

Rotary THIS WEEK!



Utica, NY, USA

March 13, 2023

Joe Kelly is program speaker for March 16

Just in time for St. Patrick's Day, Joe Kelly is bringing a bit of Irish to Utica Rotary as the featured speaker for the March 16th program.

Joe has more than 40 years of professional writing experience, including 20 years at the *Utica Observer-Dispatch*, first as a reporter, then as a daily columnist. After that he became editor and publisher of the *Boonville Herald*.

Joe continues to host "The Joe Kelly Show," broadcast weekly on WUTR-TV. He has written six books and for several years hosted a talk show on Utica radio station WIBX.

Before beginning his journalism career, Joe was an assistant to State



Joe Kelly

Senator James Donovan and before that, was an assistant to Utica Mayor Michael Caruso.

Joe was appointed Oneida County historian in 1997 and served until

1999. He has been on the boards of several community organizations, including Utica Boilermaker Road Race, American Heart Association, Salvation Army, Oneida County Tourism and Oneida County History Center.

He has been honored numerous times for his civic work, and most recently received the State Senate Commendation Award

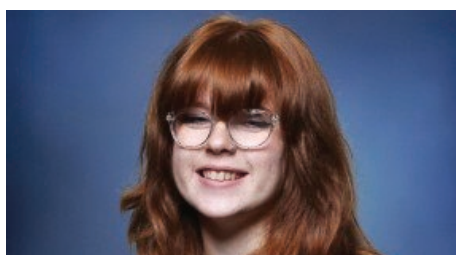
Many years ago New Hartford Rotary honored Joe as a Paul Harris Fellow.

**This week's program | Thursday | March 16 | Noon
Mid York Library System
1600 Lincoln Ave. | Utica, NY 13502
Virtually via Zoom**

Student addresses club on March 16

At this week's program meeting on Thursday, March 16, the club will hear from New York Mills student Hailey Cornish as part of the Outstanding Educators Program.

She will be joined by fellow senior Lily Comenale, who addressed the club during their first visit in February and shared that she wants to attend law school.



Hailey Cornish

Hailey is active in the student council, vice president since her junior

year and now executive vice president. She is team captain for varsity volleyball.

Hailey plans to pursue a master's in criminal justice with a focus on psychology. She has been accepted at Russell Sage, St. Rose, SUNY Oneonta, Utica University, MVCC, and University of Maine at Farmington.

Deadline for next newsletter (3/20) is Sunday, March 19, at noon; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org.

Wanted: chair for Boilermaker water station

by Tina Pavlot

Would you want to organize Rotary's Boilermaker water station this year?

There really isn't a heavy workload...just picking up and distributing the volunteer t-shirts, communicating

with the volunteers on time, location, etc. and arriving early at the site on Sunday morning to receive the tables, cups, etc. Our station is at the Parkway Rec Center.

For more info, contact me at cpavlot@mtb.com.



Help hand out Easter bags on March 30

by Norma Montagnino-Gemza

Several Rotary volunteers are needed to help put Easter snack bags in Easter Brigade Bags at the Thea Bowman House (309 Genesee St., former DeSales High School) on March 30, at 11:15 a.m.

Utica Rotary is donating 153 bags of snacks and we will put in the larger bags as community volunteers come in

with them. The snack bags are being prepared ahead of time by Tina, Norma, Darby and Jennifer.

Your presence is important! Please email Norma at normamg@yahoo.com by 3/20 if you can attend. Hope you'll attend this exiting event and watch our children light up with pleasure.

Calendar of Events

- 3/15** Board Meeting|
Noon | Greater Utica Chamber
- 3/16** Program | Joe Kelly
Noon | Mid-York Library
- 3/23** Social | Utica Club Lounge
Nexus Center
- 3/30** Service | Easter Bag Distribution
11:15 am | Thea Bowman
- 4/6** Program | Munson-Williams rebrand
Noon | Mid-York Library



Rotarian among honorees at DAR awards dinner

Rotarian Kevin Marken will be honored by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Oneida Chapter, during a Community Awards Dinner on Thursday, April 13. See below for details and ticket info.

