Today is the last class of the 2016 spring session of the ninth year of OLLI. However, Many activities are still happening. Summer Session begins on May 31. The Travel Committee has some trips scheduled for May and June and into the Fall. Brass City Harvest continues to till the soil producing food for the community. Voices and Visions asks that you submit your art work or creative endeavors to the Editorial Board for inclusion in the 2016 edition by the end of June so that publication will be ready for the end of August.

The Newsletter Committee thanks all who have contributed to the Newsletter and continues to seek advice, suggestions to improve or additions to better inform our readership and, of course, your submissions.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

REMINDERS:

- OLLI at UConn Summer registration has begun! AND Summer catalogs are available for pick-up in the OLLI office (Room 103, UConn Waterbury), or at the OLLI membership table. Sign up soon! Courses fill up fast!

- If you are interested in leading an OLLI course next Fall, you should submit a course proposal soon. The submission deadline for OLLI at UConn Fall 2016 proposals is Friday, May 6th!

- OLLI at UConn will be participating, for the first time ever, in Connecticut Community Foundation’s annual online giving event, Give Local Greater Waterbury & Litchfield Hills! (Please see page 7 for more information)

OLLI Gift Cards:

We are excited to announce that OLLI at UConn Gift Vouchers are now available for purchase online, or in the OLLI office!

Do you have a friend, family member, or loved one who might benefit from the joy and fulfillment of lifelong learning? Consider showing them your appreciation with a gift they will actually use, and enjoy! We currently have gift vouchers available for sale online at $20, $35, $50, $75, and $100, but they can be made available at any value. For more information, or to request a custom gift voucher, simply call the main OLLI office line at 203-236-9924, or email us at osher@uconn.edu or osher@uconn.edu.
The Brooklyn Bridge Expedition

On Wednesday April 20 a caravan of five cars carrying 22 DeFillipis' disciples, culled from the Garden group, the Italian class and the Opera class set out to explore the Brooklyn bridge and the surrounding environs. The day was sunny and warm enhanced by a mild breeze over the East River.

The first six piers of the Brooklyn waterfront are in the process of being renovated. Old structures have been torn down and the waterfront is now open to the public to be used freely. Before we walked our first mile, but after we had traveled all the way to Brooklyn we walked to a Cobble Hill German Jewish deli making the “best” Italian sandwiches or was it an Italian German deli making the “best” Jewish sandwiches. Whatever it was, these were the best tasting sandwiches which we brought to the newly developed Brooklyn Bridge Park and had a picnic.

We started at pier 1 and slowly made our way to pier 6. There were playgrounds, volleyball courts, roller skating rinks, exercise and basketball courts, and even a swimming pool on promontories, the old wharfs, jutting out into the East River. Huge granite boulders and even hillsides are positioned in an aesthetically pleasing and environmentally sound way. The renovated clean park is being used extensively by the diverse Brooklyn population of old and newly arrived immigrants.

Before we started walking over the Bridge we indulged in the “best” ice cream cones made with all natural ingredients. By then we had walked 4 or 5 miles and still hadn’t walked over the mile and one half long bridge. The bridge was packed with people walking or riding bicycles. The uphill incline to the crest of the bridge seemed like climbing Everest for our senior bodies. As a group we touched the Manhattan side of the bridge and hurried back to Brooklyn. Exhausted we started back to our cars walking through beautiful stately cobblestone streets and brownstone homes. But first we stopped for the “best” chocolates and then the “best” macaroons ever. Tulips in full bloom in the brownstone gardens led us to the walkway of Brooklyn Heights overlooking the East River with a view of the Manhattan skyline.

By the time we reached the parking garage and waited for our cars our bodies, joints and muscles were aching. Pedometers suggested that we had walked over 8 miles. We reviewed our tasting menu of the delights of the day. For dessert we entered our cars and tasted the traffic patterns of driving on the Brooklyn-Queens expressway and the Long Island Expressway and then the Whitestone highway during the rush hour on a beautiful day.

Through OLLI we were thankful that we were exposed to such a unique experience initiated and conducted by a knowledgeable, enthusiastic and energetic tour guide, Nunzio DeFillipis.

