

Rotary Motto

*Service Above Self*

4-Way Test

*Of the things we  
think, say or do:*

*Is it the truth?*

*Is it fair to all  
concerned?*

*Will it build  
goodwill and  
better friendship?*

*Will it be  
beneficial to all  
concerned?*

Avenues of Service

*Club Service*

*Vocational Service*

*Community  
Service*

*International  
Service*

*Youth Service*

# ROTARY NOTES

## FEBRUARY 11, 2026

A publication of the Rotary Club of Warren

### ASSIGNMENTS

#### GREETERS & REGISTRATION

February, 2026 - Ray Sinchak

March, 2026 - Ray Sinchak

April, 2026 - Ray Sinchack

#### INVOCATION

February, 2026 - Judy Masaki

March, 2026 - Ted Stazak

April, 2026 - Judy Masaki

#### FELLOWSHIP (1st & 3rd Wednesdays)

March 4 & 18, 2026 - Christine Cope

April 1 & 15, 2026 - Judy Masaki

#### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT (2nd Wednesday)

February 18, 2026 - Marilyn Pape

March 11, 2026 - Lauren Kramer

April 8, 2026 - Robin Martorana

#### MAGAZINE REPORT (4th Wednesday)

February 25, 2026 - Judy Masaki

March 25, 2026 - Christine Cope

April 22, 2026 - Judy Masaki

### SPEAKERS

2/18/26 - Angel Williams, The Small District

2/25/26 - The Wolves Club of Trumbull County

3/4/26 - Tour at Clover Recycling

3/11/26 - To Be Announced

3/18/26 - Kristen Taylor, Abilities Unite Foundation of the Mahoning Valley

Areas of Focus

Peace & Conflict  
Prevention/  
Resolution

Disease Prevention &  
Treatment

Water & Sanitation

Maternal & Child Health

Basic Education &  
Literacy

Economic & Community  
Development

The Environment

Club Officers

President  
Tony Iannucci

President-Elect  
Alicia Adams-Angelo

Vice-President  
Meghan Reed

Secretary  
Judy Masaki

Treasurer  
Cheryl Oblinger

Past-President  
Cindy Matheson

Board Members

Mike Bollas  
Eric Knoth  
Lauren Kramer  
Robin Martorana  
Marilyn Pape  
John Perdue  
Ray Thomas



*Amanda Gorman is an American Poet whose works focus on equality and peace. As we celebrate Peace and Conflict Resolution Month, join me in reflecting on a brief excerpt from her poem titled, "The Hill We Climb".*

*"We lift our gazes not  
To what stands between us,  
But what stands before us.  
We close the divide  
Because we know to put  
Our future first, we must first  
Put our differences aside."*

*Let us pray that God's love will bind us together in unity and help us focus on serving others. Amen.*

*(Offered by Judy Masaki)*

Rotary Club of Warren  
Foundation Board

*President  
Ted Stazak*

*Vice-President  
Meghan Reed*

*Secretary  
Judy Masaki*

*Treasurer  
Cheryl Oblinger*

*Andy Bednar  
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Contact us at:

*Rotary Club of Warren  
P.O. Box 68  
Warren, OH 44482*

Our Website:

[www.warrenrotary.org](http://www.warrenrotary.org)

*If you have any  
suggestions about our  
newsletter, or if you  
would like to become a  
sponsor, please  
contact:*

*Judy Masaki*



The word February comes from the Roman festival of Februalia, a festival of purification and cleansing. This month was a time for ritual washing and making things spiritually clean, tying into early agricultural cycles when fields were purged.

Today, February is widely known for Valentine's Day. It's a month for expressing love, appreciation, and friendship. The day honors St. Valentine, a Roman priest executed on February 14th around 270 A.D. because he secretly married soldiers who were forbidden to wed by Emperor Claudius II. Another story claims he sent the first valentine note to his jailer's daughter, signed "From Your Valentine".

Some historians believe the church set Valentine's Day on February 14th to Christianize Lupercalia, a Roman fertility festival involving rituals intended to ward off evil spirits and purify the city while promoting health and fertility.

The day didn't become a holiday of love until the middle ages. In the 14th century, the English poet Geoffrey Chaucer linked St. Valentine to a romantic love poem, noting the birds allegedly choose their mates on this day.

By the 18th century, exchanging small tokens and handwritten notes was common in England. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began mass producing elaborate lace valentines in America, earning her the title, "Mother of the Valentine".

