

» RETIRED ADULT PROGRAM

The following classes are offered through in-person or remote (Zoom) instruction. Registered participants will receive location or access information by email within 24-hours before a class begins. The Retired Adult Program is for individuals age 55 and better who are active, inquisitive, and have a genuine desire to continue learning. For updated class offerings or to register, visit www.mchenry.edu/rap or call (815) 455-8588.

ART AND CRAFTS

Needle Felted Pumpkin

Spruce up your fall home decor by creating your own needle felted pumpkin. You will learn the basics of needle felting by using wool and a felting needle to create your pumpkin. All supplies included.

Fee: \$30

Rebecca Berry

[6776](#) Th 10/5 6–8 p.m.

A, MCC



Coasters Acrylic Painting

Create a set of beautiful coasters with artist Patty Berry, owner of Pouring It Forward. Patty will teach you how to mix the right acrylic paint, prep your project, then apply the paint for a beautiful effect. The fun begins the moment the paint hits your project. You'll leave your coasters to dry until the second class. Please bring a shirt box larger than 11x14 to transport your coasters home safely. All class supplies are included except for the box. Let's have some fun and be creative! This is a two-day class.

Fee: \$49

Patricia Berry

[6692](#) M 10/16 6–8 p.m.
M 10/30 6–6:30 p.m.

A, MCC
A, MCC

Watercolor for Beginners

Have you thought about trying watercolor painting, but are not sure how to begin? Or maybe you've tried but would like some tips to make painting easier? Then this class is for you! We will send out a supply list before the start of class.

Fee: \$59

Efrain Gonzalez

[6775](#) M 11/6–12/11 6–8 p.m.

A, MCC

Drawing: Beginner to Intermediate

Do you have an interest in creating and designing? Do you have a passion or desire for drawing but aren't sure where to start? In this class, you will learn the basics of drawing. Learn how to create volume in your drawing through perspective, shading, and shadows. You will discover how to train your eyes to replicate what they see. Students may purchase the optional textbook, *Complete Book of Drawing: Essential Skills for Every Artist*, on Amazon. Students will need to bring a sketch pad, HB and 2B pencils, pencil sharpener, kneaded erasers, erasers, and ruler.

Fee: \$59

Efrain Gonzalez

[6774](#) T 11/7–12/5 6–8 p.m.

A, MCC

Pop-up Card Creation: Christmas Trees

Create your own winter holiday greeting cards by using pop-up art. You will learn how to make your own cards to help spread holiday cheer. All supplies will be provided and you will leave with a set of your own card creations.

Fee: \$15

Ann Leslie

[6792](#) W 11/8 6–8 p.m.

A, MCC

Rope Bowl

This confident beginner sewing project uses ordinary rope to make fabric-lined decorative bowls. Use them around the house or give them as gifts. Once you make one, you will want to keep creating them! You must be confident with using your own sewing machine. It must have a zigzag stitch setting. We'll supply rope and some fabrics. Students will need to bring their sewing machine, white or ivory sewing thread, and ¼ yard of fabric (optional). Sewing Concepts is located on the square in downtown Woodstock.

Fee: \$45

Sewing Concepts

[6761](#) M 11/6 6–8:30 p.m.

Quilting for Beginners

This class is designed especially for the beginning quilter. Each lesson will take you step-by-step through the quilt-making process as you create a lovely 30 1/2 x 30 1/2 wall hanging quilt. Learn how to read a pattern, use a rotary cutter, and piece accurate seams. Supplies, fabric, notions and patterns are not included in the class fee, but are available for purchase at the first class. A supply list will be provided prior to the class. Your costs will vary based on fabrics and supplies chosen. Each student receives a 15% discount on supplies purchased at Sewing Concepts. Sewing machines will be provided! Sewing Concepts is located on the square in downtown Woodstock.

Fee: \$79 Sewing Concepts
[6643](#) M 11/13–12/11 6–8:30 p.m.

