



Thoughtful Giving

Newsletter of the Northern New York Community Foundation



» FRIENDS STRENGTHEN EARLY EDUCATION

**Annual donors help
develop critical skills
in the next generation**

Canton Day Care Center Teacher **Alicia Trombley** helps a pair of preschool students with a STEM education lesson. **More on page 15**
Jason Hunter / For Thoughtful Giving



Northern New York
Community Foundation
SINCE 1929

LOCATED WITHIN THE NORTHERN
NEW YORK PHILANTHROPY CENTER

131 WASHINGTON STREET
WATERTOWN, NY 13601

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Our friends lead by example

At this time each year, we devote Thoughtful Giving to those who chose to join us in support of the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund**. These are **individuals, families, businesses, and organizations** who believe in the value and importance of our collective work together and a better community for all.

Making a gift that provides the flexibility to deploy it locally where the needs are the greatest requires a higher degree of trust and confidence. We are continually filled with humility and gratitude that you choose to renew or begin your commitment to support a shared mission for a better community.

What do our friends know? They believe that a community foundation is a valuable resource for all our region's charitable organizations, many of which they also support. They recognize that an investment in the common good benefits the region diversely and strengthens the infrastructure that supports their other favorite causes and interests in powerful and lasting ways. **Our friends believe** in the importance of encouraging civic engagement among our young people, helping ensure multi-generational leadership in the tri-county area. They make the **Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge, Youth Philanthropy Council**, and young professionals **LEAD Council** a reality.

They understand that while the Community Foundation is fortunate to steward hundreds of charitable funds, most of them are restricted. Thus, support of the community's annual fund provides a unique way of fostering a **stronger, healthier, more vibrant, educated**



RANDE RICHARDSON

community as needs emerge.

The things we accomplish do not happen on their own. They are made possible by **donors like you** who are willing to make a commitment to the common good. For

every life touched, for every organization made stronger, for every future leader nurtured, **their success is also yours**. From grants made to food pantries in the region to providing support for education, health care, environment, history, recreation, animal welfare, and arts, culture, and the humanities, you are a part. By choosing to make your impact broadly, **you represent the best in our region**. We are all better **because of you**.

Throughout the coming year, as we share more stories of the work you make possible, **know that your leadership matters**. We are grateful that the Northern New York Community Foundation is part of the meaningful way you help your community reach its greatest potential every day, all year long. To be a **partner with you** toward that noble goal is **never taken for granted**.

To those listed on the following pages, **your friendship is a gift we cherish**. We are grateful you are such a meaningful part of our family and won't settle for "good enough." **Thank you** for being the one to make a difference in this way, today and tomorrow, for the region you care so much about.

OUR MISSION:

To inspire and celebrate giving, steward resources honorably, and foster vibrant North Country communities.

OUR VALUES:

INSPIRE PHILANTHROPY

Inspire a spirit of giving across generations, celebrate generosity in many forms, and nurture meaningful legacies.

ACT RESPECTFULLY

Honor our heritage; appreciate the diversity of our region; and celebrate the stories, values, and generosity of people of the North Country.

DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS

Connect donor interests to the community, build and sustain partnerships, and listen for emerging needs.

HONOR STEWARDSHIP

Steward resources responsibly and act with the greatest regard for donor wishes now and for the future.

Friends of the Foundation

2023 Annual Community Betterment Fund

Business partners help make Northern New York stronger.

The **Northern New York Community Foundation** gratefully acknowledges gifts of business partners to the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund** whose collective contributions provide for the future of our community and its people. Your gifts help make possible our work together in the community. Business partners that made gifts between **January 1** and **December 31, 2023**, to help strengthen the quality of life in Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties are listed here. **THANK YOU!**



RIPLEY, GARLOCK & ASSOCIATES
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Fort Pearl



Friends of the Foundation

2023 Annual Community Betterment Fund

Making Northern New York stronger for everyone.

The **Northern New York Community Foundation** gratefully acknowledges donors whose gifts provide for the future of our community and its people. Your gifts help make possible our work together in the community, including addressing emerging and evolving needs in the areas of animal welfare, arts and culture, children, community development, conservation & environment, education, elderly, families, health & wellness, history, human services, recreation, and youth. All donors to the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Fund** between **January 1** and **December 31, 2023**, to help strengthen the quality of life in Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties are listed here. **THANK YOU!**



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(continued from page 5)

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Includes gifts from Oct. 28, 2023, to Jan. 26, 2024, to the Friends of the Foundation Community Betterment Fund, or for those who have recently passed.

