

CORTLAND BREAKFAST ROTARY NEWS

Together We Serve, Together We Make a Difference



CORTLANDBREAKFASTROTARY.ORG



EDITED BY SOPHIE WELBURN



President Terry Cahill

Front Desk:

Kim Cameron
Sophie Welburn

Thought for the Day:

Chrissie Allen

Raffle Winner: Mike May

Attendance: 27

Zoom: 2

Guests:

Michael Bennett
Sophia Lin

"A Community-Involved Business"

Michael Bennett & Cortland Bike Co.



This week, the Cortland Breakfast Rotary Club welcomed Michael Bennett as guest speaker!

With roots in CNY, Bennett moved out to Arizona in 1998 and worked in graphic design and web design. He had his start in the bike shop world in 2001 with the opening of Cactus Bike in Phoenix, a venture that was quickly successful and expanded to three more locations. While Bennett's partner was happy to continue growing, Bennett preferred a smaller, more personal scale of work. His partner bought him out, and Bennett spent time in British Columbia and traveling to Australia and New Zealand, skiing and mountain biking all the while until it was time to find another job.

After a few years working on bikes in Bend, Oregon, Bennett returned to CNY to be with his dad.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Photo

* November 4, 2026

Alzheimer's Walk

* October 24- Ithaca
November 8- Syracuse

**Area 13 Meeting-
Hopshire**

* November 14, 2026

Cortland Bike Co. continued...

He initially worked in commercial real estate marketing, but it didn't take long to realize he didn't want to stick with it long-term; "I know I love working on bikes," Bennett explained, and he noticed a lack of a bike shop for cyclists in Cortland County. So after quitting his job in March, signing a lease in April, and opening shop in May, Bennett now offers his expertise in bike sales, repair, and other services. Bennett is also working on fostering a welcoming cycling community, offering Saturday morning group rides, helping rehabilitate trails, and even offering free, custom-built bikes to those who express a need.

Throughout his talk, and on his website, Bennett describes his services in terms of "we," but confessed that it's "Me and my dog Charlie." While he is not opposed to taking on a few other employees, for now he's content to keep it as "a job for me."

[VISIT CORTLAND
BIKE CO. WEBSITE
HERE](#)



Banners



Kurt Behrenfeld 10/17

Anniversaries

Todd Curtis (10/25/2023)

NEXT WEEK'S
THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:
SCOTT GOODRICH

NOV. 4TH
Club Photo



**MAKE SURE TO BE AT THE
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 4TH
TO BE IN THE CLUB PHOTO!**

Happy Dollars

Conrad Janke: For our speaker, Michael Bennett; Sophie Welburn had a talk on HistoryForge last Thursday.

Mike Shafer: For Kim Cameron's recognition as a Paul Harris Fellow; for Don Richards loaning him \$20.

Pat Clune: Got nice card from the club in the mail during his recovery, helped raise his spirits.

Mark Roberts: Chief Pitman and the Homer Police Department released an injured eagle.

Kurt Behrenfeld: Starting up Mike Shafer's "I need new glasses" foundation.

Doug Withey: For Kim, who does so much good work; upcoming presentation.

Kim Cameron: PSA- early voting starts this Saturday.

Matt Banazek: Happy to see Pat Clune back; plant psychology is where you get to the root of the problem!

Terry Cahill: For Pat's recovery; for Sophie taking his place a couple weeks ago; for our Paul Harris recipients, Dottie Fowler & Kim Cameron; for our guest speaker.



Kim Cameron
recognized as a
Paul Harris Fellow

Early Voting Info

Polling Sites

Tompkins County

111 North Albany Street or 72 Brown Road

Cortland County

112 River Street

Early Voting Schedule

	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27	10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31	11/1
Cortland	9-5	9-5	9-5	12-8	9-5	12-8	9-5	9-5	9-5
Tompkins	9-5	9-5	9-5	9-8	9-5	9-8	9-5	9-5	9-5

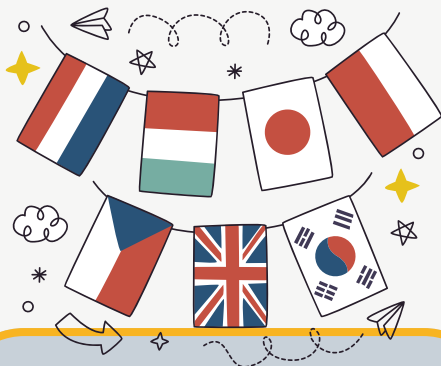
Rotary Revelations

Did you know that Rotary has an exchange program for adults?

Friendship Exchange is an international exchange program for Rotary members and friends that allows participants to take turns hosting one another in their homes and clubs. Participants may travel as individuals, couples, families, or groups, and may be Rotary members or not.

Benefits of an exchange

- Broaden international understanding
- Explore a profession or job in a different context
- Build enduring friendships
- Gain opportunities for active project involvement and support
- Learn about a region's people, food, languages, customs, and history
- Find partners for grants
- Establish a foundation for peace and service. This can be done virtually or in person in a way that builds peace.



LEARN MORE AND
EXPLORE THE
EXCHANGE MAP HERE!



National Day of Service

Oct. 23rd

Lend a
hand!



October 31 & December 5

Looking for volunteers—
*Gratifying experience of
providing kids with beds!*

FAKE NEWS

Dinner & Discussion

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CORTLAND COUNTY

with **Sarah Glogowski** (Exec Director, Finger Lakes Library System) and
Mary-Carol Lindbloom (Exec Director, South Central Regional Library Council)

**SEPARATING
FACT FROM FICTION**



Please RSVP using
QR Code or
<https://forms.gle/BRQmmMruemDdGNka6>

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Sarah Glogowski

Executive Director,
Finger Lakes Library System

Mary-Carol Lindbloom

Executive Director,
South Central Regional
Library Council



November 9, 2026



CNY Living History Center



Dinner: 5 p.m.
(Optional, \$20/person)



Discussion: 6 p.m.
(Free)



JOIN THE CONVERSATION.
YOUR PERSPECTIVE COUNTS.



[CLICK HERE TO
JOIN THE TEAM!](#)

A Rotary Club of Cortland Social...

(Spouses and Significant Others are welcome too!)

EAT, DRINK and BE SCARY!

Please join us for our 3rd Annual
Halloween Happy Hour



Tuesday, October 27th, 2026 / 5pm-7pm

****This will be in place of our lunch meeting. No lunchtime meeting on Oct 27th.***

At the home of Kevin and Sheila Ossit
4314 Alexandria Drive
Cortland, NY 13045

--Stop by for Chili, Mac n Cheese, and other Fall Favorites!
--You do not need to be in costume (unless you want to!).

We hope to see you!
RSVP appreciated, but not required.
sheila.ossit@gmail.com