
The

Second Half

LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Live

Learn

Connect

Spring 2025 Catalog

WELCOME TO THE SECOND HALF LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Our Mission is to provide comprehensive educational programming, social interaction, and travel, enhancing the quality of life, thereby empowering lifelong learners to age successfully.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

“Commit yourself to lifelong learning. The most valuable asset you will ever have is your mind and what you put into it.” Albert Einstein--He was an early adapter.

Finally, Spring 2025 semester is here, and I know that you are ready for it--I am. We are ready to provide the best in lifelong learning classes with subject matter diverse and traditional, all taught by the best faculty in the world. Spring is a great time to join us, make new friends, find out that your neighbor joined us last semester, take a day trip with us, learn, and enjoy the experience.

All our classes will encourage you and enrich your thoughts. You matter to me. You inspire me--and I hope to inspire you. On behalf of myself, the Board of Directors, and the faculty, we want you to know that this is the place to be this Spring.

I am always available if you have questions about the Second Half, the Spring semester, or anything about the journey that you will be taking this Spring. Email me, call me. But don't forget, if you call me at the office, leave a message.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER FOR THE SPRING 2025 SEMESTER

Registration begins as soon as you receive the catalog in the mail or pick it up at locations around the Southcoast. It is important to send in your registration form, membership form, and selection of classes AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Your registration is complete when I receive your payment. I will confirm your registration by email as soon as I place you in the class/classes. We have classes beginning in February, March, April, May, and June, but you need to register for all the classes that you want right now. It can be a big deal to take that first step and register, but you will be glad that you did. Remember: “No one is you, and that is your superpower.” See you in the Spring!

Roberta Melton
Executive Director
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2801 BEGINNING BIRDING – SLIGHTLY ADVANCED

**9:30 - 11:30 a.m. March 31, April 7, April 14,
April 21, April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19
(8 weeks)**

If you have watched birds at your feeder or at the beach and wanted to know more, this is the class for you. You must be able to walk at least two miles--one mile in and one mile out of the refuge. Wear good walking shoes and a hat to shield you from the sun. If you do not own binoculars, I have an extra pair! You will need a good field guide; we will go over this at our first class. Spring is bird migration time. We go to some wonderful places on the Southcoast and have great fun! Welcome aboard.

Location: Dartmouth Council on Aging, 628 Dartmouth Street. The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building behind the main building.

Facilitator: Mary Martha Murphy

Mary Martha was a Biology Major with a concentration in the medical field. Her avocation is in the natural world of plants, birds, and animals of the continental United States. Many trips with Mass Audubon and Rhode Island Audubon have brought her total life-bird list --the first time a species is seen--to 493. Her goal of 500 "lifers" may well be reached this spring. Wouldn't you like to be there when that happens?

2802 SEND IN THE CLOWNS, PART 3

**9:30 - 11:30 a.m. March 31, April 7, April 14,
April 21, April 28 (5 weeks)**

Studies in the Human Experience Exploring Freedom

This is the third segment in a series of lectures given by a group of men who meet weekly to talk about everything and anything, and who have adopted a group identity called *The Clowns*. That title is based on a song written by Stephen Sondheim and made famous by Judy Collins of which the refrain is "Send in the Clowns." At times during these breakfast meetings the discussions can become deep and serious, but there is always lots of laughter and good-natured ribbing. Humor and self-deprecation help maintain this unusual bond of

intellectual honesty and friendship. I know this because, despite our digressions and ramblings, I think each of us accepts that we are nothing more than simple creatures of the universe trying to understand ourselves, others, and the world we live in. That being said, we have decided to put our show on the road for a third time with **Send in The Clowns, Part 3**. Once again, the subjects of these presentations are all about the human experience, the search for freedom--and that inescapably involves you.

March 31: Introduction to the series, Send in The Clowns, Part 3, Raymond Loranger.

March 31: American Diversity--American Humanities, Joseph Cote. America's social fabric contains all races, religions, and nationalities. Together, they are a powerful force reflecting the universality of human caring and human spirit that reflects the American soul. Come visit some of our "soul makers."

April 7: Microbiology as Liberator: A Brief History of Public Health, Jim Griffith. This presentation will focus on a review of the historical development of public health, which began in ancient times; how various public health concepts have evolved; and how the science of microbiology has rescued societal groups from ignorance and despotism. Historical public health measures have included quarantine of leprosy victims in the Middle Ages and efforts to improve sanitation following the 14th century plague epidemics. Population increases in Europe brought with them increased awareness of infant death and the proliferation of hospitals. These developments in turn led to the establishment of modern public health agencies and organizations designed to control the availability and distribution of medicines. Consequently, science has made us more free.

April 14: Disinformation and the Search for Truth Bob Miller. Disinformation is false information designed to mislead others and is deliberately spread with the intent to confuse fact and fiction. Foreign or domestic actors use strategic deceptions and media manipulations to achieve their political, military, or commercial goals. As members of a democratic society who are presented with "alternative facts," we must learn, as best we can, ways in which we can determine

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what the truth is. It is not always easy, but there are ways in which we can establish a fact-based world view. The primary purpose of this discussion is to give you recommendations for tools to use in analyzing political developments.

April 21: Profiles in Courage, David Horowitz.

Leading up to the contentious 2024 presidential election, the subject of a profile in courage took on significant meaning. The few elected officials who risked a political career by challenging the leading candidate in their political party or by questioning party orthodoxy demonstrated political courage. This class will explore the nature of political courage, beginning with a summary of John F. Kennedy's Pulitzer-Prize-winning book *Profiles in Courage*, followed by a discussion of our candidates for a Profile in Courage award for 2025.

April 28: The Pilgrimage of My Mind: My Last Lecture. Raymond Loranger. The importance of seeking purpose and meaning in life--personal comments, observations, and reflections on human experience and the search for inner freedom.

Location: The Wamsutta Club, 427 County Street, New Bedford, MA.