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(continued from page 7)

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Glenwood Cemetery partners for revitalization campaign

The Community Foundation will partner with **Blessed Sacrament Parish** — St. Anthony's, St. Patrick's, and Holy Family Churches — to steward charitable gifts supporting a \$1 million campaign to revitalize Watertown's **Glenwood Cemetery**.

Since its consecration in June 1888, Glenwood Cemetery has been the family plot for many. It serves as the principal Catholic cemetery in the Watertown area for many neighbors and relatives.

"Glenwood Cemetery is a community asset, home to our deceased loved ones, cherished Holy ground. It is our responsibility to maintain and improve



An architectural rendering illustrates a planned columbarium at Glenwood Cemetery. It is part of a planned revitalization of the historic cemetery. (Courtesy GYMO)

the cemetery we love," Blessed Sacrament Parish Pastor Father **Mickey Demo** said.

Planned improvements to the cemetery include roadway recon-

struction, a columbarium, and upgrades to infrastructure. To ensure sustainability of the project, the campaign will include ongoing maintenance and improvement

costs. This will work together with the **Glenwood Cemetery Endowment Fund**, established at the Community Foundation in 2021.

The cemetery will rely on gifts from dedicated donors to enable the full completion of the project. Its impact will have an enduring legacy on the community for generations to come.

Donors may make secure online gifts to the campaign at nnycf.org/giving/donate-online and note the **Glenwood Revitalization Campaign**. Gifts may also be mailed to **Northern New York Community Foundation at 131 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601**.



Courtney Cavallario

A deeply devoted mother who cherished her family, **Courtney Lynn Cavallario** was called to help others throughout a lifetime of service. She worked for many years in the Roswell Park Cancer Center Intermediate Intensive Care Unit, providing compassionate care for members of her community as an oncology nurse. Courtney was born in 1981 in Amherst, a daughter to **Edward** and **Denise Strassel**. Following high school, she graduated from nursing school and found her calling as a dedicated patient advocate and caretaker. Courtney was married in 2006 and had two sons and a daughter, **Luke**, **Travis**, and **Aubrey**. In 2020, she married **Joseph Cavallario**, and welcomed Joe's children, **Bella** and **Leah**. Together with Joe, she enjoyed many adventures with their children, especially family vacations and cheering for the Buffalo Bills. When Courtney passed away in November at the age of 42, her family chose to honor her life by directing memorial gifts to the Community Foundation. We join Courtney's husband, children, stepchildren, and extended family in thanking all who made gifts of affection as we celebrate her life and legacy of kindness and care for others.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Courtney Lynn Cavallario
Donald & Gail Butterfield
Aaron & Michele Capone
Max & Sara DelSignore

Linda Holley & sons
Eric Cannan &
Ian Cannan
Bruce & Lorraine Irwin
Rande Richardson



Richard N. Damon

Richard N. "Rick" Damon was a loving husband and proud father and grandfather whose kind heart and work ethic were boundless. Rick's love for his family and positive nature helped guide him to seek ways to make the work around him better for others. He was born in Watertown in 1946, a son to **Lester** and **Margaret Damon**. He graduated from Adams Center-Adams Central School in 1965 and began a career that spanned more than four decades with New York Air Brake. Rick married **Bonnie Fredenburg** in 1978, and together, they raised a son, **Lucas**, and daughters **Angela** and **Leslie**. He retired from the Air Brake in 2009 after working in various positions for 44 years. Rick was very compassionate about animals and cared deeply for them. When he passed away in October at age 77, his family chose to honor his life and legacy by directing memorial gifts to help build the **Lucas J. Damon Scholarship** at the Community Foundation, which was established in 2000 shortly after Lucas passed away unexpectedly. Lucas was a gifted student athlete at South Jefferson Central. The scholarship is awarded annually to a college-bound South Jefferson graduate who participated in wrestling and demonstrates academic improvement. We join **Bonnie**, **Angela**, and **Leslie**, and Rick's extended family and friends in thanking all who made memorial gifts as we celebrate Rick's life and legacy of service to family and community. We are humbled to be part of the special and enduring way he will be remembered.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Richard N. "Rick" Damon
Howard & Nancy Abbott
Janna & Carl Bingle
Cindy L. Brimmer

Nancy & Joseph Brown
John & Vicki Bulger
Carol A. & Frank J.
Catanzarite
Ronald J. Damon