February is also Black History Month, celebrating the achievements and history of African American people. This month hosts numerous awareness campaigns, including National Heart month, and celebrates kindness and helping others. And of course, let's not forget Rotary's monthly theme of Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution.

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**RENOVATIONS WILL BE IN PROGRESS** at Trumbull Country Club beginning this coming week. The room we meet in hasn't changed, but the setup may look a little different. In addition, you may need to enter through the side glass doors beyond the parking lot. Thanks in advance for your patience!

**DICTIONARY PROJECT DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULE:** On Wednesday, February 18th, dictionaries will be distributed as follows, beginning at 9:30 a.m.:

Lincoln	2253 Atlantic St., NE	98 books
Summit Academy	2106 Arbor Ave., SE	13 books
Steam Academy	261 Elm Rd., NE	51 books

If you are able to help on either of these days, please text Marilyn Pape at: (724) 699-7720

**ROTARY FOR READING 2026:** Dolly Parton's Imagination Library provides free books to children under age 5, and The Trumbull County United Way is an affiliate of this program. Ohio Rotarians are taking this on as a fundraising project this year in order to make reading accessible, impactful and exciting for our children. You can support this fundraiser in several ways. First, attend a fundraising event for the project on February 26, 2026 at the Eastwood Event Centre. A Night Out with Dolly will feature trivia, bingo, a Dolly Parton impersonator, and performances by the Senior Showcase. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and cost is \$60 per person/\$480 per table. Register for the event at [www.unitedwaytrumbull.org](http://www.unitedwaytrumbull.org). You can also donate through Warren Rotary and provide books to children in Trumbull County. If you donate through District 6650, donations will be split among multiple counties. A \$31 donation covers enough books for one month! Any

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club member who donates \$31 will receive free admission to the Night Out with Dolly event. If a club donation is made, it will be considered a sponsorship for the event. Rotarians can donate in three ways:

1. You can mail a check to: Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio, PO Box 340734, Columbus, OH 43234. Note "Rotary" in the memo line and specify whether your donation should be allocated to the district or the club.
2. Donate online at: [GiveButter.com/OhioRotary](https://GiveButter.com/OhioRotary)
3. Text to Donate: Text Rotary4Reading to 53-555

Please send in donations before March 14th!! Contact Christine Cope with any questions.

**SAVE THE DATE:** There will be no meeting at Trumbull Country Club on March 4th. Instead, we will be touring Clover Recycling that day. Stay tuned for more details.

**THE CHARITABLE PROJECTS COMMITTEE** will meet on Wednesday, March 11th, at 11:30 a.m., prior to our weekly club meeting at Trumbull Country Club.

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN BOARD OF DIRECTORS** will hold its next meeting on Thursday, March 12th. Fellowship, hosted by Alicia Adams-Angelo, will begin at 5:30 p.m., with the business meeting to follow at 6:00 p.m. Stay tuned for more information regarding the venue.

**THE ALL-OHIO P.E.L.S. (THE PRESIDENT-ELECT LEARNING SEMINAR)**, formerly known as P.E.T.S., will be held on March 13th and 14th at The Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel. Those who are attending should register as soon as possible, as a \$50 late fee will go into effect beginning March 1st!! In addition, the reservation deadline for your hotel room at a special rate is February 23rd. Please note that the hotel reservation is separate from the seminar registration. Visit [allohiopets.org](https://allohiopets.org) for more information and to register.

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN FOUNDATION BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS** will meet on Wednesday, March 18th, at 11:30 a.m., prior to our weekly club meeting.

**THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE** will meet on Wednesday, March 18th, at 1:00 p.m. to review applications, immediately following our club meeting.

**SATELLITE CLUB NEWS:** The mixer originally scheduled for 3/24/26 at CharBenay's Wine on the River has been moved to Thursday, March 26th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Charbenay's.

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**ANNUAL CLUB AWARDS:** The Rotary Club of Warren Board of Directors is now taking nominations for our annual Lester R. Stauffer Community Service Award and Distinguished Rotarian. The Les Stauffer Award is presented to a non-Rotarian for his or her outstanding volunteer service (NOT vocational success or prominence) rendered to our community. The Board of Directors chooses a non-board member to be the club's Distinguished Rotarian each year, based on his or her contributions to Rotary, whether it be The Rotary Club of Warren, District 6650, or Rotary International. If you would like to suggest names of individuals for these awards, please put your nomination in writing to President Tony Iannucci ([iannuccivilla@gmail.com](mailto:iannuccivilla@gmail.com)) no later than March 6th, indicating why he or she is deserving of the award.

