Your LLI New Horizons Band will have its Spring concert next week on **Tuesday evening, May 6** at 7:00 in Anthony Seeger Hall (to the right of the Forbes Center). The band has a lot of new music to play and hope you can come out and enjoy the evening with us. Thank you for your continuing support!

**May 13** LLI will be displaying their information board at the Sentara RMH Senior Advantage Fair on May 13, 8am - 12 noon at the First Church of the Nazarene, 1871 Boyers Rd. And at Sunnyside Health Fair on **May 28**, 1:30-3:30

**May 30** Annual LLI picnic - details on page 5. Either print out the page or tear it out from the hard copy newsletter and mail your payment and meal selection by May 20th!

**June 5** Ed Venture - Grandma Moses' Footsteps in the Shenandoah Valley

**June 17** Silver Screen magic! Old-Time Movie with Live Music -- Original Brown Bag Lunch, rescheduled from April, now in the renovated Ice House with Adair McConnell at the keyboard!

**June 26** Ed Venture - Heartflame Garden and Radical Roots Organic Farm
I first came to know T. J. in his “From Allah to Oil” class in March-April 2013. He gave so generously of his gifts. Often striding the aisle, T. J. regaled us with his energetic teaching style and his in-depth knowledge of the Middle East. We were on the alert from the beginning, ready to soak in what this young scholar had to offer. It was immediately apparent that he was a natural teacher with a remarkable grasp of the subject, articulate and thoroughly prepared.

Raised in New Jersey in a family of teachers, T.J. was the oldest of three sons. He attended the College of William and Mary, majoring in history and government. It was during his undergraduate years there that he “fell in love with the history of the Middle East, especially Ottoman history.” Inspired by his professors, one of whom was a leading scholar from Syria, T. J. spent a summer in Syria, studying under the auspices of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations.

Then on to Harvard for his combined masters and doctoral degrees, where he studied Middle Eastern Languages and history. Along the way, his wife earned her MFA in creative writing at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. They were married after knowing each other since high school in New Jersey.

His first academic position was at Rice University in Houston, Texas. In the fall of 2010 he began a tenure-track position as an assistant professor in the Department of History at James Madison University. This past summer, their daughter Evie was born and they became first time home-owners, in Staunton. They also have a four year old son named Theo. Even though they prefer big city living, they are content here in the Valley with their growing family.

When he’s not in class, T. J. is working on a book manuscript, Law and Empire: The Ottoman Conquest of the Arab World, and a few articles. His primary research interests lie in classical Ottoman history during the 15th and 16th centuries, with a special focus on Islamic law and how it influenced Ottoman empire building. He also studies literacy and urban history in this period.

T. J. enjoys teaching his LLI courses because he “likes dealing with richly curious and intellectually engaged” adults. He claims that we are well educated, widely traveled, and have had life experiences that he can relate to. He considers us, his LLI students, as “opinion leaders” in our communities, since we are able to extend his outreach through teaching.

As a departure from his Middle Eastern offerings, this past spring T.J. taught a “great books” style survey of a handful of classics in world literature, with a non-Western slant. Whatever the topic, T.J. is passionate and diligent about teaching it. He has established a reputation as one of our popular LLI instructors, especially when it concerns more substantive subject matter.

Written by Rosemarie Palmer
Brown Bag lunches are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, from 11:30 AM - 12:45 at Gilkerson Activity Center, Westover Park, 305 S Dogwood Drive, and are open to the public as a way to get to know LLI. There is no registration required, nor any fee. Bring your lunch! Come and enjoy fun and fellowship while having the opportunity to enhance your knowledge. For further information, call 540-568-2923 or send an email to lli@jmu.edu

**Be a friend, bring a friend!**

**May 6 - Definitions of Art**
Jerry Coulter will discuss various definitions of art and why they change over time. Jerry is an emeritus professor of art at James Madison University, and is an active, full-time artist.

