Edwin L. Danielson was a soft-spoken gentleman whose generosity was an extension of his character. He was unassuming, happy and humble. He held an undying devotion to those he loved and to those he held in high regard. He was thoughtful and disciplined. A man with a can-do attitude and a benevolent heart.

According to Ed’s nephew, Gene Danielson, “Ed lived a frugal lifestyle and saved and invested wisely. Knowing he had more than he needed to live comfortably, he decided to spread it around. He spent extensive hours consulting with people about scholarships and how to ensure that, down the road, they would do as he wished.”

In 1988, Ed established the Hanna-Carola Art Scholarship Fund at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, where he was a charter member of the Legacy Society. Following Ed’s death in 2010, his bequest allocated funds for the Edwin L. Danielson Community Service Fund.

The Edwin L. Danielson Community Service Fund is an unrestricted fund and a gift of immeasurable importance. This gift marks Ed’s trust in the CRCF and his certainty that change is a normal part of life. Unable to anticipate the future or needs that will develop over time, Ed’s gift allows the greatest flexibility to assist with emerging community needs.

Community Service grants are distributed throughout the year and have funded projects in the areas of Arts and Culture; Civic Enrichment; Education; Family, Child Social Welfare; and Economic Development/Housing.

For more information on establishing an unrestricted fund, call Randall Sweeney at 716.661.3390.
The Jamestown Concert Association’s 2011-2012 season has begun, a season that is being supported by the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation. The first concert of the year was held featuring cellist Sebastian Baverstam. A Community Service Grant was provided to the JCA to help make the 2011-2012 season a reality.

This season includes a very special performance by Jamestown native and Richard Corbin mentee, organist Joshua Stafford.

The Community Foundation enjoyed witnessing the Christmas spirit in two of the many villages in our area. Randall Sweeney, Executive Director, welcomed Santa in Mayville at an event arranged by the Mayville Fire Department. June Diethrick, Operations Officer, took part in a holiday sleigh ride organized by the Randolph Area Community Development Corporation. The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation sponsored both events.

Unrestricted funds make good things happen...

- Helen Ebersole’s book, “Off the Pedestal,” documents local history
- The community learns about life on a farm
- The Partridge Sheldon Mansion, home of the Daughters of the American Revolution, gets a new porch
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Former Students Honor Music Mentor with Scholarship Fund

Life is full of wonderful surprises

A young music student, whose family struggled to make ends meet, was devastated by the thought of having to give up music lessons. That student never forgot the generosity of his gifted teacher, Bill Knight. "Mr. Knight simply told me to sit down for my current lesson and that I should continue to come each week. Mr. Knight funded my entire music education out of the kindness of his heart."

Another student recalls, "I excelled in music in large part because Bill believed I could." Bill's influence was greater than the music education he provided. "I could talk to Bill about anything. He always listened and he always cared."

Bill, who was born in Brooklyn, New York, and raised on Long Island, began a private music studio in Jamestown after graduating with a degree in music education from SUNY Fredonia. He later served as band director at Lincoln Junior High School from 1966 to 1972.

"Bill shepherded the brass sections...He was the energy behind the booming brass sections for which the Jamestown Public Schools, especially JHS, were known."

Bill is an ardent and exacting teacher, one who always exhibits patience and understanding. "He is a true master – identifying and showcasing strengths, finding ways to 'reach' each student on a personal level, motivating students to see themselves as musicians. He is an inspiring teacher and man."

And music has been a family affair. Although Bill's wife, Linda, was busy with her work and raising their children (daughter Shane and sons Chris and Matt), she recognized both Bill's gift for teaching and his musical talent. With her quiet enthusiasm and encouragement, Bill has been able to pursue his passion and inspire generations of students.

A former student notes, "And we all realize that Bill's wife, Linda, supported his endeavors; without her support and assistance, we would not have benefited."

In honor of Bill and Linda Knight, two anonymous donors have established the Bill and Linda Knight Brass Scholarship Fund at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.