Fall Flip and Dip Round Wood Board

Create your next masterpiece by using the flip and dip method. Patty Berry, owner of Pouring It Forward, will teach you how to mix the right acrylic paint, prep your round wooden board, and apply the paint using bubble wrap (yes, bubble wrap!). The fun begins when you take the wood and squish it face down onto the bubble wrap. You will then reveal the magic by lifting the wood from the bubble wrap. You'll leave your project to dry until the second class where you will varnish your masterpiece. Please bring a shirt box larger than 8x10 to transport your project home safely. All class supplies are included except for the box. Let's have some fun and be creative! This is a two-day class.

Fee: \$49 Patricia Berry
[6693](#) M 11/13 6–8 p.m. A, MCC
Th 11/16 6–7:30 p.m. A, MCC

Pop-up Card Creation: Presents and Flowers Design

Create your own winter holiday greeting cards by using pop-up art. You will learn how to make your own cards to help spread holiday cheer. All supplies will be provided and you will leave with a set of your own card creations.

Fee: \$15 Ann Leslie
[6793](#) W 11/15 6–8 p.m. A, MCC

Artistic Journaling

Do you like to journal? Have you ever wanted to take your journaling to the next step? Learn how to create beautiful, one-of-a-kind pages in your journals using a variety of art materials and mediums. You will learn how to blend different art mediums to create unique layering effects and explore different styles of doodling and journaling. This would make a unique journal to keep or share with your special someone. A supply list will be sent to you prior to the start of the class.

Fee: \$49 Julie Kukreja
[6222](#) M 11/27–12/18 6–8 p.m. A, MCC

Holiday Gifts: Snow Globes, Glass Sculpture Critters, and Tree Ornaments

Looking for that special holiday gift or a way to bring holiday cheer to your home? Create your own mason jar snow globe and tree ornament to celebrate the winter season. Then design your own glass sculpture critters, which make great decorations for any fridge or gifts for kids.

Fee: \$25 Ann Leslie
[6794](#) W 11/29 6–8 p.m. A, MCC
W 12/6 6–7:30 p.m. A, MCC

Needle Felted Ornaments

Spread holiday cheer by creating your own needle felted ornaments. You will learn the basics of needle felting by using wool and a felting needle to create your ornaments. All supplies included.

Fee: \$30 Rebecca Berry
[6777](#) Th 11/30 6–8 p.m. A, MCC

Reverse Poinsettia Dip Acrylic Painting

Create your next masterpiece by using the reverse flower dip method. Patty Berry, owner of Pouring It Forward, will teach you how to mix the right acrylic paint, prep your 8x8 canvas, and apply the paint for a beautiful flower effect. The fun begins the moment the paint hits the canvas. You'll leave your painting to dry until the second class where you will varnish your masterpiece. Please bring a shirt box larger than 8x8 to transport your painting home safely. All class supplies are included except for the box. Let's have some fun and be creative! This is a two-day class.

Fee: \$49 Patricia Berry
[6694](#) M 12/4 6–8 p.m. A, MCC
Th 12/7 6–7:30 p.m. A, MCC

CULINARY

Medicinal Mushroom Tinctures

Learn how to make extractions using mushrooms, including single, double, and triple types. We'll cover fungus species such as Ganoderma's Reishi and Sissile and others such as Chaga, Cordyceps, and Polypores. Some species can be found in McHenry County, like Artist Conk, Turkey Tails, and Birch Polypore. You'll review how to grow your own medicinal mushrooms such as Reishi, Lion's Mane, and others. Our instructor's 30-year history in foraging also includes some roots, barks, and seeds like burdock, milk thistle, Oregon grape root, echinacea, and many others to incorporate into a tincture. A tasting of a dual tincture will be available, but not required!

Fee: \$39 Gary (Andy) Andresky
[6242](#) F 10/6 7–8:30 p.m. A, MCC

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Brain Health: Headache Management

Take control of your headaches! If you're one of the 90% of adults who suffer from headaches, this class is designed for you. Understand the important facts about the most common types of headaches. Learn ways to take control of your head pain through medical intervention, alternative therapies, exercises, and work/posture habits. You'll participate in a gentle posture strength and stretching program that can be used immediately to begin to address your headaches.

