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*Diversions Chair Marilyn Harriman Hosts a "Picnic in the Park" at Tallwood, September 5*

## September 12, 2025

**Editor of the Week: John Nash**

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### Alerts & Notices

- Fall-term registration is under way and continues throughout the term.
- *Note:* The first class of course 654F/654Z Black Jews: Who are They and Where Do They Come From? has been changed from September 23 to September 30.
- The next issue of OLLI E-News will be published Friday, September 26; the regular deadline for submission of items is Tuesday, September 23, at 6:00.

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### OLLI President's Message September 12

*By Deborah Engleson, President*

This isn't my normal President's Message but a request for some help. Do you have some large, empty boxes—preferably square—that you could part with? We are cleaning out a closet in the cottage at Tallwood and need boxes.

Please contact Debbie Engleson (330-573-6366, or [denglesonb@verizon.net](mailto:denglesonb@verizon.net)) and I will arrange for pickup. Thank you!

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### From the Desk of the Executive Director

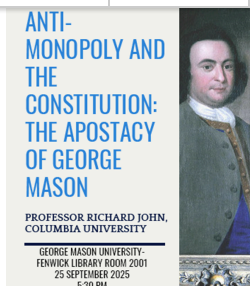


*By Lisa Mariam, Executive Director*

There are so many terrific opportunities to learn and enjoy at Mason, and many of them are free. Please note the upcoming lecture about George Mason's views on anti-monopoly and the Constitution. It will be held at Mason's Fenwick Library, Room 2001, September 25, at 5:30, and presented by Columbia University Professor Richard John.

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## OLLI Kick-Off Coffee on Thursday, September 18



*By Toni Acton, Member Services Chair*

Join your friends and new members at the **Kick-Off Coffee** at Tallwood on September 18. Meet our new executive director, hear from our Board president, and learn more about what is happening at OLLI this fall.

You also can attend the committee and club fair before and after the presentation to learn about all the activities other than classes that are available to OLLI members. And of course, there's always the wonderful food provided by the Diversions Committee.

We hope to see you on September 18! Please register on line or contact the Registrar at [ollireg@gmu.edu](mailto:ollireg@gmu.edu) or 703-544-0085 for Special Event 1203F.

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## Six OLLI Members Score Awards at Game Day Bash



*By Marilyn Harriman, Diversions Chair*

On Tuesday, September 2, 22 OLLI members gathered in TA-1 to play a variety of board games, including Wordspiel, Taboo, Yahztee, and Hexaquest. Six winners took home trophies and neck ribbons. Tony Harriman and Ann Smith took first and second place, earning the most points after playing five games. Four gamers tied for fourth place. Everyone agreed it was a fun way to engage our brains. As we concentrated on each game, we practiced critical thinking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills. And we had fun enjoying one another's company. More than

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By popular demand, a winter Game Day event has been scheduled for February 24, from 10:00 to 1:00 in TA-1 at Tallwood. If you enjoy board games and want to beat the winter blues, be sure to mark it on your calendar. Registration details will be in the winter catalog under "Special Events."

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## An Evening with Ken Burns: Film Preview



*Shannon Morrow, Lead Program Associate*

**Save the Date: October 29.** At this free event, you will hear from author and documentary-maker Ken Burns to get an early look at his new six-part PBS documentary that explores the country's founding struggle and its eight-year War for Independence.



You will watch an exclusive preview in front of George Washington's mansion on the historic bowling green at Mount Vernon.



Tickets will be available starting on September 24.

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## Information for the Team Bloch Wednesday Afternoon Conversation on September 17



*By Brenda Bloch-Young and Doris Bloch, Co-Moderators*

Every other Wednesday (soon to be rescheduled to the first and third Wednesdays of each

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the selected topic. We are very open to discourse and to new voices in any of our conversations. Please feel free to join in.

We will hold the next session on Wednesday, September 17 at 4:00, and the zoom link is always found in the OLLI daily-schedule email (Hint: it is the same link as the 24/7 chat line [here](#)).

This week's Conversation's topic: "What foreign culture do you feel most comfortable with? Or with what regional American culture do you identify most closely?" This might be reflected in your favorite foods, your favorite music, your holidays, or even your reading matter. Some of us were raised in the south and retain that connection, while others are west coasters or New Yorkers. Some of us came from an Asian culture and are often partial to one of those specific cuisines. Certain members might be bilingual and maintain a second language in their homes. Diversity makes our community stronger, we believe, and we love to hear about your special background(s).

Drop in to share or just listen in. New participants are always welcome, and no advanced preparation is needed.

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## Computer Club

**3rd Saturday, September 20**  
**Fall Luncheon**  
**Test Driving Linux**



By [Paul Howard](#), OPCUG Program Chair

The Computer Club (OLLI Personal Computer User Group, or OPCUG) will meet with its partner, the Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society (PATACS), on Saturday, September 20, in person and via Zoom. The Zoom session opens at 1:45. Our Fall Luncheon will begin at 12:30 and conclude at 1:35. Reservations for the lunch must be submitted by noon on September 15 via the form link below: <https://forms.gle/a4gHN62sxvKgYbCd9>.

