

Roundabout: August 27, 2024

NEXT WEEK



On September 3, we will meet in the Frangipani Room of the Indiana Memorial Union for our Celebration of Service, featuring our District Governor **Mandy Jo Lohrum**. Mandy has been a Rotarian since 2015, when a local community leader invited her to join. Mandy served as President of the Greensburg Rotary Club in 2017-2018, as Assistant Governor for Area 6 from 2018-2023, as Paul Harris Society Coordinator for the District in 2021-2022, as well as House of Friendship Chair for the District Conference in 2022. She is a graduate of Rotary Leadership Institute and has attended four Rotary International Conferences.

Outside of Rotary, Mandy is very active in her community, serving on the Greensburg/Decatur County Chamber of Commerce from 2017-2022, including two terms as President. Mandy has also served as Treasurer for the Arts and Culture Council of Decatur County since 2015.

Mandy received her Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from Ball State University. Mandy is the Director of the Hospital Foundation of Decatur County, which raises funds each year to support Decatur County Memorial Hospital. Mandy lives in Greensburg with her husband Micah, who owns and operates Lohrum Electrical. They have two children, Mackenzie (12) and Mason (8), and a Shih-Poo dog named Mimi.

THIS WEEK'S NEWS

Freedom Fund Awards Dinner The Monroe County Branch of the NAACP is hosting the 43rd Freedom Fund Awards Dinner on Saturday, September 14, at Ivy Tech at 7:00 p.m. Funds raised support local branch activities such as scholarships for local high school seniors, forums on civil rights issues, and community programs that advance the mission of the NAACP. Bloomington's Elizabeth Mitchell will be honored for her distinguished public service. Tickets can be purchased through the Buskirk-Chumley Theatre, either online (www.buskirkchumley.org) or at the box office.

RYLA applications and Global Scholarship Applications

RYLA applications are due by September 6. Global Scholarship applications are also being accepted at www.rotaryglobalscholar.com.

Rotary Toast

Get your Rotary Toast tickets today by visiting www.rotarytoast.com! The Toast, honoring Doug Bauder, will be held on Friday, November 1, at Ivy Tech's Shreve Hall. 92 tickets had been sold by our August 27 meeting, and we need to buy our own tickets and get the word out to others.

AUGUST 27 PROGRAM



Sally Gaskill started by reading the land acknowledgment for our area of Indiana: “We wish to acknowledge and honor the Myaamiaki (Miami), Lenape ((Delaware), Bodwéwadmik (Potawatomi), and Saawanwa (Shawnee) on whose ancestral homelands and resources Bloomington and Indiana University are built.” Sally noted that Sherene Goatson Ing is a Navajo (or Diné in their language) from northwestern Arizona. Sherene is Director of Indiana University Bloomington’s First Nations Educational and Cultural Center (FNECC). In brief, the FNECC is a home away from home for American Indian and indigenous students at IU Bloomington. Sherene has been in Bloomington about a dozen years, during which she earned a master’s degree from IU Bloomington’s O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs and worked at the Monroe County YMCA and Monroe County United Ministries (MCUM) before accepting her present position.

Sherene began her talk by telling us more about herself and indicating that she has been the director of FNECC for about one and a half years. The Center was founded in 2003 and has been in its present location on Eighth Street for ten years. Sherene has used her own skill in making fry bread as a significant way of making the Center welcoming to students, and she has taught many students how to make fry bread.

She asked the question: Why do we need the FNECC? One author indicated that only 7 out of 10 Native students return to college after their first year of study – they need a stronger connection to the college, and FNECC should help. 87% of state standards do not mention Native American history after the 1900s. The Native Indian Education Association urges educators to transform curricula to teach accurate history of Native Americans. And all of us need to educate ourselves about contemporary Native issues and accomplishments of Native peoples today.

IU Bloomington is making strides to improve its Native American presence. There are now at least 10 Native faculty members, many of whom are teaching indigenous-related courses. In 2022 IU created Indigenous Peoples Day, which will be celebrated this year on October 14. Agnes Yellowbear, a Native clothes designer who formerly lived in Bloomington, will be here this year to display her fashion line and make a presentation. In 2023, IU Bloomington established a First Nations scholarship program, and the first scholarships were awarded this year. In 2024, a First Nations thematic living-learning community was approved, to start in 2025-2026. This involves setting aside a residence hall floor for Native students and non-Native students who want to learn about Native peoples.

Other events scheduled this year include Native American Artists talks, to be announced as the year proceeds; a screening of the film “Sugarcane,” which focuses on boarding schools in Canada, on October 3; Native Heritage month in November, which will include a global indigenous conference; a Party for Pacifika later in the school year (last year it featured a band from Hawaii); and an IU Annual Traditional Powwow in April.

