

# The Toolb



**April 2024**

**Whitney Pangburn ~ District Governor**

**Barb Wyllie ~ Toolbox Editor**

***Please send submissions to Barb at: [THETOOLBOX7190@GMAIL.COM](mailto:THETOOLBOX7190@GMAIL.COM)***

***Deadline: 20<sup>th</sup> of the month***

## **From the Governor's Desk**

Dear Rotarians,

As the warmth of spring showers us and nature is bursting with new life, we are reminded of the beauty of change and growth. This April, our district finds itself amidst a momentous transformation – the “blooming” of CNY Rotary.

Just like any delicate seedlings we diligently plant and nurture, CNY Rotary represents the culmination of our collective efforts and dedication. We have spent countless hours tending to the seeds of this new district, carefully cultivating an environment where they can thrive. Now, as we prepare to begin this new chapter, everything we have cultivated and planned for our new district is ready to blossom.

Much like planting a seed, CNY Rotary requires our unwavering care, attention, and time to reach its full potential. Just as we patiently watch over a growing flower, we must support and guide our

new district, providing the nourishment it needs to flourish.

As we embark on this journey together, please remember the lessons of nature – that growth takes time, but with perseverance and unity, even the smallest seed can blossom into a magnificent flower. Together, let us nurture CNY Rotary, allowing it to grow into a beacon of service and fellowship for our communities.

In the spirit of renewal and growth, let us embrace the changes ahead with optimism and enthusiasm, knowing that together, we can create a brighter future for all concerned.

Yours in Rotary service,  
Whitney Pangburn  
District Governor District 7190



**CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD**

## CNY Rotary - Three More Months of Preparation Ahead

Submitted by CNY Rotary Communications

We are inching ever closer to officially becoming CNY Rotary and having our three current districts become one this July. CNY Rotary will have 112 clubs, 22 areas, and 2,900 members. Here are a few important reminders about what's been recently announced, what we are currently working on and what is still to come.

### Proposed Budget is Out for Review

A copy of the proposed 2024-25 CNY Rotary budget was emailed to all club Presidents, Secretaries and President Elects. Club leaders can share this information with their members and we welcome any feedback. Each club will receive instructions for voting at the end of the month and will be asked to cast one electronic vote per club. If you have questions on the budget, you can come to our [April 2 Town Hall](#) on zoom or ask in person at [District Training Assembly](#) on April 6th.

### District Training Assembly - April 6th

Our first official CNY Rotary event is one that will help club leaders prepare for the year ahead. District Training Assembly will be Saturday, April 6th in Verona, NY from 10am-4pm. All are welcome at this FREE event. The day will include general sessions on key Rotary topics, breakout sessions with focused learning, and lots of time to connect and chat with local leaders at their trade show booths. It will be a fun and social day! By the time of publication, registration is no longer required and walk-ins are welcome. We cannot provide lunch for walk-ins, but you can brown bag it if joining us last minute. [Click here](#) for details.

### Monthly Virtual Town Hall Meetings

We know more questions are coming up as we get close to becoming official, so we have set up monthly virtual sessions in the first Tuesday of each month. You can come and ask anything during the 7pm Zoom sessions. We'll share updates on our work and open the floor to all of you. Shy about asking a question? Submit an anonymous question with the form [here](#) and we'll answer it in the next meeting. [Click here](#) to register to get the zoom link, which is the same for each monthly session.

### District Conference & Inauguration

Our annual conference is a joint event for the three outgoing districts and it will include our first ever CNY Rotary Inauguration. This is the new term we will use for the annual changing of leadership that typically includes celebration, words of inspiration and the installment of officers. Inauguration will take place after brunch on Sunday, as the finale to our conference weekend. If you have booked a full conference package or even the Saturday & Sunday package, you are all set to join us for brunch and the ceremony. If you only want to attend Inauguration that weekend, you can register for Sunday only at \$50/person, which includes brunch at 10am. We hope everyone will consider coming for the whole conference weekend, but if that's not feasible, we hope you can at least make it to Inauguration to celebrate our current District Governors Elise, Wendy and Whitney, and meet the incoming leadership team for CNY Rotary. [Click here](#) for details and to register now.

### Connect With Us

As always, you can get more details at [www.cnyrotary.org](http://www.cnyrotary.org) and follow us on Facebook and Instagram with the username @cnyrotary.

