

# memorandum

FALL/WINTER 2017  
VOL. XXXIX

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## NEW FUNDS ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY

**The Aurora American Legion Band Fund** was created to commemorate the Band's 80th Anniversary Season in 2017. The Fund supports the operation and mission of the Band, which continues to be true to its patriotic roots, performing in parades, concerts, and other observances in and around the Fox Valley.



**The 100 Women Who Care Fox Valley Fund** was established by 100 Women Who Care Fox Valley to support its mission. Founded in 2015, 100 Women Who Care Fox Valley is a group of approximately 150 dedicated, influential women who are making a difference in our community through impact giving. In their first two years, 100 Women Who Care Fox Valley donated over \$80,000 to Kane County charities.



**Public Art Coalition Fox Valley** is dedicated to regional development and stewardship of public art contributions through coordinated philanthropic support. Public art is an exciting way to welcome exploration and enjoyment of destinations along the Fox River Trail. Make a gift to this fund in celebration of your community and support our local artists!



**The Rotary Club of Aurora Scholarship Endowment Fund** was established to support local graduating high school seniors who will be attending a college or university. Preference will be given to students studying healthcare or education. The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise.



## Officers

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**William B. Skoglund,**

*Vice Chairman & Treasurer*

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**Scott Voris\***

\* Executive Committee

## memorandum

is published by the Community  
Foundation of the Fox River Valley.

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## GENEVA ACADEMIC FOUNDATION PARTNERS WITH CFFRV

The Geneva Academic Foundation (GAF) is a non-profit organization that raises money each year to fund grants for the purchase of equipment, tools, programs and services for the teachers and classrooms throughout Geneva Community School District #304, as well as two annual scholarships for graduating seniors from Geneva High School. Since 1987, the role of GAF in Geneva has been to provide an ongoing bridge to academic enrichment for all students across all schools in the district. In 2017, GAF established four funds within the Community Foundation to support their various objectives:



- Geneva Academic Foundation Endowment Fund
- Geneva Academic Foundation Teacher Grants Fund
- Geneva Academic Foundation Scholarship Fund
- Geneva Academic Foundation Viking Voyage to Excellence Fund

GAF recently launched its “Viking Voyage to Excellence” campaign to support the GAF Endowment Fund, which will provide GAF with a sustainable and consistent funding source for annual grant requests from Geneva schools and teachers.

Donations of any amount to the Endowment Fund are appreciated, but donors at certain levels will be recognized with a brass emblem engraved with their name and donation level on a permanent model Viking Ship display in the main hall of Geneva High School.

## SOUND FINANCIAL PLANNING

Careful estate planning is important to our family and to the charities we support. It is possible to provide for charity while protecting our hard-earned dollars for the future benefit of loved ones. We sincerely hope that the following gift planning techniques will prove helpful to you.

### ►►► IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER:

Donors aged 70½ or older may transfer as much as \$100,000 a year from an IRA to a charity without having to include any of that transfer as part of their income. But to qualify, that transfer must be made directly from the IRA to charity, and the donor cannot claim a tax deduction for the gift. Please contact the Community Foundation for more information on transferring assets from your IRA.

### ►►► HIGHLY TAXED ASSETS:

When preparing an estate plan, it is preferable that charitable distributions be made from IRAs or other assets on which income tax will be due upon death. Distributions of such assets to charity are not taxed. These same assets bequeathed to heirs will incur income tax. When leaving a bequest to charity, consider distributions from highly taxed assets.

### ►►► FUNDING CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS:

If an individual has substantial funds in an IRA, he or she may wish to contribute a portion of the funds to create a charitable remainder trust. The charitable deduction helps to cover a portion of the income tax due, removes the asset from the estate and generates income in retirement. Upon death, the CRT would create a named fund for the donor and his or her family.

### ►►► APPRECIATED ASSETS:

If circumstances permit, individuals should donate appreciated assets when making charitable donations. The donor of such assets can deduct the full fair market value of the gift and avoid a capital gains tax on the appreciated amount of the securities.

### ►►► GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE:

There are advantages to gifting one's home to charity while reserving the right to live in the home until death. As with all estate planning, the rules are complicated and require the assistance of qualified legal advisors.

## OUR DONORS

On our website, we include recognitions of our donors who contribute to one or more of our charitable funds. These lists appear on a quarterly basis so that we can be timelier in acknowledging our many faithful supporters. We also publish these donor lists in our monthly e-Memorandums. Our sincere thanks to all of you who continue to remember the Community Foundation.