Daughters of the American Revolution Oneida Chapter Community Awards Dinner

Thursday, April 13, 2023

Registration - 6 pm Dinner - 7 pm

Hart's Hill Inn

135 Clinton Street

Whitesboro, New York 13492

Honoring

Kevin Marken - Community Service Award

Mark Williams - Distinguished Citizen Award

Mischael McKenna - Community Service Award

Dr. Philip Bean - Conservation Award

The Landmark Society - Excellence in Historic Preservation

The Greater Utica Magazine - Excellence in Written Media

Dr. Russell Marriott - DAR Historic Preservation Medal

Send your check for \$37 made out to Oneida Chapter,

NSDAR to

Sharon-Brown Burns at 2 Donegal Place New Hartford, NY 13414-3716

For Information call Leslie Raney 315-725-3989

New Member Proposal: Zemira Sakanovic

The board proposes Zemira Sakanovic for membership to the Rotary Club of Utica. Per bylaws, club members have five days to submit a written objection to Treasurer Jill Koch.

Zemira Sakanovic is a business and financial professional with many years of experience. She holds her Associate's in Business Management and Finance Certificate from MVCC and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, minor in Finance, from SUNY Polytechnic Institute.

In addition, Zemira has always had a passion for helping others, which is shown in her current and past involvement in not-for-profit organizations and Toastmasters. Zemira is also fluent in and able to translate Serbo/Croatian and Bosnian.

Zemira currently resides in Utica. She enjoys spending time with her husband and three kids, family, and friends in her free time. Zemira has a passion for traveling and



adores the outdoors, whether hiking or taking long walks on the beach. With her optimistic and determined personality, she diligently strives to create balanced relationships with individuals within the community, other states, and other parts of the world.

Audience with the Pope?



Rotarian Bob and wife Mary were in this international group that met with Pope Francis.

If you are fortunate to be in a group that has a scheduled audience with Pope Francis, there are two things you need to bring – patience and stamina.

Patience because you'll be told to show up an hour and a half early, in the vicinity of the bronze doors on the right side of St. Peter's Square. Of course, to get there you'll have to go through security and metal detectors. Once you clear security, your group lines up behind a waist-high wooden gate, and you wait and chat and wait for the next hour or more. Finally, as the appointment hour nears, the Swiss Guard escorts you through an enclosed plaza and into the Apostolic Palace with many flights of stairs. This is where stamina is needed. You'll climb a total of 205 steps up winding and criss-crossing staircases. Eventually you'll arrive at Clementine Hall – a vast tall chamber

with wall artwork so precise that the people and colonnades in the scenes appear three-dimensional. You are ushered to take a seat in the rows of cushioned chairs set up for your group. An impeccably clad chamberlain offers a few ground rules. When the pope arrives, don't shout or yell things like "viva la papa". Just stand and offer polite applause. When it's your turn to approach the pope, don't kiss his ring. Just shake his hand. Make a brief comment, if you need to.

With ground rules out of the way, you sit and wait. The pope's schedule often runs late. But when Vatican photographers arrive and set up, it's a sign that Pope Francis is just minutes away.

As Pope Francis enters the doorway, hobbling with a cane, everyone jumps to their feet and applauds enthusiastically. The pope
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slowly makes his way to a seat facing the group, and acknowledges the enthusiastic greeting with a smile and wave of his hand. If the group has a spokesperson, he or she approaches a microphone and offers remarks, followed by the pope delivering a spiritual message unique to the group.

Then ushers and chamberlains guide everyone up to personally greet Pope Francis and shake hands as a Vatican photographer snaps away.

Once the personal encounters are finished, Pope Francis takes a seat with the group for an official photograph of the event. As the pope gets up to exit, the roar of applause echoes through the chamber.

For a few minutes members of the group chat excitedly and take pictures with smartphones – before the Swiss Guard escorts them back down the stairways, across the plaza and out into St. Peter's Square.



Vatican Media

Rotarian Bob Stronach and wife Mary are greeted by Pope Francis. (Mary is a past District 7150 Youth Exchange chair.)

LEFT: Bob and Mary pose with Swiss Guard in the Apostolic Palace.

