

Your
Looking forward and giving back
Watertown
Community Foundation

FALL 2014

Celebrating

35 years!

It may be fall, but things are beginning to bloom in Watertown.



The Joy Fund for Community Beautification.

Lori's Garden, 19 E. Kemp, welcomed a new addition – a sculpture, “Can You Smell It?” this summer. A crowd, including Mayor Steve Thorson, enjoyed a special dedication and unveiling of the sculpture, which supporters say is just the beginning.

Lori's Garden was donated to the City by Mike Luken in memory of his daughter, Jenny's mother, who loved flowers. This sculpture,

complements the theme and focus of the garden and was designed and sculpted by local artist Doris Symens Armstrong.

Now, plans are in the works for other sculptures to grace Watertown parks, boulevards and businesses. A WCF grant to the Urban Renewal Board, and The Joy Fund, at the Foundation have been the building blocks for this project. Prompted by the H2O-20 effort, Joy C. Nelson established The Joy Fund for Community Beautification to support revitalization, beautification and historic preservation projects in Watertown.

Nelson and Jan DeBerg, WCF executive director; along with Dave Johnson, Reliabank, another supporter of The Joy Fund; have met several times and have researched the potential of sculpture projects. There are a lot of details that take some planning. For instance, the stone platforms for the sculptures also cost money and tend to weigh 2,000 to 3,000

pounds. Earlier Gray Construction placed the stone at Lori's Garden.

“Over time, we hope to have 10 to 12 sculptures for a sculpture walk,” explained DeBerg. More sponsors and support will be sought to help with the effort. Sculptures are typically leased for 10 months at a time. Businesses will have the opportunity to sponsor a sculpture and/or host one outside their doors.

“Watertown is a wonderful community,” Nelson said. “I have lived here all my life and intend to be here for the rest of it. I feel it is important to support and better the community you live in and love.

“I want the residents of our city to enjoy the improvements made by The Joy Fund and for people moving to our community to see what a progressive and caring community we are,” she continued. “I am proud to be a part of this project and would encourage other residents to become involved in the sculpture project. It is a great project that we all can enjoy.”

Thank you donors for helping the Foundation grow and make a difference in our community.



Fern and Darwin Williams

People, places and experiences can all leave an impression.

The Darwin and Fern Williams Memorial Fund Fund. For Fern Williams and her husband, Darwin (now deceased), the Watertown community made an impression. Though neither graduated from Watertown High School, they spent enough time in Watertown to truly appreciate the town, the people and the experiences they had here.

It was Darwin who was born and raised here. However, before graduation he went into the Navy and then World War II began. Fern came to Watertown as a first-grader, but also left Watertown at approximately age 18. Regardless, Fern will never forget Watertown or the early years.

"I didn't know normal," Fern explained. "I never had a birthday party. We never owned a house or a car."

They were very poor, but looking back, Fern says she wouldn't change it. "I'm glad I was poor," she said. And, regardless of what material things you may have, you don't know what you had until you lose it. "People don't realize that people who haven't had a lot have just as hard time spending money

as someone who spends a lot and tries to stop," she continued.

"I've had a lot of time to think," the 90-year-old said. "I'm not judging others, but I believe money should be used to help people." Whether that be near her California home – she plans to assist disabled veterans there; or elsewhere.

"We were very fortunate," Fern says of her and Darwin's success. Beginning with little money or education, they fared very well. She credits the Lord and gives Him thanks for their good fortune. They were happily married for 67 years, though in later years Darwin's health failed. Darwin passed away 2 ½ years ago. The couple lived in 12 of the United States and was widely-traveled. No matter where they traveled, they always made visits back to Watertown to visit family, friends and the community.

It is to Watertown, she says, that she has already started "giving back" in more ways than one. The couple established the WWII Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Arrow Education Foundation nearly 25 years ago. She has a charitable trust through Lutheran Brotherhood which supports Joy Ranch; and has recently created the Darwin and Fern Williams Memorial Fund at the Watertown Community Foundation to benefit children and the elderly.

"I might live in the city now, but I'm still a small town girl," Fern told the Foundation. "It gives me great happiness to know my gifts will continue to help others for many years to come."



Dale and Diane Christensen

The Dale and Diane Christensen Fund. Watertown has been home to

Dale and Diane Christensen since 1988. As a wealth management specialist and charitable planning professional, Dale was instrumental in assisting others to establish funds at the Watertown Community Foundation.

"We could only imagine – back in the beginning – that the Foundation would grow to \$14 million and distribute nearly \$5 million for charitable purposes over the last 34 years," he said. Dale believes the Foundation will and should continue to grow more funds established by businesses, professionals, families and neighbors.

"That's kind of why I set up a fund," he said. "If you want someone to do something, you better set an example." They also raised a daughter and son here and thought it was a good way to give back to the community, he said.

The Dale and Diane Christensen Fund was established in 2004.

Dale was one of the first trustee representatives for the Foundation and has worked or volunteered with the Foundation in one way or another for much of its 35 years. He is a past chairman and current board member.

While the Christensens set their fund up for unrestricted educational, cultural, charitable and benevolent use; some donors have decided to designate their funds for particular needs.

That is the beauty of setting up a fund at the Watertown Community Foundation.

"It's a simple agreement and it's easy to focus it toward your passion or just general needs," he said. "It's even easy to change it, if in the future, you choose to do so." Likewise, you don't have to start with a minimum gift. While funds don't start paying out scholarships or grants until they reach \$10,000, that doesn't mean the fund can't be established with a smaller amount. A person can contribute yearly or fully fund at any time, which could include a contribution designated from a will or insurance policy.

There are many good reasons to establish a fund, Dale continued. "I also like knowing that our name will always be connected to the Foundation and its good works."

