

Rotary This Week!



Utica, NY, USA

May 13, 2024

Our speaker this week will share her experience in Africa



Mary Stronach (right) with a new friend in Nigeria.

Mary Stronach visited Nigeria and Togo in April and will share her experiences at this week's meeting (which starts at noon Thursday, May 16, at Mid-York Library, 1600 Lincoln Ave., Utica).

A retired foreign language teacher, Mary operates a translation and interpreter-training service. She is a Spanish and Italian interpreter herself, having worked in hospital settings in Central New York and at international gatherings in Rome, Italy.

As the general vice minister of the worldwide Secular Franciscan Order, she has made official visits

to the Vatican and has met Pope Francis twice. She also travels to other countries to meet with Franciscan fraternities there.

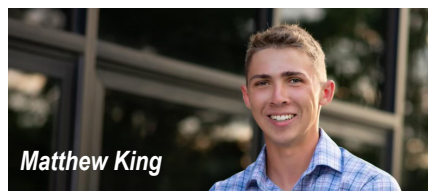
Last year and earlier this year, she was one of the speakers at nuclear disarmament conferences held in Assisi, Italy (which also featured an ambassador, nuclear scientists and an army general, among others).

At one time she was involved in Rotary Youth Exchange, including serving as district YE chair. Her son Anthony, who teaches Spanish, Italian and Japanese at SUNY Oswego, was a Rotary exchange student to Japan.

Clinton students to visit again

Bart Gorman, Outstanding Educators Program chair, reports that Clinton High School students Matthew King and Aiden Soika will visit our club this Thursday, May 16.

Aiden previously addressed the club, so Matt will speak this time. Matt is a member of the



Matthew King

National Honor Society and a varsity athlete (baseball, basketball and soccer). He wants to study finance.

Urban Tree Project Returning

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Deadline for next newsletter (5/20) is Saturday, May 18 at 3 p.m.; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org.

Editor Robert Stronach

MEMBER MENTIONS

Opportunity to volunteer at Epicurean Delight

By Tina Pavlot and Joanne Moskal

As part of our ongoing commitment to serving our community, we can volunteer at the upcoming Epicurean Delight event in support of Hospice & Palliative Care. This event promises to be an evening of culinary delights and philanthropy, and your participation can make a significant difference to its success.

EVENT DETAILS

Date: Sunday, June 9

Time: 4 to 7 p.m.

Location: Harts Hill Inn

Hospice has various volunteer opportunities. Here are the available time slots and roles:

Morning Shift (8:30 - 11 a.m.):

- Table Set-up/Sign Hangers: *Eight people needed to help set up tables and hang signs.*

Evening Shift (5 - 6 p.m.):

- Ticket Takers: *two volunteers needed*
- Raffle: *two volunteers needed*
- 50/50: *2 volunteers needed*
- Busing: *three volunteers needed for the small room and four volunteers needed for the large room.*



If interested in helping, email Rotarian Joanne Moskal at jmoskal@hospicecareinc.org by Friday, May 17. Let her know your preferred role and time slot. Additionally, when you volunteer your time for this event, your name will be added to the guest list, granting you admission to enjoy the evening's festivities.

Your participation not only supports a worthy cause but also showcases the spirit of Rotary in action.

Calendar of Events

5/15 Board | Greater Utica Chamber
Noon |

5/16 Meeting | Mary Stronach on Africa
noon | Mid-York Library

5/23 Club Social | Green Onion Pub
5:30 pm

6/6 Meeting | Outstanding Educators
noon | Five Points Public House

6/7 Service Above Self Gala
6:00 – 11:00 pm | The Stanley

Urban Tree Project looks to plant 40 trees this year

By Joe Abraham

The Urban Tree Planting Project, a collaborative effort by the Rotary Club of Utica, The Unitarian Universalist Church of Utica and the City of Utica Parks Department, will be planting 40 trees across the city in 2024.

Furthermore, after this year's campaign, the project will have seen a total of 100 new trees planted since its inception, reports Rotarian project chair David Jones.

The Urban Tree Planting Project is looking for City of Utica homeowners who are interested in receiving a free tree, which will be delivered and planted at no charge.

Homeowners would be required to care for the trees for a minimum of five years.

Funding for this project is made possible through a Department of Environmental Conservation grant specific to Urban communities for tree planting in disadvantaged communities.

The goal is for the trees to thrive over many years and serve to enhance the value of these properties, improving the air quality within the community by reducing carbon emissions, provide a canopy of shade to lower the heat index during summer months, and as

recent studies have found, trees planted in urban areas have served to reduce the level of crime.

Interested Utica homeowners should download the application on the Unitarian Universalist Church of Utica's [website](#). The deadline to apply is June 1. If you have any questions during the process, feel free to contact the UU Climate Action Team at 315-351-2591.

Varieties of trees available in 2024 included White Birch, Maple Blaze, Cherry varieties, Northern Red Oak, White Oak, American Linden and more.



A license plate for Rotarians!

Did you know that you can get custom Rotary license plates sporting the RI logo and motto? You just need to get a proof-of-membership letter signed by the club president, then mail the application or call the DMV Custom Plates Unit (1-518-402-4838). Unfortunately, Rotary plates cannot be ordered online or in person. This DMV/Rotary webpage has all the details, including fees.

<https://dmv.ny.gov/plates/rotary-international>

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 (cable included)
- Promotional video applied to business
- Logo on Stage, outside marquee night of event
- Logo on thank you card
- Name on all advertising and promotion
- 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

Corporate Table \$1,200

- Seats 8

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

Bronze Sponsor - \$500

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

Donations @ uticarotary.org

Rotary
Club of Utica



Proceeds to benefit:

