

## 2016 Spring Catalog of Programs and Events

Lifelong Painters When: Wednesdays, 1-4 pm

Description: Join JoAnn Pippin, watercolor artist with 20 years of experience, and others who gather every Wednesday for a “paint together” session. Just bring your watercolors and equipment and be inspired by this lively group of painters. All levels are invited, but some experience with watercolor is helpful.

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**– Classroom 3

The Early Middle Ages - Part I, Josette Maxwell, Ph.D. When:

Tuesday, May 3, 2-3:30 pm

This is a two part program. Part II will be held on Tuesday, May 10th at 3:00 pm in the same room. Description: Roughly from the end of the Roman to around 1,000 C.E. Why bother? Because this is the time period when Christianity became established, when European counties emerged, and when there was so much information written which was incontrovertibly WRONG! It was the time period of the establishment of the Islamic faith and the Islamic Empire. Did you know that Ireland was a very advanced country then, the place to go from all over to study, where women were totally equal to men, and which was home of a form of Christianity more aligned with the earliest church? An extraordinarily interesting era about which you have been misinformed and one where students are still misinformed. This two-part lecture, looking at Europe and the second focused on the Middle East. I intend to find an historical novel for each which will give you a flavor of the era, reading totally voluntary. One will be set in Ireland (which is extremely well researched) and the other focused on the Middle East (if I can find one).

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**- 2nd Floor Conference Room

Women, Religion, and Oppression - Dr. Sandie Gravett When:

Wednesday, May 4, 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Description: We will explore how religion gets deployed in

various cultural settings around the world against the interests of women — from cases of discriminatory practices to oppression, from denial of right to threats against women's lives. Instead of focusing on a particular location or religion, we will think about the intersections of and agendas.

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**- 2nd Floor Conference Room

Monday at the Movies: Eat, Pray, Love (2010)When: Monday, May 9, 2-4 pm

Description: Eat Pray Love (2010) portrays a married woman who realizes how unhappy her marriage really is, and that her life needs to go in a different direction. After a painful divorce, she takes off on a round-the-world journey to "find herself". Gilbert steps out of her comfort zone, risking everything to change her life, embarking on a journey around the world that becomes a quest for self-discovery. It is based on a book by Elizabeth Gilbert. It stars Julia Roberts and Javier Bardem.

Location: **Watauga County Public Library**

Instructions: If you like, bring a seat cushion, snack, BYOBeverage and we will have the popcorn.

The Early Middle Ages - Part II Josette Maxwell, Ph.D.When: Tuesday, May 10, 3:00pm to 4:30pmDescription: See text for May 3rd.

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**- 2nd Floor Conference Room

Book TalkWhen: Wednesday, May 11, 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Description: Is there a book you couldn't put down easily? Come to share your current favorites.

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**- 2nd Floor Conference Room

Holland in Tulip TimeWhen: Monday, May 16, 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Description: "Travel" with Marcia Hickman and Sue Spirit on a river boat from Amsterdam to Brussels. Experience tulip time, a flower auction, windmills, dykes, canals, a home-hosted visit, and much more.

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**- 2nd Floor Conference Room

Civil Asset Forfeiture and Policing for Profit - Jeff Holcomb, Ph.D. & Marian Williams, Ph.D. ASU Department of Government & Criminal Justice  
When: Tuesday, May 17, 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Description: All states and the federal government allow law enforcement to seize and forfeit cash, property, and other materials that they believe are associated with illegal activity.

Very generally, there are two-types of asset forfeitures - civil and criminal. The vast majority of the states and the federal government allow for both types of forfeitures.

In criminal forfeitures, a forfeiture action occurs against a person after he/she has been convicted of an underlying criminal offense beyond a reasonable doubt.

In a civil forfeiture, a person's property is the target of the proceedings and the owner or other interested party is secondary. Because civil liberties extend only to individuals and not to property, owners of property seized through civil proceedings have fewer legal protections than in criminal forfeiture matters.

For example, a property owner does not have to be arrested, let alone convicted, of an underlying offense for a civil forfeiture to occur. Forfeiture allows the government to keep the seized cash and property (both personal and real), destroy the property, or sell the property and keep the proceeds to fund a number of activities. Depending on the law, the assets can also be used to fund a variety of public services and goods. Many states and the federal government, however, allow the proceeds from forfeitures to go directly to law enforcement agencies, resulting in allegations of "policing for profit".

Our presentation will discuss the extent of civil asset forfeiture in

the US, its rationale, and criticisms of this practice.

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**- 2nd Floor Conference Room

**Memor-Writing Palooza**When: Wednesday, May 18, 12:00pm to 2:00pmDescription: Ready to write up a storm? Do you get energized by being given writing prompts? Do you enjoy being in a group of enthusiastic writers? If so, this is the group for you.

Bring a sack lunch and water.

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**- Classroom 3

**Immigration in the Americas: Pushed Out by Violence or Pulled by Economics**When: Monday, May 23, 1:30pm to 3:00pm

Description: Dr. Renee Scherlen's talk will focus on the state of immigration to the US from Central America & Mexico, especially by the young. Why are they leaving Central America? What can be done? What should be done? The talk will conclude with a discussion of the role of the US in creating the crisis, as well as appropriate responses.

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**- 2nd Floor Conference Room

**Little Women of Concord: The Alcott Family and the United States of the 1840s**When: Tuesday, May 24, 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Description: Louisa May Alcott's novel "Little Women" was inspired by the events of her childhood, especially by the time spent in the village of Concord, Massachusetts. She grew up surrounded by famous figures and affected by the social forces changing the country in the first half of the 19th century. The experiences of the real Alcott family "little women" shed light on what it was like to be an American child growing up in the years before the Civil War. Larry Kaiser is our presenter.

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Memor-Writing PaloozaWhen: Wednesday, May 25, 12:00pm to



2:00pmDescription: Are you ready to write up a storm? Do you enjoy being given prompts to get you started writing? Do you like being in a group of like-minded writers? Come and enjoy our writing time together. Bring a sack lunch and water.

Location: **Lois E. Harrill Senior Center**- Classroom 3

Nature Walk - Bass Lake and Maze LoopsWhen: Friday, May 27, 10:00am to 1:00pmDescription: Bob Cantu will take us on a leisurely nature walk on the Cone Manor carriage trails around Bass Lake and up the Maze loop, stopping at the old apple barn for a snack/lunch before coming back down to Bass Lake. 3.6 mile walk with lake shore views and deep forest. Very gentle climb from the dam to the carriage barn. Rated easy to moderate. Bob's knowledge and enthusiasm helps us see this walk with a new awareness.

Location: Meet at Bass Lake lower parking area, off Rt. 221, 1/2 mile west of Blowing Rock.

Call Juin Adams at 828-295-9607 before 8:30 am, if you wonder if the hike will be cancelled because of weather.

Memoir-Writing PaloozaWhen: Wednesday, May 25, 12:00pm to 2:00pmDescription: Are you ready to write up a storm? Do you enjoy being given prompts to get you started writing? Do you like being in a group of like-minded writers? Come and enjoy our writing time together. Bring a sack lunch and water.

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