking on July 1 with construction

estimated to last 18 months.

The hospital has successfully garnered close to \$22 million in support for the project from the New York State Department of Health, St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency, and the Town of Fine.

The community fundraising campaign is focused on securing equipment for the new emergency department. New equipment will maximize efficiencies while also improving patient care and ensuring a safe and healthy environment.

The hospital modernization is the most important endeavor in the community for the next two decades, if not longer, and will cast a positive economic impact on the region. It will enable the hospital to continue to provide first-rate care to year-round and seasonal residents, tourists, as well as students, faculty, and staff at the two SUNY ESF locations in the region.

The Community Foundation’s presence in the Clifton-Fine region has grown in recent years, thanks in part to several key investments in the past decade, work with donors to establish several permanent philanthropic funds, including the **Clifton-Fine Community Fund**.



*Proudly Supporting the
Clifton-Fine Hospital*

Endowment Partner

■ The **Wilderness HealthCare Foundation** is one of more than 150 tri-county nonprofit organizations that partners with the Community Foundation. In 2017, the Wilderness HealthCare Foundation established a permanent **endowment** at the Community Foundation. Gifts to help build the Wilderness HealthCare Foundation endowment may be made securely online at nnycf.org/giving, or by mail to: **Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601.**

Scholarship honors devoted educator, public servant

Camie E. Baker was a lifelong Watertown resident, devoted educator and public servant. Her legacy of caring, community leadership, and family will forever endure through the Community Foundation's **Camie E. and James K. Baker Scholarship**, which supports students who have participated in a BOCES program and are pursuing additional education.

Camie was born in Watertown in 1940, a daughter to **Alfred E. and Dorothy J. Everett**. She graduated

from Watertown High School and Albany State Teachers College, where she earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics in 1958.

While a student at Albany, she met **James K. Baker** and the two were married in 1962. Together with Jim, they raised a daughter, **Nancy**, and a son, **Alan**, and celebrated 60 years of marriage before Camie passed away suddenly in 2022.



Camie E. Baker

Camie began her teaching career at Cossackie-Athens Central High School. In 1964, she returned to Watertown and taught math at **North Junior High School**, while Jim taught math and physics at **General Brown High School** before he joined the faculty at **Jefferson Community College**.

Camie's lifetime mission of education and learning motivated her to a career of public service and she was an active volunteer and board member for several local organizations.

She was elected as a member of the Board of Education for **Watertown City School District** for two terms. Through a decade of service, she cared deeply for every student and helped guide education policy that benefited all. Members of Watertown's board later elected Camie to the Board of Education for the **Jeff-Lewis BOCES**. She shared her time, talent, and leadership skills with the board for 18 years, including time as vice president and president.

Camie always had the will and a way to bring people together. In the late 1980s, she became the first director of the **Jeff-Lewis Mediation Center**, a job she held until her retirement in 2000. The **Resolution Center of Jefferson & Lewis Counties** still operates, carrying on the mission of alternative dispute resolution.



Jim Baker presents the inaugural **Camie E. and James K. Baker Scholarship** to General Brown High School and Jeff-Lewis BOCES graduate **Dylan J. Munk**.

James K. "Jim" Baker retired from JCC as a mathematics professor. He presented the first Camie E. and James K. Baker Scholarship in July to **General Brown High School** graduate and **Jeff-Lewis BOCES** student **Dylan J. Munk**. Dylan will attend **SUNY Canton** this fall to pursue studies in the HVAC and building trades program.

The special way **Camie** will be remembered, while also honoring **Jim**, leaves an enduring legacy symbolic of the many lives they touched while extending their impact on students and education.

FIRST FRANCINE ROOT PETERSEN SCHOLAR

Evelyn M. Nohle is the first recipient of the Northern New York Community Foundation **Francine Root Petersen Scholarship**.

Evelyn graduated in June from **Belleville-Henderson Central School** and will attend **Jefferson Community College** to study dental hygiene. She aspires to work as a dental hygienist in the North Country.

Evelyn is a standout athlete, competing throughout high school as a varsity soccer player and varsity downhill skier. Off the field, she has volunteered for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and is a certified lifeguard, working in her third season this summer at Southwick Beach State Park. She is the daughter of **Chelsea** and **Harold Nohle**, Mannsville.

Established in 2024 at the Community Foundation to support students pursuing dental hygiene careers, the **Francine Root Petersen Scholarship** honors the life and legacy of the longtime dental hygienist and Northern New York dental health leader.

Throughout her career and lifetime, Francine was a tireless advocate for affordable dental health for all children. She was instru-



FRANCINE ROOT PETERSEN SCHOLAR: from left: Scholarship founder and Francine's sister, **Roxanne Pratt**; Scholarship recipient **Evelyn Nohle**; and Francine's son, **James Petersen**.

mental in developing a plan to establish the first nonprofit Northern New York Children's Dental Health Clinic. Francine passed away in 2021 at the age of 82.

Evelyn recently met with Francine's sister and scholarship founder, **Roxanne Pratt**, and Francine's son, **James Petersen**, who presented her with a \$4,000 scholarship.



William J. Anderson

William John "Bill" Anderson Jr. dedicated his life to public service, mentoring countless young men and women first as a teacher and later as a principal. Through a career of nearly 35 years, he left a lasting imprint on the lives of thousands of students. Bill was born in 1937 in Mineville. Following high school, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education from SUNY Plattsburgh and started his teaching career in the Keene Valley Central School District before joining the staff at South Lewis Central School in 1964, where he worked as a teacher, an elementary administrator, and principal before retiring in 1993. He married **Ann Burdick** in 1965, and together they raised a son and a daughter. Bill was active in many local

service and professional organizations, including the Retired Educators of New York. Throughout his life, Bill enjoyed the outdoors and passed his knowledge and love of nature on to many others as a New York State Hunter Safety instructor. When he passed away in March at age 86, his family directed memorial gifts to the Community Foundation to help build the **North Central Zone of the Retired Educators of New York (RENY) Scholarship** for high school seniors who plan to enter education. We express our deepest sympathies to his family as we celebrate a life well lived that touched so many in our community.

Tribute gifts in memory of **William John Anderson Jr.**

Doug & Pat Dietrich
Friendly Service, NCZ
John J. Gaffney
Dennis & Toni Gigliotti
Linda Grimes
Barbara A. Lenihan
George & Sandy Osborne

Dorothy B. Payne
Terry & Patricia Plemons
Rande Richardson
Jannet G. Seelman
Joel & Geraldine Skogen
Susan Stratton
Thomas & Linda
Van Emmerik
Bob & Cathy Walseman



Ellen C. Bush

Ellen C. Bush was dedicated to continuous community improvement throughout her lifetime of 82 years, generously supporting local organizations and meaningful causes, including the Community Foundation. Born in 1942, in Harrisville, a daughter to **Helen D.** and **Edward C. Jenack**, she was a graduate of Harrisville Central School and Canton ATC. Together with her husband, **Richard A. Bush**, they raised a son and a daughter and celebrated 63 years of marriage before Ellen passed away in June. A longtime Lowville resident, Ellen worked for Climax in Castorland before she and Rick became owners of Lyng Lumber and Lowville Feed and Grain. A gift through her estate will forever perpetuate her legacy while supporting interests that mattered most to her. We are grateful for having known Ellen and express our sincere condolences to

her family as we celebrate her life and legacy of kindness and determination to help the people and places of the area succeed and grow.

Tribute gift in memory of **Ellen C. Bush**

Rande Richardson



William P. Coty

A North Country native, **William P. Coty** was born in Watertown in 1946, a son to **Richard** and **Janet Greenizen Coty**. Bill attended Watertown schools until high school, transferring to Kimball Union Academy in New Hampshire, graduating in 1965. He attended Rochester Institute of Technology and later, Canton ATC. He was employed in the Watertown area throughout his life, spending summers at his family's home on Campbell's Point, boating on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. Bill was active in local civic organizations, including the Watertown Elks Lodge. He spent his later years living in Florida. Through a provision in his will, a gift will support the Community Foundation's **Greenizen Scholarship Fund**, which his aunt established in 2011 in honor of her sisters. It is awarded annually to a Thousand Islands Central student pursuing a career in teaching. We are saddened by Bill's loss while grateful for his

enduring support of local students and their educational pursuits.



Marion Chapman Spencer

Family and friends were the focus of **Marion Chapman Spencer's** life, and she had a genuine interest in everyone. Marion was born in Wellsville, N.Y., in 1930, a daughter to **Maurice** and **Nettie Burt Chapman**, and grew up in Genesee, Pa. She graduated from Wellsville High School, and later Larson College, now Quinnipiac University. While in college, she met her husband, Ralph Spencer. She and Ralph eventually settled in Oswego and raised a son and a daughter, Robert and Janet. Marion was devoted to her faith and deeply committed to the Oswego chapter of P.E.O. International (Philanthropic Educational Organization) for more than 50 years. When she passed away in March, her family directed gifts to the Sackets Harbor United Presbyterian Church Tower Restoration Fund at the

Community Foundation to support preservation of the historic community landmark. We share our deepest sympathies with her family as we celebrate her life and legacy and thank those who made special gifts in her memory.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Marion Chapman Spencer**

Max & Sara DelSignore
Maureen & Dick Gorman
William & Beth Maguire
Rande Richardson
Bob & Jenny Spencer

JOHN DOLDO JR. 1930-2024

John Doldo Jr. was a deeply devoted husband and father whose love for his community, the North Country, and his country showed in countless ways. He championed many causes while sharing his gifts with a wide range of organizations throughout his life of 93 years, including the Community Foundation. John served two terms on the Foundation's Board from 1983 to 1993. When he passed away in January at the age of 93, the region lost an advocate for many causes and local organizations. Born in Watertown in 1930, the third of seven children to **John Doldo Sr.** and **Josephine Coppola Doldo**, John graduated from Watertown High School in 1948. A gifted athlete, he continued his football career as a quarterback for the Watertown Red & Black before entering the Army in 1951. He was honorably discharged from the Army Reserve in 1956. John married **Patricia Alice "Patti" Bailey** in 1954 and celebrated 69 years of marriage before he passed. Together they raised a son and two daughters. John spent his professional life in private business and real estate, eventually becoming an insurance broker and a founding



partner in Jones and Doldo General Insurance. John was very proud of the strong community in Watertown and encouraged the success of everyone around him. He was nominated and selected for a North Country Citation Award. A self-taught man, he enjoyed being politically active, serving throughout his life as a member of the city, county, and state committee for the Republican Party as well as a Judicial Delegate. He was a life member and past president of the Italian American Civic Association, which his father co-founded in 1939. Above all, John cherished his family and spending quality time with them. We join John's family and friends in

expressing our heartfelt sympathy as we mourn his loss and celebrate his life and legacy. When John passed away earlier this year, his family directed memorial gifts to the Community Foundation in his memory. We are honored to be part of the special way he will be remembered and continue to impact the community he loved. To those listed below, we are grateful for your gifts that honor John's life of friendship, service, and community leadership.

