

# Grow Curious, Stay Wild

at  
OLLII



at The University of  
Southern Mississippi

Artwork by OLLI Member and Instructor Dana Stratton (1944 - 2025)

## Spring 2026

Online and email registration | Wednesday, January 14 at 9 a.m.

Phone registration | Thursday, January 15 at 9 a.m.

Walk-in registration | Friday, January 16 at 9 a.m.

Courses begin | Monday, January 26



### Annual Membership Fees

\$50 Hattiesburg  
 \$40 Gulf Park  
 \$30 USM Faculty/Staff  
 \$30 Zoom Only

50 or older and wildly  
 curious? Join us!

*OLLII Southern Miss*

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 *The views and opinions expressed in courses are solely those of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of OLLI.*

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**MEMBERSHIP AND CLASS REGISTRATION** | Email and online registration will begin Wednesday, January 14 at 9 a.m. Phone registration will open Thursday, January 15 at 9 a.m. Walk-in registration will open Friday, January 16 at 9 a.m. Courses begin Monday, January 26. You may email your course selections to [maryann.herodes@usm.edu](mailto:maryann.herodes@usm.edu) (Gulf Park | GP) and [tay.baucum@usm.edu](mailto:tay.baucum@usm.edu) (Hattiesburg | HB), register online at [www.campusce.net/usm](http://www.campusce.net/usm) or call either office to request registration, 228.214.3277 or 601.266.6554.

**REGISTRATION OPTIONS** | We prefer members to register using the online system at [www.campusce.net/usm](http://www.campusce.net/usm). If it is not feasible for you to register online, you may email your class registration list to one of the email addresses above or call the office nearest you and a staff member will enroll you when phone registration begins. You may visit your local OLLI office to register after all other registration options are underway. However, to increase the likelihood of securing a spot in your preferred classes, email and online registration are better options. Mail your checks to OLLI, 118 College Drive #5055, Hattiesburg, MS, 39406.

**CLASS CANCELLATION POLICY** | OLLI reserves the right to cancel any class at any time for any reason.

**COMMUNICATIONS** | We email an “OLLI Update” weekly or as needed to keep you informed of upcoming events and cancellations. If you have given us an email address but are not receiving emails, add [olliengage@lists.usm.edu](mailto:olliengage@lists.usm.edu) and [paula.mathis@usm.edu](mailto:paula.mathis@usm.edu) to your email address book. Also, check your junk or spam folder if you are not receiving emails from OLLI. If you find an OLLI message in the folder, mark it “not SPAM” and/or move it to your inbox. This is the best way to stay informed of current and upcoming activities.

**PARKING** | Parking lots for the Hattiesburg campus are provided on N. 37th Avenue between Pearl Street and Montague Boulevard. Handicapped-accessible parking is available in that lot and at the building entrance on 36th Avenue. **For our Gulf Park campus**, parking is available in any lot by *permit only*. You **MUST** email [maryann.herodes@usm.edu](mailto:maryann.herodes@usm.edu) to register your vehicle. No permit is required to park in the Hattiesburg OLLI lots.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER** | OLLI follows the policy of The University of Southern Mississippi in times of inclement weather. If USM closes either the Gulf Park or Hattiesburg campus because of weather conditions, OLLI will also cancel classes. Rely on trusted news sources when the National Weather Service issues a storm watch or warning. Please do not risk traveling until danger has passed.

**PAYMENTS AND REFUNDS** | *How should I pay?* | A number of payment options are available: 1) pay online with a credit card at the time you enroll in classes, 2) mail a check to your local OLLI office (mailing addresses available at the end of this guide), 3) place a check in a payment drop box at your local OLLI office, 4) pay with exact cash in Hattiesburg (not an option on Gulf Park campus) or a credit card in your local OLLI office. To protect your financial information, OLLI staff cannot accept credit card details on email or over the phone. NOTE: Payments are due within seven business days of registering or your place may be forfeited.

**What happens if I paid for a course and it is cancelled?** | When a course or field trip is cancelled, all members are notified by phone or email and OLLI staff will credit your OLLI account the amount paid.

**May I request a refund?** | A refund may be granted if a class is cancelled, or if you notify OLLI you wish to withdraw from a course at least seven days prior to the class start date. If you paid with a credit card, the refund will be credited to your card. Other payment forms require completion of University paperwork, including a W-9 form, to obtain a refund. Otherwise, all credits will be credited to your OLLI account, not refunded. OLLI credits may not be used for membership dues, nor can membership dues be refunded.

**May I use credits from semester to semester?** | We will gladly apply your credits to pay for courses and field trips in a future semester. Members may not use credits toward membership dues.

**What happens if I cannot attend a course or field trip?** | If you cancel at least seven days prior to a course or field trip, a credit will be issued for future registrations. If you choose not to attend a course or field trip without contacting the office seven days in advance of the event, no credit or refund will be issued.

**EMERGENCIES AT OLLI** | Should you suffer a medical emergency while attending an OLLI program (e.g., seminar, class, field trip, meet-up, pop-up or special event) or while in any building connected to OLLI (the Peck House, classrooms on the Long Beach campus or off-site locations), we are *required* to contact emergency services.

**COMMITMENT TO DATA SECURITY** | Southern Miss is dedicated to preventing unauthorized information access, maintaining information accuracy and ensuring the appropriate use of information. We strive to have appropriate physical, electronic and managerial safeguards to secure the information we collect in all formats: on paper, electronically and verbally. Security practices are consistent with the policies of the University, the laws and regulatory practices of the state of Mississippi and multiple federal agencies.

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**NOTE:** Member information will be shared with OLLI Staff and the OLLI Membership Committee. Also, OLLI reserves the right to take photographs or videos during the operation of any program and to use them, whether taken by a representative of OLLI or by other participants, for administrative and promotional purposes. By enrolling in an OLLI program, participants agree to allow their images and names, if visible, to be used in such. Participants who prefer their images not be used are asked to contact the OLLI office.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### ***Music Storytellers* | Free and Open to the Public**

Thursday, January 22 | HB In-Person

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Jim Dryden

People have been telling stories in song since ancient times, since we first began making music. We won't go back that far—maybe just our lifetime from Hank Williams to Tom T. Hall to Willie Nelson and Jason Isbell. Let's start off the New Year and new semester with some great music and good times! **Jim Dryden** has lived in 11 states, cruising to all kinds of music as he worked and explored this country with his very tolerant wife, Sherry. His love of music may only be matched by his love of stories and trivia. Like many others he grew up listening to his tiny transistor radio under his pillow after his mom told him to go to bed.



### ***This Is My Century: The Life and Legacy of Margaret Walker* | Free and Open to the Public**

Thursday, February 12 | HB In-Person

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Robert Luckett, PhD

Best known as the author of *For My People* (1942) and the neo-slave novel *Jubilee* (1966), Margaret Walker wrote nine books. More importantly, as a professor of English at JSU, she made a less well-known but indelible contribution when she founded the Institute for the Study of the History, Life and Culture of Black People (now named in her honor) in 1968. This seminar looks at her life and legacy. **Dr. Robby Luckett** received his BA in political science from Yale University and his PhD in history from the University of Georgia. A native Mississippian, he returned home where he is a tenured Professor of History and Director of the Margaret Walker Center and COFO Civil Rights Education Center at Jackson State University.

### ***Mardi Gras Social* | No Charge**

Friday, February 13 | GP In-Person

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Social led by the GP Social Committee

Celebrate the Mardi Gras season with OLLI! Bring a savory or sweet dish to share (last name A-M savory and N-Z sweet). Invite a friend!



### ***OLLI Art Reception* | Free and Open to the Public**

Friday, February 20 | HB In-Person

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Photographer Roger Anastasio

Join OLLI friends in celebrating beautiful photography at the Peck House, *Pictures Through the Ages*. A list of food items to bring will be available in the Peck House Library area—sign up for your choice.

### ***Library Appreciation Social* | No Charge**

Friday, April 17 | GP In-Person

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Social led by the GP Social Committee

Join us in celebrating "Library Appreciation Week." Bring your favorite savory or sweet dish to share with others.

### ***Mystery Dinner Theatre* | \$75**

Tuesday, April 21 | HB In-Person

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. | Dinner led by The Detectives

Prepare to laugh as "The Detectives Comedy Dinner Theatre" guides us through an interactive comedic event in which guests enjoy a three-course meal including a murder mystery to solve. Part sitcom and part crime drama, dinner will be a unique experience. Is that your friend's new boyfriend or a serial killer? With a little luck, good detective work and loads of laughs, your table could be the one to unlock the mystery and win prizes.



### ***Spring Social* | No Charge**

Thursday, May 7 | GP In-Person

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Social led by the GP Social Committee

Join OLLI friends for our annual spring celebration! Bring a savory or sweet dish to share (last name A-M savory and N-Z sweet). Invite a friend!



\*Owl art by the late Dana Stratton

# SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGS)

The current schedule for SIGs is below.  
Your OLLI membership must be current to participate in a SIG.

## Gulf Park

### *Basic Mahjong*

In-Person  
Wednesdays at 1 p.m.  
Fridays at 10 a.m.

### *Book Club*

In-Person  
4th Friday at 10 a.m.

### *Card Games*

In-Person  
1st and 3rd Tuesday at 10 a.m.

### *Mexican Train Dominoes*

In-Person  
2nd and 4th Thursday at 10 a.m.

### *Outdoors in South Mississippi*

Meet-Up  
Dates chosen quarterly.

### *Puzzlers*

In-Person  
Mondays at 2 p.m.

### *Rummikub*

In-Person  
2nd and 4th Tuesday at 2 p.m.

### *Stringed Instrument*

Meet-Up  
Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m.

### *Table/Board Games*

In-Person  
1st and 3rd Thursday at 1 p.m.

### *Ukulele*

Meet-Up  
Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.

## Hattiesburg

### *Art*

In-Person  
1st and 2nd Friday at 1 p.m.

### *Book Club*

In-Person and Zoom  
2nd Friday at 11 a.m.

### *Crocheting*

In-Person  
2nd Wednesday at 2 p.m.

### *Life Story and Poetry Writing*

In-Person  
3rd Friday at 10:30 a.m.

### *Mah Jongg*

In-Person  
3rd Friday at 1 p.m.

### *Mexican Train Dominoes*

In-Person  
Mondays at 1 p.m.

### *MS Books and Authors*

In-Person and Zoom  
4th Friday at 11 a.m.

### *Photography*

Zoom Only  
1st and 3rd Friday at 2:30 p.m.

### *Ukulele*

In-Person  
Fridays at 2 p.m.

## *Milestones in Medicine* | \$50

Wednesdays, January 14 - February 18 | Zoom Only

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Six-Week Class led by : Gordon Josephson, MD, MPH

This course highlights transformative milestones in medicine from the 18th century to today, beginning with Jenner's smallpox vaccine. We will explore key medical and public health advances, the innovators behind them and the profound effects these breakthroughs have had on longevity and quality of life. The course offers a compelling look at how science and clinical care have worked together to reshape health outcomes over the past two centuries. **Gordon Josephson, MD, MPH**, is a retired emergency physician and former Chief Operating Officer of Baystate Medical Practices in Springfield, Massachusetts. He holds a Master of Public Health from Harvard University and a medical degree from the State University of New York. Dr. Josephson remains active in the lifelong learning community and currently serves as president of the OLLI Board of Directors.

## *The Virtues* | \$50

Wednesdays, January 14 - February 18 | Zoom Only

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by David Smith, PhD

Virtue theory asks not just how to do good, but how to be good. This course explores timeless questions of character through the lens of thinkers like Aristotle, Jesus, the Buddha and Confucius. We will reflect on key virtues—such as honesty, courage, compassion and respect—and consider practical ways to cultivate them in daily life. The full series may be taught as two separate courses. why Goethe famously said, “To have seen Italy without having seen Sicily is not to have seen Italy at all.” **David Smith, PhD**, is a scholar of religion and philosophy who was raised in a fundamentalist tradition and later became a progressive skeptic. He holds graduate degrees in philosophy of religion and religious studies from Temple University. A former professor at Central Washington University, he now teaches independent seminars and has published widely. His work empowers others to think critically about life's big questions.

## *Heroes of the Holocaust: Lights in the Darkness* | \$50

Wednesdays, January 14 - February 18 | Zoom Only

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Howard Kerner, BA, MA

When we think of the Holocaust, we recall the horrors perpetrated by evildoers. Even in humanity's darkest hours, courageous individuals risked everything to save lives. This course sheds light on these little-known rescuers—ordinary people who defied laws, resisted hate, and acted with moral clarity and compassion. Their uplifting stories are powerful reminders of resilience, morality, and hope. **Howard Kerner, BA, MA** (SUNY Albany), is a retired English professor who spent 47 years teaching and publishing over 100 scholarly articles, primarily on the Holocaust. In retirement, he researches and shares the powerful stories of little-known Holocaust rescuers. Through his talks at lifelong learning programs, he highlights acts of extraordinary bravery and altruism—offering timely reminders of human goodness.

## *The Magic Behind Film Scores: Exploring the Role of Music in Great Movies* | \$50

Wednesdays, January 14 - February 18 | Zoom Only

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Mike Agron

Discover how film music enhances storytelling, sets mood and place, defines character, and blends styles—jazz, classical, pop—into powerful cinematic impressions. We will discuss how composers shape emotion across genres like drama, romance, comedy, sci-fi, and westerns. From *The Jazz Singer* to *James Bond*, we will trace the evolution of film scores, spotlighting legendary composers such as Bernard Herrmann, Ennio Morricone, and John Williams. Celebrate the artistry of film music and its lasting emotional impact. Born in LA's entertainment scene, Mike is a former high-tech exec and entrepreneur who now creates and delivers dynamic, story-driven seminars on music and entertainment. With a storyteller's eye and a DJ's ear, he has led 15 acclaimed seminar series, each spotlighting a different facet of music and entertainment, for the Sacramento Renaissance Society and national lifelong learning groups including OLLI, Osher Online™, Encore Learning and more.

## *Invisible Intelligence: The Unseen Algorithms Reshaping Your Daily Life* | \$50

Thursdays, January 15 - February 19 | Zoom Only

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Eliot Bethke

Artificial Intelligence (AI) shapes our daily lives in subtle yet powerful ways. In this non-technical course, we will explore six case studies that reveal how AI systems work, the ethics behind machine decision-making, and the impact of these technologies on our world. We will gain a deeper understanding of AI's current influence—and the possibilities ahead. **Eliot Bethke** is a PhD candidate in computational bioengineering at the University

of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He previously worked in research and development at several Midwest start-ups, focusing on product design and manufacturing. After running a summer internship program, he shifted his focus to education and now shares his expertise in hardware and software development with future engineers.

***How the US Immigration System (Usually) Works* | \$50**

**Fridays, January 16 - February 20 | Zoom Only**

**10:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Michele Waslin, PhD**

Immigration has always been a complex and emotional issue in US history. This course explores how the immigration system has evolved and how it works today. We will examine key questions about identity, belonging and national responsibility while engaging in thoughtful, constructive conversations about the future of immigration policy in the United States. **Michele Waslin, PhD**, is Assistant Director of the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. She develops research initiatives, educational resources and public programs focused on global migration, race and ethnicity. Waslin brings extensive experience in immigration policy and public scholarship, helping connect academic research with broader conversations on migration in the United States and beyond.

***The American Revolution Beyond the British Empire* | \$50**

**Saturdays, January 17 - February 21 | Zoom Only**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Rick Bell, PhD**

This course reframes the American Revolution as a global event shaped by imperial rivalries and geopolitical forces. Each session focuses on a different group—Germans, French, Spaniards, South Asians and others—revealing how their experiences intersected with the collapse of British rule in North America. By viewing the Revolution through a global lens, participants will uncover new perspectives on its causes, course and consequences. **Richard Bell, PhD**, is Professor of History at the University of Maryland and author of *Stolen*, a finalist for the George Washington and Harriet Tubman Prizes. A National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar and Carnegie Fellow, he has held fellowships at Yale and Cambridge. His latest book, *The American Revolution and the Fate of the World*, was published in 2025.

***The Noir Novel: Three American Classics* | \$50**

**Tuedays, January 20 - February 24 | Zoom Only**

**10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Six-Week Class led by Peter Kaye, PhD**

Explore the noir novel through Dashiell Hammett's *The Maltese Falcon*, Raymond Chandler's *The Big Sleep*, and Sara Paretsky's *Indemnity Only*. From hardboiled detectives navigating gritty cityscapes to Paretsky's feminist reimagining of the genre, this course traces the evolution of noir fiction. Film clips from classic adaptations will highlight the genre's impact on both literature and cinema. **Peter Kaye, PhD**, is a retired faculty member from Northwestern University, where he combined administrative and teaching roles. He earned his doctorate in English literature and humanities from Stanford University, and his research led to the publication of *Dostoevsky and English Modernism* by Cambridge University Press. Over nearly 40 years in higher education, he taught a wide range of literature and interdisciplinary courses, with a focus on 19th- and 20th-century fiction. Now teaching online, he remains committed to lively, engaging instruction.

***More than Parks: A History of American Conservation* | \$50**

**Tuesdays, January 20 - February 24 | Zoom Only**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Fraser Livingston, PhD**

Explore the evolution of American conservation from the 19th century to today. This course goes beyond national parks to examine how urban reformers, scientists, women activists, and Native communities shaped the movement. Through diverse stories and landscapes, we will gain a deeper understanding of how Americans have fought to preserve—and define—the natural world. **Fraser Livingston** is an environmental historian with a PhD in American history from Mississippi State University. His research focuses on the history of science, technology and agriculture. He received the 2023 Gilbert C. Fite Award for Best Dissertation on Agricultural History and currently works on a book about conservationist George Bird Grinnell. He also serves as book review editor for *Environmental History*.