2803 SHARING YOUR OWN STORIES

10:00 a.m. – noon March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24, March 31, April 7 (6 weeks)

If you are a fan of the Moth Radio Hour on NPR, you will want to join us for this participatory adventure. We will decide on a theme for each week, and you will decide how you want to participate: poetry, short memories spoken or read by you, song, dance. Limited only by your imagination. The group will be limited to ten adventurers to give everyone a chance to participate.

Location: 167 Syliva Street, New Bedford, MA

Facilitators: Paul Mercier and Renate Oliver

Paul Mercier is a baseball fan and a lifelong student. He writes poetry in his spare time.

Renate Oliver talks to garden plants, gives her cars names, and has shared a wealth of stories about her

childhood in Germany with friends, students, and anyone else who is interested (without needing too much encouragement).

2804 CARING FOR SELF, OTHERS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Noon – 2:00 p.m. March 24, March 31, April 7, April 14, April 21, April 28 (6 weeks)

This is a course in which students and faculty work together to address the nature of personal mind/body/spirit connectedness as integral to healing and health. Each student is their own “laboratory,” experiencing and learning how to make choices supportive of personal wellbeing, the wellbeing of others, and the wellbeing of the environment.

Location: Dartmouth Council on Aging, 628 Dartmouth St. The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building behind the main building.

Facilitator: Dorothy Dunn

Dorothy is a family nurse practitioner with a doctorate in Philosophy of Nursing Science from Florida Atlantic University. She recently retired as Associate Professor at Northern Arizona University and is the past Chair and Associate Professor from University of Mass-Dartmouth. Credentialed as a board certified Advanced Holistic Nurse and Reiki II practitioner, she will guide students in enhancing their wellbeing.

2805 I'VE GOT IT ON VINYL: THE STUDENT'S JUKEBOX

Noon - 2:00 p.m. March 31, April 7, April 14, April 21, April 28, May 5 (6 weeks)

Records leave an indelible impression on everyone ... they mark our “lost or found love,” high school or college days, important junctures or turning points, and just about every important aspect of our lives. In effect, our record collections are the soundtrack of our life. So, we'll call this class **The Student's Jukebox**, because wherever there is a Jukebox playing, you never know what song will be on next! That's the excitement that opens up an opportunity to inspect musical genres we might have missed along the way or forgotten and, at the same time, gives you the chance to get to know the other participants.

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For this second course concerning Vintage Vinyl, students will be asked to pick a few artists or bands that are particularly meaningful to them, and to let me know in advance of the first session so that I can assemble records from my own fairly vast library. Willing participants are encouraged (but not required) to dig out a few of their own records in good condition, which I will then clean professionally for the best sound quality. We all have a box of records somewhere, but one's own copy represents a "talisman" of sorts, complete with scuffs or scratches put there by your own hands. Your records truly mark the phases of your life.

For each class I will play records on Vintage Tube Audio equipment from the early 1960s, an all-analog format, so you will hear them sound exactly the way you did back then, but probably better! We will spend most of the time listening, but we will make time for conversation too, concerning artists, technical matters, troubleshooting, and a few stories along the way. I hope to see you there.

Location: The Wamsutta Club, 427 County Road, New Bedford.

Facilitator: *Lee Carroll*

Lee is a lifelong music enthusiast and record collector.

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2806 ABRAHAM LINCOLN: EXAMINING HIS LEGACY BY WAY OF HIS EXTRAORDINARY PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS

**9:30 - 11:30 p.m. April 22, April 29, May 6,
May 13, May 20, May 27 (6 weeks)**

Our Fall 2024 classes offered a journey of Lincoln's life through childhood poverty, tragic losses, self-education, his profound commitment to bettering himself, and of course his amazing ascendancy to the Presidency. This spring 2025 we will track the relationships he had with those he worked with. History has shown that when you met Lincoln and worked with him, even his rivals, you learned to love him. We will include Frederick Douglass, William Seward, and Ulysses S Grant, among others.

The amazingly engaged, diverse, and interesting students of our fall 2024 class helped steer the themes and discussions. We will add other of Lincoln's relationships as the class progresses.

Location: The Wamsutta Club, 427 County Street, New Bedford.

Facilitator: *Dave Tatelbaum*

Dave and wife Jan recently retired as owners of the Big Value Store in South Dartmouth. During all those retail years, Dave developed a profound love and reverence for Mr. Lincoln, attending lectures, events sites, and of course reading many of the 30,000 books and articles written about this profound, complex man. Dave earned a B.S. from Boston University and is now fulfilling a lifelong dream: to lead a class on Lincoln, for "anyone who will listen." Dave currently serves on the Select Board in the Town of Dartmouth and constantly strives to use Lincoln's example.

2807 WELL SAID

**9:30 -11:30 a.m. April 1, April 15, April 29,
May 6, May 20, June 3 (6 weeks)**

Public speaking extends well beyond the courtroom. It occurs at weddings, funerals, anniversaries, and talks to public and private groups. This course will be devoted to teaching students how to prepare remarks (a speech). The goals for the class are to instruct students how to project confidence, learn how to use parallelism and visualization to make compelling speech. The writings of John Adams, Abraham Lincoln, Barbara Jordan, Peter Altgeld and Mehdi Hassan will be the used for instruction.

Location: Dartmouth Council on Aging, 628 Dartmouth St. The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building behind the main building.

Facilitator: *Robert Kane*

Judge Kane is a Superior Court Associate Justice and has been an Adjunct Faculty Instructor at Southern New England School of Law and Anna Maria College. He graduated from Fairfield University and Boston College Law School.

