The following classes are offered through remote instruction using the Zoom meeting platform (except where designated as “online” or a specific location is listed). Program staff will notify registered participants with information to access your class 24 hours before class begins. To register online visit www.mchenry.edu/rap or call (815) 455-8588.

**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)

**Current Events**

Take a deeper look at some of the issues surrounding current events with an emphasis on listening, understanding the views of others, and expressing your own thoughts. The purpose of our discussion will be to expand your knowledge, not win an argument. This class will be facilitated by Dan Giallombardo. Classes meet on October 4, November 1, and December 6.

Fee: $10

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**Great Decisions**

The always-popular, eight-week “Great Decisions” series features lively discussion and stimulating conversation on eight world topics chosen by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA). Discussions are facilitated by RAP members, and all points of view are welcome. Prior to the course, you’ll need to order your briefing book, which is published by the FPA as a discussion supplement. The book can be ordered directly from the FPA’s website, www.fpa.org/great_decisions/. Each topic in the briefing book places the thematic or geographic issue in historical context and provides background, current policies, and alternative policy options. The video will be viewed during class.

Fee: $10

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**Women in Space Exploration**

Women have been traveling to space for decades, and women have been involved in getting people to space – and returning them safely to Earth – for just as long. Learn more about several of these trailblazers.

Fee: $12

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**Great Chicago Fire: Rising From the Ashes**

The Great Chicago Fire burned through the city October 8-10, 1871, killing 300 people and leaving more than 100,000 residents homeless. As raindrops finally doused the flames and city leaders assessed the damage, the shock of tragedy was replaced by the resolve to rebuild. The Chicago Tribune echoed the sentiment of most when it proclaimed in its first post-fire issue: CHICAGO SHALL RISE AGAIN. We’ll look at the causes of the fire and how Chicago re-invented itself in the aftermath. In the period from 1872 through the Plan of Chicago in 1909, the city would rebuild, only to do it all again in the early 20th Century. After the Great Fire, the city would rise from the ashes, only to fall to the progress of time.

Fee: $12

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Founding Mothers: Colonial-Era Women with Clout

American women in past centuries usually kept to house and home. But that was not always true, especially in early colonial times, when society was especially fluid and open. This lecture explores five women who lived lives of influence outside of the family bounds: the diplomat Pocahontas, the poet Anne Bradstreet, the political leader Margaret Brent, the entrepreneur Eliza Pinckney

Fee: $12

Joyce Haworth

# 1896

M 10/11
10 a.m.–Noon
Remote

Chimpanzees - Our Wild Relatives

Chimpanzees share 99% of their DNA with humans making them our closest relatives in the animal kingdom. Chimpanzees have been taught to communicate using American Sign Language. This presentation will focus on chimpanzee intelligence and behavior. The presentation will also tell the story of Dr. Jane Goodall, and her groundbreaking research on chimpanzees. Dr. Ulferts will share his own encounters with chimpanzees at Gombe National Park in Tanzania, as well as at Budongo Forest in Uganda.

Fee: $12

Dr. John Ulferts

# 1895

T 10/12
9:30–11:30 a.m.
Remote

The American Revolution in our National Park System

Over thirty of our 423 National Park Service sites have a direct connection to the American Revolution. We explore the sites that tell the revolutionary story, the events and places that preceded it, the moments that shaped its direction, and battles that decided the outcome. Furthermore, we share sites revealing issues not resolved in the 1783 Treaty of Paris.

Fee: $12

David Kroese

# 1889

W 10/13
1:30–3 p.m.
Remote

The Life, Laughter, and Legacy of Robin Williams

Comedian and actor Robin Williams, touched most everyone. You might remember a greeting of Nanu-Nanu happily given by Mork from Ork, Peter Pan in Neverland, the magical city of Agrabah and the Genie, or maybe the charming, whimsical nanny, Mrs. Doubtfire. To many, Williams’ amazing talent was larger than life. Through his on-the-spot improvisational skills, genuine personality, and quick-witted humor, Williams captured the attention and hearts of many throughout the world. Historical Presenter, Michelle Gibbons, will take you into the life and mind of the comic genius, Robin Williams. She’ll discuss Williams’ famous works, movies, TV shows, and success; his personal struggles and achievements; as well as the impact he made on others during, and after his life.