### Test Driving Linux—Presented by John Krout

This presentation is aimed at Windows 10 users whose computers cannot be upgraded to Windows 11, as well as any Windows user who is open to alternatives to Windows. This presentation will show that Linux Mint with the Cinnamon presentation system closely resembles the look and feel of Windows. It will outline some of the popular apps that can be used in Linux Mint, including Web browsers, Zoom, LibreOffice, VLC, and others.

This presentation also describes two closely related activities. First, it shows how to download a Linux Mint ISO file, how to download the Rufus for Windows application, and how to use Rufus to install the Linux Mint ISO file on a USB external storage device. Second, it shows how a Windows

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Test-driving Linux from a USB external drive leaves Windows intact on the computer internal storage. Windows can be used any time the USB external drive is not connected. If you elect to install Linux on your drive C, the flash drive Linux can do that for you.

John Krout is a frequent presenter at our meetings on a wide range of computer, technology, and photography topics

See full details on this meeting by [clicking here](#). For information on the Computer Club, see the OPCUG Website. OPCUG dues are \$5 and are now due for 2025 (and 2024, if you didn't get around to paying earlier!)—see <http://olligmu.org/opcug/comm.html> for details on making payment.

To attend via Zoom's cloud meeting service, beginning at 12:45, please click [https://olligmu-org.zoom.us/j/88388435350?pwd=hfaEFO7vfkyhVspokJXKnzpia7uTO\\_h.1](https://olligmu-org.zoom.us/j/88388435350?pwd=hfaEFO7vfkyhVspokJXKnzpia7uTO_h.1) to join the meeting and use passcode 804997 (Note: enter passcode with NO spaces) or enter meeting ID 883 8843 5350 in the Zoom app and use the above passcode (preferred method), or dial in at 301-715-8592.

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when I think of love  
 I think of you  
 all my beautiful moments  
 all my lonely times  
 as if before I met you  
 you shared them with me  
 our spirits joined in time  
 made to love the other

when I think of you  
 all of me  
 everything I was  
 and am  
 and will be  
 says love

—Margie Wildblood

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## A New Season of Mason Music



**By Linda H. Harber, Friends of Music at Mason President**

What's happening in the Mason Music World? The opening concert of the new season—the Grand Piano Celebration—is coming on Sunday, September 21, at 3:00 at Mason's Center for the Arts. It is always an incredible concert with faculty and students. Relax and enjoy the talented musicians.

Afterwards, we will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Friends of Music at Mason (FOMM). Started 20 years ago by Alice Heyer, our fun group of friends enjoys music, and love meeting and supporting the talented students, faculty, and staff of the Dewberry Family School of Music. We provide music scholarships and Snack Attacks during finals times. We schedule Meet the Students events so our supporters can meet and interact with Mason music students. We are starting a 20th FOMM anniversary scholarship fund.

FOMM members also know how to have fun. If you attended our March Mardi Gras, you saw the musical fun in action. On October 18, we will have a FOMM Oktoberfest—so mark your calendar for that event also.

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Arts Lobby after the September 21 concert. Alice Heyer will be joining us for some other special surprises.

We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, September 21 at 3:00!

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## Arts & Music at George Mason

Performances September 12 through September 28



**By Shelly Gersten, OLLI E-News Staff Writer**

For tickets for either Center for the Arts Concert Hall (CFA) or Hylton Center, call 1-888-945-2468. You can also 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 Center ticket purchase page](#).

Dr. Linda Apple Monson produces a periodic "Notes from the Director." This email is full of information on interesting online performances by the students and faculty of the School of Music. If you would like to receive these bulletins, just sign up at [this link](#) to stay in touch. Also, the Center for the Arts has a website, [Mason Arts at Home](#), which has a calendar of online events and access to many past performances.

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### At the Fairfax Campus Venues

(25-26 Season subscriptions to Great Performances now on sale)

#### Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel: *Beethoven—The Young Genius*

Sun, Sep 14, 7:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$60, \$52, \$38.

#### Special Event – *ARTS by George! An Evening with Darren Criss*

Sat, Sep 27, 8:30

Concert Hall

Admission: \$106, \$81, \$55 for performance only.

For information on the entire evening of ARTS by George! Go to [artsbygeorge.gmu.edu](https://artsbygeorge.gmu.edu).

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**Mason Student and Faculty Performances**(see [music.gmu.edu](https://music.gmu.edu) for additional student recitals)**George Mason School of Theater: *The Originals! 2025***

Fri, Sep 12, 7:30

Sat, Sep 13, 2:00 and 7:30

deLaski Performing Arts Building, A105, TheaterSpace

Admission: \$14.

**Grand Piano Celebration 2025**

Sun, Sep 21, 3:00

Concert Hall

Admission: \$24 Adult, \$15 senior.

