

# the *Adventurer*

OSHER  
LIFELONG  
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INSTITUTE



Term: Spring | Issue 18:8 | May 2019

## MONTHLY MEETING

### Blood on the Mitten: Michigan Murders

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

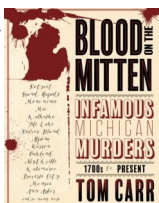
8:45 am—Registration, Light Refreshments

9:30 am—Welcome & Announcements



Author Tom Carr tells stories of murder, robbery and mayhem through the ages in the Great Lakes state. Delivered in a lively manner with irreverence and historical context, the stories

include crimes of passion, greed, insanity and just plain awfulness. Carr is the author of *MI BAD: Robbers, Cutthroats and Thieves in Michigan's Past and Present*, the second book in the Michigan Mayhem series published by Mission Point Press. Since his first book, *Blood on the Mitten*, was released in 2016, he has told stories of true crimes in all corners of both peninsulas, in print and in person. Carr is an award-winning reporter and columnist, and worked at daily newspapers in Michigan for more than 25 years and has freelanced for NPR, the *New York Daily News*, the *Detroit Free Press* and other local, regional and national news outlets.



## NOTES & NEWS

- On May 3, learn how to identify birds at the Chippewa Nature Center Bird Walk. 8-10 a.m. Free.
- May 4 & 5 be sure to search for hidden treasures at the Michigan Antiques Festival at the Midland County Fairgrounds. \$6 Admission. Free Parking.
- May 14, join the Bay Concert Band for a 7:30 p.m. concert. Bay City Central School Auditorium, Bay City. \$5 Admission. Kids under 6, free.
- May 17, see Billy Lindsey as Elvis Presley at the State Theatre of Bay City. 7 p.m. \$15 Admission.
- The MSU Union's Spring Arts & Crafts Show. May 18-19. Free.
- May 30 is the Firkin Food Truck Festival at Frankenmuth Credit Union Event Center. Try out a tasty new food. 5-9 p.m. Free Admission.

## CONTACT US

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SAGINAW VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY

## OLLI WISDOM

*"Treat Your Body Like  
You Will Live to be 100"*

## IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, June 12

Surviving the Holocaust

By: Irene Miller, Author & Holocaust Survivor  
*Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms*

Wednesday, August 14

100 Years of Michigan Parks

By: Anna Sylvester, Field Operations Chief  
*Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms*

Wednesday, September 11

Fall Kickoff!

## CHAIR'S NOTE



Hello OLLI friends,

Continuing my theme of good news (from Steven Pinker's book Enlightenment NOW), this

month's good news is about improvements in wealth and poverty. In 1800 and 1975 the modal income in 2011 dollars per day was less than a dollar a day. In 2015 it was about 8 dollars per day. That shift means that huge numbers of people have moved out of poverty (extreme poverty being about 2 dollars per day). Another way of looking at the data is by looking at the percentage of people living in poverty, which went from about 90% in 1820 to about 10% in 2015.

In addition to raw dollars, the quality of life has changed in other ways. Some things that improve the quality of life didn't use to exist, such as refrigerators, washing machines, cell phones, and the internet. Think of the impact of even those few items.

What happened, what caused this improvement? According to Pinker developmental experts give five causes. First, the decline of communism and the rise of capitalism. Second, leadership including Mao in China and the rise of levelheaded, humanistic leaders around the world. Third, the end of the cold war. Fourth, globalization especially the explosion of trade. Fifth, and maybe most importantly science and technology. All in all, I'm really glad I live now.

—Carol Gohm, Advisory Board Chair



## ANTIQUES

For many people spring cleaning means throwing out a pile of stuff that you managed to accumulate over the last year or more and no longer need or want.

Some people have even collected items from deceased love ones' estates because these things had no where else to go at the time. Spring is the perfect time to purge this clutter as you give your house a yearly deep clean.

If you run across items that are in good condition or even old enough to be antiques, wait! Don't throw out that silver tea kettle or 1992 Beanie Baby! Sell it instead.

OLLI offers a class on buying and selling on the Internet where you can learn how to post things on Facebook Marketplace, E-Bay, Craigslist, and more. This is a good place to start. Once you learn how these sites work, take a look. Are other people selling items like yours? If so, what are their prices? If not, it may pay to see a professional antique appraiser before you ditch that valuable item for a fraction of its worth!

Once you've sold your goods, you can spend less time thinking about the clutter in your home, and more time considering how to spend your newfound earnings!



## TRAVELERS

If you enjoy traveling frequently by yourself or with your spouse, be sure to check out the Evergreen Club online—a homestay travel club for the 50+ crowd.

This unique network offers travelers aged 50 and better access to fun and inexpensive homestays for a low yearly membership rate. You might stay in a separate guest room, guest house, or apartment owned by a network member. Here you can enjoy meeting the people of the area and learning about their culture, from



people in your own age range.

Evergreen also requires you to rent out that spare guest room or house that has been sitting empty and meet new and interesting people traveling through your area.

If you enjoy traveling but don't enjoy the high costs of hotels, check it out. Most stays for individuals are just \$15 a night. \$20 for couples. The possibilities are endless, as the company is touted as the 'champion of the cost-conscious traveler.'