Barb & Niles Farney
Donna Hadlock
Marjory Hough
Teresa A. Kay /
The Kay Family

Susan Bangs Munro
Diane & James Radley
Donna E. Sinclair
Muriel B. & Olin D. Tremont
Carol M. VanCoughnett



Clinton E. Farnsworth III

Cranberry Lake and the Clifton-Fine region lost one of its biggest advocates when **Clinton E. "Clint" Farnsworth III** passed away in December. Clint was born in 1938 in Gouverneur and spent the first 10 years of his life in Wanakena where his father was on staff at The Ranger School. He attended Syracuse University where he earned a bachelor's and master's degree in mechanical engineering. Clint married **Patricia Lee "Patty" Meyer** in 1962. Together, they raised a son and two daughters and celebrated 61 years of marriage. Clint spent his entire 30-year career with Xerox Corporation, retiring as chief engineer in 1997. After 32 years in Fairport, Clint and Patty made Cranberry Lake their permanent home in 2000 and Clint devoted his time to the Cranberry Lake community, volunteering and serving as a leader in many local organizations. He was a founding supporter of the **Clifton-Fine Community Fund of the Community Foundation**. We are saddened by Clint's loss and share our deepest sympathy with his wife, **Patty**, son, **Clinton IV**, daughters, **Cheryl** and **Barbara**, as we celebrate his life and legacy of service to community that helped to meaningfully improve the quality of life for others.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Clinton E. Farnsworth III
Arnold Magnetic
Technologies
Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson

Thoughtful Legacies

**HONORING
THOSE WE LOST:**
Since 1929, the Northern New York Community Foundation has been built by those who have made the thoughtful decision to provide enduring support for the communities they love. We are very grateful for these acts of generosity that help perpetuate lives of great meaning, not only for those who knew and loved them, but for those who will forever benefit from their vision for a better region. To learn how you can **honor a loved one's** legacy, contact us at info@nnycf.org, or **315-782-7110**.



Kolby Edgar Lyon

Kolby Edgar Lyon was a talented chef whose talents in the kitchen shined from a young age. Born in New Hartford in 1993, a son to **Sherry L.** and **William “Chip” Lyon**, Kolby graduated in 2011 from Adirondack Central High School, Boonville, where he was a gifted athlete, excelling on the Adirondack Wildcat varsity football and baseball teams. He began his culinary career while in high school and worked at various local restaurants following school, most recently as chef at The Junction in Alder Creek. Kolby was an avid outdoorsman and especially enjoyed fishing on the Salmon River. Kolby was a proud father to a daughter, **Addison Babcock**, and was devoted to his faith and community.

When he passed away suddenly in December at the age of 30, his family designated memorial gifts to the Community Foundation to help build the **Kenneth Lyon Sr. Scholarship**, which was established in memory of his uncle in 2020 to support graduates of Adirondack and Town of Webb schools who are pursuing conservation or environmental studies. We are grateful to Kolby’s parents, **Sherry** and **Chip**, his brother, **Dylan**, daughter, **Addison**, and extended family for the special way he will be remembered. Our thoughts are with his family as we celebrate his life and legacy of kindness.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Kolby Edgar Lyon**

Alan & Linda Bowen
Clifford Fuel Company
Dan & Lorrie Czepiel
Double LL Farm
Becky Lyon-Mullen

Bonnie Rondeau-Briggs
Gary & Denise Shortell &
Family
Karen S. & R. Kip Score
Sons of the American Legion,
Charles J. Love Post 406
Peter Tamburro

Perpetuate a family legacy

WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU?

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



John M. Prugar

John M. Prugar devoted his life to family and education, leaving a lasting imprint on hundreds of students through a classroom career that spanned more than three decades. Born in Rome in 1946, a son to **Mary** and **John P. Prugar**, he earned a bachelor’s degree from SUNY Oswego in 1968 and began his teaching career in his hometown of Rome. He married **Lee Ruble** in 1969. After they wed, he moved to Watertown and joined Lee teaching in Watertown City School District. John taught fifth grade at Harold T. Wiley School for 33 years where he strived to always bring out the best in each of his students. Together with Lee, they raised two daughters and celebrated 54 years of marriage before

he passed away in November at the age of 77. John cared deeply for others. His kindness brought joy to those around him, and he rarely met a person who did not become a lifelong friend. John was engaged in his community and enjoyed helping people in need. He supported many charitable causes and organizations throughout his lifetime, including the Community Foundation. With Lee, John helped build the **Edward Ruble Music Scholarship** at the Foundation, which honors the legacy of his late brother-in-law, a longtime Watertown music teacher. Our thoughts remain with **Lee**, daughters, **Heather** and **Holly**, and John’s extended family as we celebrate his legacy and life of service that touched so many in the region he loved.

