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NEWSFLASHES

>> **OBITUARY:** Founding member and former president Michael Styles died Apr 5. Memorial service 2-4 pm, Apr 9, Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home. [More.](#)
 >> **PIEDMONT FILM FESTIVAL:** Fri-Sun, Apr 7-9, Manassas. The [finale](#) Sun features special film excerpts, music, vocals by Prof. Rick Davis (photo above).

ALERTS

>> **BOARD ELECTION:** Board candidate information and procedures for voting at the annual membership meeting on May 3 have been mailed to members. Also see the [President's Message of Apr 5](#) and the [candidates' Web page](#), where you will find photos and biographies of the nine Board candidates.
 >> **EFFECTIVE NETWORKING:** Lecture by Mason Associate Dean Patricia Carretta, Wed, Apr 12, 7:30-8:30, Fairfax County Government Center. Free, refreshments provided, free parking. [Details.](#)

REMINDERS

>> **DRAMA CLUB:** First meeting will be at 1:00 on Fri, Apr 14. [More info.](#)
 >> **BOOK CLUB:** Meets at Tallwood on Wed, Apr 12, at 1:30 to discuss Phillip Roth's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *American*

Pastoral. All are welcome.

>> **CLOSED COURSES:** Only 18 spring-term courses are closed; ALL others are open, and it's [easy to register](#) now for any open course.

ARTICLES

- >> [LOVE OF OPERA:](#) A special class ... and an upcoming performance
- >> [ON-CAMPUS BENEFITS WITH GMU ID CARD:](#) Update for OLLI members
- >> [RECORDER COURSE? TAPE? DISC? NO!:](#) About the recorder
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- >> [NEW GENEALOGY CLUB:](#) Now up and running
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DEPARTMENTS

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ADRIANNA SGARLATA (center) with, left to right, Thelma Weiner, Margaret Andino, Professor Patricia Parker and EricaDawn Garcia.
Photo by Rod Zumbro

AN OLLI HIGHLIGHT THIS PAST WEEK

was soprano Adrianna Sgarlata's superb singing performance in Margaret Andino's "Music Sampler" class. Adrianna's recital, with Mason Prof. Patricia Parker on the piano, included two duets with mezzo soprano EricaDawn Garcia. Special thanks go to OLLI member Thelma Weiner, who had suggested to Margaret that Adrianna be featured in a class.

SAVE THIS DATE: MAY 5, 2006.

[Adrianna](#), an award-winning graduate music student at Mason and [Miss Arlington 2006](#) (she will compete in the 2006 Miss Virginia pageant), will sing in the role of Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro*, a GMU Opera production (*A Celebration of Mozart, Part II*), on Fri, May 5. The production will also be performed on Sat, May 6, with a separate cast. Both productions start at 8:00 at the Harris Theater (\$12 adults, \$10 students/seniors).

P(r)OGO



By Kathryn Russell,
 Program Review
 Committee chair

With a tip of the hat to the late Walt Kelly:

"We have met the program and it are us!"
 The body of OLLI is its members, the soul of OLLI is its program. We need your help ... as a member of a Resource Group, as a Resource Group leader, as a Course Coordinator, and as an Instructor ... or whatever else interests you relating to the OLLI Program.

Come join us at Tallwood on Wed, Apr 26, from 2:00–4:00 and learn *"How an idea becomes a class"* and other program facts.

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ON-CAMPUS BENEFITS WITH A GMU ID CARD

An important update for OLLI members



By [Dick Chobot](#), OLLI Executive Director

OLLI HAS RECEIVED CLARIFICATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY on

GMU ID card privileges extended to OLLI members. Thanks to Tom Hennessey, Chief of Staff to the President; John Spaldo, Assistant Vice President for University Services; and Greg Toney, Associate Director for University Services, for their support in clarifying privileges for OLLI members.

Members should note that the discount from the University Computer Store is no longer available. Gregg Toney advised us that the University can no longer offer this benefit to Affiliates due to antitrust considerations. The benefit has, therefore, been eliminated for all affiliates. In spite of this fact, we have an excellent set of privileges. I encourage you to take advantage of them.