Fee: \$12

Dana Tress

# 6192	W	10/18	6–7:30 p.m.	C, MCC
# 6198	W	10/18	6–7:30 p.m.	Remote

HOME AND GARDEN

The Magic of Minimalism

Have you ever wondered if minimalism is the lifestyle choice for you? Take this informative class and learn minimalist basics, the many benefits of minimalism, and steps to take to begin your journey toward a more intentional and simplified life!

Fee: \$25

Catherine Feltz

# 6781	Sa	10/14	10 a.m.–Noon	A, MCC
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Organize and Declutter 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

Catherine Feltz

# 6780	Sa	11/18	10 a.m.–Noon	A, MCC
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Home Hydroponic Gardening

Dive into the world of hydroponic gardening in this workshop series. Learn how to grow plants without soil, master nutrient solutions, optimize lighting, and build your home setup. Perfect for both beginners and plant enthusiasts seeking innovative and efficient cultivation methods. From lettuce to microgreens, learn how to grow plants in your home year-round. Join us for a hands-on learning experience where you will get to grow lettuce from seed to harvest! This workshop is instructed by Dr. Garrett Beier, Department Chair for Entrepreneurial Agriculture and Horticulture at MCC. The class meets every two weeks: 10/10, 10/24, 11/7, and 11/21.

Fee: \$99

Garrett Beier

# 6767	T	10/10–11/21	6–8 p.m.	D, MCC
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Fortified Wines

Do you have a love for wines? Then you'll enjoy this class on fortified wines, including Port, Sherry, Madeira, Marsala, and Vermouth. In this class, we will discuss each type of wine by learning about their creation, history, styles, how to cook with them, and how to handle and store them. The class will include samplings and decanting of a rare older vintage Port. Age Restriction: 21+

Fee: \$39

Gary (Andy) Andresky

# 6750	F	11/3	7–8:30 p.m.	B, MCC
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Spooky Fun with Cookies

Let's decorate some spooky holiday-themed cookies. Lauren Daly of Tada Cookies will show you how to make spooky good cookie dough and decorating techniques to make your own cookies extra BOO-tiful. You will receive six pre-baked themed cookies, icing, and sprinkles to decorate your own themed cookies. Please bring an apron and get ready to decorate!

Fee: \$39

Lauren Daly

# 6670	T	10/17	6–8 p.m.	A, MCC
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My Grown-up and Me Fun with Cookies

Everyone loves cookies, especially kids! Spend the morning with your child learning how to make and decorate the perfect cookie. Don't worry, we don't expect everyone to create a perfectly decorated cookie. We do expect everyone to have fun, especially the kids! Let your kid be creative and enjoy the time with you. Together you will decorate six pre-made winter holiday-themed cookies that you will be able to take home. We will provide all the icing and sprinkles needed to make the perfect cookie. Please bring an apron and get ready to decorate! We welcome mommies, daddies, grandparents, guardians, or any special family member. Limit 1 kid per adult.

Fee: \$39

Lauren Daly

# 6671	Sa	12/2	10 a.m.–Noon	A, MCC
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Winter Holiday Fun with Cookies

'Tis the season of snow, lights, and gifts! Join Lauren Daly of Tada Cookies in learning how to make and decorate the perfect holiday gift—cookies! Learn how to make delicious cookie dough and techniques for decorating beautiful cookies. You will receive six pre-baked themed cookies, icing, and sprinkles to decorate your own themed cookies. Please bring an apron and get ready to decorate!

Fee: \$39

Lauren Daly

# 6672	T	12/12	6–8 p.m.	A, MCC
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NATURE

RAP Hike: Coral Woods Conservation Area

Join a McHenry County Conservation District educator for a fall hike through the sugar maple forest of Coral Woods Conservation Area in Marengo. We'll hike an easy 1.2 mile trail with a mostly flat surface, and stop along the way to talk about what makes this place so special – maple trees that produce maple syrup every year! Please dress for the weather and hiking, with sturdy shoes, and bring your own water. Coral Woods is located at 7400 Somerset Drive Marengo, IL 60152.