Tribute gifts in memory of John Doldo Jr.

The Bajjaly Family
Board & Staff of the
Northern New York
Community Foundation
Thomas E. Bowie

Bradley's Military /
Brad McKinney
Bennett Brett & Thomas S. Brett
Max & Sara DelSignore
Nate & Kay Holloway
John & Kate Johnson
John & Susan Johnson

Mark & Joanne Lavarney
James A. & Constance B. Leana
Tony Mesires
James & Kimberly Oliver
Peter & Laurie Pike
Phil & Lucy Priolo
Dr. Eugene & Joyce Renzi

Rande Richardson
Peter & Elaine Thurston
Janet & David Towle
Paul D. Trimper
Jeanne Emery Velto
The Virga Family



Judith Ann Frank Pearson

A devotion to family and a thoughtful dedication to community guided **Judith Ann "Judy" Frank Pearson** through her life of 88 years. Judy was born in Gowanda, N.Y. A writer and poet since childhood, she earned a degree in English literature from the University of Rochester in 1958. She met and married her husband of 61 years, **Clarence Arthur "Art" Pearson**, in 1960, the same year he graduated from medical school. The couple settled in Oneida where Art began his medical practice. Together, they raised a family of four children. Art passed away in 2022. Judy and Art spent winters in Naples, Fla. Her greatest joy was spending time with family on the St. Lawrence River at their Cape Vincent home. She was especially fond of many River-area charities and organizations. Throughout her life, she remained active in her community. As a fitting tribute

to her devotion, the **C. Arthur Pearson and Judith Frank Pearson Fund** of the Community Foundation will provide support for a wide range of interests. We are grateful for the special way she will continue to touch the lives of so many in our community and join her family in thanking those who made meaningful gifts of affection in her memory.

Tribute gifts in memory of Judith Ann Frank Pearson
Suzanne H. Adams-La Londe
Phyllis Bailey & Family
Kim & Martin Bigelow
Nate, Jenna, Henry, Oliver & William Bigelow
David & Tracy Cline
Mary Cuthbertson

Max & Sara DelSignore
Deb & Greg Goggins
Erin & Dick Greene
Daniel Heim
Joan Hillenbrand
Polly Smith Kleissas
Sally & Len Koor
Mary & Ted Mascott

Lorraine G. Morse
Mark & Kathleen Pierce
Rande Richardson
Carroll Smith Rodriguez
Lillian T. Rossetti
Mills Smith
Temple & Mike Touchette
Marilyn S. Whiting



Anthony V. Izzo

Vito Antonio "Tony" Izzo was deeply dedicated to his family, faith, and community throughout his life of 93 years. Born in Watertown in 1930, he was the only son to **Maria Giuseppa "Josephine" Rosa Matrone** and **Elia Luigi "Alec" Izzo**. His parents had immigrated to the United States from Italy just two months before he was born. Tony spent most of his working life employed by Sears & Roebuck, retiring after 30 years. He married **Mary Genieve Kehoe** in 1961 and together they raised a daughter and a son. Tony was active in civic and community affairs and was a proud member of the Italian American Civic Association and the Sons of Italy, among other organizations. He loved to sing, knew all the jazz standards and crooned weekly in the Islanders Men's Chorus. With Mary, he was a longtime supporter of the Community Foundation and

helped many local causes and organizations. We join Tony's family and friends in expressing our condolences as we mourn his loss and celebrate his life and legacy of kindness and devotion.

Tribute gift in memory of Anthony V. Izzo
Rande Richardson



Rev. Milton Russell Lee

The Rev. Milton Russell Lee cherished his family and lived an incredibly full life of faith and service to others. Russell was born in 1930 in Pillar Point, a son to Ruth and Milton Lee. He graduated from Dexter High School, Roberts Wesleyan University and New York Theological Seminary. As an undergraduate, he met **Frances Marion Hibbard** and the two were married in 1962. Russell and Marion raised a daughter and two sons together and celebrated 62 years of marriage before he passed away in June. He was ordained a deacon in the United Methodist Church in 1965, and an elder in 1967. Russell began his ministry in St. Regis Falls, Nicholville, and Fort Jackson and, over 38 years, ministered to congregations in Norwood, Massena, Elmira, and Sherrill, later serving as superintendent of the St. Lawrence District. He continued in active ministry until he retired in 2003. Russell enjoyed serving his

community and was active in several local civic and charitable organizations. Shortly before his passing, Russell and Marion established the **M. Russell and F. Marion Lee Fund** at the Community Foundation to support meaningful causes and charitable interests that mattered most to them. We are grateful for having known Russell and express our sincere condolences to his family as we mourn his loss and celebrate a life and legacy that will forever endure in a very special and thoughtful way.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Rev. Milton Russell Lee

Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson



Lennelle McKinnon

As an educator, Lennelle "Lennie" McKinnon spent nearly 40 years challenging her students to grow and achieve in ways even they did not know were possible, inspiring success and casting an imprint on thousands of young men and women. Lennelle was born in East Stone Gap, Va., in 1935, a daughter to **Dorothea** and **Ed Dougherty**. She graduated in 1954 as valedictorian from Grandview Heights High School and earned a bachelor's degree in English from St. Lawrence University in 1958 and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. There, she met **Bernie McKinnon** and the two were married in 1959. Together, they raised a son and two daughters and celebrated 41 years of marriage before Bernie passed away in 2000. Lennelle began her teaching career on Long Island and earned a master's degree at Hofstra University. After she and Bernie returned to Canton, Lennelle began teaching English at Knox Memorial Central School in Russell, where she continued for 31 years, retiring in 1996. Lennelle was especially proud to take an active

role in her community, serving on the board of several local organizations and volunteering. She generously supported many meaningful causes and local charities and was a longtime friend of the Community Foundation. We are grateful for Lennelle's friendship and generosity and express our deepest sympathies to her family as we mourn her loss and celebrate a life well-lived that meaningfully impacted so many in our community.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Lennelle McKinnon

Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson



Rose E. Frattali

Rose E. Frattali was a successful and highly respected business leader who was deeply involved in the Watertown community through a career that spanned nearly 50 years. Rose was born in Watertown in 1931, a daughter to **Angeline** and **Joseph Oliver**. She graduated in 1949 from Immaculate Heart Academy. Following graduation, she joined the Agricultural Insurance Company as a secretary and was later elected as a corporate officer. In 1976, she co-founded New York Casualty Insurance Co. and was elected president in 1984 and chief executive officer in 1985, serving in leadership until her retirement in 1996. She married **Vincent J. Frattali** in August 1954 and enjoyed nearly 49 years together before Vincent passed way in 2003. Together, they raised a son and a daughter. Rose was committed to a wide range of charitable causes, including the Community Foundation, and served on several boards of

local professional and nonprofit organizations. In 1991 she was honored as the first recipient of the Greater Watertown-North Country Chamber of Commerce Athena Award. We are grateful to have known Rose and express our sincere condolences to her family as we celebrate her life and legacy.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Rose E. Frattali

Max & Sara DelSignore
James & Kimberly Oliver
Jan B. Oliver
Rande Richardson



Patricia A. Parker

Patricia A. Parker was a gifted teacher who left an enduring imprint on countless students. Through a 25-year career at Lowville Academy and Central School, she guided hundreds of children through several different grade levels with genuine affection. Pat was born in Montour Falls in 1942 and graduated from Odessa-Montour High School. She earned a bachelor's degree and teaching credential from SUNY Cortland. She was dedicated to serving her community, devoting countless hours as a volunteer and board member for the local library. Pat and her husband, **John**, spent winters in North Carolina mountains, moving there permanently after John passed away in 2019. She was devoted to her faith and active in her church and other charitable causes that held special meaning to her. With her husband, she was a longtime friend of the Community Foundation. We are grateful for having known Pat and express our sincere condolences to her family and friends as we celebrate her legacy of kindness and compassion.