[Back to Top of Page](#)**At the Hylton Center (Manassas Campus)****Arts Alive! 2025**

Sun, Sep 14, 12:00

Hylton Performing Arts Center

Admission: Free.

**ARTfactory's Actor's Theatre: *Little Shop of Horrors***

Fri, Sep 19, 7:30

Sat, Sep 20, 7:30

Sun, Sep 21, 2:00

Fri, Sep 26, 7:30

Sat, Sep 27, 7:30

Sun, Sep 28, 2:00

Gregory Family Theater

Admission: \$35 Adult, \$30 senior.

**KC Dance Center: *Kollywood Night 2025***

Sat, Sep 20, 5:30

Merchant Hall

Admission: \$55, \$35.

Jeremy Jordan in Concert

Sun, Sep 21, 7:00

Merchant Hall

Admission: \$81, \$65, \$55.

**Jeremy Jordan in Concert**[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

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Admission: \$81, \$65, \$55.

**Old Bridge Chamber Orchestra: *Halloween Favorites***

Sat, Sep 27, 8:00

Merchant Hall

Admission: \$30 Adult, \$27 senior.

[Back to Top of Page](#)For further details on any of the above events, see the [CFA event calendar](#) and the [Hylton Center event calendar](#).[Back to Top of Page](#)

**You can't help getting older,  
but you don't have to get old!**  
- George Burns

## Meetings & Clubs

**Please note:** OLLI Meetings and Clubs may currently take place in several formats: some are in person only, some are online only, and some are hybrid, meaning that they take place in person and are accessible online simultaneously. OLLI events and activities meeting online bear the identification "Z" in their course or event number (except clubs; you may need to check the [OLLI calendar](#) and daily schedule email for location and other event information).

The following list covering the next two weeks is extracted for your convenience from the master online calendar maintained by the office. The list is accurate as of mid-week. *Note: All OLLI members are welcome at, and encouraged to attend, meetings of the Board of Directors, committees and resource groups, kick-off coffees, etc., **bolded below**. The OLLI office has sent (or will send) emails with links and meeting passwords to club members; you may also log in at the [member portal](#) and click on ZOOM CLASS LINKS.*

Sat Sep 13	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online
Mon Sep 15	9:30 am	What's in the Daily News? – online
	11:00 am	Poetry Writing Club – online

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	2:00 pm 4:30 pm	Caregivers Support Group – online Tai Chi Club – online		
Wed Sep 17	9:30 am 10:00 10:30 am 12:00 noon 4:00 pm	Dabbling Artists Club Bridge Club Investment Forum Memoir and More Writing Group – online Spanish Club – online		
Thu Sep 18	11:50 am 4:30 pm	All the News – online Tai Chi Club – online		
Fri Sep 19	9:30 am 10:00 am 11:00 am	Crafts and Conversation <b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> Homer, etc. – online		
Sat Sep 20	10:30 am 12:30 pm 1:45 pm	Tai Chi Club – online Personal Computer User Group luncheon Personal Computer User Group meeting		
Mon Sep 22	4:00 pm	Family History/Genealogy Club – online		
Tue Sep 23	2:00 pm 4:00 pm 4:30 pm	Caregivers Support Group – online Mah Jongg Club – online Tai Chi Club – online		
Wed Sep 24	12:00 noon 12:00 noon 1:30 pm 1:30 pm 1:30 pm 4:00 pm	Memoir and More Writing Group – online Chair Yoga and More– online Board Game Club Bridge Club Dabbling Artists Club Theater Lovers’ Group – online		
Thu Sep 25	11:50 am 4:00 pm 4:30 pm	All the News – online Literary Fiction Book Club – online Tai Chi Club – online		
Fri Sep 26	9:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 12:00 noon 2:00 pm	Photography Club Crafts and Conversation Homer, etc. – online Chair Yoga and More– online Classic Literature Club – online		
Sat Sep 27	10:30 am	Tai Chi Club – online		

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## About OLLI E-News

OLLI E-News was created by Rod Zumbro, who served as its editor from 2005 to 2013.

### Editorial Staff

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Weekly Editor Team: David Gundry, John Nash, Paul Van Hemel  
Proofreaders: Rebecca Jann, Susan Van Hemel, Thomas Appich, Martha Kossoff, Anne Hartshorn, Bonnie Becker, Carol McManus

**Submissions:** Members are encouraged to submit letters to the editor, letters to Ms. Ollie Ettakit (on etiquette matters), OLLI-related news items, articles, and photos. Submit material to: [ollienewseditor@gmail.com](mailto:ollienewseditor@gmail.com).  
**Deadline:** Tuesday, 6:00, for that week's issue (Monday, 6:00, for letters to the editor); early submissions are greatly appreciated. Please limit articles to about 250 words.  
**Note:** You can view past issues of *OLLI E-News* on the DocStore. To search the content of issues, use Search Our Site or put your search term in Google followed by "site:olli.gmu.edu/" without the quotes.

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