## legacy society

We gratefully recognize the following individuals who remembered the Foundation with a bequest from their estate in 2017. These special community benefactors have enriched the lives of others through their concern for the charitable needs of our community. If you have included the Foundation in your estate plan, please consider becoming a member of our Legacy Society. We would sincerely appreciate the opportunity to pay tribute to your thoughtfulness.

### GERALD D. ABEL

Bequests to Community Foundation Administrative Endowment Fund and Gerald D. Abel Memorial Endowment Fund

### BETTE JAYNE MILLER

Bequest to Bette Jayne Miller Memorial Endowment Fund

### THEODORE S. NELSON

Bequest to Theodore Silseth Nelson Scholarship Endowment Fund

### JACQUES TOUSSAINT

Bequest to Jacques and Charlotte Toussaint Endowment Fund

## GRANTS AWARDED BY CATEGORY

Healthcare \$56,824

Social Services \$270,297

Arts + Education \$182,691

## GRANTS AWARDED BY AREA

AURORA : 12

TRI CITIES : 13

(Batavia, Geneva, St. Charles)

KENDALL COUNTY : 6

(Oswego, Plano, Yorkville)

Words alone  
cannot convey the  
encouragement  
an award like this  
delivers for our  
many volunteers.  
The support from  
organizations like  
yours has been  
critical to our  
shared mission.

— Gregory Witek,  
Board Chairman of Kendall County  
Community Food Pantry



CFFRV's spring 2017 grant recipients at the ceremony in June.

## CELEBRATING OUR GRANTEEES

The Community Foundation continues to celebrate its grant recipients through Grantee Recognition Ceremonies. These events recognize the local social service, health, education and arts agencies that receive discretionary grants from the Community Foundation for various capital projects.

The fall 2016 grantees were honored at a ceremony in January. Twelve local nonprofit agencies were recognized at the event, which was hosted by Water Street Studios in Batavia. In June, the Foundation held a ceremony for its nineteen spring 2017 grant recipients at Waterford Cancer Resource Center in Aurora. All told, thirty-one agencies received a total of \$509,812.00 in funding during the fall and spring grant cycles. That's a lot to celebrate!

31 agencies  
received a total of  
\$509,812

We give a tremendous thank you to our event hosts, vendors, and speakers for making the Grantee Recognition Ceremonies a huge success. We especially want to thank all of the grantees for the services they provide in our area. It is an honor to partner with the local nonprofit organizations who help our community thrive.

The fall 2017 grant cycle is in progress at the time of this publication. The recipients of these grants will be recognized at a ceremony to be held January 2018. **Applications for the spring 2018 grant cycle will open February 2018.**



Fall 2016 grantees at the ceremony in January 2017.

The following friends of the Community Foundation passed away this past year. Memorial contributions can be made to the funds listed below the photos. Please visit the fund pages on our website for more information.

**CommunityFoundationFRV.org, Foundation Funds > See All Funds**



**John McDougal**  
OCTOBER 28

**John W. McDougal M.A.C.  
Scholarship Fund**



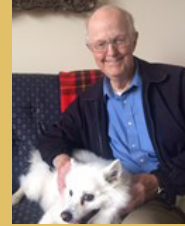
**Don Brownson**  
MARCH 10

**Don & Betty Brownson  
Endowment Fund**



**Edward H. Schmitt**  
JULY 7

**Edward H. & Marie Clare  
Schmitt Advisory Fund**



**Theodore S. Nelson**  
AUGUST 11

**Theodore Silseth Nelson  
Scholarship Endowment Fund**



**Karen Towers**  
DECEMBER 17

**Towers Family Fund**



**Frank Darby**  
MARCH 1

**Friends of Philips Park Fund**



**Patricia Michels**  
JULY 19

**Robert & Patricia Michels  
Family Endowment Fund**



**William Alexander Greene**  
AUGUST 14

**William Alexander  
& Marjory Mather Greene  
Endowment Fund**



**William Middleton**  
JANUARY 28

**Messenger Public Library of  
North Aurora Foundation Fund**



**Susan Davis**  
MAY 25

**A+ Foundation For West Aurora  
Schools Fund**



**Patricia Warren**  
AUGUST 4

**New England  
Congregational Church  
Music Endowment Fund**



**Thomas Reeves**  
SEPTEMBER 3

**Community Foundation  
Memorial Endowment Fund**



**Charles Dhom**  
FEBRUARY 17

**Chuck & Dorothy Dhom  
Endowment Fund**



**Philip Elfstrom**  
MAY 28

**Philip B. Elfstrom & Peg Bond  
Scholarship Endowment Fund**



**Barbara K. Kaufmann**  
AUGUST

**Community Foundation  
Memorial Endowment Fund**



**John Curley**  
OCTOBER 26

**Community Foundation  
Memorial Endowment Fund**

...I couldn't be more grateful, and I couldn't be more excited to see how this scholarship helps me achieve my dreams...

