



Utica Rotary Hub

Utica, NY, USA

June 9, 2026

Area Rotary Clubs honor 7 'Outstanding Educators'



Honored teachers are, from left, Nicole Goodelle (Clinton), Dan Pope (New Hartford), Kevin Getman (New York Mills), Bridget Curley (Notre Dame), Any Barok (Proctor), Jeff Houck (Sauquoit) and Michael Eramo (Whitesboro). SEE PAGE 2.

Utica Rotary's Gala Shines Bright



HOLLYWOOD STYLE
Utica Rotarian Yuliya Karpov poses with the classic car provided by Rotarian Joe Caruso's brother to add to the red-carpet, Hollywood theme. SEE PAGE 4.



Rotarians BREW funds for clean water. PAGE 5.

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

by Tina Pavlot

Happy June Anniversaries!

Member	Years of Service
Bart Gorman	45
Brymer Humphreys	37
Michael Simpson	27
Wardwell Jones	26
Norma Montagnino-Gemza	23
Wanda Bruchis	16
Jasmin Vargas	1

Submit news and photos to news@uticarotaryclub.org

Editor Robert Stronach



UNITE FOR GOOD

TAKE ACTION: www.uticarotary.org

Area Rotary Clubs honor 7 ‘Outstanding Educators’

by **JERRY KRAUS**

The Rotary Clubs of Utica, New Hartford, North Utica/Whitestown, and Sauquoit honored seven Utica-area teachers on Thursday, June 4th, at their annual Outstanding Educators Awards Program. The program, presented during a Utica Rotary luncheon at the Five Points Public House/Irish Cultural Center (Utica) is an annual event of the area Rotary Clubs’ community service committees.

The 2026 recipients of the Outstanding Educators Awards are:

- Clinton Central High School: **Nicole Goodelle**
- New Hartford High School: **Dan Pope**
- New York Mills Jr/Sr High School: **Kevin Getman**
- Notre Dame Jr/Sr High School: **Bridget Curley**
- T.R. Proctor High School: **Amy Barok**
- Sauquoit Valley High School: **Jeff Houck**
- Whitesboro Central High School: **Michael Eramo**

The awards program comes at the culmination of a year-long program during which area Rotary clubs hosted two students from each of seven area high schools. At Rotary membership meetings over the past school year, the students had an opportunity to introduce themselves to the Rotary members, and to learn about Rotary’s community, regional and international service, which are the fulfillment of the Rotary motto of “*Service Above Self.*”

At the end of the school year, the students from each school are asked to select the teacher who they believe exemplifies the Rotary motto, and the values of Rotary, as exemplified in its *Four Way Test*:

- * *Is it the Truth?*
- * *Is it Fair to all concerned?*
- * *Will it build Goodwill and better Friendships?*
- * *Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?*



Members of Rotary Club of Utica huddled for a photo at the Outstanding Educators Awards Program..

UTICA CHANGING OF GUARD AND AWARDS NIGHT

by **TRAVIS RABBERS**

It really is the best and busiest time of the Rotary year! After two beautiful events last week with Outstanding Educators and the Service Above Self gala, we have another wonderful event to look forward to!

Our Rotary awards night will be Wednesday, July 1 beginning at 5:30 p.m. taking place at the Piggy Pats pavilion.

For those who were not able to attend the awards night last year, this is where we present the Paul Harris and Quiet Givers award to two

Rotarians in our club. We also give a recap on everything our club has accomplished this past year, and pass the gavel to our new president.

There will be a dinner provided by Piggy Pats and the cost is \$25 per person. If you would like to attend, please use the following link to register (or see full url below):

[Utica Rotary Awards Night](#)

If you wish to attend, but pay at the door, please let me know and I will register you. Hope to see you all for our end of Rotary year celebration!

<https://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=f8a70501-a73c-4c13-8c2c-2921babfcfa>

Volunteer for Boilermaker Water Station

by **MATT SCHLOSSER**

For the 2026 Boilermaker, our club will once again be running our water station alongside CNY Quest on the Parkway. Duties include setting up tables with cups of water and ice and passing out cups to the race participants as they pass. It's always a great time.

Below is the Boilermaker link for registering as a volunteer. Our water station is listed as Water Stop - Utica Rotary/CNY Quest.