***Dealing in Futures: The Shape of Science Fiction* | \$50**

**Mondays, January 20 - February 24 | Zoom Only**

**2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Gary Wolfe**

From pulp origins to mainstream dominance, science fiction has evolved into a powerful storytelling form that explores new worlds, ideas and ways of thinking. This course traces the genre's growth over two centuries, distinguishing it from fantasy and myth and highlighting key authors who shaped its direction. We will discover

how science fiction reflects cultural change and reimagines the future. **Gary Wolfe** is emeritus professor of humanities at Roosevelt University and a critic for Locus magazine. He is the author of *Evaporating Genres* and editor of *American Science Fiction* volumes for the Library of America. Wolfe has received multiple awards, including a Hugo and a Ditmar for The Coode Street Podcast, which he co-hosts with Jonathan Strahan.

***Japanese History through the Lens of Shōgun* | \$50**

**Tuesdays, January 20 - February 24 | Zoom Only**

**6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Megan McClory**

Inspired by the 2024 FX mini-series *Shōgun*, this course explores Japan's transition from civil war to peace between the 15th and 18th centuries. We will examine the rise of key unifiers, the roles of diverse social groups (like merchants, peasants, women and outcasts), and the era's political, cultural and artistic shifts. For fans of the series or those new to Japanese history, this course offers a rich, accessible introduction. **Megan McClory** is a doctoral candidate in history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research explores sword restrictions in early modern Japan and their role in shaping peace and power. A Global Research Fellow at Kokugakuin University, she has spent years living and studying in Japan and holds a BA from Brandeis University.

***Using Google Workspace Tools with Confidence* | \$50**

**Wednesdays, January 21 - February 25 | Zoom Only**

**6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Chelsea King**

This beginner-friendly course introduces Google Workspace tools like Drive, Gmail, Calendar, Docs, Sheets and Slides. We will learn core features, basic navigation and practical applications for personal and professional use. With guided instruction and real-world examples, the course builds confidence and foundational skills to boost productivity and collaboration. **Chelsea King** is a learning and development specialist with more than a decade of experience in teaching and training. She began her career as a high school English teacher and now focuses on adult learners, especially in professional development and technology integration. Her approach emphasizes practical, collaborative learning experiences that reflect her commitment to accessible, tech-forward instruction in both educational and corporate settings.

***John James Audubon and the Birds of America* | \$50**

**Thursdays, January 22 - February 26 | Zoom Only**

**10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Six-Week Class led by Eric Simon, PhD**

In the 1820s, John James Audubon set out to document every bird species in the US, resulting in *The Birds of America*, a landmark collection of 435 hand-painted prints. This course explores Audubon's life, artistic methods, and legacy, highlighting how his work bridges art and science. We will examine selected prints and consider his lasting impact on American natural history. **Eric Simon, PhD**, is a professor of Biology at New England College and holds a PhD in biochemistry from Harvard University. An avid traveler and award-winning nature photographer, he leads educational trips to destinations such as Belize, the Galapagos, Tanzania, Cuba, the Amazon River and Patagonia. Simon is also the author of a best-selling series of college biology textbooks—used in over 40 countries—with more than 2 million copies in print.

***Pharmaceuticals and Poisons: Chemistry at the Edge* | \$50**

**Thursdays, January 22 - February 26 | Zoom Only**

**2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Johnnie Hendrickson, PhD**

Some substances heal, others harm—and some do both. This chemistry-rich (but non-technical) course explores the fine line between pharmaceuticals and poisons. We will examine drug development, venom-inspired medicine, and the history of FDA regulation shaped by scandal and reform. From aspirin's industrial roots to Gila monster hormones, participants will uncover the fascinating, sometimes unsettling chemistry behind what we choose to swallow. **Johnnie Hendrickson, PhD**, is a Teaching Professor in the School of Molecular Sciences at Arizona State University. He holds a PhD in chemistry and is the author of the textbook *Chemistry in the World*. His academic work centers on science communication and the reciprocal relationship between science and society.

***Brain and Behavior in the Era of Digital Technology* | \$50**

**Mondays, January 26 - March 2 | Zoom Only**

**10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Six-Week Class led by Elena Labkovsky, PhD**

Explore how digital technologies and artificial intelligence affect the brain, behavior and mental health. This course examines the impact of modern devices on attention, memory, emotions and decision-making, while addressing ethical concerns like privacy and tech-based addictions. We will learn how neuroscience and psychology offer tools to support well-being in a rapidly evolving digital world. **Elena Labkovsky, PhD**, is a

neuroscientist and clinical neuropsychologist with over 30 years of experience in cognitive psychology and psychophysiology. She specializes in neurobehavioral modulation, integrating psychological, neuropsychological and physiological approaches to support emotional and cognitive well-being. Her work focuses on how brain function shapes behavior and on developing innovative, research-based treatments for mental health challenges.

***History of Sicily* | \$50**

**Mondays, January 26 - March 2 | Zoom Only**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Douglas Kenning, PhD**

Sicily has been a mythic crossroads of heroes, conquerors, and culture for over 3,000 years. From Odysseus and the Arabo-Norman Golden Age to the Mafia and modern mythmakers like Garibaldi and Coppola, Sicily's story is rich, complex and central to Western history. This course explores its pivotal role in shaping civilization—and why Goethe famously said, “To have seen Italy without having seen Sicily is not to have seen Italy at all.”

**Douglas Kenning, PhD** (University of Edinburgh), is a writer, lecturer and former professor of literature and history. He has taught in the US, Tunisia, Japan and Italy. Now based in the San Francisco Bay Area and Sicily, he offers dynamic lectures on Mediterranean civilizations and leads small-group tours exploring history, myth and culture.

***Landscape & Adventure Photography: An Introduction* | \$50**

**Mondays, January 26 - March 2 | Zoom Only**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Jonathan Duncan**

This workshop will introduce participants to the skills and techniques used to create professional quality images of their adventures in the natural world. Topics will include controlling exposure, using depth of field, motion effects, the principles of visual communication and the qualities of natural light. The course will incorporate slide- illustrated lectures, group discussions, and ample time for student feedback. **Jonathan Duncan** is a photojournalist, writer, teacher and public speaker with more than 25 years of experience. His work has been published in National Geographic, The Himalayan Journal, Sailing, Rock and Ice and by the University of Utah Press. He has taught at the Art Institute of Portland, Western Washington University, Westminster University and the University of Utah's Osher Institute. His work explores humanity's complex relationship with the natural world, often in remote landscapes and cultures.

***The History of American Television* | \$50**

**Mondays, January 26 - March 2 | Zoom Only**

**2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Jim McKairnes**

This engaging, video-rich course tells the story of American television—from its 1920s origins to today's streaming era. We will explore decades of iconic shows, genres, and cultural moments that shaped the medium and its audiences. From sitcoms and dramas to news and sports, we will rediscover how TV evolved, adapted and transformed American culture—one broadcast, cable channel, and streaming service at a time. **Jim McKairnes** is a former CBS Television executive who writes and teaches about television history. He has taught at DePaul, Temple and Middle Tennessee State universities, and is the author of *All in the Decade*, a book on 1970s television. Since 2020, he has taught regularly for OLLI programs across the country and currently lives in Knoxville, Tennessee.

***Post Impressionism and the Birth of Abstraction* | \$50**

**Mondays, January 26 - March 2 | Zoom Only**

**4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Lauren Weingarden**

This course explores Post-Impressionism's bold departure from naturalistic light and color, focusing on the expressive use of form, symbolism and vivid, often unnatural color. Through the work of Cézanne, van Gogh, Gauguin, Seurat and Matisse, we will trace the movement's challenge to artistic norms and social values—laying the foundation for modern art and redefining the artist's role in society. **Lauren Weingarden** is Professor Emerita of Art History at Florida State University. Her work explores the intersections of literature and visual art in 19th-century culture, focusing on figures like architect Louis Sullivan, Charles Baudelaire, and Édouard Manet. She has published widely and developed an embodied aesthetic model that helps viewers re-experience artists' encounters with modernity and nature's transience—an approach that informs her teaching on Impressionism.

***Einstein without Tears: His Theories Explained without Math and in Everyday Language* | \$50**

**Tuesdays, January 27 - March 3 | Zoom Only**

**4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Andrew Fraknoi, MS**

Explore the fascinating world of Albert Einstein's theories—no math or science background required. This course introduces key ideas like time travel, warped space, black holes, and gravitational waves, all in accessible terms. We will discover how modern science continues to confirm Einstein's predictions and why his work remains a source of wonder for both scientists and science fiction fans. **Andrew Fraknoi** is the former chair of the astronomy department at Foothill College and now teaches noncredit astronomy courses at San Francisco State and the University of San Francisco. He is lead author of OpenStax Astronomy, the most widely used free introductory astronomy textbook in North America. Named California Professor of the Year in 2007, he frequently explains astronomy in everyday language on national radio programs. The International Astronomical Union named Asteroid 4859 Fraknoi in his honor as a recognition of his contributions to the public understanding of science. Learn more at <http://fraknoi.com>.

***Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: A Comparative Exploration* | \$50**

**Thursdays, January 29 - March 5 | Zoom Only**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class led by Jeremy Fackenthal, PhD**

Explore the rituals, beliefs, and writings of Judaism, Christianity and Islam through a comparative lens. This course examines where these Abrahamic religions overlap and diverge, offering insights into their shared monotheistic roots and unique traditions. We will read key texts from each faith and gain a deeper understanding of how these religions shape meaning, practice and identity. **Jeremy Fackenthal, PhD**, is an independent filmmaker and nonprofit director. He led the Common Good International Film Festival from 2019 to 2023 and holds a PhD in Philosophy of Religion and Theology from Claremont Graduate University. His work uses film to explore philosophical questions, including a short documentary on spoken word poetry and an upcoming feature-length film. He sees film as art, expression and entertainment.

***Osher Integrative Health: Navigating Chronic Illness in a Complex Healthcare System* | \$50**

**Fridays, January 30 - March 6 | Zoom Only**

**2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Six-Week Class presented with The Osher Collaborative for Integrative Health**

This course, presented in partnership with the Osher Collaborative for Integrative Health, features expert speakers from their upcoming national conference, Navigating Chronic Illness in a Complex Healthcare System. Through engaging presentations and discussions, participants will explore how integrative health approaches can address the challenges of living with chronic conditions and help individuals make informed choices within today's increasingly complex healthcare environment. Topics will focus on whole-person care, patient empowerment, and practical strategies for managing long-term health concerns. **The Osher Collaborative for Integrative Health** is a national network of academic health centers dedicated to advancing whole-person care. Through clinical innovation, research, and education, the Collaborative promotes evidence-based approaches that combine conventional and complementary therapies to support physical, emotional, and social well-being.

*"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."*

— *C. S. Lewis*

# GULF PARK

## ARTS

### *Watercolor for the Absolute Beginner* | \$30

Tuesdays, January 27 - March 3 (No Class February 17) | GP In-Person

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Tammy Gragg, FNP

Always wanted to paint with watercolor, but didn't know how to begin? Then this class is for you! During the first class, we will discuss paints, brushes, and tools, then learn several watercolor techniques, including flat and graduated washes, wet-on-wet, wet-on-dry and dry brushing. We will create a painting in each of the remaining classes. No drawing experience is needed. **Supply List:** Watercolors, medium round synthetic watercolor brush (size 6 or 8), 9x12 watercolor paper pad, graphite pencil, plastic eraser, apron and table cover. *All supplies are available from Walmart, Michaels and Hobby Lobby.* **Dr. Tammy Gragg** is a retired nurse practitioner and artist working mainly in watercolor and colored pencil. She studied art at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, the New York Academy of Art, and the University of North Carolina. She is an active member of the Gulf Coast Art Association and the American Society of Botanical Artists.

### *Embrace Your inner Artist: Create a Mardi Gras Painting* | \$35

Thursday, February 5 | GP Meet-Up

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Elizabeth Tyner

Meet at Twisted Canvas, 6190 Beatline Road, Suite B, Long Beach.

Come join OLLI members at Twisted Canvas for a fun, uncomplicated painting session. Every participant will be encouraged to embrace their inner artist, and to put a unique creative twist on a prepared canvas. The instructor is here to show you that you can do it. Everyone will leave with a completed, original painting. In the words of Bob Ross, "We don't make mistakes, just happy little accidents." **Materials included in course fee.** **Elizabeth Tyner** has taught art for many years, and has always loved to paint and be creative. She opened Twisted Canvas more than eight years ago to do something fun and different. She enjoys giving people the experience of painting and how much fun it can be to create art.

### *Leaf Print Bowl Pottery* | \$45

Monday, February 23 | GP Meet-Up

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Seminar led by an Ohr O'Keefe Pottery Instructor

Meet at Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, 386 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi.

Join us for a hands-on pottery workshop. Create a beautiful leaf print or textured bowl using real leaves when available, or explore textures with mats, doilies, and stamps. Perfect for beginners and clay enthusiasts alike! Beginners, experts and all levels of ability are welcome. **Materials included in course fee.** Pottery will be ready for pickup approximately 2-3 weeks after the class date.

### *The La Pointe-Krebs House and French Colonial Architecture in Mississippi* | \$5

Thursday, March 5 | GP In-Person

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Dwayne Coats

The class will present a detailed history of the La Pointe-Krebs House and the early history of the Pascagoula area. Detailed information regarding the construction methods used in the house will be discussed. The importance of the house to the Gulf Coast area will be expounded upon. **Dwayne Coats** is the administrator of the La Pointe-Krebs House and Museum and has held this position since February 2021. In this role, he has become knowledgeable about the early settlement of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the history of the La Pointe-Krebs House.

### *Wire Wrap Earrings* | \$30

Monday, March 16 | GP Meet-Up

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Sue West

Meet at Gallery 782, 773 Jackson Street, Biloxi.

In this course students will make two pairs of earrings in sterling silver wire. In addition, students will learn to make the hooks for the earrings and dangles for one pair. **Materials included in course fee.** **Sue West** is a retired financial manager who is interested in making wire wrap jewelry. Sue studied at William Holland Lapidary School and is a member of the Mississippi Craftsmen's Guild, Gallery 782 and the Pearl Gallery where she teaches and shows her work.

***Less is More: Limited Palette Watercolor* | \$30**

**Tuesdays, March 17 - April 14 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Tammy Gragg, FNP**

Explore color theory and mixing by using just threecolors as we create limited palette watercolor paintings. A cool and a warm hue of red, blue and yellow watercolors are needed, as well as a good quality 100% cotton watercolor paper. Reference images and drawing outlines will be provided. **Supply List:** Watercolor paint, either in pan or tube. Suggested colors are: Cool red: permanent alizarin crimson or quinacridone magenta; Warm red: scarlet lake or cadmium red; Warm yellow: Winsor yellow deep, cadmium yellow medium or hansa yellow medium; Cool yellow: lemon yellow, cadmium yellow light, or hansa yellow light; Warm blue: French ultramarine blue; Cool blue: Windsor blue (green shade), phthalo blue, or cerulean blue; Round watercolor brushes, sizes 2 and 6; stiff scrubber brush (optional), watercolor paper, 8X10 inches or larger (Arches 140 lb cold press is recommended); palette, butcher tray, or white dinner plate for mixing colors; pencil, 12 inch ruler; kneaded eraser; transfer paper for tracing outlines; a drawing board or other support to tape your watercolor paper onto; masking tape; paper towels or lint-free rags; 2 glass water containers. **Dr. Tammy Gragg** is a retired nurse practitioner and artist working mainly in watercolor and colored pencil. She studied art at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, the New York Academy of Art, and the University of North Carolina. She is an active member of the Gulf Coast Art Association and the American Society of Botanical Artists.

***Embrace Your inner Artist: Create a Coastal Scene Painting* | \$35**

**Wednesday, March 18 | GP Meet-Up**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Meet Up led by Elizabeth Tyner**

**Meet at Twisted Canvas, 6190 Beatline Road, Suite B, Long Beach.**

Come join OLLI members at Twisted Canvas for a fun, uncomplicated painting session. Every participant will be encouraged to embrace their inner artist, and to put a unique creative twist on a prepared canvas. The instructor is here to show you that you can do it. Everyone will leave with a completed, original painting. In the words of Bob Ross, "We don't make mistakes, just happy little accidents." **Materials included in course fee.** **Elizabeth Tyner** has taught art for many years, and has always loved to paint and be creative. She opened Twisted Canvas more than eight years ago to do something fun and different. She enjoys giving people the experience of painting and how much fun it can be to create art.

***Landscape Art* | \$30**

**Thursdays, March 19 - April 23 (No Class April 9) | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Five-Week Class led by Pat Noonan**

This class will cover drawing and painting in watercolor. You will learn the techniques of perspective using color, shading, shadow, and form. Other landscape paintings, photos, and demonstrations will be used as examples of nature in art. If the weather permits, the class will go out on the campus grounds to sketch. **Supply List:** Sketch pad, drawing pencils, gum eraser, pencil sharpener, small set of watercolor paints, watercolor brushes, pad of watercolor paper, covering for the table when painting, container for water, paper towels and mixing pan if using tube paints. **Pat Noonan**, PMHNP (Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner) a retired artist, guitar and ukulele player, sailor and camper who has recently taken up golf. She has taught guitar at OLLI. She is an alumna of The University of Southern Mississippi and the University of South Alabama and retired from the State of Alabama after teaching nursing and nurse practitioner courses at the University of South Alabama, Mobile.

