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Photos by Dan Feighery (Top) and Tom Simpson (Bottom) May 21 2015

**OLLI Players Action and Tai Chi Demonstration
at Fairfax Creative Aging Festival Events, May 21**

May 29, 2015

Editor of the Week: Pat Bangs

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Alerts & Notices

- *E-News* Vacation. Weekly publication of the *E-News* will resume on June 12.
- Check out special between-term events:

It's Not Just Reading the Announcements! (Liaison Training for People Who Think They Don't Need it.)
Mon, June 1, 12:00-1:00. Social Annex. (Special Event 1003BT)

Higher & Higher, Frank Sinatra's first film, Tue, June 2, 10:00-12:00, Tallwood.
(Special Event 1002BT)

When I Grow Up I Want to Be a Liaison! (A Liaison Open House for the Curious.)
Tue, June 2, 12:30-1:30,
Social Annex (TA-1 as back-up)

It's a Jolly *OLLIday* with Mary! Bring Your Grandchildren to See Mary Poppins.
Wed, July 29, 12:00-3:30. TA-1.

Register for [between-term events](#) through the member portal.

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Delegate David Bulova Visits Tallwood



By Martha Powers, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

On the afternoon of Wednesday, May 13, OLLI members welcomed Virginia Delegate David Bulova, who represents the House of Delegates' 37th District, where Tallwood and Mason are located. Many familiar faces greeted Delegate Bulova, as he presented an informative session, "Your State Government – Current Issues and How to Be an Effective Advocate for Your Community." After his presentation, he fielded numerous audience questions, and toured the grounds at Tallwood with Executive Director Jennifer Disano and Martha Powers, the class coordinator.



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Book Group to Discuss The Book Thief, View Film



By Ceda McGrew, Book Club Coordinator

The OLLI Book Club will meet Monday, June 8, 10:00 at Tallwood to discuss *The Book Thief* by Australian author Markus Zusak. Set in Nazi Germany, the novel tells the story of a young German girl living with foster parents in a suburb of Munich. In 2013 a movie based on the novel was released starring Canadian teen actress Sophie Nelisse. After the book discussion we will watch and then discuss the film. (This discussion was originally scheduled for January 14 which was a "snow day.")

OLLI Welcomes ABC TV's Brian van de Graaff



By Stephanie Trachtenberg, Course Co-ordinator

Brian van de Graaff will be giving a special presentation on Wed. June 24th at 9:40 a.m. He will show us a behind-the-scenes look at his day working at WJLA TV. This includes weather forecasting, map making, makeup and more. He will discuss many topics like how Superstorm Sandy changed the way the US meteorologists make weather predictions looking at European models which were correct; winter weather; and severe weather like derechos in the Metro area. Register now for this special event! Class F814



Lemons into Lemonade – the Story of Originating OLLI Member Audrey Markham



By Alice Slayton Clark, OLLI Communications Associate/Registrar

When it comes to perseverance, Audrey Markham wrote the book. Widowed three times, Audrey has dedicated her life to public service and to turning personal heartbreak into a crusade for social good.

Audrey was born, raised and educated in Chicago, where she met and married first husband Matt Snite, a successful businessman. The couple moved to Grand Rapids, where she found her niche organizing activities for members of the Women's Club of Grand Rapids. She was eventually hired by Aquinas College as the director of special programs because of her event and programming expertise.

Just as the couple had settled into their Michigan life, Matt died in a tragic

plane crash while flying over Lake Erie on a business trip. Devastated and alone, Audrey soon learned that support systems were limited for widows grappling emotionally, financially and legally after the death of a spouse. This would eventually become the focus for much of her volunteer work.

Volunteer interests soon brought her to Washington, DC where Audrey eventually married attorney Donald Markham. She now had breathing room to heed the call as an activist and facilitator for fellow widowed persons. She established the "Widowed Person Service of Northern Virginia," a group that provides counseling, comfort and support to grieving spouses. In particular, she worked closely with county agencies and government officials to identify people in need of help.

Audrey became involved with OLLI when Katherine Brooks called the Widowed Persons Service in the early 1990s to ask for an affiliation. These were the founding days of OLLI. Audrey not only served on the OLLI Board of Directors, but eventually became the vice president in charge of programs, a natural fit. She remembers in great detail the people and issues involved in establishing OLLI, including extensive lobbying efforts to secure an affiliation with Mason. She has stacks of early newsletters, membership directories, letters and catalogs that she values as reminders of her early days at OLLI.

A sharp and active nonagenarian, Audrey has relinquished the leadership reins, but still enjoys classes at OLLI, particularly the investment forum. She has outlived Donald and third husband Roland Sullivan, fueling her dedication to her Widowed Persons Services. Toward that end, she continues to work hard to maintain the synergies between OLLI and the Widowed Persons Services, bringing new members, instructors and programs to OLLI designed to give comfort and support to grieving spouses. Thank you, Audrey, for your longstanding service and sacrifice to those in need!

Audrey is in the center of the first row in this 1991 photo of founding OLLI members.



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Ask Uncle Olli



By Uncle Olli, Driver Safety Consultant

Uncle Olli has lived in Northern Virginia most of his lifetime, and has encountered every traffic problem. But sometimes the little problems seem so trivial you are embarrassed to admit them. Easy. Ask Uncle Olli at ollinewseeditor@gmail.com. He is embarrassed by nothing!

IS THE 10-2 HANDS POSITION ON THE STEERING WHEEL DANGEROUS BECAUSE OF AIR BAGS?

