

# CORTLAND BREAKFAST ROTARY

## SOPHIE CLOUGH

Unabashedly the Friendliest Club in the Upcoming CNY Rotary!



DECEMBER 13, 2023

“Main Street Memories”  
Cortland County Historical Society

Sophie Clough, of the Cortland County Historical Society, entertained us with her presentation, “Main Street Memories.” Growing up in the states of Washington and California, and living two years in Japan, has given Sophie an appreciation of the architecture and esthetic of Main Street in Cortland. She fell in love with Main Street the first time that she walked down it, and appreciates Cortland’s community spirit. In heeding the maxim “hindsight makes better decisions today”, Sophie detailed how Cortland evolved around Main Street since was settled by Moses Hopkins in 1794. After the Civil War Cortland had a building boom, and even had a trolley to Homer by 1882. In 1895 an observer noted how busy Main Street was from the traffic of trolleys, bicycles, wagons, and people. By the 1920’s cars turned the mom and pop general stores in surrounding villages obsolete, and 1958 brought strip malls and the beginning of sprawl outside of Main Street. In 1967 Main Street became one way, and the prevalent thought was that more parking more bring Main Street back. In 1977 Brockway closed its factory, bringing on the saying “ the last one out of Cortland turn off the lights.” Since 1989 there has been talk of returning Main Street to two ways, in 2017 there was a plan of revitalization and the development of smart arts and cultural resources. Sophie explained how Main Street has been revitalized four times over the last 60 years. On page 6 is the poem written by Truxton native Eudorus C. Kennedy in 1895; it could describe Main Street this past summer. Reconstruction is ugly and inconvenient, but will blossom in the end. On page 7 is her poster “Revitalize or Die,” which Sophie attributed that a thousand small topics is revitalization. Sophie ended her presentation by stating that we as humans crave community, , and that Cortland is not quite dead yet! Thank you Sophie for helping us to see our community better!

*Sophie Clough is Collections & Research Assistant at the Cortland County Historical Society. She earned her MLIS from the University at Buffalo and uses her experience in archives to improve accessibility to the unique resources that demonstrate the stories of Cortland County's past. Having moved to the area in 2018 after a two-year adventure in Japan, Sophie quickly fell in love with the Cortland community and its history. Lately she has been working on a series of social media posts titled "Main Street Monday," exploring the complex histories of the buildings and businesses on Cortland's Main Street. Inspired by the recent revitalization endeavors, "Main Street Memories: Nostalgia & Hope" delves into the intricate layers of the physical and metaphorical heart of Cortland, revealing the stories, challenges, and aspirations that have shaped community identity.*

PRESIDENT. DON RICHARDS  
FRONT DESK. JACKIE BURKE, PATRICK CLUNE  
THOUGHT FOR THE DAY. TODD CURTIS  
GUESTS. SOPHIE CLOUGH, NOAH BECH  
RAFFLE. JIM ANDERSON  
ATTENDANCE. 25 + 4 ZOOM

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### STEVE CINQUANTI

INFORMED US THAT WE WOULD EACH BE RECEIVING AN EMAIL ABOUT BALLOTING FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, PICK 4 OF THE 8

**DIANNE HIGGINS** AND **MIKE SHAFER** ARE LEADING THE CHARGE FOR THE HOLIDAY BASKETS THIS FRIDAY AT LOAVES AND FISHES

**CONRAD JANKE** THANKED THE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SALVATION ARMY'S DOLLAR DROP THIS SATURDAY.

PRESIDENT DON PASSED A CARD FOR THE MEMORY OF **JANE. REISWEBER**, MOTHER OF PAST-PRESIDENT **GLENN REISWEBER**

## Happy Dollars

**Mike Shafer** celebrated the success of Cortland State football, working with **Kurt Behrenfeld** at the Salvation Army Dollar Drop, dinner with Dryden Rotarian **Dave Traver**, and catching up with **Andy Polley**;

**Kurt Behrenfeld** contributed for his wonderful family and a great place to live;

**Conrad Janke** upped the kitty for **Sophie Clough** as our Speaker, for the membership of **Ariel Corl**, and for **Glenn Reisweber's** mom;

**Jeremy Boylan** thanked **Kurt Behrenfeld** for filling in for him at the Dollar Drop;

**Matt Banazek** and **Don Richards** were grateful for the induction of **Ariel**; **Glenn Reisweber** spiritually sent his mom off in style, and relayed how his dad, a firefighter, always depended on the Salvation Army in crisis;