Fee: $12

Michelle Gibbons

# 2064

Th 10/14
6–8 p.m.
Remote

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, enjoy the fall colors, 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. 7400 Somerset Drive, Marengo IL 60152

Fee: $10

# 1705

F 10/15
10–11:30 a.m.
Remote

Tricks, Travel, and Tasty Treats

Time to celebrate autumn with fall-inspired treats from Wisconsin and a side of spooky (and not-so-spooky) tales of days gone by. During our online live tour, delivered via Zoom, our Milwaukee expert will entertain you with lively stories of the city’s history and culture, and share behind-the-scenes videos to see the spaces and meet the people unique to this virtual tour. We are excited to share our stories and knowledge with you right in your own home. The box is perfect to split between two people to enjoy during the presentation, and includes free shipping in the contiguous United States. Registration Deadline is October 7. To sweeten the experience, you will receive a box containing the tastiest of Halloween treats, including: • One 3-ounce bag of Creepy Corn popcorn popped fresh by Pop’s Kettle Corn in Muskego. • One milk chocolate Halloween variety pack from Ultimate Confections in Wauwatosa which includes seven dipped pretzel twists, a dipped oreo cookie and a chocolate ghost. • One ounce of the Spice House’s Mulling Spices. This perfect mix of cinnamon, allspice, and cloves is enough to mull two bottles of wine or a gallon of cider. • One original Ziegler Chocolate Bar, original to the Milwaukee George Ziegler Candy Co. In 1911, they were the first in the country to market a wrapped candy bar. This bar is made by Ziegler’s HALF NUTS in West Allis. • Two traditional soul cakes baked just for us by La Tarte Bakery, using a recipe from the 1800’s so that we can dive into the tradition of souling. Registering for this program gives MCC permission to share your name and address with our distributor for the purpose of mailing your Armchair Tourist Box directly to your home. Items will be shipped to your home the week of October 11. If you wish to purchase this as a gift for another person, please call our office at 815-455-8559 to coordinate shipping details.

Fee: $85

Theresa Nemetz

# 2107

Sa 10/16
9–10 a.m.
Remote

To register, visit www.mchenry.edu/personaldevelopment or call (815) 455-8588
Haunted Hotels of the West
The older a place is, the greater the possibility that it could be “HAUNTED!” With that being said, when I travel, I now look exclusively for hotels that are reported to be haunted. As a Halloween treat, you are cordially invited to come with me to the West, where every night was 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 what happens when the dead get bored!  
Fee: $12  
# 1897  F  10/22  1–2:20 p.m.  Remote

Lady Bird Johnson—One of the Greatest First Ladies
A presentation on one of our most accomplished first lady’s life and history. A discussion of her direct contribution to Lyndon Johnson’s political career, his presidency, and later her contribution to numerous environmental efforts across our country. She is a fascinating, yet quiet asset of our American history.  
Fee: $12  
# 2093  Th  10/28  10 a.m.–Noon  Remote

Charles Darwin
There is a tide in the affairs of men. Darwin experienced that tide at age 22 and details the five year around-the-world voyage of the H.M.S. Beagle. Darwin selects five elements of interest: A South American Ostriche, giant quadruped fossils, the Concepcion earthquake, 14,000 foot high Andes seashells, and the Galapagos finches. And then come the questions. Why two Ostriche species are living adjacent? Are the ancient fossil animals related to modern forms? Are the forces propelling earthquakes and volcanoes the same? How were the seashells raised up above sea level? How did the Galapagos finches, which are related to South American birds, become new species? How did the plants and animals even get to the Galapagos? Using John Gould bird prints, chromolithographs of dinosaurs, nature photographs and his own drawings, Darwin answers his questions using his theory of Descent with Modification powered by Natural Selection. His book *The Origin of Species* changed Biology and our view of the world forever.  
Fee: $12  
# 2094  T  10/26  1–2:20 p.m.  Remote

