

Rotary This Week!



Utica, NY, USA

March 18, 2024

SPEAKER ON MARCH 21

From youth wellness to community wellness

By Linda Iannone

Our program speaker this Thursday is Elvisa Alikadic, who heads up the Community Wellness Program. This program came about from the interest and need of her son, Medin, who at age 14 decided it was a needed program for our community to keep his friends in sports for exercise, off video games for mental health, and out of trouble in general.

Elvisa sits on several boards: Bosnian American Business Association where she oversees the Scholarship Committee, the Oneida County MultiCultural Board where she is an advisor for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion interests of the board, and the Dominican Cultural Association of which she is a founder and advisor.



Elvisa Alikadic

Background on the Community Wellness Program: Fortunately, the director of the Youth Bureau loved the vision, saw

the need, and offered the group a spot for Saturday-Sunday 4-8 p.m. (which was strategically chosen due to studies suggesting that this is when teenage boys get into most trouble). The Youth Wellness Program was officially in motion the following weekend! The new mayor, Mike Galime, asked the group to extend the program to all ages and make it Thursday-Sunday 4-8 p.m.

They offer social/emotional learning opportunities for all ages through sports, activities, arts and crafts while also connecting attendees to community resources. Now, the COMMUNITY Wellness Program serves between 50 and 100 community members at a time and they don't see it stopping anytime soon!

New York Mills students visit the club this week. See Page 2.

**Program | Thursday | March 21, 2024 | Noon |
Mid York Library System | 1600 Lincoln Ave. | Utica
Virtually via Zoom**

Deadline for next newsletter (3/25) is Saturday, March 23 at 3 p.m.; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org.

Editor Robert Stronach

New York Mills students visit Utica Rotary this week

New York Mills High School students Frank Calhoun and Lauren Kulpa will visit the club this Thursday, March 21, and again on Thursday, May 2, announced Bart Gorman, chair of the Outstanding Educators Program Committee.

“Frank is a leader in and out of the classroom,” their guidance councilor, Bryan Waterman, notes. “He is highly regarded and respected by both his peers and the faculty at New York Mills.”

“Lauren,” the guidance councilor points out, “has shown her drive to succeed both academically and athletically during her entire time at New York Mills. She has taken a very challenging course load” in preparation for a college doctoral program.

Frank Calhoun

Frank is class president and he captains several varsity teams -- cross country, track and baseball.

He plans to attend SUNY Brockport for kinesiology and to run cross country and track. He volunteered to help the kindergarten Physical Education classes during his free periods. In the community Frank has dedicated his time raking leaves for the elderly during Fall and Spring cleanup days, helped the local Little League by running the scoreboard and volunteered at the year-



ly town craft show.

The guidance councilor adds: “Frank is a natural leader and is always more than prepared to lead others for good.”

Lauren Kulpa

Lauren plans to attend Geneseo College in a six-year doctoral program for physical therapy. At the same she plans to participate in ROTC to pursue a military career as a doctor of physical therapy and eventually open her own PT practice.

Her guidance councilor notes that Lauren is “dedicated to having a positive impact on her school and community,” and that “she has coached Biddy Basketball, collected donations for holiday drives, raked leaves for the elderly during Fall and Spring cleanup days, and works at the local bakery.” She has been student council president, National Honor Society president and Varsity Club president, and she has enjoyed playing field hockey and basketball.

Calendar of Events

**3/20 Board Meeting |
noon | Chamber of Commerce**

3/25 Service | Easter Baskets
10:30 am | Thea Bowman

**3/21 Meeting | speaker Elvira Alikadiev
& NY Mills students
noon | Mid-York Library**

3/28 Social | The Bunker
5:30 pm |

3rd
Annual!

SERVICE ABOVE SELF *Gala*



- Red carpet
- LIVE music by Soul Injection
- Seated dinner on Stanley stage
- 1 hour of cocktail open bar

When:

Friday June 7th 6-11pm

Where:

The Stanley Theatre
259 Genesee Street
Utica, NY 13502

Gala Presented By:



Proceeds to benefit:



Purchase tickets @uticarotary.org



Hosted By:



3rd
Annual!

SERVICE ABOVE SELF *Gala*



Sponsorships!

Presenting Sponsor - \$5,000

- Presenting Name
- 8 Tickets (table included)
- Promotional video applied to business
- Logo on stage backdrop & marquee night of event
- Logo on thank you card
- Name on all advertising and promotion
- Social media thank you



Gold Sponsor - \$2,500

(only 4 sold)

- 4 tickets included
- Naming sponsor (*Dinner, Cocktail, Award or Music*)
- Name on all advertising & promotion
- Verbal recognition at event
- Information table in lobby at event
- Logo & name recognition at event
- Social media thank you

Silver Sponsor - \$1,000

- 2 Tickets included
- Name on all advertising and promotion
- Logo & name recognition at event
- Social media thank you

Bronze Sponsor - \$500

- Logo & name recognition at event
- Social media thank you

Corporate Table \$1,200

- Seats 8

Donations @ uticarotary.org

Proceeds to benefit:

