Next regular meeting: 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 8
The Commons, Bell Trace, 800 N. Bell Trace Circle

Spirits to soar at merry May potluck

Celebrate the end of the academic year with the ever-popular IURA potluck on Wednesday, May 8, in the Commons at Bell Trace. The speaker will be Jeff Wuslich, co-founder and president of Cardinal Spirits, a craft spirits distillery located in a former sheet metal factory on South Morton Street. Since it opened in February 2015, Cardinal Spirits has crafted products that have been featured in the New York Times and Wall Street Journal.

Jeff came to IU in 1999, and, like many people in Bloomington, never left. Friends now accuse him of “living the dream.” He’s the husband of Erica Sagon and father of a son, with another to arrive shortly.

At IU Jeff was a member of the Board of Aeons. After graduation he spent seven years as chief of staff for Bloomington Chancellor Ken Gros Louis. He previously was a partner at Might and Main, where he raised money for a variety of entities and clients. He is active in the local startup and tech community and enjoys connecting and collaborating with fellow entrepreneurs.

Please bring a salad, vegetable dish, or dessert to share. IURA will provide chicken tenders, baby-back ribs, and wine. Bell Trace will provide iced tea, lemonade, water, and table service. No reservations are necessary, and you are welcome to bring a guest.

Doors open at 5 p.m., and we’ll start feasting at approximately 5:30 p.m. Bell Trace will have a staff member stationed at the entrance to direct traffic to nearby parking spaces. As usual, carpooling is encouraged.

Writing IU’s history, one person at a time

The Bicentennial Oral History Project is to preserve the people’s history of IU by telling stories collected from faculty, staff, and alumni on all of IU’s campuses. Director Kristin Leaman told more than 50 IURA members gathered at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church on April 17 some of these stories.

A veteran of WW II recalled how Herman B Wells presented the wives of veterans with a personally signed diploma, thanking them for their efforts in putting their husbands through school.

Janet Cheatham Bell, who attended the Bloomington campus in the 1950s and 1960s, told how the racial climate changed. In the 1950s, she said, “black people couldn’t live near campus because no one would rent to us.” When she returned in the 1960s, she found a rooming house on Fourth Street where, she said, “I made my first white friend at IU.”

An alumnus recalled an explosion in the chemistry building on April 24, 1957, that injured several students. Although the accident was due to a malfunctioning oxygen container, the professor blamed himself and left IU.

Terry Clapacs told the story of the Herman Wells statue, commissioned from IU South Bend faculty member Tuck Langland. Tuck was a University of Minnesota graduate, and the statue was dedicated at Homecoming, when IU was playing Minnesota. Only later did Tuck tell Terry that under Herman Wells’ hat brim is carved a hidden message: Go Gophers!

Because the oral history is a Legacy Project, it will continue beyond 2020, Kristin said. People can
volunteer to be an interviewer or to be interviewed, in person or by phone. To participate, fill out a volunteer form at https://200.iu.edu/volunteer.

Kristin noted that for several years Bonnie Brownlee and Bruce Jaffee have been video-interviewing retired faculty, senior staff, coaches and others with notable IU histories. Their work builds on an Emeriti House oral history project begun by Don Gray nearly 15 years ago and now connected with the IU Bicentennial Oral History Project. Bonnie and Bruce invite those interested in being interviewed to get in touch with them (brownlee@indiana.edu; jaffee@indiana.edu). Interviews are conducted in the Beckley Studio in the Media School.

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Sally Jones appointed to IURA board

At its April 3 meeting the IURA board appointed Sally Jones to fill the vacancy created by Tine Lindemann’s resignation. Tine and her husband, George Malacinski, are moving to North Carolina. Sally’s term expires in 2020.

Sally was born in Bloomington and calls herself “a university brat.” She earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from IU. Until her retirement in 2017, she worked at IU for 32 years: as a financial aid counselor, coordinator of the returning students program, and director of the Student Advocates Office, where she still works part time.

Sally and her husband, Frank Young, a retired sculptor and nurse practitioner, enjoy travel and gardening. In retirement Sally is writing poetry and stories about the lives of her 19th-century ancestors.

Remembering our friends

Twice a year since 2008, in the April and August issues, Newswatch memorializes members who have died since the last listing. Because of space limitations, only IURA members can be included. Please notify me (jschroed@indiana.edu, 812-332-5057) of any omissions. Thank you.

