

Trouble Viewing this Email or Using Table of Contents Links:

[View this email in your browser](#)



[Website](#) [Catalog](#) [DocStore](#) [Facebook](#) [Officials](#) [Member Portal](#) [Contact Us](#)



**Doni Nolan, Mason Greenhouse and Gardens Program Manager and PhD Student in Biology, Introduces Sustainable Food Production Course with Tour of President's Park Greenhouse, June 12**

## June 23, 2023

**Editor of the Week: David Gundry**

### Table of Contents

- [Alerts & Notices](#)
- [Welcome Summer](#)
- [Grab 'n' Gab Coffee Klatch is Right Around the Corner!](#)
- [Theater Lovers' Group Planning Lunch and Meeting for June 30](#)
- [Tallwood Book Club](#)

- [Embrace the Future: Study on the Power of Bonding between Seniors and Robotic Companions!](#)
- [Wednesday Team Bloch Conversation – June 28](#)
- [Poet's Corner](#)
- [Arts & Music at George Mason](#)
- [Meetings & Clubs](#)
- [About OLLI E-News](#)

### Alerts & Notices

- Summer term classes are underway this week. Click [here](#) to view canceled, changed, or added courses for the term.
- The next issue of *OLLI E-News* will be published Friday, June 30; the regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, June 27, at 6:00.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

### Welcome Summer



**By Chris Narbut, Health and Wellness Group Member**



Summer arrives and brings with it sunny days, outdoor fun, and mosquitoes. Enjoying the outdoors without the annoyance of itchy mosquito bites and the risk of a mosquito-borne disease is possible with a few simple steps.

West Nile Virus (WNV) is the most common mosquito-borne disease found in Fairfax County. Each year about three to five cases are diagnosed in residents of Fairfax County.

- Approximately 80 percent of people (about four out of five) who are infected with WNV will not show any symptoms at all.
- Up to 20 percent of the people who become infected have symptoms such as fever, headache, and body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach, and back.
- About one in 150 people infected with WNV will develop severe illness. The severe symptoms can include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness, and paralysis.

[The Fairfax County Health Department](#) has excellent information about managing mosquito exposure and minimizing your risk of disease.

Mosquitoes can breed in a container as small as a bottle-cap. The most effective way to control mosquitoes in your yard is to eliminate standing water where mosquitoes lay their eggs. Anything that collects and holds water for at least a week can be a potential breeding site.



Tip and toss containers in your yard that hold standing water. Turn over, discard, or place containers indoors.

Even if you get rid of most of their breeding ground, mosquitoes can still find you. Here are some tips to Fight the Bite:

- **Defend yourself:** [Wear insect repellent.](#)
- **Avoid peak times:** Stay indoors at dawn and early evening.
- **Dress right:** Wear long, loose, and light-colored clothing when outdoors.
- **Keep them outside:** Install, repair, or replace screens on both windows and doors.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Grab 'n' Gab Coffee Klatch is Right Around the Corner!



*By Toni Acton, Member Services Committee Chair and Board Member*

Are you new to OLLI and hoping to meet other members this summer? Have you been a member for years and want to catch up with old friends? If so, then join your fellow OLLI members at the Grab 'n' Gab Coffee Klatch on Friday, June 30 at 10:00 at Tallwood. All members — new and continuing — are welcome to enjoy the pastry, casual conversation, and camaraderie. Register for event 1101 via the [member portal](#) or contact the registrar at [ollireg@gmu.edu](mailto:ollireg@gmu.edu). Hope to see you on Friday, June 30!

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Theater Lovers' Group Planning Lunch and Meeting for June 30



*By Norma Jean Reck, Theater Lovers' Group Coordinator*

Calling all OLLI theater lovers! Come and join members of OLLI's Theater Lovers' Group (TLG) on Friday, June 30, for a delicious luncheon at 11:30 at Hamrock's, followed by a brief planning meeting. All OLLI members are welcome to join us for our first in-person meeting since the pandemic. What a great (and delicious) way to meet other OLLI theater lovers, have your questions about TLG answered, and share your thoughts about theater programs, classes, and events.

