

The Indialantic **Rotator**



www.indialanticrotary.org

Rotary Opens Opportunities

July 15, 2020

The Official Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Indialantic

Rotary Club of Indialantic Club #4395 Established in 1958

Service Above Self

Dist.6930 Governor: Els Van Engelenburg DG Elect: Michael F. Walstrom

President: Ben Glover President Elect: Stephen Long Secretary: Ruth Sanderson Treasurer: Dan Frey

Past President: David Ryan

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Foundation: Larry Cinco

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Charities: (Service Chairs) Jock Walker

Salvation Army Bell Ringers: Pat Bouchard Club Newsletter: Suzie DeBusk, Jignya Pa-

tel, & Ailish Nic Phaidin

Publicity: Linda Nelms Membership: Susan Popelka Membership Orientation: Bob Visconti Membership Retention: Jay Anderson Projects: John Haralson Literacy: Bob Visconti Paperback Project: Pat Bouchard Magazine Project: Ailish NicPhaidin Christmas Caroling: Bob Visconti Nominating: TBD Fun: Jean Hender Historian: Bob Underwood Publicity: Linda Nelms Database: Jack Fenster

Photographers: Jack Fenster, Linda Nelms



SARAH CULBERSON SIERRA LEONE PROJECT By Ailish NicPhaidin

First, Sarah was an incredible speaker. Secondly, her story is fascinating. She was adopted by (Dr.) Jim Culberson and his wife Judy. She liked basketball, track, dance in school. She was awarded a full scholarship to study theatre and dance. She moved to Los Angeles and up to that point had no real interest in her biological parents. She already knew that her mother was a white woman from the U.S. and her father was a black man from Sierra Leone who had met in college in Maryland. She also knew that her biological mother had passed from

cancer and she knew nothing about her biological father. While in college she joined the Landmark Worldwide Education class which emphasized mixed-race children and coping skills, amongst other skills. Sarah was terrified to find her birth father in case he rejected her. She contacted a Private Investigator friend of her father who said he would find her father. Four days later she had a phone call. She found out her great grandfather on her biological father's side was a Clan Chief in Sierra Leone, and that in his tribe she is considered a "Princess", thus she is now Princess Sarah Culberson. Through various machinations, contacts in the U.S., especially in Maryland, and the Caribbean, Sarah was put in contact with her birth father. She received a telephone call from him and his first words were: "Please forgive me, I didn't know how to find you". That was in 2004. (At this point, there wasn't a dry eye in the house!!) He wanted Sarah to come to Sierra Leone and he apologized for giving her up for adoption. Sarah reassured him that she had a wonderfully joyful and fulfilled upbringing with Dr. Jim and Judy Culberson. A trip was planned for her to visit Sierra Leone together with other family member from the U.S. whom she had met. When she arrived in Sierra Leone, her father's first words to her were: "It is so good to finally meet you." She told him that she called Dr. Jim "Dad" and she would call her biological father "Father". She also met her brother and sister and her father's wife. He gave Sarah a beautiful green dress and asked her to wear it for her first visit to his village. When she arrived at the village all the women were dressed in the same green dress as her and everyone was singing and dancing and welcoming her with open arms. This amazed her.

Sarah talked about how the "Blood Diamond War", 1991 – 2002, that was so destructive in west Africa, especially Sierra Leone and how this war affected her father's village of Bumpe. She talked about the world-class boarding school that was there were students from across west Africa came to study. The war ended all that and the school was destroyed. She found out that her father was the school headmaster. She told the story of one young graduate from this school met with President Obama in the

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Contact us at: Rotary Club of Indialantic PO Box 033134 Indialantic, FL 32903

Meet with Other Rotary Clubs

Cocoa—Tuesday 12:15 PM Brevard Community College, Cocoa Cocoa Beach—Wednesday 12:15 PM International Palms, Cocoa Beach Cocoa Beach Day Break—Tue. 7:15 AM Roberto's Little Havana, Cocoa Beach Eau Gallie—Tuesday 12:15PM Cuizine, 1790 Florida A1A, Satellite Beach, FL 32937 Melbourne—Thursday 6:30 PM Island Pasta, Melbourne Melbourne Beach—Tuesday 7:30 AM Ocean Side Pizza, 300 Ocean Ave., #6 Merritt Island—Thursday 5:15 PM Island Lincoln Mercury Jaguar Land Rover 1850 E. Merritt Island Cswy., Upstairs Merritt Island Breakfast—Wed. 7:15 AM Victoria's Restaurant Palm Bay—Thursday 12:00 PM **Broken Barrel Tavern** Rockledge—Thursday 7:15 AM Twisted Birch at Turtle Creek Golf Suntree—Friday 7:30 AM Suntree Country Club **Titusville Sunrise - Tuesday 7:15 AM** River Lanes, 800 Cheney Hwy. Titusville—Thursday 12:00 PM LaCita Country Club Viera Club—Wednesday 12:00 PM Amici's—The Chef's Table, Suntree

Rotary Web Sites

Rotary Club of Indialantic: www.indialanticrotary.org

Rotary Leadership Institute: www.rlitraining.org

District 6930 Web Site: <u>www.rotaryfoundation6930.org</u>

> Rotary International: www.rotary.org

Rotary E-Club One: (on-line Rotary, need to make up a meeting - great resource) www.rotaryeclubone.org

Need Rotary shirt or other Rotary Items: ruh.com/rotary

SARAH CULBERSON, continued...