Fee: \$5 Nate Szkil
[6160](#) F 10/13 10–11:30 a.m.

RECREATION AND SPORTS

Open Chess with McHenry County Chess Club

Join the McHenry County Chess Club for weekly Thursday night open chess from 6 to 8 p.m. at McHenry County College. Everyone aged 10 and up are welcomed. Open chess is for beginners to experts. Players are welcome to bring their own chess boards but not required to do so. Limited boards will be available for use. Open chess is a great way to connect with other chess enthusiasts, practice your playing skills, and learn from veteran chess players. Vending machines are available onsite for snacks.

Fee: \$5 McHenry County Chess Club
[6687](#) Th 10/5–12/21 6–8 p.m. B, MCC

SEASONAL

Halloween Celestial Origins

What do you associate with Halloween? Trick-or-Treating, costumes...astronomy? After all, Halloween is an astronomical holiday! Learn the history of Halloween and how it fits into the seasons as a "cross-quarter day." Also explore the night sky and learn what planets, constellations, and stars will be out on your Halloween evening.

Fee: \$5 Paul Hamill
[6809](#) F 10/13 Noon F, MCC

Haunted Hotels of the Midwest

You are cordially invited to join us where the 'Wild West' began—the Midwest—where 1800s towns were highfalutin, rip-roaring settlements that left a lot of bodies here and there. These were the towns of bandits, ne'er-do-wells, Eastern dudes, soiled doves, clodhoppers, and just plain folk, all trying to make a living. While many of these places are now quiet, sleepy towns to you and I, be warned, even the dead get bored! If you are planning a trip close to home and you're looking for a little extra adventure, I have suggestions!

Fee: \$12 Ann Leslie
[6771](#) T 10/17 1–3 p.m. Remote

Haunted Hotels of the West

The older a place is, the greater the possibility that it could be "HAUNTED!" As a Halloween treat, you are cordially invited to journey to the West, where every night is an adventure. We'll visit where the Unsinkable Molly Brown, Butch Cassidy, Teddy Roosevelt, and numerous unsavory characters lay down their heads for a good night's sleep, and discover what happens when the dead get bored!

Fee: \$12 Ann Leslie
[6772](#) T 10/24 1–3 p.m. Remote

Spirit Identities – The Stories and Lives of the Ghosts We Meet

The Society for Anomalous Studies (SAS) will be returning to MCC this fall with a new paranormal presentation. SAS directors Randy Sunby and Cindy Heinen will present evidence and research from SAS's investigations that demonstrates how spirits interact with the team and how they are able to identify many of the spirits via historical research and other clues. Evidence from haunted prisons, schools, museums, and mansions will be shared. Visit SAS on their website at www.sasghostresearch.com or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ParanormalSAS.

Fee: \$10 Society for Anomalous Studies
[6786](#) F 10/27 7–9 p.m. A, MCC

Holiday Movies and Music

Journey through the past century of film history as host John LeGear showcases some of the happiest and most memorable moments from classic holiday films. Join us for songs (including a show-stopping sing-along), dances, and magical movie scenes from some of the most warmly embraced holiday films including "Holiday Inn," "It's a Wonderful Life," "The Polar Express," "Going My Way," and of course, Bing Crosby's "White Christmas." Look for familiar faces like James Stewart, Donna Reed, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, Whitney Houston, Denzel Washington, Tom Hanks, and Bob Hope. "Holiday Movies and Music" is an uplifting experience that will remind you why we surround ourselves with loved ones to celebrate the season. We'll see you then!

Fee: \$15 John LeGear
[6769](#) T 12/5 6–7:30 p.m. Remote

The 1914 Christmas Truce

It's WWI, and the fate of our world is revolving around the worst of trench warfare in France. On December 7, Pope Benedict XV suggests a temporary hiatus of war for the celebration of Christmas. Every single warring country refuses the cease-fire. As Christmas gets closer, someone begins to sing a carol, and it carries through the night air and across No Man's Land. Another voice joins, and then another. One of the most unique moments in history is about to begin at one small place on earth; it will be the day that Christmas interrupts a war.

