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The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Connecticut is an academic cooperative that provides older adults with opportunities for intellectual development, cultural stimulation, and social interaction.

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## IT'S ABOUT TIME

It's about time. What makes people so concerned about time? "I can never find enough time in the day to do what I have to do!" You're just wasting time." "Where does the time go?" How concerned with time were those hunter-gatherers of long ago? For most of our history the only time people were thinking about was 'when do we plant and when do we sow.' Early time-tellers were the sundial and the hour glass. It wasn't until the 1300's that mechanical clocks, which used weights or springs began to appear. They had no faces or hour or minute hands but struck a bell every hour. By the 1400's, an important invention came about -the use of coiled springs using a lever that controlled the direction and speed of the uncoiling-which allowed the use of hour and minute hands. This eventually led to smaller clocks and later to watches. Still only the rich could afford them and the general populace were aware of the time by listening to church bells because they did not have concern themselves about each minute. In the early 1700's, the British government, concerned about the loss of ships and sailors because of poor navigation instruments which did not allow precise pinpointing of their positions relative to hazards, offered a cash prize to anyone who could invent a clock accurate enough for navigation. By the late 1700's a tiny watch which lost only five seconds in six and a half weeks was invented by John Harrison. Thus began the practical use of an instrument to tell time. Eli Terry, a Connecticut man, in the early 1800's developed machines, patterns and techniques that produced clock parts that were exactly alike, so they could be mass produced, making time pieces cheap enough to be acquired by the masses and the Industrial Age took off. Time was money and so it became a commodity. Clocks and watches became ubiquitous and we all became addicted. Now we complain about time.

Scientists and philosophers study time and come to the same conclusion-it's all relative-but for different reasons. When you are doing something you like, time goes lightly, but when the work is not something you prefer doing, the time weighs heavy. *Time Magazine* (September 23, 2013) has an interesting essay on happiness and longevity which points out the accomplishments of artists and architects in their 'declining' years. Recent research has proven the regenerative power of the brain. "Not all intellectual functions are preserved with age, but as the processing power declines, the brain can compensate in ways that actually enhance creativity." That is the power of OLLI; it gives the older adults the chance to open up the mind to new ideas and hobbies. People seem to be happier doing activities they like. "The same idea of simple pleasure from a job you like is also true if your job is teaching school or practicing law or keeping shop. But it's still nice to know that when you spend your working years happily and well, you might just get a handful of extra ones slipped in before the lights go off." Time is what you make of it. If you need more time, do something different.

So, OLLI members-go forth and be creative!



## From Columbine to Sandy Hook: The role of the media in mass tragedies

**Jonathan Kellogg**, Executive Director of the Waterbury Republican-American newspaper, started his two-part discussion at Waterbury UConn of the role of the newspaper in reporting mass tragedies such as Sandy Hook and Columbine. Speaking to an older adult group, he asked how many subscribed to the local newspaper-and read it!- and how many were members of Facebook or Twitter. Most were in the newspaper group. He then related some 'facts' about Columbine that many were 'aware of'. Using a book written by David Cullem, Columbine, he then refuted all as not being true. Mr. Kellogg said that this book had taken ten years to write because the author wanted to get to the truth of that incident. Mr. Kellogg then contrasted the work of that book to what comes instantaneously over the internet.

Mr. Kellogg pointed out that the role of the newspaper is to organize the facts and put them in some kind of order which would allow the reader to get the basic questions answered-what, how, when, where and why. Most social media don't have the time or inclination to take the time to do that, which may account for all the misinformation surrounding horrendous events.

The discussion covered other topics brought up by members of the audience. One concern was the difference between the public's right to know and their need to know. A lively exchange occurred and some interesting questions were raised.

Mr. Kellogg will return to the Multi-Purpose Room at Waterbury UConn on Tuesday, October 8, at 6:30 for the second part of his discussion entitled, "**A Changing and Challenging Time for Newspapers: what should readers expect?**"

RJG

### OLLI Newsletters Go Internet

OLLI newsletters are available on our web page at [www.waterbury.uconn.edu/osher](http://www.waterbury.uconn.edu/osher)

Then click on the left-hand index that says "Newsletters". They are available in PDF format, if you don't have the free reader, you can get it at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) and click on the box that says "READER".

