



Rotary Club of Utica Honors Outstanding Educators

Submitted by Jerry Kraus

The Rotary Club of Utica recently hosted a virtual awards program honoring seven outstanding local high school educators. Other local Rotary Clubs were also involved in the program and had selections of educators from their respective districts. The educators were nominated by local high school students and during the awards program, both the students and teachers were recognized and the students explained why these educators were chosen. Those honored this year include:

Meredith Callaghan, Chemistry and Science Teacher at Clinton High School

Mark Benson, Principal, New Hartford High School (New Hartford Rotary)

Michael Eramo, Physics and Computer Science Teacher at New York Mills High School

Rick Hensel, English Teacher at Notre Dame High School (Utica)

Rebecca Nix, English Teacher at Proctor High School

Marisa Cardillo, English Teacher at Sauquoit High School (Sauquoit Rotary)

Charles Hamilton, Spanish Teacher at Whitesboro High School (North Utica-Whitestown Rotary)

Congratulations to all of the Outstanding Educator Award winners and the nominating students.

Note: special thanks to Bart Gorman, Outstanding Educators Program Chair for a job well done!



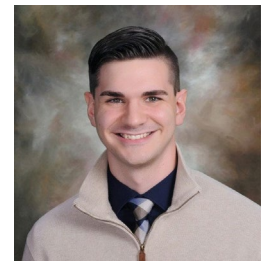
Meredith Callaghan



Mark Benson



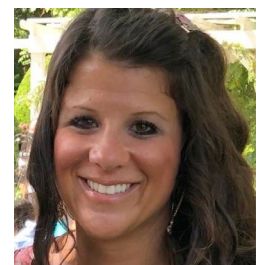
Michael Eramo



Rick Hensel



Rebecca Nix



Marisa Cardillo



Charles Hamilton

Deadline for next newsletter (5/24) is Sunday, May 23, at noon; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org

Quiet Givers Award nominations being accepted

The Quiet Givers Award committee is accepting nominations. Those nominated should be people who have been active in our programs and have not yet been elected to high office in the club. These awards have been presented since 2004.

The Quiet Givers Award will be presented in late June. Nominations can be emailed to [Roger Breslow](mailto:Roger.Breslow@rotary.org).

Rotary Club of Utica to help sponsor Urban Tree Planting Project

Rotary Club of Utica Board voted to donate \$2700 to the Urban Tree Planting Project in cooperation with The Unitarian Universalist Church, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, and the City of Utica Parks Department. Dave Jones brought the project to the attention of the Board. The project's goal is to aid urban homeowners in enhancing the value of your property, improving the air quality within their community by reducing carbon emissions, and providing a canopy of shade to lower the heat index during summer months. Additionally, as recent studies have found, trees planted in urban areas have served to reduce the level of crime.

The \$2700 donation will be used to purchase trees for approximately 20 homeowners. The homeowners must agree to comply with the care guidelines for a minimum of two years. The City of Utica and a volunteer arborist will also provide assistance with care.

Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup scheduled; volunteers needed

Our biannual Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 22, from 9-11 a.m. Our area to clean up is the east side of Route 12 (arterial) between Court Street and Burrstone Road.

We will all meet at 9 a.m. in the McQuade and Bannigan parking lot by the railroad tracks, next to the arterial. The more people we have, the faster we can finish the cleanup.

Please RSVP to [Stephen Turnbull](mailto:Stephen.Turnbull@rotary.org) by Wednesday, May 19.



SAVE THE DATE!

SERVICE ABOVE SELF
Safari

Thursday, June 17
6:00-9:00PM
Utica Zoo

More Details To Follow Soon!

Presented By:
STRATEGIC
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Rotary Club of Utica  **UZ**  **UTICA ZOO**



This Week's Program

Submitted by Travis Rabbers, Programs Chair

FRIDAY | May 21
12 p.m. via Zoom

Gina Ciaccia is a native of upstate New York. She taught 4th grade for over a decade, and was appointed Assistant Principal of Jarvis Middle School in the district of Central Valley in 2013. The winter of that same year, she was approached and asked to chair the Abraham House's annual Meatball Madness fundraiser, which was the beginning of a very successful and rewarding volunteer experience. Two years later, in the spring of 2015, Abraham House wanted new leadership; Gina was ready for change, and her tenure as Executive Director began. After five years with the organization, Abraham House has seen much evolution including the establishment and operation of a thrift store and expansion into Rome with the opening of a six-bed community care shelter for the terminally ill.



Volunteers needed for Boilermaker water station

The Boilermaker Road Race is scheduled for Sunday, October 10, 2021. Utica Rotary will again sponsor the water stop at the Parkway Center. If you would like to volunteer please sign up by going to <http://www.boilermaker.com> and select volunteer. **IMPORTANT:** when selecting Volunteer Area, scroll most of the way down to select WS - Utica Rotary.

If you don't sign up online you will not be able to volunteer. There will be no exceptions to this rule. The race organizers would appreciate volunteers signing up by May 25, 2021.

We had an amazing group that supported the water stop the last time there was a race. It was hard work but a fun experience. Let's again be the best volunteers for The Greatest Road Race!

New Club event looking for nonprofit to benefit from funds raised

Save the date for Rotary Club of Utica's Summer Swing Golf Outing on Sunday, August 8, at noon at Hidden Valley in Whitesboro. Players and volunteers are welcome to get involved. Details coming soon! We are looking for a local nonprofit (501c3) to be the beneficiary of the golf fundraiser. If you have any suggestions of a worthy group/project, please get the info to [Jerry Kraus](#) or [President Israel](#) ASAP as we will be making our determination soon. Thank you.

Calendar of Events

- 5/21 Weekly Meeting | 12 p.m. via Zoom
Gina Ciaccia | Utica Monopoly
- 5/22 Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup | 9-11 a.m.
- 5/27 Weekly Meeting | **THURSDAY 5 p.m.**
After Hours at Babe's at Harbor Point

Rotary Club of Utica Committees

Looking to get involved? Rotary Club of Utica has several active committees. Contact a committee chair to join a committee or contact President Israel if interested in chairing a committee.

Youth Exchange	Deb Burke
Rotaract.....	Dom Passalacqua
RYLA	Jim Day
Interact.....	Jim Day
Urban Concerns	NEED CHAIR
Communication	Michelle Brandstadt
Meeting Service.....	Natalie Brown
Membership	Joe Caruso/Ken Williams
Outstanding Educator Awards	Bart Gorman
Quiet Giver's Award.....	Roger Breslow
Pride of Workmanship	Roxanne Mutchler
Veteran's Outreach	Mary Ann Hallak-Serwatka
Special Needs Party	NEED CHAIR
RI Foundation.....	NEED CHAIR

Check out the latest District Newsletter and Rotary International News on the Rotary Club of Utica website:

Rotary District & International News