Sherene has organized two field trips in her 1½ years at FNECC to bring Native students and others at IUB closer to Native communities. About a year ago, a field trip went to Pine Creek Indian Reservation in Michigan. The focus of this trip was the harvesting and processing of wild rice with the Potawatomi residents of the reservation. Harvesting is interesting. Two people are in a canoe – one to move the canoe with a paddle or pole, and the other to harvest the rice by using a “knocker” to knock the rice off its stock onto a canvas in the bottom of the canoe. The travel group ended the day with a dinner with the Potawatomi featuring salmon, wild rice, and vegetables. The second field trip occurred over spring break 2024 to the Navajo Nation, where the travel group stayed with Sherene’s family and relatives. The travel group learned a great deal about the Diné and saw many beautiful sites around the Arizona portion of the reservation, including Monument Valley and Antelope Canyon (a slot canyon about five minutes from Sherene’s family home).

Sherene ended her talk with a quote from Robin Wall Kimmerer, a citizen of the Potawatomi Nation: “To love a place isn’t enough. We must find a way to heal it.” This is what Sherene wants to get across to the Native students at FNECC. She thinks this is also what we in Rotary are trying to do with our service to our community.

To see the full content of the Sherene’s presentation and the rest of the meeting, click on the following YouTube link: https://youtu.be/7OpmoCI_3R4

UPDATES

August 27 Celebration of Service

President **Traci Jovanovic** welcomed us to the Bloomington Rotary Club's weekly Celebration of Service. President Traci's thought for the day is a quote from Loretta Lynch, the first African-American woman to serve as U.S. Attorney General: "Our most effective response to terror and to hatred is compassion, it's unity and it's love."

To begin her reflection, **Judy Schroeder** stated that she is excited that this year's Rotary Toast is honoring Doug Bauder, the founding director of the LGBTQ+ Center. Doug's book, *The Privilege of Being Queer*, which is currently being revised and reprinted, will be the topic of the next Rotary book club meeting. Doug is kind, non-judgmental, and accepting. He is a minister in the Moravian Church, which is one of the historic "peace" churches, and he brought a profound pastoral element to his job with the LGBTQ+ Center.

Judy told a true story that illustrates the kind of person that Doug is. On July 4, 1999, a white supremacist murdered a Korean Indiana University graduate student, Won-Joon Yoon, as he was entering the Korean United Methodist Church in Bloomington to attend a service. The city and the university were horrified by this tragedy. A memorial service was organized to remember Won-Joon and pray for an end to this kind of tragedy; it was held at the IU Musical Arts Center with a crowd of over 3,000. The organizing committee wanted Doug to be one of the speakers at the service, but the victim's father thought that being gay was a sin and he didn't want a gay man to be one of the speakers. Doug felt the father's wishes should prevail, so he stepped down from speaking. Unknown to most people, Doug proceeded to write a letter of sympathy and understanding to the father. The father wrote back, and this continuing interchange of letters led to a friendship of sorts between the two men. When the father returned to Bloomington for the anniversary of the murder, he met with Doug, and they hugged each other. Judy is looking forward to this year's Rotary Toast.

Member birthdays

- **Claudia Avelleda**, August 27
- **Sue Sgambelluri**, August 27
- **Dhakilr Abdullah**, August 28
- **Winston Shindell**, August 29
- **Mike Hoff**, August 30
- **Shelli Yoder**, August 30

Rotary anniversaries

- **Byron Bangert**, 39 years
- **Len Tieman**, 7 years

Steve Wickes introduced our guests in the Frangipani Room:

- Carol Rhodes, Artists for Climate Awareness (nonprofit), guest of **Jim Bright**
- Kevin Burress, President of IU Rotaract
- Yehya Kader, IU Rotaract
- Ahnaf Rahi, IU Rotaract
- Betty Coffee, guest of **Glenda Murry**
- Sam Cleland, guest of **John Hobson**

Joy Harter introduced our guest on Zoom:

- David Willett, Plymouth MI Rotary Club, guest of **Jim Bright**

President Traci acknowledged those who helped with today's program, including executive assistant **Natalie Blais**, greeter and introductions **Steve Wickes**, Zoom host **Joy Harter**, reflection **Judy Schroeder**, reporter **Bill Perkins**, photographer **Jim Bright**, camera/mic operator **Lori Garraghty**, and Zoom and audio producer **Tylar Martin-Nichols**.

Reporter: **Bill Perkins**
Photographer: **Jim Bright**