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2808 TO CONVERSE: ENGAGE IN CONVERSATION, TO TALK, CHAT, SHOOT THE BREEZE, CONFABULATE, CHEW THE FAT

Noon - 1:30 p.m. April 15, April 22, April 30, May 6, May 13, May 20 (6 weeks)

Join me in an experiment into the art of conversation. Will it be boisterous or reserved? Silly or serious? Disruptive or constructive? A back porch ramble or a boardroom meeting? We will discuss topics that I hope will stimulate thought and conversation. This will be an experiment requiring the willingness of the participants to be open to new ideas and to put aside judgments regarding other people's ideas. It should be, at least, better than a visit to a proctologist! Don't be shy-- join us for a one-and-one-half-hour conversation.

Don't forget the coffee.

Location: Dartmouth Council on Aging, 628 Dartmouth Street. The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building behind the main building.

Facilitator: *Dennis Tweedy*

Dennis is still retired and yes, he is still enjoying it!

2809 MAKING A SPLASH: A COURSE ON THE OCEAN ENVIRONMENT

12:30 – 2:30 p.m. March 18, March 25, April 1, April 8, April 15, April 22 (6 weeks)

This course will provide students with a general overview of the history of the oceans from their origin over four billion years ago to today. Students will learn everything, including simple geology, physics, chemistry, and biology principles that are essential to the study of the ocean. Each week the class will end with a five-minute presentation from a local School for Marine Science & Technology, UMass Dartmouth (SMAST) graduate student or staff who is part of a research project on the week's topic. If the class desires a tour of the SMAST facilities in New Bedford, that will be arranged.

March 18: Where It All Began: Formation of the Oceans and Early Theories

There was water on this planet long before there was life. Learn the history of our watery planet's early formation, how it got here, and how it has changed over 4.5 billion years.

March 25: Making Waves and Causing Reactions: Ocean Physics and Chemistry

The movement of water over the planet as well as that water's chemical composition is essential to the study of the oceans. Find out why.

April 1: Biology Big and Small

The most abundant organisms in the ocean are ones you cannot see without a microscope. Learn about the range of animal groups present in the ocean: their evolution, cool species, and major extinctions and threats that they are facing today.

April 8: Fisheries Part 1-Past and Current World Fisheries

Fishing has been around for a long time. Discussion will include the importance of fish in culture, economics, and as an important food source.

April 15: Fisheries Part 2-Managing Fish or People

The ocean was once considered a place that was so bountiful it was impossible to fish too much. Things have changed. This class will focus on management and ocean policy around the world with a focus on the United States.

April 22: From Discovery to Resource Exploitation

We know more about the surface of the moon than we do about the bottoms of our oceans. The final class will focus on the development of technology from early exploration to instruments and technology currently used to learn more. Deep-sea mining, offshore oil, and natural gas, and as well as the emerging sector of green renewable energies will be discussed.

Location: The Wamsutta Club, 427 County Street, New Bedford.

Facilitator: *Sierra Wachala*

Sierra is a third-year Ph.D. student at UMass Dartmouth's School of Marine Science and Technology (SMAST) whose research focuses on the impact of offshore wind farms on local fisheries. Sierra received her Bachelor's degree from the University of South

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Carolina and her Master's degree in Biology from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, where she studied invasive species in Lake Michigan. She has experience teaching at both the high school and college level, as well as guest lecturing for a previous Second Half class taught in Fall 2024.

2810 AMERICAN MUSIC: AN HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Noon - 2:00 p.m. April 29, May 6, May 13, May 20, May 27, June 3 (6 weeks)

During this class, we will listen to, watch, and discuss the varieties of American musical forms, with an emphasis on the historic areas during which they developed, the myriad influences that caused them to develop, and the rich and influential musical heritage they provide. The classes will encompass the following topics:

ROOTS: Folk, Blues, Gospel, and traditional Country Music: The development of America's folk traditions, epitomized by leading innovators such as Bill Monroe, Mississippi John Hurt, Woody Guthrie, Robert Johnson, Hank Williams, early Bob Dylan, and Joni Mitchell.

THE RISE OF JAZZ-RAGTIME, DIXIELAND, AND SWING: The improvisational forms of Afro-American music that changed the world, with a look at performer/composers, such as Scott Joplin, Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong, Count Basie/Lester Young, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, and Art Tatum.

AMERICAN ART SONG AND MUSICAL THEATER: The American traditions of parlor song and Broadway, including such leading songwriters as Stephen Foster, George and Ira Gershwin, Cole Porter, Howard Arlen, Richard Rogers, and Burt Bacharach/Hal David.

AMERICAN CLASSICAL MUSIC: The development of America's unique take on the European classical tradition, exemplified by composers such as Charles Ives, John Philip Sousa, Aaron Copland, George Gershwin, Leonard Bernstein, and Philip Glass.

BLUES, BOOGIE, AND THE ROOTS OF ROCK AND ROLL: The evolution of blues and boogie into rock and roll as developed by Muddy Waters, B.B. King, Louis Jordan, Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Elvis Presley, Do-Wop, the Everly Brothers, and Ray Charles.

CROONERS, SWINGERS, AND MOVIE MUSIC: Performers who combined jazz rhythms and musical theater tunes to conquer the airwaves, including Bing Crosby, Billie Holiday, Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Fred Astaire, and Nat King Cole.

MODERN JAZZ: The development of new styles of jazz in the wake of the be-bop revolution, including the work of Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk, Miles Davis, Horace Silver, John Coltrane, and Ornette Coleman.

ROCK, SOUL, FUNK, AND MODERN POP: The development of new forms derived from rock and roll and pop roots, including a look at leading lights such as Carole King and the Brill Building writers, later Bob Dylan, James Brown, the Beach Boys, Motown, Aretha Franklin, Jimi Hendrix, the Grateful Dead, Stevie Wonder, and Prince.

Location: The Wamsutta Club, 427 County Street, New Bedford

Facilitator: Clem Brown

Clem worked for many years as a municipal and employment lawyer and has also been a musician, poet, ceramic worker, construction worker, fishmonger, waiter, short-order cook, store manager, teacher, usher, and administrative secretary. As a musician, he has played bass in rock, folk, bluegrass, country, ragtime, blues, jazz, swing, and Brazilian groups and has produced several albums.