Tribute gifts in memory of **John M. Prugar**

Friendly Service, NCZ
Cynthia Graham
Rande Richardson
Patti Fallon Scordo
Ron & Francie Shoemaker



Josephine H. Allen

Josephine H. “Joedy” Allen was a champion for her family and community throughout her lifetime of 91 years. Born in Watertown in 1932, a daughter to **Agnes Gamble Horr** and **Robert Gilbert Horr**, she graduated from Emma Willard School in Troy, and went on to Katherine Gibbs School in Boston. She married **George Crawford Allen** in 1952. The two met while she was a student at Katherine Gibbs and George was studying at Babson College. Together, George and Joedy raised a daughter and three sons. Their family would eventually grow to include eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, each of whom she adored and cherished spending time with. Joedy worked as a librarian at the Amherst, N.H., library for many years. She enjoyed an active life with her family and looked

forward to summers on the coast of Maine and the St. Lawrence River. When Joedy passed away in December, her family directed memorial gifts in her name to the Community Foundation.

We are humbled and honored to be part of the special way she will be remembered, and hold Joedy’s daughter, **Margaret**, and sons **David**, **George**, and **Robert** close in our thoughts as we celebrate her life and legacy and the meaningful impact she had on those around her.

Tribute gifts in memory of **Josephine (Joedy) H. Allen**

Margot Remington Oman
Rande Richardson



William H. Wormuth

William H. “Bill” Wormuth dedicated his life to service, first as a teacher and coach and later a principal and superintendent. Through a career of nearly 40 years, he left a significant imprint on the lives of many students. Bill was born in Baldwinsville in 1942, a son to **Marion** and **Wilson L. Wormuth**, and graduated from C. W. Baker High School in 1960. He attended Syracuse University on a lacrosse scholarship and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1964. He later earned a master’s degree from SUNY Oswego. He married **Mary Bennett**, in 1963. Together, they raised a daughter and two sons. Bill was a teacher, coach, and assistant principal at West Genesee High School in Camillus before becoming the principal and eventually superintendent at Lowville Academy and Central School. Bill was always focused on teaching and getting people to accomplish more than they believed they could. He inspired many students to pursue teaching and coaching careers and served as a mentor to several. He was a strong community supporter and served in many volunteer capacities with nonprofit, civic, service and community-oriented organizations. The Community Foundation is honored to partner with the family to administer the **Wormuth Family Fund** and the **Wormuth Family Scholarship Fund** for Lowville Academy and Central School. We are grateful for Bill’s friendship and generosity and express our deepest sympathies to his wife, **Mary**, daughter, **Jill**, and sons, **David**, and **Andrew**, as we mourn his loss and celebrate a life well lived that touched so many in his community.

Tribute gifts in memory of
William H. “Bill” Wormuth

Kenneth J. Eysaman III
Gretchen G. Eysaman
Rande Richardson



Katey M. Blodgett

Katey M. Blodgett cared for countless people in her community through a devoted career as a Registered Nurse, striving to always make her patients feel welcomed and comfortable in their time of need. She was born in 1953 in Gouverneur, a daughter to **Louise** and **Charles McCracken**. Katey was one of 14 children in her family and graduated from Gouverneur High School and Canton ATC, earning a degree as a Registered Nurse. In 1979, she married **Malcolm Blodgett** on the St. Lawrence River. Together with Malcolm, they raised a daughter, **Melissa**. For several years, Katey was a charge nurse at Mercy Hospital, serving in the medical surgery department before be-

coming a private duty nurse. When Katey passed away in November at the age of 70, her family directed memorial gifts to the Community Foundation. We are honored to be part of the special and enduring way she will be remembered. Our thoughts are with **Malcolm** and **Melissa** as we mourn Katey’s loss and celebrate her life and legacy of compassion and care for others.

Edward J. Gosier Jr.