Oval Office in relation to her computer programming skills and how she was studying in the U.S. Through several organizations such as World Vision, various Rotary Clubs and Rotary International several programs have been set up in the village as well as rebuilding the Bumpe Boarding school. Some of the programs carried out and being carried out are making masks for the COVID-19 pandemic, sanitary pads, digging wells for clean water, solar panels for electricity.

An incredible story, loving, heart-warming, informative, educational and makes one realize that the entitled life of luxury so any of us enjoy in the U.S. should never be taken for granted. Thank you so much, Sarah, for an amazing talk.

UPDATE ON VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETINGS

The recording of the meeting from **last week is** here: Indialantic Rotary_Meeting of 070820

To attend this weeks meeting, go here:

Weekly Meeting Zoom Link - Indialantic Rotary

Meeting ID: **975-664-451** Password: **547752** Email Jack Fenster (<u>jsfenster@earthlink.net</u>) about Zoom.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

VISITING ROTARIANS

DG Els van Englenburg, Titusville Club Jim Culberson, Morgantown, WV Club Isaac Owolabi, guest of Julia and member of Rotary of Ashville, NC. Sandy Burkart, Boca Raton Sunrise Club **NO GUESTS**

SPEAKER'S INFORMATION: Sarah Culberson from Los Angeles, and daughter of visiting Rotarian, Jim Culberson. Sarah's work projects for and in Sierra Leone can be found at this website: <u>www.sierraleonerising.org</u> and her personal website is: <u>www.sarahculberson.com</u> and her email is: <u>sarahculberson@gmail.com</u>.

SPEAKERS

07/15—Casey Holliday—Paleontology

VIRTUAL DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

It's not too late to join us for three nights of fabulous Rotary content! AND it's FREE!

Tuesday, July 14th - 6:00 - 7:30 PM—International/Foundation Wednesday, July 15th - 6:00 - 7:30 PM - Membership

Thursday, July 16th - 6:00 - 7:30 PM Theme: Public Image

Speakers include Marshall Butler and George Robertson Burnett, both of whom we've heard speak. Join now! Go to: <u>https://www.rotary6930.org/</u><u>districtcalendar/</u> and click on the July 14 link to register. Or DG Els Van Engelenburg has likely already emailed you about it. Click on that link in your email to register.

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I went to the grocery store and they now have a parking spot for Fat guys that like to grill. That's so considerate.

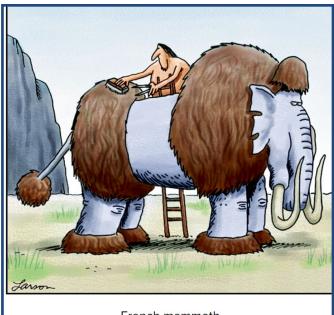
I WENT LINE DANCING LAST NIGHT. WELL, IT WAS A ROADSIDE SOBRIETY TEST... SAME THING.





And.. The Suzie's Choice awards goes to... GARY LARSON...He's BAAACCCKKK!!!!





French mammoth

ROTARY DIRECT Rotary's recurring giving program



ROTARY DIRECT SAVES...

- ✓ Time Sign up once to give continuous support
- ✓ Money Lower administration costs means more money for programs
- ✓ Lives Give to The Rotary Foundation to do good in the world

There are four ways to enroll in **Rotary Direct:**

Online:	my.rotary.org/en/rotary-direct
By mail:	Rotary Direct, 17th Floor, Annual Giving
	One Rotary Center
	1560 Sherman Avenue
	Evanston, IL 60201-3698 USA
By phone:	+1-866-976-8279
By fax:	+1-847-328-5260

Manage your recurring giving at any time by signing in to My Rotary and going to Donor Self-Service.

YES! I INTEND TO GIVE US\$1,000 OR MORE ANNUALLY AND WILL JOIN THE PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY.*

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✓ YES! I WILL ENROLL IN ROTARY DIRECT.

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IF YOU ARE A ROTARIAN, PLEASE COMPLETE.

Rotary membership ID	
Club name	
Billing address	
City	State/Province
Postal code	Country
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Contributions are tax deductible where allowed by law. For security purposes, please do not send credit card contributons via email.

*Note: By checking this box, donors notify The Rotary Foundation of their intention to contribute US\$1,000 or more every Rotary year to the Annual Fund or PolioPlus Fund. Learn more at rotary.org/phs.

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Annual Fund — SHARE	Eradicating polio
Fighting disease	Providing clean water
Saving mothers and children	Growing local econom

nies

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Promoting peace Supporting education Responding to disasters

RECURRING GIFT AMOUNT (minimum US\$10) □ \$25 □ \$85 □ \$100 □ \$250 □ \$1,000 □ Other

Currency (if not US\$)_

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□ Monthly □ Quarterly □ Annually (specify month) ____

CHECKING ACCOUNT, please attach a voided check Available for U.S. and Canada bank accounts only Not available online

CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD

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The Rotar Foundation

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