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2811 THE ART OF THE SHORT STORY: THE PENGUIN BOOK OF THE MODERN AMERICAN SHORT STORY

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1:30 – 3:30 p.m. April 1, April 8, April 15, April 22, April 29, May 6, May 13 (7 weeks)

This book was edited by John Freeman and covers the period from 1970 to 2020. In those fifty years, the American short story has changed dramatically, and this anthology celebrates the new voices, forms, and mixtures of styles that have brought this unique genre a thrilling burst of energy.

Location: Lawler Library, 745 Rockdale Avenue, New Bedford

Facilitators: James Cronin and Margot Green

After a four-decade career in the law, first as a trial lawyer then as a juvenile court judge, **James Cronin** in retirement returned to earlier interests: teaching, literary studies, and writing. He has an undergraduate degree from Harvard College in English Literature and has taken numerous courses in creative writing since 2007. He has taught a course on the art of the short story for more than twelve years at The Second Half. His first book of poetry, *World of Shadows*, was published in 2018 by the Poetry Loft Press of Cranston, Rhode Island. His second book of poetry, *The Mortal Angels*, has been published.

“Whimsical and wise, Cronin’s work finds a sweet spot between the old and new, where poetry is animated with passion and compassion, and buoyed by hope.” Tina Cane, Rhode Island Poet Laureate Emerita and Author of the Year of *The Murder Hornet*.

Margot Green received B.A. and M.A. degrees from Simmons College and stayed on as an administrator in the Art and Music Department from 1965-1985. She taught at Bristol Community College from 2000-2015 and has served as facilitator in courses for The Second Half since its inception. She has been a member of the Yale Writers Conference since 2014.

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2812 BOOK CLUB FOR THE MIND AND SOUL

Noon - 2:00 p.m. March 5 - May 28 (5 weeks)

March 5: The Measure by Nikki Erlick

It seems like any other day. You wake up, pour a cup of coffee, and head out. But today, when you open your front door, waiting for you is a small wooden box. This box holds your fate inside: the exact number of years you will live. *The Measure* charts the dawn of this new world through an unforgettable cast of characters whose decisions and fates interweave with one another: best friends whose dreams are forever entwined, pen pals finding refuge in the unknown, a couple who thought they didn’t have to rush, a doctor who cannot save himself, and a politician whose box becomes the powder keg that ultimately changes everything.

March 26: Looking for Jane by Heather Marshall

2017: When Angela Creighton discovers a mysterious letter containing a life-shattering confession, she is determined to find the intended recipient. Her search takes her back to the 1970s when a group of daring women operated an illegal underground abortion network in Toronto, known only by its whispered code name: Jane.

1971: As a teenager, Dr. Evelyn Taylor was sent to a home for “fallen” women where she was forced to give up her baby for adoption--a trauma she has never recovered from. Despite harrowing police raids and the constant threat of arrest, she joins the Jane Network as an abortion provider, determined to give other women the choice she never had.

1980: After discovering a shocking secret about her family, twenty-year-old Nancy Mitchell begins to question everything she has ever known. When she unexpectedly becomes pregnant, she feels that she has no one to turn to for help. Grappling with her decision, she locates “Jane” and finds a place of her own alongside Dr. Taylor within the network’s ranks, but she can never escape the lies that haunt her.

April 16: We Will Be Jaguars: A Memoir of My People by Nemonte Nenquimo and Mitch Anderson
Born into the Waorani tribe of Ecuador’s Amazon rainforest--one of the last to be contacted by

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missionaries in the 1950s--Nemonte Nenquimo had a singular upbringing.

She was taught about plant medicines, foraging, oral storytelling, and shamanism by her elders. At age fourteen, she left the forest for the first time to study with an evangelical missionary group in the city. Eventually, her ancestors began appearing in her dreams, pleading with her to return and embrace her own culture. She listened.

Two decades later, Nemonte emerged as one of the most forceful voices in climate change activism. She has spearheaded the alliance of indigenous nations across the Upper Amazon and led her people to a landmark victory against Big Oil, protecting over a half million acres of primary rainforest. Her message is as sharp as a spear, honed by her experiences battling loggers, miners, oil companies, and missionaries.

May 7: The Mill River Recluse by Darcie Chan

From the outside, Mill River looks like any sleepy little Vermont town where everyone knows everyone, and people never need to lock their doors. There are newcomers to whom this appeals: from police officer Kyle Hensen and his daughter Rover who are starting over after heartache, to Claudia Simo, the schoolteacher who is determined to reinvent herself. But on closer inspection, there are those in Mill River--including a stealthy arsonist, a covetous nurse, and a pilfering priest--who have things they wish to hide. None more the widow Mary McAllister who, for the past sixty years, has secluded herself in her marble mansion overlooking the town. Most of the residents have never even seen the peculiar woman. Only the priest, Father O'Brien, knows the deep secrets that keep Mary isolated, and that, once revealed, will forever change the community.

May 28: Honey by Victor Lodato

As a rebellious teenager, Honey managed to escape her father's circle of influence and reinvent herself in a world of art and beauty, working for a high-end auction house in Los Angeles. Now, in her twilight years, she decides to return home and unexpectedly falls in love. But in her family, nothing has changed. When her grandnephew Michael busts into her life in what appears to be a drug-fueled frenzy, and her Lexus gets jacked, it's hard to keep minding her own business. As old

cruelties begin to resurface, Honey is no longer sure what she really wants--to forgive or to avenge.

Location: 1600 Highland Avenue, Fall River, MA.

Facilitators: *Anne Maranda and Maureen Audet*

Anne is a retired elementary school teacher. She taught in Boston, Acushnet, and New Bedford public schools. She also taught at Dominican Academy in Fall River.

Maureen is retired from the Verizon Telecommunications Company. She finally has time to read as many books as she wants, and to enjoy them.