Environmental Issues—Yosemite and the History of Water Wars in California
This class will look into the ongoing need to acquire water for one of the most heavily populated areas in the Unites States. The problem continues due to a lack of natural water sources sufficient to meet the needs of an ever-growing population. Let’s look at historic efforts of attaining an ever-increasing water supply for the ever-increasing water needs and how it has created an ongoing history of man’s inability to control the most necessary resource on the planet. This class will examine the water controversies of Yosemite National Park and the Owens Valley as well as the Salton Sea.  
Fee: $12  
# 2090  W  10/27  10–11:30 a.m.  Remote

Environmental Issues—What we are learning from Yellowstone National Park
Americans can take pride in the initiation of the national park concept. Since it’s legal beginnings with the introduction of Yellowstone National Park in 1872, Americans have had to deal with issues that have become a national concern and triggered ongoing political conversation with regards to wildlife management. Conservation and recreation have often come into conflict. We will discuss the history and the current state of key issues that we are working through and learning about in our nation’s first national park.  
Fee: $12  
# 2388  Th  11/4  10–11:30 a.m.  Remote

The Calling of St. Matthew
Caravaggio’s the Calling of St. Matthew, 1599–1600, Rome is one of the artist’s most renowned and yet perplexing paintings. The compelling story of Matthew’s calling by Christ with his famous gesture has perplexed art historians and lovers of art: which figure is Matthew? This presentation not only examines the intriguing composition and Caravaggio’s use of light but focuses on the historical period in Jerusalem and Matthew’s role as a tax collector. It makes for interesting speculation and debate over “who is Matthew”.  
Fee: $12  
# 2389  F  11/5  1–2:20 p.m.  Remote

To register, visit www.mchenry.edu/personaldevelopment or call (815) 455-8588

15
Buon Cibo! Exploring St. Louis’ Italian Heritage
Travel to America’s Last Little Italy and learn about the history and culture, plus enjoy a “Taste of The Hill” with local guide, Dea Hoover. We’ll take you on a virtual tour through the neighborhood, showing you the old with the new, including the Imo’s Piazza and fountain. The best part is that you’ll receive a special goody box created just for your tour so that you can enjoy not only the sights, but also the aroma and tastes of the Hill! Each item in your goody box holds its own story and will be related to the area of Italy from which it originated and remains most popular. Contents of your goody box will be adequate for two participants to share and will contain specialty items from “The Hill.” Your Sweet & Savory Italian selection will include: Fancy Garlic Pepper (Urzi’s Special blend), Italian cookies from MO Baking, Amaretto Macaroon (voted best cookie in STL a few years ago), Olive Oil, Bread Dipping Spice, Italian salami, small bag of pasta, Licorice (Anise is huge in Italy and they specialize in it – we may substitute this item) and Limoncello almonds. Registration deadline is October 22. If you wish to purchase this item as a gift, please contact our office at (815) 455-8559 to coordinate shipping details. For help when you need it. This is a character portrayal.

Fee: $12 James Gibbons
# 2104 M 11/8 6–8 p.m. Remote

Lessons Learned from the Long Winter
Laura Ingalls Wilder tells the story of her family surviving a horrific 8-mongh-long ordeal of blizzards, deprivation, and isolation in the winter of 1880–1881 on the sparsely inhabited Dakota Territory. Their story is one of perseverance and hope. Hear from Mrs. Wilder, as she reflects almost 40 years after those events, and shares what lessons she learned from that Hard Winter. These are feelings we can all relate to, perhaps now more than ever: dealing with uncertainty, social isolation, and anxiety about the future. And the lessons are just as true as ever: have faith, have hope, and to ask for help when you need it. This is a character portrayal.

Fee: $12 Laura Keyes
# 1733 T 11/9 1–2:20 p.m. Remote

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
In 1921, a sacred ground for deceased heroic World War I veterans was created in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. As years passed and more wars occurred, thousands more veterans would be added to the grounds, including those from World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam. All those buried would not only have veteran status in common but another as well—their names were unknown. Historical Presenter, Jim Gibbons, will discuss the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Gibbons will discuss how the tomb came to be; the soldiers involved in the war, and will explain more about its past and current historical presence in Arlington National Cemetery. Every year, people from all over the world visit the monument in honor and reverence of the unknown veterans.

