OLLI - Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

SPRINGFIELD

Winter/Spring 2019 (January-May)

Programs are held at 2 pm Tuesday afternoons
at the Nolin Murray Center,
next to St. Mary’s Catholic Church,
40 Pleasant St., Springfield, Vermont 05156

*For weather related schedule changes, check the website
www.learn.uvm.edu/olli (Springfield site) and SAPA TV 802-885-6248
Comcast Channels 8 & 10 — VTel Cable Channels 1160 & 1161

January 29

Life In the Fast Lane

Kelly Arrison, Professional Auto Racer

Hear Kelly’s stories of decades of world travels during his professional auto racing career. Starting as a winning driver at regional speedways, he worked his way up the racing ladder to drive some of the most powerful and dangerous race cars in the country. Though he continues to occasionally drive race cars, he transitioned to become a Crew Chief and Team Manager in many of the world’s most prestigious professional series and iconic events including the Indianapolis 500, 24 Hours of Le Mans, NASCAR series, Pike’s Peak International Hill Climb and the World Rally Race from Hong Kong to Beijing, winning that event on his second try. Learn how he’s turned his Heads Up Motorsports facility in Chester to the restoration and maintenance of interesting classic and street cars.

February 12

Do Plants Think?

Lincoln Earle-Centers, Arborist

Co-Sponsored by Springfield Garden Club

What is happening in plant research to precipitate a mainstream fascination with plant “behavior” or even “neurobiology?” It turns out that plants are doing a lot more than most of us would ever consider. Hear from a lifelong student and observer who spends his days in the trees. Share his thoughts, research and observations about the kingdom of the plants that we live among.
Let Us Have Faith That Right Makes Might
Proverbial Rhetoric in Decisive Moments of American Politics
Wolfgang Mieder, Distinguished Professor of German and Folklore, University of Vermont

Learn about effective uses of proverbs in the political fray over the past three centuries. Some truly remarkable proverbial utterances by Abraham Lincoln, Susan B. Anthony, Harry S. Truman and Barack Obama will serve to illustrate that proverbs can obtain incredible importance in political rhetoric that goes far beyond the almost subconscious use of seemingly mundane proverbs.

J.S. Bach, Genius and Pop Star
Erik Nielsen, Professional Composer

Whenever lists of great composers are compiled, the name Johann Sebastian Bach almost always comes at the top. “Why Bach?” Is it because he wrote so much music? Is it because he was a great innovator? Perhaps it’s because of the intense spiritual content of Bach’s music. Navigate the profundity, sadness, power and beauty of this great genius and also discuss some of the modern adaptations of Bach’s music that have occurred in the past 40 years.

Andrew Wyeth’s World
Katie Wood Kirchhoff, Associate Curator, Shelburne Museum

Join Ms. Kirchhoff for an exploration of twelve paintings by Andrew Wyeth chosen for the United States Postal Service’s 2017 Forever Stamp series. Selected to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the painter’s birth, these iconic scenes from Pennsylvania and Maine include favorites like Wind from the Sea (1947), Christina’s World (1948) and Shelburne Museum’s Soaring (1942-50).

Etiquette in the 21st Century
Daniel Post Senning, Author

Etiquette is, and always has been, about building relationships. Discover from the great-great grandson of Emily Post what that looks like in today’s fast changing world.

The Chase: Lake Champlain’s Rum Runners & Boat Patrol
Scott McLaughlin, Executive Director, Vermont Granite Museum of Barre

During Prohibition, rather than risk being caught along the roads that crisscrossed the United States-Canadian border in New York and Vermont, many professional smugglers and others avoided lawmen altogether by using the open waters of Lake Champlain. Learn how these outlaws smuggled alcohol into the United States from Canada and how the U.S. Customs officers tried their best to stop the seemingly never-ending flow of booze between 1920 and 1933.

Connecticut River Log Drives
Helen Pike, Author

Take a tour of the early log drives down the Connecticut River and explore the physical perils and economic hardships men faced as they built a new nation in the 19th century. Meet such colorful characters as woodsman Jigger Johnson, dam builder Win Schoppe, cookee Tom Cozzie, lady logger Ruth Park, and the lumber king George Van Dyke.

The Wonders of Woodland Warblers
Bridget Butler, Bird Diva
Co-Sponsored by Ascutney Mountain Audubon Society

Who are the Wood Warblers and why do birders lose their minds over them each spring? Discover that these small songbirds are not only incredibly colorful with necklaces and eye-rings, but beautiful songsters as well. And, they’re maddening! They’re quick, sometimes elusive and everyone’s in a rush to get a glimpse of a little warbler eye-candy before all the trees leaf out for the summer. There’s a lot to be on the lookout for! Join the Bird Diva to learn more about the 41 documented species of warblers in Vermont, how to find them and get tips on how to look and listen for these winged jewels.

Thanks to our local benefactor: Barbara Sanderson