



NEWSWATCH

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October 2021

**Next meeting: Wednesday, November 10, at 2 p.m.
via Zoom**

November to offer double feature: virtual tour of new Bloomington Hospital, HR spotlight on retiree benefits

When retirees gather on Zoom Nov. 10 at 2 p.m., they will be treated to two programs in one. First, they will have a virtual tour of the IU Health Bloomington Hospital, scheduled to open Dec. 8, and then a representative from HR will present an update on retiree benefits.



After watching the new hospital being built near the IN 45/46 Bypass, retirees will have a sneak preview before the building's official opening on Dec. 8. The \$557 million hospital anchors the IU Regional Academic Health Center. At 622,000 square feet, it is 80,000 square feet larger than the current facility and includes 364 private patient rooms.



Shawna Girgis, program director of community relations and outreach, will take retirees on a video tour. Shawna, who was mayor of Bedford from 2008 to 2019, is an adjunct faculty member in the O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. She was executive director of the Indiana Rural Health Association from 2005 to 2007. She earned both her bachelor's and

master's of social work degrees from IU.

IURA Vice President **Joyce Krothe** promises that there will be time for questions following Shawna's presentation.

Following the tour, **Christan Royer**, director of benefits for University Human Resource Services, will update retirees on the Blue Retiree plan, dental coverage, changes to required minimum withdrawals, and rollover opportunities from TIAA to Fidelity. Retirees who wish to submit questions for HR to address at the November meeting may email them to Joyce, jkrothe@iu.edu, by Oct. 31. For specific questions, retirees can go to askHR@iu.edu.



An updated list of perks for Bloomington retirees is available on the IURA website. The 24-page 2021 brochure for all IU retirees is available [here](#).

As can be expected at any double feature, the meeting will last longer than the usual hour. A Zoom link will be sent before the event to those for whom email addresses are available.

Johansen gives lowdown on deep dives

"I'm on the recruiting trail all the time," **Drew Johansen**, IU's diving coach since 2013, told his Zoom audience at the Oct. 13 IURA meeting. Success breeds success, he said. With three IU divers earning medals at the most recent Olympics, recruits are turning down offers with more money attached to come instead to Indiana.

IU is recognized as an elite diving school. Every medalist in the last two Olympics was the product of one of USA Diving's four Podium Centers. IU is one

of those centers. Because the number of scholarships is less than one-quarter of the total number of swimmers and divers, IU offers partial rather than full rides.



Several times during his talk, Drew paid tribute to **Hobie Billingsley**, “the godfather of American diving.” Drew has coached at three Olympics; Hobie coached at five. The diving well that Hobie designed opened in 1986; Drew said its layout is still state of the art. At 94, Hobie still comes to practices and offers advice. Divers whom Hobie coached all the way to the Olympics – Lesley Bush and Cynthia Potter, for example – remain loyal to the program.

Olympism by definition blends sport with culture and education. It creates a lifestyle based on pursuit of the rings, Drew said. A good coach puts care for the athlete ahead of the award or medal. “If you don’t do that,” he said, “you’re a bad coach.” Divers are risk takers, he added: “My job is to look out for them.”

“How can a coach give good feedback on a dive that lasts only seconds?” IURA member **Jim Sherman** asked. In analyzing the physics of motion, Hobie divided the dive into seven parts, Drew said. They include in the air, on the board, and under water. Because coaches can’t see everything at once, they determine what they will look at on a given day. They also watch video to break down the dive.

Fielding questions from various retirees, IURA Past President **Doug Porter** asked what attracts people to diving. Drew said in many cases it has to do with body type. Height offers a huge advantage in swimming. A not-so-tall swimmer may pursue diving instead. Many divers – including Drew’s wife, Jenny, a two-time Olympian – have a background in gymnastics.

“Diving is a violent sport from the toll it takes on the body,” Drew said. His wife bears scars on her shoulders and hands from injuries incurred in her teens. It’s also hard on the knees.

Drew closed by inviting retirees to the next meet, at 3 p.m. on Dec. 3 at the Student Recreational Sports Center against the University of Cincinnati. IURA President **Charlie Matson** introduced the speaker.

This program and others on Zoom can be accessed from <https://iura.indiana.edu/events.html>.

United Way reimagines better normal

Nearly half the citizens of Owen, Greene, and Monroe counties live in poverty or hover just above it, **Efrat Feferman** told retirees on Oct. 13. She has been executive director of United Way of Monroe County since 2017.

Efrat said United Way focuses on three E’s: earnings, education, and essential needs. The goal is to create resilient individuals, a resilient community with support networks, and a resilient safety net that supplies basic physiological and safety needs.



