

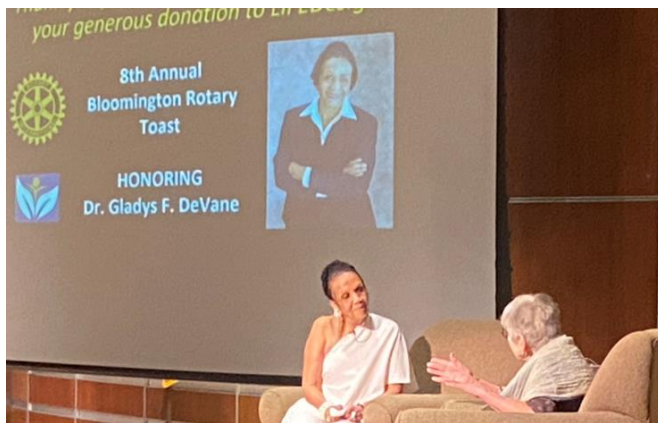
Bloomington Rotary Roundabout
Nov. 10, 2022

Next Luncheon



We will meet November 15 in the Georgian Room and on Zoom. Our speaker will be Rotarian **Bitta DeWees**, on the topic “Stone Belt: Surviving A Pandemic and Moving into the Future.” Bitta has worked with every program at Stone Belt. She became CEO when **Leslie Green** retired April 1. Believing everyone can work, Bitta has focused on supported employment and on professionalizing direct support staffing. She has a bachelor’s degree in psychology from IU. Because she was recently exposed to COVID and is isolating, Bitta will join us on Zoom.

News of the week



The three Rotary Clubs recognized Dr. Gladys at the annual Rotary Toast DeVane on November 4. Her selected charity is LIFE Designs. Above, Gladys listens as **Charlotte Zietlow** toasts her.

President **Alain Barker** and Past President **Sally Gaskill**, along with Mayor John Hamilton and about 20 others, are in Palo Alto, Calif. They are participating in Rotary-to-Rotary and City-to-City discussions as a part of the Sibling City USA program, which has three pillars of connection: community, commerce, and civil discourse.

Our Holiday Celebration and Rotary Toast After-Party will be Thursday, December 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Bloomington Country Club, 3000 S. Rogers St. All three clubs will gather for an evening that includes

- a check presentation to LIFE Designs, Toast recipient Gladys DeVane's chosen recipient,
- entertainment from a high school jazz band,
- an ugly sweater contest, and
- the annual Holiday Celebration quiz.

The cost is \$25 per person, with a reservation deadline of December 2. The sign up will be out soon.

Presentation by Business Outlook Panel



Eric Spoonmore, president of the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce, introduced Phil Powell, associate dean of academic programs at the Kelley School of Business at IU. Phil introduced the panelists, who spoke about the uncertain economic outlook.

Andrew Butters led off, talking about the U.S. economy. He noted that output growth probably will be weak in 2023. Continued consumption could cushion a decline and may prevent a recession. Employment growth probably will be slow.

Kyle Anderson spoke about the financial markets, which exhibit little memory. For example, between 1979 and 1983, there were two recessions, but the stock market was up four of those five years. Kyle noted that the cost of housing is going up because of the rise in interest rates. A loan at a higher rate will mean a much larger monthly payment.

Carol Rogers talked about the Indiana economy. Durable goods will be squeezed. She reminded us that Indiana has slow population growth (deaths outnumber births), that many older people are still working instead of retiring, and that many of the students whom we import for college leave after graduation. Indiana ranks high in terms of people who never went to college. We need to up-skill people in training, credentials, and degrees. The Charting the Future project (see chartingthefuture.iu.edu) aims to give students more experience in business and industry. Carol urged us to encourage our leaders to keep improving infrastructure and education at all levels.

Clark Greiner, business development director at the Bloomington Economic Development Corp., spoke about the Economic Vitality Project, bloomingtonedc.com/evp, a local initiative focusing on improving Bloomington, Ellettsville, and Monroe County.

In closing the presentation, Phil Powell reiterated that Indiana University wants to work with the community and the state to improve all aspects of education and quality of life.

A link of the panel's report:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EMRpDkqBTwFVqxGk68BjNxDINHTOd0HT/view?usp=share_link

Meeting updates

More than 150 Rotarians and community leaders gathered in Shreve Hall at Ivy Tech for the Business Outlook Panel, which is presented annually by the Bloomington Rotary Club and the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce. Rotary President-Elect **Ron Barnes** opened the meeting by asking all veterans to stand in honor of Veterans Day on November 11. Ron led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Jim Sims presented a reflection about Rotary. There are three local clubs. Our motto is Service Above Self. Internationally Rotary has been working for more than 35 years to eradicate polio worldwide. Rotarians have contributed more than \$2 billion and countless hours to immunize more than 3 billion children in 122 countries. Jim highlighted our emphasis on youth with the RYLA and Rotaract programs. Our club provides scholarships annually and funded the playground at the Crestmont Boys and Girls Club. Each year we ring bells for the Salvation Army. The three Rotary clubs in Bloomington created the Rotary Toast to honor a community leader. This year we recognized Dr. Gladys DeVane. Finally, Jim noted that our Rotary club sponsored a resolution, adopted by Rotary International, to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Reporter: **Glenda Murray**

Photographers: **Alain Barker, Glenda Murray**