Melissa Maybury Lubin  
Associate Vice Provost, Outreach & Engagement

I came to James Madison University from Virginia Tech, where I was the director of the university’s Commonwealth Campus Centers in Richmond, Newport News and Virginia Beach. In this role, I was responsible for engaging the community with the university’s graduate, professional development, and lifelong learning programs. In addition to managing a portfolio of continuing education programming, I created, customized and facilitated a series of human development programming for organizations in the private and public sector. I am a credentialed coach and currently serve as the President for the International Coach Federation, Virginia Chapter. Prior to Virginia Tech, I held leadership positions at the Institute for Professional Development, This End Up Furniture Company and Circuit City Stores, Inc. and was an instructor in the Marketing Department for Radford University.

I earned a Ph.D. in Adult Learning and Human Resource Development from Virginia Tech, a Master in Business Administration from Georgia Southern University and a Bachelor of General Studies from Armstrong State College. I am a “practitioner-scholar” who infuses an entrepreneurial spirit to my work in the academy. I recently moved to the beautiful Shenandoah Valley with my husband, Neil, our 13 year old son, DC, and our animals (two Siamese cats and a border collie). I am the associate vice provost for Outreach & Engagement, at James Madison University. In this role, I oversee a broad and deep portfolio, including the Adult Degree Program, K-12 youth experiences, off-campus and online graduate degree and certificate programs, non-credit professional development programming, the Lifelong Learning Institute and the Madison Institutes. I serve as a champion for Community Engagement at JMU and together with my talented colleagues strive to support the university’s vision to be the national model for the engaged university. My dissertation topic includes research on lifelong and lifewide learning where I articulate how learning is a personal experience that continues to evolve throughout one’s lifetime. I am passionate about learning beyond the degree, empowering individuals to expand their own body of knowledge throughout adulthood to positively impact the well-being of our society.

As an adult and lifelong learner, I am thrilled to have an opportunity to build upon the success of JMU’s Lifelong Learning Institute. I am passionate about engaging communities—both within JMU and externally—to refine and shape LLI’s future.
The Silver Tsunami, The Age Wave, The Graying of America. No matter what the catchy title, the bottom line remains the same: the older adult population is growing, and quickly. The baby boomers, the cohort born post WWII, began turning 65 in 2011. It is estimated that 10,000 boomers will turn 65 every day for the next 18 years. By 2029, more than 20 percent of the total U.S. population will be over the age of 65.

What do these statistics mean on a national, state, and local level? What do these statistics mean to the baby boomer, the governing body of a community, the local business owner, or the provider that serves the older adult population? These statistics mean that the time is now. The time is now to listen, take note, and respond.

The Elder Alliance and JMU Social Work Program will present The State of the Older Adult: The Time is Now. This forum will introduce, educate, and motivate members of the Harrisonburg and Rockingham County communities (Shenandoah Valley) on the issues of aging facing our nation, state, and community. The objectives of the forum are as follows:

* To use existing data from key sources to identify trends and statistics at the national, state, and local levels.
* To provide a launching point that will propel stakeholders towards addressing key issues impacting older adults and an aging community.
* To provide a public forum with stakeholders
* To provide opportunity for older adults to identify local resources

Join fellow community leaders and members in understanding the impact of the "the age wave" on a personal, professional, and community level, and why the time is now to plan, prepare, and respond. This is a forum to examine discuss and engage community stakeholders on our preparedness for a growing aging community.
Happy anniversary, Lifelong Learning Institute!

Engaging and enriching the local community for 20 years  

BY ROB TUCKER

Interested in Mediterranean cooking? The mystery of Virginia’s volcanoes? Meteorology? Big foot? JMU’s Lifelong Learning Institute can serve up a little something to satisfy your curiosity.

LLI, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in August 2016, provides intellectual, cultural and social experiences to enrich the lives of adults in the community and the central Shenandoah Valley. LLI offers a broad portfolio of classes at nominal cost and a series of brown-bag lunch lectures that are free and open to the public. The institute also features numerous travel opportunities, which this year include walking tours of Harrisonburg’s Museum of American Jewelry Design and Manufacturing, walking downtown Staunton, a bus tour to Montpelier, a trio of Smithsonian museums, and a 12 day trip to Ireland and Scotland.

