

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

June 3, 2026

A publication of the Rotary Club of Warren

GREETERS & REGISTRATION

June, 2026 - Ray Sinchak

INVOCATION

June, 2026 - Janet Schweitzer

FELLOWSHIP (1st & 3rd Wednesdays)

June 17, 2026 - Denise May

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT (2nd Wednesday)

June 10, 2026 - Meghan Reed

MAGAZINE REPORT (4th Wednesday)

June 24, 2026 - Lauren Kramer

SPEAKERS

6/10/26 - Planning for The River Duck Festival (at The Salvation Army)

6/17/26 - Tour at St. Vincent de Paul (2415 Niles Rd., SE (Rte 169), Warren, OH 44484)

6/24/26 - Speaker to be Announced (at The Salvation Army)

7/1/2026 - Presidents' Night at CharBenay's beginning at 6:00 p.m.

No Noon Club Meeting

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

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Mike Bollas
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Lauren Kramer
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Marilyn Pape
John Perdue
Ray Thomas



This month, Rotary International celebrates the international friendships, professional networks, and shared hobbies that unite members globally. It's an opportunity to recognize the importance of goodwill, connection and camaraderie beyond standard service projects.

Rotary Fellowships are independent, international groups of Rotarians, Rotaractors, and family members who share a common passion or interest. These groups are an excellent way to connect with like-minded people worldwide while exploring recreational, vocational or cultural interests. There are over 100 established Fellowship communities.

You can browse the complete directory of groups, find contact information and learn how to participate or even start a new Fellowship on the Rotary International Website. By joining, you will open doors to new adventures and lifelong friendships and build bridges through shared passions.

This June, discover how Rotary brings the world closer, one friendship at a time!

Rotary Club of Warren
Foundation Board

*President
Ted Stazak*

*Vice-President
Meghan Reed*

*Secretary
Judy Masaki*

*Treasurer
Cheryl Oblinger*

*Andy Bednar
Tony Iannucci
Denise May
Kim Straniak*

Contact us at:
Rotary Club of Warren
P.O. Box 68
Warren, OH 44482

Our Website:
www.warrenrotary.org

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

Judy Masaki

MAGAZINE REPORT

Submitted by Denise May

The month of May got away from us, but it's not too late to read some great articles in the May issue of *Rotary*. Denise May recommended two interesting stories.

The first article, found on page 40, focuses on Conservation Burial - a new concept to many of us - where National Preserves designate land for green burial sites. Where grasses and wildflowers grow over acres and acres of pure, natural spaces, CPR is provided for the land: conservation, preservation, and restoration. The author states, "You're protecting land, restoring habitat, and helping people have meaningful conversations about death. That feels very Rotary to me."

Historically, families and communities were responsible for their own dead. As society evolved, death became a business handled by professionals. Families are now encouraged to reclaim their role in death care. We have lost the skill of taking care of our dead loved ones. We gave that task away. And in doing so, we've become disconnected from death.

At a preserve in Ohio, one family planted native sunflowers on their loved one's grave. Each summer, the bright yellow patch grows tall, bending with the prairie grasses in the wind. There are a spectrum of choices for services like this, apart from the traditional cremation, embalming, casket and vault. Read "Returning to the Earth" to enlighten yourselves on choices you didn't even know you had.

"It's Monumental", on page 52, teaches us about the Crazy Horse sculpture in South Dakota. Did you know it started to be built back in 1948?! And it's not

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finished yet! One main reason is that it is not government funded like Mt. Rushmore was in 1930. This is "an interactive and private enterprise," because it runs solely on donations.

The area Rotary Club has been critically important to this project, as the mission includes themes important to Rotary members. Rotarians assisted the sculptor in moving lumber up to the top and building stairs leading to the sculpture. The head was completed in 1998. Sculptors are currently working on other parts of the body, such as the 263 foot outstretched arm.

Rotary also helps with donations used to assist Native students in earning college credits through short academic programs at Crazy Horse Memorial University. They then pursue degrees at other colleges and universities. This memorial foundation has awarded over \$2 million in scholarships.

This one is worth reading. Rotary never fails to enlighten and educate. They are helping the dream come true.



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Ray Sinchak, Warren Rotary's favorite story teller, took center stage again today for Fellowship! Here's what he had to say:

"It's June 3rd and today is World Bicycle Day, which promotes the health and environmental benefits of cycling. Also, it's Globe Running Day - observed annually on the first Wednesday of June to inspire fitness and health. So, with that in mind, for today, instead of the car, let's use our feet or bike to go about our errands.

