

# Rotary This Week!

★ HAPPY ★  
**LABOR DAY**

Utica, NY, USA

Sept. 4, 2023

## This week's speaker is Hawa Juma from MUCC

Our program speaker on Thursday, Sept. 7 is Hawa Juma, director of Community Engagement at Midtown Utica Community Center (MUCC). The program starts at noon at Mid-York Library System headquarters, 1600 Lincoln Ave., Utica.

The MUCC is an inclusive and multicultural community center. As the director of Community Engagement, Hawa develops and implements community outreach strategies and initiatives.

She also identifies and engages with community partners, organizations, and stakeholders, and

represents the organization in community events and meetings as well as coordinates outreach campaigns and promotional activities.

Hawa came to the U.S. in August 2004 with her family as a refugee from Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya. She founded a group called The Future Leaders of The Somali Bantu Community, which provides a safe place to come together and address the current problems facing the community.

Her educational background includes a bachelor's degree in sociology from SUNY Polytechnic Institute.



## September is an audacious theme month

Did you know that Labor Day is a very Rotarian holiday? Just as Utica Rotary celebrates Pride of Workmanship, honoring outstanding workers each year, Labor Day recognizes that the world is powered by hard-working individuals who bring creativity and innovation to their jobs.

Sept. 4th is not just about a

day off. It's also National Macademia Nut Day and National Eat an Extra Dessert Day (a holiday staple!).

Since this newsletter is being distributed on a holiday, some members may not see it in their inboxes until they're back at work. Not to fret. Please know that Sept. 5th is National Cheese Pizza Day, International Day of

Charity (sounds like Rotary), and National Be Late for Something Day (you know who you are!).

September is known for a few other things:

- Happy Cat Month.
- Square Dancing Month.
- Shake Month (no, not dancing; the drink you slurp).
- Read a New Book Month (our librarian Rotarians are smiling!).

Deadline for next newsletter (9/11) is Sunday, Sept 10 at noon; submit to [news@uticarotaryclub.org](mailto:news@uticarotaryclub.org).

*Editor Robert Stronach*

## Utica Rotary to ‘Walk to End Alzheimer’s’

Our club will be participating in the Utica/Rome Walk to End Alzheimer’s event at MVCC on September 23. The expo begins at 10 a.m., while the opening ceremony starts at 11 a.m. The walk itself follows and is relatively quick.

The Rotary Club of Utica, NY team goal of raising \$1,000, reports Rotary coordinator Joe Abraham. While fundraising is encouraged, it DOES

NOT cost anything to participate in the walk, but registration is required. To register and join our team, click on the “Join Our Team” box at the link below. The walk is a rain-or-shine event.

If you have any questions about the walk or registration process, feel free to email, call or text Joe at [josephabraham2011@gmail.com](mailto:josephabraham2011@gmail.com) or 252-532-2293.

REGISTER: [https://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr\\_id=16734&pg=team&team\\_id=824429](https://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=16734&pg=team&team_id=824429)

## Leadership Institute: for Rotarians new and experienced

If you wish to attend the Rotary Leadership Institute on Sept. 23 at VVS High School, your registration will be paid by the club. Please let President Linda Iannone know.

The event runs from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23, with Parts I, II, III, and graduate course to choose from. Cost is \$75 for Rotarians, \$50 for Rotaractors.

RLI Part I is for first-timers, and Parts II & III are for those who have previously attended. The Graduate course is for those who have completed all three Parts, and may be attended as often as desired since the graduate topics are new each year.

Even though the word, “Leadership,” is in the name, this is a great learning opportunity for new Rotarians, too!

## Calendar of Events

<b>9/7</b>	<b>Meeting   Hawa Juma/MUCC noon   Mid-York Library</b>	<b>10/18</b>	<b>Board Meeting noon   Greater Utica Chamber</b>
<b>9/20</b>	<b>Board Meeting noon   Greater Utica Chamber</b>	<b>10/19</b>	<b>Meeting   PDG Randy Wilson <i>Polio Plus</i> noon   Mid-York Library</b>
<b>9/21</b>	<b>Meeting   Melanie Francis Am. Cancer Society “Real Men Wear Pink” noon   Mid-York Library</b>	<b>11/2</b>	<b>Meeting   DG Elise Hereth noon   Mid-York Library</b>
<b>9/23</b>	<b>Service   Walk to End Alzheimer’s 11 am   MVCC</b>	<b>11/15</b>	<b>Board Meeting noon   Greater Utica Chamber</b>
<b>9/23</b>	<b>Rotary Leadership Institute VVS High School</b>	<b>11/16</b>	<b>Meeting   PDG Don Reese <i>Rotary Foundation</i> noon   Mid-York Library</b>
<b>10/5</b>	<b>Meeting   Steve Darman <i>Housing &amp; Homeless Coalition</i> noon   Mid-York Library</b>	<b>11/15</b>	<b>Service   ‘Artists Works in Progress’   Sculpture Space</b>