Ira Mickenberg

In America, anyone can become President. That’s the problem!

George Carlin

Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But I repeat myself.

Mark Twain

The Travel Committee would like your opinion on these 4 questions

- What new destination would you like to see as one of our next Day Trips?

- What new destination would you like to be for one of our next Overnight Trips?

- What destination that has already been taken as a Day Trip would you like to see repeated?

- What destination that has already been taken as an Overnighter would you like to see repeated?

(After answering, tear off on the dotted line above, and place your answers in the TRAVEL SUGGESTION BOX at the information table. Thank you from the Travel Committee)
April 29
Shakesperience Presents:” Waterbury Interactive: Our City, Our Neighborhoods”
Emily Mattina
“Waterbury Interactive: Our City, Our Neighborhoods,” is now in its fourth season. It celebrates Waterbury’s unique history, neighborhood by neighborhood, through the living arts, in order to inculcate a sense of civic pride in the new generation while celebrating those who helped build it. Once the plays are created, they tour to neighborhood parks or other centralized locations to reach older adults, families and neighbors.

OLLI TRAVEL - NOVEMBER 2016

**AIDA** at the MET in NYC!!!!

We are very happy to announce that our very first Opera trip to the Metropolitan Opera House in NYC is about to happen in November of 2016! Join the fun and become a part of it.

We will be seeing AIDA, a great opera about a young Egyptian army officer, Radames, who is in love with the Ethiopian princess, Aida, who is now the slave of Amneris, the Pharoah’s daughter. A love triangle ensues and a story of the conflict between love and duty captures the audience. Make sure you take advantage of this chance to see this wonderful opera with your friends. We will be seeing a matinee showing affording us time to eat in NYC afterwards and still get home by approximately 8PM that evening!

Save this date: **Saturday, November 5, 2016**. The bus will leave the Waterbury Chase Commuter Park & Ride Lot at 8:30 AM. The price for OLLI members is **$150**. (Non-members may make reservations also at a price of $160.) Full payment must be made by August 25, 2016. These prices includes deluxe motorcoach transportation and reserved Rear Orchestra seating for the show. Flyers are available with all information at the OLLI Information Table in the main hall.

For reservations or questions call Friendship Tours at 860-243-1630. Mention AIDA and OLLI Day Trips. If you have any special medical needs, please advise Friendship Tours when you call to make your reservation. **We feel this trip will fill up quickly, so reserve early!**

Upcoming OLLI Travel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location/Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/12/16</td>
<td>The Springfield Museums (Dr. Seuss Sculpture Garden MA - $62pp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/20-22/2016</td>
<td>Lancaster PA (Sight &amp; Sound Theatre (overnight) - $427pp dbl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/29/2016</td>
<td>Thomas Edison National Historic Park/Montclair Museum - $85pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/07/2016</td>
<td>Music on the Mountain (Mohonk Mountain) NY - $114pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/17-19/2016</td>
<td>Washington DC/Chantilly VA/Mount Vernon - $457pp dbl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/28/2016</td>
<td>Walkway Over the Hudson/Lunch &amp; Tour of Culinary Inst., Hyde Park, NY - $107pp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/05/2016</td>
<td>Metropolitan Opera-NYC (Aida) - $150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All prices are member prices. Non-members are charged a slight surcharge. Call Friendship Tours for information and reservations. (1-800-243-1630). Mention OLLI Travel.
GETTING OLDER

A distraught senior citizen phoned her doctor's office. "Is it true," she wanted to know, "that the medication you prescribed has to be taken for the rest of my life?"
"Yes, I'm afraid so," the doctor told her. There was a moment of silence before the senior lady replied, "I'm wondering, then, just how serious is my condition because this prescription is marked 'NO REFILLS'."

******************************************************************************

An older gentleman was on the operating table awaiting surgery and he insisted that his son, a renowned surgeon, perform the operation.

As he was about to get the anesthesia, he asked to speak to his son. "Yes, Dad, what is it?"
"Don't be nervous, son; do your best, and just remember, if it doesn't go well, if something happens to me, your mother is going to come and live with you and your wife....