***Easter Cross Wall Hanging Pottery* | \$45**

**Monday, March 30 | GP Meet-Up**

**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Seminar led by an Ohr O'Keefe Pottery Instructor**

**Meet at Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art, 386 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi.**

Celebrate the season with creativity! Join us to design your very own Easter cross. We will guide you through shaping, texturing, and personalizing your piece-perfect for adding a handmade touch to your home or gifting to someone special. Beginners, experts, all levels of ability are welcome. **Tools and clay provided by studio.** Pottery will be ready for pickup approximately 2-3 weeks after the class date.

***Grapevine Wreaths for Any Season* | \$25**

**Monday, April 6 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Janice Jenkins**

Come create your very own grapevine wreath using ribbon, ornaments, shells, jewelry, wooden cutouts, flowers and more. Materials are included in the class fee. **Janice Jenkins** is a retired family consumer science teacher and interior design consultant with Sears. She has volunteered with the Mississippi State University Extension Service and the American Red Cross.

***Acting at Any Age! Stretch Your Imagination and Talents with Theatre!* | \$55**

**Thursday and Friday, April 9 and 10 | GP In-Person**

**9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Workshop led by Sherri Marengo**

Do your friends think you're a little 'extra'? Did you ever wish you could be in a soap opera? Use that wishful talent for a fast-paced intensive acting course! Sherri Marengo, founder and director of Legacy Actors, will meet with aspiring actors, and those who didn't think they could, for 10-11 hours over 2 days to learn technique, stage presence, projection, costuming, SFX and more ending with a show performance for their family and friends. **Sherri Marengo** is the founder of Legacy Actors Theatre Experience, the only award-winning senior readers theatre in the state. She has been teaching senior acting since 2019 after 21 years with local community theatre groups, and the community theatre chair for MS Theatre Association. Acting or directing, Sherri is most at home with actors of any age!

***Something Old, Something New at the Ohr-O'Keefe* | \$20**

**Wednesday, April 15 | GP Meet-Up**

**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Meet Up led by an Ohr O'Keefe Docent**

**Meet at the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum, 386 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi.**

We will begin with a docent-led tour of the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum that houses the works of George Ohr, the "Mad Potter of Biloxi," a nationally recognized artist with works displayed at the Smithsonian Museum of Art and New York Metropolitan Museum. Explore other galleries with contemporary works of sculpture, photography and three dimensional art by visiting artists such as Simphiwe Ndzube. We will tour the Pleasant Reed House, a restored Creole cottage on the grounds. Entry included in course fee.

## **HEALTH AND FITNESS**

***Ten Early Signs of Parkinson's Disease (They Just Might Surprise You)* | \$5**

**Wednesday, January 28 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Nancy Carstens**

When Nancy's husband was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, they were surprised by the list of common symptoms that the neurologist shared. This mini-seminar will focus on personal experience, enhanced by take home materials from the Parkinson's Foundation. **Nancy Carstens** is a retired educator whose husband was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2021. After his diagnosis they found that the Parkinson's Foundation was a valuable resource. In an effort to give back and help those with Parkinson's as well as their care partners, Nancy trained as an ambassador with the Parkinson's Foundation.

***Slow Flow Yoga* | \$25**

**Wednesdays | GP In-Person**

**Term I: January 28 - March 4**

**Term II: March 18 - April 29 (No Class April 8)**

**4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Exercise Class led by Amy White**

What is Slow Flow Yoga? It is a gentle, meditative style focusing on moving slowly and mindfully through various poses. It's a great style of yoga for beginners who want to slow down and focus on their breath and movement. Slow Flow Yoga can also help to improve flexibility, strength and balance, as well as to increase mindfulness and body awareness. Supply List: Yoga mat and yoga blocks. **Amy White** is a teacher with twenty-three years of educational experience. She has earned Yoga Certification through Yoga Alliance with an emphasis on social-emotional support. She also holds 200-hour Yoga Teacher Certification (CYT 200) and a gold-standard international yoga teacher certification.

***Medicare 2026: So Much Changed This Time . . . Now What?* | \$10**

**Thursday, February 5 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Kelly Corbin**

While teaching the course "Medicare 101, Know Your Options" people wanted to know more about all the changes that happened, what the options are now that the enrollment period is over, and what they should know for the upcoming 12 months. There will be discussions on open enrollment (which runs January - March), special election periods, and making sure to take advantage of the available benefits. Let's bust through the mystery. **Kelly Corbin** is a local, licensed Medicare health care advisor and has been working in the field for close to a decade. She is passionate about educating people about their health care options and helping them to choose the right options for themselves.

***The Science on Brain Health and Alzheimer's* | \$5**

**Monday, February 9 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Kristen White**

For centuries, we've known that the health of the brain and the body is connected. But now, science can provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help keep the brain and body healthy as age increases. Join to learn about research in the areas of Alzheimer's and dementia risk reduction, early detection and treatment. **Kristen White** is a licensed master social worker. She received her undergraduate degree from Mississippi College and master's degree from The University of Alabama. She has experience working with those living with Alzheimer's and their caregivers in the nursing home and hospital settings. She currently serves as the Senior Program Manager of the Alzheimer's Association of Mississippi.

***There is a Medicine Cabinet in your Kitchen Cupboard* | \$10**

**Wednesday, February 11 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Betty Sue O'Brian**

People have been using medicinal herbs for thousands of years... In many cases, they were incorporated into their food. Come to this interactive class where we look at the medicinal properties of herbs you'll find in your very own spice cabinet. What are they good for? What are some herbs that we can grow ourselves to improve our own health? We will learn which herbs to use for which health issues and how to incorporate them into your diet. **Betty Sue O'Brian** holds a master's degree from USM and is a retired instructor. She became a traditional naturopath and iridologist after retirement. She presents worldwide on topics related to natural health and wellness. If you would like to know more about her, check out her websites, [www.bettysueobrian.com](http://www.bettysueobrian.com) and [www.iridologyacademy.org](http://www.iridologyacademy.org).

***Mindful Matters: Brain Health and Dementia Risk Reduction* | \$10**

**Thursday, February 19 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Melora Jackson**

As we age, protecting our brain health becomes more important than ever. Explore the latest science behind cognitive aging and share practical, everyday strategies to help reduce the risk of dementia. From nutrition and movement to mental stimulation and sleep, discover how even small lifestyle changes can make a big difference in maintaining memory, focus and overall brain vitality. **Melora Jackson** is the Clinical Director for Second Wind Dreams. She is a gerontologist and dementia expert with an MS from Colorado State University.

***Medical Symptoms: When to Worry* | \$10**

**Monday, February 23 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Richard Tilley, MD**

In today's medical climate it is important to know how to interpret one's symptoms. This lecture will break down medical symptoms and allow people to know when to report symptoms to their doctor and help him or her make a more accurate diagnosis. **Dr. Richard Tilley** is a retired internal medicine specialist. He earned his undergraduate degree at Southern Miss and completed medical school at Ole Miss in Jackson. He completed his internship and residency at Baylor in Dallas.

***Over the Hill and Still Rolling* | \$10**

**Wednesday, February 25 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Jan Vinita White, PhD**

This thoughtful and engaging presentation examines the societal pitfalls, expectations, biases, and challenges of growing old in an ageist society. Armed with facts, shared experiences and plenty of humor, attendees learn how to keep even when the terrain is rough. **Dr. Jan Vinita White** is a gerontologist, consultant, aging authority rolling, writer, speaker and researcher on the biological, psychological and social issues of health and aging. For eighteen years she has been advancing this through her blog posts, which have attracted a global following.

***Your Best Asset: Your Brain* | \$10**

**Monday, March 23 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Jan Vinita White, PhD**

We only have one shot at aging and we only have one brain. Taking care of your most treasured asset is key to aging successfully and retaining independence. Breaking down the science into understandable terms, this lively and engaging presentation is based on the most recent research from top brain scientists on protecting your brain into old age. **Dr. Jan Vinita White** is a gerontologist, consultant, aging authority, writer, speaker and researcher on the biological, psychological and social issues of health and aging. For eighteen years she has been advancing this conversation through her blog posts, which have attracted a global following.

***Our Endocannabinoid System and What it Means to YOU!* | \$5**

**Monday, March 30 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Natalie Goff**

The course will describe in detail what our Endocannabinoid System is, what it is responsible for and the need for cannabinoids that support the system. The course will also highlight what cannabinoids are, the most prevalent to the least individual cannabinoids and their importance, and exactly what Hemp is and ISN'T! In addition, a history lesson on the nature of the plant and the evolution of its discovery of it will be touched on. **Natalie Goff** is the co-owner of Summed Modern Wellness, with stores in Ocean Springs going for over six years. The stores are the nation's largest "brick and mortar" Modern Wellness and CBD franchises with three locations. She is a certified Endocannabinoid System (ECS).

## HUMANITIES

***Odyssey Sessions: The Eurasian Odyssey* | \$30**

**Tuesdays, January 27 - March 3 (No Class February 17) | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Julian Israel**

The author-adventurer will tell his story of crossing the Old Continent by bicycle from 2020 to 2024. His books are quite dystopian, contrarian, controversial, yet intensely cultural. **Julian Israel** is an author-adventurer. He is an ultra-long-distance cyclist who crossed the Old Continent from England to Japan during COVID. He chronicled his journey across the world in a trilogy of books entitled the "Eurasian Odyssey." Prior to that adventure, Julian was a corporate trainer in Tokyo, Japan, delivering lectures and tutorials.

***Prisoners of War in Mississippi* | \$10**

**Thursday, January 29 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Dan Davis**

Mississippi was home to thousands of prisoners of war during World War II, including more than 30 German generals. Learn about the treatment of the prisoners, how they saved some farmers from ruin and the result of several escapes, including one with a Mississippi woman's assistance. **Dan Davis** is a retired journalist and history buff.

***War in the Air, the Combat Pilots and Aircraft of World War I* | \$15**

**Monday, February 2 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Jim Farned**

This course will inform about many of the combat pilots of World War I and the aircraft they flew. We will discuss Baron von Richthofen, Albert Boelcke, James McCudden, Albert Ball, Eddie Rickenbacker and many others. There will be an overview of the extraordinary progress made in military aviation from the beginning of the war in 1914 to its end in 1918. **Jim Farned** is an Air Force and Civil Service retiree with a lifelong interest in aviation, particularly World War I aviation. He recently created a historically accurate game on this subject called "The Deadly Ballet." The research he did for the game along with a long-term familiarity with the subjects, forms the basis for this seminar.

***The Life and Legacy of Helen Keller* | \$10**

**Wednesday, February 11 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Christi Magrath, PhD**

Explore the life of this amazing woman. Helen Keller, who was blind and deaf, co-founded the ACLU and was awarded the US Presidential Medal of Freedom and French Legion of Honour. Helen Keller authored twelve books, including an autobiography at age twenty-two. This seminar will pay homage to the accomplishments of this American author, speaker, activist and disability rights advocate. Details of her life and her lasting impacts on the world, including pop culture, will be discussed. **Dr. Christi Magrath** enjoys science, arts and crafts and being a grandmother. She is a retired biology professor.

***The Sweet Potato Raid from Baton Rouge to Gautier* | \$10**

**Thursday, February 12 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Pat Alford**

There was a Grierson Raid, a Sherman's Raid, but have you heard of the famous Sweet Potato Raid on the Mississippi Gulf Coast from Baton Rouge, New Augusta, Benndale and on to Lucedale to destroy the Gulf, Mobile and Ohio Railroad? The raid on GM&O was not successful and they turned and went down the Pascagoula River to Gautier and the Oldfield House. **Pat Alford** retired after forty-two years as a science teacher and administrator. He is a master volunteer ranger for the National Park Service and has taught several classes and led several tours for OLLI.

***'Gulf Park By the Sea': A History of Gulf Park College for Women (1917-1971)* | \$5**

**Monday, February 16 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Allisa Beck**

Gulf Park College for Women operated on the site of what is now The University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Park Campus in Long Beach. This lecture will present a photographic history of the college as well as a tour of the archives room at the Gulf Coast Library. **Allisa Beck** is the Arts and Sciences Librarian at The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Library. She also administers the Gulf Park College for Women archives, which are housed in the library. She is a member of both the Long Beach Historical Society and the Historical Society of Gulfport.

***My Story and Confession of a Compulsive Coupon Clipper* | \$15**

**Wednesdays, February 18 and 25 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Terry Miles**

Everybody has a tale, memoir, and story of an incident locked in the hidden treasures of their life. The legacy of your years comes to life with your words and pictures! Your instructor will provide, with humor, the basic things that will help your journey. Retired from banking, the Seabee Center and The University of Southern Mississippi, **Terry Miles** has written since she could hold a pencil. She authored eighteen mystery books, two children's books and three cookbooks. Terry studied and graduated from Jeff Davis Junior College and USM.

***Tour Beauvoir: The Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library* | \$20**

**Wednesday, February 25 | GP Meet-Up**

**3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Tour led by a Beauvoir Docent**

**Meet at Beauvoir, 2244 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi.**

The Beauvoir estate is served as the post-war home of Jefferson Davis, the former President of the Confederate States of America, from 1876 to 1889. This historic site, now designated as a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service, offers visitors a glimpse into the life of Davis and family during their time at the estate.

***Tick Wars: Southern Yeomen Fight Back Against the Big Boys, 1906-1946* | \$10**

**Thursday, February 26 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by James "Skip" Rigney**

For forty years, a coalition of big southern cattle ranchers, scientists, and government officials mandated a program to eradicate a disease-carrying cattle tick, so that cattle could be taken to northern markets. However, farmers with small herds did not export, and they viewed the mandate as costly, dangerous, and infringing on their freedom. Learn how some of the yeomen, including in Mississippi, fought back with subterfuge, dynamite and guns. **James "Skip" Rigney** is a meteorologist, oceanographer, master naturalist, and a native South Mississippian with a keen interest in the history of the coastal and piney woods regions of the Gulf South.

***Truth Decay: Fake News, Algorithms, and the Misinformation Machine* | \$10**

**Thursday, March 5 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Grace Schmitt**

Have you been reading the news over the last decade and feeling overwhelmed and confused? Don't know which way is up? Do you find yourself arguing with strangers and loved ones on the internet? You are not alone. This seminar is here to help by discussing the concept of "fake news," how the digital age and internet algorithms are making it more prevalent and how to navigate this information climate of chaos. **Grace Schmitt** is the current Access Services Librarian at The University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Coast Library. She received her BA in English at USM Gulf Park in 2014, and earned her MLIS with a Graduate Certificate in Archival Studies from LSU in 2022. She particularly enjoys researching historical influences on modern culture and information literacy.

***The Mississippi Flood of 1927 and How it Changed America* | \$10**

**Wednesday, March 18 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by David Reed**

The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927 is arguably the worst natural disaster to affect the United States. In addition to inundating all of the lower Mississippi Valley and causing massive destruction, the flood was a catalyst for significant changes in the United States. **David Reed** spent 32 years as a flood forecaster for the National Weather Service. During the last 16 years of his career, he served as the Hydrologist in Charge at the Lower Mississippi River Forecast Center, the office responsible for preparing river forecasts for the Mississippi River below St. Louis.

***Barrier Islands of Mississippi* | \$10**

**Thursday, March 19 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Pat Alford**

This class will discuss the barrier islands of Cat, Ship, Horn, Petit Bois, Round, and Isle of Capri. The barrier islands are an asset to the Mississippi Gulf Coast because of their nature, recreational activities, historical structures and first line of defense against hurricanes for the coast of Mississippi from hurricanes. **Pat Alford** retired after forty-two years as a science teacher and administrator. He is a master volunteer ranger for the National Park Service and has taught several classes and led numerous tours for OLLI.

***'Gods and Monsters': Mythology in the Movies* | \$5**

**Monday, March 23 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Allisa Beck**

From 'Jason and the Argonauts' to 'Stargate' to Marvel Universe's 'Thor,' mythological themes have been a popular component in films. In this talk, we will discuss some of the most memorable examples of gods, goddesses, and other mythological beings in popular movies, past and present. **Allisa Beck** is the Arts and Sciences Librarian at The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Library. She also administers the Gulf Park College for Women archives, which are housed in the library. She is a member of both the Long Beach Historical Society and the Historical Society of Gulfport.

***Engineering Wonder: Construction of the Harrison County Seawall* | \$10**

**Wednesday, April 1 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Philip Shaw**

Come learn about the Harrison County seawall construction and how it changed the coast forever. **Philip Shaw** is a third generation architect and native of Gulfport. He was educated at Georgia Tech and continues in the firm his grandfather opened in 1906. Among the many projects designed by the firm is the Harrison County seawall.

***"The Kiss" by Kate Chopin* | \$5**

**Thursday, April 2 | GP Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Leah Holmes**

In this classic Chopin tale (1894), a woman passionately attracted to one man wishes to marry another for his wealth. What move will she make when the man she loves kisses her in full view of the millionaire she wishes to marry? **Leah Holmes** is a retired high school and university English instructor. She now works full time with hot glass in her Diamondhead studio.

***The Language of Love Can Be Yours. Learn French!* | \$25**

**Thursdays, April 2 - April 23 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Four-Week Class led by Kathryn MacDowell**

Bonjour Mesdames et Messieurs! You will learn basic everyday French expressions to be used with family and friends, shopping, dining and etc. Integral parts of the course are pronunciation, basic grammar rules, idiomatic expressions, French culture and etiquette. There will also be a little singing. **Kathryn MacDowell** is a retired French teacher, who earned both bachelor's and master degree from USM in Hattiesburg. She has taught three-year-olds through adults since 1966 and still loves teaching! She and her poodle, Beau Secours, are active members of Visiting Pet Teams of South Mississippi. "Naturellement," Beau Secours understands French.