Edward J. “Ted” Gosier Jr. was proud of his North Country heritage and cherished his family and faith while serving his community in meaningful ways that made a positive difference for others. Ted was born in 1953 in Watertown, a son to **Margaret G.** and **Edward J. Gosier**. He graduated from Clayton Central School in 1972 and continued his education at Jefferson Community College. Ted treasured his deep relationships with family and friends. He worked for the Thousand Islands Bridge Authority and served as a member of the Clayton Volunteer Fire Department. Ted later moved to Watertown where he was active in community service, volunteering his time and talents for several nonprofit organizations. He was most proud of his service as a board member for the Mental Health Association in Jefferson County. Ted was named Volunteer of the Year for the Mental Health Association of New York State in 2002. His service extended to other local organizations that helped people in need. He worked for White’s Lumber and later Walmart. Ted especially treasured his time spent with family and friends. We express our deepest sympathy to Ted’s sister, **Ann**, and extended family as we mourn his loss and celebrate his life and legacy of thoughtful community service and kindness to others.

Tribute gifts in memory of
Edward J. (Ted) Gosier Jr.

Max & Sara DelSignore
Rande Richardson



Remember your community in your will

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

In Our Next Issue ...

Our summer issue of **Thoughtful Giving** will feature stories and memorial tributes about the lives and legacies of several Community Foundation supporters who recently passed. They include:

■ John Doldo Jr. ■ Charlene Frances Hall

Nonprofit Partner Organizations

Collaborating to ensure enduring success

Making Northern New York stronger for everyone.

More than 150 nonprofit organizations that serve **Jefferson, St. Lawrence, and Lewis** county residents have chosen to form partnerships with the **Northern New York Community Foundation** to ensure their work and missions endure. Foundation partner organizations serve the region across a diverse range of functional areas like human services, health and wellness, education, families, children, youth, elderly, arts and culture, recreation, history, community development, animal welfare, conservation and environment. Partnerships are created through the establishment of endowment funds at the Foundation to benefit the nonprofit. It is a meaningful choice for donors to support the future of their favorite charities.

Jefferson County

4 River Valleys Historical Society
Adams Center Free Library
Adams Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary
Alexandria Township Historical Society
All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence
Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence Foundation
Cape Vincent Community Library
Cape Vincent Village Green
Carthage Central School District
Carthage YMCA
Child Evangelism Fellowship
Central Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired
City of Watertown

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Jefferson County (Camp Wabasso)
Crescent Yacht Club Junior Division
Credo Community Center for the Treatment of Addictions
Densmore Church
Depauville Free Library
Dexter Historical Society
Disabled Persons Action Organization
Faith Fellowship Christian School
Food Bank of Central New York
Foundation for Community Betterment (Alexandria Bay Chapter)
Friends of the Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library
Friends of Thompson Park
General Brown Central School District

Grindstone Island Research & Heritage Center
HarmonNY Performing Arts Community
Hawn Memorial Library
Hay Memorial Library
Hearts for Youth
Henderson Historical Society
Henderson Harbor Water Sports Programs
Herring College Memorial Educational Trust
Historical Association of South Jefferson
Honor the Mountain Monument
Hospice of Jefferson County
Immaculate Heart Central School
Indian River Lakes Conservancy
Indian River Central School District
Jefferson Community College
Center for Community Studies
Jefferson County Historical Society
Jefferson-Lewis-Hamilton-Herkimer-Oneida BOCES
Knights of Columbus Council #259
Lorraine United Methodist Church
Lyme Central School District
Lyme Free Library
Macsherry Library
Mannsville Free Library
Meals on Wheels of Greater Watertown
Mental Health Association in Jefferson County
Minna Anthony Common Nature Center
National Association of the 10th Mountain Division
Nature Conservancy
North Central Zone of the New York State Retired Teachers' Association
North Country Council of Social Agencies
North Country Family Health Center
North Country Goes Green Irish Festival
Northpole Fire Company
NYS Zoo at Thompson Park & Conservancy
Ontario Bays Initiative
PIVOT
Point Vivian Preservation Corp.
River Hospital
Roswell P. Flower Memorial Library
Sackets Harbor Central School District
Sackets Harbor Historical Society

"Collaboration and good relationships with partners like the Community Foundation have meant the difference between something that lasted a few summers and something that has a future."

— Sharon Vegh Williams, executive director, North Country Children's Museum



Sharon Vegh Williams at the North Country Children's Museum.
Jason Hunter Photo / For Thoughtful Giving

“As a proud nonprofit partner of the Northern New York Community Foundation, Hospice of Jefferson County is grateful for the Foundation’s commitment to our organization and community. Its support of Hospice is unrivaled, offering a unique, custom, and meaningful avenue for our donors to support and sustain the Hospice of Jefferson County mission.”

