WMS GIRLS' NIGHT - A fun night was had by all during the annual Watertown Middle School Girls’ Night held in November. Thanks to donors, the Foundation awarded a $2,000 grant to support the event which included food and presentations to 'Enlighten,' 'Empower' and 'Encourage' the girls attending. The program also highlighted strong women in history including Amelia Earhart, Rosa Parks and more. The girls received a T-shirt reminding them 'Strong is Beautiful.'

Tree Fundraiser in Progress

With the help of the Watertown Regional Library, the Foundation is sponsoring its annual Christmas Tree Fundraiser.

Fifteen local non-profit organizations have decorated trees on display at the library through Dec. 31. The public is encouraged to visit the library and donate to their favorite organization(s). The Foundation will match up to $300 for each organizations’ total donations ($1 per vote) The organization with the most donations will receive an additional $500 grant from the Foundation.

Participating organizations this year are 60's Plus Dining/Meals on Wheels, Beacon Center, Boys & Girls Club, Codington County Heritage Museum, Friends of the Goss, Joy Ranch, Lake Area Zoological Society, Mellette House, My Happy Place, Town Players, Watertown Area People Against Child Hunger, Watertown Area Transit, Watertown Police - K9, Watertown Regional Library and the Watertown Volunteer Center. Thanks in advance for supporting these organizations! Happy Holidays!

Jan's Note

November really starts the hustle and bustle around here! The month began with the Watertown Hall of Fame event. The very deserving inductees this year were long-time art teacher and KiYi legend author Florence Bruhn; Sherwin Linton, well-known musician who is also in the SD Hall of Fame and the SD Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; and Dr. John Stransky, now 94, who has been a dedicated local physician and community leader.

The month concluded with Thanksgiving and the Foundation’s open house in conjunction with the Holiday Lighted Parade.

Upcoming events include:
- Annual Christmas Tree Fundraiser through December at the Watertown Regional Library.
- Optimists’ Winter Wonderland at City Park weekends in December from 6 to 9 p.m. nightly.
- Thursday Night Live, Thursday, Dec. 6, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Watertown Mall.
- Community Christmas Concert, Sunday, Dec. 9, at 3 and 7 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church.
TIS THE SEASON - Friends of the Watertown Area Community Foundation gathered at the Foundation office to enjoy some holiday treats at the Foundation’s open house. The event was held in conjunction with the annual Holiday Lighted Parade. The weather cooperated for a wonderful turnout. Thanks to all those who joined us!

Watertown Area Community Foundation

Front Row: Angie Reppe, Laurie Benson, Kristen Henderson Liam Culhane
Back Row: Dr. Jeff Danielsen, Joel Vockrodt, Charlie Ewalt

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