



Reflections

On a New Arrival

About a year and a half ago, a woman came into our office and purchased several back issues of *Bloom* as well as a gift subscription. She was sending them to her parents in Washington, D.C., she said, as part of a strategy to convince them to move to Bloomington.

This is not an unusual occurrence. Many residents send *Bloom* subscriptions to their folks or grown kids in the hope that they'll settle here. This woman's request was special though, as her father is Lee Hamilton, a congressman for three and a half decades, an advisor to presidents, vice chair of the 9/11 Commission, and, all in all, the most important Hoosier in government.

Well, we are glad to report that Hamilton and his wife Nancy did relocate here at the end of last year, joining their two children and five grandchildren in the Bloomington area.

When Hamilton consented to an interview and photo session with *Bloom*, I was thrilled and dispatched our A-Team of photographer Steve Raymer and writer Elisabeth Andrews. Despite his busy schedule—he is director of the Center on Congress at IU's School of Public and Environmental Affairs, as well performing other important national duties—Hamilton was accommodating, forthright, and generous with his time. The story begins on page 82. I think you will find his recollections fascinating. I know I did.

On Missing Pat

On January 26, Patrick L. Baude, a distinguished IU law professor and *Bloom*'s wine columnist, passed away. To say he will be sorely missed is an understatement. He was a special human being whose life touched many. There are two tributes to Pat in this issue. His final column *Wining* (page 44) has been written by his children, and Food Editor Christine Barbour's column *My Plate or Yours* (page 48) is a remembrance of her longtime friend.

I met Pat a few months after I came to Bloomington while searching out talent for this magazine. Christine directed me to his wine blog—which I thought was deliciously informative, warm-hearted, thoughtful, and a bit quirky. When I met the author, I found him to be the same. Pat knew more about more things than almost any mortal, yet he did not possess an ounce of arrogance. A Harvard grad and a nationally respected scholar of constitutional law, he could also feed you the latest on Gwyneth Paltrow and recommend a good cheese. I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to work with Pat and I will always treasure the time I spent in his company.

Malcolm Abrams
editor and publisher