******************************************************************************

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

---------------------------------------------

One of the many things no one tells you about aging is that it is such a nice change from being young.

Thanks to CTSCOUT (Sheila Morisette)

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UCONN, Waterbury

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
The University of Connecticut
99 East Main Street
Waterbury, CT 06702

NEWSLETTER CONTACTS
Bob Grady 860-483-2014
Email yvoorg@aol.com
or nblomstrom@aol.com

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) 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.

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 - Chuck Miceli
1st Vice President - Toni Escott
2nd Vice President - Delma Way
Secretary - Pat Fahey
Assistant Secretary - Joyce Conlan

We're on the web! www.oll.uconn.edu
OLLi artBeat

The Connecticut Pops Invites You to Enjoy
“Music Across America”

By Mary Fitzpatrick Peitler

I am not a Waterbury native. Growing up in New York City, I moved to New Milford, CT forty-one years ago when I was 23 to raise my family. Ten years ago I moved to Meriden to help my daughter raise her family! During the past few years I have learned what an incredible cultural resource, right in the middle of these two towns, is Waterbury! I was introduced to OLLI by a good friend, as a place that I, a mature learner, might be able to socialize, learn and grow. And as this semester comes to a close, I think about that a lot. What a gem, what a gift, this educational opportunity has been for me.

Closely aligned to the philosophy of OLLI is The Connecticut Pops. It consists primarily of mature musicians who love to get together to hone their skills, make music, and produce a terrific resource for the community as a whole to enjoy. This cultural gem, unknown to many, has endeavored to foster the love of music and music-making for the past three decades. It is a concert band which practices weekly at Naugatuck Valley Community College. Although there are a few Naugatuck students who attend band and receive three credits per semester as a university course, most of the members are older individuals who come back year after year simply for the joy of playing their instruments, meeting other like minded people, and having a good time.

On Saturday, May 7, you are all invited to have a good time with the Connecticut POPS as well! They will be presenting their annual spring concert. This year it is entitled “Music Across America.” Andrew Ardizzoia is the conductor who has guided the band since Fall 2014. For this upcoming concert he has chosen a program that comes from or is inspired by places in the United States. It will include New England sailing songs and hymns, Cajun dances, medleys from Chicago, Porgy and Bess, West Side Story and Oklahoma, and even Hawaiian music, in tribute to all 50 states. Andrew, in his second year as conductor and director, is excited about the band and says, “The group has made me feel so welcome. The great thing is that they like to work while having fun. I try really hard to foster that atmosphere. What inspires me is that despite how busy everyone is, thirty-five people can find two hours a week to come together and work toward a common goal of playing and presenting music.”

The band often collaborates with other campus groups. On occasion the dance department has performed with them. Last fall students from the theater program performed Shakespearean monologues along with music from the Elizabethan era. Sometimes faculty soloists perform to showcase the team of instructors at Naugatuck.

The concert will take place at 7:30 pm on Saturday, May 7, 2016 (which just happens to be this reporter’s 65th birthday!) at the Fine Arts Center at Naugatuck Valley Community College, 750 Chase Parkway, Waterbury. Admission is free for all, and all ages are encouraged to attend. There will be a fundraising raffle, so bring a little cash to support them if you wish. Another community gem, right in our midst. A great way to celebrate America, spring, and continued learning and growing for all ages!

See you all in the Fall Semester OLLI Newsletter! If you have any suggestions for museums, concerts, plays or shows you would like previewed or reviewed, please let me know at berrylfitz@gmail.com. Have a great summer!
MEET YOUR PRESENTERS

Acclaimed artist Thelma Appel was born in Israel and, lived in India and England before coming to the United States where she was awed by the spectacular landscapes she saw.

Unlike England, the U.S. landscapes were unfettered by “enclosures” or farmland fenced, often by stone or hedges, she explained.

“I was reborn in the United States and amazed at what I saw.” Influenced by expressionism and the scale of the American landscape, she became a landscape painter.