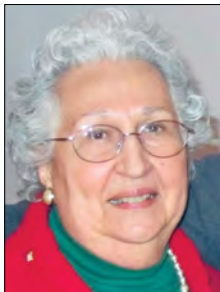
Nancy Ermina Ferguson Seeley

Nancy Ermina Ferguson Seeley held a deep commitment to helping others and giving back and her generosity took many forms. Nancy was born in 1928, in Freeport, Ill., a daughter to **Leonard C. and Mildred F. Ferguson**. She graduated from Stanford University in 1950 with a bachelor's degree in economics and continued her education at Simmons University, Boston. She worked as a retail buyer and later, as a Realtor. Nancy married **Robert Arnold "Bob" Seeley** in 1954. Together, they raised a son and two daughters and enjoyed 44 years of marriage. Her philanthropy helped untold others to better themselves and their lives through her commitment to children, youth, education, the arts, nature and conservation. She also had cherished ties with the Hammond Presbyterian Church, where her father once served as pastor. Nancy held a deep love for the outdoors and the St. Lawrence River where she

had a summer home at Oak Point. During her lifetime, she partnered with the Community Foundation to support her local interests and had a vision to ensure support continued for the causes she cared about most at the place she called home. Nancy was an inspirational role model who led by example. We are honored to extend her legacy in meaningful and enduring ways as she continues to impact the region to which she was so proudly and deeply connected and will remain so in perpetuity.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Nancy Ermina Ferguson Seeley

Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson



Virginia R. Palumbo

Virginia R. Palumbo cherished her family and faith and was a longtime Community Foundation friend. Virginia was born in 1928, in Phoenix, N.Y., a daughter to **Jack and Sally Caltabiano**. She graduated from Phoenix High School in 1941 and began a career as a bookkeeper for Oswego County National Bank. In 1956, she transferred to the NNY Trust Company, which later became Marine Midland Bank, to work in the mortgage department. She served 40 years with Marine Midland Bank, retiring in 1986. She married **Joseph Palumbo** in 1956 and celebrated 47 years of marriage before Joe passed away in 2004. Virginia supported many causes and organizations that were special to her, including her church. She was especially proud of her Italian heritage and was a past vice president of the Italian American Civic Association Auxiliary. She was also a 35-year

member of Beta Sigma Phi, serving as a past secretary, treasurer and president. We are grateful for having known Virginia and will miss her friendship. We express our deepest condolences to her extended family and friends as we celebrate her legacy of kindness and devotion to family and community.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Virginia R. Palumbo

Max & Sara DelSignore
Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Rande Richardson



Zane Cree Carl Petersen

Zane Cree Carl Petersen cherished the outdoors and spent much of his time exploring nature while hiking and enjoying the beauty of the St. Lawrence River. Born in 1991, a son to **Laurie and Ray Petersen**, Zane graduated from Alexandria Central School in 2009. He earned an associate degree from Jefferson Community College, graduating with high honors as a member of Phi Theta Kappa in 2017. He later attended Harpur College at Binghamton University where he studied psychology. Zane worked in Alexandria Bay and Watertown and was a caregiver for his grandmother. A nature lover, he was active in his community, volunteering his time with the Indian River Lakes Conservancy. When Zane passed away unexpectedly in February at the age of 32, his family directed memorial gifts in his memory to the

Community Foundation. We are honored to be part of the special way Zane will be remembered and thank all who made gifts of affection in his name. We express our deepest sympathies to Zane's family as we mourn his loss and celebrate his passion for adventure.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Zane Cree Carl Petersen

Anonymous
Constance M. Archer
Dawn Bartlett
Linda S. Dening
Robert Johnson
Mary E. Loftus
Rande Richardson
Vicki R. Wilson



Charlene Frances Hall

Charlene Frances Hall was a bright light whose kindness and affection for others were contagious. She was born in Watertown in 1943, a daughter to **Ellen Radigan and Charles Aldus Hall**. Longtime Watertown residents, her father was a New York State Trooper and her mother a teacher at Watertown High School. Charlene suffered an illness as a child that left her physically impaired for life. She maintained a sharp mind and quick sense of humor. As a young adult, Charlene moved to a United Helpers home in St. Lawrence County, where she lived for more than 40 years, receiving exceptional care throughout her life. Her mother passed away in 1976. She continued to join her father, whom she cherished, for day trips and other adventures until he passed away in 1996. Charlene forged many strong bonds with other residents and caregivers who became enduring friends and extended family at United

Helpers. When she passed away in January at age 81, Charlene's family directed gifts in her memory to help build **Charlene's Fund** at the Community Foundation, which was established in her honor in 2023 to provide professional development for caregivers and employees of United Helpers. We are fortunate to have known Charlene and are deeply grateful for the special and lasting way she will be remembered.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Charlene Frances Hall

Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson



Jordan Patrick Shayne Drake

After the sudden passing in May of **Jordan Patrick Shayne Drake**, family and friends responded to honor his young life in a meaningful way. Jordan was born in Watertown in 2007, a son to **Brent and Liza Drake**. He was a junior at Indian River Central High School. Throughout his 16 years, Jordan demonstrated a zeal for life made richer by his connections with those he met who became fast friends and meant the world to him. He was loved by many due to his unwavering loyalty to those who loved him. His family and friends appreciated his personality and humor behind a smile that lit up any room he entered. Jordan loved football, having played at all levels at Indian River, and his dedication to the game was incredible. His thirst for adventure and love of the outdoors and fishing led to many annual trips and casual outings. To honor his life and memory, his family and friends established the **Jordan Drake Memorial Fund** at the Community Foundation to support the Indian River Central School Class of 2025. The

trust that his parents and family have placed with the Community Foundation to ensure his memory will endure is remarkable. There is no greater honor than to be the steward of such a precious gift.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Jordan Patrick Shayne Drake

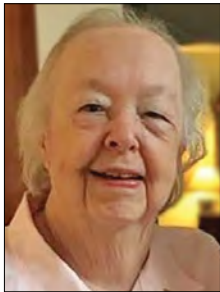
Jeffrey & Marie Ambrose
Anonymous (3)
Rosalie Austin
The Backus Family
Marceline Bass-Terpstra
G. Ray Bodley Faculty & Staff
(Fulton, NY)
Lynn & Scott Brown
Pamela & Edward Brown
Deanna Burke & Mike Aregano
Dana & Larry Cimino
Kevin Compeau
Dolores E. Cook
Jean H. Decker
Rhada O. Decker
Max & Sara DelSignore
Peter & Joan Dougall
Allen* & Terry Drake

The Drake Family
Allen* & Terry Drake, Brent, Liza,
Jared & Lilli Drake,
Rich, Emily & Elliott Falcon
Tom Drake
Steve & Julie Dziewisz
Darren & Marsha Edgar & Family
Rich & Emily Falcon
Franklin Academy High School
Class of 2025
Ella Marie Fults & Family
Jack & Judith Giordano
Janet A. Gregware
Elliott & Marjorie Hillback
Home Based Primary Care Team
Syracuse VA Hospital
Dan Huddleston
Indian River Education Association
Jefferson County Board of
Legislators
Regina & Stephen Jennison
Nellie Kelsey & Family

Glenn & Elizabeth LaFave
LaFave, White & McGivern
Rick & Theresa Leeson
Brian, Jennifer & Brady Lynch
Stephen & Korinna Magovney
Paul & Sue Manfredo
Wayne Mattingly
Jacqueline & David McIlroy
John & Cindy McKeever
Joe & Lisa Meeks
Patricia K. Mousaw
Joyce Nicholas
Susan Obergefell
Alan F. O'Driscoll
Dan O'Leary
Elaine Overton
John & Barbara Park
Bonnie H. Perkins
Mark, Christine, Caleb &
Sydney Petranchuk
Anne Piroli
Terry L. Prior & Noah A. Prior Jr.

The Reape Family
Bill & Lisa Reedy
Cindy & William Reynolds
Rande Richardson
Nancy Rosbrook & Joe Pitts
Bonnie & Tom Scheer
Peter & Kathy Shue & Family
The Sleeth Family
Carol A. W. Smith
Sue Smith
Peter J. III & Karen Souch
Kathy Stevens
Lesley Sugrue
Theresa Primary PTO
Eleanor Thomas
Martin W. Tokos
Katrin & Donald Kirk Tooley
UPS Workers – Watertown
Mary Ellen Wenk
Gary & Kim West
Robert West & Family
Russell & Mary Wilcox

*Deceased



Joan D. Pflugheber

Joan D. Pflugheber dedicated more than 30 years of her life to ensuring children received the best possible care, founding a respected child care center and leaving an enduring imprint on several generations. She was born in 1931, a daughter to **Dorothy and Arnold Hansen**. Joan grew up in New Jersey and graduated in 1949 from Milburn High School. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from St. Lawrence University in 1953. There, she met **Edward Pflugheber** whom she married in 1952. Together with Ed, she raised five daughters and celebrated 69 years together before Ed passed away in 2021. Joan was active in her community, serving as president of the Watertown Kiwanis Club. She was a loyal supporter of the Community Foundation and causes that were special to her. In 1966, she began New Day Nursery in her home, igniting a passion for child care. She became the founder of New Day Childrens Center, the first licensed child care center in Watertown. She was later instrumental in establishing a child care center at

Jefferson Community College. She led both centers until retiring in 1996. We are saddened by Joan's loss and share our deepest sympathies with her family as we celebrate her legacy of care and compassion for children.

Tribute gift in memory of
Joan D. Pflugheber
Rande Richardson



Craig W. Tucker

A devotion to family, country and community guided **Craig W. Tucker** through a life of 77 years. Born in 1947 in Watertown, a son to William and Ninetta Tucker, he graduated from General Brown High School in 1965 and entered the United States Air Force. Following active duty, he graduated from Jefferson Community College. Craig continued his military service as member of the Air National Guard for 25 years, deploying to the Persian Gulf War. In 1971, he married **Anita M. Szalc** and together they raised three daughters. He enjoyed a career as an accountant at New York Air Brake and later retired from the Conboy McKay Law Firm. He served as a Village of Dexter Trustee for many years and was active in local veterans organizations. Craig also served his community for more than 40 years as a member of the Dexter Fire Department. When he passed away in June, Craig's family directed memorial gifts to the Community Foundation to help build

the **William Archer Scholarship Fund**. We are honored to be part of the special way Craig will be remembered and express our deepest sympathy to his family as we remember his life of dedicated service.

