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.

ELECTION LAMENT

Harry Potter was the rage
on Halloween for years;
but, now, new scares are all around,
reducing adults to tears.

No fairy princess with the wand,
no Indian chief delightful,
no Power Rangers made them cry,
these costumes are more frightful.

The first, a woman, dressed in beige,
her power suit so neat;
I wonder what she’ll wear next week
to honor her defeat?

The next, who thinks he’s quite the thing,
Armani is his tailor,
throwing money here and there,
denying possible failure.

These candidates both have their flaws;
it’s hard to make a choice.
But, we must, and place our votes,
and let them hear your voice.

Carol Ann Laferriere
Let’s Write-Nancy Whitney’s course

VOTE NOV. 8
OLLI BOOK CLUB
Contact: Nancy Via at nvia@sbcglobal.net
All meetings of the book club will be held in room 102D, UConn, Waterbury at 1:00 PM 3rd Monday

November 21st...The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson

OLLI NEWSLETTERS GO INTERNET
OLLI newsletters are available on our web page at http://olli.uconn.edu/weekly-newsletters/
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 and click on the box that says “READER.”

The Newsletter is always looking for content from our readers. This may be in the form of original work or items you have found interesting and may wish to pass on to others. We always welcome any suggestions you may have to improve the newsletter or criticisms of it. The Newsletter exists to inform and entertain our readers.

Contact Bob Grady at yvoorg@aol.com or any presenter or staff member

OLLI POETRY COFFEE HOUSE
2nd Thurs at John Bale Bookshop –10:00am
Contact Denise Whelan (denisewhelan@yahoo.com) for more information

Openings for OLLI Leadership Council
Are you interested in becoming more involved in the internal organization of OLLI? Four positions on the OLLI Leadership Council will be open in 2017.
These positions are:
President
Vice President
2 Members-at-Large (Members-at-Large are liaisons between the OLLI general membership and the Leadership Council.)
The Nominating Committee is accepting the names of all OLLI members interested in any of these positions. (Self-nominations are also encouraged.)
This is your chance to see how decisions are made in OLLI and to have more input in those decisions.
Please send nominations by e-mail to any Nominating Committee member listed below or place your nomination in the OLLI Suggestion Box on the main information table. When sending by e-mail, please include the word OLLI in the subject line of your e-mail. If using the Suggestion Box, address to the Nominating Committee with the name of your nominee and the position. Please describe in fifty words or less why you believe this nomination should be considered. If nominating someone other than yourself, please add your name and contact information also.
The Deadline to submit nominations is November 4, 2016.

Nominating Committee Members
Ann Rompre (Chairperson) – annrompre@sbcglobal.net
Merle Arcovio – merleka@optonline.net
Gen Delkescamp – gdelkescamp11@comcast.net
Toni Escott – toniescott1@cox.net

OLLI Fall 2016 semester ends next week but you still have the opportunity to engage in OLLI activities. The OLLI Winter Session begins on January 13, 2017 and ends on February 8, 2017. Check your catalogue for classes and times.

On February 17, 2017, the Spring Session starts, so it is not that far away.

A reminder for entries to the 2017 edition for Voices and Visions, the literary and artistic review for OLLI members, especially from the fall session, are welcome and encouraged. The deadline is June 2017 – but look at how fast this session has come to an end!
OLLI CAFE

Nov. 4
Edward Cocchiola. Ed is a retired teacher and former public school administrator who is presently employed as an adjunct professor in the history department at Southern Connecticut State University where he gives advice and support to student teachers.

Ed will talk to us about his teaching experience in Southern China and will give us insights into the Chinese perspective on education and learning. Today’s Cafe will be an interactive session and the audience is encouraged to comment and to ask questions.

Nov.11 Adulthood and Aging
Dr. Laura Donorfio

OLLI NEWS

We encourage members to comment and criticize the content of the OLLI Newsletter and send in suggestions and work of your own. It is especially nice to receive original work that happens to give us some good feedback such as Carol Ann Laferriere’s poem which appears below.

OLLI NEWS

Faithfully, each Friday morn,
I read the OLLI News.
Last week I learned some vital tips
to handle my "food cues."

“Murphy's real laws” were there
To give a laugh or two;
Let's hope that Murphy doesn't mind, We'll shudder if he sues.

The article about the art
with pictures, two by two
Got my attention right away.
Was it the same with you?

I laughed my way through all the jokes;
They chase away my blues.
The OLLI News is just my style,
Awakening my Muse.

Carol Ann Laferriere

The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page.

St. Augustine

Life is not a “brief candle.” It is a splendid torch that I want to make burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

Bernard Shaw
Bob was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was really ticked.

She told him “Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 6 seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE !!”

The next morning he got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway.

Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway, brought the box back in the house.

She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale.

Bob has been missing since Friday.

A police recruit was asked during the exam, “What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?” He answered, “Call for backup.”

Joe was the type who loved to talk about the good old days. At a movie, he is told it’s five dollars a ticket, "I can remember when a movie ticket was only $0.15." "You're really going to enjoy this movie then, sir," said the ticket girl. "We have sound now."

