RAP Membership
A twelve month RAP membership is $25 and is renewable on your membership anniversary. You can register for the membership and RAP classes online at www.mchenry.edu/rap. You need a valid membership to enroll in RAP classes. For more information, please call (815) 455-8559.

Fee: $25 (one year)

Archaeology of Northern Illinois
Enjoy an overview of the archaeology of northern Illinois from a cultural resource management perspective. You’ll see examples of archaeological material and learn information about several known sites, general geology, and excavations in McHenry, Winnebago, Kane, and Cook counties.

Fee: $12
# 4537 T 4/4 1–2:30 p.m. Remote
Steven Katz

Walking the Beat: A Virtual Visit to the National Law Enforcement Museum
The National Law Enforcement Museum tells the story of American Law Enforcement to honor the officers serving our communities, bridge the gap between citizens and law enforcement, and to remember those officers who made the ultimate sacrifice. Located in Washington, DC’s Judiciary Square neighborhood, the National Law Enforcement Museum welcomes visitors to explore artifacts from a collection of over 25,000 objects and engaging, immersive exhibits. Join us for a virtual tour of the National Law Enforcement Museum where you will be led through some of the highlights of the museum’s exhibits and hear some of the riveting stories that are told every day in the museum.

Fee: $10
# 5604 W 4/5 1–2 p.m. Remote
# 5605 W 4/26 1–2 p.m. Remote
# 5606 W 6/7 1–2 p.m. Remote
# 5607 W 6/28 1–2 p.m. Remote
Anna Muckenfuss

Exploring Coin Collecting, Medallions, and More
Coins and currency hold a rich history, making collecting a rewarding hobby. Explore numismatics, which is the study or collection of currency, including coins, tokens, paper money, medals, and related objects. This class will introduce the basics of coin collecting and promote interest in history, geography, and culture. Discover which coins and currency are collectible and learn a variety of helpful tips for storage, proper handling, grading, value, and pricing. Students can present coins in class for discussion.

Fee: $29
John Kent
# 5653 Th 4/6–4/20 6–8 p.m. Remote
# 5699 Th 5/4–5/18 6–8 p.m. A, MCC
The USS Midway Story
How did the USS Midway Museum become the 5th most popular museum in the United States? Discover the “secret sauce” that draws nearly 1.4 million visitors from around the world, why Midway has become one of San Diego’s most valued community resources, and is also America’s emerging living symbol of freedom.
Fee: $10
CDR Dick Walker USN (Ret.)
# 5659 T 4/11 1–2 p.m. Remote

The Battle of Coral Sea
During WW II, The Battle of Coral Sea took place on May 4 - 8, 1942. It was the “Battle of the Titans” where America stopped the advance of Japan in the Pacific. The American Naval Intelligence Unit Operation Hypo in Pearl Harbor gave Admiral Nimitz his secret weapon by breaking the Naval and diplomatic code of Japan. Admiral Nimitz had advance information on the Japanese plan to capture Port Moresby, New Guinea, which would have extended Japan’s empire. For the first time in history, a naval battle was fought between aircraft carriers, and all battle damage to the enemy was delivered by aircraft carrier planes, dive bombers, and torpedo bombers. This is a story of a daring, perilous, high-stakes gamble by Admiral Nimitz to attack the Japanese navy who had the most powerful, lethal navy in the world. There was no certain victory for the US Navy, and this is their amazing story.
Fee: $10
CDR Dick Walker USN (Ret.)
# 5660 W 5/3 1–2 p.m. Remote

Chaplains at Sea
What do Navy chaplains do at sea and what were their activities on the USS Midway? This talk, given by a retired chaplain, who will enlighten you about the daily life and duties of a US Navy chaplain.
Fee: $10
CDR Dick Walker USN (Ret.)
# 5661 Th 5/18 1–2 p.m. Remote