2813 CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH: INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Noon - 2:00 p.m. March 5, March 12, March 19, March 26, April 2, April 8, April 16, April 23, April 30, May 7 (10 weeks)

This is an ongoing, progressive learning study group. It focuses on increasing the participants' familiarity with the Spanish language and their ability to express themselves both orally and with the written word. Class discussion is in Spanish. Review of written exercises and increased mastery of grammar are major components of the class. Anyone with a basic knowledge of Spanish is welcome to join the class.

Location: Online ZOOM

Facilitator: *Mariano Merino*

Mariano Merino is a native of Spain. After graduate studies in Madrid, he continued his graduate education at Boston University and Rhode Island College. He has worked in the field of mental health. Retired for over a decade, he enjoys engaging in new learning and continued education. He has facilitated several courses for The Second Half.

2814 DISCOVERING PORTUGAL

2:30 - 4:30 p.m. March 5, March 12, March 19, March 26 (6 weeks). Times and locations for 2 classes TBD.

The six-week course, **Discovering Portugal**, will explore the mainland of Portugal, one of the top travel destinations in Europe. We will visit the vibrant and

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picturesque capital city of Lisbon, rich in history and culture. We will explore ancient towns, medieval walled cities, the Douro River Valley, and its vineyards. Destinations will include UNESCO World Heritage Sites that date back centuries, testament to the rich and diverse heritage of Portugal. We will see Portugal's rugged coastline, the ocean, mountain ranges, and its stunning countryside. We will immerse ourselves in its history and geography, exploring art, architecture, cuisine, and culture.

NOTE: For those interested, this course will culminate in a small-group, twelve-day excursion, "Discovering Portugal with The Second Half," offered by Sagres Vacations, October 2025.

Registration will be limited to fourteen participants.

Location: Four classes on Online Zoom. Two classes in person – dates, times, and locations to be determined.

Facilitator: Elizabeth M. (Liz) Lafleur

Liz, a member of The Second Half since 2016, enjoys reading and travelling and looks forward to sharing this adventure with you.

2815 LIFE, LIBERTY & THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS: THE UNDERSIDE OF THE AMERICAN EXPERIMENT

Noon - 2:30 p.m. April 9, April 16, April 23, April 30, May 7, May 14, May 21, May 28 (8 weeks)

Life, whose life? Liberty, whose liberty? And the Pursuit of Happiness, whose pursuit of happiness are we talking about? When these lines were being written, the "who" was a very exclusive group: you had to be a European male, a landowner, and--oh yes and most importantly WHITE! If you were a woman, a Native American, a white male who did not own property, or a Black slave (3/5 of a person) your rights were extremely circumscribed. These words said we were a different breed of country, one that stood above rest. We had principles, but when you looked under the flag, you found a trail of lies, failed promises, slavery, and genocide, just to name a few of the failings that put lie to the belief of a shining city on a hill.

Part 1 starts in 1619 with the first slaves to enter the new world, through the start of the United States, the growth of slavery, the genocide of the Native Americans, the stealing of their land and ends at the end of the 1800s. Part 2 continue The Myth that is "The United States of America."

Location: The Acushnet Senior Center, 59½ South Main St, Acushnet, MA

Facilitators: Joan Fye and Dennis Tweedy

Joan is a retired mental health therapist who worked most of her life in Corrections and the Veterans Administration, counseling veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder. She has her B.S. in Psychology from Fayetteville State University and her M.S. from New Hampshire College. She has been in Massachusetts since 1988 but has lived in 20 different locations throughout her lifetime. Since her retirement, she has been a member of The Second Half and does volunteer work at the Fairhaven Animal Shelter. She is the mother of two and grandmother of three. She considers The Second Half one of her most favorite activities.

Dennis Tweedy is a retired business executive, and he loves retirement.

2816 HISTORICAL KALEIDOSCOPE

Noon – 2:00 p.m. April 2, April 9, April 16, April 23, April 30, May 7 (6 weeks)

April 2: Todd Baptista

Stories From the Silent Cities

Seventeen years after the infamous Borden family axe murders in Fall River, in the neighboring town of Westport, another brutal hatchet murder took place which shocked the rural community and made headlines in newspapers across the state and in other parts of the country as well. Unlike the Borden case, however, there was no mystery and no trial. Unlike the Borden tombstones in Fall River's Oak Grove Cemetery, there are no marked graves for sightseers to visit or photograph. In fact, most of those who live in Westport today, even self-professed crime buffs, know little or nothing of the tragic events that unfolded near Lyons Brook off Drift Road on the evening of Sunday, July 2, 1909.

WEDNESDAY CLASSES

Todd will fill us in on the details, the intrigue, and the lengthy aftermath of this murder.

Todd Baptista is a clinical consultant pharmacist, a radio show host, and an avid music collector. He began writing professionally at age 16 and has authored five books on the history of 1950s African American rhythm and blues vocal group harmony and rock 'n' roll.

Todd has hosted and co-produced dozens of successful concerts at various venues in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York; and he has aided artists in obtaining long overdue royalties. Todd serves as a team leader and project manager for the Westport Gravestone Cleaning and Restoration Groups and as a partner in TNT Gravestone Solutions, LLC. His book on this case, *The Forgotten Southcoast Hatchet Murder*, is available in paperback. Todd and his family live in Westport, MA.

Location: Westport Police Department Training Room, 56 Hixbridge Road, Westport, MA

April 9: Bob Rocha

Whaling: A Dangerous Business

This presentation will provide an introduction to the New Bedford Whaling Museum, the dangers of whaling under sail, the products of whaling, and the species that were targeted.

Bob Rocha is the Associate Curator of Science and Research at the New Bedford Whaling Museum in New Bedford, MA, where he has worked since 2004. His major responsibilities at the museum include developing all science content for museums and exhibits, cataloging and managing the natural history collection, and serving as liaison to several agencies and partners. In his time at the museum, he has also been responsible for developing and presenting science curriculum for school groups, creating and managing the High School Apprenticeship Program, managing and training the museum's volunteer corps, developing outreach programs, developing science programs for general audiences, and providing professional development for teachers.