Alice was asked by a friend if she ever thinks about the hereafter. She said, "I do all the time. No matter where I am in the house, kitchen, den, upstairs, downstairs, I ask myself, now what am I here after?"

The four stages of life

1. You believe in Santa Claus
2. You don’t believe in Santa Claus
3. You ARE Santa Claus.
4. You look like Santa Claus.

The math professor went crazy with the black board. He did a number on it.

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
AN INTERGENERATIONAL SPACE IN THE MAKING

Text by Mary Fitzpatrick Peitler and Photos by Ralph Famiglietti

Are you looking for a comfortable, cozy and smaller place than the Multi Purpose Room to meet with a fellow OLLI student or a friend? Or maybe just a place to sit quietly by yourself with a cup of coffee and a book? Or perhaps you just got an inexplicable urge to “tickle the ivories”? You can do all of these things and more in the new space created on the first floor in the OLLI hallway!

The other afternoon I sat down for a delightful interview with Fiona deMerell, OLLI’s Event and Outreach Coordinator. She told me about this newly created “clubhouse” for all UConn Waterbury students, young and old alike. Fiona explained that Jon Draper, Interim Director at OLLI, got the idea to create a new welcoming space for students, and also as a repository for lots of OLLI memorabilia. With the help of student interns Jenna Ryan and Angel Katiewicz, this room is in its nascent state, but ready for use. Jon smilingly refers to it as the “OLLI-fication of Students.” So far the displays include brochures from OLLI’s first ten years and a “Never Stop Learning” display by Jenna. OLLI Leadership Council President Chuck Miceli calls the idea “a great concept” and encourages students to contribute other OLLI memorabilia for display, either on a permanent or temporary basis. So, if you have something OLLI-related which you would like to share, bring it in! It’s a particularly appropriate time to celebrate OLLI and what a great program and community resource we have here, just as our 10th anniversary is coming up!

As Fiona said, Jon took it upon himself to create this intergenerational space for all UConn students and faculty, and he hopes OLLI members will use it. Perhaps in no time, it will become a “place where everybody knows your name”! Meet you there soon for some coffee and a chat?
Elizabeth Neuwirth left a successful career as a psychotherapist to pursue a second one in law. She found the transitional period to be challenging in an unanticipated way.

She was a 46-year-old woman when she entered law school and the “first year was a nightmare. I was always a good student” she said, but she soon found the study of law required a different mindset from her prior educational pursuits.

It involved “a radically different way of thinking,” she said, adding, “it was the hardest intellectual thing I ever did.” Elizabeth turned things around in her second year and earned her J.D. degree from Columbia Law School, practicing in the field of healthcare regulation until her retirement, with a concentration in health care issues.

Now retired, Elizabeth finds she loves teaching OLLI students who come to classes seeking knowledge. She is presenting Gender and Sexuality 101 with Bilal Tajildeen and she also presents The Supreme Court’s Greatest Hits.

The former considers the evolution of knowledge about gender, sexuality and public attitudes as well as ways some schools are using to support young transgender people. The latter discusses major Supreme Court cases, their impact on society and how justices are influenced by culture. She hopes the judges “try as much as possible to resist political pressure.”

Overcoming obstacles was something she learned from her upbringing in the Bronx. Elizabeth was an only child, the daughter of staunch liberals who felt fear because of the atmosphere created by U.S. Senator Joe McCarthy with his witch hunt against people he claimed were communists.

But Elizabeth’s mother still did what she thought was right. “If the landlord wasn’t making repairs,” her mother would organize rent strikes. Of her mother, Elizabeth says, she was “sort of a self-taught woman” who worked as a high level secretary but probably would have done something else in another generation.

Elizabeth’s father was an artist, a painter, who worked in the field of commercial art to make a living. He took Elizabeth to museums and galleries from a very young age.

She remembers making up stories with characters that were mildly heroic but never wrote them down. Her toys were not gender-specific. “I had dolls and a six-shooter,” And she read constantly.

Elizabeth majored in psychology at the University of Rochester. She then earned her master’s degree from the Columbia University School of Social Work and did post-master’s graduate work.

She had a private practice working primarily with people who are sometimes called “the worried well” – people who held down jobs or went to school but struggled with anxiety, depression, or difficulty in forming or keeping close relationships. She was good at her work but as the years went by she found it was somewhat draining and isolating. “You talk only with your patients from morning to night – I wanted to work with other people, get out of my chair and be more active.” She began thinking of another career, decided to pursue health care law and was accepted by the Columbia Law School.

Health care is highly regulated by the government and Elizabeth found that researching the answers to clients’ questions was like solving a jigsaw puzzle.

After researching federal and state laws, regulations and cases, she was always delighted to find the answer, the final piece of the puzzle. “Bingo, here’s the last piece.” She liked working with a wide range of people during her legal career, including colleagues, clients and others involved in the process of finding answers.

As a retiree, Elizabeth enjoys having the time to cook high quality meals for herself and her wife. Currently she is “mastering pork” and plans to take on homemade pasta next. The idea is to get the dish just right “so the other person says, Wow! just the way it should be.”

-Mary Ann Martin