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There are various awards given to actors, the Oscar, the Golden Globe, and so on. But one award that comes out each year is one that actors really don't want. Because it's the Harvard University Hasty Pudding award given to the worst actor of the year. No actor who was so acknowledged ever went to Harvard University to accept it. Wait! I stand corrected, one actor did go to Harvard and accept the award in January of 1974. That was bigger than life actor John 'Duke' Wayne, and here's the story.

After being notified of this dubious honor, Duke thought of the most creative way to accept it. Duke went to a friend at the Pentagon who made arrangements to have Duke driven to Harvard University Square in a tank operated by a crew from the 5th Armored Cavalry of the U.S. Army.

They drove Duke in amid anti-war and Native American protestors. The Hasty Pudding Committee was out front of the gathering, and when things quieted down, one of them said loudly, 'Mr. Wayne, with your support for this unjust war and your early movies with violence toward Native Americans, how can you look yourself in the face?'

Duke turned and responded, 'Son, when you got a mug as ugly as this', (Duke pointed his thumb at his chest), 'believe me, you look yourself in the face as little as possible.' And then Duke started chuckling at himself and, one by one, the committee started to laugh also as they saw a side of this man they didn't realize - namely that he seemed to be a good-natured man who wasn't above laughing at himself. And from that moment on until the end of the event, you could say they were a little easier on John 'Duke' Wayne."



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FAIRHAVEN INDUSTRIES will hold its 1st Annual Car & Bike Show on 6/13/26, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., at 420 Lincoln Way in Niles. Cost is \$10 per car entry. Pre-register with Heather at (330) 974-5445.

WANT TO ATTEND A SCRAPPERS GAME ON JUNE 13th? Advertiser Appreciation tickets are available. See Alicia Adams-Angelo if you would like 4 complimentary general admission tickets.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN BOARD OF DIRECTORS will hold its next meeting on Thursday, June 18th, at Saratoga Restaurant. Fellowship, hosted by Meghan Reed, will begin at 5:30 p.m., with the business meeting to follow at 6:00 p.m.

THE 2026 RIVER DUCK FESTIVAL: A meeting was held with the City of Warren last week, and the event committee got their ducks in a row! The River DUCK Festival is scheduled for Sunday, June 28th! If you know of anyone who might be interested in sponsoring the event, see Cindy Matheson for a sponsorship form. Tickets and ducks are on sale online for those wishing to purchase by credit card. If you would like to pay by cash or check, see Treasurer Cheryl Oblinger for a slip to fill out indicating how your money should be allocated. The link for tickets for the July 4th Scrappers Game is also available on our website. Gift baskets and/or donations for the basket raffle are also needed. A minimum value of \$50 is recommended.

PRESIDENTS' NIGHT will be held on Wednesday, July 1st, at CharBenay's Wine on the River, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Mark your calendars! Please see Treasurer Cheryl Oblinger for a Sponsorship Form, Reservation Form, and payment. Cost is \$35 per person.

WOLVES NATIONAL is holding "Touchdowns for Tution", a ticket raffle for

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Scholarships for Trumbull County students. Only 1,000 tickets are being sold, and the winner will get two club seats to two Cleveland Browns pre-season and eight season games. The winner will be determined by The Ohio Lottery Pick 3 Drawing on Monday, July 27th. See Alicia Adams-Angelo for more information.

THE UNITED STATES OF KINDNESS: Rotary is partnering with the United States of Kindness, a national campaign encouraging citizens to complete 250 acts of kindness across the country, celebrating America's 250th anniversary. Club members are being asked to track their daily compassion, take photos, and report their daily acts of kindness at www.usokindness.org. List Rotary District 6650 as the organization you are associated with. You can also post pictures on Facebook and tag Rotary District 6650 so the district sees all the impactful things we do. Think about it - this initiative mirrors Rotary's core motto, "Service Above Self" and our "Unite for Good" theme!

LUNCHES FOR OUR JUNE 10th CLUB MEETING AT THE SALVATION ARMY will once again be ordered from Mocha House. Hot or cold lunches are available. If you have not already ordered a lunch and would like to do so, please contact Alicia Adams-Angelo before Tuesday, June 9th.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ORDER A 250th ANNIVERSARY FLAG to be used as a decoration at the July 4th Scrappers Game event and then to have for your own home, see Cheryl Oblinger at our next meeting. Cost is \$76.



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Rotary
Club of Warren



AMERICA'S
250TH

2-DAY BIRTHDAY BASH FOR LOCAL CHARITIES

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY & GIVE BACK TO THE LOCAL CHARITIES THAT MAKE TRUMBULL COUNTY SO GREAT!!

