

Rotary This Week!



Utica, NY, USA

Oct. 7, 2024

Tree planting plans sprouting



By Joe Abraham

A date is set for this year's Urban Tree Planting Project, a cooperative program of The Rotary Club of Utica, The Unitarian Universalist Church of Utica and the City of Utica Parks Department. On Saturday, November 2, Rotarians and friends will gather at the Utica Parks Department (233 Valley View Road) at 9 a.m., before departing in their respective groups with trees and materials in tow.

This year we will once again be planting 40 trees, which will take us over the 100 mark for trees planted since the program's inception, a tremendous accomplishment.

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 incidents of crime.

If you are interested in assisting in this effort on Nov. 2, contact Utica Rotary Past President Dave Jones, who leads the project, at davidjones0422@gmail.com.



Rotarians visit Central Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired / PAGE 3

Deadline for next newsletter (10/14) is Saturday, Oct.12 at 3 p.m.; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org.

Editor Robert Stronach

Rotarians Walk to End Alzheimer's



Utica Rotary once again had a team participating in the Utica/Rome Walk to End Alzheimer's, which took place at MVCC on Saturday morning.

The event raised over \$51,000

to combat this horrible disease.

Utica Rotarians Joe Abraham and PP Linda Iannone raised nearly \$500 (for our club team) thanks to the generosity of friends, family members and

fellow Rotarians.

Joe Caruso joined Joe A. at the walk, while President Travis Rabbers was there as a volunteer, on his birthday nonetheless!

Rome Rotary holding chicken BBQ to eradicate polio

Our friends at the Rotary Club of Rome are holding their annual BBQ fundraiser on October 13 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (or until

sold out). The proceeds supporting Rotary International's efforts to eradicate polio.

The club is selling a 1/2 BBQ

chicken w/salt potatoes and coleslaw for \$17. For tickets, contact RomeRotary4856@gmail.com.

Calendar of Events

10/17 Board | Greater Utica Chamber
noon

10/24 World Polio Day

10/17 Club Social | Utica Curling Club
5:30 pm

10/24 Event | Pride of Workmanship
noon | Irish Cultural Center

MEETING RECAP

Utica Rotarians tour CABVI

By Joe Abraham

Last Thursday's meeting was a field trip of sorts. We met at the Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CABVI), where we heard from Vision Services Sales Manager Karen Murphy and later toured the impressive facility.

Murphy's primary responsibility in her role is to educate and build relationships in medical community, with other community-based organizations, and to the public in general about what they do, what rehabilitation services they offer, how to work with the organization, as well as what is possible working with CABVI.

Since 1929, CABVI has helped those who are blind or visually impaired live their most independent lives. They offer a wide variety of services, including Low Vision Care; Vision Rehabilitation Treatment; Orientation and Mobility; Occupational Therapy; Pre-School Vision Screenings; Educational Services; Support Services; Technology Training; and Adaptive Sports and Recreation Programs.

CABVI and Utica Rotary have worked closely in past years, with some of their employees having been or currently members of our club, in addition to several of our members having served on the organization's board of directors. Also, one of our past Service Above Self Galas helped raised funds for CABVI's Camp Abilities.

President Travis Rabbers thanks Karen and CABVI for their hospitality and an amazing meeting/tour.

UTICA ROTARY BRIEFS

- **Our club officially welcomed Rebecca Cavoli** as a new member at the start of Thursday's meeting. We are excited to have her as a member and can't wait to see all the good we will do together in our wonderful community!

- **President Travis thanked Treasurer Darby O'Brien** for penning a beautiful piece about the late Rev. Paul Drobin who passed away recently. Many club members attended his funeral

services this past weekend.

- **The Pride of Workmanship Awards Luncheon** on Thursday, Oct. 24, will take the place of a second meeting this month. It will be at Five Points/Irish Cultural Center, where six professionals will be honored. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased on our website.

- **Utica Zoo Halloween Spooktacular** will be October 19 and 20. Anyone interested in volunteering can view their website.

- **Flags for Heroes:** Flag posting Friday, November 1 at 9 am. Flag takedown: Tuesday, November 12 at 9:30 am.

- **Social gathering at Curling Club** from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 17. Food will be catered with a cost of \$30 a person. Contact President Travis ASAP if you are attending as they need a headcount.

- **Rotarians are invited** to the Utica Sunrise Club's pancake breakfast on Sunday, October 13 from 9 am-1pm at Grace Episcopal Church Auditorium.