The Battle of Midway 1942: How America Won the Pacific War
The U.S. Navy had no business winning the Battle of Midway in 1942. The Americans were outgunned and outmanned following the devastating attack at Pearl Harbor. Yet codebreaking, daring leadership, and extraordinary heroism led to the most remarkable victory in U.S. Navy history. It also became the turning point in the Pacific during World War II, and the inspiration behind naming the USS Midway three years later.
Fee: $10
CDR Dick Walker USN (Ret.)
# 5662 T 6/6 1–2 p.m. Remote

Apollo 11: Objectives and Achievements of the First Manned Lunar Landing
Using engaging photos and diagrams, this presentation will offer a discussion of the background, the crew, the major phases of flight, and operational details of the historic Apollo 11 mission to the moon. We’ll also explore the components of the mighty Saturn V rocket, the command and service module, and the lunar module.
Fee: $10
Greg Brown
# 5544 Th 4/13 1–2 p.m. Remote

Apollo 11 & 12: Challenges of Landing Apollo 11 on the Moon and Objectives and Achievements
Apollo 12 - the First Precision Moon Landing
Most people familiar with the Apollo 11 mission are aware that Armstrong and Aldrin faced some challenges in trying to perform that first lunar landing. In the first part of this class, those challenges will be addressed in detail, hopefully leading to a better understanding, not only of the dedication and skill of the two astronauts, but also of the brilliant support network composed of designers and engineers they relied upon back on Earth, all of which was necessary to make that historic event possible. In the second part, you’ll learn about, how following Apollo 11’s first landing demonstration, NASA leadership wished to perform a precision landing to take advantage of the limited time available for extra-vehicular activity, both for experiments and lunar sampling. This presentation discusses Apollo 12’s objectives, crew, and operational details. This includes landing a mere 500 feet from a spacecraft which had landed 2½ years before and how they investigated its condition.
Fee: $10
Greg Brown
# 5545 Th 5/11 1–2:15 p.m. Remote
Apollo 13: NASA's Finest Hour
By the time Apollo 13 lifted off in April 1970, the American public had lost interest in the lunar landings; it was all so “routine.” But midway to the moon, an accident occurred onboard the spacecraft which served as a reality check. The crew faced more than just an aborted moon landing—they faced the real possibility that they would not return home alive. For several days they, and a worried team of specialists on the ground, relied upon their ingenuity and determination to surmount the challenges. We’ll discuss the objectives, crew, technical difficulties, and solutions that enabled the successful return of the Apollo 13 crew to Earth.

Fee: $10
Greg Brown
# 5546  Th  6/8   1–2 p.m.  Remote

RAP Hike: Rush Creek
Rush Creek Conservation Area is 726 acres of upland forest, oak, and hickory woodlands, wetlands, and sedge meadows. Within the woodlands, you can find a variety of trees, including shagbark hickory, aspen, black walnut, basswood, black cherry trees, and red, white, and bur oaks. The strong branches on these trees provide favorable nesting places for larger birds such as red-tailed hawks and great horned owls, while the hollows and holes in the trees provide habitats for smaller wildlife like woodpeckers, screech owls, and flying squirrels. Coyote, deer, raccoons, groundhogs, grey squirrels and opossums also live here. The seasonal wetlands provide crucial habitats for salamanders, Blanding’s turtles, American toads, and chorus frogs during the spring and early summer months. Several species of wildflowers scatter the forest floor, including May apples, shooting stars, violets, and trillium. Other wildflowers in the prairie and wet meadow include sunflowers, yellow coneflowers, aster, wild geranium, cardinal flowers, and marsh marigolds. Join the experts from the McHenry County Conservation District for a fun, informative hike through the beauty of Rush Creek. The address is: 20501 McGuire Road, Harvard, IL.

Fee: $5
Nate Szkil
# 5378  F  4/14  10–11:30 a.m.

iPad: Easy to Learn
This is a fun and informative iPad class! We’ll explore the practical uses of your iPad and how to use the features. You’ll learn how to navigate, use apps, work with email, take pictures, go online, and more, as time permits. Not for Android tablet users.

