

Bloomington Rotary Roundabout

July 9, 2024

Next week



Mary Carol Reardon is a professional actress, having performed both in New York City and locally at Constellation Stage, Jewish Theatre of Bloomington, BPP, Indiana Repertory Company, and the Brown County Playhouse. In addition to her passion for theater, she is an avid hiker and environmental activist. She's a certified Sierra Club hike leader and continues to lead weed wrangles, eradicating invasive weeds that smother the natural beauty of the wildflowers, ferns, and walking paths. Mary Carol's topic will focus on upcoming weed wrangles in the Hoosier National Forest. She'll explain what a weed wrangle entails and why we should care about eradicating invasive plants in nature.

News of the Week

Teachers Warehouse Supply Drive July 13

All times slots for the Teachers Warehouse supply drive have been filled, with 24 members of our club volunteering. Well done and good luck on July 13! You will have helped a lot of kids have a good start to the school year.

Bloomington Sunrise Celebrates 25 Years

Bloomington Rotarians are invited to join the Bloomington Sunrise Club for their 25th Anniversary Celebration and Installation Ceremony on Wednesday, July 17, at 5:30 p.m. at the Bloomington Country Club. Contact Julie Beasley for a reservation at 812-774-6758. Dinner is \$25 per person, with a cash bar. On an historical note, Bloomington Rotary helped start the Sunrise club in 1999 and the Bloomington North club in 1974.

Global Grant Scholarship Applications Now Available

In addition to introducing our speaker Noah Jager, **Jim Bright** reminded us that Indiana Rotary clubs are accepting applications for a \$40,000 All-Indiana Global Grant Scholarship that will enable a scholar to study one to four years in a graduate program at any qualified university outside North America. The 2025-26 program is open to students who have graduated – or will graduate by May 2025 – from a four-year Indiana college -- or who maintain a legal residence in Indiana – and who plan to pursue graduate-level studies at an overseas university. The program supports exceptional scholars dedicated to pursuing a career in an area of great humanitarian need and who demonstrate a long-term commitment to measurable, sustainable change. Scholars must present a plan of study and a career commitment that align with one of Rotary's seven areas of focus. For an application and other information, see: <http://www.rotaryglobalscholar.com>.

July 9 Program:

Jim Bright introduced our speaker, Noah Jager, our Rotary Global Scholar. Noah is a graduate of Bloomington South. He introduced and thanked family, coaches, teachers, and friends from Bloomington and West Point. Noah spoke to Rotary about preparing for a lifetime of service through Passion, Perseverance, and Purpose. He talked about basketball being a passion and being on a team that went 26-0 in high school, only to have the state tournament be canceled because of COVID. He reminisced about how much he enjoyed show choir and giving back, especially with fundraisers for Riley Hospital and working with students at Bradford Woods. Noah noted that being at West Point and using opportunities to travel had broadened his worldview. Noah reminded us of the U.S. Military Academy's honor code and trying to live by it day by day, to "choose the harder right over the easier wrong."



Noah gave us a number of examples of striving with purpose. He worked for Senator Todd Young as a legislative intern for seven weeks. He attended the Brazilian military academy for five months, making long-term friends. He worked in the Croatia U.S. Embassy as a Foreign Area Officer intern. He was involved in an exchange with Romania that involved his being there two weeks and then Romanian students being at West Point for two weeks. He sees himself a connector—the glue that helps people work together.

Noah will spend the next year at Kings College in London working on a master's degree in international peace and security. Most of the 39 Rotary Global Scholars who will be in London will live together. After serving five years in the military, he will consider options. He definitely plans to return to Bloomington at some point and didn't rule out elective office or other public service.

Noah answered lots of questions. He complimented Rotary on being a civic organization, noting that Americans and people of the world need a lot of ways for people to connect. Tom Lester, from the Rotary of Golders Green London, greeted Noah, since the club will be Noah's host for the coming year.

Today's celebration of service is available at <https://youtu.be/ePYhS9JI3WM>

Updates:

Our July 9 Celebration of Service

President **Traci Jovanovic** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Charlotte Zietlow** presented a Rotary reflection. She mused about the word "reflection." It can mean to see in a mirror, to think about what has happened in the past, or to consider how you can be part of solutions in the world. She urged us to have good reflections.

Sandy Keller and Noah Jager introduced guests:

- Brian and Barb Jager, Noah's parents
- IU basketball player Anthony Leal
- Former Notre Dame basketball player Luke Zeller
- Father Tom Kovatch, St. Charles Catholic Church
- BHSS Coach J.R. Holmes and his wife, Martha Holmes
- Gwen Witten, Sounds of South
- Anne Bright, guest of Jim Bright
- Mike Zawilinski, guest of Jim Bright
- Kyle Siebert, IU student and IU Trustee, guest of Jeff Richardson
- Kenny Graham, grandson of Liz Feitl and friend of Noah's
- Dwight Thompson, Brown County Rotary
- Carolyn Frey, Sunrise Rotary
- Phil Eskew, Sunrise Rotary
- J.T. Waring, Los Angeles Rotary and founder of Rotary Myanmar Water Project
- Nay Lin Htut, of Myanmar and UC-Riverside
- Elijah Ramos, UC-Riverside

Joy Harter introduced online guests:

- Megan Gearhart - Global Scholar - joining from Taiwan
- Bettye Dunham - District 6580 Admin. Assistant, New Albany
- Sue Wright - Clark County Rotary Club

- Rick Markoff, a member of the All-Indiana Rotary Global Grant Scholarship selection committee
- Annie Morley Sinn - Rotary Club of Golders Green, London
- Tom Lester - Rotary Club of Golders Green, London (Noah's Rotary host in England)
- Tom and Patricia Owens, Noah's uncle/aunt from Hebron, Ind.
- Johnny Jager – Noah's older brother
- Maddie Jager – Noah's sister
- A number of Noah's friends: Andrew Chung, Matt Van Epps, and Arquil "Killa" Hill, friends from West Point; Austin Richards; Drake Ott; Madi Deckard; Sarah Planalp-Lantis; Zach Rocco; and Laura Konkle.

Birthdays this week:

- **Paul Hazel**, July 14

Member Anniversaries this week:

- **Mike Wade**, 7 years

Thanks to our greeter, Sandy Keller; Charlotte Zietlow for the reflection; Audio Producer Tylar Martin-Nichols; Zoom Host Joy Harter; Camera/Mic Operator Michael Shermis; Natalie Blais, executive assistant. *Roundabout* Reporter for this week is Glenda Murray.

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Photographer: Charles Pearce