

November 23, 2021 - Roundabout

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RSVP today for Dec. 9 holiday party

Our holiday party will be 5:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at Switchyard Park Pavilion (where we had our July social event). \$50 per person. Optional \$10 maximum wrapped gift exchange.

Email Natalie at jennerblais@gmail.com and let her know that you're coming!



Stephanie von Hirschberg & Citizens' Climate Lobby

Our Tuesday, Nov. 30, speaker, **Stephanie von Hirschberg**, is an editor, writer, and former literary agent. Born in South Africa and raised in London, Vienna, and Pretoria, Stephanie moved to New York in the 1970s and began her publishing career at Doubleday Books. After a brief stint at *Fair Lady* magazine in Cape Town, she returned to the U.S. and went on to hold senior positions at women's magazines and at *Reader's Digest*.

Stephanie has also been a book doctor and a blogger for online publications. As a literary agent, she represented first-time authors, among them the now-famous Brené Brown.

Stephanie's career highlights include an "Editor of the Year" award from the American Society of Journalists and Authors and an Audelco award for the play *We Are Your Sisters*, which she co-adapted from a biography of 19th- century African-American women.

After moving to Bloomington in 2015, she wrote for *Bloom* magazine and taught at IU's Media School. She began volunteering with the Southern Indiana chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby about four years ago and has become their go-to person for anyone wanting help with writing op-eds or letters to the editor. Aside from reading as much as she can about the environment and climate change, she now devotes her time and attention to friendships, gardening, and practicing the piano.

BPP and Rotary special: 4-for-1 theater ticket deal!

The Bloomington Playwrights Project (BPP) and Rotary have teamed up to "Reunite with your Friends and with Theater."

All Rotary members can receive 4-for-1 tickets for BPP's next show "Just Between the All of Us," running Dec 8-11 and 15-18 at 7:30 p.m., 107 W. 9th Street, Bloomington. Reconnect with friends while enjoying a high-quality, first-run play.

For the 4-for-1 Rotary specials, contact BPP Managing Director Brad Schiesser at (812) 334-1188 or at brad@newplays.org and let him know you are with Rotary.

For more on "Just Between the All of Us," go to: <https://www.newplays.org/event/just-between-the-all-of-us/>.

For more on BPP's COVID safety protocols, visit (special Chad Rabinovitz version) <https://youtu.be/7qwYfqp0w3A> or (just the facts) <https://www.newplays.org/safety/>.



Congratulations to Marshall and Ann Goss on their 60th wedding anniversary.
Rotarians in the News



FUN AT BROWN COUNTY PLAYHOUSE – With **Connie Shakalis** performing in “2020: COVID The Musical,” fellow Rotarians Clara Stanley (second from left) of Brown County and **Aaron Brewington** were there to cheer her on. Rachel DiGregorio (far left) joined in the fun.

AND THE WINNER IS ... Congratulations to **I. James (Jimmie) Torry**, who directed “To the Castle,” the winning play in the Bloomington Playwrights Project (BPP) Ike & Julie Arnove Playoffs.

'76 ROTARY EXCHANGE STUDENT PRAISES CHARLOTTE – Forty-five years after she spent a year in Bloomington as a Rotary exchange student, Raeleigh Lambert of Brisbane, Australia, still remembers the warm welcome she received from Charlotte and Paul Zietlow.

Raeleigh shared her thoughts in a Nov. 5 letter to Charlotte. It appeared in last week’s *Roundabout*, and the *Herald-Times* published it as a guest column.

To watch a recording of the Toast, click on the following link: <https://youtu.be/ow4QfMeDN1s>.



FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION -- Charlotte Zietlow (center) meets with Rotary International Director **Elizabeth Usovicz** (right) and **Kenneth Menefee** of the Rotary Club of Terre Haute at the Nov. 19 Friends of the Foundation reception at the University Club. Charlotte served 16 years on the Indiana State University (ISU) board, and Menefee is executive director of Advancement at ISU. More than a dozen Bloomington Rotarians, including new members **Marcus Debroy**, **Aaron Brewington**, and **Bet Savich**, attended the district event.

NEWS

SALVATION ARMY BELL SLOTS FULL – Project Chair **Steve Moberly** says all 32 bell ringer slots have been filled for the four Saturdays leading up to Christmas. The annual project helps children in need to receive warm clothing, toys, and treats at Christmas.

HELP NEEDED! – Sign up to give a reflection – or to serve as our greeter or introducer of guests. We need one or more volunteers for each of the following dates: Nov. 30; Dec. 7 and 14. Here's the link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a044aa5aa2da3fa7-second1>



Owen Johnson (at bottom of screen) asks speaker William Porter about overcoming the airlines' lobbying efforts in opposition to high-speed rail.

**November 23 program:
William Porter & High-Speed Rail**

The U.S. lags Asia and Europe in embracing high-speed rail, and William Porter urges the federal and state governments to make them a part of the country's future.

While bullet trains in Asia and Europe can reach speeds of up to 200 mph, high-speed trains in the U.S. top out at 120 mph.

If available, Americans will ride high-speed trains. Indiana and other states have shown a willingness to support rail improvement, Porter says.

High-speed rail can help the U.S. improve face-to-face communication and lower carbon emissions by reducing car, truck, and airplane traffic. It is safer, cleaner, more comfortable and more cost effective. For more info, visit <https://HSRail.org>. **Michael Shermis** introduced the speaker.

For a recording of Porter's Nov. 23 talk, go to: <https://youtu.be/q4Ud7B6sQD0>



Today's "in person" crowd listens to William Porter. Twenty-eight Rotarians tuned in by Zoom.

Our November 23 Celebration of Service

President **Sally Gaskill** opened the meeting. Greeter was **Art Oehmich**.

Speaking as a historian, **Owen Johnson** shared a "Thanksgiving story" seldom heard by Americans celebrating the fourth Thursday in November. His reflection:

"For many native Americans, the fourth Thursday in November is a day of mourning, not of celebration," Owen says. "While the Wampanoags (native Americans) did help the Pilgrims survive, their support was followed by years of a slow, unfolding genocide of their people and the taking of their land."

Owen suggests the following: "Remember that this land was their land and that IU sits on the ancestral land of the Miami, Delaware, Potawatomi and Shawnee people ... We certainly should give thanks for the blessings we have received. But let us do away with the pageants celebrating a Thanksgiving history that ... never was. And let us commit to providing the blessings of life, liberty, and the pursuit of freedom to all peoples in this country."

President Sally shared "thank you" letters from:

- Ivy Tech Bloomington students who received \$500 scholarships from our club. The students are Carrie Biddle (nursing), Laura Beth Wayne (nursing), and Rafael Ramirez (general studies)
- Juanita Hoffman, Pantry 279, for our club's \$100 contribution. Pantry 279 was the recipient of that amount in honor of our third quarter program speakers.

Guests: Josh Johnson (Aaron Brewington), Bob Bernadzi (Tim Jessen)

Birthday: Ron Barnes, Nov. 26

Giving Happy Dollars, **Raj Haddawi, Steve Ingle, Alain Barker, Judy Witt, Ashley Sullivan, Martha Foster, Earon Davis, and Charlotte Zietlow** expressed happiness for reasons ranging from plans to be with family for holidays to a 10th wedding anniversary for Martha and Earon.

Producer: **Dave Meyer**, assisted by **Michael Shermis**

Zoom Manager: **Joy Harter**

Remote Camera/Mic Operators: **Martha Foster and Earon Davis**

Reporter: **Jim Bright**