Fee: $55
Michael Wilson
# 5139  Sa  4/15–4/29  10–11 a.m.  Remote

The Oklahoma City Bombing
On April 19, 1995 at 9:02 a.m., an orchestrated truck bomb would hit the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, killing 168 people, including 19 children, and injuring hundreds more. The attack, organized by Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, would cause over $652 million in damage to buildings, cars, and property within a 16-mile radius of the origin. Historical presenter Michelle Gibbons will discuss the Oklahoma City Bombing and events that took place before, during, and after the attack. She’ll also share how the site of the attack was made into a reverent national memorial, forever changing Oklahoma and the nation’s history.

Fee: $12
Michelle Gibbons
# 5636  W  4/19  1–2:30 p.m.  A, MCC

Becoming Roy Orbison
Roy Orbison was a musical giant who composed hundreds of songs, created a unique musical style, and developed an uncanny vocal talent. He hailed from an area in Texas that produced a phenomenal number of musical greats such as Buddy Holly, Waylon Jennings, in addition to Roy. This program of slide images, musical performance, and narrative explores the music that influenced Roy’s parents and his generation as well as the music that Roy performed during the years before he became an international celebrity. Enjoy hearing our presenter, Ron Holm, perform the first song that Roy learned when he was six years old, “You Are My Sunshine” all the way through to his first international hit, “Only the Lonely”.

Fee: $12
Ron Holm
# 5393  Th  4/20  1–2:30 p.m.  A, MCC

Easy Level Paint Night - Cherry Blossom Paris
Join Julie as she walks you through the step by step process of painting. During this fun paint night, there are no mistakes—just great art! Bring a snack and drink to fuel your creative process. Take home your masterpiece and amaze your friends and family!

Fee: $25
Julie Kukreja
# 5651  F  4/21  4–6 p.m.  A, MCC

Queen Elizabeth II
In this new historical portrayal, historian Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., explores the life of Britain’s famous monarch, from her childhood, the abdication of her uncle, her marriage to a navy officer named Philip, her World War II service, and her struggle to balance her roles as queen and mother. Get to know the woman behind the images, her sense of humor and savvy intelligence with which she met her demanding obligations.

Fee: $12
Leslie Goddard
# 4538  F  4/21  1–2 p.m.  Remote

To register, visit www.mchenry.edu/rap or call (815) 455-8588
Declutter and Organize Your Home
Whether you are downsizing or just want to simplify, get the tools and resources you need to declutter like a pro! Learn the best ways to organize your items and gain a resource list for consigning, donating, and recycling what you no longer need.

Fee: $25
# 5654  Sa  4/22  10 a.m.–Noon  A, MCC

Catherine Feltz

Las Vegas and the Mob
Mobsters didn’t start Las Vegas, but they helped develop the city into what it is today. Discover who was there before the Mob, why the Mob came to Las Vegas, and how they controlled its major casinos for decades. Casino memorabilia and other historical objects transport participants back to the Las Vegas of yesteryear, when mobsters like Bugsy Siegel, Moe Dalitz, and Frank Rosenthal ruled the casino floor. This program will be presented by an educator at The Mob Museum. This non-profit museum in Las Vegas, NV, has a mission to advance the public understanding of organized crime’s history and impact on American society. There will be Q & A following the presentation.

Fee: $12
# 4539  T  4/25  10–11:15 a.m.  Remote

Gillian Lewis

Signaling the Civil War
The use of the telegraph in the American Civil War allowed the President, to have near real-time communications with his commanders. Visual signaling allowed for rapid communication across the battlefield. Both were easily intercepted by the enemy, forcing both the Union and Confederacy to rely on encryption methods to protect their secret messages. Learn about America’s first dedicated military cryptologic efforts and the role they played in the Civil War.

