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Future for Oneonta Foundation Plots an Expanded Growth Strategy

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The Future for Oneonta Foundation (“FOF”) has changed leadership and is broadening its impact.

Since its formation in 1982, FOF has awarded more than \$500,000 to area agencies and civic, cultural, and educational projects. The foundations’ mission to improve the quality of life in Oneonta has not wavered during the past 40 years.

Recently retired FOF Chairman, Chris Kuhn, stepped down after four years at the organization’s helm in order to join his family in the upper Midwest.

“I am most proud of the Community Engagement Awards that we gave out each year. Recognizing people for their commitment to Oneonta, from beautifying their property to organizing community events, is so important. The world needs more of this. It felt good to be part of it,” Kuhn says.

Kuhn has nothing but praise for the new Chairman, Oneonta businessman Alan Cleinman. With Cleinman’ s guidance, the organization has begun to widen its focus to include larger, transformational projects, the first of which is a \$50,000 grant added to the City of Oneonta’s \$250,000 in funding to pave and expand the Susquehanna Greenway through Neahwa Park.

“While FOF will always be there for the underdog, providing small grants to plant flowers on Main Street or to schools and community agencies to operate vital programs, it’s time FOF made a bigger footprint,” Kuhn says.

“As a 45-year resident of the city,” Cleinman said, “I believe that it’s everyone’s duty to assist in making our community a better place to live. As an entrepreneur, business owner and consultant, I’m used to tackling big projects. It is my hope that FOF, with the help of Oneonta’s citizens and supportive granting organizations, can get behind a number of transformational projects to help existing and new projects realize their vision.”

Mr. Kuhn, until recently the Center Director at Oneonta’s award-winning Jobs Corps facility, has taken a new role with the parent company. A going-away party for Kuhn will be held on June 8th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at the B-side Ballroom in Oneonta.

About Future for Oneonta Foundation: Created by leading Oneonta citizens in 1982, the Future for Oneonta Foundation (“FOF”) is a non-profit corporation under section

501(c)3 of the IRS Code. FOF's mission is "to promote improvement of the quality of living and the general welfare of the community and the citizens of Greater Oneonta." FOF desires to stimulate interest in the civic affairs of the community and support the cultural and civic needs of the community through grants and strategic support. Since its inception, FOF has provided more than \$500,000 in program support to area agencies and civic, cultural, and educational projects. FOF is authorized to receive tax-deductible gifts, trusts, property or money for investment through its fiscal agent, Community Bank, Oneonta, and to authorize expenditures for designated purposes or perpetuate the grants and gifts as the donor or grantor shall specify. FOF maintains both General Funds, which are received without direction for any specific project, as well as Directed Funds, which are given for specific purposes or projects.

For more information about the Future for Oneonta Foundation, visit www.fofoneonta.com.

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