I remember that first Earth Day in 1970. We cancelled class at Watertown High School and had a series of lectures by experts followed by group conversations about what we could do to help clean the environment. One of the suggestions was to gather information. So we read books and articles much like the following...

"To protect the Amazon rainforest and beyond, we must start in the Andes," writes Stef De Haan, a research scientist in Lima, Peru, in a Time-online article on October 17. "If the Amazon rainforests are the lungs of the planet, then the Andes are its life blood." He goes on to say, "...temperature rises affect the size and spread of the thousands of kilometers of glaciers that stretch through the Andes. This would impact not only the ecosystems of coastal mountains and valleys, but also the Amazon’s multiple river basins... Reduced glacial melt could cause some rivers to dry up in the dry season... Studying the impact of rising temperatures on glaciers and meltwater in the Andes could lead to valuable insights not only for the future of the Andes–Amazon region, but also for other tropical mountain regions, where climate change is likely to impact downstream water supplies."

Michael Mann PhD., Director of Penn State Earth System Science Center writes, "If there is one concept that is typically misrepresented in the public discourse on climate change, it is the concept of uncertainty. There are uncertainties in model projections of future climate change. However, these uncertainties cut both ways, and in many cases it appears that model projections have underestimated the rate and magnitude of the climate changes resulting from our burning of fossil fuels and the emission of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The rapid loss of Arctic sea ice is one such example. Rather than being cause for inaction, uncertainty is a reason to act all the sooner." Dr. Mann originated the research showing recent warming is unusual over the past 1000 years, which resulted in the "Hockey stick graph" depicted in many scientific references.

David Christian Ph.D. of San Diego State University, writing in Big History from the Teaching Company, says "It took 200,000 years for foraging lifeways to spread around the world, about 10,000 years for agriculture to do so, and just 200 to 300 years for the Modern Revolution to transform the entire world. Innovation increased human control over the energy and the resources of the biosphere... Human numbers rose from about 250 million in 1000 CE to about 950 million in 1800 CE, to about 6 billion in 2000 CE (making a graph that looks like a 'hockey stick').... By some estimates, humans now control 25% to 40% of all the energy that enters the biosphere through photosynthesis."

Andrew Glikson PhD of Australian National University, says, "I think the scale of the changes being seen now when compared to the Earth’s history is something the media and the public do not appreciate. Earth’s history is marked by a number of major mass extinctions of species triggered by volcanic eruptions, asteroid impacts and release of methane from sediments. Major shifts in the state of the climate were caused either by pulsations in solar radiation or by release of carbon from the earth. In each of these events a marked rise occurred in the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. As the level of energy and temperature of the atmosphere increased, irreversible tipping points were reached where the synergy of feedback processes – ice melt, warming water, released methane, droughts and fires – combined to shift the climate from one state to the next. The current rise in energy of the atmosphere above that of pre-industrial times is about half that of the atmospheric energy rise during the last transition from the glacial to interglacial state (about 11,000 years ago). The current shift is threatening to bring about irreversible tipping points in the climate, with the most serious consequences, likely indicated by the increase over the last 20 years or so in the intensity of extreme weather events around the globe. The current rise of atmospheric CO2 exceeds rates recorded in the history of the atmosphere for the last 55 million years, which retards the ability of species to adapt to environmental change in time. A consequent shift from conditions, which have allowed agriculture to take place from about 8,000 years ago, would render large parts of the continents unsuitable for cultivation."