“There’s tons of research that define the benefits of keeping the mind and body active, especially in older adults who may not have the structure of a full-time job,” said Nancy Owens, LLI director since 1998. “We are a community of learners, and those learners are also leaders in the community and in LLI.”

It’s easy to be “busy” when retired, but it is more important to be challenged and fulfilled, said member Deane Geier. “At LLI, we can be physically active, artistically involved or socially aware. And, there is never a lack of friendly and interesting teachers and students to meet, day trips and social occasions to attend. I don’t understand why everyone isn’t coming!”

The institute takes community engagement a step further by welcoming newcomers to the area with classes like “The Community around Us” or “Mennonites in the Valley,” about the contributions of the Mennonite community.

This fall, two classes spotlight the community. “The Many Voices of Harrisonburg” will use the power of personal narrative to highlight the lives of those who have immigrated to Harrisonburg-Rockingham County from around the world. Also, “Your Public Servants Speak Out” creates a great opportunity to hear from various city and county representatives about the services they provide to taxpayers.

LLI began with 98 members taking four courses in the fall of 1996. It grew to 530 members and total class registration of 1,336 this past academic year. The institute also offers about 30 classes and eight to ten Brown Bag lunches per semester.

“I’ve taught a number of classes for LLI since coming to JMU in 2010, and it always has been a deeply rewarding experience,” said JMU history professor Timothy Fitzgerald. “Rarely do I learn so much from my students as I do in these classes. Whether we’re discussing the current crisis in Syria or analyzing the Epic of Gilgamesh, LLI students are prepared and eager to dive in. Moreover, they’re well educated, well traveled and engaged in their communities. Their stories and perspectives, drawn from so much life experience, enrich every meeting. And their continued zeal for learning inspires me as a teacher!”

LLI has been headquartered in the Ice House on West Bruce Street in Harrisonburg since 2014, when it joined the Office of Outreach and Engagement. The Ice house location provides convenient community access to comfortable meeting space and well equipped classrooms.

“My world has gotten bigger and brighter through LLI participation” said member Anna Rose Geary. “LLI will be a very important part of my life always.”
Celebrate the Season with LLI
Come Enjoy Friends, Food and Entertainment
Tuesday, December 13, 2016
5:30pm - 8:00 pm
JMU Festival Ballroom
RSVP by December 5th, 2016
$20 per person

Dinner and Program
Cocktails and Conversation (cash bar)
Served Dinner
Spinach Salad with Chopped Pears, Walnuts, Feta Cheese and a
Champagne Vinaigrette
Duet Entree of Grilled Salmon over Wild Rice and Grilled Bistro Beef Tenders
served with Mixed Seasonal Vegetables
Dessert
Vegetarian Option - Cheese Filled Pesto Tortellini in a Garlic Spinach Sauce
tossed with tomatoes & Parmesan Cheese
Entertainment
Jimmy Overton, Singer-Guitarist
Register online at www.jmu.edu/lli – Or
Mail or bring this form with payment to
JMU-LLI
MSC 9006
127 West Bruce St.
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
3rd floor Room 338

Name: ____________________________________________

Address:____________________________________________

Phone:___________________________ Email:__________________________

Number attending:_____________

Guest Name:_________________________________

Number of Vegetarian meals:____

$20.00 per person Total:___________ Check #_______

Credit card: Visa, Master Card, Discover ($5.00 convenience fee
will be added)
Card Number___________________ Expiration Date:_________________

Mark your calendar; a reminder notice will be sent in mid-November!
Welcome to new members!


Calling all Travelers!