We will begin planning for the upcoming 2023-24 theater season. We'll be taking suggestions for theater outings, programs, classes, and trips. Just a cursory review of what some of the theaters are offering in their upcoming season promises that the 2023-24 theater season will be a blockbuster. What a wealth of fabulous choices!

If you want to join us for the luncheon meeting, please email me at [njreck@cs.com](mailto:njreck@cs.com) no later than Wednesday, June 28, so that I can make reservations for the group.

Hamrock's is located at 3950 Chain Bridge Road in Fairfax. There is free parking at the restaurant and across the street.

Questions? Email me at [njreck@cs.com](mailto:njreck@cs.com). Hope to see you there.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Tallwood Book Club



*By Elizabeth Ellerbee, Tallwood Book Club Coordinator*

The Tallwood Book Club will discuss *Chasing History* by Carl Bernstein at its July meeting.

The meeting will be on Zoom on Friday, July 14, at 2:30.

Decisions about future book selections will take place during this meeting.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Embrace the Future: Study on the Power of Bonding between Seniors and Robotic Companions!



**By Sarah-Seval Aydin, M.Sc. Psychology,  
Mason Research Assistant**



In an era where technology is revolutionizing the way we live, it's time to explore the incredible possibilities it offers to enhance the lives of our beloved elderly population. We are thrilled to present our groundbreaking research on the transformative effects of oxytocin in fostering short-term bonding between seniors and the charming robotic companion, Aibo.

I am Sarah, and I am part of an amazing neuroscience research team at George Mason University led by Associate Professor Frank Krueger. We are particularly interested in investigating the potential for emotional connection between humans and non-human creatures, like the robotic dog Aibo, within the realm of elderly care.

We strongly believe that our research can positively impact the well-being and quality of life of the elderly. It goes beyond just science; it's a testament to our dedication to empowering and enriching the lives of our senior community. By fostering companionship, emotional well-being, and addressing loneliness, we aim to enhance cognitive abilities and promote a healthier, happier lifestyle for older adults.

We invite you to be part of this extraordinary venture. Through your participation, you will not only contribute to the advancement of science but also be part of a movement that revolutionizes the way we perceive human-robot interaction.

To learn more about participation requirements and how to get involved, contact me at [seval.aydin@students.uni-mannheim.de](mailto:seval.aydin@students.uni-mannheim.de) or Professor Kreuger at [fkueger@gmu.edu](mailto:fkueger@gmu.edu). For more detailed information, kindly refer to our [informative flyer](#) and [comprehensive research information brochure](#).

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Wednesday Team Bloch Conversation – June 28



**By Brenda Bloch-Young and Doris Bloch,  
Co-Moderators**

Continuing our Wednesday Conversations series, Team Bloch (Brenda Bloch-Young and Doris Bloch) will moderate a Zoom discussion on June 28 at 4:00. Our chosen topic this week is "Farmers' Markets."

Do you support your local farmers' market? Are there specific items you prefer to buy at these markets? If yes, what do you often buy? If not, are you able to explain why? Do you think they are more expensive or priced right for the quality? Do you shop there for the thrill of exploration? What other item would you support at the market if it were available? My local farmers' market has branched out to offer jewelry, children's books, and imported knick-knacks – hardly farm-based. So, is the farmers' market phenomenon legitimate? Or do they play a valuable role in our local communities?

Check your daily schedule for the Zoom link on Wednesdays and plan on some social time with Team Bloch.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Poet's Corner

*Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop*

### My Turn

I have arrived  
At that time in life  
My father and aunt lamented  
Now the eldest  
Many friends gone or suffering  
Funny, I didn't see it coming.  
But I have arrived.