(Article continued on Page 2)
OLLI Café

Today: October 25th, 2019
12:15 - 1:30pm, Room 113

MARY DONNARUMMA SHARNICK: THREE FAMILIES, TWO COUNTRIES, ONE ARTIST – FROM FLESH AND BREATH TO CANVAS

What are the joys and challenges of writing a novel series? How does on-site research inform character and plot? What historical touchstones influence context? Join award-winning author Mary Donnarumma Sharnick as she explores those questions and reads from Orla’s Canvas and Painting Mercy, the first two novels in the Orla Paint Series. Applying the late E. L. Doctorow’s observation that: “The historian will tell you what happened. The novelist will tell you what it felt like,” Mary will describe the process by which she folds imaginary characters into actual historical contexts from New Orleans during the Civil Rights Movement (Orla’s Canvas), to the Fall of Saigon and the aftershocks of war for her adopted daughter and a childhood friend-turned-soldier (Painting Mercy). You’ll enjoy a sneak preview of The Contessa’s Easel, Mary’s work-in-progress, set in Fiesole, Italy, where the 45th Anniversary of Fiesole’s liberation from the Nazis collides with the AIDS crisis.

Coming Up Next: November 1st, 2019
Connecticut and the Reaction to the Civil War with Hamish Lutris

(Continuation of front-page article)

“Modern science has a good understanding of past climate changes and their causes, and that evidence makes the human cause of modern climate change all the more clear. Greenhouse gases – mainly CO2, but also methane – have been implicated in most of the climate changes in Earth’s past. When they were reduced the global climate became colder. When they were increased, the global climate became warmer. When changes were big and rapid (as they are today), the consequences for life on earth were often dire – in some cases causing mass extinctions.”

Skeptical Science.com

And fifty years have passed. What have we done to ameliorate this potentially life-threatening situation? Monster storms and drastic weather events dominate the news. Droughts and floods disrupt vast areas of the world. We gather immense amounts of data and scientists predict dire consequences about this unique sphere in the universe. We do nothing. And time marches on!

-RJG

JUST FOR LAUGHS

A man strolls into a local bar with a tiger tucked under his right arm. As he takes a seat at the bar, he lays the large cat across the top of it. The bartender shouted at the man, “Hey! You can’t leave that lyin’ there.” The man looks up and says, “that’s not a lion, that’s a tiger.”

Did you read about the psychic dwarf who escaped from prison? The headline read, “Small Medium at Large.”

Did you hear about the guy whose sole job is to flatten soda cans all day? His job is soda pressing.

Why do pirates always make a great choir? They all hit the high seas.

TECHNOLOGY CLINIC

with UNDERGRAD STUDENTS!
9/13, 9/27, 10/11, 10/25, & 11/8
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm, FREE!

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UConn Adulthood & Aging students are here to help! Just stop by and receive free, individualized technology training in an intergenerational setting. Have your questions answered and gain some clarity over sometimes-frustrating modern technology.

1:30 - 2:30 pm in Room 317 (computer lab).
OLLI Travelers

Just a quick word of advice to remind you all that if you are interested in any of the Spring 2020 trips listed in the block below, please try to get your reservations into Friendship Tours as early as possible. The dates that you should think of making reservations by for these trips are:

- Harlem -Apollo and Shomburg Center: (date of trip 4/22/20) RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE MADE AT THE LATEST BY FEBRUARY 2020
- Atlantic City/Cape May, NJ (date of trip May 5-7, 2020) RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE MADE BY FEBRUARY OR MARCH
- NY Philharmonic, NYC (date of trip June 5, 2020) RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE MADE BY MARCH OR APRIL

This is so that Friendship Tours and the venue know whether they have enough participants to go forward with these trips. Always remember to reserve early if possible for two reasons: 1) you will not miss out on your trip because it gets sold out; 2) so that the trip will show how many people are interested in it early enough so that it will not be cancelled for lack of interest.

We also have an overnight being planned for Vermont on September 23-25 of Fall 2020 at a Member Cost of $499pp for double or triple rooms. We will be getting flyers out for this soon. This trip will take in the Commodore Inn in Stowe VT, the Trapp Family Lodge and grounds, Ben & Jerry’s Ice Cream, a cruise on Lake Champlain on the Ethan Allen, Cold Hollow Cider Mill, Quechee Gorge Village, and Billings Farm & Museum. This should be a wonderful trip but because it is so early in our Fall semester and because we will be sharing this trip with another group it would be wise to get reservations for this trip in by the Spring or early Summer of 2020.

Hope you all get the trips you look forward to.