Tribute gift in memory of
Craig W. Tucker
Dexter Volunteer Fire
Department



Alfred H. Webert

Alfred H. Webert was a devoted father and grandfather who proudly served his country and generously supported causes that helped make his community a better place. Born in 1925 in Watertown, Alfred graduated from Brownville Glen Park High School and served in the U.S. Air Force before earning a bachelor's degree in business from Syracuse University. In 1949, he married **Barbara Stumpf**. Together, they raised three daughters and celebrated nearly 72 years of marriage before Barbara passed away in 2021. Alfred was a Certified Public Accountant, operating his own practice in Dexter. After he passed away in April at age 98, his family decided to honor his life and legacy through gifts to the **Ryan Ingalls Memorial Scholarship** at the Community Foundation. Ryan was Alfred's grandson who passed away in 2006 at the age of 19. The scholarship in his memory is awarded annually to a graduating Watertown High School senior who best

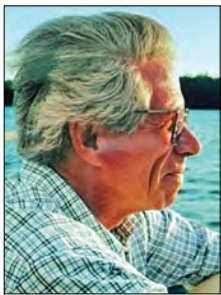
embodies the true spirit of friendship to others. We are honored to be a part of the enduring way Alfred will be remembered. We express our deepest sympathy as we celebrate his life and legacy and join his family in thanking those who made tributes in his memory, while also remembering Ryan.

Tribute gifts in memory of Alfred H. Webert

Anonymous
Danielle Bartlett
Board of Directors & Staff of North Country Insurance Company

Suzanne Devine
Pam Hayes & Kevin Jumps
Julie Ingalls
Robert Ingalls
Bette Isereau
Susan F. Larson
Rande Richardson

Luanne Webert Shafer
Deborah A. & Michael J. Simser
Eugene J. & Brenda J. Snyder
Anne Webert
Cynthia Webert
John Webert



Nathaniel Philip Wardwell

Nathaniel Philip "Phil" Wardwell proudly served his country and was a staunch advocate for the environment throughout his lifetime of 80 years. Phil was born in Watertown and graduated from The Hill School, Pottstown, Pa., and later Harvard College and the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Following law school, he entered the U.S. Army as a captain in the Judge Advocate General's Corps. After an honorable discharge, Phil worked as an attorney for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Watertown Region. He married **Julene Marie "Julie" Reudink Strauss** in 1984 and together they raised three daughters and a son. Phil became a staff attorney for the New Mexico Environment Department in 1997, later working with the Laboratory Counsel's Office of Los Alamos National Laboratory until he retired in 2010. When Phil passed away in May, his family designated gifts in his memory to the Community Foundation to support the

Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division. We appreciate the special way Phil will be remembered and express our deepest sympathies to his family as we honor his life and legacy.

Tribute gift in memory of Nathaniel Philip Wardwell

Rande Richardson



Rev. Leo A. Wiley

The **Rev. Leo A. Wiley** devoted his life in service to others, pastoring Catholic parishes throughout the Diocese of Ogdensburg for more than 50 years. Born in Watertown in 1931, a son to **Helen E.** and **William O. Wiley**, he graduated from Cape Vincent High School in 1948. He attended Wadhams Hall Seminary before completing his studies at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore. Rev. Wiley was ordained as a Catholic priest in 1956 in Ogdensburg. Through the next five decades, he led parishes in Malone, Saranac Lake, Plattsburgh, Massena, Clayton, Indian Lake, Willsboro, Essex, Ogdensburg, Lyon Mountain, and Croghan, where he served until his retirement in 2006. During his retirement, he assisted pastors in Alexandria Bay, Redwood, Adams, and Henderson and celebrated daily Mass at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph. In addition to his parish assignments, he was widely involved in Diocesan

leadership. Rev. Wiley was a longtime friend of the Community Foundation and supported many local causes. We are saddened by his loss while also grateful for his many contributions to our community.



Scott R. Walroth

Scott Richard Walroth was an inspirational teacher, impacting the lives of countless young artists, many of whom furthered their artistic endeavors far beyond their school years. Born in Watertown in 1958, a son to **Jacqueline** and **Roland Walroth**, he graduated in 1976 from Watertown High School and later earned a bachelor's degree from SUNY Potsdam and a master's from Syracuse University. He taught middle school and high school art in the General Brown, Sherburne-Earlville, and Niskayuna school districts. Scott married **Catherine Granger** in 1984, and together they raised two daughters. As Director of Art Education for Niskayuna Central Schools, Scott greatly impacted others as an advocate for the arts, leaving an enduring legacy of leadership in K-12 art education. When he passed away in June, gifts to the Community Foundation were directed to support the **Brittany Walroth Memorial Scholarship**, which honors his late niece. We are honored

to be part of the special way Scott is remembered and share our deepest condolences with his family.

Tribute gift in memory of Scott R. Walroth

Judy Cain

In our next issue ... ■ Our year-end 2024 issue of **Thoughtful Giving** will feature stories and memorial tributes about the lives and legacies of several Community Foundation supporters who recently passed including: ■ **Jeannie Brennan** ■ **Maureen Gough** ■ **Harold B. Johnson II** ■ **J. Richard Munro** ■ **Dr. Howard Henry Splete Jr.** ■ **Henry "Tyke" Wood**

Recent Tribute Gifts

Includes only gifts made to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Fund from Jan. 27, 2024 to July 23, 2024, or for those who have recently passed.

In Memory of Given by

Arthur F. "Sonny" Abrams
Rande Richardson

Josephine H. "Joedy" Allen
John G. Foster

Margaret "Peg" Aumell
Rande Richardson

Barbara L. Bailey
Rande Richardson

Beverley E. Barker
Rande Richardson

Jayne Bellini
Dr. Eugene & Joyce Renzi

Alma E. Bowman
Max & Sara DelSignore

Ken Bresett
Albert & Theresa
Desormeaux & Family

Robert J. Brown M.D.
Rande Richardson

Bruce Buckingham
Patricia R. Burke
Friendly Service, NCZ
John J. Gaffney

Ilene Burke
Rande Richardson

Shirley Bush
Karen Stowell

Harold G. "Rip" Carpenter
Elliott & Marjorie Hillback
Butterfield Lake Cottage
Owners Association
Rene & Lorene Porte

Rosa Martinez Choroco
Rande Richardson

Clinton Lee Clark
Joyce & David Crossley

Edward Coombs
Michele Jeican

Ellen I. Cottrell
Rande Richardson

David N. Cummings
David Crossley
Max & Sara DelSignore
Maria Mesires
Rande Richardson
Trustees of the Roswell P. Flower
Memorial Library

Richard N. "Rick" Damon
Connie Elliot

Cynthia C. Demo
Max & Sara DelSignore

Mary D. Demo
Rande Richardson

Christine Woodcock Dettor
Rande Richardson

Garry Downey
Maria Mesires
Rande Richardson

Allen T. Drake
Marceline Bass-Terpstra
Max & Sara DelSignore
Friendly Service, NCZ
Rande Richardson

Durma Elliott
Bill Elliott
Connie Elliott
Jim Elliott
Lori Porter
Kay Elliott Stallings

Phyllis J. Gaffney
Rande Richardson

Michael Gondok
John Treadwell

Lola M. Greenwood
Rande Richardson

John Griffin
Rande Richardson

Michelle Grybowski
Deborah J. Hunter

Marvin C. Hart
Erin & Dick Greene

Rev. Stewart E. Hild
Alma H. Hild

**Lt. Col. (Ret.) Christopher
E. Hornbarger**
Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Rande Richardson

Kathleen A. Tarwater Horning
Rande Richardson

Allan G. Howard
Rande Richardson

Richard "Dick" G. Jones
Jayson & Tammi Jones

Christopher J. Kamide
John Kamide

Lisa A. Lavarney
Jane S. & Lee T. Cagwin

Victor R. Leon
Rande Richardson

Debra J. Ligamari
Michele & Tim Jeican

Bret Martin
Albert & Theresa
Desormeaux & Family

Mario Martini
Dr. Eugene & Joyce Renzi

Ren Martini Sr.
Joan E. Carlo

Richard J. Mattis
Rande Richardson

David W. McCabe
Max & Sara DelSignore

Edward P. McKinney
David Crossley

Stephanie Mider
Thomas S. Brett
Rande Richardson

Rodney L. Miller
John Treadwell

Richard D. Monaghan
Rande Richardson

Ronald H. "Ron" Monica
Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Dorothy Ann Montondo
Max & Sara DelSignore

David Michael Moore
William & Beth Maguire

John R. Murray
Erin & Dick Greene

Randy Newcomb
Albert & Theresa
Desormeaux & Family

Terry O'Brien
Paula Amato

Linda M. O'Leary, "Miss O"
Tom & Elizabeth Spaulding

Peter G. Papin
Rande Richardson

Earl Peck
Albert & Theresa
Desormeaux & Family

John M. Prugar
Linda Holley
Lee Prugar

Maxine M. Quigg
Paula Amato

Ronald D. Randall
Trevor & Erica Garlock

Kenneth M. Rudes
Joyce & David Crossley

Meghan E. Rule
Rande Richardson

Robert Rusch
Elliott & Marjorie Hillback

Wayne K. Rusho
Rande Richardson

Christine Marie Sauter-Milligan
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

Donna L. Schorr
Rande Richardson

Clarence J. Sheley
Rande Richardson

Andrew H. & Henrietta L. Smith
Rande Richardson

Richard Spaulding
Rande Richardson

Dr. Henry Howard Splete Jr.
Max & Sara DelSignore
Derek & Char Lough
Rande Richardson
Allen & Marilyn Splete

Jennifer Tousant Stahl
Thomas H. Bradley 3rd
Joyce & David Crossley
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

Karen L. Stumpf
Rande Richardson

Christopher Miles Tousant
Thomas H. Bradley 3rd
Joyce & David Crossley
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

Dr. W. Barton "Bart" Van Slyke
Albert & Theresa
Desormeaux & Family

Mario E. Vargas
Friendly Service, NCZ
Jacqueline Landers-Maloney &
William Landers

Nancy L. Vecchio
Joyce & David Crossley
Max & Sara DelSignore
William & Beth Maguire
Rande Richardson

Norma Jean Ver Schneider
Rande Richardson

Lonnie Weaver
Albert & Theresa
Desormeaux & Family

Barbara N. Webber
Rande Richardson

June P. Wight
Kim & Cynthia Candlish
Sam & Dawn DeFranco & Family
Lisa Lefebvre
Rande Richardson

James H. Wilkinson
Carl & Mary Colton

Henry "Tyke" Wood
Diane E. Baltz/On Behalf of the
Schnauber Family
Charlie & Maureen Caprara
Celtic Energy Farm
Marshal & Patti Linder
Mary & Ted Mascott
Melissa Pallop
David Peters
James Schnauber & Patricia Wood
Steven J. Smith
Vicki & John Weller
Donna Wiley

(continued on page 29)

Scholarship perpetuates legacy of local attorney

Susan A. Sovie was a longtime leader in the North Country legal profession and widely known for strong advocacy on behalf of children.