## DISTRICT EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **NOW:** Join the Polio Plus Society p 8
- **NOW:** Register: District Conference p 6
- **NOW:** 'Polio Survivor' Book Sales p 9
- **April 1:** April Fool's Day
- **April 1:** Zoom: CNY Grants Managem't Seminar p 4
- **April 2:** Zoom: CNY Town Hall p 3
- **April 6:** District Training Assembly (includes live Grants Management Seminar) p 4
- **April 22:** Passover Begins
- **April 26-28:** District Conference (Binghamton Doubletree) p 6
- **May Social to be announced.**
- **May 7:** Zoom: CNY Town Hall p 3
- **May 15:** Exec Comm Session 7-8 pm via zoom
- **June Social to be announced.**
- **June 4:** Zoom: CNY Town Hall p 3

## CLUB EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **NOW:** Food Drive BHBL Rotary p 5
- **NOW:** Homemade Soap Sale Rotterdam Sunrise p 5
- **April 3:** Brooks BBQ Scotia Rotary p 3
- **April 3:** 75<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration Chestertown Rotary p 3
- **April 5:** Ziti Dinner Glenville Rotary p 4
- **April 20:** Twice the Spirit Sharon Springs Rotary p 4
- **May 18:** 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Saratoga Spr Rotary p 4
- **June 1:** Annual Wine Tour Glenville Rotary p 5
- **June 12:** 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cobleskill Rotary p 5

## ATTEND OUR TOWN HALLS

Save these dates to come get answers to your questions!



The first Tuesday of each month at 7pm:

**APRIL 2**  
**MAY 7**  
**JUNE 4**



Register for the zoom link at [CNYRotary.org](http://CNYRotary.org)



## SCOTIA ROTARY BROOKS BBQ



**CHICKEN or RIB DINNER**  
**GLENVILLE MAALWYCK PARK**  
**WEDNESDAY, April 3, 2024**  
**3 PM UNTIL SOLD OUT**

**CHICKEN DINNER \$15 - HALF CHICKEN ONLY \$12**  
**RIBS THIS YEAR! DINNER \$20 - RIB ONLY \$17**

**DRIVE THROUGH ONLY - NO ADVANCE SALE - CASH, CHECK, CC**  
300 Maalwyck Park Rd., Schenectady, NY 12302  
*Proceeds support the Scotia Glenville Food Pantry  
And other local charities*

For additional information call:  
Lorraine McConnelee at 518 461-1773.

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*Chestertown Rotary Celebrates*  
*75 Years of Community Service*

Join us for an evening of celebration as the Rotary Club of Chestertown, NY celebrates 75 years of service in the North Warren Community!

**When:** Wednesday, April 3 ~ 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM ~ Open House

**Where:** Green Mansions/Dack Nine Dress Code: Business Casual

Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres  Cash Bar  50/50  Door Prizes AND

**Complimentary Virtual Golf!**

Chestertown NY  
Rotary Club



Phoner: 518-538-5605  
Phone2: 347-344-7933  
E-mail: [rotary12817@gmail.com](mailto:rotary12817@gmail.com)

Glenville Rotary Club  
*Thirty-Fourth Annual*

**ZITI DINNER**

Friday, April 5, 2024 • 4:00 – 7:30PM

Glenville Senior Citizen Center  
 next to Glen Worden School, Worden Road

At The Door      Advance Tickets  
 \$15.00            \$12.00

*Entertainment, Raffles & More!*

*Tickets Available At The Door*

*Take - Out Dinners Available*

*To Benefit:*

Northeast Regional Food Bank,  
 Scotia - Glenville Food Pantry  
 and other Rotary Service Projects

**DISTRICT  
 TRAINING  
 ASSEMBLY**

Saturday, April 6 | 10am-4pm

Vernon-Verona-Sherrill High School, Verona

**FREE TO ATTEND**

**REGISTER BY MARCH 27TH**



Once again **Sharon Springs Rotary's** friend is giving us an opportunity to share his gifts of spirit and laughter and he is bringing along a friend. **Saturday, April 20 6:30pm at the historic Van Alstyne Homestead, Canajoharie, NY.**

Mediums Lindsay Mastro and Brandon Russ bring the spirit and the laughs to a very haunted space... You hear their funny repertoire on the podcast "Comedium Roast", come join them for an evening of LIVE readings and banter and fun! Book Signing after the show! Join us for this wonderful night of entertainment and your attendance helps support the many good humanitarian works Rotary does locally and around the world. Don't delay, reserve your spot TODAY!

<https://www.tbrandonruss.com/event-details/twice-the-spirit-with-mediums-lindsay-mastro-and-brandon-russ>

**Save the Date!**



1924 - 2024

**100<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration!**

**Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**

**5-10 pm**

**Canfield Casino**

*Details to follow.*

~ ~ ~

**Shenendehowa Rotary presents a**

**Chicken BBQ Dinner**

**Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>**

at the **Shenendehowa United**

**Methodist Church**

**971 Route 146, Clifton Park**

**\$16**

**4pm to 6pm**

Dinners are provided by Rollin' Smoke BBQ and include ½ chicken, baked potato, slaw, & roll.

