

the *Adventurer*

OSHER
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LEARNING
INSTITUTE



Term: Spring | Issue 19:8 | May 2020

MONTHLY MEETING

I am Dying to Talk to You

Wednesday, May 13 2020

MOVED ONLINE

Our regular monthly meeting for May has been canceled due to governmental and health regulations, but we thought you might like to see our speaker, Dave Kampfschulte, present this topic at Grand Valley previously.



Dave Kampfschulte has worked in the hospice field for 24 years as a volunteer and educator. Spend a thoughtful and entertaining session with him as he relates his experiences of interacting and initiating

conversations with patients at the end of life and their families. Stories range from the unusual to those that will bring tears to your eyes. Get a glimpse of how others have handled walking the path before you. You might just be pleasantly surprised.

Visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wJdsdn2JYv4>

NOTES & NEWS

- Many events have been canceled through May, please call or check online before attending.
- May 10, enjoy Mother's Day!
- May 30-31 is the spring Midland Antiques Festival at the Midland County Fairgrounds. Sat. 8 am-6 pm, Sun. 9 am-4 pm. \$6 admission.
- Visit the Saginaw Art Museum in May to check out the exhibit "The World of Tomorrow is Here Today: Images of the 1939 World's Fair GM Pavilion." \$3 admission for seniors.
- Shop local! As the spread of coronavirus lessens, hopefully, over the summer, be sure to shop local! Visit local restaurants, stores, farmers markets, and vendors as these people were most impacted by the economic restrictions.

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SAGINAW VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY

WEIRD LAWS

The Coronavirus Bill is a federal law distributing \$2 trillion to individuals and small businesses suffering due to the plague!

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, June 10

Monthly Meeting: Tawny Ryan Nelb
Women's Contributions in WWI & WWII
Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms—Tentative

Wednesday, August 12

Monthly Meeting: Jae Oh
Medicare
Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms

August 11 & 13

Fall Registration Begins

CHAIR'S NOTE



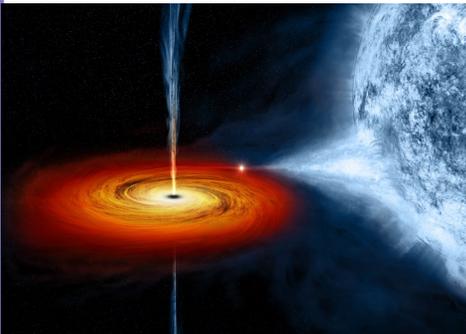
Hello OLLI friends,

My good news for this month continues news from a Washington Post article by its Editorial Board.

The article reports some good things that happened in 2019. First, the U.S. women's national soccer team inspired our nation by winning the World Cup – and then using their celebrity to campaign for gender equity on the soccer pitch and beyond.

Second, in 1990, 82 children younger than 5 died around the world for every 1,000 children born. By last year, as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation reminded us, that rate had fallen to 37 – still too high, but remarkable progress nonetheless. In fact, as a Gates Foundation report notes, "Health and education are improving everywhere in the world" – a too-little recognized fact that should spur us to continue investing in progress.

Third, with the April election of Lori Lightfoot in Chicago, a record number of black women (eight) were serving as mayors in the United States' 100 largest cities.



Fourth, the continuing progress of science was exemplified by the first-ever image of a black hole.

In these difficult times, I urge everyone to use extra effort to look for good news wherever and whenever they can find it.

—Carol Gohm, Advisory Board Chair

THE LEGAL SIDE

COVID-19 has hit Michigan, hard. In these times, leaders have emerged to direct the State's response to the crisis. However, the authority to act is largely a function of law. Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer has issued over two dozen "executive orders" which has altered our taxes, elections, public meetings, how we eat and live, and even telling my barber to stop cutting hair. But where does this authority come from?

Under the Michigan Constitution, "the executive power is vested in the governor." The Constitution says virtually nothing about the governor issuing emergency executive orders or who is in charge in an emergency.

The only provision dealing with emergencies is Article VI, Section 39 which provides that the Legislature, not the Governor, has certain powers "resulting from disasters occurring in this state caused by enemy attack on the United States" and to enact other laws necessary and proper for insuring the continuity of governmental operations.

But is the coronavirus a disaster caused by an "enemy attack on the United States?" Seemingly no in the traditional sense.

The other legal authorities the Governor regularly invokes is the "Emergency Management Act" and the "Emergency Powers of the Governor Act of 1945." In those statutes, Michigan law provides for the planning,

mitigation, response, and recovery from natural and human-made disaster within and outside this state. It provides that "the Governor is responsible for coping with dangers to this state or the people of this state presented by a disaster or emergency" and "may issue executive orders, proclamations, and directives having the force and effect of law to implement this act."

Supposedly, the Governor is authorized, among other things, to suspend laws, orders, and rules; control or limit travel; and vaguely "direct all other actions which are necessary and appropriate under the circumstances."

However, those powers are expressly not unlimited in two ways.

First, after 28 days from the issuance of a declaration of a "state of disaster" or "state of emergency," the Governor's emergency orders automatically terminate unless both houses of the Michigan Legislature approves an extension. We have not seen that yet in Michigan.

