

Let's Make Rotary a Priority!

CORTLAND BREAKFAST ROTARY

04.23.2025

Cortlandbreakfastrotary.org

Wednesday

A HEART FOR THE COMMUNITY, A DRIVE TO TAKE RISKS, TRY NEW THINGS, & DIVERSIFY Steve Williams speaks on current projects

Much has changed for Steve Williams since the Cortland Breakfast Rotary Club last welcomed him as a guest! After serving as an educator for fourteen years Williams is seeking something new, wanting to focus his time and energy on the things that he loves. One such venture is SPLAT! Sumthin' Paint Room, the result of hearing from community members that there is "nothing to do here," while harnessing the aspect of teaching that Williams wanted most to retain: letting kids be kids! Opened in July 2024, the Paint Room is a space in which there are no rules, no right or wrong way to engage with it, no worries about doing it well. Just unleash your creativity and make a mess!

SPLAT! Sumthin' is intended to be more than just a business, it serves as a community connector that partners with and serves local groups and organizations. Williams also strives to ensure that the Paint Room is accessible not only physically & mentally, but financially as well with \$1/min pricing and no-cost events on offer.

SPLAT! Sumthin' has gone mobile too, so keep an eye out for its appearance at upcoming community events!



[SPLAT! Sumthin'
website](#)



→
SPLAT! Sumthin' will be there!
Paint your own ducks on a
spin art table.

29TH ANNUAL!
A Cortland Tradition Since 1997

Tickets Available Here  **\$5.00** Donation

WIN \$2500

2ND - 10TH PLACE \$100 EACH
11TH - 15TH PLACE \$50 EACH
16TH - 20TH PLACE \$25 EACH

MAY 3, SUGGETT PARK, CORTLAND
DUCKS RACE AT 11:00AM
SPONSORED BY THE CORTLAND COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB

 **CORN-DUCKY 5K**
Humans Race at 9:00AM!
Sponsored by the Cortland YMCA



Steve Williams is an educator, entrepreneur, and community advocate based in central New York. With over 14 years of experience in education, he specializes in hands-on learning, blending STEAM education, food justice, artistic expression, and community engagement to create meaningful and lasting impacts.

Most recently, he taught "Farm-to-Table: Foundations of Farming and Food Justice" at DeWitt Middle School (Ithaca City School District), integrating Black and Indigenous history, culture, and cuisine into agricultural education. He is also the founder of Highkey Science, a mobile STEAM education initiative, and SPLAT! Sumthin' Paint Room, Cortland County's first splatter paint room, which promotes creative expression through interactive art experiences.

Beyond education and entrepreneurship, Williams is a dedicated community advocate and a member of the Cortland County Chamber of Commerce, Cortland County Community of Color, and the Homer Business Association. He has been actively involved in local social justice initiatives, cultural celebrations, and community-building efforts.

Williams strives to embody the principle of "service over self," ensuring that his work uplifts and empowers those around him.

Above all, he is a husband and a father of four, who cherishes family life. He enjoys food, music, sports, games, and any activity that strengthens his connections with his family and the broader community.

Through his diverse efforts, Williams continues to empower people, foster creativity, and strengthen community ties.

President: Jackie Burke

Front Desk: Sophie Clough,
Glenn Reisweber

Thought of the day:
Mike Shafer

Birthdays:
Charlie Dellow (4/26)

Anniversaries:
None

Attendance: 28

Guests:

Steve Williams Kyle Behrenfeld

Nicholas Lundberg Kim Allen

Taryn Evans

Nishi Kadvani

Raffle winner:

Mark Roberts

Announcements:

- Proposed amendments to the by-laws were passed by a vote of the majority.
- May 15-17- signups to help with the Red Dragon Reuse collecting event.
- June 1- Rotary Community Day; ride, run, or walk! Then gather at the Homer Community Building for food, music, and activities!
- June 19- McGruff Golf Tournament- accepting team sign-ups.
- Meeting held to discuss corporate memberships



Love Where You Play
Stewardship Day!
This Saturday

[Learn More Here](#)

The Cortland Breakfast Rotary Club Presents:

34th McGruff Golf Tournament

June 19, 2025



[Register to play here!](#)

Happy Dollars



Kurt Behrenfeld: Last Monday his daughter and her husband had a baby boy! Kurt is now an "opa" for the first time; son Kyle is joining his CPA firm.

Mike May: Enjoyed a visit with grandchildren in Raleigh.

Mike Shafer: Suggests we swap the happy dollar pool for the 50/50 raffle's after Kurt's 100 happy dollars.

Sophie Clough: Invites members to the Centennial Spectacular open house event at the Cortland County Historical Society on May 17th.

Laurie Comfort: For the beautiful weather we are having.

Matt Banazek: Tax season is over; spring cleanup; thank you by-laws committee.

Jeremy Boylan: For our guest speaker; Homer baseball team trip to Baltimore- Orioles game.

Glenn Reisweber: Made a visit to Matt B. on 4/15 in the throws of tax season; welcome Kurt to the Grandfather Club.

Kathie O'Mara: Welcome to her guest, Nicholas Lundberg, prospective member.

Steve Williams: Inspired by the three club meeting held at the Elks.

Bob Martin: Met his weight loss milestone of 200 lbs last week. "You too can work on your weight loss journey" by participating in Lime Hollow's "Love Where You Play Day."

Doug Withey: Kurt got his taxes done, and he got \$1 more back than anticipated.

Don Richards: Thank you to the by-laws committee.

Jackie Burke: For Kurt becoming an opa, and for Kyle Behrenfeld being a guest.

Celebrating 100 years!



The Cortland County
Historical Society is
celebrating 100 years!



What: Centennial Spectacular Open House

When: Saturday May 17th, 12pm-5pm

Where: 25 Homer Avenue, Cortland
(additional parking at Homer Ave. United Methodist Church parking lot)



This week's BANNERS



Rotary Community Day

Sunday June 1st

Ride, run, or walk!



[More info here](#)