PRIVILEGES FOR OLLI MEMBERS AS AFFILIATES

<p>Book Store</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same privileges as Faculty/Staff • Faculty and staff receive a 10% discount on most merchandise. • Exclusions include, magazines, newspapers and convenience items or as designated. 	<p>Apple Federal Credit Union</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entitled to join as a member of the Credit Union • Same benefits as all Apple Credit Union members
<p>Dining Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same discount as offered Faculty/Staff • \$3.50 lunch specials at Ciao Hall on Tuesday & Thursday during Fall and Spring semester currently offered 	<p>Patriot Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same discount as offered Faculty/Staff Card holders • Discounts vary per event and require Mason ID card
<p>Aquatic Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants offered annual memberships at the same rate as employees of the University (currently \$175) • OLLI members receive a parking pass with their membership. This offer does not extend to faculty, staff, administration or other affiliates. 	<p>Freedom Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15% discount off of regular annual membership rates <p>Performing Arts Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discounts are offered, but not to all events • Discounts vary with performance and require Mason ID card
<p>Johnson Center Cinema</p>	<p>CUE Bus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CUE Bus rides for free with show of Mason ID

- Same discount as offered Faculty/Staff (\$1 fee for movies)

Library

- Take out ten books at one time
- Books may be withdrawn for a 3 week period with one renewal
- Request books from other GMU campuses
- Use of Arlington Law Library is excluded

United Bank

- Check cashing privileges at United Bank campus locations (Mason ID required)

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RECORDER COURSE? TAPE? DISC? NO!

About the recorder

By Norm Rosenberg, OLLI member

LEARNING TO PLAY THE

RECORDER can provide many years of pleasure, feeling of accomplishment, music education, hand dexterity, hand and eye coordination, mental challenge and therapy, and a wonderful social life.

The recorder is a woodwind that dates back to the early sixteenth century. Henry VIII owned 76 recorders of various sizes.

The instrument is a hollow tube with finger holes, blown from one end, like into a whistle. Notes are produced by the appropriate fingering (covering) the holes.

Recorders are made in different sizes. The most common family set includes the soprano, alto, tenor and bass. Each instrument has a range of over two octaves and is capable of producing a full chromatic scale.

About a year ago, I initiated a beginner's soprano course. The response was better than I expected. I limited it to 10 people and we were initially filled. Since then we have had an ongoing course/club arrangement that includes didactics for an hour and a half and then free play.

Some of our members are now meeting on their own, off-campus. Later we expanded the courses to alto playing (different fingering). Most of the players now do both soprano and alto, and some have moved on to tenor and bass – completing our consort.

We have been playing mostly 16th & 17th century music. We will be getting into Bach, Telemann, and early baroque composers.

Our group performed at a few OLLI functions and enjoyed every moment of it. We hope you folks did also.

Let me know if we have other OLLI players, experienced or not experienced, who want to learn recorder. I'm thinking of a mixed consort with strings for the future.



NORM ROSENBERG
Photo by Gary Reynolds

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OLLI FETES ITS FACULTY

Teacher Appreciation Event at Mason's Center for the Arts



By Debbie Halverson, Membership Committee chair

TEACHER APPRECIATION EVENT

OVER 90 GUESTS, PRIMARILY GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY AND OLLI INSTRUCTORS,

slipped out of their teacherly roles Friday afternoon, Mar 31, and mingled at a reception given in their honor. Included too were members of OLLI's Program and Special Events committees whose contributions of time and energy make the OLLI program recognized as one of the country's finest.

Held in the Mason Concert Hall's Grand Tier with its wide spectrum of campus views, the reception included greetings from OLLI President Charles Duggan and Executive Director Dick Chobot. Charles thanked those gathered for their generosity of time and talent, adding that this reception could be only a representation of the immense gratitude OLLI members have for those being honored. *He noted as evidence of OLLI's success the fact that the membership total has now climbed beyond 700.*

William Reeder, Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, was clearly energized by the upcoming Final Four basketball game and his remarks reflected his pride in the overall accomplishments of George Mason University. He noted that it now includes students from over 140 countries who

SHIRLEY FOX SCHOLARSHIP

The recipient of the \$2,000 Shirley Fox Scholarship was Rachel Muth, a senior in New Century College at Mason.



RACHEL MUTH

Photo by Richard Lanterman

An attractive young woman full of energy and enthusiasm Rachel has plans for heading to graduate school at NYU or Boston if she gets her wish.

Her studies at Mason have concentrated on nonprofit management, and many of her extracurricular activities center around that as well. She's president of the Mason Habitat Club in its first year on campus, and she works as a financial coordinator for special activities on campus.

I had an unexpected surprise in talking with Rachel to find out that she grew up in Benicia, California - the town right next to the one I came from. She wanted to come to the East Coast for

speaking 50 languages, evidence that the "Mason Nation" has emerged.