"OLLI ALL-STAR" BOARD Reminder

The OLLI Team will soon be introducing an "OLLI All-Star" Board in Room 102. This board will serve as a monthly appreciation and recognition of our OLLI members who make an impact here at OLLI and/or the community at large. Starting October 18th, 2019 you may nominate OLLI members who you believe should be showcased on the board.

Just submit a name and a short description as to why you believe the individual should be recognized. You can turn in your nomination to the main OLLI office (Room 103) or place it in any of the suggestion boxes on the Info table or table outside the main OLLI office. Thank you for being awesome!

Little Boy Blue
Has run away
We’ve looked in the
meadow
And under the hay

The old barn was searched
From the loft to the
ground
But no sign of him
Could ever be found

We asked for some aid
Finding Little Boy Blue
Bo Peep couldn’t help us
‘Cause she’s missing too!

by Carol Ann Laferriere

OLLI Travelers

FALL 2020
10/22/2019: Murder on the Bellevue Express, Newport/RI – member cost $116

SPRING 2020
4/22/2020: Harlem, NYC – member cost $109
5/5-7/2020: Atlantic City/Cape May, NJ – member cost $359 pp double/triple, $455 pp single
6/5/2020: NYC Philharmonic(Copland & Nico Muhly conducted by Jaap Van Zweden- member cost $122 pp

Upcoming OLLI Travel

Flyers available at the OLLI Information Table. All prices are member prices. Non-members are charged a slight surcharge that is listed on all flyers. Call Friendship Tours for information and reservations (1-800-243-1630). Mention OLLI Travel. (Please do not call the OLLI Office.)

Please Note – All OLLI Trips will depart from and return to the Chase Parkway DOT Commuter Lot, Waterbury. Maps of this Departure Area are available on the OLLI Information Table.

by Ann Rompre

Little Boy Blue
Has run away
We’ve looked in the
meadow
And under the hay

The old barn was searched
From the loft to the
ground
But no sign of him
Could ever be found

We asked for some aid
Finding Little Boy Blue
Bo Peep couldn’t help us
‘Cause she’s missing too!

by Carol Ann Laferriere
OLLI Book Club
The Book Club meets the third Monday of every month in Room 102 @ 1:00pm. Come by!

Nov. 18: Bel Canto by Ann Patchett

Contact: nvia@sbcglobal.net

OLLI Genealogy Club
The Genealogy Club meets the third Thursday of the month. Last meeting this semester will take place on November 21st, 10:00 - 11:30 am in Room 317 (computer lab on third floor of main building)

Contact: dianeciba@gmail.com

OLLI Photography Club
The Photography Club meets the last Friday of each month at 3:30pm in Room 102.

Contact: (t.padgett@hotmail.com).

OLLI Reiki Club
Meetings are the first Monday of each month at 1:00pm in Room 102.

Contact: barbara.schafer@comcast.net

PARKING INFORMATION
OLLI members with University-issued parking decals may park in the following locations on the following days:

**Fridays, any time:** UConn's attached ramp garage (entrance on North Elm St.) or Scovill Street Garage (33 Scovill Street)

**Monday - Thursday, morning - 5:00pm:** Scovill Street Garage

**Monday - Thursday, 5:00pm or later:** UConn’s attached ramp garage or Scovill Street Garage

If you would like to utilize OLLI at UConn’s parking options, you must submit an application for a parking permit at: park.uconn.edu/olli-parking-permit-application/

If you do not want to purchase a permit, find other local parking areas here: http://www.waterburyparking.com/pricing/
Last Saturday was an exquisite day in New England, weather-wise. It had been a few years since I took the time to experience a really good foliage ride, so I decided to take an excursion to the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass. This was my first visit there since it was built in 1993, and it is a gem! I had been to the small one many years ago where Rockwell (1894 - 1978) had lived the last 25 years of his life and which was opened in 1969. The museum is enjoying a gala year-long 50th anniversary celebration.