Location: Dartmouth Public Library, North Branch, 211 Cross Road, Dartmouth, MA

April 16: Meet the Pocasset, a Presentation by the Pocasset Tribe of the Wampanoag Nation, Massachusetts

This will be a presentation by Tribal members about the history, traditions, and culture of our local Pocasset Tribal members--an experience to remember.

Location: Fall River Heritage State Park, 200 Davol Street, Fall River, MA.

April 23: Beth Luey

Historic Homes and the Families Who Lived in Them Historic Houses--along with documents--are the keys to understanding the people who lived in them. I will talk about what four houses in Eastern Massachusetts tell us about family life and society in the 18th and 19th centuries: The Fairbanks House (Dedham), the Alcott family houses (Concord and Harvard), and the Adams family houses (Quincy).

Beth Luey retired as Director of the Scholarly Publishing Program at Arizona State University, moved to Fairhaven, and purchased a house built in 1800. When she discovered it had a somewhat scandalous history, she began to investigate other houses in town and then moved on to houses throughout the state. The result was three books published by the University of Massachusetts Press House Stories: *The Meanings of Home in a New England Town*; *At Home: Historic Houses of Eastern Massachusetts*; *At Home: Historic Houses of Central and Western Massachusetts*. Most recently she has moved beyond Massachusetts with *A House of Her Own: Women writers of New England and Their Homes*.

Location: Westport Police Department Training Room, 56 Hixbridge Road, Westport, MA

April 30: Swan Point Cemetery

This unique cemetery is located in Providence, RI, and was established in 1846. In 1886, H.W.S. Cleveland was hired to redesign the area. It was inspired by the landscape of the first rural garden cemetery in the United States: Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge.

The Swan Point Cemetery has expanded to 200 acres. It is considered the most prominent cemetery in Rhode Island due to the well-known citizens buried there. We will tour the cemetery and grounds with a guide. It is truly a peaceful and unique place to rest. Please wear comfortable shoes. We will carpool into the cemetery.

Location: 585 Blackston Blvd, Providence, RI

WEDNESDAY CLASSES

May 7: Lori Pires, Hats off to History

Join collector Lori Pires as she presents a fascinating and delightful talk on her extensive hat collection. She owns over 500 pieces that she has amassed in the last 45 years. She will bring approximately 50 hats (Men's and Women's) and discuss the history of the hats and the significance of the items.

Join us to share a unique bit of cultural history with her fabulous hats.

Location: Dartmouth Public Library, North Branch, 211 Cross Street,

Facilitators: Lois Spirlet and Robin Melton

Lois and Robin are adventurers, and they love local history. We welcome you once again for an informative and fun course.

2817 EXPLORING THE PARANORMAL

5:00 - 6:30 p.m. March 19, March 26, April 2, April 9, April 16, April 23 (6 weeks)

Join paranormal researcher, investigator, and self-proclaimed "professional weirdo" for a look into various aspects of the paranormal, including ghosts, UFOs, cryptid creatures, and more. Learn how to become a paranormal investigator utilizing the tools of the trade and get hands-on experience hunting for haunts.

Location: Online zoom

Facilitator: Tim Weisberg

Tim is the host of the long-running paranormal radio show "Spooky Southcoast" on WBSM and has worked behind the scenes and in front of the camera on numerous paranormal television programs. He is the author of two books on the subject and is a frequent lecturer at local libraries, schools, and civic organizations.

THURSDAY CLASSES

2818 FLEMISH ART CIRCA 1400-1650

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. March 6, March 13, March 20, March 27, April 3, April 10 (6 weeks)

Flemish art, sometimes labeled Netherlandish art, was the premier art of the Northern Renaissance. It emerged in the wealthy towns of Flanders and Brabant, such as Bruges, Ghent, and Brussels. This was the richest part of Northern Europe during the medieval period. The Flemish rulers, clerics, and burghers resided in palaces, hospitals, and houses adorned with frescoes, statuary, paintings, and carpets. Churches, palaces, new monasteries, hospitals, and guild houses were built, all of which needed craftsmen and artists. The Burgundian Dukes had personal links to the ruling houses of European emperors, kings, popes, and aristocrats. Its merchants had ties all over Europe. We will study this culture and especially look at the work of Jan van Eyck, the first oil painter, and such luminaries as Hieronymus Bosch, Pieter Bruegel the Elder, and Peter Paul Rubens. There is an exhibition of Flemish Art called *Saints, Sinners, Lovers, and Fools: 300 years of Flemish Masterworks*, December 14, 2024, to May 4, 2025, at the Peabody Essex Museum, 161 Essex Street, Salem, MA.

Location: Dartmouth Council on Aging, 628 Dartmouth Street, Dartmouth. The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building behind the main building. **Facilitator: Gerard Koot**

Gerard is a long-time member of The Second Half. He was born in The Netherlands and lives in Dartmouth. He is an Emeritus Professor of History at UMass, Dartmouth, where he taught European history for 38 years.

2819 ADVANCED BEGINNER BRIDGE

9:30 - noon April 17, April 24, May 1, May 8, May 15, May 22, May 29, June 5 (8 weeks)

The class is limited to 16 players.

The class is for Beginner Bridge players who understand the basics: count; Major, Minor suits; no-trump bids; and play. The class will look at how to handle distribution hands, such as preempts. It will also teach high-count hands, such as 18–19-point hands, 2NT, and 2C bids. Additionally, it will showcase Blackwood, Gerber, and Roman Key Card, and when each can be used.