[Volunteer for Water Station](#)

We hope to see as many of you as possible!

Calendar of Events

6/17	Meeting Board of Directors noon Utica Chamber of Commerce	6/28	Service Project to be announced
6/18	Social Crust Kitchen & Bar 5 pm Main St., Utica	7/1	Club Changing of Guard 5:30 pm Piggy Pats
6/20	District Changing of Guard noon Roselawn, NY Mills	7/12	Service Boilermaker water station
		8/23	Service Annual Charity Golf Outing noon Hidden Valley in Whitesboro

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

LIGHTS, CAMERA, SERVICE!

Utica Rotary's Gala Shines Bright

by **JOE ABRAHAM**

The stars were out in Utica as the Utica Rotary Club hosted its Fifth Annual Service Above Self Gala, presented by Cliff's Local Market. With a glamorous Hollywood theme setting the stage, nearly 140 guests gathered for an evening of celebration, community spirit, and philanthropy.

The event, held June 5 at the Stanley Theater, was a smashing success, bringing together Rotarians, community leaders, supporters, and friends to recognize the power of service and give back to an important local cause. Proceeds from the gala will benefit Kamp Connections, a program of Kelberman, helping provide meaningful experiences and opportunities for individuals and families in our community.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the "Service Above Self" Awards to two remarkable women whose dedication and commitment have made a lasting impact throughout the region. Lucretia DeSantis Hunt and Mary Zimbler were recognized for their extraordinary contributions

and unwavering commitment to serving others, embodying Rotary's highest ideal of "Service Above Self."

From the red-carpet atmosphere to the inspiring stories shared throughout the evening, the Hollywood-themed gala was a fitting tribute to the true stars of the community—those who dedicate their time, talents, and resources to making a difference in the lives of others.

The Utica Rotary Club extends its sincere gratitude to presenting sponsor Cliff's Local Market, event sponsors, volunteers, donors, and everyone who attended and helped make the evening such a memorable success.

A follow-up press release detailing the total amount raised for Kamp Connections, along with additional event photos, will be released soon. Stay tuned for more highlights from this unforgettable evening of service, celebration, and community impact.



Honoree Lucretia Hunt was one of the stars of the evening.



Stephen Turnbull and Travis Rabbers reflected the Gala Committee's choice to wear formal attire or dress as a favorite Hollywood character.



ROTARY BEER LOVERS

Utica Rotarians BREW funds for clean water

by **TINA PAVLOT**

Rotarians and fellow Rotarian Colin Hubbel of the Beer Hub raised over \$600 to raise funds for clean water. The BREW beer-tasting event took place May 31 at the Beer Hub.

The purpose of the BREW fellowship (Beers Rotarians Enjoy Worldwide) is to foster and encourage fellowship between and among Rotarians of all nations who have a love for beer and through this fellowship support international projects of the Rotary Foundation.



DISTRICT CHANGING OF GUARD

CNY Rotary's 'Inauguration Night' is June 20 at Roselawn

by **JOE ABRAHAM**

As you know, the Rotary year is coming to an end. CNY Rotary, the district our club is in, is holding its annual Inauguration event on June 20 at the Roselawn in New York Mills, conveniently in our area, from noon to 4 p.m.

For just \$30, you have access to all you can eat and drink.

Our district includes areas like Binghamton, Syracuse, Albany, Ithaca, Oneonta and, of course, the Mohawk Valley. Events like this are a tremendous opportunity to network and enjoy fellowship with

our peers from across the state. So, I hope you will consider attending.

The event is a celebration of all that was accomplished this year under the leadership of CNY Rotary President (District Governor) Bob Balk of Moravia. Pamela Baker Gratton, an Auburn Rotarian, will lead the district in 2026-27. She will be followed by Sam Netzband of VVS Rotary, and then Joe Dhara of DeWitt.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out. [Tickets can be purchased here!](#)



ROTARIANS AT MAYOR'S GALA

More than eight Utica Rotarians were in attendance at the Mayor's Gala held May 30 at Delta Hotels by Marriott. Four of them, pictured from left, were Joanne Moskal, Matt Schlosser, Joe Abraham, and Terry DeLude.