Fee: \$12 Ann Leslie
[6773](#) Th 12/7 1–3 p.m. Remote

Let it Snow

Let It Snow is a treat for the eyes and ears, featuring festive full-dome video images choreographed to classic Christmas music. Enjoy seasonal tunes by Frank Sinatra, Chuck Berry, Burl Ives and Brenda Lee, and a finale by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. This fun animated show will have kids, parents and grandparents humming or singing along to some of the classics associated with the holiday season. This show is both fun and suitable for any age.

Fee: \$5 Paul Hamill
[6811](#) F 12/15 Noon F, MCC

Unwrapping the Charms of German Christmas Traditions

Uncover the rich history and cultural significance behind cherished customs such as the Advent calendar, Christkindmarkt, and St. Nicholas Day. Delve into the heartwarming tales of the Christkind and the festive decoration of the Tannenbaum, while also exploring the delectable delights of traditional holiday treats like Lebkuchen and Stollen. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs and journey through time and tradition, exploring how Germany's unique customs have shaped the magic of Christmas celebrations worldwide.

Fee: \$15 Anette Isaacs
[6795](#) T 12/19 6–7:30 p.m. Remote

SPACE

Race to the Moon: Project Mercury

Project Mercury was the first manned space program in the United States. These early space missions taught NASA many important lessons on how to reach orbit, how man can survive and function while in orbit, and how to both launch and recover astronauts and their vehicles. From 1958 to 1963, NASA conducted 20 unmanned test flights and six successful manned flights. Discover the objectives and goals of the Mercury Program and learn how it helped to land man on the moon. Join us as we discuss these missions, the original seven astronauts nicknamed the Mercury 7, and find out why they truly had the right stuff.

Fee: \$10 Mike Frederiksen
[6179](#) W 10/18 10–11:30 a.m. Remote

Eclipses of the Sun

What is an eclipse? Why do they happen? This show will dive into the mechanisms that cause an eclipse, address common misconceptions surrounding eclipses, and shed light on the differences between types of eclipses. A total solar eclipse is one of nature's most incredible events. On April 8th, 2024, observers across North America will have the opportunity to experience this phenomenon. Audience members will know what to expect on eclipse day, how to safely view the eclipse, and why it will be worth it to travel to the path of totality!

Fee: \$5 Paul Hamill
[6810](#) F 11/10 Noon F, MCC

The James Webb Space Telescope

The Webb Telescope is the most recently developed space telescope. Launched in December 2021, this telescope is set to study the history of our universe from its creation to the more recent formation of our solar system. This course will present a history of space telescopes and how they help scientists determine the origins and evolution of galaxies, stars, and planetary systems. We'll also see the beauty of deep space photography capturing the vast array of objects in our sky.

Fee: \$12 Suzanne Rauch
[6284](#) T 11/28 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Remote

SPECIAL INTEREST

The Medieval Spice Trade: Making and Tasting Historical Recipes

In this virtual cooking demonstration, we will explore the medieval spice trade through the preparation of medieval European recipes. We will learn about premodern food culture through reading and interpreting recipes featuring an array of historical spices.

Fee: \$10 Sarah Kernan
[6180](#) W 10/11 1–3 p.m. Remote

Thriving on Limitations: Behind the Scenes of Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan

Celebrate the amazing actresses, actors, and behind-the-scenes artists who worked on Nicholas Meyer's *Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*. More than 100 rare, and many never-before-seen, photographs paint the incredible picture of a company of actors and artists whose talents combined to create one of *Star Trek*'s best films. In addition to the photographs, the presentation will share trivia and little-known facts about the making of the film and how it was made despite limitations of budget, time, and technology. A special thank you to writer/director Nicholas Meyer for his permission to share these photographs and to the University of Iowa Library.