She drew inspiration from nature, exploring “the tension that exists between observed reality and abstract synthesis,” per her Artist Statement.

She also found inspiration in the poetry of New Jersey poet William Carlos Williams and writers Virginia Woolf and D. H. Lawrence.

In his later works, Williams gave life to regular people with his vivid descriptions. Woolf, according to Thelma, had an “amazing ability to describe landscape . . . in a very painterly way.” And D. H. Lawrence offered “great descriptions of landscape.”

“They taught me how to see.”

Art was a constant in Thelma’s early life. “I did art all of the time.”

Thelma said she wasn’t a good student and always sat in the back row of the classrooms of the various boarding schools to which her mother sent her. Despite her academic issues, Thelma loved to read. “The only thing that got me through life was reading,” she observed of that period.

Thelma’s mother, a British citizen who lived in India, had met and married Thelma’s father in England where both were law students. He took his bride home to Palestine, where his clients at that time included Arabs and Jews.

But the marriage failed and Thelma’s mother returned to India, taking her nine-year-old daughter with her. Eventually, mother and child moved to England.

Thelma explained her mother sent her to boarding school because she herself had broken her leg and was incapacitated because of a subsequent infection for a long period of time.

Among schools Thelma attended was one in Darjeeling as well as the King Alfred School in London, where to her surprise, students were to call teachers by their first names.

One day a teacher noticed that Thelma was drawing rather than doing school work. After seeing her drawings, the instructor suggested Thelma go to art school.

Thelma then enrolled in the St. Martins School of Art, where she earned her Diploma of Art and Design (now Central St. Martins College of Art and Design). She met her first husband, sculptor Isaac Witkin from South Africa, at the school.

With him, she moved to the United States, where he had accepted a position at Bennington College. Both became American citizens in 1975 and he became a prominent figure in the world of sculpture.

Thelma gradually became immersed in her art. She worked with an art dealer and began selling more and more of her landscapes (oils and acrylics) in New York. In her Artist Statement, Thelma says that she wants “to express in each painting the particular physical and visual experience that impelled it.”

While Thelma did “quite well” in the art field, her marriage dissolved although “we remained friends.”

Her paintings hang in many public collections. A sampling of those collections includes the Bank of Tokyo, Merck & Co., Rahway, NJ; and the Minneapolis Art Institute. She has been a visiting artist at several museums and other venues, including the Boston Museum of Fine Art and Wooster Museum College of Art.

After 2000, Thelma became concerned about tragic events and moved away from landscapes because “I had something (else) to say.” Some of her recent paintings reflect the journey through life.

Her art dealer died and “once he died, I stopped selling. You rely on a dealer to promote your art.” But still she paints because she is an artist. Today, she and her second husband live in Waterbury. Thelma is teaching The Art in Painting – A Workshop at OLLI.

—Mary Ann Martin
**OLLI at UConn to Participate in Give Local 2016!**

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Connecticut (UConn) is excited to announce that we will be participating, for the first time ever, in the Connecticut Community Foundation’s annual online giving event, **GIVE LOCAL Greater Waterbury & Litchfield Hills!**

Join thousands across our region on May 3 and 4 for an extraordinary online giving campaign to local organizations during Give Local Greater Waterbury & Litchfield Hills! With 215 participating organizations - more than ever before - you can "give where your heart is" to causes that matter most to you in the 36-hour campaign. Since 2013, this event has raised over $1.9 million for area nonprofits in our local communities.

If OLLI at UConn has made a difference in yours or a friend’s life, or if you simply support our mission, please consider showing your support on May 3 and May 4 by giving via our online profile link:  
**https://givelocalccf.org/npo/osopher-lifelong-learning-institute-at-the-university-of-connecticut**

Please follow this link to learn more about OLLI at UConn’s mission, and how funds raised during Give Local 2016 will benefit our beloved organization, and help us better serve our surrounding communities.

