

# ROTARY LAKESHORE IN ACTION

## St. Catharines Clubs to Honour Paul Harris Recipients!

Join the three St. Catharines Rotary Clubs (Rotary Club of St. Catharines, Rotary Club of St. Catharines Lakeshore and Rotary Club of St. Catharines South) at Amici's Banquet and Conference Centre on May 7<sup>th</sup> to honour six local community leaders. Our own Club has selected Mike Burtnik and Justin Preston as our honourees.

**Mike Burtnik** is a lifelong champion of community service in Niagara. For decades, Mike and his team at Burtnik Printing have quietly supported countless local organizations by often providing essential printing services at reduced or no cost. Organizations such as Community Care, Hospice Niagara, Wellspring Niagara, the Niagara Symphony, Garden City Productions, and multiple Rotary clubs have all benefited from his generosity. Mike is also deeply involved in community initiatives, including the Niagara Golf Marathon, the Rankin Cancer Run, and the Community Care Holiday Food Drive. Each year, his annual pig roast brings people together while collecting significant food donations for those in need.

Founder of Rise Against Bullying, a global movement that encourages individuals to lead with compassion and embrace their uniqueness, **Justin Preston** transformed his own experiences with bullying and mental health struggles into a mission to ensure that no one feels alone. Through school presentations, community events, and social media, he has inspired hundreds of thousands with his message be the change you want to see in the world. Recognized with a Niagara Impact Award, and as a National Ambassador for Kids Help Phone, Justin advocates for accessible mental health support for young people across Canada, drawing from his own experience of reaching out for help when he needed it most.

**Tickets: \$50 per person (includes appetizer buffet)**  
**Doors open: 5:30 p.m. Program begins: 6:30 p.m.**

**[Click here](#) to purchase your tickets OR see the Ad on Page 5 of this newsletter for Full Details and the Sign up QR Code!**

### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Apr 08, 2026  
 Bruce Timms  
**Rail Trail Update**

Apr 22, 2026  
 Tanner Niven  
**CIBC Wood Gundy**



### BINGO VOLUNTEERS IN APRIL

**We have two regular dates in April  
at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

Mon Apr 6 - Amy and Marlene  
 Thurs Apr 23 - Bryan and Anne

**PLUS one additional!  
7:30 to 9:30pm**

Thurs Apr 30 - Patricia and Shannon

**Reminder: you must come in your blue rotary shirt and black pants.**

## President's Report



Our Club had a productive month with multiple notable events:

- Our February Trivia Night was very successful. Well-attended and well-organized, it was one of the most profitable Trivia Nights yet.
- Good news on the Bingo front, with better-than-expected revenue and the prospect of additional opportunities due to Janet's and Mary's great work with the City.
- The success of the Trivia Nights and Bingo helps ensure we have adequate revenue to continue our good work in our community and abroad. We're still looking for new revenue streams to enable us to do even more in the future, including the projects recently approved below.
- The Club approved the \$50,000 donation to Happy at Home for the purchase of a new SUV that will assist seniors in the Niagara region in getting to medical appointments. The vehicle will prominently display our name and the Rotary logo, helping raise awareness of who we are and what we do.
- We also approved \$30,000 for the Berkeley Park Sun Shelter project to be constructed this Spring/Summer. The shelter will prominently display our Club name & the Rotary symbol to help raise our community profile. Thanks to Coral & Bruce for their initiative and diligence in leading this project with the City!
- We have some excellent news on the Membership front: RCSL now has three additional members! Judy DeCosta joins us as a new member, while Shannon Cavanaugh and Patricia Boyko are rejoining our Rotary family. They are all great additions to our growing club. Welcome ladies!
- Your Membership Committee of Beth, Annette & Trish is doing great work looking for new member prospects, and they need your support in identifying friends, neighbours, or colleagues that would make a good fit with our Club. Let's keep the momentum going!
- And last but not least, Sylva Okpara will be graduating from his Master of Management program at the University of Niagara Falls in early April. Congratulations Sylva!

## World & Community Spotlight

### Club Donates to Hospice Niagara

Marlene from our Community Donations Committee was pleased to drop off a cheque recently to Hospice Niagara. We have since received this message of thanks:

*"Many thanks to the Rotary Club of St. Catharines Lakeshore for supporting our Stabler Centre residence. This \$2,500 donation will help cover the cost of food for the people in our care. Even at end of life, food brings comfort. Our chef prepares nourishing, familiar meals – meatloaf, lasagna, beef stew, shepherd's pie, garlic mashed potatoes, and more – that feel like home.*

*Like everyone, we're feeling the rising cost of groceries and other everyday essentials. Community support like this plays a vital role in keeping our St. Catharines hospice warm, welcoming, and well equipped – now and into the future."*



## Food4Kids Update

**Canned Chili Food Drive**  
**March 9 - 15**



The Club's Food4Kids Committee held a Food Drive March 9 -15 to collect much needed canned chili for Food4Kids. Thanks to those members that reported the "Grocery Store Chili Sales" across the city to Chair Marlene!

