

CORTLAND BREAKFAST ROTARY NEWS

Together We Serve, Together We Make a Difference

✳️ CORTLANDBREAKFASTROTARY.ORG

✳️ EDITED BY SOPHIE WELBURN



President Mark Roberts

Front Desk:

Chuck Feiszli/Matt Banazek
Sophie Welburn

Thought for the Day:

Terry Cahill

Raffle Winner: Jim Anderson

Attendance: 27

Zoom: 1

Guests:

Mike McMahon

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ride for Rotary

✳️ May 31, 2026

McGruff Tournament

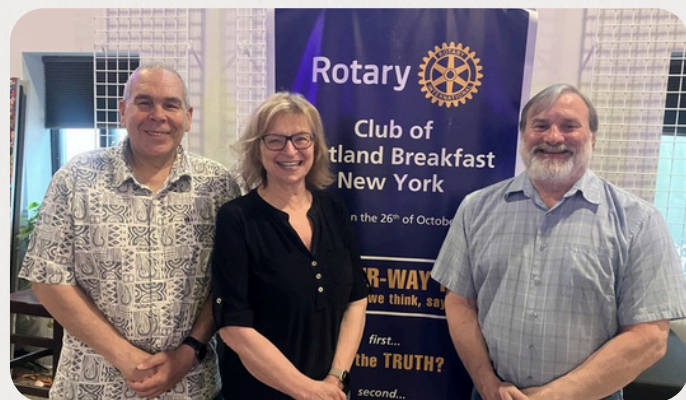
✳️ June 18, 2026

Paul Harris/Pass the Gavel Dinner

✳️ June 24, 2026

Meet Our Newest Members!

Michael Ragsdale, Rosie Taravella, & Rob Corpora



Michael Ragsdale grew up in Rockland County and attended Cornell University. On graduation day, his home back in Rockland County burnt down, forcing him to stay in Ithaca. He went on to earn a nursing degree from TC3 and moved to Hawaii where he married, had a daughter, and went to law school. After thirty-four years in Hawaii, Michael moved to Florida in 2018 to be with his mother and lived there for seven years, then upon retirement decided to return to the Finger Lakes region. He met Conrad Janke on the pickleball court, and Conrad invited him to join Rotary!

Rosie Taravella is a Cortland graduate from the class of 1980 who pursued a career as an actress and writer in Los Angeles. She joined the Red Cross, starting first in Syracuse then earning a position in New Jersey- "I made the best of it, but realized I don't want to be around a lot of people anymore." So, when she was made Division Vice President for the chapter network making up the Northeast, she could choose where to go and made the move back to Cortland. Rosie is proud of the work the Red Cross does, collecting blood donations, helping people through disasters- including house fires- installing smoke alarms. She encouraged members to donate blood this Thursday, 5/21 at the Port Watson Conference Center from 11:30-4pm. "You'll get a free beach towel!"

New members continued...

Rob Corpora worked in the public sector for over thirty years, spending 19-20 of those years as IT director, and county administrator for five and a half years. He retired just about a year ago, and it has been great! Rob has enjoyed prioritizing time with his wife and kids.

Mike Shafer and the Rotary Foundation

The Rotary Foundation’s priority since the 1970s has been the eradication of polio; millions of vaccinations later, there are only two countries in the world that experience endemic polio- Afghanistan and Pakistan.

But the Foundation also works toward international peace building and conflict prevention, disease prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, basic education & literacy, community economic development, and environmental projects with the next big push coming in water sanitation and electrification. Solar energy in particular is underutilized in many countries.

Mike urges members to contribute to the Foundation-when members accumulate \$1000 in donations, they become a Paul Harris Fellow. In addition, members accumulate recognition points that can be shared to other members or non-Rotarians that they might be recognized as a Paul Harris Fellow.

Check out the following link to set up recurring giving to the Foundation, and check up on your contribution status.



Matt McSherry (5/22)

Anniversaries
None

Host Family NEEDED



**Looking for a family in the Cortland school district to host incoming student from Taiwan!
Contact Karen DeWitt**

Happy Dollars

Don Richards: Thank you for all that our club does; for Mike McMahon joining us this morning.

Conrad Janke: Golf tournament with Jim Dempsey, Mike Shafer, Mark Roberts.

Kim Cameron: It's warm! League of Women Voters is having their annual dinner on May 28th. They will be honoring Mary Ellen Bloodgood, and two students that went to Albany to learn about how government is conducted, shadowing legislatures.

Mike Shafer: Jim Anderson @ golf tournament; Rotary International is hosting a Night for Peace.

Terry Cahill: Happy to get relief from the recent heat wave.

Pat Clune: Went to the NY mayors' conference, listening to all the horror stories and glad that village of Homer is not included in those horror stories.

Jeremy Boylan: Went with Pino to Ithaca for exchange student picnic; for Karen DeWitt and all the work she puts into the exchange program. It is important work and he encourages members to get involved.

Mike McMahon: He celebrates fifty-three years with his wife today.

Steve Cinquanti (Zoom): Happy to be in North Carolina; and happy that everyone is using the microphone.



A bittersweet event: CBR President Mark Roberts, Interact Advisor Jackie Burke with students of the Seven Valleys New Tech Academy who were inducted into Interact: James Slaughter, Adria Soldani, Emily Ford, Chloe O'Neill, Sadie Young.

Ride for Rotary

COMMUNITY DAY

MAY 31ST **REGISTRATION 11AM**

Homer Community Building (Behind the Fire Station)

RIDE, RUN, OR WALK!
RAISE FUNDS THAT GO BACK INTO OUR COMMUNITY!

Cortland Breakfast Rotary Club

Register by next Wednesday, 5/27 for guaranteed t-shirt size!

REGISTER HERE

Thank you sponsors!

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Steve Cinquanti Family

Shipwreck Amusements Cortland

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WXHC 101.5



Banners!



Work Day

AT
GRACE & HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

May 30th
 Help sought to work on
 fixing up the ramp; painting, etc.

LWVCC's Annual Dinner

Honoring:

MARY ELLEN BLOODGOOD
 2026 ALICE A WALKER AWARD RECIPIENT

DELANEY REILLY & NYLA JAMES
 2026 STUDENTS INSIDE ALBANY RECIPIENTS

Thursday, May 28th, Center for the Arts, Homer, NY
 5:30 p.m. Social Time (cash bar), 6:00 p.m. Dinner
 Buffet Menu catered by Scratch Farmhouse Catering
 Cost: \$40/person members, \$45/person non-members

Questions? Contact Kim Cameron
 lwvcortland@gmail.com, 315-427-8291

Three ways to purchase your ticket!

QR Code



Visit our website:
 lwvcortlandcounty.org

Or mail a check to:
 LWVCC, PO Box 22
 Cortland, NY 13045

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
 OF CORTLAND COUNTY