Judy Schroeder, Newswatch Editor

Dorothy “Dottie” Burnison Berkley died Nov. 19, 2018, in Bloomington. She was 89. Born in Alpena, S.D., she moved to Bloomington in 1957 with her husband, Dean, when he joined the faculty in the School of Education. Dean died in 2009. A member of St. Mark’s United Methodist Church, Dottie also volunteered at Bloomington Hospital. She enjoyed bridge, reading, traveling, and arranging flowers.

Maryellen Wolfe Bieder died Jan. 31, 2018, in Bloomington. She was 75. Born in Traverse City, Mich., she graduated from Lawrence University and received her master’s at IU. After earning her Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota, Maryellen did research in South America before joining IU as a professor of Spanish and Portuguese in 1976. A prolific scholar of 19th century Spanish literature and culture, she published nearly 60 book chapters and journal articles. Her husband, Robert, died in March.

Marjorie Smith Blewett died Feb. 15 in Bloomington. She was 91. Born in Bloomington, she graduated from IU, where she majored in journalism and served as editor of the Indiana Daily Student. Before marriage she worked for newspapers in Lafayette and Bloomington, becoming news editor of the Herald-Telephone. She joined the staff of IU’s journalism program in 1965 as placement director, retiring in 1995. She was named a Sagamore of the Wabash and was inducted into the Indiana Journalism Hall of Fame. In the 1960s she became the first woman elder at First Christian Church.
Barbara Barrow Burkhead died Nov. 21, 2018, in Bloomington. She was 86. Born on the high plains of west Texas, she graduated from Texas Tech and earned a master’s at IU. She came to Bloomington in 1964 when her husband joined the astronomy faculty. Barbara taught school in Seoul, South Korea, and in Bloomington. She was an elder and greeter at First Presbyterian Church and a regular volunteer for the Red Cross Book Fair. In retirement she worked at national and state parks as a storyteller while her husband lectured on astronomy. Martin, her husband of nearly 63 years, survives.

Eleanor Jewell Byrnes died Jan. 22 in Arlington, Va. She was 100. Born in Worcester, Mass., she graduated from the University of Massachusetts. She came to Bloomington when her husband, Robert, joined the history faculty in 1956. Eleanor was active with the University Club and the Friends of Music. She was a longtime volunteer for the Red Cross, Head Start, Meals on Wheels, and Bloomington Hospital and for 40 years worked at the polls. Her husband died in 1997.

James Huff Justus died Feb. 11 in Bloomington. He was 89. Born in Newport, Tenn., he received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Tennessee. After military service in Japan, he earned his Ph.D. at the University of Washington. He joined the IU English department faculty in 1961. A specialist in the literature of the American South, he was the author of The Achievement of Robert Penn Warren. He chaired the American literature section of the Modern Language Association and was president of the Society for the Study of Southern Literature. Jim retired in 1993.

Edley Wainright “Wain” Martin Jr. died Oct. 18, 2018, in Bloomington. He was 91. Born in Texarkana, Texas, Wain earned a degree in electrical engineering at Georgia Tech before receiving a master’s and Ph.D. in mathematics at Ohio State. While working for IBM in the 1950s, he helped establish IU’s first computer data center. He joined the business school faculty in 1956. He authored several books on business computing. Wain won many awards for community service, including the Mary Alice Gray Award from United Way and the Be More Award from the City of Bloomington. He helped found New Leaf-New Life and established the Jail Bingo program at the Monroe County Correctional Center. A sports fan and world traveler, he was a member of St. Mark’s United Methodist Church and the Bloomington Rotary Club. Wain was treasurer of the IU Annuitants Association, the forerunner of the IURA, from 2000 to 2003 and worked on its United Way campaign for many years.