Fee: $10
# 4540  T  4/25  1–2:30 p.m.  Remote

Jennifer Wilcox

The Incredible Sun
Every second, the Sun emits million of times more energy than the world consumes every year. Where does such a huge amount of power come from? Discover our star through breathtaking timelapses. Thanks to the real images taken by the Solar Dynamics Observatory and processed by advanced mathematical methods, you will experience the true nature of the Sun and find out that it is far from being as calm as it seems at first glance. The Sun’s activity—pronounced by terrific solar flares, sunspots, and coronal mass ejections—influences our planet by producing impressive auroras, but also by damaging distribution networks and communication satellites. Is it a threat to us, then? This presentation will include solar telescope views of the sun, if weather conditions permit. Trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyzorTSoxvU

Fee: $5
# 5400  F  4/28  1–2 p.m.  F, MCC

Paul Hamill

The Mutiny On The Bounty and the Incredible Open Boat Voyage That Followed
On April 28, 1789, William Bligh and 18 of his supporters were cast adrift in an overcrowded small boat with little chance of survival. It took the men 48 days to make the 4,170-mile journey to Timor in harrowing conditions—but it is now considered one of the greatest feats of survival and endurance in modern history. What happened to the mutineers after they case Bligh and his men adrift? Where did they go; what did they do? You will be surprised by the revelations in this story. This class is presented by Gillian Lewis a speaker from the Australian National Maritime Museum.

Fee: $12
# 5395  M  5/1  2–3 p.m.  Remote

Gillian Lewis

Chicago: From Muddy Marsh to Metropolis
Learn how Chicago evolved, because of its connection to the waterways. The presentation will include institutional history of the Chicago Maritime Museum as well as an overview of the focus areas and collection.

Fee: $5
# 5455  T  5/2  1–2 p.m.  Remote

Dylan Hoffmann

To register, visit www.mchenry.edu/rap or call (815) 455-8588
Marie Antoinette
Marie Antoinette travels through time to meet you in this dramatization of the book: Marie Antoinette—The Journey by Antonia Fraser. Dramatist Martina Mathisen will reveal the truth behind this misunderstood queen, from a teen bride enveloped in pure opulence to the most hated woman in France. What really happened to her? Shall she live or shall she die? This time, you will decide her fate! This is a character portrayal and takes place at Clarendale of Algonquin, 2001 W Algonquin Rd, Algonquin.
Fee: $10
Martina Mathisen
# 5394     Th     5/4     1–2:30 p.m.     Clarendale of Algonquin

Singing Bird and the Importance of Native American Women in Illinois History
Dressed in her native regalia, Kim will explain the history of the natives in Illinois with a focus on native women, or what was considered “The Hidden Half.” Her primary focus will be on women such as Singing Bird (Blackhawk’s wife) and Hononegah. Kim will take you into their day-to-day lives, including courting, marriage, and child-rearing. She’ll also talk about women’s roles in their husbands’ lives, and how those lives impacted the history of Illinois. Attendees will have a chance to learn some of the native language, learn about and get to play the drums, and view native items that women would have used in their daily lives.
Fee: $12
Kim Sigafus
# 5552     M     5/8     10–11:30 a.m.     A, MCC

Flint Water Crisis: What Actually Happened?
Water contaminated with lead recently created a public health emergency for the residents of Flint, Michigan. Throughout the crisis, the media reported on what they believed to be the cause. But what actually happened? Hear from Harry Harman, national award-winning professional engineer and technical director for Potable Water Design, about what caused the crisis, how it could have been prevented, and what should be done to avoid similar situations in the future.
Fee: $12
Harry Harman
# 5702     T     5/9     1–3 p.m.     A, MCC

The Roy Orbison Legacy
Roy Orbison was a musical giant who composed hundreds of songs, created a unique musical style, and developed an uncanny vocal talent. He influenced many generations of musicians, from Patsy Cline, to the Beatles, to Cyndi Lauper. Roy’s friend, Elvis Presley, described him as the world’s greatest singer. In addition to singing and playing Roy’s music with remarkable fidelity, Ron will interject stories of Roy’s life and times, and of great musicians whom he influenced.
Fee: $12
Ron Holm
# 5608     W     5/10     1–3 p.m.     A, MCC