Pre-order online at

[www.shenrotary.org/bbqchicken](http://www.shenrotary.org/bbqchicken).

Proceeds will benefit the Shenendehowa Bountiful Backpacks program, an all-volunteer organization providing nutritional food for school aged children in the Shenendehowa CSD.

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**Rotary Club of Cobleskill** presents its

**100 Year Celebration**

**Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>**

**6pm**

**Social Hour starting at 5pm**

at the **Elks Club**

**Cobleskill, NY**

To register please call Leo at (518) 376-2657 or Chris at (518)234-3773.

*Additional information to follow.*

**Glenville Rotary is once again sponsoring its annual Winery Tour**

**Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Cost: \$100 / per person**

Cost includes visiting many wineries with many wine tastings, morning coffee & pastry, afternoon snacks, and cold water all day.

*(With skyrocketing prices on every level, they have worked very hard to keep this cost down while still providing a quality, memorable trip.)*



**Pick-up points:**

**Scotia Park `n Ride** (Van Buren Rd)

**Crossgates Mall** (New location - map will be provided)

Having fun is a given, the wines are sublime and the unexpected...well, you'll never see that coming...*in a good way!*

For reservations contact: Barb Wyllie at [bw4rotary@gmail.com](mailto:bw4rotary@gmail.com).

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**Rotterdam Sunrise Rotary** is selling

**Homemade Soaps**

*A great gift idea for any holiday!*

**\$5/bar or \$20 for 5 bars in a decorative bag**

Free shipping and/or delivery.

**Please contact Michael Surin by text at 518-810-8338 or email [msurin@nycap.rr.com](mailto:msurin@nycap.rr.com).**

Or join their weekly meetings at 7:15 am at the Bellevue Café in Schenectady, NY.

~ ~ ~

**Burnt Hills Ballston Lake Rotary**

provides an

**"Operation Hunger"**

**Food Collection Box**

**at Gil's Garage**

817 Saratoga Rd, Burnt Hills, NY

**Collecting non-perishable food items.**



# Register Today

**TIME IS RUNNING OUT!**

Now available online:  
Weekend Schedule  
Breakout Topics  
Speaker Bios

**District Conference  
April 26-28, 2024**  
DoubleTree, Binghamton NY

**Full Conference Weekend  
just \$225/person**

RATES AVAILABLE FOR SAT/SUN OR SUN ONLY TOO!

Rotary District 7150   Rotary District 7170   Rotary District 7190

**REGISTER NOW @ [www.Rotary7150.org](http://www.Rotary7150.org)**

<https://rotary7150.org/page/district-conference-2024>

CNY  
**Rotary** 

## Inauguration

at District Conference  
DoubleTree, Binghamton NY

This will replace our annual event celebrating the change in leadership typically held in June. It will be the installation of our first officers for CNY Rotary, following Sunday brunch at conference, April 28th.

If you want to come just for this event, it is \$50/person, which includes brunch.

*This is already included if you have booked a full conference weekend or the Sat/Sun combo*

**REGISTER NOW**  
**[www.Rotary7150.org](http://www.Rotary7150.org)**



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in the WORLD**

## Refurbished Community Resource Room Opens at Keane Elementary



TED REMSNYDER Schenectady's next superintendent Dr. Carlos Cotto Jr., State Sen. James Tedisco, Assemblyman Angelo Santabarbara, Community Schools Supervisor Kayla Ambesi, Keane Elementary Principal Kerri Messler and Schenectady Rotary Club President Lisa Jackson at the unveiling of the district's new community room at Keane Elementary School on Thursday.

By Ted Remsnyder

A new community resource center at Keane Elementary School will allow district families to access a wide range of services, with the site including a renovated kitchen, food pantry and a laundry facility.

An opening ceremony for the renovated community room was held on Thursday morning, with district officials praising the Schenectady Rotary Club for assisting in raising the funding for the new site.

Dr. Carlos Cotto Jr., who was appointed the district's new superintendent on Wednesday, with his term set to begin on May 1, said that the new community center will provide a vital service to local families.

"Just over a year ago, we identified crucial needs to enhance the community room space, making it more functional and welcoming for our families," Cotto, the current assistant superintendent of innovation, equity & engagement said on Thursday. "It was a vision that resonated with our collective desire to create an environment that students, families and communities can be proud of."

The Rotary held the "Cornhole for a Cause" fundraiser last July at Rivers Casino and raised over \$22,000 to help fund the refurbishment of the Keane community room.

"The transformation of Keane Elementary's community resource room has been a labor of love for all of us at Schenectady Rotary," Lisa Jackson, President of the Schenectady Rotary, said on Thursday.

Volunteer labor helped build out the community room, with Alliance Laundry Systems donating a washer and dryer for community use for the site.

Keane Elementary Principal Kerri Messler said that over 15 community partners contributed to the renovation of the school's community room.

