# Utica Rotary Hub



Utica, NY, USA Nov. 3, 2026

## ‘Empowerment’ is on this week’s program agenda

“Empowerment” is the topic for this week’s program meeting at noon Friday at the Cornhill Empowerment Center.

Located at 230 James Street in Utica’s Cornhill neighborhood, the center is a shared community hub offering space for nonprofits and grassroot organziations, programs and workshops, plus free community membership.

It is managed by the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties in partnership with the Mid-Utica Neighborhood Preservation Corporation and the City of Utica. Formerly run by the HomeOwnershipCenter, the facility was reintroduced and celebrated with a grand opening on June 18, 2025, as part of the broader Cornhill Revitalization Project.








### Happy November Anniversaries

| Member | Years of Service |
|---|---|
| Bob Stronach | 23 |
| Louis Steppello | 30 |
| Maggie Reed | 2 |

Submit news and photos to news@uticarotaryclub.org

*Editor Robert Stronach*

Rotary Club of Utica

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

TAKE ACTION: www.uticarotary.org

# The 'Not So Silent Night' season is coming!

*by TRAVIS RABBERS*

It is almost time for our 7th annual "Not So Silent Night" Gift Auction! Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Portofino Restaurant in the upstairs event space.

This is a live auction. People are encouraged, but not required, to bring a wrapped gift that we then auction off to the highest bid. The wrapped gift should include a clue and the value. The clue can be something along the lines of "this is for a couple and a night out" or "this is for a family with kids."

This year all funds raised will benefit our own Rotary Club of Utica, so we would love to see everyone attend! There is no cost to attend, and please invite anyone you would like. The restaurant does need to know how many plan to attend, so please use the link below to register. The restaurant will offer a limited food menu.

**Link to register**

https://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.

# Celebrate at the Foundation Luncheon on Nov. 7

*by JOE ABRAHAM*

Join CNY Rotarians on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 12 to 3 p.m. at Roselawn Banquet Facility in New York Mills as we celebrate the generosity of our peers and the life-changing impact of The Rotary Foundation.

For $35 per person, enjoy a delicious lunch, fellowship, and hear how more than 800 donors contributed over $500,000 to The Rotary Foundation in 2025–26. Learn about district and global grant projects, too.

Space is limited, so reserve your seat by October 30! To register, visit https://cnyrotary.org/events/foundation-luncheons-2026/

## Calendar of Events

**11/3** Service | Flags for Heroes set-up
8:30 am | Memorial Parkway

**11/6** Meeting | Cornhill Empowerment Center
noon | 230 James St, Utica

**11/7** Luncheon | CNY Rotary Foundation
12-3 pm | Roselawn Banquet Facility

**11/12** Service | Flags for Heroes takedown

**11/19** Social | Mangia Macrina
5:30 pm | 470 French Rd, Utica
Reserved Rotary seating; complimentary salad with purchase of fav pizza & beverage