— Anna Patterson, chief executive officer, Hospice of Jefferson County

Samaritan Medical Center
St. John’s Episcopal Church, Cape Vincent
Save The River
South Jefferson Central School District
South Jefferson Rescue Squad
SPCA of Jefferson County
Stage Notes
Thousand Islands Area Habitat
for Humanity
Thousand Islands Arts Center
Thousand Islands Emergency
Rescue Service
Thousand Islands Foundation
Thousand Islands Land Trust
Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund
at Clayton Opera House
Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust
United Way of Northern New York
Village of Dexter
Volunteer Transportation Center
Watertown City School District
Watertown Family YMCA
Watertown Lyric Theater
Watertown Musicales
Watertown Noon Rotary Club
Watertown Sunrise Rotary Club
Watertown Urban Mission
WPBS-TV

St. Lawrence County

Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence &
Rotary Dodge Pond
Brasher Falls Central School District
Canton Community Fund
Canton Fountain Fund
Canton Free Library
Cerebral Palsy Association of the
North Country
Church & Community Program of Canton
Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center
Clifton-Fine Community Fund
Clifton-Fine Hospital
Colton-Pierrepont Central School
Community Health Center of the
North Country
Cranberry Lake Fire & Rescue
Edwards-Knox Central School District
Fort La Présentation Association
Frederic Remington Art Museum
Friends of the Potsdam Museum
Gouverneur Hospital
Grasse River Heritage
Hammond Presbyterian Church

Hermon-DeKalb Central School District
Hospice & Palliative Care of
St. Lawrence Valley
Indian Creek Nature Center
Little River Community School
Madrid-Waddington Central School
Massena Central School District
Massena Music Friends
Massena Public Library
Massena Rotary Club
Morristown Central School District
New Beginnings Clothing & Food Outreach
North Country Children’s Museum
North Country Public Radio
Norwood-Norfolk Central School District
Norwood Village Green Concert Series
Ogdensburg Boys & Girls Club
Ogdensburg Command Performances
Ogdensburg Free Academy
Ogdensburg Public Library
Orchestra of Northern New York
Police Activities League of Massena
Potsdam Central School District
Potsdam Holiday Fund
Potsdam Humane Society
Sandstoner Foundation
St. James School, Gouverneur
St. Lawrence Central School District
St. Lawrence County Historical Association
St. Lawrence Land Trust

St. Lawrence Power & Equipment Museum
Traditional Arts in Upstate New York
United Church of Madrid
United Helpers
Wanakena Historical Association
Wilderness HealthCare Foundation

Lewis County

Adirondack Mennonite Camping
Association
Adirondack Central School District
American Maple Museum
Beaver River Central School District
Constable Hall Association
Copenhagen Central School District
Double Play Sports Community Center
Friends of Lewis County Hospice
Fund for Hope of Lewis County
Hospital Foundation
Lewis County Agricultural Society
Lewis County General Hospital
Lowville Academy and Central School
Maple Ridge Center
Mountain View Prevention Services
New York FFA Leadership Training
Foundation
Oswegatchie Educational Center (NYSFFA)
Railway Historical Society of
Northern New York



Kara Dry Photography /
For Thoughtful Giving

HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY PARTNERS: The Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence Foundation became a nonprofit partner in 2015 when it established permanent endowment and sustaining funds at the Community Foundation to perpetuate its work and mission. Pictured outside the Arc’s Gaffney Drive headquarters, **Michelle Carpenter**, left, is the **Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence Foundation** executive director and **Lynn Pietroski** is the Arc Jefferson-St. Lawrence CEO.

Family legacy of service will forever endure

Richard J. Van Arnam was a citizen-soldier, community leader, and an avid outdoorsman who looked upon the North Country with optimistic positivity. He was born in Ballston Spa in 1936, the younger of two siblings. At an early age, he lost his mother and moved to Carthage where he attended Augustinian Academy. He graduated from Immaculate Heart Academy in 1956.

Richard was introduced to an architectural drafting table in the late 1950s and was mentored for nearly two decades by the principals with Parker Soper Architects. In 1978, he founded Grenadier Construction with two other partners, focusing on design-build



CPT Richard J. Van Arnam, USAR

projects across the North Country. Richard's appetite for building

extended beyond his civilian career. In 1956, he enlisted in the New York Army National Guard and graduated from Officer Candidate School at the Empire State Military Academy in 1959. He was branched as an engineer officer and served with the 479th Engineer Battalion, retiring in rank of Major after 23 years of service.