**May 20 - Rite/Riot of Spring**
May 1913, Igor Stravinsky debuted his ballet *The Rite of Spring*. Though it is one of Stravinsky's most famous works, his creation was first met with harsh criticism, negative reviews, and yes - a riot. We will watch a PBS DVD made in the 1980's, learning both background of the production and its faithfulness to the settings, costumes, and music of the original performance. Adair McConnell will elaborate in entertaining detail as we see the show in almost exactly the same way as the rioting audience of 1913. There will NOT be a food-fight!

**June 3 - Rethinking the US Peace Corps - Better Late Than Never!**
Volunteers of all ages have a lot to bring to the Peace Corps, and that may be especially true of those approaching or already in retirement. Two such seasoned volunteers retrace their steps through the application process, orientation, actual volunteer work...then talk about the different paths they followed as they readjusted to life at home. Tim and Nancy Hulings were ready for a change so why not apply to the Peace Corps? They left their jobs and began a two and a half year adventure in Romania. Today they are back on their small farm where they grow wine grapes and raise horses.

**June 17 - Silver Screen magic! Old-Time Movie with Live Music**
We will watch a silent black and white movie from the mid 1920's and munch popcorn YOU bring, beverages will be provided. There will be introductory comments about the music and musicians who pioneered this genre. Adair McConnell will improvise music “just like the old days.” NOTE: Rescheduled time and place - The Ice house, 127 West Bruce Street, Room 117

**LLL will be displaying their information board** at the Sentara RMH Senior Advantage Fair on May 13, 8am -12noon at the First Church of the Nazarene, 1871 Boyers Rd. and at Sunnyside Health Fair on May 28, 1:30-3:30. If you would like to volunteer to help “man” the display, please call the office at 568-2923.

**June 6, 9 am - 3:30 p.m. There is still space available in the Paint 4 Fun class June 6, 9am-3:30 p.m.**

**Ed Venture - June 5: Grandma Moses' Footsteps in the Shenandoah Valley, 9:00 to 3:30 p.m. $50.00 fee payable 5-19.** The Department of Historic Resources and Augusta County will be unveiling an historic marker about Grandma Moses that day at the Government Center and the group will be part of that ceremony. There will also be a guided tour of the Mt. Crawford Creamery.

**Ed Venture - June 26 - Heartflame Garden and Radical Roots Organic Farm - $22.00 10:00-2:00 p.m.**
Ten Days in Florence: An Insider’s Tour  December 13-23, 2014

You are invited to join an “Insider’s Tour of Florence” with Dr. Robert Bersson, James Madison University Professor Emeritus of Art and Art History. Bob’s relationship with Florence has been long and rich and he is excited to transport you into a Florentine insider experience that spans the city’s history, from the Etruscans and Romans through the Medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque periods to the present. As an undergraduate student at Brandeis University, he participated in the Syracuse University Semester in Florence Program and lived with two Italian families, one on the mountainside near ancient Fiesole and the other in the heart of the downtown, right across from the Academy of Fine Arts and Michelangelo’s David. As a professor, he twice led students on JMU’s Semester in Florence Program. Most recently, Bob spent a month in the city (11/23/13 to 12/23/13), three weeks of which were spent in an Italian immersion experience with a JMU host family.

With his art historical background, love of Florence, and passion for education, Bob is an ideal leader for your insider tour of this extraordinary city, the birthplace of the Renaissance, opera, and much more. The time of your visit, during the holiday season, is likewise special. Weather should be temperate (warmer than Virginia), tourist numbers relatively low, and the city festive and beautifully decked out in Christmas lights and decorations. Holiday season concerts, ballet performances, open-air fairs and shopping opportunities will be in abundance.

Each morning, Bob will lead a half-day tour to major churches, palaces, museums, galleries, and gardens, all expenses paid. The masterworks of Michelangelo, Botticelli, Brunelleschi, Donatello, Giotto, and many others will surround you. For the remainder of the day, he will offer or suggest optional activities in your special areas of interest, from shopping and dining to concerts and performances to trips outside the city.