***Biblical Foundations* | \$10**

**Tuesday, April 14 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Rev. Gerald Richardson, PhD**

This session will focus on the first five books of the Bible, which are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. They are sometimes known as the Pentateuch or the Torah. We will review the text, examples

and discuss the foundational teachings of the scripture. Discussion will include but is not limited to creation narratives, the exit from Egyptian captivity and more. It is optional to bring a Bible. **Dr. Gerald Richardson** is a retired United Methodist minister. Gerald has served the church in Louisiana, Texas, Tennessee and Mississippi. Gerald worked in leadership development for the church in Nashville and currently serves the churches as needed on the coast.

***It's All Greek to Me!* | \$10**

**Thursday, April 16 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Rev. Jon Caridad**

This is a seminar designed to introduce the world of the Greek gods and heroes. The mythology of Greece is the basis for Western literature and has effects on the development of popular religion in the Western world. The stories of Greek mythology concern themselves with the origins of the world, and the lives and activities of heroes, deities and mythical creatures. **Rev. Jon Caridad** is a retired Episcopal priest with extensive experience in education, ancient history and biblical studies.

***The Story of Gulfport's Historic Mississippi City Cemetery* | \$10**

**Monday, April 20 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Betty Shaw**

Come learn how a founding member of the Historical Society of Gulfport, spearheaded the project to restore a local cemetery's records destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. With help from many sources, the grounds of the Mississippi City Cemetery have been cleaned, and its history and records have been restored, as well as intriguing stories uncovered. **Betty Shaw** authored a book about the history of Gulfport and co-founded the Historical Society of Gulfport.

***The History of US Lighthouses and The People Who Served Them* | \$10**

**Tuesday, April 21 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Larry Davis**

Lighthouses have guided mariners to safe harbors and warned of hazards since ancient times. This seminar will focus on the history of lighthouses in the United States, their construction and technology, and most importantly the people who kept them. You will learn about the beautiful Fresnel lens that revolutionized the effectiveness of lighthouses and also how women served as keepers of lighthouses. **Larry Davis** retired as a Boatswain Mate Chief from the US Coast Guard after serving twenty-three years, most of which were spent working with Aids to Navigation which including lighthouses. He is a Life Member of the US Lighthouse Society and has visited lighthouses across the US. His other interests include maritime history and spending time outdoors.

***C.S. Lewis: The Screwtape Letters* | \$10**

**Tuesday, April 21 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Rev. Jon Caridad**

C.S. Lewis was a highly influential and widely read English philosopher, author, and theologian. In *The Screwtape Letters*, Lewis proposes a series of letters written by the Prince of Darkness to his disciple, outlining and describing methods by which to sabotage the growth and popularity of the Christian faith. The collection of letters is recommended for the reader to fully appreciate Lewis's thought process. **Rev. Jon Caridad** is a retired Episcopal priest with extensive experience in education, ancient history and biblical studies.

***Visit Waveland's Ground Zero Hurricane Museum* | \$5**

**Wednesday, April 22 | GP Meet-Up**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Bernie Cullen**

**Meet at Waveland's Ground Zero Hurricane Museum, 335 Coleman Avenue, Waveland.**

The Ground Zero Hurricane Museum is housed in a historical building that was once the Old Waveland School, built in 1929. Come discover permanent exhibits of Hurricane Katrina, featuring a rare quilt collection, oral history room, artifacts, a hurricane simulator, and more. Grab a sandwich, smash burger, or a delicious dessert at the Sugar Pops Baking Company inside the museum as a Dutch treat. **Bernie Cullen** is a retired RN with many years of leadership and educational experience. She holds a BS from William Carey University and MS in Nursing from the University of South Alabama.

***From Saigon to Long Beach: A Personal Journey* | \$10**

**Wednesday, April 22 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Annie Nguyen**

This class will focus on personal experiences from the refugee camp in the South China Sea to the MS Gulf Coast. She will share her stories and pictures of her journey. **Annie Nguyen** has been living in Long Beach for over forty years. She is a certified medical interpreter and enjoys swimming, gardening, dancing and quilting.

***Sweating It Out: How Air Conditioning Changed the South* | \$10**

**Thursday, April 23 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by James "Skip" Rigney and Jeff Rosenberg**

Despite living in an oppressively hot, humid climate for at least four months every year, Southerners take comfortably cool homes, businesses and vehicles for granted. But it has not always been so. In 1960 only 15 percent of homes in Mississippi had air conditioning. Learn how people stayed cool, architecturally and culturally, before air conditioning; how A/C became a "necessity;" and how it has changed the South economically and culturally. **James "Skip" Rigney** is a meteorologist, oceanographer, master naturalist and a native South Mississippian with a keen interest in the history of the coastal and piney woods regions of the Gulf South. **Jeff Rosenberg** is the MGCNHA Historic Preservation Coordinator, working to support and promote the preservation of historic places in Mississippi's lower six counties. He currently serves on the boards of the Mississippi Historical Society and the Southeastern Society of Architectural Historians.

## **NATURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

***Using Your Cell Phone to Do More than Talk and Text* | \$10**

**Monday, January 26 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Tracy Daniel-Hardy, PhD**

Are you JUST using your cell phone to make and answer phone calls and to send and receive text messages? Do you know it can do so much more? Come learn how to use your cell phone to voice search, dictate text messages, use Google and Amazon Lens, and use your phone as a ruler and level, etc. **Dr. Tracy Daniel-Hardy** is a retired director of technology for a public, K-12 school district in south Mississippi. As founder and instructor of the Senior Academy of Technology and Continuing Education, she provides free computer classes to educate, enhance, and empower senior citizens and those who are technologically challenged.

***New Things from the Dinosaur World* | \$10**

**Wednesday, February 4 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Craig Huch**

The class will start at the beginning of paleontology and trace how the knowledge of dinosaurs has evolved. Discussions on new discoveries that have been made regarding feathers and the color of some dinosaurs will be had. Real dinosaur fossils, casts, and tools used for fossil preparation will be conducted. Fossil hunting in Mississippi will also be addressed. **Craig Huch** is retired with a bachelor's degree in applied biology from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He has had a lifelong fascination with dinosaurs and joined the staff of the University of New Orleans Geology Department in 1996. Craig has been giving lectures on dinosaurs for over twenty years.

***Cyberbullying of Seniors: A Unique Form of Elder Abuse* | \$5**

**Wednesday, February 4 | GP Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Leah Holmes**

Financial scams, "phishing," and catfishing (impersonation) are all common forms of digital harassment aimed at defrauding others, especially seniors. Insulting, abusive, or vulgar emails/texts, and even threats of public humiliation in one's community or online can shame and isolate elders. Learn how to spot a cyberbully and what to do if you already have one! **Leah Holmes** is a retired high school and university English instructor. She now works full time with hot glass in her Diamondhead studio.

***Grafting and Pruning Fruit Trees* | \$10**

**Wednesday, February 4 | GP In-Person**

**1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Steve Roberts**

Come learn how to graft and prune pear, apple and pecan trees. **Supply List:** Sharp utility knife or pocket knife. **Steve Roberts** is a retired instructor and chairman of the science department at MGCCC, who taught at the Harrison County campus for forty years. He has a passion for growing fruit in South Mississippi.

***Exploring Drones: Technology and Applications* | \$10**

**Monday, February 23 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Dean Pennington, PhD**

Join our class designed for beginners with minimal knowledge of drones. Dean will cover the basics of drone operation, explore their diverse uses in photography, agriculture and discuss legal requirements and limitations. This class aims to give you a solid understanding of drone technology without the expectation of becoming a drone pilot. Dive into the fascinating world of drones and discover how they can transform various fields!

**Dr. Dean Pennington** is a retired environmental scientist who spent over thirty years working on water and natural resources. He has always been curious about new technology—from early PCs and GIS to drones and now AI—and enjoys helping others discover what it can do.

***What the Bluebirds Told Me* | \$5**

**Monday, March 2 | GP In-Person/Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by John Lipscomb**

This class will cover bluebird mating, nesting, and fledglings. Also included will be information about habitat, bluebird box placement and predators. **John Lipscomb** is a Master Naturalist residing on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He has been involved with birding most of his life. This presentation on bluebirds will cover basics of identification, migration and how to attract them.

***Storm and Disaster Preparation* | \$5**

**Wednesday, March 4 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Bernie Cullen**

Come learn how to plan and prepare for a severe storm, flood and other natural disasters. **Bernie Cullen** is a retired RN with many years of leadership and educational experience. She holds a BS from William Carey University and MS in Nursing from the University of South Alabama.

***Gardening with Nature: How to Create a Native Plant Pollinator Garden* | \$5**

**Tuesday, March 17 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Shirley Gravley**

Learn how to add a Native Plant Pollinator Garden to your landscape. Learn the importance of native plants and pollinators. A handout will be provided that contains the design for a Native Plant Pollinator Garden and includes information on plant selections and where to obtain plants. **Shirley Gravley** is an Alabama Master Gardener and recently completed the Master Naturalist program. She started gardening as a child with her mother and grandmother. Shirley has a special interest in gardening for nature using native plants.

***Discover The Crosby Arboretum: The Premier Native Plant Conservatory in the Southeast* | \$15**

**Wednesday, March 18 | GP Meet-Up**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Tour led by Pat Drackett**

**Meet at the Crosby Arboretum, 370 Ridge Road, Picayune.**

Join all! Learn about the history of the Crosby Arboretum, an award-winning public botanical garden and its mission to educate the public on the plants native to this region. Come enjoy an engaging overview of the Arboretum and the native plants discovered during the guided tour of the Arboretum and its Mississippi Landmark Pinecote Pavilion designed by E. Fay Jones. **Entry included in course fee.** **Pat Drackett** is the Director of Mississippi State University Crosby Arboretum; she joined the staff in 2007. Pat obtained degrees in botany and landscape architecture and is also an associate extension professor of landscape architecture.

***The Science of Gumbo* | \$45**

**Wednesday, March 25 | GP Meet-Up**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Lacy Lindsey and Samantha Capers**

**Meet at the USM Marine Education Center, 101 Sweetbay Drive, Ocean Springs.**

Throughout this seminar, learners will explore key seafood species found in gumbo, learning about their biology, ecology and role in Gulf ecosystems. This course is ideal for anyone passionate about sustainable seafood and culinary culture! After a brief discussion, enjoy a bowl of hot gumbo! Food costs are included in the course fee. **Lacy Lindsey** is a Project Manager for Informal Education at the USM Marine Education Center. Lacy has worked at the MEC for six years, developing K-12 education programming, coordinating outreach efforts and mentoring and managing the Education Team for the last year. **Samantha Capers** is the Associate Director at the USM Marine Education Center. She has been with the MEC for five years, developing curriculum, leading teacher workshops, and managing and developing the Education Team. Samantha is currently earning her PhD in Behavioral Research through USM.

***Exploring Mississippi Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge | \$15***

**Wednesday, January 28 | GP Meet-Up**

**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Tour led by a Sandhill Docent**

***Meet at the MS Sandhill Crane National Wildlife Refuge, 7200 Crane Lane, Gautier.***

Join refuge staff and volunteers for an overview of the refuge and learn more about how staff manages the land to promote restoration of the pine savanna habitat. The refuge is home to many unique species, including carnivorous plants and orchids, as well as endangered species such as the Dusky Gopher Frog and MS Sandhill Crane. Tour the Visitor Center, walk the C. L. Dees Trail, and participate in a short (one to two hour) van tour of the refuge. **Supply List:** Binoculars and water.

***AI Art Magic: A Beginner's Guide | \$10***

**Wednesday, April 8 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Dean Pennington, PhD**

Unleash your creativity with artificial intelligence! This class is for beginners with limited computer skills. The instructor will guide you step-by-step through AI basics and using AI tools to create stunning art and images. Explore different styles and bring your ideas to life. Whether curious about digital art or seeking a new hobby, this class will open up a world of possibilities. Discover the artist within! **Dr. Dean Pennington** is a retired environmental scientist who spent over thirty years working on water and natural resources. He has always been curious about new technology-from early PCs and GIS to drones and now AI-and enjoys helping others discover what it can do.

***Human Geography | \$10***

**Wednesday, April 8 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by David Holt, PhD**

Humans are a peculiar species. Studying human behavior and cultural practices can feel like embarking on an adventurous expedition into the unknown. Scholars often examine humans as though they are another species by observing how we organize ourselves, assign meaning, build traditions, and express identity. If we step back to see ourselves, we may understand the world better. **Dr. David Holt** graduated from the University of Arkansas in 2002 with a degree in Geosciences: Environmental Dynamics. He taught geography at Miami University from 2003 to 2007 and joined USM in 2007 on the coast to teach geography. He is the coordinator for Sustainability Sciences BS and Geographic Information Technologies Laboratory.

***Butterflies: On the Wings of a Prayer | \$10***

**Monday, April 20 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Craig Marks**

This class discusses how, aside from flight, many butterfly's wings provide protection from would be predators. **Craig Marks** is an amateur lepidopterist, who has chased, studied and collected butterflies (and some moths) since he was a child. He is a member of NABA, TLS and SLS. Craig is the author of a book on Louisiana's butterflies, published by LSU Press in 2018. He has also been writing articles about butterflies for the quarterly SLS newsletter since 2010.

## **PERSONAL ENRICHMENT**

***Basic Mahjong | \$30***

**Mondays, February 2 - March 2 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Five-Week Class led by Gina Aguilar and Laura McKerns**

Class attendees will learn to play the Chinese version of mahjong. This class focuses on becoming familiar with each tile that makes up the Mahjong set, getting familiar with the combinations of tiles to achieve goals of winning, recognizing different "winnable" playing patterns and developing individual strategies for Mahjong. **Gina Aguilar** worked with various Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) for over twenty years, and her work experiences included organizational management and development. Her hobbies include playing the guitar and ukulele. Gina has taught ukulele, mahjong, Medicare and other classes for OLLI over the last few years. **Laura McKerns** is an active OLLI member who enjoys playing Mahjong with her friends.

***Make a Wish! NO! Make FIVE WISHES!* | \$10**

**Tuesday, February 3 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Nanci Youngblood**

The FIVE WISHES document, which will be given to each seminar participant, helps loved ones know who you designate to make healthcare decisions when you cannot, what kind of medical treatment you want or don't want, how comfortable you want to be, how you want people to treat you and what you want loved ones to know at the time of your death. There will be lots of group discussion and some enjoyable activities as we share together. **Nanci Youngblood** is a graduate of Emory University where she majored in and taught German. She and her husband moved to Hattiesburg to be near family in 2006 - the same year they joined OLLI. She has led discussions of FIVE WISHES several times at OLLI and elsewhere and looks forward to doing so again in the spring.

***"Awaken to Why You're Here: At Any Age"* | \$15**

**Mondays, February 9 and 16 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Sherika Rimmer-Higgins**

"Awaken to Why You're Here - At Any Age" is a transformational class designed to help you discover your God-given purpose, no matter your age or stage. Through reflection, scripture and guided conversation, you'll uncover the calling that's been waiting for you and learn how to walk boldly in it. It's never too late to awaken to why you're here. Don't just exist; awaken and live with divine intention. **Sherika Rimmer-Higgins** is a faith-driven author, speaker and advocate for survivors of abuse. She is the founder of Beyond the Scars Enterprise, a movement dedicated to restoring hope, dignity and purpose to women through faith-based empowerment and healing. A survivor herself, Sherika writes from experience not theory. She is also an instructor at USM.

***Tackling Impossible Home Repairs With Confidence* | \$10**

**Thursday, February 12 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Dave Jenkins**

In this class, you may be equipped with the tools required to safely and confidently take on many necessary repairs in your home. **Dave Jenkins** retired as a systems engineer who has integrated Geographical Informational Systems (GIS) for governments around the world and instructed their engineers and staff in the use of those systems. He enjoys addressing the challenges of difficult home projects and repairs.

***Amtrak Mardi Gras Service* | \$5**

**Friday, February 13 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Todd Stennis**

Join us for an update on the launch of the Amtrak service train. We will discuss performance, ridership information, how to travel, ticketing information, food service, amenities, travel planning and more. **Todd Stennis** is the Director of Governmental Affairs for the Southern Region for Amtrak.

***Make New Friends with Rummikub* | \$10**

**Wednesday, February 18 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Gina Stanton**

This seminar is a brief overview of the game and demonstration by current players. There will be discussion of the rules and possible variations in play, providing students a chance to try their hand. This is an individual game (you do not need a partner to play) that can be played by two or up to six at a table. We have a regular play group for you to join (SIG), or you will be ready to play elsewhere with friends. **Gina Stanton** is a retired legal assistant who moved here from Louisiana in 2016. She is currently leading the Rummikub SIG at Gulf Park and enjoys teaching and the social aspect of table games.

***The Magic is You: Take the Wheel and Design What's Next* | \$10**

**Wednesday, February 18 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Aimee Baudier**

It's your time to take the wheel and design what's next. Join Certified Life Coach, Aimee Baudier, for a transformative experience blending the powerful Oola Framework with the soulful essence of Dream Weaver Coaching-helping you reconnect with purpose, rediscover passion and design a life you love because the magic has always been you. **Aimee Baudier** is a Certified Life Coach and co-leader of an annual women's retreat who also serves as president of Like Minded Ladies Gulf Coast. With over thirty years in oil and gas, she uses her heart-centered dream weaving approach to help women rediscover their magic and design lives they love.

***Media Savvy: Navigating the News* | \$10**

**Thursday, February 19 | GP In-Person and Zoom**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Edgar Simpson, PhD**

Become media savvy with this course offered by the Roy Howard Community Journalism Center at The University of Southern Mississippi. Gain essential skills to critically evaluate news sources, detect misinformation, disinformation and understand media's role in society. Upon completion, you will be equipped to navigate today's complex information landscape with confidence. You'll also earn a valuable certification in media literacy. **Dr. Edgar Simpson** is the director of the School of Media and Communication at The University of Southern Mississippi, where he is also a professor. His work helped to secure the Scripps Howard Fund grant for the Roy Howard Community Journalism Center.