Fee: $12 James Gibbons
# 2101 Th 11/11 1–2:30 p.m. Remote

The Illinois & Michigan Canal—Past and Present
Long before highways and railroads turned Chicago into the transportation hub of the U.S., the Illinois & Michigan Canal literally put the city on the map. In 1673, the French-Canadian explorers Louis Joliet and Jacques Marquette were the first non-Native Americans to travel from the Illinois River to Lake Michigan via the Des Plaines and Chicago Rivers. They noted in their journals that a canal could be built to connect these waterways, creating a navigable channel of travel stretching from the Great Lakes to the vast Mississippi River system. The promise of a canal’s potential for spreading commerce from the settled east to the western frontier led to the founding of Chicago as the commercial transfer point between Lake Michigan vessels and canal barges. In this PowerPoint presentation, we will explore the story of the building of the Illinois & Michigan Canal and its eventual replacement by railroads. We will take a “virtual tour” of its surviving structures from Bridgeport in Chicago to Peru, Illinois 96 miles to the southwest.

Fee: $12 David Clark
# 2083 M 11/8 1–2:20 p.m. Remote
Earth has sustained life in many different forms for more than 3 billion years. We’ll highlight an (incomplete) list of 12 things that make our planet special—a list that also influences what astronomers look for as they search for Earth-like planets elsewhere.

Fee: $12
Michelle Nichols-Yehling
# 1729 T 11/16 1–2:30 p.m. Remote

The Civil War in our National Park System

Over ninety of our 423 National Park Service sites have a direct connection to the Civil War! Such is the impact the Civil War had on American history and the country we live in today. We’ll explore these sites and some of their fascinating aspects, revisiting their profound stories and the heroism and tragedy in events that changed the course of our nation.

Fee: $12
David Kroese
# 1890 Th 11/18 1:30–3 p.m. Remote

Larry King

With his signature suspenders and horn-rimmed glasses, Larry King became an icon and legend. Interviewing over 50,000 celebrities and notables, he became known for his hard-hitting interviewing skills and factual, likeable personality. Tilting his glasses as he interviewed guests around a table, he made a name for himself in television and radio, later receiving two Peabody Awards, an Emmy Award, and ten Cable Ace Awards. King began his career in the 1950’s and 1960’s as a host for WMBM Radio. Later, he would become well-known for hosting The Larry King Show. From 1985 to 2010, he also hosted Larry King Live on CNN. King hosted Larry King Live and Politicking with Larry King until 2020. He also appeared in several movies and television shows as himself. Historian Jim Gibbons will discuss the amazing and influential life of the famous Larry King, before and during fame, his interviews, and his impact on television and journalism. He will discuss some of the most famous interviews, including: Frank Sinatra, Elizabeth Taylor, Marlon Brando, Jerry Seinfeld, Paris Hilton, and consistent coverage of the OJ Simpson chase, plus much more. Although King passed away at age 87 on January 23, 2021, his successful and impactful interviews live on.

Fee: $12
James Gibbons
# 2390 F 11/19 1–2:20 p.m. Remote

The Shakers

Do you use clothes hangers, leave food on your plate, know a conscientious objector, remember clothespins, flat brooms, threshing machines or circular saws? All invented by Shakers. Their music is still heard and taught in schools, churches & by professional musicians. They designed elegant furniture predating the Prairie School & still copied today. They continuously invented technological advances while rejecting materialism that came with those advances. Explore one of the greatest influences on American Life that you may not know.

Fee: $12
Ann Leslie
# 2394 F 12/3 1–2:30 p.m. Remote

The Wonderful Life of Jimmy Stewart

During the holiday season, many American families enjoy traditions of twinkling lights, hot cocoa by the fireplace, and watching the classic movie, “It’s a Wonderful Life,” featuring actor Jimmy Stewart as George Bailey. In the movie, George Bailey learns through miracles how many lives he has impacted and changed for the better. Like Bailey, many can say the same about Stewart. Through his strong acting skills, heartfelt performances, dedicated service to our country, and strong family values, Stewart was seen as a role model. He was idolized by many other actors, especially Carol Burnett. In this presentation about the life and career of Stewart, you’ll hear about the numerous movies he starred in, his time spent working with famous actors, how Stewart was honored by President Ronald Reagan and the United States Air Force for his service to our country. He was the highest ranking actor in military history, advancing to the rank of Brigadier General in the United States Air Force Reserve.

