

Dr. Jutting Honored

During its June meeting, the Watertown Area Community Foundation Board, trustee representatives and staff recognized Dr. Lesli Jutting for serving on the Board for the past 10 years. As Watertown School District superintendent, Dr. Jutting was the school district's appointee on the five-member board. She announced her retirement earlier this year.

"Being on the WACF Board has reaffirmed the positive commitment to give and help others that I always believed many people have in our community," Dr. Jutting said. "The Board meetings were always a wonderful opportunity to see the goodness of the Foundation, as well as contributors, in helping nonprofits meet their needs."

The Foundation received its largest donation as well as awarded its largest grant during Dr. Jutting's tenure. "I would have to say the large grant to the Boys and Girls Club for its renovation project has been my favorite because the new building will meet the needs of our youth for many years to come," she said. "That project really needs to be done and WACF helped meet that need by being one of the first initial large donors and supporting the campaign."

Dr. Jutting explained that the Board members take their job seriously. "Watertown and area communities are so fortunate to have a Foundation to turn to," she said. "The donors of the foundation all have 'invested' in the community to make sure that this community continues to progress even during difficult financial times. I can remember during the Recession when the WACF Board thought it was extremely important to continue to give as much as possible to those non-profits that needed help in continuing to bring their projects to fruition. It worked!"

Last year the Foundation granted roughly \$465,000 and this year, it is on track to grant nearly that much. The Foundation has grown from \$3,000 in 1979 to approximately \$16 million to date and has awarded \$6.5 million in grants and scholarships.

"The strategic goal of the WACF is to reach \$30 million in assets in order to continue to help this community and surrounding communities. I sincerely hope that we make and break that goal and I know we are moving toward it each day," Dr. Jutting said. "The people who founded the Foundation had a vision to help those in need and their vision has occurred.

"I plan to stay connected to the WACF," she continued. "Watertown is a tremendous community that has given much to my family. The Foundation is a great place to 'give back' for all those blessings."

New Superintendent Dr. Jeff Danielsen will come on the WACF Board in July. He grew up in Salem, earned an elementary education degree from Augustana College, a master's from the University of Sioux Falls and a doctorate in school superintendency from the University of South Dakota. He has extensive teaching and superintendent experience. He was superintendent at West Central School District for the past nine years. His wife Stephanie has accepted a school counselor position for the Deuel School District. The couple has a son, Riley, who is a senior at SDSU; a son, Brodey, a sophomore at Northwestern University, Evanston, IL; and a daughter, Sadie, who will be a sophomore at WHS.



June flew by and July literally comes in with a bang with the amazing fireworks show on the Redlin Art Center grounds Saturday, July 1. The event, free to the public, will include music and food vendors. The festivities begin earlier in the day with a parade in downtown Watertown at 2 p.m.

The WACF Board met in June and thanked Dr. Lesli Jutting for her service on the Board as the Watertown School District's appointee. The new superintendent Dr. Jeff Danielsen will come on the Board in July.



THANK YOU LESLI - To thank Dr. Lesli Jutting, Watertown School District superintendent, for her service on the WACF Board, Jan DeBerg presented her a certificate. It entitled Dr. Jutting to designate a \$1,000 WACF grant to a local nonprofit. She chose the Salvation Army to receive the grant.

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 \$16 million.* We have over 100 funds that provide grants and scholarships each year to residents and organizations in Watertown.

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