

## Fazio installed as Greater Cedarburg Foundation president

CEDARBURG— Joe Fazio, chief executive officer of Commerce State Bank, was installed as the president of the Greater Cedarburg Foundation at its annual meeting June 1, at the Cedarburg Police Department. The GCF board also welcomed Patricia Thome and Mary Jane Baumgartner as new board members. Two retiring board members – Mark Benskin and James Schowalter – were recognized for their years of service.

The GCF has assets of more than \$4 million comprised of an endowment and donor-advised funds. The foundation awards grants to nonprofit organizations that preserve the local cultural heritage, enhance artistic endeavors and support educational, social and community-based services in the Greater Cedarburg area.

Fazio said his goal as president is to raise the visibility of the foundation throughout the greater Cedarburg community and increase the number of people participating in its activities and grants program.

“The vitality of a community foundation strengthens an entire community for all residents,” Fazio said. “In particular, the GCF helps to keep Cedarburg the unique place we all love by financially supporting its community projects, arts and social service agencies. The GCF is ensuring Cedarburg stays a strong community and keeps its charm.”

One of Fazio’s first duties as president is to plan the organization’s annual Community Gala, which will be held Saturday, Sept. 24 at the Ozaukee Pavilion at the Ozaukee County Fairgrounds.

The event, which is a major fundraiser for the GCF, will feature a Beats & Brushwork performance by Artist Shelby Keefe, music by the DiCristo Quartet, a buffet dinner and a live and silent auction.

Fazio has a Bachelor of Business Administration from St. Norbert College and a Master of Business Administration from Edgewood College.

He is a former Cedarburg alderman and a member of the Cedarburg-Grafton Rotary Club. He’s also been active with St. Francis Borgia Catholic School, the Cedarburg Athletic Booster Club and the Wisconsin Bankers Association.

Fazio has lived in Cedarburg for 24 years. He and his wife, Lisa, have three grown children.

To learn more about the GCF, go to [www.cedarburgfoundation.com](http://www.cedarburgfoundation.com).

Photos by Mark Justesen



**Above Left:** The 2016-17 Greater Cedarburg Foundation Board of Directors includes, seated from left, Vice President John Cordio, President Joe Fazio, Secretary Terri Haas and Treasurer Dan DenBoer; back row from left, directors include: Tim Wilkinson, Mark Langholz, Dale Lythjohan, Heather Cain, Barbara Janssen, Mary Jane Baumgartner, Layton Olsen, Carol Alexander Coutts, Patricia Thome and Gail Ostermann. **Above Right:** GCF honored two of its retiring board members. James Schowalter, left, and Mark Benskin are both leaving the board after six years of service.