The mission of Watertown Community Foundation is to invest in the vitality and future of Watertown by supporting community priorities, responding to human service needs and enhancing recreation, education, arts and culture.

FUNDS OF THE FOUNDATION

The following funds have been established by people and groups who have chosen the Watertown Community Foundation as their partner in philanthropy.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Established to respond to the needs of the community.

Anonymous Donor Fund II
Dale & Diane Christensen Fund
Walter C. Parliament Fund
Nancy R. Petersen Memorial Fund
Mark D. & Barbara B. Pingrey Fund
Ethel A. Rau Fund
Clark & Mary Ann Redlinger Fund
Sophia Riddle Fund
John & Elizabeth Rislov Fund
Lee & Jan Schull Fund
Velma Vincent Fund
Oliver & Junice Wolden Fund
Myrtle F. (Mickey) Way Fund

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Donors recommend annual grant recipients.

Greg Blow Fund - to support local non-profit organizations.
Jeff & Sherri Brindle Fund - to support local non-profit organizations.
Irving & Eula Hinderaker Fund - to invest in the vitality and future of Watertown.
John & Cynthia Hopper Charitable Fund - to support local non-profit organizations.
Joy Fund for Community Beautification - to support aesthetic enhancement within Watertown.
Judy Lynn Wright Memorial Fund - in memory of Judy Lynn Wright to benefit children.

DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS

To support the donors' chosen charities.

Ruth Alberts Animal Care Fund - grants awarded through the Lake Area Zoological Society for the care and feeding of the animals at Bramble Park Zoo.
Anonymous Donor Fund I - supporting the Watertown Area United Way.

Anonymous Donor Fund III - Remaining anonymous until receipt of the bequest, the fund will support designated non-profit organizations in the area.

Anonymous Donor Fund V - supporting the Watertown Community Foundation,

Prairie Lakes Health Care Systems, Human Service Agency, Mother of God Priory, Lake Area Zoological Society and Jenkins Methodist Home, Inc.

Dorothy & Ruby Anritter Fund - supporting the Watertown Community Foundation, Human Service Agency Foundation, Prairie Lakes Health Care Foundation and First Congregational Church of Watertown.

Jack & Maisie Barrick Fund - supporting the Watertown Community Foundation, Watertown Zoological Society, Human Service Agency Foundation, Lake Area Technical Institute Foundation, Boys and Girls Club of Watertown and Jenkins Living Center, Inc.

B. Lorraine Case "Once Upon a Time" Fund - supporting educational events and children's programming, such as storytelling, at the Watertown Regional Library.

Violet Hayes Memorial Fund - supporting the Salvation Army's general operating fund.

Lauretta Hoff Donor Fund - supporting projects of the Lake Area Zoological Society.

Merlin Jeitz Fund - supporting designated charities in the community.

Joy & Dan Miller Fund - A designated distribution to Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots program in South Dakota and also supporting the following fields of interest: local programs for women, youth and animals.

Nellie Marie Newcomb Fund - supporting the Watertown Community Foundation and the Boys and Girls Club of Watertown, as well as a scholarship in memory of Treva Ginther.

Donus & Lovila Roberts ABC Book Club Fund - supporting reading programs in the Watertown School District by providing books and awards as incentives and to establish scholarships to graduating seniors who excelled in reading.

Kenneth B. & Myrtle F. (Mickey) Way Fund - supporting Watertown Concert Association and Town Players and the following fields of interest: Arts, education and human services.

DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS *Cont'd*

Vera Way Marghab Fund - designated distributions to the Watertown Community Concert Association as well as field of interest recommendations in the areas of education, the arts and Watertown beautification and historical preservation.

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Focusing on concerns/areas important to the donors.

Anonymous Donor Fund VI - A field of interest fund, grants are awarded to the Watertown Community Foundation, Prairie Lakes Health Care System, Inc. Foundation, Human Service Agency Foundation, Mother of God Priory, Lake Area Zoological Society and Jenkins Methodist Home, Inc.

Florence Bruhn Fund - supporting the promotion of dramatic and visual arts in Watertown.

Endres Donor Fund - supporting drug and alcohol education and prevention.

Dr. Edwin W. Harper Fund - supporting public music programs by band and orchestra; and tree planting in public areas.

Louise I. Lauer Fund - supporting animals, wildlife and their habitat.

Raymond B. McRodan & Marie McRodan Memorial Fund - supporting local youth.

LEGACY FUND SOCIETY

Established as future funds.

Anonymous Donor Fund IV - supporting future scholarships.

Doug Carpenter Fund - to be determined

Dan Christensen Fund - to be determined

David & Jan DeBerg Fund - unrestricted

Scott & Jodi Driscoll Fund - to be determined

Dean & Ardyce Gackstetter Fund - supporting designated non-profit organizations.

Larkin Family Fund - supporting cultural, charitable purposes with special focus on South Dakota Symphony performances in Watertown.

Joy C. Nelson Fund - unrestricted

Brian & Gayle Robertson Fund - unrestricted

James K. & Sandra K. Stoudt Family Fund - unrestricted

Sumner Family Fund - to be determined

Nancy Turbak Berry Fund - to be determined

Russ & Charlene Wilkins Family Fund - unrestricted, but the principal field of interest is for conservation projects of a permanent nature, or permanent projects being done by the local Isaack Walton League.

Darwin K. & Fern B. Williams Fund - Field of interest supporting children in the Watertown area, based on financial need, with educational and human service needs; and the elderly in our area who are needy.



WCF BOARD MEMBERS: Kate Benson, Chairperson • Lee Schull • Dale Christensen, Vice Chair • Dr. Lesli Jutting • Laurie Benson
Watertown Community Foundation 211 East Kemp Watertown, SD 57201 605-882-3731 WatertownCommunityFoundation.org