

# Newsletter

## April 2017



### Jan's Note



Grants awarded at the Board's April meeting included:

- \$3,075 to Lake Area Zoological Society to purchase butterfly plants for the Bramble Park Zoo's prairie gardens; to purchase rose milkweed bulbs and blazing star to distribute to families for planting in their own yards.
- \$10,000 to Karing Kapers to purchase LED stage lighting for DD Miller Auditorium.
- \$600 to Two Sides of the Same Coin to bring the Rock Garden Tour program to the Goss on May 20, 2017.

April was busy, but May will be busier yet. For starters, thousands of dollars from donors' scholarship funds will be awarded to deserving students graduating from high school.

A new season of sculptures will be "unveiled" Thursday, May 4. A ribbon cutting will coincide with a barbecue hosted by the Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce on Friday, May 5, beginning at 11 a.m. at Chamber Park, 1 E. Kemp.

The 11th annual Tate Topa Pow Wow will be held Saturday, May 13, from 1 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. at the Watertown Intermediate School. Native American graduates will be honored at the event, supported by the Foundation.



**WOMEN & GIVING** - About 120 women attended the Foundation's 14th annual Women & Giving fund raiser. More than \$20,000 in donations has been raised for immediate and future granting. Pictured in top photo are, from left, Angie Reppe, Foundation chair; Jill Blashack-Strahan, Founder and CEO of Tastefully Simple, keynote speaker; Prudy Calvin, Women & Giving chair; and Laurie Benson, Foundation board member and mistress of ceremonies.

Strahan presented "Giving With Gratitude" and the law of abundance - fostering peace of mind through win-win attitudes.

Also speaking were Kelli Rumpza, left, community prevention specialist, who talked about the Teen Crisis Texting Line supported by a Women & Giving grant; and Shellia St. George, Mt. Marty College student and Women & Giving scholarship recipient. Both showed attendees the positive impact their donations make.



## Youth Council Awards Grants; Elects Members

The Watertown Area Community Foundation Youth Council met recently and awarded the following grants:



- \$1,474 to the Beacon Center for three tables with chairs, three benches and an area rug.
- \$1,000 to the Boys & Girls Club for dedicated space for 5<sup>th</sup>- and 6<sup>th</sup>-grade students featuring computer, board games, tables/chairs and interactive games.
- \$980 to Joy Ranch for wheelchair accessible matting designated in the small animal area; and construction of an enclosure for some small farm animals.
- \$500 to Lake Area Zoological Society to support two Phil Baker concerts set for Farm Fun Day at the zoo on July 29.
- \$1,200 to Lake Area Technical Institute to purchase sensory equipment for a camp for children ages 4 to 16 who have difficulties with processing sensory information due to Autism, ADHA, Sensory Processing Disorder, OCD and Pervasive Developmental Disorder.
- \$1,000 to the Suicide Awareness For Everyone (SAFE) Coalition to support the Teen Crisis Texting Program.
- \$350 to the Watertown Initiative to Prevent Sex Trafficking to purchase *iEmpathize Empower Youth Program for Teens* and a special project for youth.
- \$1,000 to the Watertown Park & Recreation Department to go toward the new skatepark.

The Youth Council thanks its outgoing seniors: Michael Linngren, Brandon Maag and Mikayla Kludt for their service. New members elected for the 2017-18 school year were: Braeden Kluver, son of Wayne and Wendy Kluver; Alyssa Roby, daughter of Don and Kelly Roby; and Sydney Walker, daughter of Scott and Tricia Walker. Returning members will be: Rachel Holien, Maryn Stacey and Jenna Buechler.

The Foundation implemented the Youth Council in 2001. The Council is made up of juniors and seniors. Throughout the school year they assess needs of youth, learn leadership skills and award grants to local youth-serving organizations and programs.

## Watertown Area Community Foundation



**From Left: Angie Reppe, Lee Schull, Charlie Ewalt, Dr. Lesli Jutting, and Laurie Benson.**

Trustee Representatives: Scott Olson, Great Western Bank; and Tyler DeBoer, Wells Fargo Bank, NA; Staff: Jan DeBerg, executive director; Greg Blow, donor development; Julianne Endres, marketing/donor services; Jill Slobotski, administrative assistant.

*The Watertown Area Community Foundation is governed by a volunteer board who broadly represent the Watertown Community. These board members are appointed by the: City of Watertown, Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce, Watertown School District, Great Western Bank, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*

As of January 2015 our assets were approximately \$15 million. We have over 100 funds that provide grants and scholarships each year to residents and organizations in Watertown.