**Why give during Give Local?**

- **Your donation goes further** during Give Local! All gifts through [www.GiveLocalCCF.org](http://www.GiveLocalCCF.org) will be stretched further with a portion of over $120,000 in bonus funds provided by Connecticut Community Foundation and their generous sponsors. Also, your donation can help OLLI at UConn and your favorite nonprofits win some of the $50,000 in cash prizes.
- **All donations are tax-deductible.** All donations to OLLI at UConn and participating nonprofits via Give Local are tax deductible.
- **It’s easy to Give Local.** Visit OLLI at UConn’s secure [online giving page](http://www.GiveLocalCCF.org) anytime between 7 a.m. on May 3 and 7 p.m. on May 4. Then fill in the requested information and click to give!

You may also search for OLLI at UConn and other participating nonprofits by visiting the Give Local secure website - [www.GiveLocalCCF.org](http://www.GiveLocalCCF.org) – Then type in the names of your favorite nonprofits or browse to find groups doing the kinds of work that interest you. Visit GiveLocal.org again and again to see how much your favorite nonprofits have raised!

OLLI at UConn will be offering extended office hours (Room 103, UConn Waterbury Campus, Main Building) on May 3 and May 4 to assist with online giving throughout the two-day event. On Tuesday, May 3 the OLLI office will be open from 7:30AM to 5:30PM. On Wednesday, May 4 the OLLI office will remain open from 8:30AM to 7:00PM. Computers and staff will be available on-site to assist any who would like to give, but require technical support.
INTRODUCING: The NEW and IMPROVED OLLI schedule!

As OLLI at UConn continues to grow, we must change and adapt in order to support the needs of our diverse learning community. The OLLI course schedule has changed immensely since this program’s inception, in an attempt to accommodate the diverse needs of our members, instructors, the University, and the public. While recent changes have been an improvement, criticism and feedback have allowed OLLI at UConn leadership to reflect on ways we can schedule courses to better serve our constituents. Over the past several months, your OLLI leadership council, along with OLLI staff, have worked tirelessly to obtain valuable feedback, and construct a new and improved OLLI course schedule, which will go into effect beginning Fall 2016. The following schedule was developed with consideration given to the preferences of our membership, past and current instructors, members of the public who have expressed interest in our program, and the University and campus’s needs. We thank all who have provided feedback to OLLI at UConn leadership, and/or participated in our online surveys. We hope you are as satisfied as we are with the new OLLI course schedule.

NEW - OLLI Friday Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Time Slot #1</th>
<th>Flexible Start Time (dependent on course) – 10:00 AM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Time Slot #2</td>
<td>10:15 AM – 11:45 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Break &amp; Café Announcements</td>
<td>11:45 AM – 12:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Café Presentation</td>
<td>12:15 PM – 1:15 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Time Slot #3</td>
<td>12:15 PM – 1:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Time Slot #4</td>
<td>1:45 PM – Flexible End Time (dependent on course)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Noted improvements to the schedule include:

- Flexible start time (time slot #1) AND end time (time slot #4): We understand that some courses (such as film) require unique class durations that do not conform to the standard 75 or 90-minute class session. This flexibility will give instructors the option to schedule their class sessions at a duration which suits their specific course needs.

- Combination of 75 or 90-minute class sessions: OLLI members and instructors have expressed interest in deviating from our standard 90-minute class session. Feedback suggests that 75 and 90-minute class sessions are BY FAR, the most preferred class duration, so the new schedule includes one set 90-minute class time slot (time slot #2), and one at 75-minutes (time slot #3). Time slots 1 & 4 are flexible.

- Inclusion of 30-minute Mid-day break: From 11:45 to 12:15, there will be no OLLI courses scheduled. This will provide a little extra time in the middle of the day to meet with friends, grab a quick lunch, and get to your next class (for those who enroll in back-to-back courses).

- Earlier OLLI Café Presentation: Feedback suggests the current OLLI Café presentation schedule runs too late, so we have shifted the OLLI Café and presentation up 45 minutes earlier in the new schedule.

- We will offer more early evening classes, Monday through Thursday, in order to better accommodate individuals who are interested in OLLI, but are still working, and cannot attend daytime classes.

_We cannot become what we want to be by remaining what we are._

-Max DePree