

# Foundation supports summer fun

By **Julianne Endres**

Watertown Area  
Community Foundation

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 throughout.

“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



Public Opinion photo by Roger Whittle

The Hush Band reunited to play at Thursday Night Live this week in downtown Watertown.

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



**40 Years ... 40 Stories:** The Watertown Area Community Foundation celebrates 40 years of “Looking Forward and Giving Back”, in 2019. Join the Foundation as it takes the opportunity this year to not only celebrate, but also to look back with gratitude over the past 40 years.

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 Art-walk 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 at the Redlin Art Center grounds, planned this year for Wednesday evening, July 3.

"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," she said.