OLLI Development Committee chair Eileen Duggan focused on the four \$2,000 scholarships being awarded to students from "Friends of OLLI" funds. Present at the event was Rachel Muth (see story at right) from the New Century College and winner of the Shirley Fox Scholarship (see editor's note below about Shirley Fox). The names of the recipients of the Kathryn Brooks Scholarship, the Abe Spero Scholarship and the Friends of OLLI Scholarship will be announced at a later date.

college and fell in love with Mason on a tour. It seems clear that she's going to do very well in her chosen career.



By Kitty O'Hara, OLLI E-

News staff writer



Note about Shirley Fox. The late Shirley Fox was one of the founding members of OLLI (then the Learning in Retirement Institute) and served as its second president, after the term of founder Kathryn Brooks. Shirley wrote an excellent account of the first five years of our institute, [An Informal History](#) (pdf), that is recommended reading for all OLLI members.

Rod Zumbro, OLLI E-News editor

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NEW GENEALOGY CLUB UP AND RUNNING

All members are welcome to drop by



THE NEW GENEALOGY CLUB is up and running. We had a very successful organizational meeting in February. At the March meeting member Don Ferrett presented a fascinating program about how the study of graveyards helps in discovering a community's history.

In April we will be fortunate to have Suzanne Levy, librarian for the [Virginia Room](#) at the Fairfax City Regional Library, who will give us a presentation on the genealogical resources at this wonderful local asset. We will continue to leave adequate time for an open forum for members to present problems, discuss solutions and tell of unique finds.

All OLLI members are welcome to come, even if just to satisfy a curiosity. The next meeting will be Wed, Apr 19, at 2:00 in TA-2.

For further information contact [Nick Cirillo](#) but feel free to come unannounced.

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BE PART OF A REALLY BIG “SHEW”

An opportunity for your few moments of fame



By [Dick Chobot](#), OLLI Executive Director



SARAH MOYER, ONE OF THE TWO INTERNS from the Bachelor of Social Work Program this term, has taken as her project the development of a retrospective video on the 1950s.

As a part of this project, she would like to interview, on camera, a few OLLI members.

The “interviews” will consist of questions/comments/remembrances on topics that you select from a list that Sarah will provide. The interview will be here at OLLI, will be scheduled at a time of your convenience (as long as it’s on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday), and should require no more than 30 minutes ... unless you succumb to the lure of the camera.

If you are interested in helping Sarah with this project, [email me](#) within the next week and I will pass the contact information on to Sarah. This is a neat project, and I appreciate your willingness to help Sarah. Her video, when complete, will be shown at an OLLI Friday session.

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PROFILE OF LONGTIME CLASS COORDINATOR ROMAN LOTSBERG

OLLI's Foreign Affairs course coordinator for eight years



By Arleen Richman, OLLI E-News assistant editor

EVEN IN AN INTRODUCTORY PHONE CONVERSATION, it is obvious that Roman Lotsberg is passionate about the Foreign Service. "Rome" graduated from the University

of Minnesota with a major in international relations. “I spent 30 years as an Administrative Officer in the Foreign Service with postings in Paris, Calcutta, Cairo, Tangier and Tehran,” he recalls and “never, ever regretted it.”

From 1998-2005, **Rome** coordinated our Foreign Affairs classes.



ROME LOTSBERG
Photo by Richard Lanterman

Rome described Calcutta as one of his most memorable assignments because, he says, there “I met my first wife, married her (she died in 1991), and we had a daughter, our only child.” Rome is proud of his career because he knows he performed “a public service for my country.”

From 1998 through 2005, he cultivated support for the Foreign Service by coordinating OLLI classes in foreign affairs. He says he “recruited many of my friends who had been ambassadors and USAID officials to speak at OLLI.” His Foreign Service colleagues were pleased that OLLI students were so well traveled, educated and receptive to their talks.

After he retired from the Foreign Service, he joined Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty where he was based in Munich broadcasting to the Soviet block. Later he settled in McLean. “I knew the Washington area better than my native Minneapolis since I had had a two-year assignment here and had come back to this area many times between postings,” he explains.

Rome and his second wife, Priscilla, are active members of OLLI who enjoy taking classes in—what else?—foreign affairs and related topics.

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OLLI VIDEO NEWS: NEW VIDEO--"EGYPT HIGHLIGHTS"

See the pyramids, sphinx, temples, King Tut treasures



THE SUBJECT OF TODAY'S TRIP TALE, COURSE 903, WAS AN EGYPTIAN SIGHTSEEING TOUR. If you attended the class or have an interest in Egypt, you might like to view our new video, "Egypt Highlights."

OLLI VIDEO NEWS

- Egypt Highlights
- Coptic Church Iconography
- The Fall of the House of Tallwood

This three-and-a-half-minute video is newly edited from a longer video made by your editor after a one-week visit he and Susanne made to Egypt several years ago.