**Andy Polley** enjoyed talking with **Mike Shafer**, and is expecting to be a Grandpa.

# *Welcome to the Club, Ariel!*



**Ariel Corl receives her Rotary pin from her Sponsor, Steve Cinquanti**

TEAM



Ariel Corl

Owner/Licensed  
Esthetician/Reiki Practitioner



Book



Here is the poem by Truxton native Eudorus C. Kenney, written in 1895:

Hobblety cobblety, rumpy rump,  
Over the stones you go bumpty bump;  
This is the pride of the county seat,  
The cobblestone pavement on its Main Street.  
Down the autumn hued valley you ride,  
Watching the gracefully winding stream,  
Bouyant your heart swells high with pride  
Over the speed of your fine blood team.  
Then hobblety cobblety, rumpy rump,  
Over the stones you go bumpty bump;  
You've reached the pride of the county seat,  
The cobblestone pavement on its Main Street.  
Noiselessly gliding, a spirit on wheels,  
The bicyclist spins along over the way,  
Swiftly beneath him the smooth surface reels,  
Happy his soul; all nature is gay.  
Then hobblety cobblety, rumpy rump,  
Over the stones he goes bumpty bump;  
He's struck the pride of the county seat,  
The cobblestone pavement on its Main Street.  
The good honest farmer comes trustingly down,  
His hayrack piled high with timothy sweet;  
His journey is smooth til he gets into town,  
And then he tips over on its Main Street.  
Hobblety cobblety, rumpy rump,  
Over the stones he goes bumpty bump;  
He's found the pride of the county seat,  
The cobblestone pavement on its Main Street.

Most of the Main Street Monday posts are available on the blog on our website here: [qqqqqqqqBlog : Cortland County Historical Society \(cortlandhistory.org\)](http://cortlandhistory.org)

I've also been putting them on a site called PocketSites in the form of a self-guided tour, including the photos, so that's another way to read them: [Tour - Crown City](#)

# REVITALIZE, OR DIE.

A civic pride consulting firm



## FIGHT APATHY, GIVE A DAMN.

GET INVOLVED. SHARE YOUR STORY.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT. FIGHT APATHY. GIVE A DAMN.



## SIGNUP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

**SUBMIT**

These individuals and companies believed  
in our Rotary Club when we asked them  
to donate for our Ride for Rotary.  
Remember them when you are in need of  
goods and services!

*Adhan Piping Company, Inc.  
Anderson's Farm Market  
Andrew Polley / Wells Fargo  
Bailey Place Insurance, Jeremy  
Boylan  
B&B Floor Coverings Inc.  
Beard Electric LLC  
Benson Davis Insurance  
Cayuga Radio Group  
Center for The Arts Board of  
Directors  
Chuck Feiszli  
CNY Farm Supply  
C&M Excavation Company  
Complete Construction  
Concepts, LLC  
Contento's Demolition and  
Recycling  
Cortland County Chamber of  
Commerce  
Cortland Diner  
Cortland Floorcraft & Kitchen  
Cortland Self Storage  
CP Cash & Carry  
Dasher's Corner Pub  
DiFulvio Family*

*Don Armstrong & Bill  
Pomeroy  
Edward Jones/ Tyler Krowiak  
First National Bank of Dryden  
Genson Overhead Door  
Geologic  
Halco Energy  
Homer Iron Works  
Homer Men & Boys  
Jack McNerney Chevrolet  
Joe Cortese & Molly Lane  
K&B Plumbing & Heating /  
McNeil  
K&H Motorsports  
Mike Shafer & Kathleen  
Hennessy  
Morey Towing & Recovery  
Murdock Excavation Inc.  
NBT Bank  
Osborne Flooring  
Paul & Peggy Dennis  
Peter & Susan Grimm  
Plan First Technologies Inc.  
Randolph Paving Inc.  
Randolph Well Drilling  
Royal Motor Company*

*Sherbrook Apartments  
Siegle Foundation  
Steven Dafoe Tree Company  
The Homer News  
Therm Inc. / Leo McGrattan  
Tompkins Community Bank  
Wright Nutrition & Wellness  
Center  
WXHC X101.5  
Yaman Real Estate / Steve  
Cinquanti*

*In Memory of JIM HOPKINS  
Sponsored by Don and  
Luanne*





*Merry Christmas*

BE A SANTA TO SOMEONE WHO NEEDS YOU

**Rotary**

