

## ROUNDBOUT – Tuesday, October 12, 2021

### Next Luncheon



**Wendi Goodlett**, president and CEO of Habitat for Humanity since 2018, will honor Rotarian **Charlotte Zietlow**, reflecting on how Charlotte’s support of Habitat aligns with Rotary’s mission. Before “officially” joining Habitat, Wendi volunteered in many capacities for more than a decade: construction crew leader, a member of the family selection committee, and a member of the board of directors for five years. In 2013, she was awarded the affiliate’s Volunteer of the Year service award. She previously served as director of development for major gifts at IU’s Kelley School of Business. Wendi graduated with honors from Hanover College with a bachelor of arts in communication degree.

### Upcoming on the Rotary calendar

#### **Oct. 14**

We will host our first Bloomington Rotary Book Club meeting, discussing Jim Madison’s *The Ku Klux Klan in the Heartland*. All are welcome. Join us at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

<https://iu.zoom.us/my/gaskill>

#### **Oct. 23**

Our annual cleanup of Pete Ellis Drive will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. and conclude with a visit to Jiffy Treat! Please let **Michael Shermis** know if you’d like to participate in this annual — and fun — Adopt-a-Road commitment through the Monroe County Solid Waste Management District.

#### **Nov. 5**

The Rotary Toast honoring our own **Charlotte Zietlow** is just three weeks away. Visit <https://rotarytoast.com> for more details.

This week’s program is available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/WhlQQLiMNRA>

## Our Program



**Connie Shakalis** introduced David Smiley, a senior lecturer in the Department of Health and Wellness Design in the IU School of Public Health–Bloomington since 2011. His remarks, “Hiring in the Post-Pandemic Economy: Reimagining the Hospitality and Event Industries,” provided insights into the realignment of workers in these fields, and how industry leaders are responding.

The pre-pandemic economy employed 18 million workers across the hospitality industry, which broadly includes lodging, food and drink service, event planning, theme parks, travel, and tourism. As COVID brought commerce to a halt, workers were faced with layoffs or significant reductions in hours and wages. Instead of returning to positions as hospitality-related businesses reopen, more than half of these same workers are focusing on other options that include higher wages, better hours, and benefits. This has brought employers to what Smiley calls an inflection point: figuring out how to move forward in an uncertain future, and how to attract workers to an industry that largely has undervalued their worth.

Studies conducted by Dr. David Card, professor of economics at the University of California-Berkeley and 2021 Nobel Prize winner for economics, are helping to shape that future, bringing a new understanding of the relation between wages and the cost of doing business. His research shows that, instead of posing an onerous burden on employers, increasing workers’ wages results in their ability to hire more fulltime workers, reduce turnover, and maintain profitability. Smiley cited the success of locally owned Switchyard Brewing Company, which has taken the model to heart by not only raising its starting pay to \$18 an hour but also offering employees mental and emergency health coverage, unlimited vacation, and other benefits. He says Switchyard hasn’t lost a single employee since these changes were incorporated.

Smiley foresees a bright future for the event industry, one in which technology will shape events and the creation of new jobs as businesses refine and grow innovations developed during the pandemic’s shutdown.

## Updates – Our October 12 Weekly Gathering

President **Sally Gaskill** opened the meeting with a recognition of our country’s first Indigenous Peoples’ Day, as designated by President Biden. She acknowledged and honored the Indigenous communities native to this region – Miami, Delaware, Potawatomi, and Shawnee—as past, present, and future caretakers of this land.

Our thanks to producers **Michael Shermis** and **Joy Harter**, greeter **Steve Ingle**, and remote mic operators **Martha Foster** and **Earon Davis**.



**Glenda Murray** reflected on the many women who have enriched our club since 1987, the year Rotary International opened membership to women. In those 34 years, 11 have gone on to serve as president of Bloomington Rotary Club. Women now comprise 35 percent of our current membership. Several who joined in the early years are still members and appear in the photograph above, along with three past presidents and the current president. From left, with the years they were inducted: **Tina Swanson** (1989), **Charlotte Zietlow** (1988), current president **Sally Gaskill** (2003), past president **Leslie Green** (2001), past president **Sara Laughlin** (2008), **Monika Kroener** (1990), past president/past district governor **Judy Witt** (1989), and past president **Glenda Murray** (1991). (Photo: **Martha Foster**)

This week we welcomed to our celebration of service Nancy Boerner, guest of **Judy Schroeder**, and Bet Savich, guest of **Michael Shermis**.

Happy birthday wishes to **Jim Capshew**, Oct. 14, and **Dave Meyer**, Oct. 18.

Happy membership anniversary to **Walt Koon**, who has been a member for 20 years.

Happy Dollars celebrating marriages, travel, groundbreaking, friends, anniversaries, and new grandchildren were contributed by members both in person and Zoom, including **Henk Haitjema**, **Dave Meyer**, **Marilyn Wood**, **Judy Witt**, **Gus Shakalis**, and **Sara Laughlin**. Thank you all for your support of Teachers Warehouse!

Reporter: **Susie Graham**