Second, the actual decisions of the government are all subject to the limits of governmental power enacted by the Michigan and US Constitutions. But because these state laws are so rarely used, the constitutionality of these emergency powers statutes have not been or barely been challenged in the courts.

Emergencies reveal cracks and gaps in our laws. Once this current crisis is over, expect lawsuits challenging power and appropriate use.

CURRENT INTEREST GROUPS

- Bridge
- Buddhist Psychology
- Celtic Music
- Choral Singing
- Creative Doodling
- Cross Country Skiing
- Current Events
- Cycling
- Dinner
- Esoteric Cosmology
- Games
- Gardening
- Guitar
- Hiking
- Kayaking
- Knitting
- Lunch
- Movies
- Music Collegium
- OLLI Folks on Spokes
- Pickleball
- Ping Pong
- Recorder (dojo)
- Recreational Biking
- Sharing the Great Courses
- Stamp & Coin Collecting
- Theatre

For group leader contact info see: svsu.edu/olli

MAY UPDATES

Unfortunately, OLLI has decided to suspend its programming through the end of May. We want to make sure when you come back it is a safe and friendly environment again. However, we know you're excited about the spring/summer semester and we have tried to keep as much of the programming from May as we can, *just in June* instead!

We have also offered a series of FREE online courses for May that should keep your brain expanding! There are Voting in America, cooking, the history of epidemics, and brain health classes. The details are all outlined in this newsletter, so check them out and sign up today! You will need an email address for access.

Also, be sure to check out the list of included updates to see if your favorite class or trip has moved to June or the fall semester. We will also try to put anything that you missed out on in the winter semester back into fall too.

Ultimately, of course, we hope to SEE you *very* soon! Keep safe, and healthy!

We miss you!



CLASS HIGHLIGHT

Voting in America Series ONLINE

This is a five course class covering voting security, the necessity of the electoral college, the implementation of Michigan's Proposal 3, the process of ending gerrymandering, and race, the party system, and elite incentives in American elections. Each day different professors will cover the topic at hand, making for an exciting and enlightening lecture series right before the November election!

Instructor: Varies, through OLLI U of M

Dates: May 4-8

Price: FREE for members

FREE for non-members

Sign up for Course 386 to get Access

Cooking with Kate ONLINE

A little bit history, and a whole lotta cooking, join OLLI Director Katherine Ellison in her kitchen for a glimpse into delicious. A regular home cook and baker, Katherine will show you the magic of homemade spaghetti sauce, the ease of making fluffy cinnamon rolls, how to jazz up your Mexican-American meals with homemade enchiladas, and finally, creating the perfect pizza in the oven, or on the grill for summer. You'll be ready for any meal or party!

Instructor: Katherine Ellison

Dates: May 25-29

Price: FREE for members

FREE for non-members

Sign up for Course 387 to get Access

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GROUP FOCUS: USING ZOOM TO CHAT

Many of our OLLI interest group members have been wondering how to stay in touch and be more social despite the shelter in place restrictions. Here at OLLI, we suggest you check out ZOOM (zoom.com). Zoom is software that allows anyone to create a free account and host a "meeting" where you can connect up to 100 people via computer and/or phone. If you have a camera and microphone on your computer, you can allow others to see and hear you too!



NEWSLETTER

"The Adventurer" is published monthly for SVSU-OLLI members at Saginaw Valley State University. Reprints of this newsletter may be obtained by calling 989.964.4475.

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

It's all hands on deck for May! We are hoping that this is the last month in which we need to be so distant as we are all anxious to get back in the office and back to business as usual. We hope you have been safe and enjoying your time at home to catch up on those things that always seem to be put on the back burner—spring cleaning, cleaning up the garden, making freezer meals, etc. etc. For May be sure to check out our online course offerings, a couple from our own people (including yours truly) and a few from our OLLI friends around the country. They are free for you to enjoy, but we are interested to see which ones people want to do, so please sign up for them online or by calling the main number and leaving a message. Fingers crossed for a speedy and healthy return to OLLI on campus by June.



CLASS HIGHLIGHT

Epidemics in History ONLINE

The outbreak of certain diseases has played a major role in the history of man. Join Professors Christina De Clerck-Szilagyi and Jason Szilagyi as they give brief discussions centering on the Black Death/Bubonic Plague, Yellow Fever, Spanish Flu, and Ebola and how these illnesses shaped the contemporary world in which they occurred.



Instructor: The Szilagysis

Dates: May 18-22

Price: FREE for members □

FREE for non-members

Sign up for Course 388 to get Access

CLASS HIGHLIGHT

Maintaining Optimum Brain Health-ONLINE

The most important resource to maintain excellent quality-of-life is the health and fitness of our brains. Following an introduction to brain structure and function, Dr. Len Matheson will present one of the five key ingredients to brain health and fitness based on the latest scientific research. Each of his five sessions will include easy-to-implement recommendations to optimize residual cognitive function and emotional resilience. Dr. Matheson is a psychologist with graduate degrees in Gerontology who has been helping people put their lives back together after a brain injury or illness for 50 years.

Instructor: Dr. Len Metheson

Dates: May 11-15

Price: FREE for members □

FREE for non-members

Sign up for Course 389 to get Access



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