

Newsletter July 2016



Jan's Note



The new picnic shelter to be constructed at Lions Park in Watertown will feature roll-up weather protection walls, a kitchen area with buffet table and electricity, a storage room, bathrooms and charcoal pedestal grills outside.

Lions Plan for Park

The Watertown Area Community Foundation has awarded a \$20,000 grant, payable over three years to support the construction of a picnic shelter at Lions Park by the 3rd Avenue pond. This enhancement is just one step of the Watertown Lions' plans for making the park all it can be to benefit the Watertown community said Cole Fischer, a fund raiser for the club's project.

Two years ago, the club began making improvements to the park, including installing sidewalks and a sign on the property. The new picnic shelter will feature roll-up weather-protection walls, a kitchen area with a buffet table and electricity, storage room, bathrooms and outdoor grills. "As the years go on, we hope to keep making the park better and better," Fischer said, adding that it is great to have the support of the City and the mayor for this project. Future plans may include another canopy, more grills, a storage shed for kayaks, etc.

"We have this beautiful little pond in the center of Watertown," Fischer said.

This park is for the community and the enhancements will encourage more activities there. Expectations for those activities include: Fishing classes · Mayor's ice fishing tournament · pond hockey · Izaak Walton League conservation projects/classes · nature walks · picnics/reunions/rehearsal dinners/weddings.

Where has the summer gone?

August begins with an exceptional band, Crossroad Station, sponsored by the Watertown Area Community Foundation for Thursday Night Live, Aug. 4. I hope you will join us for an evening of fun and music in downtown Watertown.

I want to personally thank the Women & Giving Advisory Committee for their time and efforts in awarding this year's Women & Giving grants. This is a tough job – one which none of them takes lightly. I appreciate them and the Women & Giving donors for their caring generosity as nearly \$15,000 was awarded (more details in this newsletter) and another \$14,500 was set aside for scholarships and future grants.

Beore the end of the month, Watertown schools will begin their 2016-17 school year. Best wishes to students and faculty for a great one. That means Youth Council will be starting soon as well. I can't wait!



Grants Support Joy Ranch

Watertown Area Community Foundation donors continue to support Joy Ranch. This photo shows participants in the new archery program there. Giving Back 365 donors awarded a grant to purchase materials for a floor, roof, wheelchair ramp and materials to construct target and arrow holders. Other recent grants to Joy Ranch include a Youth Council grant to support the addition of interpretive signs along the nature trails at the ranch.

Enjoy the Music

Join the Watertown Area Community Foundation for Thursday Night Live Aug. 4 in downtown Watertown. The Foundation is sponsoring the band, Crossroad Station, for the concert beginning at 6:30 p.m. Bring your lawn chair, sit back and enjoy a blend of country, rock and blues genres.



Thanks to Women & Giving donors, grants totaling nearly \$15,000 are being awarded locally to help women and children overcome barriers, increase their opportunities and achieve their goals. In addition, the Watertown Area Community Foundation W&G Advisory Committee also set aside \$14,500 for future grants and for scholarships to non-traditional female students.

Grants awarded were: **\$945 to the Go Girl Go Program at the Boys & Girls Club** to purchase equipment, yoga mats and jump ropes, etc. for the program which encourages healthy lifestyles including eating right and fitness for girls, **\$1,250 to Inter-lakes Community Action Partnership to support the Delta Dental Smile Mobile** visit to Watertown this October which will serve children up to age 21, **\$2,500 to Joy Ranch** for help sponsor a Winter Retreat Feb. 24-26, 2017, designed to help women who were victims of child sexual abuse and sexual assault, **\$600 to LATI Educare** to help with costs of diapers, formula, baby wipes, etc. for low-income families; **\$7,555 to Lake Area Zoological Society to support two Girls Rule** programs (one for 3rd- through 5th-graders and another for 7th to 9th-graders) at Bramble Park Zoo, **\$900 to McKinley Elementary School Social Worker** to help families in need of household and hygiene supplies, **\$1,120 to Watertown Middle School** to help sponsor the 3rd Annual Girl's Night.

The Watertown Area Community Foundation Women & Giving program began 13 years ago to educate and inspire women to be leaders in philanthropy. To date group has awarded approximately \$130,000 in grants and scholarships.

Watertown Area Community Foundation



From Left: Angie Reppe, Lee Schull, Dale Christensen, 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.

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