**12/9** Service | "Not So Silent Night" Auction
6-8 pm | Portofino's Restaurant

## 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

# VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER: BOOTS ON THE GROUND

***by HEATHER BEEBE***

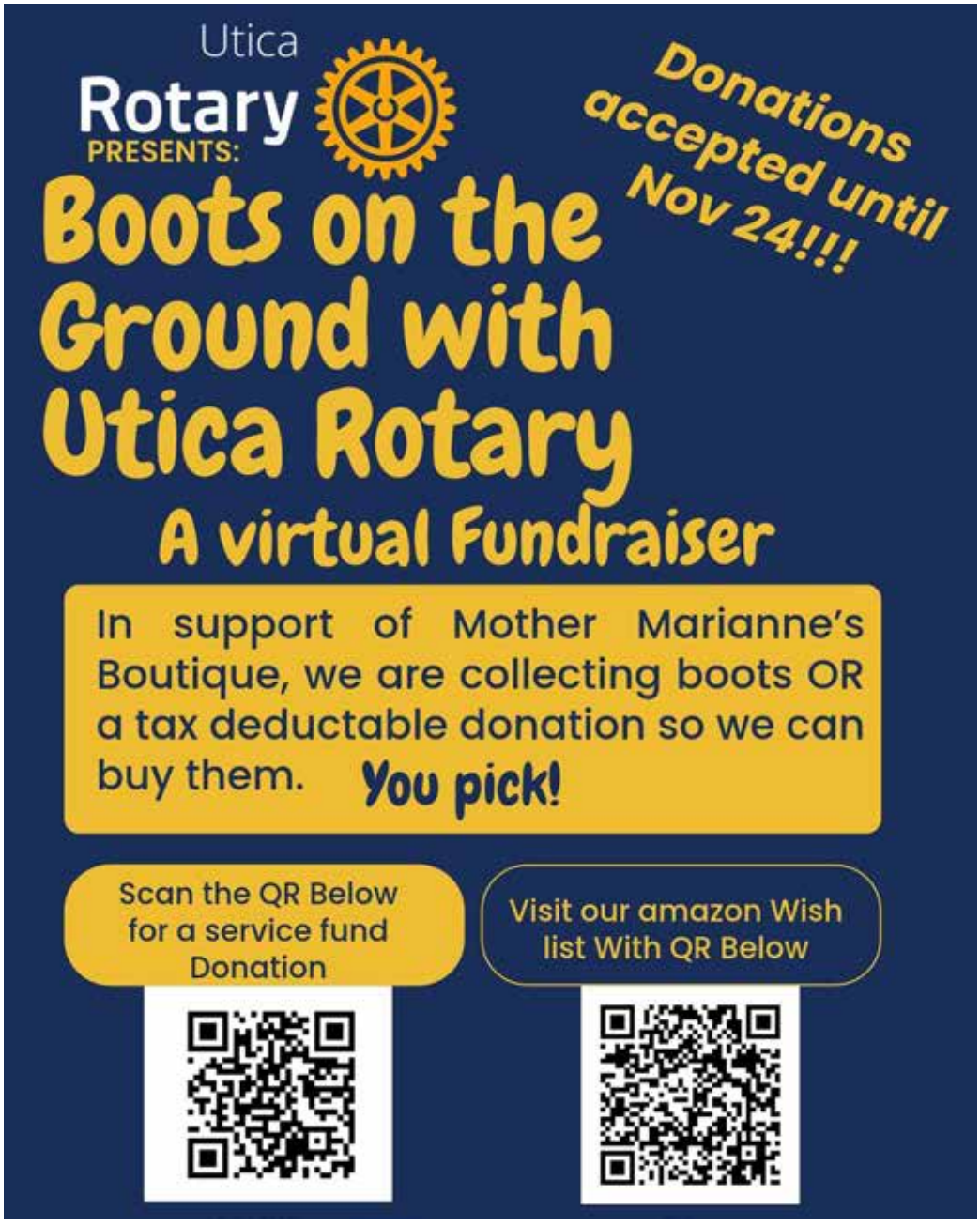
For the benefit of our neighbors in need through Mother Marianne's Boutique, we are doing a virtual fundraiser to help raise money to buy winter boots. (The boutique is associated with the soup kitchen, Mother Marianne's West Side Kitchen.)

As part of the fundraiser, people are also able to purchase boots directly on Amazon that will automatically ship, making it stress free. In order to make this as successfull as possible, I need "all hands on deck" so we can cast our net far and wide.

If you would like to donate to the service fund for purposes of this project, you can click here: https://www.uticarotary.org/page/resources

If you would like to purchase a pair of boots from the wish list, you can click here: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3P7LDKH2W16OP?ref_=wl_share

Please share on your social media accounts, with your families, even at work. This is how we can reach the most people. We will be collecting until Nov. 24!



# UTICA ROTARIANS AT DISTRICT ASSEMBLY








***Rotarians Travis Rabbers, Matt Schlosser and Joe Abraham joined the Greater Utica Chamber's Catalyst Group for its Halloween pop-up event at Utica Coffee last week.***

Utica Rotarians (top photo, from left) Mia Debernadis, Terry DeLude, President-Elect Joe Abraham, Treasurer Rebecca Cavoli and Past President Don Reese at the CNY Rotary District Learning Assembly held Oct. 24 in Johnson City.

Mia, Joe, and Don chair district committees. Terry completed the first course of Rotary Leadership Institute and is also pictured with peers with her certificate.

Many attendees wore red for World Polio Day.