Entering Stockbridge, the quietness of the back roads transports you to much simpler times, those that Rockwell strove to portray. I arrived just as a short tour of the main gallery was starting, and our docent Meg was entertaining and engaging. Rockwell was born in New York City, which I always forget, thinking of him only in terms of New England. She not only talked about six of Rockwell's better known paintings such as “The Marriage Proposal” but she told many stories about him, his personality, his family and the people of Stockbridge whom he used as his models. You will recognize many of these iconic works, and seeing them in person is sheer delight. His “Triple Self-Portrait” (1959) embodies both his sense of humor and his humility. The details are amazing - there are four small “self-portraits” of the artists Durer, Rembrandt, Picasso and VanGogh which invite the viewer to compare just as Rockwell did, how other artists tackled their own self-portraits. To celebrate Lincoln’s birthday in 1927, Rockwell painted “The Law Student.” It shows a store clerk (which Lincoln once was) reading his law book. Rockwell strove to portray the America where a person with diligence, even if from meager economic means, can aspire to greatness. (By 1927 Rockwell, a high school dropout, was a member of a yacht and country club, owned an Apperson Jack Rabbit auto and spent $23,000 building a study next to his newly purchased New Rochelle home.) Another well-known painting is “Christmas Homecoming” (1948) which includes every member of the Rockwell family, including the artist, shown welcoming a man (his son Jarvis) home for the holidays. Included in this painting is Grandma Moses herself, another Vermont resident whom Rockwell knew.

As Rockwell grew older, he himself grew in the scope of the subjects he tackled. In the fifties and sixties many of his works demonstrated the struggle for civil rights, both the successes and the failures. He had become friends with the well-known psychologist and personality theorist Erik Erikson. There is an exhibit in the museum devoted to Erikson and his influence on Rockwell which encouraged the artist to allow his work to flow more freely from his discontent and tackle significant social concerns of the day.

You really need an entire day to properly enjoy this wonderful cultural resource. Rockwell’s studio is on the beautiful grounds, there are picnic tables and a café, a video about his life and work, a great gift shop - Connecticut connection here - a new children’s book entitled “Hi, I’m Norman, The Story of America by Norman Rockwell” with illustrations by Wendell Minor, who lives in Roxbury CT, is for sale. I bought a copy for my granddaughter Emilie, who is quite the budding artist herself! On the first Sunday in December each year Main Street in Stockbridge is closed to traffic and the town engages in a reenactment of the iconic “Home for Christmas” painting complete with vintage cars. All are invited - you might want to take advantage of this opportunity to step back in time to a simpler era, kept alive for our enjoyment and wonder by the great Norman Rockwell.
Meet Your Instructors: Angela Buzzelli

When Angela Buzzelli retired in 2016 after a long and successful teaching career, she promised herself that her retirement would be about fun, doing only what gave her pleasure and satisfaction. For three years she was an OLLI student, sampling various classes, being “Nonna” to her grandchildren, and volunteering at the Fulton Park “Greening of Waterbury” Garden project. Then last spring, she made the decision to teach again – “only something that I love, with no lesson plans, homework, or papers,” offering a class in Italian culture and focusing on the region of southern Italy where she was born. Needless to say, the course was a huge success, as Angela brought great enthusiasm and love for her native Italy to her lively presentations. This fall, Angela and her class are exploring the Hidden Treasures of Northern Italy.

“OLLI is such a wonderful place because we get to gab, make new friends and learn at the same time.” The course is like a travelogue, interspersed with interesting anecdotes and experiences of a true native daughter who has visited most of Italy’s twenty regions. Angela was born in Italy and came to the United States at age nine.

She completed her education here, earning a Bachelor’s degree in Italian and Spanish at SCSU, and a Master’s at Sacred Heart University. She has taught Italian at Holy Cross High School, Torrington Middle School, and both Italian and Spanish at Naugatuck High School. She was also an adjunct professor at NVCC and Post University. Her exuberant style makes learning like chatting with an old friend. Angela begins her class with a hearty “Buon giorno!” and it is indeed a good morning when we are invited to discover the treasures of this beautiful country with her!

Wendy Mauro