When COVID struck, “we activated relief funds just as we do for natural disasters like floods and tornadoes,” Efrat said. Local generosity inspired Lilly Endowment grants of \$1.6 million.

“One in five people in our service area is experiencing full-blown poverty,” Efrat said. “One in three is just above it. These are people who are working but still struggling. We are reimagining a better normal for these people.” A five-county coalition, United Against Hunger, has brought together organizations such as United Way, Community Kitchen, Hoosier Hills Food Bank, and Meals on Wheels to address food insecurity.

In introducing Efrat, IURA board member **Jim Grandorf** pointed out that retirees contributed more than \$300,000 to United Way last year.

**Reservation Form
for IU Retirees Association
HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
Wednesday, December 1**

Doors open at 11:30; meal served at noon
Ballroom of the Bloomington Country Club, 3000 S. Rogers St.

Please initial *one* entrée choice *per person*:

Rosemary Grilled Chicken _____
Horseradish Herb-Crusted Salmon _____
Vegan Roasted Vegetable Strudel _____

All meals will include spinach salad, roasted potatoes, broccolini, cookies and brownies, and water, coffee, and iced tea.

The cost is \$24 for **each** meal. Make checks payable to IU Retirees Association.

Name(s) _____ Check Amount _____

Reservation form and check must be postmarked by November 18 and mailed to IURA, P.O. Box 8393, Bloomington, IN 47407-8393. You may combine payment for membership and the luncheon in a single check.

**IU Retirees Association
2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name _____

For couple membership, spouse's/partner's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ **9-digit** ZIP code _____

Telephone 1* _____ Email 1* _____

Telephone 2* _____ Email 2* _____

_____ When possible, I wish to receive the newsletter by email rather than in paper form.

*It is important that you include an email address so that we can send you meeting notices. Telephone number/s and email address/es will be included in the membership directory only if this is *not* checked:

I do not want telephone number/s _____ or email address/es _____ included in membership directory.

Membership Type: Single (\$20) _____ Couple (\$30) _____

Please mail this form with your check, made payable to IU Retirees Association, to
IURA
P.O. Box 8393
Bloomington, IN 47407-8393

Visit our website at iura.indiana.edu Contact us at iura@indiana.edu

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P.O. Box 8393
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Permit No. 2

Reserve by Nov. 18 for holiday luncheon

A celebratory holiday luncheon will be held at noon on Wednesday, Dec. 1, at the Bloomington Country Club. It will be the IURA's first in-person event since Feb. 12, 2020. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday and possible delays in mail delivery, reservations *must* be postmarked by Nov. 18. The form appears on Page 3 of this newsletter.

IURA Hospitality Chair **Martha Smiley** explains, "The luncheon will be a plated meal – not a buffet – in the ballroom of the country club. Because we are offering multiple menu options, we must have a count early. The \$24 per person includes tax and gratuities."

Students from the Jacobs School of Music will provide entertainment.

Why join the IURA?

The IURA supports its two partner organizations, the University Club and Emeriti House. Each has a unique mission. The University Club (uclub.indiana.edu) is primarily *social*; it even includes "congeniality" among its goals. Its membership is open to all. The Emeriti House (www.emeritihouse.indiana.edu) is open to emeriti faculty and colleagues. Its mission is primarily *scholarly*. It showcases the talents of retired faculty and highlights the work of other scholars.

The organization that is now the IURA was founded in 1975 to advocate for retirees in their ongoing relationship with the university. Its primary mission

is *support*. It supports the university by keeping members informed of current developments. It supports the community with its outstanding record of generous giving to the United Way. And it supports its members by linking them to each other, fostering their connection to IU, informing them of any changes to their benefits, and advocating for them with Human Resources and other university offices.

Why am I getting this newsletter?

You are getting this newsletter for one of three reasons. Database manager **Doris Wittenburg** maintains a Big List of more than 1,100 names. Your mailing label reveals your status:

1. If you are a member in good standing, the top line tells you your dues are paid.
2. If you have been a member in previous years but have not paid your dues for 2021-22, the top line asks you to renew.
3. If you have never been a member, that line encourages you to join.

If you have not paid dues for this year, this is your next-to-last newsletter. If you wish to be removed from the list, send a message to Doris at dwittenb@indiana.edu with "unsubscribe" in the subject line and your name as it appears on IU records. Send address changes to Doris as well.

Judy Schroeder writes *Newswatch* eight times a year, August through April, except for February. Please send corrections and comments to her at jschroed@indiana.edu.