Many a store shelf was emptied of chili I'm sure allowing the bin on Marlene's front porch and the back of her car to be filled to overflowing. Over \$800 in canned chili was donated during the week! Thanks to all who contributed or made cash donations to the cause.

### ***Plan To Attend***

#### **Darts Social Evening**

Darts will be flying once again on Wednesday April 15th at 6pm at Pitchers Sports Bar (corner of Welland and Grantham). Friends and family are welcome. Pay for your own meal and drinks off the menu. Playing darts is free – even if you don't hit the board.

Please contact Mary if you want to attend at [mhoward@vaxxine.com](mailto:mhoward@vaxxine.com).

#### **Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup Day**

Charles Ansell Park  
Saturday April 18. 10 am.  
Lunch at Ricki Joes around 12 noon

## Schedules

### **Ronald McDonald Family Room** **(April)**

April 2 Marlene  
April 9 Morelle  
April 16 Trish  
April 23 Patricia M  
April 30 Sandi

### **Little Lending Library** **(April)**

April 5 Mary  
April 12 Marlene  
April 19 Patricia  
April 26 Anne L

## April and May Plasma Donation Dates

Our next donation dates are Thursdays April 23 and May 21, 2026! There are still open times available. Contact Beth at [bethfleeton@hotmail.com](mailto:bethfleeton@hotmail.com).

### **CLUB MEETING INFO BOX**

**When:**

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month  
at 6:00 PM

Board Meeting 4th Wednesday of the month  
at 4 p.m.

**Where:**

In-person for dinner at Holiday Inn Suites

## Foundation Corner

### Rotary Foundation Scholarships Now Available!

The Rotary Foundation Scholarship Committee of District 7090 will award THREE \$1,200 USD scholarships to deserving high school graduating students!

#### Scholarship Description:

- A general scholarship awarded to a student(s) who at the time of application is in their final year of high school education, with a commitment to enroll in post-secondary education.
- The scholarship is open to any area of study and must be used towards full time Canada post-secondary/U.S. post high school study at a university, college, or community college, anywhere in the world.
- The applicant's permanent address must be within the boundaries of District 7090, (which includes Rotary Clubs in Ontario, Canada and New York, USA).

#### The scholarship will be based on the following criteria:

- Academic merit: high school transcripts.
- A resume of community service and/or volunteer activities completed, plus a 100 word paragraph about the impact these experiences have had on you.
- An essay of 750 words describing: why you chose your career/education path, and what community service/volunteer activities you plan to participate in.
- Optional: letter of reference from any community member.

#### Timelines:

**Application deadline is April 17, 2026 11:59PM.**

The scholarship will be awarded no later than June 26, 2026.

**For complete details on the Application Process, Eligibility Requirements, and the Application Form please [CLICK HERE](#).**

### Mark Your Calendar:

April 15, 2026  
**Darts Social Evening**  
Pitchers 6:00 p.m.

April 18, 2026  
**Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup**  
Charles Ansell Park 10 a.m.  
Lunch at Ricki Joes 12 noon

May 7, 2026  
**Paul Harris Celebration**  
Amici's Conference Centre

**TAKE ACTION: [WWW.ROTARYLAKESHORE.COM](http://WWW.ROTARYLAKESHORE.COM)**



*A Paul Harris*  
**CELEBRATION EVENING**

Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026

HOSTED BY:

**Rotary**

Club of St. Catharines



**Rotary**

Club of St. Catharines  
Lakeshore



**Rotary**

Club of St. Catharines  
South



**AMICI'S**

BANQUET & CONFERENCE CENTER  
2740 MERRITTVILLE HIGHWAY, THOROLD

DOORS OPEN: 5:30 PM

PROGRAM BEGINS: 6:30 PM

DRESS CODE: BUSINESS ATTIRE

TICKETS: \$50 PER PERSON  
(INCLUDES APPETIZER BUFFET)

Join us for an elegant evening as we celebrate the legacy of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary International, the Rotary Foundation and honour outstanding community leaders. Enjoy a night of fellowship, inspiration, and recognition.

**Tickets & Payment**

Scan the QR code to purchase your tickets through Zeffy or visit:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/a-paul-harris-celebration-evening>

For assistance contact:  
treasurer@rotaryniagara.org

Scan here to purchase  
your tickets



Thank You to Our Sponsors!

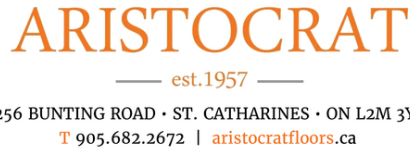
# Fundraising Events



Moving & Storage Solutions



Natural Hair Care Specialist & Custom Hair Loss Solutions



CIBC PRIVATE WEALTH  
WOOD GUNDY



# Clarice West Hobbs Garden