Messler said the room previously contained outdated furniture that has now been replaced by new tables, chairs and workstations for the district's parent liaisons.

"We started small and then when the Rotary partnered with us it just took off," she said on Thursday.

Keane Elementary serves as one of the district's five community schools, which offer extended after school hours for students as part of an effort to turn each school into a community hub.

"It's an opportunity for us to provide those very essential services to our students so we can meet every need that they need," Board of Education President Bernice Rivera said of the community room. "We're wrapping it around all of the services that are required that the families are requesting that they need or we see that they need."

The space will host workshops, family activities and will provide a site for community members to meet with the district's parent liaisons.

"Thanks to the generous support and dedication of the Schenectady Rotary Club and numerous members of our community, we've been able to embark on a transformative journey of renovating our community room space," Community Schools Supervisor Kayla Ambesi said on Thursday. "The community room is a versatile space where families, staff and community members can convene."

District families can utilize the community room's services for free on an as-needed basis.

"I think it's vitally important," City Councilwoman Carmel Patrick said of the community room. "I've been proud to be part of the community schools advisory board in my role with the Schenectady City Council. I think what's really important is this message that we all have a responsibility to support our school district. So the fact is that the community schools initiative has opened the doors to all of us in the community — parents, children, students, leaders and volunteers to really be able to support students and families at the community schools."

Contact Ted Remsnyder at [tremnsnyder@dailygazette.net](mailto:tremnsnyder@dailygazette.net).

Follow him on X @TedRemsnyder.



## Be the next member of THE POLIO PLUS SOCIETY

What is the PolioPlus Society? In an effort to increase sustainable giving, the PolioPlus Society (PPS) was formed to encourage Rotarians to commit to a minimum **\$100 donation** to the PolioPlus Fund until polio is eradicated from the face of the earth.

Society members receive a special PolioPlus Society pin to wear with honor.

# 5 REASONS WHY WE MUST ERADICATE POLIO

### 1 YOUR GIFT WILL IMPROVE LIVES.

Today, 20 million people who would otherwise be paralyzed by polio are walking, and 1.5 million people who would otherwise have died are alive.

### 2 YOUR GIFT WILL INVEST IN THE FUTURE.

If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year. A polio-free world will be a healthier world for children everywhere.

### 3 YOUR GIFT WILL IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH.

Polio surveillance networks and vaccination campaigns also monitor children for other health problems, like vitamin deficiency and measles, so we can address them sooner.

### 4 YOUR GIFT WILL LOWER HEALTH CARE COSTS.

The global effort to eradicate polio has already saved more than \$27 billion in health care costs since 1988, and expects to save \$14 billion more by 2050.

### 5 YOUR GIFT WILL MAKE HISTORY.

Polio eradication will be one of history's greatest public health achievements, with polio following smallpox to become only the second human disease eradicated from the world.

How to donate to PolioPlus thru the PPS:

Send a check payable to: The Rotary Foundation/Polio  
 Rotary District 7190  
 c/o Tammy Heckenberg, Polio Chair  
 12 Chester Street  
 Glens Falls, NY 12801



Questions?

Contact District 7190 Polio Chairs

Tammy Heckenberg, PDG  
 tammyheckenberg@yahoo.com, 518-832-3842  
 Milan Jackson, PDG  
 mjackson30@nycap.rr.com, 518-294-6717



ROTARY DISTRICT 7190 INVITES YOU TO DIVE INTO THIS REMARKABLE READ!

# Reserve Your Copy Today!

Coming soon to your local bookstore and amazon.com!



Photo By Gretta Hochsprung of The Post Star

**Louise Beckerle Rourke** is a polio survivor from six months of age. With her right leg paralyzed, she is a lifetime swimmer of Lake George. In 2018 Louise Rourke was joined by Bridget Simpson in a two-person relay to swim the length of Lake George. This epic 32-mile "Swim To End Polio" raised over \$120,000 for polio eradication. The dedication and determination of people like Louise motivates Rotarians and others today to not give up until global eradication of polio is complete.

**Michael K. McGovern,**  
Rotary International PolioPlus Committee Chair

"Louise's book brings to life her remarkable journey and success in overcoming adversity. It is a moving and personal story of her deep appreciation of Lake George. This is truly an inspiration and pleasure to read."

**Kitty Rooney,**  
Lifelong Lake George resident, Lake George Historical Association Trustee

"This is a book about *memories* and *mission*. It is an inspiring, heart-warming, motivating memoir of the purposeful path that Louise Rourke took from being stricken with polio as a young child to become the Queen of the Queen of American Lakes. Jump in the water with Louise in this swimmingly touching story."

**Dr. Joel Goodman,**  
Founder and CEO of The HUMOR Project, Inc. in Saratoga Springs, NY