THURSDAY CLASSES

Facilitator: Caroline “Coco” Cooper

I have played bridge for a long time but stopped when career path and family were higher demands. Returning to bridge after retirement, I found that things had changed dramatically. I have adopted most of these changes but continue to learn, as bridge is a never-ending experience. I play both Social and Duplicate Bridge and have points of many colors.

2820 TRIVIA

Noon - 2:00 p.m. April 10, April 17, April 24 May 1, May 8, May 15 (6 weeks)

Are you tired of having all that trivial information in your head and no one to share it with? Are you afraid that someday your head might explode if that trivia has no place to go? The Second Half has heard you, and we are ready to provide a solution! Join our trivia class and realize all that pent up knowledge in a fun and painless way. Each week your Trivia Master will ask questions of participants taken from a variety of trivia games and sources. All you need is a pad of paper, a pen or pencil, and your fabulous brain! During the game we will also explore some of the more obscure trivia answers to fill your brain with even more useless information. A winner will be declared each week. So, if you know that Boston was the first United States city to have a subway, that Knute Rockne popularized the forward pass in football, or that when doing a tequila shot, the order is salt, tequila, lemon, this class is for you!

Warning: Some questions may require serious thought!

Location: Dartmouth Council on Aging, 628 Dartmouth Street, Dartmouth. The classroom is in the Bullard Wellness Building, which is behind the main building.

Facilitator/Trivia Master: Susan Richard

Sue is a retired English teacher and department head who spent 36 years working with high school students. Working with adults is a joy and a pleasure! She is also the President of the Governing Board of Your Theatre, Inc., and an avid theater patron. Although she has not

been active on stage for some time, she has directed and performed in community theatre.

2821 THE NINE SYMPHONIES OF BEETHOVEN, PART 3

2:30 - 4:30 p.m. March 13, March 20, March 27, April 3, April 10, April 17, April 24, May 1, May 8, May 15, May 29 (11 weeks)

Each class will include a DVD lecture, class discussion, listening to YouTube videos, and suggested listening.

Location: Online Zoom

Facilitator: Thom Sargent

Thom is the Emeritus Parish Music Director and Organist of St. Anthony of Padua Church in New Bedford. He retired as music director of Classical High School, Providence, RI, in 2000. His formal education includes degrees in Church music, music education, and choral conducting.

2822 The Way of the Breath: Mindfulness Meditation Practice in our Daily Lives

4:45 - 5:45 p.m. March 6, March 20, April 3, April 17, May 1, May 15 (6 weeks)

This six-week study group will offer strategies, guided meditation, and opportunities for discussion to help us become more adept at taming our internal dialogue. Four decades of research into this 2,500-year-old practice have shown it to be beneficial for many stress-related emotional and physical conditions. It is also helpful in nurturing an atmosphere of inquiry into our internal lives and our own relationships.

The class is limited to eight students.

Location: The class will meet entirely by telephone – no in-person class. Ken will contact each registered student with additional information and details.

Facilitator: Kenneth Pinter

Ken is a part-time psychotherapist who has studied and practiced mindfulness meditation for approximately 25 years. He currently maintains his own individual and weekly group practice.

FRIDAY CLASSES

2823 GREAT DECISIONS

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. March 14, March 21, March 28, April 4, April 11, April 18, April 25, May 2 (8 weeks)

Great Decisions is part of a nationwide, nonpartisan program of the Foreign Policy Association intended to broaden public involvement in foreign affairs.

Lead by librarian Carol Gafford, this program involves readings and meetings to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today.

Each year eight topics are chosen from the Briefing Book created by the Foreign Policy Institute. Become informed, engaged, and inspired.

Location: On-Line Zoom

Facilitator: *Carol Gafford*

Carol is the Youth Services/Outreach Librarian at the Swansea Public Library. In addition to her involvement with genealogy, she has done a series of outreach programs over the last ten years on many topics. Like many a librarian, she wears many hats. She ran the News Hounds Program at the library for several years, in which members read newspaper articles from local, state, regional, national, and world newspapers and discussed issues pertaining to current events.

2824 HISTORY OF PLAY

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. May 16, May 23, May 30, June 6, June 13, June 20 (6 weeks)

We all have childhood memories of toys that we loved. Learn the history behind the toys in this six-week class which will include dolls, teddy bears, board games and puzzles, miniature doll houses, model trains, kites, and more. In this class we will cover the history of toys and games, the creators, and the special place they hold in our hearts.

Location: Online Zoom

Facilitator: *Carol Gafford*

Carol Gafford is the Youth Services/Outreach Librarian at the Swansea Public Library and has been involved

with genealogy for over twenty years. Like many librarians, she wears several hats. Currently the President of the Bristol Historical and Preservation Society and other historical societies, and also a member of several genealogy groups, she is also involved in many community groups. She has a passion for books, history, photography and board games and puzzles.

2825 RESEARCHING AND WRITING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. July 11, July 18, July 25, August 1, August 8, August 15 (6 weeks)

In this class we will cover the basics of researching your family history and putting it in order to create a book. Starting with each person's genealogy, participants will learn how to find information and organize it. This class will teach the group how to place family members in the proper historical context, and blend fact with family history. We will put together biographies of relatives, create a timeline, read certain books as examples, talk about format options, and begin the story of You.

Location: Online Zoom

Facilitator: *Carol Gafford*

Carol Gafford is the Youth Services/Outreach Librarian at the Swansea Public Library and has been involved with genealogy for over twenty years. Like many librarians, she wears many hats. Besides running the Tuesday Club (a gathering of family historians) at the library, she is a member of the Mass Society of Genealogists (Bristol Chapter), Bristol Historical Society genealogy group, and the Rhode Island Genealogical Society. She continues to work on her own family history.

2826 MYSTERIES OF SCIENCE: MICROBIOLOGY 2

9:30 – 12:30 PM March 28, April 4, April 11, April 25, May 2, May 9 (6 weeks)
APRIL 4 – CLASS BEGINS AT 11:00 a.m.