According to one of the donors, "My appreciation for what Bill did for me only deepens with time. I want to simply help children like me and honor a man that changed my life for the better." The fund accomplishes this and more.

As crisp and clear as a trumpet fanfare, the Bill and Linda Knight Scholarship Fund hits a high note that will resonate for generations to come.
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Mr. and Mrs. John Larkin
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Randall Sweeney (left) with Cassadaga Valley Kiwanis Club President Dave Rowley, after addressing the Club.
John Cole auditioned for a music scholarship.

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The National Standards Seal by our name confirms that we have met the most rigorous standards in philanthropy and that we have demonstrated our commitment to financial security, transparency and accountability.
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Village in the Village Offers Glimpse into the Past

(From l-r) A school house, the red house and a look at Sherman during the 1800s

In an era where internet is king it’s hard to imagine a simpler world. Before phones had the ability to text, store email and start cars, they were a luxury to those who could afford them.

All too often we take for granted our fortune to take a hot shower and enjoy a cup of coffee, made of course by our programmed coffee maker. A visit to the Yorker Museum in Sherman, New York quickly puts things into perspective of how far society has come.

Created in 1949 through the efforts and enthusiasm of five female students and seventh grade social studies teacher Genevieve Matteson, the museum grew from a small collection of colonial memorabilia from local families to a school house, general store, buggy shed and other buildings. The museum offers an extensive collection of artifacts and furnishings that allow visitors to experience and explore an authentic look at life long ago.

With the dissolution of the Yorker Society in 1998, The Village of Sherman acquired ownership of the museum. Under provisions of an agreement between the Village and the Sherman Historical Society, the Society operates, markets and spearheads fundraising efforts with the common mission to impact the future by exploring the past in a “village in the Village” setting. As part of its efforts to ensure long-term preservation of the Yorker Museum and to achieve its mission, the Sherman Historical Society has established the French Creek Yorker Museum Fund at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation. This non-endowment fund serves as a depository for tax-deductible donations for use in the preservation and restoration of museum buildings. Non-endowment funds can distribute the full amount of a gift to support current/immediate needs.

The ability for things to break down and need repair is not a thing of the past. Donations to the French Creek Yorker Museum Fund will allow the Sherman Historical Society to move forward with important restoration and preservation projects.

The Yorker Museum is open Memorial Day through Labor Day, Saturdays and Sundays between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. or by appointment. For more information call 716.761.6503. For donation information, call the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation at 716.661.3390, or visit online, www.crcfonline.org.
Thank You C. Malcolm & Jeanette M. Nichols

The C. Malcolm & Jeanette M. Nichols Scholarship Fund is an award designed to assist undergraduate and graduate students with a “B” average or better who demonstrate financial need. This year’s recipient Alicia Armeli, pictured bottom right, is a graduate student majoring in Whole Foods Dietetics. A portion of her thank you letter appears below:

To: C. Malcolm & Jeanette M. Nichols Scholarship Fund

Thank you for the scholarship award. This money will really help pay for books and living expenses, which being a full-time student in a master’s program is a challenge to do! Since I applied for scholarships through the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, I have accomplished many things such as achieving a 4.0 my first quarter and performing a lot of community service (cooked for homeless teens, prepared meals for cancer patients, wrote recipes for a nutrition clinic). I also started my own healthy eating website with self-created recipes and won People’s Choice 2012 in a charity Top Chef event!

I just want you to know that I am doing my best to represent the C. Malcolm & Jeanette M. Nichols Scholarship Fund well and I appreciate you for helping me financially.

Sincerely,
Alicia Armeli

You can read all about Alicia and her love of cooking on her blog, www.mangiagioia.com!

Donor-Advised Funds and Emerging Needs

Continued from front page

The challenge was to find immediate funding for this essential service.

CRCF was able to call on advisors of donor-advised funds at the Foundation to help defray these costs.

Advisors of the Jane Miller Fund, Edwin J. and Katherine M. Hegstedt Memorial Fund, and The Compass Fund came to the rescue with their immediate response and provided the necessary funding to sustain critical transportation services.