Richard was proud to be a builder and especially proud of his role as a citizen-soldier. He was a leader who could brighten a room with his presence and believed that anything is possible, no matter a person's upbringing.

Richard was active in the Watertown community, serving in leadership roles at Holy Family Church and School and local civic

organizations to include The Elks.

He married **Rosamond A. Horton** in 1959, for whom the **Rosamond Van Arnam Memorial Nursing Scholarship** was established at the Community Foundation. With a shared sense for hard work and responsible minds for the community, they built a family home and raised three children together.

Established in 2023, the **Richard Van Arnam Memorial Building Scholarship** provides support for either graduating seniors or nontraditional students pursuing a career across a broad range of needed building roles to include the trades, construction management, civil engineering, or architecture.

Scholarship honors longtime dental hygienist

Francine R. Petersen was a staunch advocate for children as a dental hygienist in the Carthage and Watertown City School districts. Her legacy of caring, generosity, and family will forever live on through the **Francine R. Petersen Scholarship** of the Community Foundation that will support students pursuing dental hygiene careers.

Francine was born in Watertown in 1939, a daughter to **Madolyn** and **Leonard Root**. She graduated from Watertown High School and SUNY Farmingdale, where she earned an associate degree and became a licensed Registered Dental Hygienist. During a marriage to **James F. Petersen**, she had three sons: **James**, **Leonard**, and **Michael John**, who passed away

in 1963. She was the daughter of one of the founding fathers of the Italian American Civic Association and remained active with its history.

While working as a dental hygienist, Francine served as chairwoman of the New York State Redesign Program of the Water-



Francine Root Petersen

town City School District, an initiative that successfully coordinated community and educational needs. Through this work, Francine advocated for affordable dental health for all children.

She later developed and implemented a plan to establish the first nonprofit Northern New York Children's Dental Health Clinic. As its executive director, she successfully expanded the program creating two additional clinics that served children in Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

The special way that she will be remembered leaves an enduring legacy symbolic of the many lives she touched while extending her impact on students and education.



ADELINE ORMSBY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Adeline R. Ormsby was a bright light who brought joy to the world and those around her. Her infectious smile and laugh lit up the room and warmed hearts.

Adeline was born in 2013 with a rare congenital heart defect. Her cardiac diagnosis was paired with Velocardio Facial Syndrome, a chromosomal deletion. Despite her challenges, she lived to positively impact so many people, from her small community of Woodville in southern Jefferson County to the West Coast.

Through her example, young Adeline taught others empathy, and compassion, and how to prioritize what is genuinely important. Almost nothing discouraged her from wanting to try to do anything, and her mother, **Jada Ormsby** and her family, did all they



September 2022 — less than two weeks shy of her 9th birthday — her family established the **Adeline Ormsby Memorial Scholarship** at

could to give her the best experience.

Adeline was the embodiment of true strength and lived to show others how to have hope. Despite her struggles, she always wore a bright smile.

When she passed away in

the Community Foundation.

Adeline's fund will award scholarships to students from Jefferson County who are pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in the medical or allied health fields. Preference will be given to graduates of South Jefferson Central School.

Recipients will have demonstrated a passion for the medical field. Applicants may be at any level of post-secondary study and should apply using the Community Foundation's general online application.

There is no greater honor than to be entrusted to steward the legacy of a child, and we are humbled to be part of the special and meaningful way Adeline will forever live in the hearts of those she inspired.

Donors Establish New Funds

Donors frequently establish new funds at the Community Foundation. We have grown to now steward a wide range of more than 1,000 charitable funds that support hundreds of nonprofit organizations and causes. We are honored that donors continue to place their trust in the Foundation to administer these resources and carry out specific charitable objectives. Donors may make additional gifts to help extend support and build these funds. The following funds were established in 2023:

Charitable Funds

John & Katie Renzi Family Fund
Jude & Leslie Renzi Family Fund

Designated Funds

Beaver River Central School CIC Award
Charlene's Fund
Dr. John F. Lormore Charitable Fund
LEAD Council Fund for Carthage Free Library in memory of Lisa Trembley
Reed Family Legacy Fund
Robert & Julia Storms Philanthropic Designated Fund
St. Hubert's Church Free Community Meal Program Fund
Thomas Memorial AME Zion Church Preservation, Restoration & Renewal Fund