***Elderhood, A Gift to Unwrap* | \$10**

**Thursday, February 26 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Alice Graham, PhD**

Using the book by Sally Hare, *The Eldergarden, A Field Guide for the Journey of a Lifetime*, we will explore practices for unwrapping the gifts of aging. It is in embracing a lifetime of experience with ourselves that we discover wisdom and guidance for creating a flourishing life as an Elder. **Dr. Alice Graham** is a graduate of Spelman College, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and has a PhD from Northwestern University. She practiced as a Pastoral Counselor for 35 years and served as Executive Director of Interfaith Disaster Task Force and Back Bay Mission. She founded *Turning Points From The Soul* in 2022.

***Spring Flower Arranging* | \$60**

**Monday, March 2 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Theresa Cuevas**

Come learn to arrange flowers for any occasion. Supplies included in course fee. **Theresa Cuevas** is the owner of Forget Me Not Florist in Long Beach. She has had a passion for arranging flowers since she was seven years old in her mother's shop.

***Landscaping for Your Kitchen Garden* | \$10**

**Wednesday, March 4 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Kathy Roberts**

This class will teach you how to design a kitchen herb garden. We will incorporate planters as well as in-ground specimens. **Kathy Roberts** is a retired science teacher with twenty-eight years. She taught in Long Beach and at Jeff Davis Community College. She enjoys gardening and canning.

***Holiday Charcuterie Board Workshop* | \$35**

**Wednesday, March 4 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Sharonda Allen**

This class will focus on all five food groups in USDA's MyPlate. This includes cured meats, cheeses, crackers, nuts, veggies, fruits, pickled items, sauces and spreads. Emphasis will also be placed on food safety. Individuals will learn to create their own unique layouts based on personal preference and likeness. Participants will increase their knowledge about healthy eating during the holidays and even in day-to-day life using charcuterie boards. Food is included in the fee. **Sharonda Allen** is the Family, Health and Wellness Agent for MS State University Extension Service-Harrison County. She is a graduate of both the University of Mississippi with a BS in Family and Consumer Sciences and Walden University with an MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Ms Allen began her career with MSU Extension Service in 2021.

***Beginner's Bridge: Learn One Skill at a Time* | \$30**

**Mondays, March 16 - April 13 | GP In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Betty Ann Jones, PhD**

Bridge is about "winning tricks." Hands-on activities will be used to teach play rules for no-trump and suit contracts. **Dr. Betty Ann Jones** is a retired educator and a Ruby Life Master member of the American Contract Bridge League.

***Take a Trip to Tuscany: Olive Oli & Vinegar | \$5***

**Monday, March 16 | GP Meet-Up**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Kyla Jacobs**

**Meet at Pass Christian Olive Oils And Vinegars, 141 Davis Avenue, Pass Christian.**

Drive down HWY 90 to downtown Pass Christian and take a trip to Pass Christian Olive Oils and Vinegars where you will feel like you stepped off the steps to Tuscany! This course you will give you a tour of the tasting room. Sample over 70 different varieties of olive oil and balsamic from around the world and learn a little more about the world of olive oil and balsamic! **Kyla Jacobs** is a Southern Miss alumna and is the regional manager of Pass Christian Olive Oils and Vinegars. She has been serving the MS Gulf Coast community for twelve years with the freshest and highest quality extra virgin olive oil and balsamic vinegar from Modena, Italy and around the world!

***Cake as Canvas | \$45***

**Tuesday, March 17 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Brooke Rester**

Get ready to unleash your inner artist--in buttercream! In this hands-on cake decorating class, you'll transform a slice of cake into your very own edible masterpiece. Using colored buttercream as your "paint," and palette knives and paintbrushes as your tools, you'll learn fun techniques to create beautiful textures, patterns, and designs. **Food and supplies provided.** All you have to bring is your creativity—and maybe a friend to share! **Brooke Rester** is a graduate of The University of Southern Mississippi and has been running her own business in some capacity since 2006. In 2017, she opened her own brick-and-mortar bakery named Dolce Bakeshop in Long Beach. Brooke is skilled in baking and design and has taught many classes in her field over the last several years.

***Colorful Spring Flowers | \$5***

**Tuesday, March 24 | GP Meet-Up**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Polly Cuevas**

**Meet at Pine Hills Nursery, 7434 Cuevas Road, Pass Christian.**

Come learn to select blooming colorful plants this spring while visiting Pine Hills Nursery. You will learn how to coordinate and care for the best color plants that will bloom all spring. **Polly Cuevas** has been the manager at Pine Hills Nursery since its beginning in 1986.

***Introduction to Fly Fishing | \$15***

**Wednesday, March 25 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Jay Hyer**

This is a class for beginners who are interested in the sport of fly fishing. Some of the best fly fishermen in the country live in the Gulf Coast area. This course will cover history, basic fly tying and basic fly casting, and tackle selection, assembly and care. The first hour will be a discussion; the second hour the class will make a tied fly; and the last hour will be fly casting on the lawn. **Jay Hyer** is a fly fisherman and local club member who has been teaching fly fishing for over fifty years. He is a member of the fly fishing club closely associated with the GCRL campus. He is currently teaching at the Mary C. Center in Ocean Springs, Seabee Base and Gulfport Yacht Club.

***Investing in the Stock Market | \$5***

**Thursday, March 26 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Justin Jones**

Join us in discussing the stock market. **Justin Jones** is a financial advisor at Edward Jones Investments. He studied at USM and graduated from the School of Business in 2004. Justin specializes in financial planning and retirement income strategies and has a passion for helping his clients fulfill their goals and purposes.

***Charter a Course to Happy Fishing | \$160***

**Monday, April 6 | GP Meet-Up**

**9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Fishing Trip led by Angie Holland**

**Meet at Biloxi Small Craft Harbor, 679 Beach Boulevard, Slip A12, Biloxi.**

Get happy on an inshore charter fishing trip with Happy Fishing Charters. Enjoy fishing around Deer Island as well as the coastal bays and bayou system. The charter includes fuel, bait, tackle, ice, fishing licenses and fish cleaning services. We will fish for redfish/red drum, flounder, speckled trout, white trout and black drum as target species. **Supply List:** Boating clothes, shoes, towel, snacks or drinks. **Water will be provided. Tip included in course fee.** **Angie Holland** is one of the Coast's few female charter boat captains and owners. She owns and operates Happy Fishing Charters from the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor.

***CRASE Citizen Response to Active Shooter Events | \$10***

**Tuesday, April 7 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Shanice Bolton**

In today's society, there are various dangers to life and limb. The CRASE class helps prepare participants to react to critical situations and quickly make the essential decisions that might save their lives. Studies have shown that people who move quickly through the three phases of a crisis: denial, deliberation and the decisive moment are more likely to survive the event. **Shanice Bolton** is currently a police officer assigned to the Community Relations office at The University of Southern Mississippi. Officer Bolton has four years of experience as a police officer and has served the university for one year. She received her BS from USM in 2019 and her MS in Public Relations in 2024.

***Vinegar: How to Make and Use it! | \$10***

**Wednesday, April 8 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Kathy Roberts**

Come join us to learn how to make your own vinegar that can be used in household cleaning, hair care and cooking. This will be a show and tell presentation only. Members will be given handouts with directions on how to make their own vinegar at home. **Kathy Roberts** is a retired science teacher with twenty-eight years. She taught in Long Beach and at Jeff Davis Community College. She enjoys gardening and canning.

***Situational Awareness: Saving Lives and Self Defense Course | \$10***

**Monday, April 13 | GP In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by John Miller and Sherry Loba**

This course will include two parts. Part one is a lecture on Situational Awareness and the importance of ALWAYS being aware of your surroundings, discussing various parts of anatomy to target, and self-defense: being able to use the tools you have on hand to help defend yourself. Part two will include some hands-on techniques and training on how to safely perform the techniques being used. **John Miller** is the owner and chief instructor at Full Circle Martial Arts & Yoga. He specializes in various styles of martial arts, combatives, women's self-defense, situational awareness, yoga, meditation and is a life coach. John also works with women and children dealing with different types of trauma; he teaches in groups and offers private lessons. **Sherry Loba** has a passion for physical fitness and believes it is a way of life. She feels it is even more important as we age so that we can continue living an independent lifestyle. She enjoys yoga, women's self-defense and karate.

***New Orleans Music from 1895 to 1965 | \$10***

**Wednesday, April 15 | GP In-Person**

**1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Damon Franke, PhD**

New Orleans is famous for the birth of jazz and as a city that nurtures its musicians. This course examines the history of jazz and its musical offshoots in the Big Easy from the origins of jazz in the works of Buddy Bolden, Louis Armstrong and others in the early 1900s to the 1960s when Allen Toussaint and Dr. John began their careers. The class will listen to other signature songs and styles of New Orleans, point to musical locations in the city and discuss how various songs from New Orleans have appeared in literature and film. **Dr. Damon Franke** has been an associate professor at the USM Gulf Coast for over twenty years, teaching a wide variety of classes on literature and culture.

## TRAVEL

***All Aboard Amtrak on the Mississippi Coast | \$10***

**Thursday, January 29 | GP In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Christi Magrath, PhD**

The return of Amtrak service to the Coast has been eagerly anticipated by OLLI members for many years. Join in this discussion on how to travel by Amtrak using the newly established Mardi Gras Service, the 145 mile passenger train route from Mobile to New Orleans. How to book, how to board and how to have a wonderful travel experience will be highlighted. **Dr. Christi Magrath** former biology professor who enjoys teaching science, pop culture and crafting.

## EATING YOUR WAY THROUGH OLLI

*Brown Bag Lunch Gathering* | Bring Your Own Lunch  
Fridays, January 30 and March 20 | GP In-Person  
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Lunch Social

Meet in the Gulf Coast OLLI Library space.

Bring your lunch and visit with OLLI friends.

*Luncheon with OLLI at Uncle Joe's Pizza & Wings* | Dutch Treat  
Friday, February 20 | GP Meet-Up

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Lunch Social

Meet at Uncle Joe's Pizza & Wings, 20156 Pineville Road, Long Beach.

Join OLLI members for pizza or wings in a fun atmosphere with socialization.

*Flavorful Food That Will Fool You* | \$10

Monday, April 20 | GP Meet-Up

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Rob Stinson

Meet at Salut , 15th Place, 1712 15th Street, Gulfport.

The premise of this class is to demonstrate that one should "USE THIS—NOT THAT." Come learn how to use fresh herbs, vegetables and salt-free stock instead of salted foods, and fatty additives and carbohydrate-heavy foods. The class will also be able to sample his creation. Everyone may order food as Dutch treat after the presentation. **Robert Stinson** is executive chef and owner of three award-winning restaurants on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. His spectrum of work has spanned from five-star dining at the Windsor Court Hotel Grill Room to managing the highest volume restaurant in the world, Orlando Planet Hollywood.

*Come for the courses - stay for the connections.*

# HATTIESBURG

## ARTS

### *Turning Time into Art* | \$30

Tuesdays, January 27 - February 24 | HB In-Person

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Five-Week Class led by Steve Hurst

Push your creativity to the limit using recycled and repurposed objects to produce mind-blowing clocks. Learn about different mediums and adhesives, types of quartz clock movements and more. In the first session, several Steve Hurst clocks will be displayed for you to examine fabrication and finishing techniques. No need for tools or mediums for the first session. For artists and wannabe artists! **Supply List:** Adhesive (e.g., E6000, silicone adhesive, Duco cement), clock movement and hands, pin-nose pliers. Other materials will be suggested on first day. **Steve Hurst** relocated here from California in 2022. He is known for his clocks made from recycled items. He is a photographer, illustrator, painter, writer, singer, maker and former musician/singer and has been featured in numerous California publications.

### *The Sacred Music of J.S. Bach* | \$30

Tuesdays, January 27 - February 24 | HB In-Person

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Edward Hafer, PhD

"If Beethoven is a prodigy of man, Bach is a miracle of God." -- Gioachino Rossini Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) spent much of his life in the service of the Lutheran church. His sacred music reflects the tenets of his faith in sometimes subtle, sometimes spectacular ways. This course will examine selected works in their historical and cultural contexts. **Dr. Ed Hafer** holds a PhD in Historical Musicology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He teaches music history at USM.

### *Learn More Tunisian* | \$30

Wednesdays, January 28 - February 25 | HB In-Person

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Sherry Dryden

In this class, we will learn several Tunisian stitches to complete a lap afghan. Beginners are welcome.

**Supply List:** Tunisian (afghan) hook-size K or 6.5mm, yarn in 4-6 colors (unless you want it all one color) cotton or acrylic, yarn markers, tape measure, scissors and tapestry needle. **Sherry Dryden** retired as a loan officer and supervisor from a credit union in Maryland. She has been a crafter since a young age and was taught crochet and embroidery by her mother and grandmother. She crochets gifts for friends and her seven grandchildren. She has been learning and teaching Tunisian Crochet for the last year.

### *Warm and Fuzzy: Knit Yourself Some Toasty Socks!* | \$30

Mondays, February 2 - March 2 | HB In-Person

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Teresa Odom

Make yourself a pair of socks. This course is for advanced knitters who know how to cast on and bind off, knit, purl, knit in the round, knit two stitches together, increase and decrease. **Supply List:** Sock yarn (one skein is usually 400 yards long and is enough for a pair of women's socks), size 2 double point needles, scissors, stitch markers, yarn needle (Online, Michaels or Hobby Lobby-no metal needles.) **Teresa Odom** is a longtime knitter and once owned the Yarn Basket in Petal, where she gave knitting classes. She graduated from USM and also took courses later while she worked for the university.

### *Behind the Music: What to Listen for at the USM Symphony* | \$5 Each Class (Register separately)

Mondays | HB In-Person

Class 1: February 9

Class 2: March 23

Class 3: May 4

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Mini-Seminars led by Gregory Wolyneec, PhD

Music Director Dr. Gregory Wolyneec will present one-hour talks to preview upcoming programs during the USM Symphony season. These informative talks are designed to be approachable for people both new to Classical music as well as experienced concertgoers. A combination of discussion and guided listening will enhance your appreciation of the programs with our acclaimed orchestra. **Dr. Gregory Wolyneec** is the Director of Orchestral Activities at The University of Southern Mississippi, where he directs the Symphony Orchestra and oversees the graduate program in orchestral conducting. He also serves as the Music Director of Middle Tennessee's acclaimed Gateway Chamber Orchestra (GCO), which he co-founded in 2008.

***Experience the Magic of Making Emulsion Lifts | \$60***

**Wednesday, February 11 | HB Meet-Up**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Betty Press**

**Meet at Singing River Art Studio, 100 West Fourth Street, Hattiesburg.**

Emulsion lifting is a technique that separates the thin layer of photo emulsion from the Polaroid frame. Once freed, it behaves like a delicate fabric that can be manipulated into unique configurations and transferred to another material, such as glass, wood or paper. The lifts are made using cell phone photos, printed on Polaroid film. Each person will make four lifts on watercolor paper. Open to all levels. **Supplies included in course fee.** Betty Press is a documentary photographer and recipient of the Excellence in Photography Award from the Mississippi Institute of Arts & Letters and the MAC Visual Artist Fellowship in 2013 and 2019. She was selected for the Mississippi Invitational, now showing at the Mississippi Museum of Art. She loves to teach workshops at her downtown studio.

***Pine Cone Palooza - OLLI Style! | \$15***

**Mondays, February 16 and 23 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Kay Guiles**

Join us for this fun project using a common foraged material—pine cones. We will spend the first week at our pine cone painting party, so wear an apron or your painting garb. At the second meeting we will assemble your project. **Materials supplied for first week and instructions given for easy-to-find and inexpensive supplies needed for second week.** You will feel “pine” and dandy after an easy and enjoyable project! Kay Guiles retired as a music teacher at Jones College and is organist at Westminster Presbyterian Church. She loves all things OLLI, in particular, teaching and taking a variety of classes. She especially enjoys getting lost in an arts and crafts project.

***Demonstrating the Dulcimer | \$10***

**Wednesday, March 4 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Karen Mims**

Come and learn the history of the dulcimer. Enjoy the demonstration and performance! A couple of demo instruments will be available in the event you want to learn how to play. Karen Mims has been playing dulcimer for 26 years and formed the group who will perform. She hosts a yearly dulcimer festival and teaches.

***Pounded Flower Note Cards | \$10***

**Wednesday, March 11 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Lynn Morris**

Relieve stress as you pound color from flowers onto paper. Add ink trim to complete these beautiful note cards. **Supply List:** Bring a hammer. **All other materials provided.** Lynn Morris discovered a love for crafting when her thirty-year teaching career ended. Her search for innovative yet inexpensive crafting ideas has led to numerous projects and gifts galore.

***Learn to Draw! | \$30***

**Tuesdays, March 17 - April 14 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Marty Turnbo**

It's easy to learn to draw; you will know how on Day 1. You will learn shading, perspective, enlarging and drawing faces. **Supply List:** #2 pencils, large eraser, colored pencils, Sharpies (fine and medium), drawing pad and copy paper. Marty Turnbo is a retired Art and Drama Teacher from Oak Grove and a longtime member of the South MS Art Association as well as a longtime member of OLLI. She attended USM and William Carey.