Born in Watertown in 1969, a daughter to **Bonnie L. and David A. Sovie**, Sue graduated in 1987 from Watertown High School. She later earned a bachelor's degree from Hartwick College, Oneonta, and a Juris Doctor with honors from Syracuse University College of Law. Sue was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1995.

Always focused in her practice on representing children, she had a unique ability to see an entire case from the children's point of view and how decisions would impact them. Sue's passion was helping others, and she consistently strived to make a difference in her community and in the lives of the families with whom she worked.

In 1998, Sue received the Fourth Department's Michael F. Dillon Law Guardian Award for outstanding representation, making her the only attorney in Jefferson County ever to receive this award.

Sue's imprint on children often outlasted



Susan A. Sovie

her legal representation of the children. She was frequently invited to attend milestone events in the children's lives, such as graduations, birthdays or weddings, years after she was the child's attorney.

When she passed away in 2016 at age 46, her colleagues recalled how seeing troubled children adopted into good homes brought Sue great reward and joy.

In 1996, she was nominated to serve as Jefferson County's Attorneys for Children program liaison for the state's Fourth Department, advising and assisting about 35 attorneys representing children, a volunteer position she continued to hold until her passing.

Sue was very active in her community and was a founding board member and former board chairwoman of the county's Big Brothers/Big Sisters program, among other community activities.

The **Susan A. Sovie Memorial Scholarship** was established at the Community Foundation earlier this year to help students who are determined to improve the world around them. The special way she will be remembered perpetuates her legacy and she will continue to touch the lives of young people forever.

To join in helping to build the scholarship, make gifts to: **Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601**, or online at nnycf.org.

FIRST JOHN MARNELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARS

Shira Parnes, Gabrielle D. Sochia and Brody M. Brown are the first recipients of the Northern New York Community Foundation **John Marnell Memorial Scholarship**.

Shira graduated in June from **Carthage High School** as her class valedictorian and will begin her freshman year at **Harvard University**, Cambridge, Mass., this fall, where she plans to study neuroscience. Upon completion of undergraduate studies, Shira plans to continue her education in medical school. She is the daughter of **Michelle and Dr. Nata Parnes**, Carthage.

A top-ranked honor student, **Gabrielle** graduated in June from **Colton-Pierrepont Central School** as her class valedictorian. She will attend **SUNY Plattsburgh** this fall to study biology. Gabrielle aspires to become a physician assistant who specializes in the care of children with disabilities. She is the daughter of **Kattie Nanticoke**, Potsdam, and **Joey Sochia**, Parishville, and the stepdaughter of **Roy Clough**,



JOHN MARNELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARS: From left, Marnell family friend **Melanie Avallone**; scholarship recipient **Gabrielle D. Sochia**; John's wife, **Stephanie Marnell**; scholarship recipient **Brody M. Brown**; and Marnell family friend **Julie Jackson**.

Hannawa Falls.

Brody is a rising sophomore and honor student at **Rochester Institute of Technology** where he studies medicine in the combined bachelor's and master's degree physician assistant program. He is a 2023 graduate of **Lowville Academy and Central School** where he was a top-ranked honor student. Brody is the son of **Jana and Chad Brown**, Lowville.

John R. "Gunther" Marnell was a deeply devoted husband, father, and grandfather who cared passionately for his community. He proudly served as a New York State Corrections Officer for 32 years, retiring in December 2020 from the Gouverneur Correctional Facility. He was also a longtime member of the Evans Mills Fire Department and played on the Watertown Red & Black foot-



Stephanie Marnell with scholarship recipient **Shira Parnes**.

ball team. John passed away in March 2021 at age 57 after a short but hard-fought battle with **AL amyloidosis**, a federally classified rare disease affecting less than 200,000 people nationally.

John's wife, **Stephanie**, established the **John Marnell Memorial Scholarship** at the Community Foundation earlier this year to honor John's life and legacy and to increase awareness of **AL amyloidosis**. The scholarship is awarded annually to one student in each county of **Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence** who is enrolled in a medical program.

RECENT FOUNDATION GRANTS

This list includes competitive grant recipients the Community Foundation Board of Directors has recently approved and those suggested by advisors of individual named funds. Most recipients listed are Northern New York based.

10th Mountain Division (Light)
Wounded Warrior Fund
Adams Free Library
Adams Revitalization Committee
Adirondack Central School District
Adirondack Community Chorus
Adirondack Mennonite Camping Association
Aldersgate Camp and Retreat Center
Alexandria Community Thrift Store
Alexandria Township Historical Society
Alzheimer's Association
Central New York Chapter
American Heart Association
American Red Cross Central and
Northern New York Chapter
American Youth Soccer Organization –
Northern New York Region 1674
Beaver River Central School District
Boonville Black River Canal Museum
Boonville Cemetery Association
Boonville Concert Band
Boonville Search and Rescue
Boy Scouts of America Longhouse Council
Camp Wabasso
Canton Central School District
Canton Community Fund
Canton Free Library

Cape Vincent Arts Council
Cape Vincent Community Food Pantry
Cape Vincent Community Library
Cape Vincent Fire Department
Cape Vincent Improvement League
Cape Vincent Local Development Corp.
Carthage Area Hospital Foundation
Catholic Charities – Diocese of Ogdensburg
Cavallario Education Fund
Chapin Living Waters Foundation
Children's Home of Jefferson County (CHJC)
Children's Miracle Network Hospitals of
Northern New York at Samaritan
Church and Community Program
Churches of Canton
City of Watertown
Clarkson University
Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center Foundation
Clayton Cemetery Association
Clayton Volunteer Fire Department
Clayton Youth Commission
Clifton-Fine Community Fund
Coach Steve Fisher Legacy Fund
Community Action Planning Council
of Jefferson County
Community Lunch Program for Kids
Compassionate Care Foundation
Concert in the Park
Constable Hall Association
Constableville For Tomorrow
Cranberry Lake North Shore Hub
Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division
Deep Root Center for Self-Directed Learning
Dexter Historical Society

Disabled Persons Action Organization
Dodge Pratt Northam Art and
Community Center
Double Play Sports Community Center
DPAO Foundation
Erwin Library and Institute
Family Counseling Service of
Northern New York
First Presbyterian Church of Watertown:
A Beacon Restored Fund
Food Bank Fund of Northern New York
Food Bank of Central New York
Fort La Presentation Association
Frederic Remington Art Museum
Friends of Lewis County Hospice
Friends of the Nature Center
Friends of the Roswell P. Flower
Memorial Library
GardenShare
Garrett Loomis Firefighters Fund
General Brown Central School District
Glenwood Cemetery Revitalization
Campaign Fund
Gouverneur First United Methodist Church
Gracious Friends Animal Sanctuary
Grasse River Food Pantry
Grasse River Heritage
Habitat For Humanity
Hammond Food Pantry
Hammond Presbyterian Church
HarmoniNY Performing Arts Community
Harrisville Volunteer Fire Department
Hearts for Youth
Helping Hands of Potsdam
Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs
Heuvelton Central School District
Historical Association of South Jefferson
Hospice and Palliative Care of
St. Lawrence Valley
Hospice of Jefferson County
Hospice of St. Lawrence Valley
Immaculate Heart Central School
Indian Creek Nature Center
Indian River Central School District
Indian River Lakes Conservancy
Jefferson Community College Foundation
Jefferson County Historical Society
Jefferson County SPCA
Jefferson County Toys for Tots
Lewis County Historical Society
Lewis County Humane Society
Lewis County Opportunities
Literacy of Northern New York
Lowville Academy and Central School
Lowville Food Pantry
Lowville Free Library
Lowville Rural Cemetery Association
Lyme Community Foundation
Lyme Free Library
Lyme Heritage Center
Lyme Performing Arts Council
Macsherry Library
Madrid Rescue Squad
Madrid Volunteer Fire Department

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL SENIORS



The Community Foundation recently provided support to the **Watertown Senior Center** to aid with its work and mission. The new social hub welcomes older adults to participate in daily activities. Senior Center leaders say they hope to alleviate loneliness among local seniors and help them remain active through a wide range of programming. Pictured, from left: Community Foundation Stewardship and Donor Services Associate **Tara Hess**; Watertown Senior Center President **Deb Doyle**; Watertown Senior Center Vice President **Mike Hedrick**; and Jefferson County Office for the Aging Director **Bethany Munn**.