**SUNDAY
JUNE 28TH**

WARREN AMPHITHEATER |
PERKINS PARK



SCAN QR
FOR DUCKS,
TICKETS & 50/50



OR GO TO:

WARRENROTARY.ORG

**ADOPT DUCKS (NOW) TO
WIN \$500 - 1ST PLACE
(\$1200 IN PRIZES)**

DUCK RACE, LIVE MUSIC
FOOD & GOODS VENDORS
50/50 & BASKET RAFFLES
AND JEEP MEET

**DOORS OPEN @ 12 PM
FREE ADMISSION**

**\$10-DUCK | 2 FOR \$17.76
LOTS OF KID ACTIVITIES!**

**SATURDAY
JULY 4TH**

7/17 CREDIT UNION FIELD
AT EASTWOOD



**\$10 UPPER BOX
TICKET**

SCRAPPERS BASEBALL,
KID ACTIVITIES
BASKET RAFFLE,
AUTOGRAPHED JERSEY AUCTION &
FIREWORKS

**DOORS OPEN 6 PM
GAME STARTS @ 7:05PM**

Event Proceeds Support:



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PROGRAM:

SCOTT POOCH,
AI FOR THE REST OF US



Scott Pooch stayed in college for more than 10 years as a Physical Education Major and worked as a coach. Later, for 20 years, he handled Nationwide's 401K sales in 37 different states. Now, he builds websites, apps, and power points, all using artificial intelligence. He stated that he figures out AI as he needs it.

Pooch indicated that AI experience is on a continuum from people who "piddle" with it a little to those who are into coding. There are more than 1,000 AI programs typically referred to as large language models. The top four include Chat GPT, Claude by Anthropic, Gemini by Google, and Grok built by xAI. People who are really good at using AI generally have more battle scars from fiddling with it to get the outcome they want. The main limitation is the amount of trust

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you have in giving the program information about yourself.

Pooch encouraged us to have a conversation with the AI app rather than just providing commands and going with what it tells you. He cautioned that AI can lie to you just to please you. To work through this challenge, you must keep feeding the system contextual cues and giving it direction. This is the core skill in using AI.

During his presentation, members raised the concern about who "owns" the information you feed to AI tools. While these tools can help you to create and organize your work, Pooch agreed that as reliance on chatbots and AI assistants grows, users face concrete risks regarding privacy. Many AI developers feed user information and input back into their models for training. Thus, financial or personal data shared with a chatbot can be stored, accessed by others, and exposed in breaches.

Our speaker today just touched the surface of the intricacies of AI. Be sure to do your research and gather more information in order to build a safer, more informed AI routine.

TRIPLE JACKPOT



This week, the Grand Jackpot totaled \$95.

Congratulations to Daily Winner John Gibson!

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Best wishes to the following Warren Rotarians who are celebrating June birthdays:

Cheryl Oblinger Scott Lewis Jane MacPherson
Dallas Woodall Lauren Kramer Barry Dunaway
Nigel Newman Diane Sauer Don Powers

JUNE BORN

Foresighted. Get easily worried. Quite talkative. Very friendly. Stylish and fashionable. Soft spoken and polite. Warm and considerate towards people. Great sense of humor. Quite sensitive. Star in the crowd. Active and visionary thinker. Kind and generous. Loyal lover. Love to debate. Love the finer things of life.

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HAPPY BUCKS



*** **John Gibson** was a Happy Winner!

*** **John Esker** was happy that The Salvation Army's first 5K Donut Dash was successful. They grossed \$10,000! The Lakeview Bulldogs played against the Poland bulldogs in the semi-finals today, and John cheered on Lakeview. The Salvation Army is partnering with Safe Harbor Recovery for volunteers. And they hired a new support staff person for their walk-ins.

*** **Julia Wetstein** would like to hear more info on AI. The Science Fiction Museum project is making progress! And Mark Wetstein won an Emmy for a documentary that he worked on with PBS as a light designer! Congratulations, Mark!

*** **Cindy Matheson** enjoyed our speaker - she is totally into AI. Cindy's dog, Murphy, saw a chiropractic vet and it made a positive difference in his life. Cindy said the Salvation Army's 5K was amazing and the donuts were great! She loved Ray Sinchak's Fellowships story. Her mom loved John Wayne. And Meghan Reed's cocktail hour was also great!

*** **Alicia Adams-Angelo** is excited about the Scrappers 2026 season. She's hosting one player already and two more are on the way. JC is on his sixth home run, and one of the players got recruited to the Banana Bowl. The Salvation Army's 50/50 made \$260. And Lish enjoyed our speaker.