Fee: \$10 Maria Jose Tenuto
[6181](#) T 10/17 1–3 p.m. Remote

Barbie

She just might be the most famous doll in the world. For more than 60 years, Barbie has been played with, analyzed, collected, criticized, and loved. In this illustrated lecture, historian Leslie Goddard delves into the history of Barbie and her inventor, the passionately creative – and intensely competitive – Ruth Handler. Learn what inspired Handler to develop Barbie in 1959, how Barbie helped make Mattel one of the world's most successful toy companies, and what Barbie's impact has been on American culture.

Fee: \$15 Leslie Goddard
[6768](#) M 10/23 6–8 p.m. Remote

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: \$35 John Kent
[6783](#) Th 11/2–11/16 6:30–8:30 p.m. A, MCC

The Amazing Code-Breakers of Geneva, IL

Learn the fascinating life stories of two famous pioneers of modern cryptology, who began their code-breaking careers in Geneva, Illinois! Working at the Fabyan Villa (Riverbank Laboratories), William and Elizebeth Friedman worked on breaking secret codes during World War I, Prohibition, World War II, and beyond.

Fee: \$10
[6286](#) T 11/7 10 a.m.–Noon Remote

Living Behind the Iron Curtain

Pursued by the Americans and British from the West and Soviet forces from the east, Nazi forces in Europe were in retreat by early 1945. Areas occupied since 1940-41 found themselves freed from Nazi control and oppression. Nations in Eastern Europe – Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria – were liberated by the Soviet Red Army. After the war ended, the Soviets remained in these countries longer than expected. By the late 1940s, most of eastern Europe was cloaked behind what would become known as the Iron Curtain. What was it like to live behind the Iron Curtain? Our presenter, Alina Warner, shares her experience as a child growing up in Romania, witnessing the isolation of the people and the hardship of the totalitarian regime. As a teenager, she remembers living through the 1989 Revolution that freed the people from the dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu. That was the spark of her desire to reach the free world. The session will end with a Q&A.

Fee: \$10 Alina Warner
[6287](#) W 11/8 6–7:15 p.m. Remote

Amazing Castles II

Castles, the stuff of romance, still fascinate the modern mind. You'll learn about the history, legends, and lore that only can be found in castles. From King Arthur to modern monarchs, we'll explore the romantic, mysterious, and intriguing castles that have played a crucial role in the history of civilization for more than a thousand years.

Fee: \$12 Barbara Barrett
[6285](#) F 12/1 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Remote

Comedy Gold on the Silver Screen

Join us for a guided tour through the past 100 years of outstanding comedies. Witness the evolution of humor on film since the arrival of Charlie Chaplin in Hollywood in 1914, and enjoy a taste of television comedy in this swift-moving tribute to outstanding writing, direction, and performance. In addition to laughs, you'll learn of little-known insights and fresh perspectives on some of film history's comedy classics.

Fee: \$15 John LeGear
[6770](#) W 1/24 6–7:30 p.m. Remote

WRITING

How to Self-Publish for Free

This course will start your personal journey to becoming a royalty-earning self-published author. Write the next Great American Novel, share your professional expertise, or tell your family's story. Whatever you dream of writing, you can write and publish it yourself. Discover how to produce e-books and print books through Amazon's Kindle Direct Publishing—plus other online platforms—that will give you worldwide reach for your work from a successful self-published author. We'll cover the basics including proper manuscript and book formatting, book cover design, editing tools, and publishing platforms. Learn how to create accounts and understand dashboards and reports, plus copyrights, ISBN, LCCN, and AISN, Develop a self-publishing plan and take steps to put that plan into action. Students who already have a book in progress can develop it for publication, while students who are new to writing and self-publishing will develop a solid understanding of this exciting and constantly-evolving new industry. This is a self-pace course with direct communication with the instructor. After registering, you will receive an email from the instructor directly within two weeks.

Fee: \$69 Roxanne Boersma
[6686](#) 10/1–12/21 4 Hours Remote