Vera McKim O’Lessker died Jan. 22 in Bloomington. She was 89. Born in New Albany, Ind., Vera earned a degree in art history at American University. She came to Bloomington in 1974 when her husband, Karl, joined the faculty in SPEA. (Karl died in 1998.) For many years she was treasurer of the Friends of Music and a volunteer with the Monroe County Historical Society. She enjoyed art, gardening, and swimming and for a time owned an antiques store. She was a member of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Lloyd David Orr died Jan. 24 in Tucson, Ariz. He was 84. Born in Knoxville, Iowa, he earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Michigan State University and his Ph.D. at Northwestern University. He joined the IU faculty in 1960 as professor of economics. A music lover, he played the trombone in the Bloomington Community Band. He was an avid bicyclist and enjoyed downhill skiing until 10 days before his death. A member of the Unitarian Universalist Church, Lloyd was a volunteer at the Interfaith Winter Shelter and active with the Citizens Climate Lobby. In 1967 he published an article on electric cars, and in retirement he co-edited Energy: Science, Policy, and the Pursuit of Sustainability. Jackie Hall, his partner of 30 years, survives.

Nevin Willard Raber Jr. died Feb. 6 in Bloomington. He was 100. Born in Fowlerton, Ind., he graduated from Purdue University. He served as a lieutenant in the Army during World War II, retiring in 1978 as a major. He earned master’s degrees at IU in both history and library science and worked at the Indianapolis Public Library, becoming head of the business branch and assistant director. In 1962 he joined the IU faculty as head of the business library. A consultant for library operation and interior layout, Nevin served as president of the Indiana chapter of the Special Libraries Association.

George Springer died Feb. 18 in Newton, Mass. He was 94. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he earned a bachelor’s degree at Case Institute of Technology, his master’s at Brown University, and his Ph.D. in mathematics at Harvard. He taught at MIT, Northwestern, and the University of Kansas before joining the IU faculty in 1964. He was a visiting professor at the universities of Münster and Würzburg in Germany, Mackenzie University in
Brazil, and Imperial College London. He also served as program director for the division of mathematical sciences of the National Science Foundation. He retired in 2003 as professor emeritus of mathematics and computer science. The School of Informatics honored him with its Distinguished Service Award in 2012. An outdoorsman, George enjoyed music and theater.

**Ann Morgan Strong** died Dec. 26, 2018, in Bloomington. She was 85. Born in Milwaukee, Ann graduated from the University of Wisconsin at La Crosse and earned a master’s in educational psychology. For more than 40 years she worked as a volunteer at IU Health Bloomington Hospital. She was a member of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church and Sweet Adelines. Her husband, Clint, professor emeritus of kinesiology, died in 2017.

**Carolyn Hedden Waldman**, died March 8 in Bloomington. She was 78. She was born in Plainville, Ind. A member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, she retired from IU as a purchasing agent and licensing manager. Her husband, Joe, Lawrence D. Glaubinger professor emeritus of business administration, survives.

**Donald Whitehead** died Feb. 6, 2018, in Bloomington. He was 85. Born in Quincy, Mass., he earned both an undergraduate and Ph.D. at Harvard. He joined the IU biology department faculty in 1967. Among his research interests was lake acidification that was linked to fossil fuels. He later shifted his research to the effects of forest fragmentation on migrant songbirds. For 25 years he led the annual Christmas bird count for the Sassafras Audubon Society, which honored him with its Lifetime Conservationist Award. For many years he was on the advisory board of the Sycamore Land Trust.

Don was an avid gardener and a gourmet cook. His wife, Betsy, died in 2017.

**Volunteers needed as student advocates**

The Student Advocates Office is recruiting new volunteers from among retired IU staff and faculty members. New volunteers will be trained to begin regular shifts in the fall. The mission is to assist students in resolving personal and academic problems so that they can maintain progress toward earning a degree.

For more information, email Darrell Ann Stone at dastone@indiana.edu. Or talk to a current advocate. IURA members who serve as advocates include Roger Gildersleeve, Susan Klein, Vince Mabert, Gerald Marker, Rebecca Hoke-McCall, Wil McCall, Lou Moir, and Bill Shipton. The volunteer application is at https://studentaffairs.indiana.edu/student-advocates/become-an-advocate/index.shtml

**Art exhibit open through May**

If you can’t attend the April 26 opening reception for the Emeriti House/IURA art exhibit, you can still view the exhibit during the month of May, Monday through Friday, 9-12 a.m. and 1-5 p.m.

**About this newsletter**

Newswatch is published eight times each year, August through April, except for February. This is the last issue of the 2018-19 academic year. Send corrections or comments to Judy Schroeder at jschroed@indiana.edu. To correct your address, please contact database manager Doris Wittenburg, dwittenb@indiana.edu.