You will see the pyramids and sphinx at Giza, the temple at Abu Simbel (photo above) that was moved up 200 feet in the 1960s to avoid flooding, cruising the Nile River, temples in the Valley of the Queens and Karnak, and as a *grand finale*, the amazing treasures of King Tut that were discovered by Howard Carter in 1922 ("What do you see?" "I see wonderful things."). [Watch now.](#)

- Ancient Ephesus
- A Day in Istanbul
- OLLI 2005 Holiday Party

[WATCH NOW](#)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A forum for members to voice their views on OLLI matters

THE EDITORIAL STAFF WILL PUBLISH your brief letters commenting on OLLI activities and will try to include follow-up information from the relevant committee or staff member, in the same or a subsequent issue. Submit your letters via email to me or submit them (please indicate that it is a 'letter to the editor') via the [online suggestion box](#) or the suggestion box in the Tallwood Social Room.

-- [Rod Zumbro](#), OLLI E-News editor

OLLI courses at Manassas?

Has anyone thought of offering OLLI courses at George Mason's Manassas campus? With the huge increase in population in Prince William County in the last few years, this would be the perfect time to begin planning. I'd be glad to help.

-- Vera DeWeese, OLLI member

Response from Pat Carroll, Long Range Planning Committee chair:
There have been a number of recent Board discussions on expansion of the OLLI program. As the title of last year's Town Meeting suggests, OLLI is at a "crossroads." The Executive Director has been tasked to prepare an analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of program expansion. This analysis will include specific references to Loudoun and Prince William counties. By the time you read this, the Planning Committee also will have met to consider this issue in the broader context of the OLLI Strategic Plan.

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COMING EVENTS AT THE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Something for everyone at nearby Mason



By Jan Bohall, OLLI E-News staff writer



For tickets, call 888-945-2468 or visit the Center for the Arts Box Office, Tue-Sat, 10:00-6:00.

GMU Chamber Ensembles	GMU Players Studio Series <i>Jesus Hopped the A Train</i>	Virginia Opera Bellini's Norma
Friday, Apr 7, at 7:00 Admission is Free Harris Theater	by Stephen Adly Guirgis Friday, Apr 7, at 8:00 Saturday, Apr 8, at 2:00 and 8:00 Sunday, Apr 9, at 2:00 Admission is Free, but tickets required Black Box Theater <i>Park in the Deck. From Level 2 take the walkway across and enter the first door on the left, follow hallway to gray doors. Enter and go downstairs, look for Black Box sign next to TheatreSpace.</i>	A lyric tragedy in four acts, it will be sung in Italian with English supertitles. Friday, Apr 7, at 8:00 Sunday, Apr 9, at 2:00 Admission \$84, \$68, \$44 Concert Hall Come early at 6:30 to the Concert Hall Lobby for a special wine and cheese tasting There will also be an artistic discussion at 7:15 on the Hall's Grand Tier
GMU University Chorale, Chamber Singers and Choral Ensembles	Doug Varone and Dancers	GMU Music Faculty Recital Dr. Rachel Bergman, Chamber Music
Sunday, Apr 9, at 7:00 Admission \$5 seniors/students, \$7 adults Harris Theater	<i>The company has been honored with eight New York Dance and Performance Awards, for its physical daring and vivid musicality, and for capturing the nuances of human interaction through movement.</i> Friday, Apr 14, at 8:00 Admission \$42, \$34, \$21 Concert Hall Come early for a pre-	Saturday, Apr 15, at 2:00 Admission is Free Harris Theater

performance discussion at
7:15 on the Hall's Grand
Tier

Ute Lemper

*With a career that spans stage, film, concerts
and recordings, she brings "panache, versatility
and sophisticated repertoire."*

Saturday, Apr 15, at 8:00

Admission \$40, \$32, \$20

Concert Hall

Come early for a pre-performance
discussion at 7:15 on the Hall's Grand
Tier



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MASON HIGHLIGHTS

A brief listing of other events at nearby Mason



By Barbara Kyriakakis, OLLI News assistant editor

INTERNATIONAL WEEK AT MASON

SAVOR THE AROMA of Greek, Italian, Mid-Eastern and other exotic foods when International Week opens at Mason with the International Bazaar & Mid-Day Performances on the North Plaza of the Johnson Center. Stroll through the plaza between 12:00 and 3:00, Apr 10 through 13, and enjoy cultural exhibits, demonstrations, documentaries, vendors, food, music and dance performances. In conjunction with this festival, a variety of other events will take place on campus, including two free film and panel discussions:

- Shower—an inspiring Chinese comedy; and

- The Human Cost of War: Student/Faculty Panel—personal experiences told by those affected by the conflicts and war.