***Sacred Mountains and Samurai Warriors: The Art of Japanese Woodblocks | \$15***

**Tuesday and Wednesday, March 17 and 18 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Ret. Col. Ron Howell**

The course presents a general overview of Japanese woodblocks during four historical periods: Edo (1600-1868); Meiji (1868-1912); Shin-Hanga/Sosaku-Hanga (1912); Contemporary/Modern (20th-21st century). Col Howell will highlight major artists, notable woodblocks, artistic trends and printmaking techniques from each period. Special subjects will include Mount Fuji, cherry blossoms, flower arranging, sumo wrestlers, samurai and geisha. Col. Ron Howell is a retired military lawyer who served twenty-four years in the Army. After retiring in 1992, Ron became a student/teacher at USM for fourteen years, obtaining a master's degree and teaching several subjects as an Adjunct Instructor. He first began collecting Japanese woodblock prints in Japan in the early 1970s while in the Army.

***Writing Our Way Home* | \$10**

**Wednesday, March 18 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Jennifer Peterson, PhD**

In this two-hour poetry workshop, we will explore the idea of home. We will begin by reading and discussing poems by writers who have found rich inspiration in the domestic sphere, considering how family members, food, chores and pets can animate our creative mind. Then we will spend time writing in response to prompts that will help us locate deeper meaning in the often humble tasks and objects that make up our home life.

**Dr. Jennifer Polson Peterson** teaches writing at The University of Southern Mississippi and serves as the 2024-26 Poet Laureate of Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The author of two poetry collections, *Degenerate Era of an Expanding Universe* (2026) and *Must Resemble Leisure* (2022), she was recently named a Laureate Fellow of the Academy of American Poets.

***Watercolor Techniques* | \$30**

**Thursdays, March 19 - April 16 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Evelyn Timidaiki**

This course will offer students the opportunity to learn and practice watercolor techniques such as salting, scraping, alcohol drops and other techniques. Students will see demonstrations and then have the opportunity to practice each technique. **Supply List:** Watercolor paper (140 lbs.), watercolors, eraser, pencil, masking or frisket fluid, tissues, assorted brushes and painter's tape. **Evelyn Timidaiki** is a former biology teacher with 33 years' experience. She has over 25 years of watercolor experience and enjoys landscape and animals painting. Evelyn teaches basic techniques in watercolor and enjoys painting, photography and sewing.

***Let's Make Spectacular "Hello Spring" Cards* | \$20**

**Tuesday, April 7 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Karen LeBeau and Aimee Cotton**

You do not have to be an artist to make these cards as all background work has been done for you. You will make eight cards total (two each of four designs). Come enjoy, and chat while you make your cards. When all are complete you can stamp "Handmade By" on the back to show your family and friends that you did it. **All materials provided including envelopes.** **Karen LeBeau** prefers fabric art but is comfortable creating lots of other things. **Aimee Cotton** focuses on paper crafts but enjoys many other types of projects.

***L. V. Hull: Love is a Sensation at the MS Museum of Art* | \$40**

**Friday, April 10 | HB Field Trip**

**8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Departure and return times may change slightly. Once registered, check your email for updates.**

**L. V. Hull: Love Is a Sensation** is the first major museum exhibition devoted to the art and life of the self-proclaimed "Unusual Artist" Ms L.V. Hull (1942-2008). Born in McAdams, Mississippi, Hull merged artmaking and the Southern art of "visiting" to craft a creative practice that allowed her to commune with her inner spirit, her Creator, her community, and visitors from around the state, region and world.

***Dot, Dot, Dash: Secret Wartime Codes in Women's Knitting* | \$20**

**Mondays, April 13, 20 and 27 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Three-Week Class led by Teresa Odom**

Knitting has played an important part in wartime resistance since the American Revolution. Learn about how resistance fighters passed on information with knits and purls, during the World Wars. **Supply List:** Solid color worsted weight yarn (preferably cotton) and appropriate size needles. **Teresa Odom** is a longtime knitter and crafter and once owned The Yarn Basket in Petal where she gave knitting classes. She has recently developed an interest in wartime resistance knitters and has spent time researching them. She is a USM graduate.

***Art Forgery, Theft and Other Shenanigans in the World of Art* | \$10**

**Wednesday, April 15 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Kay Guiles**

There are incredible numbers of cases of fakes, forgeries, looting, theft and other fascinating stories in the world of art. Some tidbits will be about Laurel's own forger; the infamous Isabella Gardner Museum heist; forgeries for the good; art theft of the Nazis; the FBI's art crime team; as well as other odds and ends from the world of art. **Kay Guiles** is retired from Jones College where she taught music and is currently organist of Westminster Presbyterian Church. She enjoys music, reading, art, travel and OLLI. She particularly enjoys researching unusual topics for OLLI classes.

***The Red-Headed Stranger* | \$10**

**Thursday, April 16 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Jim Dryden**

The Red-Headed Stranger: From *Crazy* to *Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain*, *Stardust* and *Farm Aid*. Willie Nelson was always *On The Road, Again*. Let's follow him down that road together. IT WILL BE FUN! **Jim Dryden** has lived in 11 states, cruising to all kinds of music as he worked and explored this country with his very tolerant wife, Sherry. His love of music may only be matched by his love of stories and trivia. Like many others he grew up listening to his tiny transistor radio under his pillow after his mom told him to go to bed.

***The Art of Flower Arranging* | \$5**

**Monday, April 20 | HB In-Person and Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Klare Lane**

Flowers are beautiful. It's difficult to make an ugly arrangement—never say "I can't arrange flowers." Learn methods to handle plant material for longer life and tools to hold flowers in place for an arrangement. Enjoy a slide presentation of arrangements from traditional to Ikebana styles, briefly discussing rules from various traditions. **Klare Lane**, a longtime member at OLLI, has a passion for gardening and flower arranging. Over the years she has taken classes offered by florists and two classes taught by Ikebana Masters. She retired after 43 years with the USPS and has a BA from Millsaps.

***Walter Anderson and the Magic Hour* | \$5**

**Wednesday, April 22 | HB Meet-Up**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Pamela Fuller**

**Meet at The 3D School, 124 S. George Street, Petal.**

This music suite contains a series of dramatic monologues used as a libretto for a musical honoring the artist Walter Inglis Anderson. Walter Anderson speaks directly to each of his four animal friends in the first series of four poems. Then the finale includes the four animals answering back in a chorus of gratitude for Walter's kindness in sharing his love of animals and nature, providing us with insight into his kind and gentle spirit. **Pamela Fuller** is the music and art teacher at The 3D School in Petal. She holds a Master of Music Education degree and has over 38 years' experience as a professional musician. In addition to her teaching career, Pamela is in demand as an organist, pianist and harpsichordist. Her school choir consists of 100 students in grade 3 through 5.

***Drawing for Depth Workshop* | \$75**

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, May 5, 6 and 7 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (With lunch break) | Three-Day Workshop led by John Carvalho**

A piece of paper is flat. We will explore ways to make that flat paper appear to have depth. In class, we will work with pastels on paper. Focus will be on exercises to help develop various ways of seeing depth and to translate that vision onto the page. We are not going to attempt to make works of art. Rather we will develop practical skills for creating a sense of depth. These basics of manipulating the picture plane can later be applied to your own work, or to the appreciation of the works of other artists past and present. Instructor will provide hard pastels and paper. Students may take home the pastels at the end of the course. **Materials provided.** Born and raised in Denver, CO, **John Carvalho** earned his BFA in Painting and Printmaking at Washington University in St. Louis, and his MFA at MICA in Baltimore, MD. John earned a BS in Nursing at Georgetown University and worked as an ER nurse. John paints primarily in oils on linen, using printmaking, papermaking, and bookarts for collaborative works.

## **HEALTH AND FITNESS**

***Tai Chi for Health on Zoom* | \$35 Each Term**

**Mondays and Wednesdays | Zoom Only**

**Term I: January 26 - March 4**

**Term II: March 16 - April 22**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Six-Week Exercise Class led by Susan Nodurft**

This class is open to all participants of the 2020-2021 Zoom class or with permission of the instructor. Participants must be familiar with Dr. Lam's Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention (40 Sun forms) and Tai Chi for Beginners (first 6 forms of the 24 Yang style Forms). Emphasis will be placed on advancing the practice and learning new forms. **Susan Nodurft** is a retired biology teacher. After retirement she began the study and practice of Qigong/Tai Chi. She has been certified through the Institute of Integral Qigong and Tai Chi and the Tai Chi for Health Institute.

***Line Dancing for the Beginner* | \$35 Each Term**

**Mondays and Wednesdays | HB In-Person**

**Term I: January 26 - March 4**

**Term II: March 16 - April 22**

**11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Six-Week Exercise Class led by Joni Guthrie**

Line dancing for the beginner! No experience (or partner) necessary. Line dancing is a great way to stay healthy in a fun way. **Joni Guthrie** is a certified yoga instructor. Her educational background is in exercise science and she has over 25 years of experience as an exercise instructor.

***Chairobics* | \$55 Each Term**

**Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays | Zoom Only**

**Term I: January 26 - March 6**

**Term II: March 16 - April 24**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Six-Week Exercise Class led by Valerie Webber**

Chairobics combines fun and fitness while moving to music. This class is designed to increase muscle strength and range of movement as well as improve cardiovascular health. Small hand weights and elastic bands are used for toning and a chair is used for seated exercises and standing support. There are no on-the floor exercises.

**Valerie Webber** is a graduate of The University of Southern Mississippi with an MBA and BS in accounting. She is also a life member of the USM Alumni Association. Valerie is a mother of three sons and a longtime resident of Hattiesburg, but originally from Brookhaven.

***Moving to the Oldies (Low Impact Aerobics)* | \$35 Each Term**

**Mondays and Wednesdays | HB In-Person**

**Term I: January 26 - March 4**

**Term II: March 16 - April 22**

**1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Six-Week Exercise Class led by Joni Guthrie**

In addition to moving to the oldies, low impact aerobics raises your heart rate while minimizing any major impact on the joints, which reduces the risk of injury. This mode of exercise can help you achieve your exercise goals while maintaining and building muscle mass that, unfortunately, decreases with age. **Joni Guthrie** is a longtime exercise instructor with more than 25 years' experience. Her educational background is in exercise science from The University of Southern Mississippi. Joni has taught multiple genres of aerobics including step aerobics, high and low impact floor aerobics, water aerobics and dance aerobics.

***Beginning Tai Chi for Health and Balance* | \$35 Each Term**

**Mondays and Wednesdays | HB In-Person**

**Term I: January 26 - March 4**

**Term II: March 16 - April 22**

**4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Six-Week Exercise Class led by Brigid Elchos and Susan Nodurft**

This class is designed for beginners and those who may have previous experience and simply wish to maintain this gentle practice for health and balance. In the first term, students will be introduced to the fundamentals of Tai Chi and learn an easy, step-by-step set of movements created by Dr. Paul Lam. The second term builds on the first, adding movements to the set taught in the first term. **Brigid Elchos** is a nurse, massage therapist and registered yoga teacher who holds certifications for Laughter Yoga, breathwork and meditation. She is also a certified Tai Chi Easy and Medical Qigong Practice Leader. Brigid has extensively studied mindfulness for stress management and various other health conditions. **Susan Nodurft** is a retired biology teacher. After retirement she began the study and practice of Qigong/Tai Chi. She has been certified through the Institute of Integral Qigong and Tai Chi and the Tai Chi for Health Institute.

***Yoga for Every Body: Mixed Level Yoga* | \$35 Each Term**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays | HB In-Person**

**Term I: January 27 - March 5**

**Term II: March 17 - April 23**

**10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Six-Week Exercise Class led by Stacey Ready**

Throughout this mixed-level class you will be invited to experience each pose with self-awareness as well as awareness of safe alignment while enjoying yourself. This class will allow advanced students to deepen their practice and modifications of poses will be offered both visually and through detailed vocal cues for Level I students to advance their practice while honoring their growth. Warm up, standing poses, balance and cool

down. **HAVE FUN! Stacey Ready** is a returning yoga instructor at OLLI. A lifelong yoga enthusiast, upon retiring from Southern Miss, she decided to become a certified yoga instructor and has enjoyed every moment. In addition to teaching at OLLI, she is a frequent substitute instructor at both Hattiesburg and Petal YMCAs.

***Ultraprocessed Foods: Just Another Fad or Do I Need to Work to Avoid Them?* | \$10**

**Tuesday, January 27 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Kathy Yadrick, PhD**

In this course we will look at what ultraprocessed foods are, how they affect our health and how we might consider them as we grocery shop and make food choices. **Dr. Kathy Yadrick** is a USM emeritus professor of nutrition and food systems and a registered dietitian. She likes to cook and to eat and tries to keep up with popular nutrition trends and the science that may or may not support them.

***Restorative Yoga* | \$25 Each Term**

**Thursdays | HB In-Person**

**Term I: January 29 - March 5**

**Term II: March 19 - April 23**

**3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. | Six-Week Exercise Class led by Stacey Ready**

Restorative Yoga is fully on the floor and uses props like bolsters and blocks to align the body into gentle chest openers, small back bends, spinal twists and forward folds. The postures are each held for five minutes or more. Deep breathing and mindful attention to the sensations of the body and the experience of stillness is a primary focus. Restorative Yoga is perfect for any level student who wants to restore and renew body, mind and spirit. **Stacey Ready** is a returning yoga instructor at OLLI. A lifelong yoga enthusiast, upon retiring from Southern Miss she decided to become a certified yoga instructor and has enjoyed every moment. In addition to teaching at OLLI, she is a frequent substitute instructor at both Hattiesburg and Petal YMCAs.

***Medicare 2026: So Much Changed. What Now?* | \$10**

**Wednesday, February 4 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Kelly Corbin**

While teaching her first course, *Medicare 101: Know Your Options*, Kelly was asked to come back and explain all of the changes that were being discussed. So much did change so let's go over those changes; did you make the right choice? What is OEP? What are SEP's? What is a CSNP and do I qualify? Let's bust through the mystery and understand our choices. **Kelly Corbin** is a local, licensed Medicare Health Advisor and has been in this field for almost a decade.

***The Science on Brain Health and Alzheimer's* | \$5**

**Thursday, March 5 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Kristen White**

For centuries, we've known that the health of the brain and the body are connected. But now, science can provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help keep the brain and body healthy as age increases. Join to learn about research in the areas of Alzheimer's and Dementia risk reduction, early detection and treatment. **Kristen White** is a licensed master social worker. She received her undergraduate degree from Mississippi College and master's degree from The University of Alabama. She has experience working with those living with Alzheimer's and their caregivers in the nursing home and hospital setting. She currently serves as the Senior Program Manager.

***Building Fitness Through Dance* | \$20**

**Tuesdays, March 17 - April 14 | HB In-Person**

**1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Five-Week Exercise Class led by Mike Spencer**

Come learn foundation dances to go with a variety of music. **Mike Spencer** is a certified professional instructor and judge in ballroom, Latin, country and swing. He has been dancing for 38 years and is a three-time National Champion and two-time World Champion. He has credits as a choreographer for an ABC mini-series. He has taught and performed all over the world and is a member of the American College Dance Association.

***CPR and First Aid Basics: Things You Need to Know* | \$15**

**Wednesdays, March 25 and April 1 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by LaWanda Baskin, PhD**

This course will provide CPR and First Aid Basics. The CPR component of the course is perfect for people who want to learn CPR but do not need a CPR course completion card to meet a job requirement. The First Aid component will discuss first aid skills and next steps when identifying common medical and injury emergencies.

Dr. LaWanda Baskin has more than 20 years of experience as a nurse with 10+ years of experience as a nurse practitioner and nurse educator. Dr. Baskin is a certified instructor for the American Heart Association and owner of Baskin Consulting Group LLC, a health education and consulting firm.

***Ten Early Signs of Parkinson's Disease (They Just Might Surprise You) | \$5***

Wednesday, April 1 | HB In-Person and Zoom

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Nancy Carstens

When Nancy's husband was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, they were surprised by the list of common symptoms that the neurologist shared. This mini-seminar will focus on personal experience, enhanced by take home materials from the Parkinson's Foundation. **Nancy Carstens** is a retired educator whose husband was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2021. After his diagnosis they found that the Parkinson's Foundation was a valuable resource. In an effort to give back and help those with Parkinson's as well as their care partners, Nancy trained as an Ambassador with the Parkinson's Foundation.

***My Journey Through Paralysis: From Dead to Life | \$10***

Thursday, April 9 | HB In-Person and Zoom

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Jim Siders, PhD and Charlie Teague, DPT

This delivery will present the gradual decline in arthritic condition leading to stenosis, then paralysis. Loss of balance, walking and increasing pain will be discussed. A series of surgeries and remedies will be described and when available, video/photos will be used to illustrate conditions. A selection of journal entries over a ten-month recovery will be shown and discussed. Everyone is open to ask questions throughout and after the delivery. **Dr. Jim Siders** is now a retired professor from The University of Southern Mississippi and The University of Alabama. Jim served as department head on two occasions totaling seven and a half years of his twelve-year tenure in the Special Education and Multiple Abilities at Alabama. Jim has authored three novels with people with disabilities as unlikely heroes. **Dr. Charlie Teague** is a physical therapist employed by the Fox Therapy group. Charlie has been affiliated with Fox for three years following an association with a spinal care intervention facility in Orlando, Florida for three years.

## HUMANITIES

***Odyssey Sessions: The Eurasian Odyssey | \$30***

Mondays, January 26 - March 2 (No Class February 16) | HB In-Person and Zoom

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Five-Week Class led by Julian Israel

Join us in this class as the author-adventurer tells his story of crossing the Old Continent by bicycle from 2020-2024. His books are quite dystopian, contrarian and controversial, yet intensely cultural. **Julian Israel** is an author-adventurer. He is an ultra-long-distance cyclist who crossed the old continent from England to Japan during COVID. He chronicled his journey across the world in a trilogy of books entitled the *Eurasian Odyssey*. Prior to that adventure, Julian was a corporate trainer in Tokyo, Japan, delivering lectures and tutorials.