Have you been on a trip that you would like to share? This newsletter would like to include your trip notes and photos in our upcoming issues. This does not have to be an LLI-sponsored trip, nor a Road Scholar trip. How do you go about planning your trip? Do you use airbnb for making reservations? Do you like guided tours (what provider?), or do you prefer striking out on your own? What’s your favorite guidebook? Any tips for packing, or “must have” items to include? Are you influenced by Trip Adviser reviews? Please email your “Trip News” to Rosemarie Palmer at shenrose129@gmail.com

What may be a record crowd for an LLI season preview was our August 10 Fall promotion, held this time at JMU’s Festival Conference and Student Center. The more than 200 Lifelong Learners and interested guests who filled the center’s ballroom learned about the 29 courses in the session now under way, plus trips, “brown-bag” free presentations, common-interest groups and volunteer opportunities. Meanwhile, we helped ourselves from the center’s ample refreshment tables, compared notes on our summer’s doings and enjoyed a jazz performance by the local ensemble, Marlon Foster & Friends. The center’s foyer provided instructors and members with art work ample space to set up displays and chat with prospective participants. The event was a highlight in LLI’s year-long 20th-anniversary celebration. Chris Edwards
B session open classes, October 18 - November 18, 2016

Tuesday 9:30 - 11:30  Music in Eden: A Survey of Cuban Music (American National University)

Tuesday 1:30-3:30  Eat Like a God or Goddess - Part 2 (Trinity Presbyterian Church)

Wednesday  9:30-11:30  New Testament Epistles (Ice House)

Wednesday 1:30-3:30  Agritouring: Finding the Sources of Our Food (American National University)

Wednesday 1:30-3:30  The Many Voices of Harrisonburg (Islamic Center of Shenandoah Valley)

Thursday 9:30-11:30  Happy 100th! The National Parks and the American People (Sunnyside)

Thursday 1:30-3:30  Be Yourself: Journey to Wholeness, Guided by C.G. Jung (American National)

Thursday 1:30-3:30  A Taste of Torah: Nibbling the Hidden Gems (Beth El Congregation)

Friday 1:30-3:30  Why Study Genealogy? (Ice House)

Coach Tour available: Art in the District - October 20 registration deadline


Brown Bag Lunches

Are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, from 12:00 noon to 1:15 at The Ice House, 127 West Bruce Street, Harrisonburg, VA 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. PLEASE NOTE: Parking is available, without parking passes, in the JMU Lot across from the Ice House during Brown Bag Lunches.

October 18


November 11

In Search of Bigfoot - Jerry Hopkins speaker

November 15

Fair Trade and You? Making an impact Across the Globe - Staff of Ten Thousand Villages

LLI Newsletter Committee:
Betty Hoskins, Chair  Chris Edwards, Nancy Endress, Rosemarie Palmer, Nancy Owens ad Hoc
Report on an LLI Special interest Group: The Valley Ukulele Players

Started about two years ago by Dianne Hartley, Sandy Cryder, and Rosemarie Palmer, this informal musical group of “uke” players now has 17 members...with a core of about 12 regulars. They come from varied backgrounds, but most are retirees in the area, who along the way have acquired a ukulele and seek others to play and sing with. There are no age restrictions nor fees.

We meet once a week, on Wednesday’s at 10am to rehearse in Maple Terrace at the Bridgewater Retirement Community. We have gained in popularity, responding to a continuous stream of invitations to play for events from “First Friday’s” in downtown Harrisonburg to the Cancer Center at RMH. Sandy Cryder, a retired vocal music professor from JMU, is our leader. She leads our rehearsals and jams, arranges some music, and prepares repertoires for our performances that range from “St. Patrick’s Day” to Christmas to Western medleys to 1920’s favorites. Hometown Music reports that the ukulele is the most popular instrument sold at music stores nowadays. It is reasonably priced and has only four strings, so it is easy to learn how to play. Uke types vary as soprano, tenor, concert, baritone, and bass...Dianne also plays a hybrid type called a “banjolele”. In addition, you will need a tuner. Amplifiers and picks are other optional accessories. Studies have shown that playing a musical instrument is beneficial to the brain, and singing along as we do adds to the fun.

Our music is sourced from “The Daily Ukulele, 365 Songs for Better Living” - compiled and arranged by Liz and Jim Beloff; we also have the “Leap Year Edition”.

We all sing-along as we play and we encourage audience participation during our performances. Blue Ridge Community College offers ukulele lessons and there are ukulele lessons online. If you are curious and want to learn how to play, we invite you to join in our weekly sessions in Bridgewater. All of us are still learning. We are continually adding new chords to our own repertoires as we go.

If interested, contact Rosemarie Palmer (shenrose129@gmail.com)