## SUE & FRIENDS A SPECIAL Cabaret Show Produced for OLLI AT UCONN MEMBERS Sponsored by the OLLI Clubs and Activities Committee

### An afternoon of Cabaret, Jazz, Standards and Show Tunes, with a multi-award winning cast and a few surprises from OLLI members

**Date:** Saturday, October 5, 2013

**Depart:** 11:30 AM, UCONN Waterbury

**Parking:** UConn Parking Garage (w/OLLI parking pass)

*The campus building will be closed-parking only.*

**Brunch:** 1:30 - 3:00 PM, \$10 minimum per person (not included in trip cost)

**Show:** 3:00 - 4:15 PM, Estimated return time: 6:30 PM in Waterbury

**Featuring:** Miles Phillips - Broadway and Musical Theater gem, Gretchen Reinhagen - doing some Kaye Ballard tunes, and Tracy Stark, Musical Director/Singer/Songwriter

**LIMITED SEATING-REGISTER TODAY:** Call 860-243-1630  
(do not call the OLLI Office)

**THE LAURIE BEECHMAN THEATRE at the WEST BANK  
CAFÉ**

407 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street (off of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue)

**COST: (Bus Transfer and Show only) JUST \$65.00 (plus money for brunch)**

There is an added \$10 fee for non-OLLI members.

*"When you come to the edge of all the light you know, and are about to step off into the darkness of the unknown, faith is knowing one of two things will happen: There will be something solid to stand on, or you will be taught how to fly."*

— Patrick Overton



OLLI Café'

**September 20**

**Andre Simonpietri**

**Life is Like Riding a Bicycle – You Only Fall Off When You Stop Pedaling.** It wasn't a race; it was a self-supported 70-day cross-country ride of over 3,700 miles across the U.S. Battling the forces of nature – rain, cold, tornadoes and historic flooding in spring of 2011, along with the physical and emotional challenges, this visual presentation will explore the planning, organization and execution of this adventure of a lifetime.

**Andre Simonpietri** holds a BS in Engineering, along with MS degrees in Aeronautics, Management and International Business. Retired from Sikorsky and Lockheed Martin, he has lived in four countries and speaks Spanish and French. He currently lives in Woodbury.

**September 27**

**Life and Work in Lithuania, 1995 – 2008**

**Irene and Gintas Zemaitaitis**

**BOOK CLUB**

Oct. 21 **Ella Grasso** by Jon Purmont  
 Nov. 18 **My Beloved World** by Sonia Sotomayor  
 Our meetings are from 1:00 to 3:00 in room 102D...UConn/Waterbury—contact **Nancy Via**  
 e-mail [nvia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nvia@sbcglobal.net)

**OLLI POETRY COFFEE HOUSE**

2nd Thurs at John Bale Bookshop –10:00am  
 Contact Denise Whelan ([deniseawhelan@yahoo.com](mailto:deniseawhelan@yahoo.com))  
 For more information

**How to Get an Honest Answer**

You're buying a used car, moving into a new apartment, or determining which doctor should treat your cancer. These are times when you need to get directly to the core of an issue.

Asking general questions elicits little valuable information and may even yield deceptive responses, says Julia Minson, a visiting scholar in decision sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. The best bet, says Minson, is to ask probing questions that presume there are problems.

Let's say someone is selling a used iPod. An example of a general question is "What can you tell me about it?" A positive-assumption question is "There aren't any problems with it, right?" But a negative-assumption question such as "What problems have you had with it?" will get the most honest response, found Minson and colleagues.

In a study that set up a fake sales interaction, 87 percent of the sellers alerted the buyer to problems when asked a negative-assumption question versus 59 percent of those responding to a positive-assumption query and 10 percent responding to a general one.

When you want the unvarnished truth, you have to ask for it: What mechanical problems does this car have? What are the worst parts of this job? How many people with my kind of illness have been successfully treated? What are their relapse rates? Your questions should communicate that you assume there will be difficulties and drawbacks and that you want to know about them.

*Mary Loftus Reader's Digest 09/13*



**PARKING**

**UConn Police Officers conduct routine parking enforcement in the attached campus parking garage and all cars will be ticketed for parking violations. These violations include, but are not limited to:**

**Failure to display a UConn parking decal,  
 parking in an unauthorized area –  
 NO PARKING ON LEVEL ONE, fire lanes,  
 handicap and reserved spaces.**

**Parking fines can be as high as \$150**



**Baltimore, Maryland**  
**May 4-6, 2014 (Sunday - Tuesday)**

Input by the OLLI membership has directed the travel committee to select a trip to Baltimore as the next destination in the Spring of 2014. The OLLI Fall Brochure and flyers distributed at Open House, describe most of the details of the itinerary and what is actually included in the member cost of \$479 per person (\$20 nonmember surcharge).

