



NEWSWATCH

Vol. 2018-19 No. 4

November 2018

**Next meeting: 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 12 (reservation deadline Dec. 5)
Peterson Room, Showalter House, IU Foundation, SR46 Bypass**

Holiday lunch to feature Talented chef

Chef **David Tallent**, a nine-time James Beard Award semifinalist, will be the speaker when retirees gather for their annual holiday luncheon on Dec. 12. Chef Tallent will speak after retirees finish the tasty meal he will cater.

A Bloomington native, David met his wife, Krissy, while they were working at a local restaurant. In 2000 they left Bloomington to attend the Culinary

Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y.

After working at restaurants in New York and Atlanta, he and Krissy returned to Bloomington in 2003 to open Restaurant Tallent. Focusing

on Midwestern cuisine and using ingredients from local farms, Restaurant Tallent flourished for 12 years before Dave decided to move on to another venture.

In August 2015 he became executive chef of IU's Traditions Catering. In June 2018, Traditions merged with IMU Catering to create IU Dining, for which he serves as executive chef. IU Dining now oversees all eateries and catering on the Bloomington campus, with the exception of IU Athletics' Championship Catering.

Doors open at 11:30. The buffet will begin at 11:45. It will feature roasted chicken with sage jus; winter vegetable risotto; herb-roasted new potatoes; and

baby carrots with thyme and garlic. A mixed green salad with house vinaigrette will be served. Dessert is cheesecake with topping. Drinks include coffee, iced tea, and water.

The cost is \$25 per person. Guests are welcome, but all reservations and payment must be *received* by Dec. 5. Space requires that the luncheon be limited to 120. Please return the reservation form in this newsletter, along with your check.

Because parking at the IU Foundation is severely limited, only cars with three or more occupants will be allowed into the lot. Parking is available at the Tennis Pavilion, 1833 N. Fee Lane, where people can arrange car pools to the IUF.

Our day in court: Cate on Supremes

The Supreme Court is the only branch of government that provides counter-majoritarian protection, **Beth Cate** told nearly 70 rapt retirees Nov. 12. It alone can rein in abusive power by other branches. Therefore, it is imperative that the Supreme Court represent core democratic values and be infused with integrity.

"Age has nothing to do with competency or getting things done," Beth acknowledged with a bow to her audience, but she cited the relative youthfulness of the newest associate justices. Neil Gorsuch is 51 and Brett Kavanaugh is 53. The health of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, at 85 the oldest associate justice, is followed closely. "People have been sending her bags of kale for years," Beth said. "When she fell recently, the Internet exploded with offers of ribs and other body parts."

Because there is no mandatory retirement, some people support a proposal that Supreme Court terms be limited to 18 years. Process reform, however, is

slow in coming, Beth said. Many people question whether the Senate confirmation process is substantive in any meaningful way.

Although Supreme Court appointments garner the headlines, President Trump also has appointed 29 appellate judges, with 11 more awaiting confirmation, and 53 district court judges, with 56 more awaiting confirmation. “His administration hasn’t yet flipped appeals courts,” Beth said, “but he has strengthened conservative majorities on several.”

Mitch McConnell has stated that confirming Trump’s judicial appointments is his top priority – with good reason. The vast bulk of judicial opinion takes place at the lower levels. “Lower courts do yeoman’s service in shaping law,” Beth emphasized. Although 8,000 cases are appealed to the Supreme Court each year, it hears only about 80 and often waits to see how lower courts act and rule.

As far as the next session is concerned, Beth expects no blockbusters. The Court has stayed away from the Second Amendment for ten years, but eventually one of these cases on gun control will make it to the highest level. As for abortion, states will continue their efforts to limit it – “death by a thousand cuts,” she said. The Court will step in only when these limitations are deemed unconstitutional. It is too early to predict the outcome of the Mueller investigation and whether the Court will become involved.

Chief Justice John Roberts is, Beth said, a solid conservative in terms of judicial philosophy. He wants to maintain the Court’s integrity by building consensus around narrower issues of law.

Retirees peppered Beth with questions. **Wendy Elliot** asked about the role of a minority dissent. “As long as you have a majority, it is binding law across the land,” Beth said. “But dissents still play an important role.” Dissenting views can get picked up and argued in subsequent cases. Even concurrences – she cited Justice Elena Kagan in a gerrymandering case – can provide a road map as to what case or argument might elicit a different outcome.