We all probably learned to drive with the "hands at 10 and 2" position. This is no longer safe because it places your arms in front of the driver-side air bag. If the bag goes off it will break your arm and your arm will break your nose. The recommended position was changed to "9 and 3" but most steering wheels make that difficult because the wheel's middle is usually a wide solid bar. These days the recommended position is "8 and 4" – great in theory but it does seem unnatural and getting used to it is difficult. However, it is worth learning and training yourself to turn the steering wheel underhanded, which keeps your arms away from the air bag. As a compromise, you can usually hook your thumbs into the horizontal bar and achieve "9 and 3" status that way. Just

avoid getting your arms in front of that air bag!

Poet's Corner

Courtesy of the Poetry Workshop

November 1971

Sunday morning fall blew me awake in the sensuous dying darkness,
sensing the breezy fullness of lace,
an ethereal ballet in a bare sunflecked room.

A window portrait of rusted plains,
unravels to amorphous and cryptic shores,
distant beyond my most voluptuous dreams.

Dawn must struggle in autumn, it seems, to climb above the horizon,
yet I heard it luminate the moan of willows,
letting wayward winds of the north slip through their fingers.

Can you feel my chill hissing through the cracks in your loneliness?
Come join me as I mischievously rustle a young girl's dress,
putting a blush on her freckled cheek.
She fastens a top button,
and a summer foolishness dies too suddenly.

The dying leaf-towers sway in rhythmic trance against steel-blue electric skies.
Bombarded by an urgent synthesis of mottled mosaic – more than any human
can bear –
I explode along sinuous graydust roads and valleys of dead waters.

My naked breast is tied to the sparkling bow of Ulysses' ship,
clapping and plunging the salty spray waves of tumultuous swirling seas.

Surging as the spire of a medieval cathedral,
I can almost touch the burnt-out half moon
dying in the west.

Madly downcast, sullenly indifferent to the peevish honks of those
whose dreams
lie deserted and dying
in ghostlit shopping aisles at midnight.

Clandestine dreams and proud conceits, precious and guarded forever,
by those maundering nowhere along predestined and delusory byways,
as I did then.

--dave ryan

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Arts & Music at George Mason



Performances, next two weeks

By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer

For tickets for either CFA or Hylton, 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 [ticket purchase page](#).

At the Fairfax Campus Venues

American Youth Philharmonic Orchestra: *Young Virtuosi*

Sun, Jun 7, 3:00

Concert Hall

Admission: Adults, \$20; seniors, \$10.

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At the Hylton Center

2nd Annual Juried Art Show

May 17 - Jun 28
 Buchanan Partners Art Gallery
 Buchanan Partners Art Gallery is open to the public Tue-Sat, 10:00 - 6:00, Thu, 10:00 - 8:00 and two hours before performances. Gallery Reception: Thu,, Jun 11, 6:00 - 8:00. RSVP to Hylton@gmu.edu. Admission: Free.

Shakespeare Opera Theatre: *Much Ado About Nothing*

Fri, May 29, 10:30
 Sat, May 30, 8:00
 Sun, May 31, 3:00
 Gregory Family Theater
 Admission: Adults, \$45; seniors, \$30.

Shakespeare Opera Theatre: *Beatrice and Benedict*

Fri, May 29, 8:00
 Sun, May 31, 8:00
 Gregory Family Theater
 Admission: Adults, \$45; seniors, \$30.
 Combination tickets to both shows: Adults, \$75; seniors, \$50.

Manassas Chorale: *Spring Concert*

Sat, May 30, 7:30
 Merchant Hall
 Admission: \$20, \$18.

Boyle School of Irish Dance: *Spring Concert*

Sun, May 31, 6:00
 Merchant Hall
 Admission: \$12.

Gainesville Ballet: *Spring Performance*

Sat, Jun 6, 6:30
 Merchant Hall
 Admission: Adults, \$25; seniors, \$20.

Dance Etc. School of the Arts: *34th Spring Concert*

Sat, Jun 13, 7:00
 Sun, Jun 14, 2:00
 Merchant Hall
 Admission: \$20.

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

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Meetings & Clubs

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office, with direct web links added when available. The list is accurate as of mid-week but to check anytime for the latest information, please view the latest forecast of upcoming 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, Kickoff Coffees, etc. (bolded below).*

Mon Jun 1	10:00am 10:00am 10:00am	What's in the Daily News-TA-1 Bridge Club-TA-3 Mah Jongg Club-TA-2
Tue Jun 2	9:30am 10:00am	Cottage Art-Cottage Knitting and Needlework Club-Panera, Herndon
Wed Jun 3	10:00am 1:45pm	Humanities and Science Planning Group-TA-3 Special Events Committee-Annex
Fri Jun 5	10:00am 10:00am	Craft and Conversation-Cottage 25 th Anniversary Committee-Ta-1
Sat Jun 6	10:30am	Tai Chi Club-TA-3
Mon Jun 8	10:00am 10:00am 10:00am	What's in the Daily News-TA-1 Bridge Club-TA-3 Book Club-TA-2
Tue Jun 9	9:30am 10:00am 10:00am	Cottage Art-Cottage Science, Technology and Health Program Committee-Annex Knitting and Needlework Club-Panera, Herndon
Fri Jun 12		

10:00am	Craft and Conversation-Cottage
11:00am	Homer, etc-Annex
12:00pm	Murder Mystery Group-TA-1

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