See **RECENT GRANTS** on next page

Recent Tribute Gifts

(continued from page 26)

William H. "Bill" Wormuth

Jeff & Sandee Allen
Patricia R. Burke
Barbara Hemmerlein
Joan E. Jones
Greg & Lisa Porter
Scott Shablak
Brian Sheley
Neva C. Winter

Robert C. & Elaine M. Zembiec

Max & Sara DelSignore
William & Beth Maguire
Rande Richardson

In Honor of
Given by

2024 Watertown Boys Varsity Lacrosse Team

Rande Richardson

John Patrick Bailey's 25th Birthday

Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Jim Bates & Diane Kissel Bates' 50th Anniversary

Rande Richardson

Paul Cook's 100th Birthday

William & Beth Maguire
Rande Richardson

Phoebe Grace DePrimo's Birth

Gretchen G. Eysaman
Kenneth J. Eysaman

Daniel J. Dupee's, II Inauguration

Rande Richardson

Mary G. Eysaman Eberl's Retirement from Nursing

Gretchen G. Eysaman
Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Ken Eysaman's 50th Birthday

Michelle Carpenter
Connie Elliott
Gretchen G. Eysaman
Michele & Tim Jeican
Rande Richardson

Kate Fenlon

Rande Richardson

Robert Hagemann's Retirement

Rande Richardson

McKenna Lee

Rande Richardson

Sally L'Huillier's 90th Birthday

Rande Richardson

Beth Maguire's Retirement

Max & Sara DelSignore
Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Michele Jeican
Mary E. Loftus
Stephen & Korinna Magovney
Rande Richardson

Jack Mangan

Rande Richardson

Tony Mesires' 80th Birthday

Rande Richardson

Patrick O'Brien's Retirement

Rande Richardson

Rebecca Rose

Rande Richardson

Nort Taylor's 102nd Birthday

Rande Richardson

Marilyn Trainor's Retirement

Rande Richardson

Olivia Urf

Rande Richardson

Maya Voss

Rande Richardson

The Wedding of Sara Harity Smith & Michael John Wearne

Rande Richardson

Olivia Wisner

Rande Richardson

RECENT GRANTS from previous page

Mannsville Free Library
Mannsville Manor Volunteer Fire Company
Massena First United Methodist Church
Soup Kitchen
Massena Meals On Wheels
New Horizons Bands of Northern New York
North Country Children's Museum
North Country Family Health Center
North Country Library System
North Country Music Project Fund
North Country Public Radio
Northern Regional Center for
Independent Living
Norwood Village Green Concert Series
Ogdensburg Boys and Girls Club
Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center Pantry
Ogdensburg Volunteer Rescue Squad
OBI Land Trust
Paynter Senior Center
Police Activities League of Massena
Potsdam Central School District
Potsdam Figure Skating Club
Potsdam Snack Pack Program
Priority Wellness Campaign
Railway Historical Society of
Northern New York
Reading Room Association of Gouverneur
ReNew Bremen
Rensselaer Falls Volunteer Rescue Squad
Resolution Center of Jefferson and
Lewis Counties
River Hospital
Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library
Sackets Harbor Battlefield Alliance
Safe Schools Endeavor

Salvation Army of Massena Food Pantry
Samaritan Medical Center Auxiliary
Samaritan Medical Center Foundation
Save The River
Six Town Community Fund
Society of the United Helpers
South Jeff Backpack Program
South Jefferson Central School District
South Jefferson Rescue Squad
SPENNY15 Community Fund
St. James School
St. Joseph's Foundation
St. Lawrence County Health Initiative
St. Lawrence County People Project
St. Lawrence Land Trust
St. Lawrence University
St. Lawrence Valley SPCA
St. Mary's Food Pantry
Stage Notes
The Antique Boat Museum
The Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence Foundation
The Nature Conservancy –
Adirondack Chapter
The Orchestra of Northern New York
The Rohde Center
The Salvation Army Watertown Corps
Theresa Free Library
Thompson Park Bandstand Project Fund
Thompson Park Conservancy / Zoo New York
Thousand Islands Arts Center
Thousand Islands Emergency Rescue Service
Thousand Islands Foundation
Thousand Islands Land Trust
Thousand Islands Museum
Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund
(Clayton Opera House)

Town of Alexandria
Town of Cape Vincent
Town of Diana Historical Museum
Town of Theresa
Town of Watertown Ambulance Service
Town of Watertown Fire Department
Traditional Arts in Upstate New York
(TAUNY)
Transitional Living Services of
Northern New York
Trinity Concert Series
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
United Presbyterian Church Tower
Restoration Fund
United Service Organizations Fort Drum
United Way of Northern New York
Village Ecumenical Ministries Food Pantry
Village of Boonville
Village of Canton
Village of Carthage
Village of Copenhagen
Village of Dexter
Village of Lowville
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
Volunteer Transportation Center Foundation
Wanakena Historical Association
Watertown Community Fund
Watertown Family YMCA
Watertown Lyric Theater
Watertown Noon Rotary
Watertown Urban Mission
Western Town Library
Wilderness Health Care Foundation
WPBS-TV
WWCL (The Chug Wagon, Clayton)
Zoo New York Animal Wellness Fund

Class of 2024 Boldt scholars honored at castle

Ella F. Galloway, Sydnie R. Manarina, and Dawson J. Rastley, were named as the 2024 recipients of the Northern New York Community Foundation George C. Boldt Scholarship during a celebration at Boldt Castle on Heart Island.

Each student was awarded \$10,000 in educational support. **Ella Galloway**, a **Watertown High** graduate will attend **St. John Fisher College**, Rochester, this fall where she will study psychology. **Sydnie Manarina**, also a **Watertown High** graduate, will attend Jefferson Community College this fall where she is presently undeclared; **Dawson Rastley**, a **General Brown** graduate, will study criminal justice this fall at Jefferson Community College.

Malcolm Goodridge, the great-grandson of **George C. Boldt Sr.**, established the scholarship at the Community Foundation in 2017. Mr. Goodridge's son, **Charlie**, and granddaughter, **Gracelyn**, presented recipients with their awards. Now in its sixth year, the scholarship supports Jefferson County students and honors the life and legacy of Boldt Castle builder **George C. Boldt Sr.**, a noted philanthropist and hotelier who once owned New York City's Waldorf Astoria Hotel.



HONORING A NEW CLASS OF BOLDT SCHOLARS: From left, **Shane Sanford**, retired Boldt Castle operations manager and Boldt Scholarship committee chairman; **Gracelyn Goodridge**, great-great-granddaughter of **George C. Boldt Sr.**; 2024 Northern New York Community Foundation **George C. Boldt Scholarship** recipients **Ella F. Galloway**, **Sydnie R. Manarina**, and **Dawson J. Rastley**; and **Charlie Goodridge**, great-great-grandson of **George C. Boldt Sr.** in the billiards room of Boldt Castle during a reception and celebration on July 18.

IN MEMORY & APPRECIATION

MALCOLM GOODRIDGE III 1936-2024

Throughout his lifetime of 87 years, **Malcolm Goodridge III** helped others overcome challenges in the face of adversity and doubt, a struggle he experienced as a young man. His deep appreciation of his family's legacy led him to help many young men and women who showed promise.

Malcolm valued education as a means to improve one's quality of life. For that reason, he championed the establishment of the **George C. Boldt Scholarship** at the Community Foundation in 2017 to honor his great-grandfather, a past trustee of Cornell University, philanthropist, and owner of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

He believed education was the "great equalizer" to prepare students for lifelong success. Malcolm also appreciated the important role that generosity plays in a community's health and well-being and viewed a quality education as a pathway to achieve both.

Malcolm was born and lived in New York City during his formative years. He was dyslexic throughout his life and never graduated from high school. After serving for two years



Malcolm Goodridge III, congratulates George C. Boldt Scholarship inaugural recipient **Dylan O'Connor** in 2019.

with the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division, he attended **Hobart College**, graduating in 1961. In the 1990s, he became a trustee at his alma mater.

His career began with First National City Bank (CitiCorp) and continued at American Express Co., retiring after more than 25 years. While working in Manhattan, he met **Susan Walker**, and the two were later married. Together, they raised a daughter and

three sons and enjoyed 57 years of marriage before Susan passed away in 2022.

Following a successful career with corporate moves to Memphis, Chicago, and London, Malcolm and Susan moved to Beaufort County, South Carolina, in 1995. He became active in local Beaufort organizations. He established a foundation, raising almost \$1 million to aid children who learn differently, helping 350 young students in eight Beaufort County Schools. He encouraged them to follow his mottoes "Never Give Up!" and "It's not how hard you fall, it's how high you bounce."

Malcolm embodied the spirit of giving with great joy and appreciation and enjoyed meeting the students who received the Boldt Scholarship. Through this legacy scholarship, Malcolm and his family will forever leave an indelible imprint on students, families, and the Jefferson County region, forever.

We are grateful to have known Malcolm and deeply appreciate his generosity. We express our condolences to his family and join them in thanking all who made special gifts of affection in his name.

Tribute gifts in memory of Malcolm Goodridge III

Max & Sara DelSignore
Kenneth J. Eysaman III

Cooley K. Fales
Nancy & Dewey Gilley
James Goodale
Daniel & Tara Hess
Michele & Tim Jeican

Mark & Ann Kington
Janice Lehmborg
Mary E. Loftus
Stephen & Korinna
Magovney

Bruce J. Maguire
William & Beth Maguire
Amy McCarthy
Mary V. Palmer
Mary Perrine

Rande Richardson
James A. Shuford III
Jimmy & Lea Taylor
Russell Wilcox



Northern New York Community Foundation

Their story is our story.