Iceland: Land of Fire, Ice, and Natural Beauty
A unique country of the far north latitudes, Iceland is a rare jewel. It’s filled with so much natural beauty, including spectacular waterfalls, glaciers, rocky coastlines and cliffs, basalt rock formations, fjords, and so much ice! In contrast to the snow and ice, it’s also a country rich in geothermal features. From spouting geysers and fumaroles to bubbling hot springs, learn more about how geothermal energy is widely used in Iceland. The topography is varied, and has everything from rolling hills to spiked mountains, active volcanoes, and an incredible area where two tectonic plates meet. Horses and small churches dot the landscape, but few trees do the same. It’s a land of sometimes stark beauty that captures your heart as you’re drawn to its sweeping land and seascapes, colorful boats in each harbor, and equally colorful lighthouses to guide those vessels to safety. Local foods, both hearty and delicious, are based on the catch from the sea as well as farms that are seen throughout the country. Come along for a journey to this amazing place. Follow the path around the Ring Road and explore the peninsulas of this gem of a country.
Fee: $12
Elizabeth Trummel
# 5637     M     5/15     1–2:30 p.m.     Remote
Talking in Code
The Navajo Code Talkers are famous for using their language to protect U.S. Marine Corps radio messages during World War II. But they weren’t the only, or even the first, Native Americans to do so. Learn how the U.S. military took advantage of the unique languages of Native Americans to secure voice communications in both world wars.

Fee: $10

Jennifer Wilcox
# 5457 T 5/16 1–2:30 p.m. Remote

Navigating Word for Authors
Join Amazon best-selling author and self-publishing consultant Roxanne Boersma to learn a variety of effective Word shortcuts. You don’t need to be an expert in Microsoft Word to use it as an author—but there are many helpful (and sometimes hidden!) functions that can make writing in Word much easier and more productive. You’ll also learn how to properly format your manuscript for self-publishing so it is compatible with online self-publishing platforms such as Amazon. This class takes place in a computer lab, so you will receive hands-on instruction as you practice what you learn. You’ll also receive handouts with tips and tricks to take home for your reference.

Fee: $19

Roxanne Boersma
# 5695 W 5/17 1–3 p.m. A, MCC
# 5696 W 5/24 6–8 p.m. A, MCC

Easy Level Paint Night - Piggy
Join Julie as she walks you through the step-by-step process of painting. During this fun paint night, there are no mistakes—just great art! Bring a snack and drink to fuel your creative process. Take home your masterpiece and amaze your friends and family!

Fee: $25

Julie Kukreja
# 5652 F 5/19 4–6 p.m. A, MCC

Steganography: Hidden in History
People have sought ways to keep their messages hidden from unintended readers for millennia. Learn the different techniques—from invisible ink to modern computer coding—and how they were used throughout history.

Fee: $10

Jennifer Wilcox
# 4541 T 5/23 1–2:30 p.m. Remote

What We Know About Cryonics
Learn about the history, current application, and future of freezing living cells in the process of cryogenics. We’ll explore the science behind cryogenic storage, examine what experiments have been done to freeze cells and then resuscitate them, and even consider cryogenic storage for humans who want to be brought back to life after they die. Participants will be encouraged to discuss the social and moral implications associated with cryogenics.

Fee: $12

Suzanne Rauch
# 5456 T 5/23 10–11:30 a.m. Remote

Artemis: Returning to the Moon
In the next few years, NASA will land the first woman and first person of color on the Moon, exploring more of the lunar surface than ever before. The goal of Artemis is to establish the first long-term human presence on the Moon and, later, send the first astronauts to Mars. We’ll discuss the future plans and technologies that will get us back to the Moon for the first time since 1972.

Fee: $12

Michelle Nichols-Yehling
# 5548 M 6/5 1–2 p.m. Remote

Korean Culture and Lotus Flower Lantern Workshop
Join the Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project (KSCPP) for a night of cultural discovery by creating your own lotus flower lantern while learning about the Korean culture. All materials will be provided. The class will be held in-person with a facilitator and a representative from the KSCPP connecting virtually. It will include a short documentary film about the Korean culture and step-by-step instruction on how to create your own lantern.

