

# Rotary This Week!



Utica, NY, USA

Sept. 25, 2023

## Utica Rotary walks to end Alzheimer's

The Rotary Club of Utica joined the hundreds of walkers at Alzheimer's Association's *Utica/Rome Walk to End Alzheimer's* event Sept. 23 at Mohawk Valley Community College.

Utica Rotary raised close to \$900, cracking the Top 10 of funds raised by participating teams. The event overall raised over \$46,000.

Utica Rotary walkers included Tracy Page, Joe Abraham, Zemira Sakanovic and Joe Caruso. Joe C.'s

longtime friend Louie Sunderhaft also walked with the group.

Tracy walked in honor of her late grandmother Elizabeth Harnett, Joe A. for his Uncle Vinny, Joe C. for late cousins Vincent & Marilyn Marino, Louie for his late parents, and Zemira for all those who have the disease.

Utica Rotarians Clyde Vanderpool and Wayne Yaddow, who were unable to make the walk, were also members of team.

"I want to thank the Utica Rotarians who joined our team and helped raise awareness about this terrible disease, which affects six million Americans annually and impacts so many more," said Joe Abraham, who served as team captain.

"We appreciate everyone who made a donation and helped spread the word about this effort and are looking forward to next year's walk!"



**ROTARY TEAM:** Zemira Sakanovic, Tracy Page, Joe Abraham, and Joe Caruso. MORE PHOTOS, PAGE 2.

**Rotary Social at Brimfield Farm Winery in Clinton on Thursday, Sept 28 at 5:30 p.m.**

Deadline for next newsletter (10/2) is Sunday, Oct. 1 at noon; submit to [news@uticarotaryclub.org](mailto:news@uticarotaryclub.org).

Editor Robert Stronach



# Utica Rotary walks to end Alzheimer's



**WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S**  
Alzheimer's Association

**TODAY RAISED \$46,037**

**TOP INDIVIDUAL FUNDRAISERS**

1. Nancy Purcell - \$8,680
2. Douglas Purcell - \$2,380
3. Kelly Moore - \$1,620
4. Bri Harrington - \$1,040
5. Richard Hartz - \$1,000
6. Sarah Beck
7. Anita Hoffman
8. Nellie Jones
9. Gabrielle Flihan
10. Paulette Nickerson

**TOP FUNDRAISING TEAMS**

1. Team Berta - \$11,120
2. Daughter for Hire, LLC - \$2,300
3. The Hartford Stag Stride - \$1,880
4. Gene Heenic Greene Beans - \$1,280
5. Team Jory - \$1,005
6. Team Hartz
7. Bard
8. In Memory of Margaret (Peggy) Brayshaw
9. Rotary Club of Utica
10. Nickerson

UPDATED STANDINGS AND FUNDRAISING TOTALS AT [ALZ.ORG/WALK](http://ALZ.ORG/WALK)



## Tree project update: Let's get our hands dirty!

We will need 24 volunteers for our Urban tree-planting project on October 28. So far, I only have half that number signed up. This is one of the few "hands on" annual projects we have. With that said, the deadline

to sign up is Oct. 15. We will start at 9 a.m. on Oct. 28 and, if we have enough help, we should be done around noon. Let's get our hands dirty together!

-- Dave Jones, project char



# 'Hope and confidence' permeates meeting

President Linda Iannone opened the 6th meeting of the 108th year of the Rotary Club of Utica with an inspirational message from Helen Keller:

“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.”

That led Linda to segue into commenting on the optimistic fight against breast cancer and then introduce the guest presenter, Melanie Francis, who spoke of the American Cancer Society’s efforts to bring hope and confidence to cancer patients.

Melanie, who is associate director of development for the society’s upstate New York region, pointed to the ACS vision to end cancer for everyone and its mission to “improve the lives of people with cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support” and “to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat and survive cancer.”

She cited the ACS impact in Central New York in 2022:

- 4,185 nights of free lodging provided to 195 patients and their caregivers at ACS Hope Lodges, saving them an estimated \$481,275 in lodging costs.
- 16 patients received free rides to and from treatments.
- \$3.4 million invested in research in upstate New York (7 research grants to University of Rochester and Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo).

Melanie also listed several ACS events: the Men Wear Pink campaign to raise awareness of the



**Linda Iannone**



**Melanie Francis**

fight to end breast cancer, with a kickoff bicycle ride on Oct. 1 at 7 Hamlets Brewing in Westmoreland; the Breast Cancer Awareness Game on Oct. 14 at Utica University, and the Making Strides Walk at MVCC on Oct. 22.

For more information, go to [menwearpink.org/UticaNY](http://menwearpink.org/UticaNY).

## IN OTHER MEETING ACTION:

Golf Chair Jerry Kraus announced that, thanks to extra donations, last month’s golf tournament raised a total of \$3,000 to benefit Thea Bowman House.

Not-So-Silent-Night Auction Chair Travis Rabbers asked for in-

terested volunteers to serve on the committee and suggestions for a charity to benefit from the annual fundraiser.

Past President Tina Pavlot took the opportunity to formally introduce Joe Abraham, who was able to break away from work to attend his first meeting in person instead of via Zoom. Joe transferred from the Liberty, NY Rotary, where he was the club’s public image officer and was active in its charitable efforts. He was managing editor of the Sullivan County Democrat before taking a job with SUNY Poly’s Communications and Marketing Department.



**Joe Abraham**

# Utica Rotarians at Rotary Institute

President Linda Iannone and Past District Governor Dana Jerrard participated in the Rotary Leadership Institute in Vernon on Sept 23, with attendees being offered three different tracks.

Dana attended Session 3 and received his graduation

certificate as well as a pin. Dana is pictured being pinned by Incoming CNY President Lizzy Martin.

Quipped Linda: “You can tell by the look on Dana’s face that the pinning was worse than the steps to achieve it.”



## Calendar of Events

9/28 Board Meeting (rescheduled)  
noon | Greater Utica Chamber

9/28 Soial | Brimfield Farm Winery  
5:30 pm | 8300 Brimfield St., Clinton

10/5 Meeting | Steve Darman  
*Housing & Homeless Coalition*  
noon | Mid-York Library

10/18 Board Meeting  
noon | Greater Utica Chamber

10/19 Meeting | PDG Randy Wilson  
*Polio Plus*  
noon | Mid-York Library

11/2 Meeting | DG Elise Hereth  
noon | Mid-York Library

11/15 Board Meeting  
noon | Greater Utica Chamber

11/16 Meeting | PDG Don Reese  
*Rotary Foundation*  
noon | Mid-York Library

11/15 Service | ‘Artists Works in Progress’  
| Sculpture Space

*Last week’s Board Meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday, Sept 28, at noon in the Utica Chamber of Commerce Conference Room.*