Since 1929, the **Northern New York Community Foundation** has been a place where life stories are told and have a permanent home in the fabric of our region. We are grateful to all who entrust their legacies to us in an enduring way. During the past year, the following individuals remembered their community through their will or other legacy planning; their families chose to name the Community Foundation for public memorial tributes, including establishing a fund in their memory; or a memorial fund was transferred to the care and stewardship of the Community Foundation.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 🌳 William J. Anderson | 🌳 Clinton E. Farnsworth III | 🌳 Katherine A. O'Brien |
| 🌳 Camie E. Baker | 🌳 Malcolm Goodridge III | 🌳 Virginia R. Palumbo |
| 🌳 Jeanne Gordinier Bickel | 🌳 Edward J. Gosier Jr. | 🌳 Judith F. Pearson |
| 🌳 Jonathan E. Burchell | 🌳 Charlene Frances Hall | 🌳 Zane Cree Carl Petersen |
| 🌳 Josephine H. Allen | 🌳 Ann Renzi Haynes | 🌳 John M. Prugar |
| 🌳 William J. Anderson | 🌳 Heather Hutchinson | 🌳 Lucy Reff |
| 🌳 Katey M. Blodgett | 🌳 Anthony V. Izzo | 🌳 Nancy Ferguson Seeley |
| 🌳 John J. Braun | 🌳 Jordan E. Jerome | 🌳 Susan A. Sovie |
| 🌳 Ellen C. Bush | 🌳 Harold B. Johnson II | 🌳 Marion Chapman Spencer |
| 🌳 Courtney Cavallario | 🌳 Karen Lachenauer | 🌳 Dr. Howard Henry Splete Jr. |
| 🌳 William Coty | 🌳 Milton Russell Lee | 🌳 Marie Brasa Surdo |
| 🌳 Richard N. Damon | 🌳 Kolby Edgar Lyon | 🌳 Helen S. Thomas |
| 🌳 Andrew DeSetto | 🌳 John Marnell | 🌳 Craig W. Tucker |
| 🌳 John Doldo Jr. | 🌳 Steven F. Martin | 🌳 Nathaniel Philip Wardwell |
| 🌳 Audrey D. Dominy | 🌳 Margaret E. McCarthy | 🌳 Alfred H. Webert |
| 🌳 Dalton Douglas Dorrity | 🌳 Lennelle McKinnon | 🌳 Henry "Tyke" Wood |
| 🌳 Jordan Patrick Shayne Drake | 🌳 Virginia Hyde Moriarty | 🌳 William H. Wormuth |

Their stories live on. Forever.

Your Community. Your Foundation. Your Legacy.

FIFTH ANNUAL SHAW HARBOR SCHOLARS

Shaw Harbor Foundation honors Class of 2024

Nine members of the class of 2024 were awarded scholarships from the **Shaw Harbor Foundation**, a charitable fund of the Northern New York Community Foundation, during the Fifth Annual Appreciation & Recognition Dinner in June.

Class of 2023 Shaw Harbor Scholar **Hanna G. Lighthall**, a Beaver River High School graduate who attends Cornell University, was also named the 2024 recipient of the Distinguished Undergraduate Award (\$1,500). Hanna studies global development at Cornell.

This year's Shaw Harbor Leadership Scholars are: **Ella F. Galloway**, World-Changer Award (\$4,000), Watertown High School, St. John Fisher College, psychology; **James D. King**, STEM Award (\$2,500), South Jefferson High School, Cornell University, engineering; **Jack W. Mangan**, STEM Award (\$2,500); South Jefferson High School, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, chemical engineering; and **Ian van de Merwe**, Equity & Justice Award, (\$3,000) Sackets Harbor High School, Colgate University, history and English.

The 2024 Shaw Harbor Scholars, each receiving \$1,000 awards, are: **Gabriel P. Gondek**, Sackets Harbor High School, Jefferson Community College, business administration; **Rebecca M. Leonard**, Thousand Islands High School, Rochester Institute of Technology, environmental science; **Alaina G. Mooney**, Thousand Islands High School, Jefferson Community College, psychology-focused social services; **Elias P. Nelson**, Little River Community School, Haverford College, Pa., classics-philosophy.

**CLASS OF 2024 SHAW HARBOR SCHOLARS:**

Above, from left: **Ian van de Merwe**, **Gabriel P. Gondek**, **Hanna G. Lighthall**, **Rebecca M. Leonard**, **Elias P. Nelson**, **Alaina G. Mooney**, **Ella F. Galloway**, **Jack W. Mangan**, and **James D. King**. Shaw Harbor Foundation founder **John Shaw McNeely** is kneeling in front. Right: **John S. McNeely** presents the 2024 Shaw Harbor Foundation World-Changer Award to Watertown High graduate **Ella F. Galloway**.

Founder **John Shaw McNeely** established the **Shaw Harbor Foundation** as a component charitable fund of the Community Foundation in 2017. Since, it has awarded support to 55 students totaling \$113,750.



Donors Establish New Funds

Donors frequently establish new funds at the Community Foundation. We manage a wide range of more than 1,000 funds that support hundreds of organizations and causes. We are honored that donors continue to place their trust in us to administer these resources and carry out specific charitable objectives. Donors may make additional gifts to help extend support and build these funds.

Charitable Funds

Air Products Greater Massena Community Fund
Jim & Julie Ripley Family Fund
M. Russell & F. Marion Lee Fund
Surdo Family Fund

Field of Interest Funds

EmpowerPlay Fund
Jordan Drake Memorial Fund

Organization Funds

4 River Valleys Historical Society Endowment Fund
Indian Creek Nature Center Flexible Fund
Jefferson County SPCA Sustaining Fund
South Jefferson Rescue Squad Sustaining Fund

Project Funds

First Presbyterian Church:
A Beacon Restored Fund
Glenwood Cemetery Revitalization Campaign Fund

Scholarship Funds

Air Products Greater Massena Scholarship Fund

Alexandria Bay Rotary Club Scholarship Endowment
Beaver River Central School Class of 2024 Scholarship
Camie E. & James K. Baker Scholarship
Clifford J. Hunter Scholarship
Francine Root Petersen Scholarship
Gary R. and Patricia E. Stinson Scholarship
Heather Hutchinson Memorial Scholarship
Henry "Tyke" Wood Memorial Scholarship
Heroes of Democracy Award
John Marnell Memorial Scholarship
Jonathan Edgar Burchell Memorial Fellowship
Marie B. Surdo Memorial Scholarship
Nancy Vecchio Memorial Scholarship
Susan A. Sovie Memorial Scholarship
Watertown High School Class of 1960 Scholarship

What do you believe in? Consider establishing a 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.

Watertown's Class of 1960 establishes scholarship

It's been nearly 65 years since **Thomas S. Brett** and his **Watertown High School** classmates walked the halls of the Washington Street campus. More than six decades later, he speaks with pride as he recalls his youth in the North Country.

Mr. Brett, an attorney who retired to Naples, Fla., said many other members of Watertown High's Class of 1960 also "think very positively" about their alma mater.

"Over the years, I've noticed that anyone who comes back to Watertown expresses a very positive sentiment about growing up in Northern New York," he said. "One way to solidify that sentiment was to have a scholarship fund."

That led Mr. Brett to



Gifts in support of the Watertown High School Class of 1960 Scholarship

Anonymous

Thomas S. Brett
Christopher Carlisle
David L. Derrigo
Michele Jeican
Rande Richardson
Elizabeth A. Tyldesley

To support the Watertown High School Class of 1960 Scholarship, make gifts to: **Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601**, or online at nnycf.org.

establish the **Watertown High School Class of 1960 Scholarship** at the Community Foundation earlier this year. He hopes future generations of Watertown

High School graduates will experience the generosity of his classmates, whom he encourages to join him in helping to build the fund.

Unlike many other

scholarships, the Class of 1960 award provides support to Watertown High graduates who have completed at least a year of post-secondary education.

Remember your school

A LOVE FOR THEIR ALMA MATER: The Foundation stewards several scholarships that past graduating classes have established to support graduates. They include:

- **Lowville Academy 2008 Scholarship Fund**
- **Ogdensburg Free Academy Alumni Scholarship**
- **South Jefferson High School Class of 1966 Scholarship**
- **South Jefferson High School Class of 1967 Scholarship**
- **Watertown High School Class of 1956 Scholarship**
- **Watertown High School Class of 1967 Scholarship**
- **Watertown High School Class of 1982 Scholarship**
- **Brian D. Soper Memorial Scholarship (WHS Class of 1970)**

Mr. Brett noted that the scholarship is intended to be an "Achievement Boost Grant" to a WHS graduate with "best wishes from the Class of 1960."

EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT from page 3

How did a Community Foundation scholarship help you on your educational journey?

I had the pleasure to meet Mr. Sacchi and perform at a benefit concert for the scholarship that same year. I was honored to have been selected as a recipient. The aid from this scholarship helped me pursue studies in music theory and composition. While I attended Roberts Wesleyan University, I met professors and colleagues who challenged and encouraged me to think critically about my beliefs, passions that drive me, and how best to make an impact in the world — however large or small it might be.

How can we best lead younger generations to be involved in their communities?

Invest in young people. Foster their growth with resources and opportunities. In my experience, people tend to give back to those who help them thrive. That's why it's great to see various organizations in the North Country build up their programs in support of education and the arts. In hosting workshops and events, expanding scholarship opportunities, and providing spaces for young people to express themselves and build their skillset, the community will benefit. Those students who receive generosity today will lend their time, their talents, and their resources back to the community.

Frank Sacchi / Legacy

The **Frank Sacchi Instrumental Music Scholarship** honors the life and legacy of its namesake, a popular musician and longtime Watertown music educator. Frank served in the Korean War as a corporal in the **27th Army Band** and as director of the **Division Dance Band**. After an honorable discharge, he earned a bachelor's degree in music education and led the college big band at SUNY Fredonia. He later earned a master's degree from Potsdam's Crane School of Music. After teaching at Adams High School and Clayton Central School, he spent 25 years at **Watertown High School**, retiring in 1989. He was the first director of the **JCC Orchestra** and **Wind Ensemble**. His **Frank Sacchi Big Band** entertained North Country fans for more than a half a century. The **Frank Sacchi Instrumental Music Scholarship** was established at the Community Foundation in 2014 to support Watertown High School students pursuing music education.