Fee: $12

# 5609 T 6/6 6–8 p.m. A, MCC
RAP Hike: Silver Creek

The landscape view of Silver Creek Conservation Area highlights a mixture of native grasses and colorful wildflowers, including compass plants, coneflowers, and many species of asters. The woodlands and savannas feature grand oak and hickory trees that invite a wide variety of songbirds, hawks, and owls to fly among the branches while deer, coyote, and an occasional red fox travel below. Sedge meadows and fens located along Silver Creek provide habitats for saturated soil-loving plants such as marsh marigolds and skunk cabbage, as well as several species of frogs, salamanders, snakes, and turtles. The prairie, savanna, and wetlands allow for ample bird-watching opportunities. Watch for year-round residents such as Northern Cardinals, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, and Black-capped Chickadees as well as Eastern Bluebirds, Meadowlarks, Sandhill Cranes, Great Blue Herons, and an occasional Bald Eagle. Join the experts from the McHenry County Conservation District for a hike through Silver Creek. The entrance is located at 1009 Rawson Bridge Road, Cary, IL.

Fee: $5
# 5379 F 6/9 10–11:30 a.m.

The Golden Age of Manufacturing in Chicagoland: 1872-1972

In its prime, Chicagoland mass-produced more appliances, bicycles, candy, clothing, furniture, pianos, pinball machines, radios, railroad cars, sporting goods, telephones, televisions, typewriters, tools, toys, tractors, and watches than anywhere else on the planet. Come celebrate and explore Chicagoland's proud industrial history and many of its famous companies such as Bell & Howell, International Harvester, Pullman, Schwinn, Stewart Warner, Sunbeam, Western Electric, and Zenith.

Fee: $12
# 5551 T 6/13 10–11:30 a.m. Remote

Hollywood Art Collectors and their Collections

When you’re a movie star, where do you put your money? Some of the biggest stars of cinema's golden age put it into art and have amassed impressive collections. Some actors have even taken up painting themselves. Join us for a nostalgic and sometimes surprising look at a not-so-well-known dimension of some of our favorite actors.

Fee: $12
# 5638 W 6/14 7–9 p.m. Remote

Flying High: Betty the Pan Am Stewardess

Fasten your uniform buttons and get ready to travel back to the golden age of air travel. In the 1960s, when jets were new, the stewardess was an all-American fantasy: hostess, nurse, cook, therapist, and even sex symbol. In this historical portrayal, historian Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., takes you on an exciting, true story about the real-life stewardesses for Pan Am, the most glamorous U.S. airline. Learn about serving the rich and famous; the strict height, weight, and age requirements; cooking gourmet meals; and enduring some wild rides. Buckle up—this is one flight you won’t forget! Inspired by the books Up in the Air by Betty Riegel (2020) and Come Fly the World by Julia Cooke (2021).

Fee: $12
# 5550 Th 6/22 1–2 p.m. Remote

John F. Kennedy in Berlin: A Momentous Trip!

This year marks the 60th anniversary of JFK's historic visit to Berlin. For almost 45 years, the German metropolis—which was divided by a 98-mile long concrete wall—was synonymous with the Cold War in Europe. Join German historian Anette Isaacs for an insightful look back to this special day, June 26, 1963, that was so tremendous it inspired JFK to turn to his aide, Ted Sorensen, and say: “We’ll never have another day like this one, as long as we live.”

Fee: $10
# 5549 M 6/26 1–2 p.m. Remote

Walking on Water Through Venice

This Zoom session will be a live-streamed walking tour of Venice (also known as Venezia, Serenissima, City of Water, City of Masks, or The Floating City). No matter what you call her, she is simply mesmerizing. Discover why Venice is one of the most unique destinations on Earth! Meet your guide in Saint Mark's Square, in the heart of Venice. Learn the history of this part of Northern Italy and its unique geographical structure, as we walk above the waterways to take in the impressive structures such as Doge’s Palaces, the Clock Tower, the Bridge of Sighs, and of course the Rialto Bridge. Along our stroll above the canals, we will view the iconic Gondolas as they effortlessly maneuver their way through the water ways. Venice has played an instrumental part in art and culture both in Italy and worldwide through its celebration of mask-making for Carnival as well as the exquisite Murano glass. Our tour of Venice would not be complete without viewing the mouth-watering snacks that Venetians have perfected, also known as cicchetti (local finger foods). Andiamo!

Fee: $12
# 5639 W 6/28 Noon Remote