*Sally Sibley*

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Arts & Music at George Mason

**Performances June 23 through July 3**



**By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer**

For tickets for either Center for the Arts Concert Hall (CFA) or Hylton Center, call 1-888-945-2468, buy tickets online through the event calendar (see links below), or visit the venue's box office. For more information, see the [CFA ticket page](#) or the [Hylton Center ticket purchase page](#).

Dr. Linda Apple Monson produces a periodic "Notes from the Director." This email is full of

interesting online performances by the students and faculty of the School of Music. If you would like to receive these bulletins, just sign up at [this link to stay in touch](#). Also, the Center for the Arts has a website, [Mason Arts at Home](#), which has a calendar of online events and access to many past performances.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

#### At the Fairfax Campus Venues

No performances scheduled.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

#### Mason Student and Faculty Performances

No performances scheduled.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

#### At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)

##### PowerWorx Dance: *Power of Dance 2023*

Fri, Jun 23, 6:30

Hylton Performing Arts Center, Merchant Hall

Admission: \$20.

[Back to Top of Page](#)

For further details on any of the above events, see the [CFA event calendar](#) and the [Hylton Center event calendar](#).

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## Meetings & Clubs

**Please note:** Although some physical meetings for clubs and activities are canceled, some may be meeting in person or, in a hybrid mode, both in person and online. OLLI events and activities meeting online bear the identification "Z" in their course or event number (except clubs; you may

need to check the [OLLI calendar](#) and daily schedule email for location and other event information). Refer to the university's [coronavirus website](#) for official university updates.

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office. The list is accurate as of mid-week but for the most up-to-date information, please view the latest forecast of coming events on our website ([News/OLLI Calendar](#)). *Note: All OLLI members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of Directors, committees and resource groups, kick-off coffees, etc. The OLLI office has sent (or will send) emails with links and meeting passwords to club members; you may also log in at the [member portal](#) and click on ZOOM CLASS LINKS.*

Sat Jun 24	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club
Mon Jun 26	10:00 am	Bridge Club
Tue Jun 27	9:00 am 1:00 pm 4:30 pm	Walk & Talk Club Stay Active and Independent for Life Tai Chi Club
Wed Jun 28	11:00 am 2:00 pm 4:00 pm 4:00 pm	Spanish Club Memoir and More Writing Group Mah Jongg Club Theater Lovers' Group
Thu Jun 29	4:30 pm 6:00 pm	Tai Chi Club Ethnic Eats Club
Fri Jun 30	9:30 am 11:00 am 1:00 pm	Craft and Conversation Homer, etc. Stay Active and Independent for Life
Sat Jul 1	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club
Mon Jul 3	10:00 am	Bridge Club
Tue Jul 4	10:00 am 4:30 pm	Walk & Talk Club Tai Chi Club
Wed Jul 5	4:00 pm 4:00 pm 4:00 pm	Mah Jongg Club Spanish Club Conversation with Team Bloch
Thu Jul 6	4:30 pm	Tai Chi Club
Fri Jul 7	9:30 am 11:00 am	Craft and Conversation Homer, etc.
Sat Jul 8	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club

[Back to Top of Page](#)

## About OLLI E-News

OLLI E-News was created by Rod Zumbro, who served as its editor from 2005 to 2013.

### Editorial Staff

Chief Editor: Paul Van Hemel  
Associate Editor: David Gundry

Weekly Editor Team: David Gundry, John Nash, Sheri Siesseger, Paul Van Hemel  
Proofreaders: Rebecca Jann, Susan Van Hemel, Linda Randall, Tom Appich, Jane Hassell

**Submissions:** Members are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, letters to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (on etiquette matters), OLLI-related news items, articles, and photos. Submit material to: [ollienewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:ollienewseditor@gmail.com).

**Deadline:** Tuesday, 6:00, for that week's issue (Monday, 6:00, for letters to the editor); early submissions are greatly appreciated. Please limit articles to about 250 words.

**Note:** You can view past issues of *OLLI E-News* on the DocStore. To search the content of issues, use Search Our Site or put your search term in Google followed by "site:olli.gmu.edu/" without the quotes.

[Back to Top of Page](#)