**FUNDRAISER NEWS:** This year's River Duck Festival will be combined with a new event to raise funds for Warren Rotary! The River Duck Festival will be held on Sunday, June 28th. About a week later, The Rotary Club of Warren will co-sponsor the July 4th Scrapper's Game and Fireworks at Eastwood Field. The Scrapers have created a fundraising package for us, including proceeds from an in-person and online auction of game jersey's with Warren Rotary's logo and a logo for the 250th Anniversary of the U.S.A. We will secure sponsorships for both the River Duck Festival and the Scrapper's Game. We are currently trying to decide on beneficiaries for the events. If you have any non-profit organizations in mind who might benefit from funding, please reach out to them and have them submit a letter outlining what specific project they would use the funds for. Letters should be emailed to Secretary Judy Masaki ([jmasaki1962@gmail.com](mailto:jmasaki1962@gmail.com)) as soon as possible.

**ROTARY ANTHEMS:** Did you know that Rotary singing traditions began around 1905 - 1906 with Chicago Rotarian Harry Ruggles who introduced songs during club meetings to build camaraderie? This singing tradition has lasted for over 120 years! The first official *Songbook for the Rotary Club* was published in 1920 featuring patriotic tunes, American ditties, and dedicated Rotary songs.

While no official RI-wide theme song exists, the *Rotary Hymne* was composed for the 1931 RI Convention in Vienna. This song focused on service, international peace, and turning the "wheel" around the world. However, despite extensive use of music in different clubs, RI still does not have a single, official, mandatory theme song. Since 1949, RI Presidents have focused on annual themes to guide action, rather than relying on a single themed song.

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After browsing on the internet, I did come across several songs that were written for the 2025 - 2026 Rotary Theme, "Unite for Good". Here is one I thought was worth mentioning:

*There's So Much We Can Do  
(RI District 5870)*

*In every corner of the world we rise  
With hearts united reaching for the skies.  
Rotarians gather. A family so strong.  
With passion in our souls, we can't go wrong.*

*Every handshake, every smile, it's our way.  
We lift each other up, come what may.  
Through service and friendship, we light the spark.  
Together we can make a lasting mark.*

*To engage with passion, it's our duty and our pride.  
And honor to stand together side by side.  
Let's unite for good. Let our voices ring true  
In this journey of purpose. There's so much we can do.*

*From local efforts to the global stage,  
We turn the tides. Write a brand new page.  
With every project we change a life,  
The struggle for peace, in the battles of strife.*

*No obstacle too great, no dream too far.  
With passion as our compass, we'll shine like a star  
In every community. Let kindness bloom.  
We'll share our gifts and dispel the gloom.*

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To engage with passion, it's our duty and our pride  
And honor to stand together side by side.  
Let's unite for good. Let our voices ring true  
In this journey of purpose. There's so much we can do.

So here's to the dreamers, the doers, the brave.  
Together we can build the world we crave.  
With service above self, we rise and we stand.  
Creating a legacy hand in hand.  
We're part of a movement, a force for light.  
Together we can make the world shine bright.

To engage with passion. It's our duty and our pride.  
An honor to stand together, side by side.  
Let's unite for good. Let our voices ring true  
In this journey of purpose. There's so much we can do.

So let's come together. Let's answer the call  
With hearts full of passion. We can't let it fall  
For all Rotarians. This is our creed.  
To engage with passion is the truest of deeds.  
With love in our hearts and a vision so clear.  
Together we'll rise, spreading hope and good cheer.

Check it out on YouTube - it's well worth a listen!!  
- Judy Masaki

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PROGRAM:  
LEAH ELLIOTT, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT  
WARREN FAMILY MISSION

Warren Rotarians met at the Warren Family Mission on Tod Avenue this past week. Leah Elliott, Director of Development, presented a summary of the organization's history and programs, and offered a tour of the facility.

The Warren Family Mission, a faith-based non-profit rescue mission, was established in 1998 by Pastor Chris Gilger, who was dedicated to serving the community for 23 years. Pastor Chris transformed the Mission into a vital community resource for food, clothing, addiction recovery and outreach. He passed away on December 14, 2021, at age 58 from a cardiac event while returning from a ministry trip in West Virginia after attempting to help someone struggling with addiction. The Warren Family Mission continues to operate in his honor, maintaining the programs he established.

The Warren Family Mission's vision is "to be able to serve our community in a way that helps people recover from addictions, get back on their feet, rebuild broken relationships, restore families and become a vital part of a growing community with a positive influence." All programs are free of charge.