FRIDAY CLASSES

This course is an independent follow up to Mysteries of Science: Microbiology 1. It can be taken independently of the first course and will focus on some wide-ranging matters that are often opaque or invisible, or that do not come up, except that they DO. We wonder about other species with whom we share this planet, unseen, but we know they are present and interacting with us (bacteria, viruses, etc.). Why are we constantly surprised by the next mysterious infectious diseases? Will we do better the next time? Can/will public health laws protect our municipalities, states, and regions? We will start with the world of bacteria.

Location: Lawler Library, 745 Rockdale Avenue, New Bedford

Facilitator: *James Griffin*

Jim has B.S, M.S., and Ph.D. degrees (infectious disease) and was a Chancellor Professor (medical laboratory science) for 42 years at UMass Dartmouth. He has also worked in health care policy for decades at the local, state, and national levels. In addition, he is the managing partner of Forensic DNA Associates, where he acts as an expert witness on cases before the court where DNA evidence is at issue.

2827 CASE STUDIES IN BIOETHICS

12:30 - 2:30 p.m. March 28, April 4, April 11, April 25, May 2, May 9 (6 weeks)
APRIL 4TH CLASS BEGINS AT 1:00PM

Aristotle supposedly said that only people over the age of 40 are capable of discussing ethics. This may be true in the light of bioethics where the ever-evolving path of biological sciences can cloud what we always thought was true. The course will cover six major theories used in bioethics: truth telling, autonomy, beneficence, natural law, utilitarianism, and justice. Then topics such as the right to die, scarce resources, and clinical trials will be considered. Votes will be held on topics that arise during the course or that you bring up.

Location: Lawler Library, 745 Rockdale Avenue, New Bedford

Facilitator: *Susan Leclair*

Susan has B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees (clinical hematology) and retired as a Chancellor Professor from UMass Dartmouth, where she taught hematology, genetics, bioethics, and a science course for non-science majors. She served four terms as Editor-In-Chief of the award-winning journal in her field, *Clinical Laboratory Science*. She is recognized internationally for her work in helping patients understand their various hematologic conditions.

2828 ONE HIT WONDERS AND “ALBUMS” THAT SHOULD HAVE MADE IT TO THE TOP 100

10:00 a.m. - noon March 21, March 28, April 4, April 11, April 18, April 25 (6 weeks)

Through his vast collection of music and knowledge, Gary Brown will introduce the class to secrets of why certain entertainers have had only one hit while others went on to become superstars. This will be a fun class as we listen to the hits of the past and what could have been hits for certain artists. Music from the 1950s, 60s, 70s, and beyond. He will also perform some of his own songs, which are no-hit wonders.

Facilitator: *Gary Brown*

Gary is a retired Superintendent of Schools and a local performing artist. He has been teaching the History of Rock “n” Roll for the past five years for The Second Half.



THE SECOND HALF LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2024-2025

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Members new to The Second Half: Please complete this form.

We would like to get to know you better and ask that you respond to the following questions.

This information will allow us to better plan classes, trips, and special events.

Name _____ Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

You will be contacted by email and by telephone if necessary if you do not have an email address.

How did you hear about The Second Half?

Age? Under 50 _____ 50-55 _____ 56-60 _____ 61-65 _____ 66-70 _____ 71-75 _____
76-80 _____ 81-85 _____ 86+ _____

Are you retired? _____ **Do you work part time?** _____

Please describe your hobbies, interests, and activities.

In what areas would you like us to offer classes, trips, special events?

Membership is \$50.00 per year, September 1, 2024 - August 31, 2025

Please make check payable to *The Second Half* and mail to

The Second Half

PO Box 9333

Fall River MA 02720

THE SECOND HALF LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

REGISTRATION FORM – SPRING 2025

Name _____ Home Phone _____

Street Address _____ Cell Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

Registration begins as soon as you receive this catalog.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

STUDY GROUP SELECTIONS

REGISTRATIONS ARE FIRST COME/FIRST SERVED. Registrations are processed in the order in which they are received.

Please use the number of the study group, not the name, to complete your registration.

(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ (4) _____ (5) _____

(6) _____ (7) _____ (8) _____ (9) _____ (10) _____

(11) _____ (12) _____ (13) _____ (14) _____ (15) _____

PAYMENT:

_____ **\$50.00** Membership dues **only if you did not pay dues in Fall 2024**

_____ **\$150.00** Tuition for up to two study groups

_____ **\$30.00** Tuition for additional study groups (\$30.00 per study group)

_____ I am a facilitator. My tuition is waived.

\$ _____ Donation

\$ _____ **TOTAL AMOUNT DUE**

Please make checks payable to *The Second Half* and mail to

**The Second Half
PO Box 9333
Fall River, MA 02720**

**The Second Half Lifelong Learning Institute, Day Trips
in Association with Fisher Bus Tours for 2025**

The Second Half has thirteen wonderful trips planned for 2025. Roberta has a printed description of the trips and the cost of each. Or you can contact Paulette Howarth for information. We hope to see you on one or more of the trips.

*You must let Paulette know which trip(s) you are interested in as the cost of trips varies.
Your Reservation is not confirmed until payment is received.*

*Please call: Paulette Howarth for your reservation: cell 508-642-0780 (do not email)
Make checks payable to: Paulette Howarth
Send payment to: Paulette Howarth, 13 Pleasant St., Assonet, MA 02702*

Day Tours: Cancellation Policy

2 weeks ahead of the trip full refund

3-6 days prior to the trip: 50% of the ticket price forfeited

2 days prior to the trip to the day of departure: no refund

Tours are based on a minimum of 30 participants.

Tours may be canceled subject to enrollment.

Please keep a record of your trips.

✂ **Return bottom portion only with payment for your reservations** ✂

Name _____

Address _____

e-mail _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Trip _____ Cost _____

Trip _____ Cost _____

Total: _____

The Second Half: Lifelong Learning Institute
PO Box 9333
Fall River, MA 02720

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