Hotel Scaletta, charming, three-star, and family-owned, will be our home base. It is remarkably well located in the center of the city near the Arno River and famous Ponte Vecchio (Old Bridge). Your lodging costs are included in your $1,750 fee, to be paid to James Madison University. Flight arrangements, food and dining costs will be paid for separately by each person and should bring the total expenditure into the $3500 to $4000 range, a price and value that cannot be beat. Professor Bersson will be happy to answer questions or offer suggestions at any point.

Book early because this trip, with its 12-person maximum, will fill up quickly. May 31st is the deadline for payments to the JMU Office of International Programs. For further information, contact Bob Bersson at RDBersson@gmail.com or 540-282-9951.
It’s A Picnic, So Bring on the Band!

Join LLI for an old fashioned summer picnic and an end of season celebration. 
Music provided by LLI’s own New Horizons Band. 
Bring a lawn chair, if so desired, for the music.

Location: Bridgewater’s Oakdale Park, Mt. Crawford Ave. - Pavilion #3. In case of stormy weather - Arey Assembly Hall, Bridgewater Town Hall (ground floor), 201 Green St. 
We will not cancel.

Date: May 30    Time: 5 - 7 p.m.
Cost $16.00 per person.  Reservations ESSENTIAL. Cancellation Policy: No refunds after May 22
Food prepared by Scrumptious Suppers.
Choice of main course, please choose ONE when reserving your space.
Member  Member/Guest:

☐ Pasta Italiano; roasted vegetables, Portobello mushrooms, and cheese with a fresh herb sauce, served chilled  
OR
☐ Chicken penne pasta with artichoke sauce, served chilled

Sides for all:
Herbed spring mix house salad with ranch dressing  
Contessa’s five bean salad with mustard sauce  
Fresh fruit with a honey mint yogurt glaze  
Rolls and butter  
Lemonade, iced tea, and water
Dessert: Wedges of watermelon and a brownie or a cupcake - homemade by the Social Committee!

Don’t be left out! Reserve by May 20!
Cancellation Policy: No refunds after May 22, 2:00pm.

Check #_______________________________
Name(s) ________________________________________________
Phone #_________________________

OR PAY BY CREDIT CARD: A $2 processing fee will be added to Total
Card Number___________________________ Expiration Date_________________________ Mail to: Lifelong Learning Institute, 601 University Blvd., MSC 9006, Harrisonburg, VA 22807
Our costumed guides (Ellen Kaylor and Rebecca Hooke Chalam) beginning the Port Republic walking tour in front of Port Republic Museum.

Dale MacAllister discussing Old Salem Church restoration in Singers Glen.
Our Guide, Betty Karol Wilson, on New Market walking tour

Stained glass windows at The Museum of The Civil War in New Market
The plaque on the wall reads as follows:
1877
These gates are erected in memory of the officers and members of The Woodbine Society, who gave generously of their time and means to beautify this cemetery, where they now rest from their labors.
1915

Tombstone of Mammy Sally, a slave who died in 1858

A trip to Woodbine Cemetery, from the “Remembering Place” class, photos by Rosemarie Palmer

David Ehrenpreis, class instructor
Recommendations for changes to LLI Advisory Board 2014-2015

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Greg Coffman</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>President Elect</td>
<td>Linda Bradley</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Betty Kitzmann</td>
<td>2017</td>
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<td>Curriculum Committee</td>
<td>Jayne Rynar</td>
<td>2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member at Large</td>
<td>Paul Graham</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member at Large</td>
<td>Archie Turner</td>
<td>2017</td>
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Presented by Nominations Committee:
- Brad Chewning - Chair
- Barbara Kahler
- Betty Kitzmann
- Bob Bloomquist
- Nancy Owens – Ex-Officio

Remaining Members
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<td>Membership</td>
<td>Bill Ney</td>
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<td>Nominations</td>
<td>Brad Chewning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>Sandra Conrad</td>
<td>2016</td>
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<td>Finance &amp; Administration</td>
<td>Stu Liss</td>
<td>2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publicity</td>
<td>Eric Rynar</td>
<td>2015</td>
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Newsletter Committee Members: Betty Hoskins, Chair
Chris Edwards, Nancy Endress, Rosemarie Palmer
Nancy Owens, ad hoc