Field of Interest Funds

Ann Renzi Haynes Award
City Skate Park Fund
Concert in the Park Endowment Fund
Cranberry Lake Flower and Banner Fund
Dr. Robert B. Brown Community Fund
June T. Walker & John R. Walker Cape Vincent Community Fund
Nonprofit COVID Recovery Program for Jefferson County
North Country Music Project Fund
Ray E. Richardson Fund
Walker Family Community Fund

Organization Funds

Camp Wabasso Sustaining Fund
Cranberry Lake North Shore Hub Endowment Fund
Hammond Presbyterian Church Founders Memorial Fund
Historical Association of South Jefferson Sustaining Fund
Mannsville Free Library Endowment Fund
Maple Ridge Center Endowment Fund

Ontario Bays Initiative Sustaining Fund
Oswegatchie Magic Campership Fund
Samaritan Medical Center Flexible Fund
Watertown Family YMCA Sustaining Fund
Watertown Urban Mission Sustaining Fund

Project Funds

Hay Memorial Library Capital Project Fund
Thompson Park Bandstand Project Fund

Scholarship Funds

Brox Family Scholarship
Clayton Rotary Club Scholarship
Cosmopolitan Dance Club Scholarship
Dalton Douglas Dorrity Memorial Soccer Scholarship
Dr. Thomas A. Baker Scholarship
Elizabeth Carroll Woodard Nursing Scholarship
General Brown Trade Scholarship
Henry & Ella Near Allard Scholarship
Howard & Dona Barney Scholarship
James V. Gosier Memorial Scholarship

Jeanne Gordinier Bickel Scholarship
Jordan Jerome Award
June T. Walker & John R. Walker Vocational Scholarship
Lucy Reff Memorial Scholarship
North Country Irish Goes Green Terry O'Brien Scholarship
Patricia Taylor Scholarship
Professor Linda S. Dening Scholarship
Richard Edgar Scholarship
Richard J. Van Arnam Memorial Building Scholarship
Thousand Islands AFS 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 you care about — forever. We're here to help. Contact **Rande Richardson**, executive director, rande@nnycf.org, or **Max DelSignore**, assistant director, max@nnycf.org, or **315-782-7110**.

YOUR ANNUAL FUND GIFTS ENABLE EARLY STEM EDUCATION FOR ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY CHILDREN



JASON HUNTER / FOR THOUGHTFUL GIVING

AN EARLY START IN STEM: Above, **Canton Day Care Center** students explore hydropower concepts last month. On the cover: Canton Daycare Center students learn how to use a microscope with some help from a teacher. A \$5,000 Community Foundation grant awarded last year will help create science and math centers for toddler classrooms, which will expand STEM education to roughly 50 new children ages 3 and 4. The grant was made possible through the generosity of donors who support the **Friends of the Foundation Annual Community Betterment Campaign**.

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



FRIENDS DONORS INSPIRE THOUGHTFUL YOUTHS



2023-24 Community Spirit Youth Giving Challenge

Grant recipients & winning students

Each of the following organizations were awarded a \$1,000 grant.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Disabled Persons Action Organization Foundation
Chloe Lanham, General Brown Central School, Dexter

Claxton-Hepburn Medical Center Foundation
Ellie Smith, Indian River Central School, Philadelphia

**Credo Community Center for the Treatment of Addictions
Foundation**
Max Simser, Case Middle School, Watertown City Schools

Safe Schools Endeavor
Elliott LaVere, Case Middle School, Watertown City Schools

Thousand Islands Emergency Rescue Service
Violet Waterman, LaFargeville Central School

Watertown Urban Mission
Lauren Burgenstock, South Jefferson Central School

LEWIS COUNTY

Double Play Community Center, Lowville
Donovan Exford, Lowville Academy & Central School

Port Leyden Food Pantry
Felicity Szucs, South Lewis Central School

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

Potsdam Humane Society
Hallee Bullock, Canton Central School

Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways
June Demers, Morristown Central School



LEWIS COUNTY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION: From left, **Penny Whitcher**, Michael's mother; Lowville Academy and Central School eighth grader and Youth Giving Challenge winner **Michael Whitcher**; and **JoAnne Rhubarb**, Lewis County Hospital Foundation executive director.



CAPE VINCENT COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY: From left, **Shauna Dupee**, Community Bank Clayton branch manager; **Isabella McKillip**, Thousand Islands Middle School student and Youth Giving Challenge winner; and **Rebecca Dowling**, Cape Vincent Community Food Pantry Director.

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:


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