National Football Hangover Day



Utica, NY, USA



Feb. 12, 2024

Utica Rotarians welcome several guests



Hanka Grabovica

By Joe Abraham

Last Thursday's meeting had a full agenda with several guest speakers. Our main program was provided by Utica Rotarian Hanka Grabovica, who stepped up when the scheduled speaker had to postpone. She spoke about the NYS Migrant Education Program.

Grabovica, whose office is located at Herkimer BOCES, currently serves as the Mohawk Valley Regional Director of the program, making sure the over 500 children in the 14 counties that make up her region are receiving adequate education, resources and support.

Moreover, the federally funded program aims to ensure that migrant children have access to quality education and support services that address their unique needs and challenges. These services may include ac-*Continued on next page.*



Inspiration

Each week President Linda shares an inspirational message. This time she shared the following quote from the late Rosalyn Carter:

"Do what you can to show you care about other people, and you will make our world a better place."

Deadline for next newsletter (2/19) is Saturday, Feb. 17 at 3 p.m.; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org. Editor Robert Stronach





TAKE ACTION: www.uticarotary.org

Highlights of last week's meeting

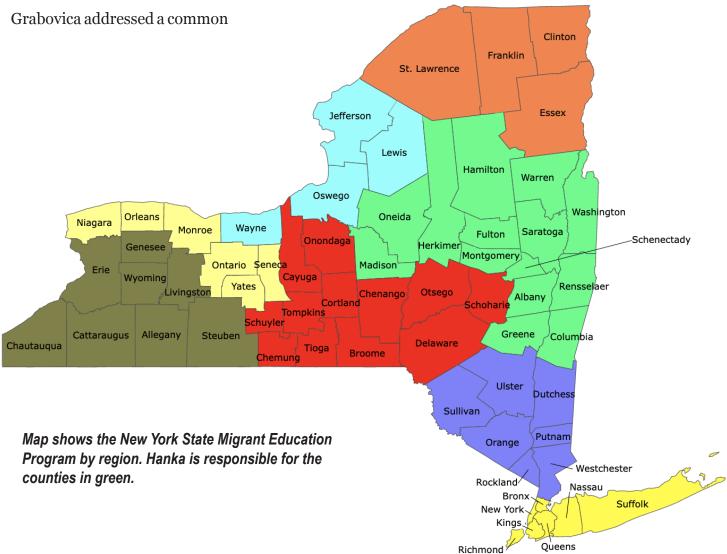
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ademic support, health services, transportation assistance, and other resources to help migrant children succeed in school. The program also works to increase awareness and understanding of the needs of migrant children within the education system and the community. Overall, the New York State Migrant Education Program plays a crucial role in promoting educational equity and opportunities for migrant children in the state. misconception, as some believe the program assists those crossing the United States' southern border daily. That isn't the case. The children of these families, who work in agriculture, come through the federal program, and she is unable to inquire beyond that, simply ensuring they have access to the program's critical services.

Some of these services, provided free of charge, include: tutoring, English classes, home visits, education field trips and summer programs, free lunch eligibility and parent involvement activities (referrals to other services as needed).

Grabovica expressed how she very much looks forward to going to work each day and sees the impact she is having on the children she supports.

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Highlights of last week's meeting

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Bart Gorman, Outstanding Educators Program chair, introduced Proctor High School student Logan Wolfe (right).

Standout students visit

Our club was joined by two Proctor High School students, Kler Gay Gay Moo and Logan Wolfe, who as noted in last week's newsletter, would be speaking to our club at two different meetings.

Thursday was Logan's time to shine. In addition to his accomplishments in the classroom, Logan is involved in ROTC and Scouting. Speaking of the latter, he recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout, organizing a local troop in assisting him to revitalize the cemetery on French Road in Utica. He has also volunteered at the Boilermaker and local church fundraisers. As for future plans, Logan hopes to attend the U.S. Naval Academy and eventually earn the rank of admiral. He is also contemplating the possibility of attending the prestigious Cornell University.

Kler will be next up to speak to the club, as he and Logan will be at the March 7th meeting.

New program at RCIL

Maureen Ghent, one of our newest members, gave a brief update on RCIL's new Nurse Navigation Program, which helps

people

assist

gate resources

that are avail-

able and can

with figuring

out how to ap-

ply for certain

services, both

of which can

navi-

them



often be daunting tasks. But with the program's help, it doesn't have to be. For more info, contact Ghent at mghent@rcil.com

Help wanted THEA BOWMAN

We need 2 to 4 Rotarians on Monday, March 25 to help at the Thea Bowman House, where they'll carry cases of juice into the gym and put the juice in each bag. President Linda can meet the Rotarians at the Genesee Street entrance at 10:30-10:45 a.m. They're located in the former DeSales School building.

MORROW CENTER

The Morrow Warming Center at the Cornerstone Church on Plant St. is seeking donations of warm coats, especially men's coats. If you have any that you would like to donate, please drop them off to their facility.

BOILERMAKER

Our club is still searching for someone to coordinate the Boilermaker Water Station volunteer efforts. If you're interested in stepping up to assist with this great effort, contact President Linda, who along with Drew DeBlasiis, who is running this year's race but coordinated previously, will provide guidance. Also, anyone who volunteered last year should have received an email to return this year. If you are new to this and would like to sign up, let Linda know.

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Highlights of last week's meeting

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Upcoming events Children of Revolution

Our February 22 meeting program is about Children of the American Revolution. The speakers will be Hank and Louie Petras, who are the grandchildren of Rotarian Ralph Imundo and nephews of Rotarian Clyde Vanderpool.

Social at Piggy Pat's

Our monthly social outing will be on Thursday, Feb. 29 at Piggy Pat's in Washington Mills. We'll meet at 5:30 p.m. Hope you can make it!

Energy Zone

On March 7, we won't be meeting at the Mid-York Library. Instead, we'll be at the Energy



Hank and Louie Petras will address the club on Feb. 22.

Zone, located at the Utica Zoo, where Utica Rotarian Joe Caruso will host us for a brief talk and tour of the facility.

Calendar of Events

- 2/21 Board Meeting | noon | Chamber of Commerce
- 2/22 Meeting | Children of the American Revolution noon | Mid-York Library
- 2/29 Social | 5:30 pm | Piggy Pat's

- 3/7 Meeting | talk & tour noon | Energy Zone at Utica Zoo
- 3/20 Board Meeting | noon | Chamber of Commerce