What led you to a music and arts education and how has that background benefited you in your career today?

Inspiring educators like **Nancy Boynton**, **Fred and Chris Hyde-Hall**, **Tom Machuga**, **Becky Rose**, **Andrea Wischerath**, and **Russell and Laurie Faunce** introduced me to music and the arts. The music program in Watertown taught

me about culture, history, and the science of music, explaining why some chords sound pleasant while others seem unexpected. Programs like **All State** and **Music in Our Schools** helped foster connections and demonstrated the impact of the arts. Music education helps students explore and test their limits beyond traditional academics. There is a tactile element to it, as you train yourself to play an instrument and perform on stage. There is a social element to it, as you learn to interpret the written language of musical notation. My background in music has opened doors to exciting opportunities in media production, interior design, and statistical data analysis. It has helped me adapt to a variety of digital environments and learn new programming languages. The skills and insights gained from training in the arts remain invaluable as I progress in my career.

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

Don't be afraid to explore nontraditional paths forward. As a young person, I was given the impression that there is one path to success. This could not be further from the truth. For some, success comes from academics. For others, athletic ability. For others, the visual and performing arts. In your career, what matters most is that you develop a skillset that is valued in the marketplace.



Cathleen Haggerty Memorial Fund perpetuates her joy

Cathleen Ann Haggerty was described by family and friends as loving, kind, friendly and filled with happiness. A daughter to **Frederick S. and Roberta L. Gilbert Haggerty**, she passed away on April 20, 1968, at the age of 15.

A ninth grader at Case Junior High School in Watertown, she was a cheerleader and a member of the concert chorus and involved with the student newspaper. All who knew her were incredibly saddened by her sudden and untimely death.

With the support of the community, the **Watertown City School District (WCSD)** established a memorial fund which has provided an award to Case students who have embodied Cathy's traits and qualities.

In 2019, the fund was transferred to the Community Foundation to be cared for in perpetuity, in partnership with the school and Cathy's two surviving siblings, **Alice Jean Boucher** and **Ruth-Ellen Van Arnam**.

It has been said that one of Cathy's favorite phrases was, "Some pursue happiness; others take time to create it along the way."

While the pain of this loss remains deep, through this meaningful tribute, what made Cathy uniquely herself and her example of concern for others and the desire to spread joy is extended.

Those wishing to honor Cathy's memory and further the reach of this fund may make a gift to the Northern New York Community Foundation, designated for the **Cathleen Haggerty Memorial Fund**.

NEW FUND HELPS SOUTH JEFFERSON ATHLETES



EMPOWERING STUDENT ATHLETES: Kaleb Ramus is on his way to making a big difference in the lives of North Country student athletes. A rising freshman at South Jefferson Central, he established the **EmpowerPlay Fund** at the Community Foundation earlier this year to help student athletes pay for needed equipment and club fees. "I believe every child deserves the opportunity to participate in sports, regardless of economic barriers," he said in his mission statement. This spring, the **DICK'S Sporting Goods Foundation** presented a \$2,000 gift to help build the fund during a grand-opening celebration of DICK'S new Watertown store. Pictured holding the check, from left: **Charlene "Char" Upton**, DICK'S Sporting Goods Watertown store manager; **Kaleb Ramus**, EmpowerPlay founder and South Jefferson High School rising freshman; **Jaxon Smith**, EmpowerPlay Review Committee member and South Jefferson Central rising junior; and **Kraig Everard**, Foundation director of stewardship and programs. Kaleb is the son of **Katie and Kirk Ramus**, Adams.

Alex Bay Rotary establishes scholarship endowment

A new permanent endowment at the Community Foundation will help the **Alexandria Bay Rotary Club** perpetuate scholarships for local high school graduates.

The **Alexandria Bay Rotary Club Scholarship Endowment** will forever support Alexandria Central graduates who are pursuing careers in the skilled trades through educational paths at BOCES and other technical schools.

The Rotary Club held a major fundraiser in August to help reach its goal of \$100,000. A \$10,000 Community Foundation matching grant helped build the permanent scholarship endowment for the club.

Craig Garlock and several other Rotary Club members are leading the effort to raise money in support of the scholarship. For many years, annual fundraising helped secure

money for club scholarships.

By partnering with the Community Foundation to grow an endowment, the Rotary Club won't be challenged with as much fundraising.

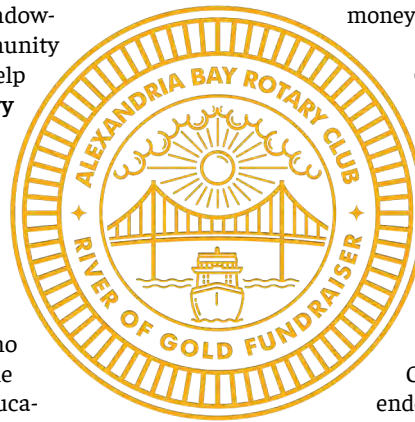
"We thought we should create an endowment to ease the pressure of having to raise money every year," Mr.

Garlock said. "A \$100,000 endowment will provide about

\$4,000 a year to award and maximize our ability to impact deserving students from Alexandria Bay."

Mr. Garlock said he hopes the focus on skilled trades will encourage young people to pursue technical training for jobs that are in demand locally.

"Our area faces a growing challenge to find skilled help for many of the trades. We need people to stay in the North Country and this is one more way we can help."



To join in helping to support the Alexandria Bay Rotary Club Scholarship Endowment, make gifts to: Northern New York Community Foundation, 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601, or online at nnycf.org.

INAUGURAL HEROES OF DEMOCRACY AWARD



Connor Brown, a rising senior at **Watertown High School**, is the first recipient of the Community Foundation's **Heroes of Democracy Award**. Connor was recognized in June for his leadership and problem-solving skills while organizing efforts to bring a hygiene vending machine to Watertown High School. The innovative initiative aims to address hygiene poverty among students in Jefferson County. Watertown resident **Dr. William H. Kimball** established the award at the Community Foundation this year to honor Watertown students who "identify a

problem involving something they are passionate about in their school, community or world, and propose a nonviolent solution that embody collaboration and compromise based on verifiable facts." Awardees should also "demonstrate the ability to thoughtfully listen to others and exemplify kindness, consideration, and respect." Dr. Kimball hopes the award will inspire students to work together with peers, administrators, and community leaders to collaborate on solutions to real-world challenges they face in everyday life at school or in their community.

OGDENSBURG FREE ACADEMY ALUMNI SCHOLAR

Grant C. Putman is the Class of 2024 recipient of the Community Foundation's **Ogdensburg Free Academy Alumni Scholarship**. Grant graduated in June from OFA. He will attend **SUNY Canton** this fall and plans to double major in graphic and multimedia design and game design. He aspires to work in the art field.



Grant C. Putman

A top-ranked honor student, Grant is a three-year National Honor Society member.

He is the son of **Katrina and Stephen Putman**, Ogdensburg.

"Thank you so much for your generosity in awarding me this scholarship to help me pursue my college degree. I am grateful to receive this award," Grant

said. "The fields of art and computing offer endless paths that allow me to combine my interests and passions."

Members of **Ogdensburg Free Academy's Class of 1962** established the OFA Alumni Scholarship at the Community Foundation in 2012. It is a \$1,000 award presented annually to a graduating OFA student. Thanks to the generosity of OFA alumni and friends, the impact of this scholarship continues to grow.

Grant was a charter member of OFA's **eSports** team, competing for two years. Throughout high school, he was very active in fine arts, participating in **Art Club** each year and serving as president as a senior. His work was selected for the district's annual art show for six years. In 2023, Grant was one of only five students chosen to attend the "**Big Ink Printmaking Event**" at **SUNY Potsdam** to work on large-scale printmaking pieces.

A RIVER LEGACY



The **McCarn Creek Trestle Bridge** at TILT's **S. Gerald Ingerson Preserve**, Clayton. Kara Dry Photography / For Thoughtful Giving

A partnership for our environment endures, forever

So many **Community Foundation** donors have given generously through years to local causes and nonprofits that care for our **natural environment**. Steps that individuals and organizations have taken are working together across **Northern New York** to ensure the place we all love will remain as pristine and naturally beautiful for future generations as it is today. From the clear waters of the **St. Lawrence River** and **Lake Ontario** to the **Tug Hill Plateau** and countless areas between, our home remains largely unspoiled.

The **Kenneth Deedy Environmental Internship Fund** is one of the more unique and special funds established to **perpetuate a lifetime of River stewardship**. While honoring the legacy of a staunch environmental advocate and former **Grindstone Island** resident, the fund brings together **three vital partners** that each work tirelessly to preserve our diverse ecosystem.

Established at the Community Foundation in 2018, the fund is a partnership between **Save The River**, the **Minna Anthony Common Nature Center**, and the **Thousand Islands Land Trust (TILT)** that serves as a permanent resource to help recruit students for summer internships at each of the three River organizations.

Prior to his death, **Ken Deedy** made an initial gift to establish the fund. The Community Foundation made a **\$25,000 gift** to build the fund and provided an **additional \$25,000 matching challenge** that donors generously responded to and met.

The collaboration of resources this fund encourages, across the generations, is a testament to the Foundation's belief in the **importance of partnerships with donors and organizations** that work together to strengthen our region.



Northern New York
Community Foundation

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OUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FAMILY

“We both grew up in families that volunteered time and talent to local organizations, and giving back to our community is very important to us. We are fortunate to be able to work with the Community Foundation and support their philanthropy across the region.”

Grace &
Tom Sauter,
Wanakena

Kara Dry Photography /
For Thoughtful Giving