***Peaceniks of the Vietnam War Era | \$15***

Tuesdays, January 27 and February 3 | HB In-Person

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Karen Weinberg

The Anti-Vietnam War demonstrations that the speeches of the 1960s and early 1970s did not start out with a bunch of radical hippies. The movement was created by groups of mature adults. As high school and college boys were drafted to fight the war and death tolls were announced on television every night, the young joined in pressuring our government to get out of the war. Were their efforts effective? **Karen Weinberg** is a retired Family Nurse Practitioner and nursing instructor and former elementary school teacher. She holds a master's in education from Western Carolina University. She taught a nursing course to nursing students transitioning from a community college program to Western Carolina's Nursing Program.

***Tolkien & Co.: British Children's Fantasy Since "The Hobbit" | \$30***

Wednesdays, January 28 - February 25 | HB In-Person

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Five-Week Class led by Jameela Lares, PhD

In this class, we will discuss how the 1937 publication of *The Hobbit* led to later British children's fantasy. Besides looking at *The Hobbit*, we will consider C. S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Philippa Pearce's *Tom's Midnight Garden*, Diana Wynne Jones's *Howl's Moving Castle*, and J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. Class members are encouraged to read the books before class, but there will be handouts. **Dr. Jameela Lares** is Professor Emerita of English and Charles W. Moorman Distinguished Professor of the Humanities at USM. She has taught children's literature in Hattiesburg as well as abroad in England and

France. She has also directed theses and dissertations in children's literature and is a member of the Children's Literature Association.

***The Real Apostle Paul* | \$30**

**Wednesdays, January 28 - February 25 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Daniel Browning, Jr., PhD**

As the traditional author of nearly half the New Testament books, Paul is foundational for the establishment and definition of Christianity. Thus—his life, work, travels and letters are almost always approached with theological assumptions paramount. This study will cover those things by focusing on the man, his world and the practical decisions he faced in taking this new Jewish-based faith to the wider Roman world. **Dr. Daniel Browning, Jr.** is semi-retired after a long career as Professor of Religion and History at William Carey (that did not end well). He is now 3/5 of an Instructor of History, Religion and Geography at PRCC in Hattiesburg, where he attempts to save college education from TikTok, AI and conspiracy theories.

***The Summer of 1942 in Small Town Mississippi* | \$15**

**Thursdays, January 29 and February 5 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Kay Guiles**

History came alive to Kay when she discovered a long-lost 1942 diary. It is a riveting account of life in Columbia, MS, just after Pearl Harbor. Camp Shelby was bustling and young soldiers were headed off to war. Economic hardship continued from the Depression and jobs were hard to find. Join Kay as she shares her research into this personal look at life back home in the midst of war. **Kay Guiles** retired as a music instructor from Jones College and is currently organist at Westminster Presbyterian Church. She loves to travel, enjoys learning to paint and is an avid reader with a particular interest in WWII history.

***Women in Christianity* | \$30**

**Fridays, January 30 - February 27 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Five-Week Class led by Amy Slagle, PhD**

This course will provide an historical overview of the experiences and views of women in Christianity from the first century to the present. The ways in which women are portrayed in the New Testament as well as in other early Christian writings including the so-called Gnostic gospels and popular tales like the Acts of Paul and Thecla will receive special attention in the course. Key female mystics and theologians will be introduced and discussed. **Dr. Amy Slagle** is Associate Professor of Religion at The University of Southern Mississippi. She teaches courses on world religions, Christianity, afterlife beliefs and esotericism.

***Prisoners of War in Mississippi* | \$10**

**Tuesday, February 3 | HB In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Dan Davis**

Mississippi was home to thousands of prisoners of war during World War II, including more than 30 German generals. Learn about the treatment of the prisoners, how they saved some farmers from ruin and the result of several escapes, including one with a Mississippi woman's assistance. **Dan Davis** is a retired journalist and history buff.

***Chocolate, Coffee, and Direct Trade* | \$5**

**Monday, February 9 | HB Meet-up**

**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Anjie Price**

**Meet at Mulukakao, 201 Cox Avenue, Suite 4, Hattiesburg.**

Learn about how one cross-cultural family engages in direct trade from Nicaragua to the U.S., in fine chocolate and specialty coffee. **Anjie Price** is co-founder of Mulukakao, a fine chocolate and specialty coffee from Nicaragua. Anjie and her husband started this company in 2016 and expanded to the United States in 2024. Anjie is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, a former English teacher and nonprofit director.

***A Woman Whose Voice Could Not Be Silenced: Dorothy Thompson* | \$10**

**Thursday, February 12 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Annette Sowell**

Hitler banned her from Germany, yet *TIME Magazine* ranked her as the most influential woman in America, second only to Eleanor Roosevelt. She was a journalist, a truth-teller, a firebrand and a legend in her own right. Come explore the many fascinating aspects of this woman whose unshakable belief in justice outshone the brilliance of her husband, the Nobel Prize-winning novelist, Sinclair Lewis. **Annette Sowell** is a retiree from the World of Retail. She enjoys reading, research and sharing her findings with others.

***A Table at the Tavern | \$45***

**Monday, February 16 | HB Meet-Up**

**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Lunch by Dean Meador Smith**

**Meet at Meador Homestead, 6775 US Hwy 49 North, Hattiesburg.**

We invite you to a seat at the table at the Tavern. During the American Revolution, taverns were where messages and news were passed around by friend and foe. Spies would take this information and report it to General Washington. At our event, we will discuss the famous Culper Ring and spies who played an important part in the American Revolution. **Menu:** Pulled pork sandwiches, salmon, cod or baked chicken; green beans, cabbage, squash souffle or baked potato; Apple Pandowdy (iron skillet apple pie) or carrot cake (Washington's favorite dessert at Frances Tavern); Beer (root beer), apple cider, coffee or tea. **Dean Meador Smith** is the owner of Meador Homestead B&B and Tea Room in the oldest standing home (1884) in Hattiesburg. She has taught OLLI classes on the first 100 years of Hattiesburg at the cabin and will be teaching a yearlong class on the 250th anniversary of America.

***Watch and Discuss The Great Dictator by Charlie Chaplin | \$15***

**Tuesday and Thursday, February 17 and 19 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Dallas Gorbett**

The Great Dictator was Chaplin's first "talkie" and came out during Hitler's reign. The movie is two hours long, so the first session will be just viewing the film and will last almost 2.5 hours, including intro and break. The second session features an hour-long film about Chaplin and the making of the movie, followed by questions and, hopefully, answers (bring Uncle Google). **Dallas Gorbett** is a retired Yankee who enjoys OLLI. He has a BS in chemistry from Purdue University and is a writer, photographer and general dabbler.

***How Saying "Yes" to God Changes Everything: A Mission to Africa Blesses the Unlikely | \$10***

**Thursday, February 19 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Kim Dawsey and Rhonda Walters**

Kim Dawsey and Rhonda Walters went on an 11 day mission trip to Kenya, Africa in September 2025 with a group of six teammates. What Kim saw there changed her life in incredible ways and she wants to share it with you. Hear God's story from Kim and her teammate Rhonda in an informal setting. They will even share the tool God used to share the Gospel. After teaching for 28 years, **Kim Dawsey** has been an OLLI member for 12 years. Serving in committee positions as well as on the executive board has been a source of joy and purpose in her life. As a child of God, she strives to serve Him in all she does. **Rhonda Walters** is wife to Paul, mother to six boys who are now grown men, and mother-in-love to four incredible young women! She is Mimi to 12 of the most perfect grandchildren God ever made. Rhonda's heart was swept away by Jesus 45 years ago when she heard the Good News. Her faith journey has been full of mountain tops and valleys, but God placed a burden for the broken and hurting inside her. Rhonda's passion is sharing the Good News with others and helping them grow in the faith and understanding of God's Word.

***Tick Wars: Southern Yeomen Fight Back Against the Big Boys, 1906-1946 | \$10***

**Monday, February 23 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by James (Skip) Rigney**

For forty years, a coalition of big southern cattle ranchers, scientists, and government officials mandated a program to eradicate a disease-carrying cattle tick, so that cattle could be taken to northern markets. But farmers with small herds did not export, and they viewed the mandate as costly, dangerous, and infringing on their freedom. Learn how some of the yeomen, including in Mississippi, fought back with subterfuge, dynamite, and guns. **James (Skip) Rigney** is a meteorologist, oceanographer, master naturalist, and a native south Mississippian with a keen interest in the history of the coastal and piney woods regions of the Gulf South.

***Liz Carpenter and Female White House Press Secretaries through the Years | \$10***

**Tuesday, March 3 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Jerra Runnels**

Join us as we watch a documentary on Liz Carpenter, the first female executive assistant at the White House under LBJ and Press Secretary for Lady Bird Johnson. Liz was such an entertaining figure who was active in the women's movement after her time at the White House. We will also briefly look at all of the women who have served as Press Secretaries at the White House since Liz Carpenter. **Jerra Runnels** returned to USM to learn the history she did not learn growing up; namely women's history and Black history. She received her second master's degree in 2024 in history and enjoys teaching women's history classes at OLLI. She started a women's history book club and works at the Center for the Study of the National Guard at USM.

***Dr. Julius C. Zeller: The Outsider Who Shaped Mississippi's Junior Colleges* | \$10**

**Monday, March 16 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Ronnie Nettles, PhD**

This two-hour presentation explores the remarkable story of Julius C. Zeller. Born 1871, Zeller was a minister, school superintendent, plantation owner, politician and university president. He moved to Mississippi in the early 20th century where his work as an educator and state legislator forever changed access to higher education in Mississippi. The program traces his journey to Mississippi and his 1922 legislation enabling Junior Colleges. **Dr. Ronnie Nettles** began his 37-year career in higher education at The University of Southern Mississippi. He started working at Copiah-Lincoln Community College in 1994 and became the institution's seventh president in 2008, a position he held until his retirement in 2018. Most recently he served as director of the MS Community College Foundation.

***Great Mythologies: Ancient Europe* | \$20**

**Mondays, March 16, 23 and 30 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Three-Week Class led by Gwen Combs**

Odysseus, Jason, Romulus and Remus, Thor. Stories with these characters have circulated for thousands of years, reflecting the culture of their times as well as shaping the literature of the centuries that followed. What makes these stories such powerful elements of culture? We will look at myths from ancient Europe that describe the human experience from their beginnings. **Gwen Combs** is a recovering attorney and former high school teacher. She received her BA in English from Kentucky Wesleyan College, an MA in English at Western Illinois University and a JD from Mississippi College School of Law. She taught high school English and French and college freshman writing for 7 years and practiced law for 30 years.

***The Storyteller from DeLisle: The Life and Works of Jesmyn Ward* | \$10**

**Monday, March 16 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Rev. Jon Caridad**

Jesmyn (Mimi) Ward was born and raised in DeLisle, Mississippi. She has gone on to professorships at the university level. She is a sought-after speaker on the life and times of the rural South. Her novels give a deep understanding of life in this part of the country through strong narrative and memorable characters. This seminar will include active involvement with the novels. **Rev. Jon Caridad** is a retired Episcopal priest with extensive experience in education, ancient history and biblical study.

***The Heart of Christianity* | \$30**

**Tuesdays, March 17 - April 14 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Five-Week Class led by Bill Youngblood**

What does it mean to be a Christian today? Do you have doubts about some of the things you learned as a child? Do you wonder about some of the church creeds? Do some Bible stories seem confusing? Could the core of the ancient faith be seen in a way to make it more meaningful and compelling? To focus this discussion, we will use Marcus Borg's book, "The Heart of Christianity, Rediscovering a Life of Faith." Available on Amazon, *Thriftbooks*. **Bill Youngblood** is a retired United Methodist Pastor who earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Emory University's Candler School of Theology. He served churches in Florida and Louisiana. He served a church in Mississippi as an interim after retirement.

***Practical German for Beginners* | \$30**

**Wednesdays, March 18 - April 15 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Five-Week Class led by Veronica Dzugan, PhD**

Weaving together cultural understanding as we learn vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation, this class is for those hoping to travel to German-speaking countries, refresh past experience, or have a general interest in German culture, history, politics and way of life. The goal of the class is to provide exposure to various aspects of the German language and culture while gradually increasing ability to communicate in the target language. **Suggested for Class:** *German in 10 Minutes a Day* by Kristine K. Kershul. **Dr. Veronica Dzugan** currently teaches German language courses at USM. She was raised in a bilingual household and spent numerous memorable years studying in Germany. Dr. Dzugan enjoys engaging with other learners about all things German.

***Sweating It Out: How Air Conditioning Changed the South* | \$10**

**Tuesday, March 24 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by James (Skip) Rigney and Jeff Rosenberg**

Despite living in an oppressively hot, humid climate for at least four months every year, Southerners take comfortably cool homes, businesses, and vehicles for granted. But it has not always been so. In 1960 only 15 percent of homes in Mississippi had air conditioning. Learn how people stayed cool, architecturally and culturally, before air conditioning, how A/C became a “necessity” and how it has changed the South economically and culturally. **James (Skip) Rigney** is a meteorologist, oceanographer, master naturalist and a native south Mississippian with a keen interest in the history of the coastal and piney woods regions of the Gulf South. **Jeff Rosenberg** is the MGCNHA Historic Preservation Coordinator, working to support and promote the preservation of historic places in Mississippi's lower six counties. He currently serves on the boards of the Mississippi Historical Society and the Southeastern Society of Architectural Historians.

***Sawmill Towns and the New South, 1865-1910* | \$5**

**Thursday, April 9 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Christian Singletary**

The destruction of the Civil War left the southern United States in shambles. The South's economy and ravaged agriculture left people scrambling for any opportunity to make some sort of profit in the under-industrialized New South. Between 1865 and 1910, lumber companies quickly began purchasing land, creating a population boom. Thus, sawmill towns established a history of traditions and community that still echo in the South today. **Christian Singletary** is a PhD History student at The University of Southern Mississippi. Christian's research primarily focuses on the National Guard in World War I and he recently defended a thesis titled “Riders on the Storm: American Exceptionalism, Masculinity and Frontierism in the 28th Division Over There, 1917-18.”

***Coming Into Lifeway: It's Been a Blast!* | \$10**

**Tuesday, April 14 | HB In-Person and Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Rev. Snowdancer (Jim) Becker**

In this seminar, hear a series of snippets of Rev. Becker's life from the time he came out in 1977 to the present. Rev. Becker has ministered mainly in the LGBTQ+ community, and the stories are plenty. They are entertaining, sad, happy, funny and might be good learning tools. You will hear of drag queens, gay pastors and priests, predators, homosexual prostitutes, a history of the gay movement through HIV/AIDS and delve into the LGBTQ+ community in Mississippi. Oh My! **Snowdancer (AKA Rev Jim Becker)** is a retired Christian minister who became a Unitarian Universalist, which led to paganism, becoming a Wiccan Priest, and now building a new church in Meridian - Community Church Meridian.

***Freedom Summer 1964: the Civil Rights Movement Up Close* | \$15**

**Thursday and Friday, April 16 and 17 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Richard Conville, PhD**

Join us for an orientation to Hattiesburg's role in the landmark human rights movement. For the second class meeting, we will do a walking tour of significant Civil Rights sites downtown. Following the tour, please plan on having lunch (Dutch treat) together at the Hattiesburger on Front Street. There we can reflect on what we've seen and learned and enjoy a meal together. **Dr. Richard Conville** was a professor of communication studies (ret.) and served on the faculty at Southern Miss for 35 years. Author of several books in the field of interpersonal communication, he trained over 100 USM faculty to use service-learning in their classes. He became deeply interested in the civil rights movement in Hattiesburg.

***In Conversation with the LGBTQIA+ Community* | \$10**

**Thursday, April 23 | HB In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Mickie Stratos**

Join staff and volunteers from The Spectrum Center for an informal and personal conversation about LGBTQIA+ identity, culture and current events. You will learn about each person and their experiences individually and have a chance to ask any burning questions you've been hanging on to. You will also get some insight into how today's climate is affecting queer and trans folks in your community! **Mickie Stratos** (pronouns: they/them/theirs) is a trans nonbinary lesbian and the current President of The Spectrum Center, a nonprofit dedicated to LGBTQIA+ empowerment, advocacy and justice. They have been organizing around Queer and Trans justice and liberation for almost a decade and enjoy providing education to curious minds.

## NATURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### *A Visit to the Cooperative Energy Solar Farm | \$10*

Tuesday, February 17 | HB Meet-Up

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Meet at the Cooperative Energy Solar Farm, 7037 US Hwy 49, Hattiesburg.

Cooperative Energy, together with their members, creates a stronger future for Mississippi communities by delivering affordable, reliable energy in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. Let's meet and learn more.

### *Tipping Points that Changed the World | \$10*

Tuesday, February 24 | HB In-Person and Zoom

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Jim Dryden

Tipping Points that Changed the World: Dramatic changes have occurred throughout time. Geological and ecological events have altered both the earth's landscape, as well as its flora and fauna. Economic upheavals have changed the political and social scene. Let's learn together and discuss the many impacts to our world.

**Jim Dryden** grew up in Dayton, Ohio. He earned a BA in Geology and Environmental Studies. His career spanned 31-years with the US Bureau of Land Management in positions of Archaeology, Geology and Management. He retired as Deputy Director of Fish, Wildlife and Endangered Species and Lead Climate Change Coordinator.

### *Artificial Intelligence in Everyday Life: What It Is and What It Can Do for You | \$10 Each Class*

These two classes cover the same content, so only enroll in one.

