



# NEWSWATCH

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November 2021

**Next meeting: Wednesday, December 1, at 11:45 a.m.  
Bloomington Country Club, 3000 S. Rogers Street**

## Holiday luncheon to celebrate in person

Retirees haven't met in person since February 2020. Therefore, the in-person gathering Dec. 1 in the ballroom at the Bloomington Country Club, will be a celebratory event.



“A harp/flute duo will provide soft background music while we enjoy our lunch,” says IURA Secretary **Perry Maull**, who arranged entertainment by students from the Jacobs School of Music. Following the luncheon, an a capella quartet will sing holiday music.

Reservations had to be postmarked by Nov. 18, but you can email Hospitality Chair **Martha Smiley**, [Martha-smiley@att.net](mailto:Martha-smiley@att.net), if you wish to be put on a stand-by list in case of a last-minute cancellation.

According to IURA President **Charlie Matson**, “We expect all members and guests who take part in the lunch meeting to be fully vaccinated. When we are not eating or drinking, we will follow Monroe County’s guidance on face masks. We are spacing the seating for only six people per table.”

Driving directions: turn off South Rogers at the country club sign. You will reach the clubhouse in about a quarter of a mile. Passengers can be dropped off at the main entrance, under an awning. The ballroom is easily accessible from there. An elevator to the main floor from the lower level, which is near the parking lot, is available. Helpful volunteers will be on hand to give directions.

## IU retirements set record

A record number of employees retired between January 2019 and August 2021, HR director of benefits **Christan Royer** told participants at the Nov. 10 IURA meeting on Zoom. Those retiring had an average age of 66 and an average of 28 years of fulltime service to IU.

**Sue Dukeman**, HR senior retirement specialist, reminded IURA members that HR moved out of the Poplars Building several months ago. The new location is 420 N. Walnut St., formerly the ProCure building. The front doors are currently locked, however, and people are being seen by appointment only. Contact [askhr@iu.edu](mailto:askhr@iu.edu).

## Open enrollment is here: Anthem facts

**Christan Royer**, HR director of benefits, gave health care updates to retirees at the Nov. 10 meeting. Only 250 retirees are on the Anthem Under 65 PPO plan, which some early retirees use as a bridge to Medicare.

By contrast, 2,600 retirees and spouses have chosen the Anthem IU Blue Retiree Plan. The premiums will remain the same for the coming year, \$195.67 for one participant and \$390.06 for a participant and spouse.

Once you leave the Blue plan, you can't return, said IURA member **Jim Sherman**, co-chair of the benefits committee of the IU Bloomington Faculty Council. Someone who is just retiring might choose another plan because the Blue plan is initially more expensive. "But those lower premiums may skyrocket as you age," he said.

Christan pointed out that the Blue plan covers international claims as well. "If you have claim issues, you can call our office for help," she said.

## Here's help finding a good book

This time of year encourages the dream of finding the "perfect" gifts. Books are a good choice. They are consumable, reusable, and recyclable, and sometimes they can change a life. Finding the right one can be a challenge, though – especially for children, whose interests and reading abilities change rapidly. Meet NoveList Plus, a book recommendation database available through the Monroe County Public Library.

NoveList Plus includes:

- fiction and nonfiction titles for all ages;
- expert reading recommendations from professional librarians;
- read-alikes for every title, author, and series;
- and book lists and book discussion guides.

You can browse by genre. For example, books for ages 9-12 are grouped by fantasy and science fiction, international, nonfiction, realistic, and thrills and chills. There is also a straightforward search function. For example, to find the right book for a four-year-old that features the child's name in the title, do a search for the child's name, refine results to ages 0 to 8, and use the publication date slider to find a recent publication.

Each book listing includes a short summary and other quick identifiers. Here are examples for *If I Couldn't Be Anne*: genre (Canadian fiction; historical fiction; picture books for children), themes (adoption and families), character (spunky), tone (feel-good), illustration (delicate), and grade level (kindergarten).

NoveList Plus is a comprehensive online readers' advisory tool with information on hundreds of thousands of popular fiction and readable nonfiction titles. The entries are crafted by librarians and reading authorities who are experts in the field. The MCPL also offers personalized recommendations through the Children's Services Department

<https://mcpl.info/childrens/personalized-recommendations-childrens-books>.

– Ralf Shaw

## Don't just read a book. Write one!

Longtime IURA member **Tony Mobley** recently published a memoir, *My Life Story: Service, Leadership, Rewards*. Tony, who was dean of the School of HPER from 1976 to 2006, is one of the longest serving deans in IU history. His memoir is available from [hspdesign.myportfolio.com](http://hspdesign.myportfolio.com).