One facet of your exciting itinerary includes a visit to Fort McHenry, and I should like to touch upon a few facts about this historical place, which may enlighten some history buffs or patriotic travelers. Fort McHenry was named after a Secretary of War during the George Washington administration. It is now considered a National Monument and a National Shrine. It was erected on a peninsula in a typical five sided shape of the era, and is best known for its role in the War of 1812, when it successfully defended the naval advance by the British in Baltimore Harbor.

During this relentless naval encounter, Francis Scott Key, a lawyer, was on board a British naval warship, negotiating the release of a civilian. It was from here that he saw the bombardment and from where he penned a poem giving testament to what he witnessed. In the early 1900's, those expressive words would become our National Anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner".

When conditions are right, the Park Service flies a full scale, nylon replica of the flag flown during the bombardment. The original flag has been restored and is on display at the Smithsonian Natural History Museum in Washington.

Travel committee member, **Gen Delkescamp**

## OLLI 's Fall Trip Schedule

While it is not that far from Waterbury to Storrs, it has been years since I spent any time on the campus of my alma mater, UConn.

But on October 16, 2013 all that will change because OLLI is sponsoring a trip to Storrs that offers something very traditional; the ice cream treats at the Dairy Bar and stops at the Visitors Center, the Archeology Center and the Dodd Center.

In late 1880, Charles and Augustus Storrs offered the state a former Civil War orphanage, 170 acres of farm land, a few barns and \$5,000 to establish an agricultural school for boys. The school, then Storrs Agriculture School and now the University of Connecticut, opened September 28, 1881 with a faculty of three and 12 students.

The October 16<sup>th</sup> OLLI trip will begin at the UConn Visitors' Center and includes an overview of this growing institution. The next stop will be the Natural History Museum with a talk by Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni, who is the state archeologist. This will be followed by a guided tour of this museum.

The third tour will be of the Dodd Research Center which was named after the late Senator Thomas Dodd who was a senior prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials. These 13 trials were held between 1945 and 1949 and considered a milestone toward a permanent international court. An archivist will talk about the incredible collection and its unique irreplaceable material.

Lunch is on your own. Remember this is not school cafeteria food, nor even the dorm food of memory. There are several good places to eat or you can bring your own lunch.

Cost of the trip is \$40. Make your reservation by calling 860-343-1630 and then mail your check to Friendship Tours, 533 Cottage Grove Road, Bloomfield CT 06002.

Our trip parking lot is now in Prospect near St. Anthony Church on Rte 69. Please park in the DOT section of the lot which is closer to Dunkin Donuts.

**Evelyn Marshak**





A wife asks her husband, "Could you please go shopping for me and buy one carton of milk and if they have avocados, get 6.

A short time later the husband comes back with 6 cartons of milk. The wife asks "Why did you buy 6 cartons of milk?"

He replied, "Because they had avocados."

If you're a woman, I'm sure you're going back to read it again!

Men will get it the first time.

My work is done here.

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**Water in the carburetor**

**WIFE:** "There is trouble with the car. It has water in the carburetor."

**HUSBAND:** "Water in the carburetor? That's ridiculous "

**WIFE:** "I tell you the car has water in the carburetor."

**HUSBAND:** "You don't even know what a carburetor is. I'll check it out. Where's the car?"

**WIFE:** "In the pool"

A young man wanted to get his beautiful blonde wife something nice for their first wedding anniversary. So he decided to buy her very first cellphone. He showed her the phone and explained to her all of its features. Meg was excited to receive the gift and simply adored her new phone.

The next day Meg went shopping. Her phone rang and, to her astonishment, it was her husband on the other end. "Hi Meg," he said, "how do you like your new phone?" Meg replied, "I just love it! It's so small and your voice is clear as a bell, but there's one thing I don't understand." "What's that, sweetie?" asked her husband.

"How'd you know I was at Wal-Mart?"

### HE MUST PAY

Husband and wife had a tiff. Wife called up her mom and said, "He fought with me again, I am coming to live with you." Mom said, "No darling, he must pay for his mistake. I am coming to live with you."

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## Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCONN, Waterbury

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
 The University of Connecticut  
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### NEWSLETTER CONTACTS

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The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Connecticut is an academic cooperative that provides older adults with opportunities for intellectual development, cultural stimulation, and social interaction.