Thursday | HB In-Person and Zoom

Class 1: March 5

Class 2: April 16

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Dean Pennington, PhD

Have you heard of AI? This class demystifies it for seniors, showing how it's already in our lives and how you can use it. Learn what AI is in simple terms, where it's at work behind the scenes, and how it can help you with everyday tasks like editing emails or getting new ideas. No tech skills needed, just curiosity! (*This class description was written by AI.*) **Dr. Dean Pennington** is a retired environmental scientist who spent over thirty years working on water and natural resources. He has always been curious about new technology—from early PCs and GIS to drones and now AI—and enjoys helping others discover what it can do.

### *Safari Tails: Teaching about Animals In Live Shows | \$50*

Thursday, March 5 | HB Meet-Up

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Meet at Safari Tails, 62 Talowah Road, Lumberton.

Embark on a journey through continents as you encounter exotic species from around the globe. The interactive exhibits and knowledgeable staff provide a deeper understanding of each animal's behavior and habitat.

Whether you're a wildlife enthusiast or simply seeking a day of adventure, Safari T.A.I.L.S promises an unforgettable experience in the heart of Mississippi. Located in the charming town of Lumberton, Safari T.A.I.L.S offers a captivating zoo experience like no other. With its lush surroundings and carefully curated habitats, visitors can immerse themselves in the diverse world of wildlife. From the playful antics of monkeys swinging through the trees to the majestic presence of lions basking in the sun, every corner of this zoo is teeming with life.

### *What the Bluebirds Told Me | \$5*

Wednesday, March 11 | HB In-Person and Zoom

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by John Lipscomb

This class will cover bluebird mating, nesting, and fledglings. Also included will be information about habitat, bluebird box placement and predators. **John Lipscomb** is a Master Naturalist residing on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He has been involved with birding most of his life. This presentation on bluebirds will cover basics on identification, migration and how to attract them.

***99 Years After the Big One: How Mississippi Manages the Flood Waters of the Delta | \$10***

**Thursday, March 19 | HB In-Person and Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Dean Pennington, PhD**

This two-hour class explores how Mississippi manages flood risk in the Yazoo River Basin. Starting with the 1927 flood and the launch of the Mississippi River & Tributaries Project, we will examine levees, reservoirs, and the Steele Bayou structure. Learn how these systems protect communities and farmland, and how they responded to events like the 2019 backwater flood. **Dr. Dean Pennington's** lifelong commitment to water management began on his family farm and continued through environmental studies and a career in research and leadership. He spent 5 years each at the University of Arizona and Mississippi State, then 26 years as executive director of the Yazoo Mississippi Delta Joint Water Management District in Stoneville.

***The Modern Internet and How to Navigate It Safely | \$5***

**Tuesday, March 24 | HB In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Gregory Prine**

In this course, we will learn current traps and pitfalls that are used to steal money and information, as well as common practices. **Gregory Prine** attended USM for Computer Engineering and has been in the business for 26 years in Hattiesburg.

***Haunting Place, Hallowed Spaces: The Sciences and Culture of Graveyards | \$10***

**Monday, March 30 | HB In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by David Holt, PhD**

Cemeteries, often perceived as somber or even morbid places, are in fact rich repositories of history, art and cultural expression. They transcend their primary function as burial grounds, evolving into complex spaces that reflect societal values, commemorating individual lives, and offer poignant reminders of mortality. The use of ground penetrating radar, geographic information systems and global positioning systems unite our understanding. **Dr. David Holt** graduated from the University of Arkansas in 2002 in Geosciences: Environmental Dynamics. He taught geography at Miami University from 2003 to 2007 and joined The University of Southern Mississippi in 2007 on the coast to teach geography. He is the coordinator for Sustainability Sciences BS and Geographic Information Technologies Laboratory.

***Computer and Artificial Intelligence in Polymer Science Research | \$15***

**Mondays, April 7 and 14 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Boran Ma, PhD and Daniel Struble**

This course will introduce the world of polymers to OLLI learners and show how computers and AI have enabled and accelerated polymer research. **Dr. Boran Ma** is an associate professor in the USM School of Polymer Science and Engineering. Prior to joining SPSE in January 2023, "Bo" was a postdoctoral associate at Duke University. She earned a PhD in Materials Science and Engineering from Northwestern University in 2019 and a BEng in Materials Science and Engineering from Harbin Institute in 2014. **Daniel Struble** is a third-year PhD student in the USM School of Polymer Science and Engineering. Dan obtained a BS in Polymer Materials Engineering from Western Washington University. He is passionate about science communication and education, particularly where they intersect with pragmatic solutions for plastics use and sustainability.

**PERSONAL ENRICHMENT**

***Feel the Words: Braille | \$10***

**Monday, January 26 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Jane Harty**

In this seminar, we will read, emboss and learn about braille. Our objectives are to allow participants to get a close look at how people can read without print, gain a background of the history of the braille code and read braille. Students will also write (or 'emboss'), braille. **Jane Harty** retired in May 2025 after 19 years teaching students with visual impairments. She has taught in schools for the blind in Kentucky and Mississippi and worked itinerant in three states. A past president of Mississippi's vision professionals group, she also serves on the American Printing House Museum Advisory Committee and was MS School for the Blind's 2017 District Teacher of the Year.

***Strategies for Bridge* | \$30**

**Tuesdays, January 27 - February 24 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Five-Week Class led by Ellen Davies**

In this course, we will study offensive strategies, with a focus on game and slam bidding. There is no shame in going down! We will focus on adding across the table, for purposes of reaching game and slam. Points required for game, based on where you play it, are about 24-25 for notrump, 26 for a major, and 29 in a minor. Slam is 32-36. We will learn when to count distribution. **Ellen Davies** is a retired teacher and lawyer who has played bridge since she was a teenager. She has taken many bridge classes at OLLI and she has taught many courses as well. There is always time for instruction and time for play.

***Life 101: Estate Planning Basics* | \$5**

**Monday, February 2 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Daniel Barton and Robert Jackson, Sr.**

Estate Planning can be a big, hairy subject for many folks but, it doesn't have to be! An estate plan is simply a collection of your assets (home, car, retirement, 'stuff', etc.) and what happens to those when you're gone.

What plans do you have in place? What are next steps? Can your estate impact others in a meaningful way?

Come find out! **Daniel Barton** is the Senior Planned Giving Officer at the USM Foundation. He is a resource for donors who wish to designate an estate gift (will, bequest, trust, real estate, beneficiary designation, life insurance) to an area of USM meaningful to them. **Robert Jackson, Sr.** is an attorney with Jackson, Tullos and Rogers, PLLC, with areas of practice in estate planning, taxation law and probate and estate administration.

***The Magic is You: Take the Wheel and Design What's Next* | \$10**

**Tuesday, February 10 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Aimee Baudier**

It's your time to take the wheel and design what's next. Join Certified Life Coach, Aimee Baudier, for a transformative experience blending the powerful Oola Framework with the soulful essence of Dream Weaver Coaching—helping you reconnect with purpose, rediscover passion, and design a life you love, because the magic has always been you. **Aimee Baudier** is a Certified Life Coach and co-leader of an annual women's retreat who also serves as president of LikeMinded Ladies Gulf Coast. With thirty plus years in oil and gas, she uses her heart-centered dream weaving to help women rediscover their magic and design lives they love.

***Awaken to Why You're Here: At Any Age* | \$15**

**Wednesdays, February 11 and 18 | HB In-Person and Zoom**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Two-Part Seminar led by Sherika Rimmer-Higgins**

*Awaken to Why You're Here—At Any Age* is a transformational class designed to help you discover your God-given purpose, no matter your age or stage. Through reflection, scripture and guided conversation, you'll uncover the calling that's been waiting for you and learn how to walk boldly in it. It's never too late to awaken to why you're here. Don't just exist, awaken and live with divine intention. **Sherika Rimmer-Higgins** is a faith-driven author, speaker and advocate for survivors of abuse. She is the founder of Beyond the Scars Enterprise, a movement dedicated to restoring hope, dignity and purpose to women through faith-based empowerment and healing. A survivor herself, Sherika writes from experience not theory. She is also an instructor at USM.

***Trip to the New Orleans Cooking School* | \$75**

**Thursday, February 26 | HB Field Trip**

**8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Departure and return times may change slightly. Once registered, check your email for updates.**

Welcome to the fun, food and folklore of the New Orleans School of Cooking! Since 1980, they have introduced countless visitors from around the world to the wonderful food and rich culture of New Orleans and Louisiana as a whole. Their entertaining cooking classes and Louisiana General Store are located in a renovated molasses warehouse built in the early 1800s in the heart of the French Quarter, 524 St. Louis Street. The demonstration will include Corn and Crab Bisque, Shrimp Creole, Bananas Foster, pralines and a biscuit with molasses.

***A Visit to Beaver Creek Distillery* | \$10**

**Wednesday, March 4 | HB Meet-Up**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Beaver Creek Staff**

Farm-crafted in the Piney Woods region of Mississippi, our new American style spirits capture the essence of the natural beauty of the region. Bold and creative expressions of botanicals native to the South enhance the experience, whether drinking neat or mixed. Pure water along with naturally raised botanicals provide the basis of the spirits, infused with a dedication to providing a "top shelf" experience in each bottle. All of our products are naturally crafted, with no artificial flavors or colors added. Meet for a tasting.

***Homesteading 101: Grow Your Own Culinary and Decorative Herbs* | \$10**

**Tuesday, March 10 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by April Overman, PhD**

Is your green thumb broken? Do you kill every plant you touch? Growing herbs is for you! Culinary herbs are tough, hardy and edible. They can be grown in containers, in the ground, inside the house or outside in the weather. Learn which herbs do best under what conditions and discover how you can thoroughly neglect a plant and still have plenty of sage to chase away bad spirits or basil to make a tasty pesto. **Dr. April Overman** is a retired law enforcement officer with extensive experience in homeless outreach efforts. She has also worked in the mental health field and is a nationally recognized drug recognition expert. She holds a PhD in urban studies and is also a licensed attorney.

***Supervised Bridge* | \$30**

**Tuesdays, March 17 - April 14 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Five-Week Class led by Ellen Davies**

In this course, we will study the finer points of bridge that lifelong bridge players have learned from experience. All students will be invited to offer their own tips and secrets. This course is recommended for those who have played bridge for approximately two years. **Ellen Davies** is a retired teacher and lawyer who has played bridge since she was a teenager. She has taken many bridge classes at OLLI and she has taught many courses as well. There is always time for instruction and time for play.

***I Just Want to Know My Colors Once and for All!* | \$10 OLLI | \$50 Swatch Fee Paid to Catherine Nowicki**

**Wednesday, March 18 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Catherine Nowicki**

This workshop has been popular for several years now for women and men who just want to know what looks best on them and walk away with their color swatches! After a brief intro on color, one OLLI person after another will have an individual analysis. Enjoy watching others get their colors done too! Lots of fun and Catherine will also answer questions. **Cash or check (made payable to Catherine Nowicki) of \$50 MUST be brought to class for swatches.** Catherine Nowicki has been a certified color and image consultant since 1988. She was trained by Color Me Beautiful and has a private studio in Laurel. Her services include color analysis, personal shopping, closet cleaning and figure/style. She has helped hundreds of men and women look better through color and gain confidence in everyday life.

***Media Savvy: Navigating the News* | \$10**

**Thursday, March 19 | In-Person and Zoom**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Edgar Simpson, PhD**

Become media savvy with this course offered by the Roy Howard Community Journalism Center at The University of Southern Mississippi. Gain essential skills to critically evaluate news sources, detect misinformation and disinformation, and understand media's role in society. Upon completion, you will be equipped to navigate today's complex information landscape with confidence. You'll also earn a valuable certification in media literacy. **Dr. Edgar Simpson** is the director of the School of Media and Communication at The University of Southern Mississippi, where he is also a professor. His work helped to secure the Scripps Howard Fund grant for the Roy Howard Community Journalism Center.

***Wiggin' Out—Again!* | \$10**

**Thursday, March 19 | HB In-Person**

**2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Seminar led by Anne Sylvest, PhD**

Have you ever wondered about wearing a wig yet seen some that looked so "wiggy" that it has kept you from even trying a wig? Don't know where to start? Then this class is for you. We will have a short wig overview, look at a variety of wigs, discuss making them work for you, and try some on if you're game. Whether for health reasons, personal convenience, or simply wanting to have a good hair day, wigs can be a viable and positive option. After 19 years, **Dr. Anne Sylvest** retired from USM as the Director of Educational Field Experiences. Before her years at USM, she was a classroom teacher and principal in Texas, Louisiana and Stuttgart, Germany. In the fall of 2018, a serious illness forced Anne into the world of wearing wigs and hasn't looked back since.

***Makeup for the Maturing Woman—Flatter your Face!* | \$10 OLLI | \$25 Makeup Fee to Catherine Nowicki**

**Wednesday, March 25 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Catherine Nowicki**

This popular course will cover everything from skin care to the final stroke of lipstick! Learn what kinds of skin products and makeup to use, why and how to apply everything to look healthier and youthful! Catherine uses

audience members as she demonstrates, answers questions and covers the importance of correct color knowledge. TOTALLY FUN! **Fee includes a personalized makeup product. Cash or check made payable to Catherine Nowicki of \$25 MUST be brought to class.** Catherine Nowicki has been a certified color and image consultant since 1988. She was trained by Color Me Beautiful and has a private studio in Laurel. Her services include color analysis, personal shopping, closet cleaning and figure/style. She has helped hundreds of women and men look better through color and gain confidence in their daily lives.

***Organization: Boost Your Mood and Productivity | \$10***

**Thursdays, March 26 and April 2 | HB In-Person**

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Two-Part Mini-Seminar led by Kim Dawsey**

Want to refresh your soul, boost your mood and productivity? Many scientific studies have shown how organizing your environment can do just that. Let's get started by learning how to decrease the perils of clutter and organize what you truly value and love. Make the space in which you live, work or play more peaceful and refreshing. Strategies and tips will be given as well as a time to share your ideas with others and ask questions. After 28 years of teaching, **Kim Dawsey** has been an OLLI member for 12 years. Serving in committee positions as well as on the executive board has been a source of joy and purpose in her life. As a child of God, she strives to serve Him in all she does, including helping to declutter and arrange home environments that may cause stress or confusion.

***Color Power in Springtime Shopping! | \$10 OLLI | \$25 Makeup Fee Paid to Catherine Nowicki***

**Wednesday, April 1 | HB In-Person**

**10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Seminar led by Catherine Nowicki**

**Meet at Dillards, Mall Entrance, 1000 Turtle Creek Mall, Hattiesburg.**

Have you wanted to have a personal stylist advise you as you shop, especially for a new season just beginning? Do you hate to shop? Love to shop? Have no idea HOW to shop or where to begin? Let Catherine guide and help you choose what to buy and what to stay away from based on your coloring, figure and style. . . and why! **Fee includes a personalized makeup product. Cash or check made payable to Catherine Nowicki of \$25 MUST be brought to class.** Catherine Nowicki has been a certified color and image consultant since 1988. She was trained by Color Me Beautiful and has a private studio in Laurel. Her services include color analysis, personal shopping closet cleaning and figure/style. She has helped hundreds of women and men look better through color and gain confidence in everyday life.

***Is Death Really Over When Someone Dies? | \$10***

**Monday, April 20 | HB In-Person**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Butch Benedict**

In this seminar, we will learn information about the duties of the coroner and death investigations, discussing cases from the past. We will and learn information about the funeral industry including some details to enlighten the consumer. This course is for anyone with questions about death but are afraid to ask. Before retiring, **Butch Benedict** was the Forrest County Coroner, or County Medical Examiner Investigator. He has handled many cases from natural deaths to accidents and homicides. Butch's education was in mortuary science and he worked over 30 years in the funeral industry. Mortuary science and crime scene investigations usually go hand-in-hand.

***Oil You Need Is Love | \$10***

**Thursday, April 23 | HB Meet-Up**

**9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Seminar led by Manda James**

**Meet at J. Olive Co., 6555 US Hwy 98, W Suite 22A, Hattiesburg.**

A new study has found that following a Mediterranean-type diet can delay the onset of Parkinson's disease by up to 17.4 years for women and 8.4 years for men. Meet up at J. Olive Co. for a tasting and to learn about the best oils you should buy. In 2013, the James family visited an olive oil store for the first time. They realized they had never been exposed to truly fresh olive oil. The concept of eating healthy has always been important to them, but the olive oils that they had previously bought at our local grocers could not come close to the flavor and richness of these genuinely fresh oils. This is how J. Olive Co. was born, out of the family's desire to make available the freshest and healthiest olive oils and vinegars to the community.

***Tiny But Mighty: How to Foster Neonatal Kittens | \$5***

**Monday, May 18 | HB In-Person and Zoom**

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. | Mini-Seminar led by Dani Snell and Sarah Krock**

Found a litter of tiny kittens and not sure what to do next? In this fun, hands-on workshop, you'll learn how to tell a kitten's age, what to do when you first find them, basics of bottle-feeding, keeping them warm, and

recognizing when they need extra help. We will also give an overview of our shelter's neonatal kitten foster program, including the training, supplies and support we provide to those who open their homes to the tiniest paws. **Dani Snell** is the Development Manager at Southern Pines Animal Shelter in Hattiesburg. She has been part of the Southern Pines team for nine years, overseeing marketing, social media and fundraising efforts to support the organization's lifesaving mission to bring people and pets together. **Sarah Krock** is the Community Engagement Manager at Southern Pines Animal Shelter in Hattiesburg. She has worked with Southern Pines for over a decade as a foster, volunteer and staff member with a focus on educating and engaging our community.

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# OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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