...I want to thank you for your contribution to my educational and personal development. I am incredibly grateful...

...This scholarship is an amazing opportunity for me and my education...



## CFFRV AWARDS OVER \$1 MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIPS!

In 2017, **362 students were awarded a total of \$737,700 in scholarships**. Including multi-year awards, the total projected amount for these scholarships is nearly **\$1.2 million over the next four years!** The success of the Community Foundation scholarship program is possible thanks to our donors who have established scholarship funds, and to the dedication of our scholarship committee.

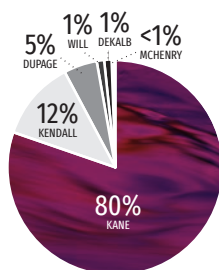
For more information on the 2018-2019 scholarship program, please visit the Foundation's website. **Applications will be available beginning November 20, 2017.**

### academic status

High School: **71%**

College (undergrad/grad): **29%**

### counties



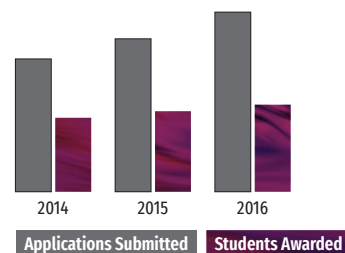
### gender

male: **32%**  
female: **68%**

Largest amount awarded :  
**\$6,000**

Most common amount awarded :  
**\$1,000**

### applications submitted



## NEW MEMORIAL FUNDS HONOR LOVED ONES



**The Shelley Scott Fund** was created to honor the life of Shelley Scott (1970-2015). Scholarships from the fund are awarded to graduates of Oswego High School with preference given to women attending Waubensee Community College.



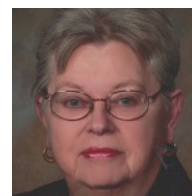
**The Ben Smiles Memorial Foundation** was established by Rob & Elizabeth Gerlach to honor the memory of their beloved son Benjamin (2012-2016). The mission of this fund is to create happiness and smiles for children with special needs by making important toys and tools accessible.



**The Kristoffer Larsen Big Heart Memorial Foundation** was created in memory of Kristoffer Larsen who suffered a sudden cardiac death in 2016 at the age of 22. The fund's mission is to honor the memory of Kristoffer while helping to prevent sudden cardiac death by supporting cardiac research and screenings.



**The John W. McDougal M.A.C. Scholarship Fund** was created in memory of John W. McDougal (1924-2016) by his family. It supports the McDougal Athletic Character Award, which is awarded to male athletes from West Aurora High School. McDougal was an accomplished basketball coach for forty years, coaching both high school and college teams.



**The Towers Family Fund** was established to honor Karen Towers (1937-2016) who was an art teacher for West Aurora School District #129 for 36 years. The Karen Towers Art Scholarship was created to help future art teachers reach their dreams.

## NEW FUNDS SUPPORT EDUCATION

**The Swami Vivekananda Scholarship Fund** was created by the City of Aurora's Indian American Community Outreach Advisory Board (IACOAB). IACOAB's mission is to embrace the heritage and contributions of Indian Americans while encouraging Indian Americans to increase their involvement in Aurora's growth. The scholarship helps college-bound high school seniors further their education in a field of their choice.

**The West Aurora High School Class of 1967 Fund** was created by the members of the Class of 1967 to commemorate their 50th Class Reunion. This fund supports the needs of West Aurora High School and the A+ Foundation. It honors those who have so positively impacted the Class of 1967, including parents, family members, teachers, coaches, administrators and the West Aurora community.

**The Eric P. Whitaker Scholarship Fund** was established by Eric P. Whitaker, who received support from the then-Aurora Foundation in 1974 to attend the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He seeks to support others from North Aurora who graduate from West Aurora High School to develop themselves as citizens and professionals through full-time higher education.

**The Jane Filips McEnroe & Paula Filips Mode Scholarship Fund** was created by Rob Hollis to honor his mother Jane and her twin sister Paula. Jane and Paula attended West Aurora High School where they were known as the Filips Twins. When their father passed away, a family friend supported their education so they could attend Northern Illinois University. This scholarship fund helps other graduates of West Aurora High School to further their education.





The Community Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt, philanthropic organization that administers individual charitable funds from which grants and scholarships are distributed to benefit the citizens of the Greater Aurora Area, the Tri-Cities, and Kendall County, Illinois.

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