The week will culminate with the International Dinner Dance, a catered buffet on Apr 15 from 7:00 pm to 2:00 am. Invite your friends and join in the fun with music, dancing, and entertainment by the winners of the international dance competition held earlier in the week. For all events, dates and times, visit this [Website](#).

THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL LYNCH LECTURE is presenting "A More Peaceful World? Explaining the Post-War Decline in Armed Conflict," by Dr. Andrew Mack, Director of the Human Security Centre at the Liu Institute for Global Issues, University of British Columbia. Reception, 6:30; lecture, 7:30 at the National Press Club, Washington, DC. For more information, call Mason's ICAR at 703-993-1300 or [send an email](#).

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COMING ATTRACTIONS

Non-class events at OLLI for the next two weeks

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the more complete [OLLI Staff Forecast of Non-Class Events](#).

- 7 Friday 8:30 AM Spec Event B: Gettysburg Bus Trip Fair Oaks Mall Lot #44
1:30 PM Homer Book club TA Annex
- 9 Sunday 2:00pm Spec Event C: Opera Norma GMU-CFA
- 11 Tuesday 8:15 AM Walking Club LA Parking Lot
- 12 Wednesday 1:30 PM Bridge TA-3
1:30 PM OLLI Book Club Tallwood
2:00 PM Spec Event D: A Ni Hao Experience in China TA-1
- 14 Friday 10:00 AM Recorder Class/Club TA-2
1:30 PM Homer Book Club Annex
- 18 Tuesday 8:15 AM Walking club
- 19 Wednesday 1:30 PM Bridge TA-3
1:30 PM Fiction Writers' Club Fairfax City Library
2:00 PM Spec Event E: The Happy Back TA-1
2:00 PM Genealogy Club: TA-2
- 21 Friday 10:00 AM Classic Fiction Book Club Reston Regional Library
10:00 AM Recorder Class/Club TA-2
1:30 PM Homer Book Club Annex

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OBITUARY

OLLI founding member & former president Michael Styles

MICHAEL HOGAN STYLES



Michael Hogan Styles, age 79, died April 5, 2006 at Reston Hospital Center. He is survived by his wife, Page; two children, Kathleen Styles (Robert Gardner) of Falls Church, VA and Thomas Styles of Phoenix, AZ; stepson, David Trivett (Karen) of Woodbridge, VA; four grandchildren, Michael Hogan Carver, Benjamin, Sarah, and Paige Trivett. A memorial visitation will be held Sunday, April 9, 2006 from 2 to 4 p.m. at FAIRFAX MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME, 9902 Braddock Rd., Fairfax, VA. Family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, 4210 Roberts Rd., Fairfax, VA 22032. Published in *The Washington Post* on 4/7/2006.

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Rod Zumbro
Editor

About OLLI E-News. OLLI E-News is OLLI's weekly newsletter; it is emailed to OLLI members with email addresses on Fridays. When classes are in session, printed copies of this newsletter are distributed in classrooms, primarily for members without email. We encourage OLLI members and staff employees to submit news items and write articles; deadline to the editor is 7:00 PM Wed for that week's issue. Comments, suggestions or complaints? Please contact the [OLLI E-News editor](#) or the Publications Committee chair, [Gordon Canyock](#).

OLLI E-News Editorial Staff

Assistant Editor, Database Manager
Barbara Kyriakakis



Karen Hamilton
Deputy Editor

Note about HTML graphics. If you do NOT see photos and clickable links in this message, you might want to ask a teenaged grandchild or a neighborhood teenager or college student to fix things for you. Or you could change your email settings yourself. Here's how to view html-formatted messages like this newsletter in three popular email systems:

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Arleen Richman

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- **Outlook Express.** Click Tools; select Options; in the Read tab, uncheck "Read all messages in plain text."
- **Yahoo Mail.** Click Mail Options/General Preferences; under Security, uncheck "Block

HTML graphics in email messages from being downloaded."

- **AOL.** Upgrade, if possible, to an AOL version above 5.0.

GMU Webmail. If OLLI E-News is being sent to your gmu.edu email address, we recommend against using [GMU Webmail](#) (i.e., iPlanet "Messenger Express") to read the newsletter because we have found that usually you cannot view our newsletter as a single document, with text and images. It's not necessary to use GMU Webmail since you can easily use other email systems, such as Outlook Express or Yahoo Mail, to retrieve mail sent to external addresses such as your gmu.edu address. An alternative is to read your newsletter online at the [OLLI Website](#) each Friday.

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