The first Thursday Night Live of the season celebrated the Watertown Area Community Foundation’s 40th anniversary. At right, Jill Slobotski, WACF administrative assistant, serves cupcakes to attendees. At left, Charlie Ewalt (center), WACF Board chair, and Jan DeBerg, WACF executive director; present Roger Whittle, president of the Codington County Historical Society, with a “check” representing a $500 grant. As the WACF trivia winner, Christy Lickei, (not pictured) got to designate a $500 WACF grant to her favorite local charity and the historical society won the prize!

THANKS FOR COMING - The Watertown Area Community Foundation’s 40th anniversary Thursday Night Live event was a success on all accounts thanks to you! The weather cooperated, a crowd appeared, the HUSH Band was phenomenal, the cupcakes were delicious and fun was had! Thanks for making the Foundation’s 40th anniversary so special.
Celebrate! Grants Awarded

**AS THE 2019 ADULT CELEBRATE!** Award winner Sharon Herman was entitled to designate a $1,000 grant from the Watertown Area Community Foundation to a local nonprofit of her choice. She chose Watertown Area Special Olympics and the Watertown Volunteer Center to each receive a $500 grant.

From left are Jan DeBerg, WACF executive director; Jenny Lake, Special Olympics athlete; Herman and Char Torgerson, director of the Watertown Volunteer Center and Herman’s nominator. Herman designated the Special Olympics grant in honor of Lake.

**Celebrate!**

This is the 13th year that WACF has sponsored the Celebrate! Award. This award traditionally honors outstanding community service volunteers who are nominated by the public/organizations and chosen by a committee of local leaders.

**YOUTH WINNER** - Outstanding Youth Volunteer of the Year Samantha Gross chose Peer Helpers to receive a $500 WACF grant. She is pictured with Wendy Olson, WHS Project Success coordinator.

**SUMMER VACATION IS NOW IN FULL SWING!**

Students of all ages, as well as the whole family, can find a variety of fun activities to do and places to go in the Watertown area.

“The Watertown Area Community Foundation is proud to have been a partner in many of the places and activities that invigorate the summer days ahead,” said Jan DeBerg, executive director of the Foundation.

Some of the Foundation’s early grants included those supporting the Mellette House, the showmobile, the Lake Area Zoological Society, Lake City Junior/Teener Baseball for the establishment and maintenance at Foundation Fields and a summer outreach program at McKinley School...even a bicycle safety awareness program.

Still more grants over the years have supported the Codington County Heritage Museum, and summer programs at the Watertown Regional Library, Watertown Park & Recreation and Town Players. Watertown's bike/walking trail received a $250,000 grant in 2001.

Both Thursday Night Live and Watertown Artwalk have been supported by the Foundation since these programs began. The Veterans’ Memorial at Stokes-Thomas Lake City Park was supported by the Foundation.

Other grants all about summer fun have included those supporting the skate park, Lions Park on Third Avenue North and a disc golf course at Jackson Park. The Foundation helps sponsor the City Fireworks Show on the Redlin Art Center grounds.

“Coincidentally this 40th anniversary year, a grant has just been awarded from the Foundation’s first fund, the Dr. Edwin Harper Fund,” said DeBerg. It will support the purchase of trees, saplings and shrubbery to replace older park trees at Codington County Memorial Park. “This fund has been instrumental in the support of public concerts and tree planting/landscaping at local schools and parks. In fact, roughly 100 grants have been awarded from the fund over the years. This recent grant really brings 40 years of ‘Looking Forward and Giving Back,’ full circle.”