The Warren Family Mission provides thousands of meals and food boxes for low income families annually. Last year alone, they delivered 17,921 food boxes and served 130,058 meals (125 to 150 per day).

They offer addiction rehabilitation and recovery services, as well as education and work training. The men who reside at the Mission come in broken and with low self-confidence, struggling with homelessness and/or addiction. Through the residential program, they receive daily meals, laundry facilities, toiletries, clothing, transportation to appointments, help finding jobs and housing, spiritual classes and more. They are given the opportunity to work at the facility and are changed when they leave.

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A one year Christ Centered Discipleship Program, Hannah's House, is also offered to women who are 18 years and older and struggling with addiction. This program helps them overcome life-controlling problems, substance abuse, and other challenges in their lives for three, six, nine, or 12 months. Their children are permitted to visit, as the Mission wants to heal and reunite families. After completing the 12 month program, they can stay in the mission's women and children's transitional home/apartments for another year, rent-free. This provides support to the women and assists them in transitioning back into parenthood without becoming overwhelmed and relapsing. There is a 95% success rate for these women in maintaining sobriety and regaining custody of and living with their children.

Youth programs are also offered at The Warren Family Mission. They include: crafts; Bible study classes; backpack, Easter Basket, and Christmas toy distributions; and a winter coat drive.

If individuals provide a current photo ID or proof of residency and proof that children are residing in their home, they can "shop" for free clothing and hygiene bags for family members of all ages, infant to adulthood.

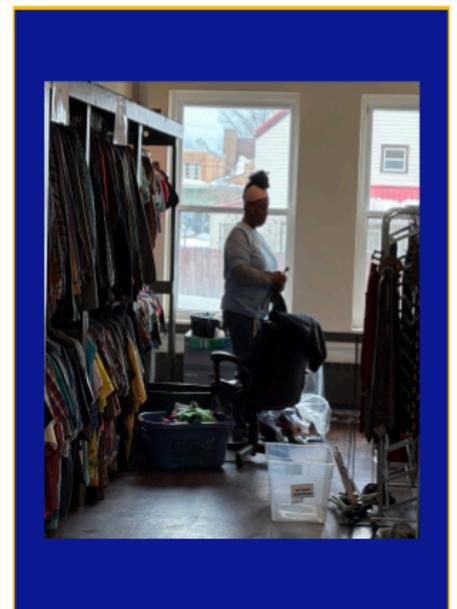
Gifts that individuals donate to The Warren Family Mission are vital to changing lives in our community. Monetary donations can be made via the organization's website: [www.warrenfamilymission.org](http://www.warrenfamilymission.org). Donations of toys, food, and clothing are also needed year round. The Mission can deliver donation barrels to your businesses and pick them up when they are full. Individuals can also drop donations off at the Warren Family Mission. All clothing, including undergarments are needed, and nothing goes to waste. If clothing is too worn or has holes, the Mission donates them to an organization that shreds them and makes insulation for housing.

Please give generously and help the needy in our community take a step toward a new life filled with hope!

While we were touring the facility, Leah spoke about other needs of The Warren Family Mission. Last year, they had to purchase a new cooler and freezer in order to continue providing meals to our community. They are still in need of two convection ovens and a commercial grade oven, as their current appliances are old and rusting. Their building is old and maintenance is continually required. The following page of the newsletter contains pictures from our tour, including shots

WARREN ROTARY

of their clothing ministry and kitchen. They have submitted a grant request to The Rotary Club of Warren for assistance in purchasing new appliances.



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## Rotary for Reading 2026

MAKING READING ACCESSIBLE, IMPACTFUL, AND EXCITING FOR OHIO CHILDREN!



Designate your donation to support children in your community!

### THREE WAYS TO SUPPORT

#### YOUR DISTRICT: 6650

Donations will be split to provide books to children in multiple counties across your district.



#### YOUR CLUB: WARREN

Donations will provide books to children in the county where your club is located.



#### MAIL A CHECK

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio  
P.O. Box 340734, Columbus, Ohio 43234

*In the memo line, please notate Rotary and specify which District or County your donation should be allocated to.*

**THANK YOU FOR FOSTERING A LOVE OF  
READING IN OHIO'S CHILDREN!**

Give Online: [Givebutter.com/OhioRotary](https://Givebutter.com/OhioRotary)  
Learn More: [Ohiolmaginationlibrary.org](https://Ohiolmaginationlibrary.org)