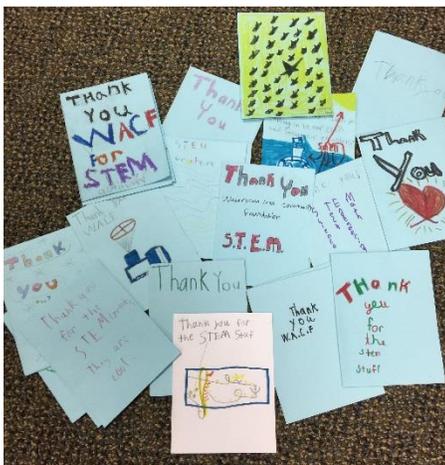


Newsletter: February 2018



ESTATE PLANNING DISCUSSION - The Watertown Area

Community Foundation presented a panel discussion regarding estate planning at the Watertown Winter Farm Show. Differences regarding types of wills, estate plans and trusts were discussed as well as the new tax law and how to meet your charitable goals. Attendees were encouraged to meet with their professional advisors if they haven't already done so to create a plan which can continue to be amended as needed. For more information, please call the Foundation office, 882-3731.



Area Schools Should Apply For Grant

The thank you cards came from Clark elementary students who are enjoying their new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) materials due to a grant awarded through the Area School Partnership

Program. The Watertown Area Community Foundation implemented the program last year to support area schools.

Deuel High School also received an Area School Partnership grant to support their JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) program.



BOARD MATTERS
 The Watertown Area Community Foundation

staff is back in their "new" old office at 211 E. Kemp.

The WACF Board met in February. The following grants were awarded:

- \$5,500 to **Town Players** to support two youth summer theater productions.
- \$3,044 to **Watertown Area United Way** to purchase a new laptop, docking station, keyboard, mouse, dual monitors, stand, laser printer, software and onsite setup.
- \$15,000 to **Lake Area Zoological Society** to support the organization's endowment building campaign.
- \$1,500 to the **City of Watertown** to support the annual City Fireworks Celebration at the Redlin Art Center.
- \$1,300 to the **Watertown Lions Ice Show** to bring guest skater, Angela Wang from Colorado Springs, CO, to perform at the annual event.

Currently there are nearly 49 donors participating in this year's Giving Back 365 program. For more information on how to help your community with just \$1 a day, contact our office at 882-3731 or email: foundation@iw.net.



School districts within approximately 30 miles of Watertown are eligible to apply. They may call 882-3731 or email:

assistant@watertowncommunityfoundation.org to request a grant application. Foundation staff is available to counsel with interested parties regarding the appropriateness of a project for the Foundation Board's review. Grant applications are due in March with final determination on all proposals being made by July. Guidelines include:

- Grant awards must benefit public education to students.
- Grants are awarded for education enhancement programs and projects.
- Grant fund requests up to \$2,500 are accepted for consideration.
- Grant applications need to describe the project clearly and specifically.
- The completed application must include the application form and a brief narrative describing the program or project and showing the budget for the proposal.
- Evidence of approval of the governing Board of the requesting organization is recommended. Letter of support or other relevant materials may also be included.

Grant applications are due in March and grants are awarded by July. For more information, please contact the Watertown Area Community Foundation at 882-3731 or email: foundation@iw.net.

Benson Elected WACF Board Chair

The Watertown Area Community Foundation Board elected Watertown native Laurie Benson as its new chairperson during the Board's first meeting of 2018. Laurie was appointed to the Board by the Chamber of Commerce of which she also was a board member and former chair. In addition, she is a past board member for the Watertown Volunteer Center.



She has been with Kinsman Insurance since 1976 and owner of the company since 2001. Benson is a member of many national insurance and finance advisory associations. She has two children and two grandchildren.

"It has been exciting to see the Foundation grow," Benson said. As a WACF board member for more than 10 years, Benson has seen a lot of its good works and was proud to be a part of the decision to award the largest grant in Foundation history, \$500,000, to the Boys & Girls Club for its recent capital campaign and its endowment fund. "I have no doubt that 2018 will bring more great things to the Watertown region as the Foundation continues to partner with donors who are looking forward and giving back."

Benson succeeds Angie Reppe, 2017 chairperson. Charlie Ewalt, Enercept president, was elected vice chair. These three join other WACF Board members: Dr. Jeff Danielson, Liam Culhane, Kristin Henderson and Joel Vockrodt in the Foundation's mission to invest in the vitality of our community. This volunteer board is appointed by the City, School District and business sectors.

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.

As of January 2018 our assets are approximately \$18 million. We have over 100 funds that provide grants and scholarships each year to residents and organizations in Watertown.

Contact Us: 211 E. Kemp Ave. • Watertown, SD 57201 • (605) 882-3731 • Foundation@iw.net