Emeriti House ([www.emeritihouse.indiana.edu](http://www.emeritihouse.indiana.edu)) hosts a life-writing workshop on the third Thursday of each month, from 3 to 5 p.m. **John Woodcock**, who has coordinated the workshop for the last 15 years, says, "Anyone who has a biographical or autobiographical project, at whatever stage, is welcome to attend." Emeriti House is located at 1015 E. Atwater Ave.

## Retirees get preview of new hospital

The new IU Health South Central hospital will open on time and on budget. **Shawna Girgis**, IU Health program director of community relations and outreach, said, "It will be transformational, with cutting-edge technology and an entire-care continuum to minimize patient hand-off." Shawna spoke to well over 100 IURA members gathered on Zoom for the Nov. 10 meeting.

The new hospital will feature hybrid operating rooms and cath labs. It will contain an interventional radiology suite. A separate entrance on the north side of the building will welcome people requiring oncology treatment. All equipment will be new and state-of-the art.

An extensive decommissioning plan is in place for the existing hospital. Assets will be relocated to other hospitals. No auction is planned.

In partnership with the IU Regional Academic Health Center, the new facility will allow for an expanded nursing program and a future residency program. Students already are taking classes in the new Health Sciences Building. "The simulation lab is incredible," Shawna said. The dining area serves as a bridge between the hospital and the academic center. It features six food stations and a coffee shop.

Because of COVID, there are no public tours. The Dec. 5 move will begin at 5 a.m. Each department is

Aerial View – Rendering



nameplates, plaques, and bricks. “There are still multiple opportunities for giving,” Shawna said.

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

**IU Health South Central Region by the numbers**



- Serves 11 counties, 470,000 residents
- 51% of patients from outside Monroe County
- 400 health care providers
- 53 acres
- 695,900 square feet
- 1,799 parking stalls
- 198 inpatient single rooms
- 166 outpatient rooms
  - 30 observation rooms
  - 12 surgery overnight rooms
- 2 radiology departments
- 13 operating suites
- 50,000 emergency room visits each year

going through a checklist, and there have been two practice moves. Emergency services on moving day will be available at both the old and new hospitals.

Parking is in front of the hospital. Valet parking also will be available. A member of the IU Health team will greet each person at the entrance, under an awning on a circular drive.

Philanthropy has played an important role in the hospital’s construction. Patients will enter through the Shreve Atrium. The cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation center bears the name of Larry Rink. Digital recognition will replace donor wall

**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.

**IU Retirees Association**  
**P.O. Box 8393**  
**Bloomington, IN 47407-8393**

**Nonprofit Org.**  
**U.S. Postage PAID**  
**Bloomington, IN**  
**Permit No. 2**

### 'Tis the season for RMDs

“Beginning at age 72, you are *required* to withdraw a minimum amount from your retiree account each year,” **Jim Sherman** said. “The amount starts at about 4.5 percent of your account and goes up as you age. It is taxed at the rate of your financial gains for that year. But you can roll over funds from your account directly to charities and it will not be taxed.”

IURA board member **Jim Grandorf** added, “You can contribute up to \$100,000 out of your RMD to any charity listed by the IRS: IU, your church or synagogue, or United Way.” In fact, he said, it’s possible to transfer up to \$30,000 from a Fidelity account over the telephone. IURA member **Susan Jones** reported success doing it online. The details vary with the institution; they do not apply to TIAA annuity contracts.

### Membership directory out in December

Paid members of the IURA – they numbered 405 as of Nov. 12 – will be mailed a membership directory with their December *Newswatch*. The directory gives names, street addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses for members who have chosen to share that information.

The directory is distributed *only* to members. If you are *not* an IURA member, you must return the membership form to be included in the directory.

**The mailing deadline is Nov. 28.** Information about your membership status is on your mailing label.

For address corrections, please contact IURA database manager **Doris Wittenburg**, [dwittenb@indiana.edu](mailto:dwittenb@indiana.edu). Send comments or corrections to *Newswatch* editor **Judy Schroeder**, [jschroed@indiana.edu](mailto:jschroed@indiana.edu).

**If you are not an IURA member,  
this is your last newsletter.  
Join today!**

### Put these dates on your 2022 calendar

IURA President **Charlie Matson** has announced the topics of the first meetings of the new year. Sites are yet to be determined, but it is likely that meetings will be hybrid, with both in-person and online options available.

On Jan. 12 **Tom Morrison**, IU vice president for capital planning and finances, will present a history of the growth and development of the Bloomington campus. He will also outline future plans.

On Feb. 9 **Fred Cate**, IU vice president for research, will describe the best ways to stay safe in today's world of hackers and scammers. He'll also describe how IU safeguards itself from ransom attacks.