

## **Roundabout ~ September 8, 2020**

### **Next week's program**



Nichelle Whitney will speak about Girls Coding Week: A Program and a Partnership. Nichelle is the chair for the Monroe County Women's Commission. Nichelle serves as a faculty champion for Black Women & Tech, a student alliance group within the Center of Excellence for Women & Tech at Indiana University Bloomington. She serves as the Senior Assistant Director for Diversity Recruitment and Outreach for Indiana University and also manages Girls Coding Week for Monroe County.

We will meet by Zoom on Tuesday, September 15. Join us at 11:45 for a visit in a breakout room before the program starts about noon.

### **This week's news**

#### **Sign up for Rotary Toast November 6**



**Bob Hammel**

The Rotary Toast will occur on Zoom on Friday, November 6, when we will honor Bob Hammel. His charity is the Hoosier Hills Food Bank. To make your reservations, go to <https://rotarytoast.com>.

## **Sign up for programs about Voter Suppression**

The League of Women Voters, joined by the Monroe County branch of the NAACP, the UU Racial Justice Task Force, the Monroe County Women's Commission, and Trinity Episcopal Church, will host two films on Zoom that offer deeper insights into the issue of voter suppression. Each event will begin with a film, followed by Q&A session about voting. Rotarian Hal Turner, chair of the Monroe County Election Board, will be part of the Q&A at both events, along with Monroe County Clerk Nicole Browne. The films are free, but you must register in advance for each at <https://www.lwv-bmc.org/films>. The films and screening dates:

- **Suppressed: The Fight to Vote**, Tuesday, September 15, at 7 p.m. This 35-minute documentary chronicles the 2018 midterm election in Georgia.
- **UnCivil War: U.S. Elections Under Siege**, Tuesday, September 22, at 7 p.m. This 45-minute documentary exposes the web of threats facing our elections today. The film includes a segment on Indiana's fight to reform redistricting.

You are welcome to register for one or both events. Once you register, you will receive an email with your link to the event.

## **Sign up to volunteer**

### **Four good choices:**

**-Helping Hands** opportunities are still available and will be ongoing. Visit [helpinghands.civicchamps.com](http://helpinghands.civicchamps.com) or call (812) 727-0838 to sign up!

**-Friends of Lake Monroe.** Water sampling blitz volunteer spots still available for Sept. 18. Sign up at their website [friendsoflakemonroe.org](http://friendsoflakemonroe.org).

**-Wheeler Mission** serves three meals a day every day and needs volunteer support through either directly serving meals or providing sack meals for the shelter. They also have three "virtual" opportunities that would fill a great need. Anyone who feels these would be a good fit can reach out to Josie at [josierice@wheelermission.org](mailto:josierice@wheelermission.org) or check out [Wheelvolyunteer.org](http://Wheelvolyunteer.org).

**-Teachers Warehouse** volunteers are needed almost every day Monday through Friday. Please volunteer by emailing [volunteers@teacherswarehouse.org](mailto:volunteers@teacherswarehouse.org).

## This week's speaker: Scott Dolson



At least 83 people heard Scott Dolson, IU's athletic director since July 1. Scott came to IU in 1984 and has been involved in athletics ever since. As a student, he was a basketball manager. He worked for the Varsity Club and spent the last 11 years as deputy director of the department. He expressed gratitude for his years of working with Fred Glass and for the months of overlap between his selection in the spring as A.D. and Glass's retirement June 30.

Scott talked about the five things an athletic director does:

1. Make certain IU has strong priorities and plays by the rules.
2. Make certain IU has the financial resources necessary for the programs.
3. Exercise crisis management and risk management (which has taken on all new meanings this year).
4. Recruit and maintain an excellent staff.
5. Support the systems for world-class athletic programs.

Scott praised the development of the Excellence Academy. Even with the pandemic, the students had the best spring GPA average ever. He noted that in January of 2021 the NCAA will vote on athletes being able to benefit from their name, image, and likeness. A task force is working so that IU will be ready once the NCAA votes. Athletics has partnered with the Media School and the Kelley School of Business to plan what students will be able to do. He emphasized that IU will focus on an academic model and gender equality as it develops rules, policies, and procedures.

Coaches for every sport are creating master plans that include recruiting, athletic development, and winning strategies. Scott gave us a teaser on another soon-to-be announced program, the Women's Excellence Initiative, which will be a philanthropic effort. Athletics also has created a task force for mental health initiatives and an anti-racism task force.

The athletics department has been financially successful in recent years. This year presents incredible challenges. The department started by cutting its budget by \$11.8 million (10%). There have been furloughs as well. Once more is known about when sports will resume, further action can be taken as necessary, considering budgets for the current year and the years ahead.

Scott observed that Big Ten Athletic Directors usually meet four times a year. Now they meet every day from 8 to 10 a.m. and sometimes on weekends. Commissioner Kevin Warren met with

chancellors and presidents of the Big Ten universities. They concluded there was too much uncertainty to play fall sports.

On a brighter note, Scott pointed to the progress already made with the rapid response and reliability of tests. One possibility will be to test every athlete daily to prevent outbreaks and to make it safe for athletes to play. Scott said IU athletes want to play, but it has to be medically OK first. The department is working with Dr. Larry Rink for protocols of when students can begin to play.

Scott assured Rotary members and guests that play will resume—it's a matter of when, not if. But he reiterated that it must be safe. IU's goal is to ensure student athletes are developing athletically, academically, and personally.

To hear the YouTube recording of the September 8 meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9apIEQDUbx7V4oPH-FWEkg>. To provide helpful feedback on our speaker, go to <https://tinyurl.com/BtownRotarySpkrFdbck>.

## **Updates**

**Jim Bright** welcomed nearly 30 guests, who joined us from many places, including Russia and Hawaii.

A number of people offered Happy Dollars to raise funds for Teachers Warehouse.

## **Birthdays this week**

- Kate Cruikshank, Sept. 9
- Alain Barker, September 12
- Betsy Trotzke, September 12
- Wendell St. John, September 12

## **Membership anniversary:**

- Byron Bangert, September 14 (21 years in our club plus 14 years previously, for a total of 35 years)

**Glenda Murray**, Reporter