Our programs are centered around classes developed and taught by members who volunteer their time and talents to share their knowledge, life passions, and interest with other members. The OLLI program also sponsors special events featuring noted authors, scholars, and experts in respected professional fields.

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## OLLI Leadership Council

### Council Members

OLLI officers are part of the Leadership Council, which is the principal representative body of the OLLI membership.

### Council Officers

President - Richard Fogg  
 1st Vice President - Mary Lou Reigner  
 2nd Vice President - Delma Way  
 Secretary - Toni Escott  
 Assistant Secretary - Joyce Conlan



**We're on the web! [www.waterbury.uconn.edu/osher](http://www.waterbury.uconn.edu/osher)**

## MEET YOUR PRESENTERS

Going through basic training at Fort Dix in New Jersey changed Barry Davis' life goals dramatically.

A 1960 graduate of C.W. Post College of Long Island University, Barry decided he would take care of his military obligation before entering graduate school on the way to becoming a psychologist. He had a deferment while attending college but expected to be called to serve once he received his bachelor's degree.

In Basic Training he was shocked at how little his fellow trainees knew of American History and how ill prepared the instructors giving lectures were on that topic. "They were good soldiers" and taught the elements of soldiering well but were not prepared to teach History to 18 to 21-year olds the way it should be taught, he felt.

During the Korean War, Chinese Communists provided tapes used in North Korea prisoner of war camps to "re-educate" American prisoners of war and convince them the United States was a bad place. It was clear young Americans needed to be better grounded in the positive side of American history.

Barry, who always loved history, had found his life's mission: he would teach American History so students would leave his classes grounded in the "truth of American history, both good and bad." They would understand how the past shapes the present and future and the way a democracy addresses its problems.

After his tour of duty was over, Barry earned his graduate degree in American History. He loved teaching Political Science, History and some Psychology. He sees his subject "as a story, not just dates, but a flow of events, each piece connecting to another." Barry views politics as the "human side of history," observing that Abraham Lincoln's experiences in his middle years gave him a background that shaped his politics

He sees the decline of newspapers as "tragic." News can be read online, he acknowledges, "but it is a different medium, a transient one." When you have a newspaper "you can come back to it for days. News has meaning." When reading a print publication and the jump takes you to page 6, you see what else is on page 6." He is using the *New York Times* in his class on "Today's News-Tomorrow's History." He has also presented OLLI classes on the American Constitution.

During his long tenure at North Shore High School in Long Island, one of Barry's favorite classes was "Principles of Foreign Policy," an elective for seniors. The "Game" as it was nicknamed involved setting up a world based on real countries with their natural resources, military forces, economies and cultures. Each country negotiated trade agreements, treaties and other matters of foreign policy.

One year, the U.S. group started out pro presidential candidate George McGovern and began implementing his foreign policies. By the end of the term, they decided McGovern's policies were disastrous. "Part of me was horrified but I realized then that good teaching makes the students think."

Barry himself also advocated for teachers as a strong voice in his union, serving as President of his local for 12 years. Today, he loves working with OLLI participants, who are informed and articulate and of various political persuasions. An avowed liberal Barry says one of the greatest compliments he has had was a woman in one of his OLLI classes that included several Tea Party members saying, "You are the first liberal I have liked." -

**Mary Ann Martin**

# September 2013

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

	2	3	4	5	6	7
	9	10 <i>Council Mtg 10:30 Jonathan Kel- log 6:30</i>	11	12	13 OLLI	14
5	16 OLLI <i>Book Club</i>	17	18	19	20 OLLI	21
2	23	24	25 <i>What Does It mean to Be Hu- man? 12:45</i>	26 <i>Curriculum Committee 10:00</i>	27 OLLI	28
9	30					

# October 2013

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

**1**

**2**

**3**

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**5**

*OLLI*

**6**

**7**

**8**

**9**

**10**

**11**

**12**

**Jonathan  
Kellog  
6:30**

*Poetry Club  
John Bale Book  
10:00*

*OLLI*

**13**

**14**

**15**

**16**

**17**

**18**

**19**

**Chemists  
Without  
Borders12:45**

**Trip to Storrs**

*OLLI*

**20**

**21**

**22**

**23**

**24**

**25**

**26**

*OLLI Book  
Club*

**Curriculum  
Committee  
10:00**

*OLLI*

**27**

**28**

**29**

**30**

**31**