



Rotary This Week!

Utica, NY, USA

March 31, 2025

A program on Lafayette this week

Our program meeting on April 3 will provide a glimpse of a true friend of the American Revolution – the Marquis de Lafayette.

The speaker will be Leslie J Raney, Oneida/Herkimer County Coordinator, Bicentennial Committee- Lafayette's Farewell Tour. The meeting starts at noon Thursday at Mid-York Library, 1600 Lincoln Ave., Utica.

The presentation includes a brief history about Lafayette, his values (anti-slavery, pro feminism including women's rights to vote and own property, and against unfair taxation. She also will give a brief history of his visit from 1824 to 1825, and share upcoming local events.

Leslie is active in the Oneida Chapter/Daughters of the American Revolution.



Notre Dame students join us this week / Page 2

Volunteers needed for highway cleanup

We are planning our highway cleanup for Saturday, April 12, beginning at 9 a.m. We'll meet at the parking lot at McQuade & Bannigan (1300 Stark St, Utica, NY 13502). We'll have

vests, trash bags and grabber sticks for everyone.

Anyone interested in volunteering or who has questions may contact President Travis.

We're accepting nominations for 'Service Above Self' Award / Page 3

Deadline for next newsletter (3/31) is Saturday, March 29 at 3 p.m.; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org.

Editor Robert Stronach

Notre Dame students join us this week

by Bart Gorman

Notre Dame students Jenna Herran and Scott Yourdon, who were our guests on March 6, will join us again on April 3.

Jenna spoke to the Club on her first visit. Jenna is part of Student Council and of Campus Ministry. She plays Varsity Basketball. Jenna is an active member of NJROTC. Her counselor comments that “She lives and breathes the saying ‘Leadership by Example’.

We will hear more from Scott on April 3. Scott has been on the Principal’s List every quarter since 9th grade. He is a member of both Varsity cross country and baseball teams. He serves as a volunteer fireman with the Deerfield Fire Company.

Scott is very active in the Navy Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp. His counselor states “Scott’s character, integrity, accountability, and



professionalism is above approach as he has embraced the Navy’s core value of Honor, Courage, and Commitment”.

Calendar of Events

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| 4/3 | Meeting Leslie Raney on bicentennial of Lafayette’s farewell noon Mid-York Library | 4/24 | Social Milano Restaurant 5 pm (opens at 5) |
| 4/12 | Service Highway Cleanup 9 am meet at McQuade & Bannigan parking lot | 5/1 | Meeting Zachary Nordstrom from MMRI noon Mid-York Library |
| 4/16 | Meeting Rotary Board noon Greater Utica Chamber | 6/6 | Gala ‘Service Above Self’ Gala Stanley Theatre to benefit the Stanley |
| 4/17 | Meeting Gabriel Hage from Hage & Hage LLC noon Mid-York Library | | |

SIGN UP FOR THE ‘SERVICE ABOVE SELF’ GALA!

Individual registration: MyEventRunner

Sponsor registration: MyEventRunner

Nominations being accepted for ‘Service Above Self’ Award

The Rotary Club of Utica, now in its 110th year of service to the community, is presenting its annual “Service Above Self” Gala, to be held on Friday, June 6th, at the majestic Stanley Theatre in Downtown Utica. At the event, the Utica Rotary will honor a deserving individual for community service, nominated by the community at large. This year’s Gala, a black-tie event sponsored by Hage & Hage LLC, will raise funds for the Stanley Theatre.

Anyone in our community is welcome to nominate someone for this award, and the Rotary “Service Above Self Award” committee will review the nominations and select the winner who will be an honored guest at the Gala. Past winners of this award are the late Patrick Johnson (2021), Sister Elizabeth Greim (2022), James Hamer (2023), Felix LaBella (2024) and Michelle McCarrick Truett (2024).

“We’re fortunate to have so many people

in the Utica area who go above and beyond to support others,” notes Joe Caruso, gala awards chair. “Our mission is to recognize those who inspire us all to strive for our best.”

Criteria for the nominees are as follows. The individual(s):

- Is not a current member of a Rotary Club
- Can be any age, from youth to senior citizen
- Serves the community in any one of a variety of areas, including youth or senior services, environmental services, civic services, the arts, sports, etc.

Nominations are due to the Rotary Club of Utica by Wednesday, April 23 by email (jpcarus012@gmail.com) or mail. (See nomination form for info.)

For more information about this Rotary Award and Gala please visit UticaRotary.org.



2024 award recipient Felix LaBella with awards chair Joe Caruso.

New Member Proposed: Gloria Ollerenshaw

The board proposes Gloria Ollerenshaw for membership to Rotary Club of Utica. Per bylaws, club members have five days to submit a written objection to Secretary Jill Koch.

Gloria Ollerenshaw is from RCIL, serving as Associate Vice President of Self-Direction as well as the Veteran Directed Care Program. She has worked at RCIL for the past 12 years and is passionate in helping people set up and maintain the services they need to remain independent in their own homes and the community.

When Gloria is not working, she enjoys traveling, spending time at her camp in Sylvan Beach and spending time with her grandson.

“I wanted to join the Rotary Club because this is a great opportunity for me to help the members of our community and a great networking opportunity,” she notes. “The core values of this club are values that I feel very strongly about and this opportunity will help me act upon those values.



“I am looking forward to being a part of this club and making a positive impact to the members of our community.”



Night at Nostro!

Utica Rotarians enjoyed their March Social Outing at Nostro's on Genesee Street. FROM LEFT: Joanne Moskal, President Travis Rabbers, Rondi Stronach, Mary Ann Vanderpool-Imundo, Ralph Imundo, Christy Harlander and Matt Schlosser.

FOURTH ANNUAL

SERVICE ABOVE SELF Gala



- Red Carpet With Photo
- Music By Last Left
- Dinner
- Live Auction
- 1 Hour Open Bar

\$150
PER TICKET

Proceeds To Benefit The Stanley Theatre

When: 6:00pm - 10:00pm, Friday June 6th, 2025

Where: The Stanley Theatre
259 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13501

Rotary
Club of Utica



Presented By:

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