



Utica Rotary Hub

Utica, NY, USA

Aug. 10, 2026



Where Pride Meets Performance

Every workplace has people who make a difference, not because of a title, but because of the pride they take in doing their jobs well.

Since 1990, Rotary Club of Utica has recognized these individuals through its annual Pride of Workmanship

Awards, honoring employees who demonstrate commitment, professionalism, creativity, enthusiasm, and initiative.

This year's theme, *Where Pride Meets Performance*, celebrates employees who consistently exceed expectations and contribute to

the success and well-being of their organizations. Nominees must be below the management level, have at least three years of service with their employer, and be nominated by a colleague.



Nominations are due September 11, 2026. Recipients will be honored at a luncheon in October,

with the date and location to be announced.

Completed nomination forms, which can be found on the Utica Rotary website, can be emailed to Joseph Abraham at josephabraham2011@gmail.com.

UNITED GAMES

Have fun, even volunteer

see page 2



MEETING RECAP

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Submit news and photos to news@uticarotaryclub.org

Editor Robert Stronach

'United Games' beckon

By YULIYA KARPOV

Rotarians can have fun -- and also volunteer if they wish -- at "The United Games" taking place on Saturday, August 22, from 12 to 4 at F.T. Proctor Park in Utica.

The United Way is putting on this fun, community-wide "Field Days"-type experience featuring lawn games, tournaments, food trucks, live music, a kids activity zone, face painting, a dunk tank, raffle baskets, and other family-friendly activities.

The event will bring people together for a great day outdoors while officially launching United Way's annual fundraising campaign.

All are welcome to come to enjoy the food, music, and company of others!

Anyone interested in learning more about the event, or pre-registering to participate in any



UNITED WAY
Mohawk Valley

of the games, may can reach out to me directly at Yuliya.Karpov@nbtinsurance.com or visit: <https://www.unitedwaymv.org/kickoff>.

In addition, for anyone that is interested in volunteering to, we still need floater-type volunteers who can jump in and assist wherever needed throughout the event.

If any Rotarians are interested in volunteering, please reach out to me directly for more information.

Calendar of Events

8/19 Meeting | Board of Directors
noon | Greater Utica Chamber

8/23 Service | Annual Charity Golf Outing
noon | Hidden Valley in Whitesboro

8/21 Social | Adirondack Scenic Railroad
tickets here: [Utica Beer & Wine Train](https://adirondackrr.com/utica/beer-wine-train/)
<https://adirondackrr.com/utica/beer-wine-train/>

10/17 Service | Walk to End Alzheimer's
| MVCC Utica campus

8/22 Event | United Games
12-4 | T.R. Proctor Park

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

Wear Something Cool, Promote Rotary, Too.

Check out our Utica Rotary merchandise at the online store:

https://maxsprintshopstores.com/rotary_club/shop/home

MEETING RECAP

Alzheimer's Association features 24/7 service



Lisa McCarthy, program manager at the Alzheimer's Association Central NY Chapter, joined our club last Thursday, explaining many of the resources the Association provides, including a 24/7 call line.

She also discussed the impact of the Walk to End Alzheimer's.

Our club has already registered a team for the Utica-Rome walk on MVCC's Utica campus on October 17.

New Member Proposed: Mary Ann (Mia) DeBernardis

The board proposes Mary Ann (Mia) DeBernardis for membership to Rotary Club of Utica. Per bylaws, club members have five days to submit a written objection to Secretary Matt Schlosser.

Mary Ann (Mia) DeBernardis is seeking to transfer from the Rotary Club of New Hartford.

She is a retired Utica City School District music teacher and musical theater director at Players of Utica.

A Paul Harris Fellow, Mia serves on the district level as Events Committee chair and as a member of the District Conference Committee and CNY Rotary Service Committee.