Harlan Lewis asked about the future of Antonin Scalia’s originalist/textualist approach. Of all the justices, Beth said, Clarence Thomas is the most originalist, but Gorsuch is firmly in the Scalia mold.

The jury is still out on Kavanaugh: Is he more pragmatist or partisan?

Jim Grandorf inquired about the role of clerks in sorting through the 8,000 cases that come to the Court. That role differs with each justice, Beth said, but the cases most likely to be heard are ones where lower courts have split and the law varies from place to place. **Ken Beckley** asked about the role of the chief justice in selecting cases. “He is the first among equals,” Beth said, not like a committee chair who can decide which issues advance and which don’t.

Martha Wailes cited a recent *New Yorker* article that criticized Ginsburg’s rock-star status. Beth said she understood the criticism. “People shouldn’t get sidelined by the glitz,” she said. Because Beth wants the public as a whole to appreciate their role, she supports the justices’ projecting an image of “sober, law-focused public servants.”

Beth said the Supreme Court has never veered very far from public opinion. The real concern is when its judgments are marginalized or brushed aside, as with *Brown v. Board of Education*, where “all deliberate speed” was more deliberate than speedy.

Retirees used words like “articulate,” “informed,” and “engaging” to describe Beth’s presentation. The numerous awards to which **Joanie Curts** alluded in her introduction are well earned, they said. Retirees also endorsed **Bonnie Brownlee**’s prowess as the IURA’s first snack provider.

Remembering Wain Martin

At the Nov. 14 IURA meeting President **Doug Porter** noted the death of **Wain Martin** on Oct. 18 at the age of 91. For many years, Wain was part of IURA’s United Way triumvirate, along



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RESERVATION FOR DEC. 12 LUNCHEON

Doors Open 11:30 a.m. Buffet at 11:45
IU Foundation, SR46 Bypass

Name(s) _____

Cost is \$25 for each meal. Please mail this form with your check to
IU Retirees Association
P.O. Box 8393
Bloomington, IN 47407-8393

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY NO LATER THAN DEC. 5

If you have not already joined, you may use one envelope and one check for both reservation and membership.

Membership directory out in December

Paid members of the IURA – they numbered 413 as of Nov. 16 – will receive 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 below to be included in the directory. The deadline is Dec. 5. Information about your membership status is on your mailing label.

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

**IU Retirees Association
2018-19 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name _____

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

Address _____

City _____ State _____ 9-digit ZIP code _____

Telephone(s) _____ Email(s) _____

Check if applicable: I do not want my telephone number email included in the membership directory.
When possible, I wish to receive the newsletter by email rather than in paper form.

Enclosed is my check, made payable to IU Retirees Association, for:

_____ Single membership (\$20) _____ Couple membership (\$30)

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

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with **Doris Burton** and **Harriet Pfister** (see 2015 photo on page 2). In his memory Doug led retirees in Wain's rousing cheer: "Go, Retirees!"

As a middle schooler, Doug said, he mowed the Martins' yard. He remembered Wain as a family man, an educator, and an innovator. "He and **Bill Perkins** were teaching computer courses at the business school when the rest of us were trying to keep our punch cards in order," Doug recalled.

Well on our way to 2018 United Way goal

At the Nov. 14 IURA meeting United Way co-chair **Eileen Schellhammer** announced that the IURA is on track to reach its goal. As of Nov. 13, retirees already had pledged \$144,825, 76 percent of the \$190,000 goal.

If you have not yet mailed your United Way pledge, Eileen

encourages you to do so. Please specify the IU Retirees Association as your giving unit.

A timely point to remember

The Anthem Blue health plan is available only to those who have had continuous insurance coverage with IU. Once you allow your IU insurance to lapse, you will not be able to re-enroll. Because Anthem Blue is an IU program, people on this plan can call Human Resources if they have problems rather than dealing with the insurance company.

Our partners: Emeriti House, University Club

For information on the programs of the Emeriti House and the University Club, see

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

Join today.

<http://www.indiana.edu/~emeriti> and
<http://www.indiana.edu/~uclub>.