## CURRENT INTEREST GROUPS

- Bridge
- Buddhist Psychology
- Choral Singing
- Cross Country Skiing
- Current Events
- Cycling
- Dinner
- Esoteric Cosmology
- Games
- Gardening
- Guitar
- Kayaking
- Knitting
- Lunch
- Movies
- Music Collegium
- Pickleball
- Ping Pong
- Recorder
- Recreational Biking
- Sharing the Great Courses
- Short Stories
- Stamp & Coin Collecting
- Theatre

For group leader contact info see: [svsu.edu/olli](http://svsu.edu/olli)

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### *Jim Bush*

My affiliation with OLLI began in 2005 upon my retirement from 30 years with the 70th District Court in Saginaw as a probation officer.

A friend of a friend who was on the curriculum committee asked if I would be interested in teaching Tai Chi for OLLI, of which I was not familiar. I studied Tai Chi since 1978 and taught for the Saginaw BOE's adult enrichment classes and other venues since 1983—I immediately agreed to give it a try and have been enjoying it with OLLI folks ever since. "Tai Chi adds years to your life and life to your years!" It's Yin and Yang, fun and serious.

In 1988 several Tai Chi friends and myself co-founded Cloudhands Michigan, a group dedicated to teaching and sharing Tai Chi for Health across Michigan. We meet quarterly at different locations around the state.

I feel so thankful and blessed that OLLI has embraced this healing art and health-building exercise and has supported it by hosting the Tai Chi Festival in the spring and by bringing in nationally renown masters like Deng Ming-Dao, who will be here May 16-17 for a three session workshop. What a wonderful way to spring into spring! Get that Chi flowing.

Please take this once in a lifetime opportunity to attend the upcoming workshop with this iconic Daoist master, author, artist, martial artist, and book designer from San Francisco. Open to beginners and the curious, you won't be disappointed. As H.H. Liu was fond of saying, "NPNB—No practice, no breakfast!"

## GARDEN PARTY

Spring is here and the OLLI Memorial Garden is beginning to wake up, which means it's time to CLEAN it up!

Weeds need to be pulled, mulch will need to be spread, and fun will be had by all!

We are planning a garden (cleanup) party on Saturday, May 11 at 9:30 a.m. Please consider joining us for this important event and bring your friends too!



If you are interested in helping with the garden cleanup, please contact Vicki Shrope at [vshrope@gmail.com](mailto:vshrope@gmail.com) for more information or just show up ready to work.

Dress for the temperature. Clean up will be weather permitting.

## ADVISORY BOARD

**Chair—Carol Gohm**  
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**Faculty Representative**  
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989.964.4016

**SVSU Representative**  
Katherine Ellison, SVSU-OLLI

## GROUP FOCUS: RECORDER

The OLLI recorder group meets every Friday from 2-3 p.m. in Science East 121. The group enjoys playing through various works from the Renaissance and classical periods and is a lot of fun! Open to beginners and those interested in learning this inexpensive musical instrument, the OLLI recorder group strives to give those aging a place to learn and practice the art of music. Please bring your own recorder (any voice, but tenors and altos appreciated) and a music stand. For more information, please contact group leader Wayne O'Brien at [woobrien@svsu.edu](mailto:woobrien@svsu.edu)



## 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.

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Katherine Ellison  
989.964.4475

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

May kicks off the spring/summer semester here at OLLI and I hope you like the selection of classes offered. I'm still on the hunt for more cooking classes to fill out the catalogs in the future, however, so if you know a restaurant or chef that can fit a class in, please let me know! Shelley and I have also been traveling quite a bit with OLLI the past couple months, to both Croatia and the American South (Nashville, Memphis, and New Orleans)—you can expect a full report on those trips in the next addition of the Adventurer, along with OLLI's upcoming trip to Ireland at the end of May. If you're not traveling with OLLI this year, hopefully you will still find time to get out and adventure on your own. Be sure to check out the travel article on page 2 as well.



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## CLASS HIGHLIGHT

### Colored Pencil

Change “just coloring” into beautiful works of art! Learn shading, showing depth, and more. The instructor will provide everything you need



to complete the picture and offers framing at the end of class. You can go home with your picture ready to hang! The piece you will create, a beautiful life-like hummingbird sipping nectar, is shown above.

Fridays 5/10-5/24 \* SE116  
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
\$65 Members/\$95 Non-Members

## TRIP HIGHLIGHT

### Revolution: The Beatles

“Come Together” for a symphonic journey through the history of The Beatles at Abbey Road told through the Fab Four's #1 hits and Jeff Tyzik's restorative arrangements of the original recordings for singers and orchestra. The *Abbey Road* album marked the last album The Beatles recorded before dissolving so this concert should really be “Something.” Our afternoon begins with an extravagant buffet lunch prior to the performance at the Motor City Casino's Assembly Line restaurant. This trip package includes your ticket to the performance, lunch and motor coach transportation.



Sunday 5/19  
10 a.m.-7 p.m.  
\$119 Members/ \$139 Non-Members

We enrich.



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