Fee: $12
James Gibbons
# 2391 M 12/6 1–2:20 p.m. Remote
Pearl Harbor: A Day That Will Live In Infamy
It’s almost 8 a.m. on a beautiful December Sunday morning in Hawaii. But this will be no ordinary Sunday. On December 7, 1941, the United States was suddenly and deliberately surprise-attacked by Japanese Naval and Air Forces which then thrust the country into World War II. Historian Jim Gibbons will show you the beginning of the storms of war that led to the predawn attack. He will explain how our government in Washington and the people of the United States were wooed into vulnerability and then struck hard by the Empire of Japan. Suffering a devastating naval loss in a little over one hour and fifty minutes, the United States now had the catastrophic record of more losses in less than two hours than its entire naval losses in World War I. By 9:45 a.m. the attack is over, leaving behind 2,403 dead and 1,178 wounded. You’ll also learn how the people of the United States, as President Franklin Delano Roosevelt stated, “In their righteous might [did] succeed to absolute victory!”
Fee: $12 James Gibbons
# 2392 T 12/7 1–2:20 p.m. Remote

Holiday Bakery Box
If there is one thing that we love, it is sweet treats from bakeries in Milwaukee! Now, you can sit back, relax, and enjoy as we will bring these sweet treats and learning opportunities to you right in your own home! You can split the bakery box with a friend and share the experience or keep all the treats for yourself. Get a cup of coffee and tune in to the “live” Bakery Box tour. You’ll get a chance to go further “behind the scenes” into the bakeries than ever before and really see how the magic happens! You will see how some of the cookies in your box are actually made! This is a special opportunity to learn even more about some of our favorite locations. This “tour” also makes a great gift for a friend who loves travelling! (The contents of the box are adequate for two participants to share the tour experience.) Registration deadline is December 2. Here is What’s Included: • Bakery Box complete with pastries from authentic Italian, German, Danish, Mexican, and French bakeries. • Taste Milwaukee’s Italian heritage with a half-pound box of Peter Sciortino’s Bakery on historic Brady Street. • Delve into Mexican culture with a mini Three King’s Cake from La Flor de Trigo. • Enjoy a dozen of National Bakery’s famous German pecan fingers. • Savor six madeleines as a French delight from Greige Patisserie. • Always a favorite, Ultimate Confections has been making homemade, hand-dipped chocolates for 30+ years. Enjoy chocolate dipped treats from this staple of the Milwaukee community. • A 1.5-hour live virtual tour using Zoom technology. You will have the opportunity to ask questions too! Your educational seminar includes live discussion, photos, and high-quality pre-filmed segments. Registering for this program gives MCC permission to share your name and address with our distributor for the purpose of mailing your Bakery Box directly to your home. Items will be shipped to your home the week of December 6. If you wish to purchase this as a gift for another person, please call our office at 815-455-8559 to coordinate shipping details.
Fee: $89 Theresa Nemetz
# 2110 Th 12/9 6–7:30 p.m. Remote

Artificial and Augmented Intelligence in Medicine
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the creation of machines to work and react like humans; Intelligence Augmentation (IA) is using those same machines with a different approach – to enhance the skills of the human worker. AI is revolutionizing the practice of medicine in predicting, diagnosing and treating disease as well as improving the safety and effectiveness of healthcare delivery. AI will help physicians keep up with the literature and apply it at the point of care while identifying diagnostic testing, risk assessment, and best treatment intervention through data insights. As the role of AI continues to increase in the healthcare setting to support delivery of personalized medicine, it can free up valuable time for physicians to provide patient-centered care with human connection. In this session, we will provide real-world examples of how AI is transforming healthcare, limitations of AI, and how patients can be better prepared to be an active team member in the decision-making process in this data-driven world. Time allowed for Q&A and discussion.
Fee: $12 Dr. Linda Feng Chang and Dr. Tushar Patel
# 2382 F 12/10 1:30–3 p.m. Remote

American Christmas and New Year Traditions
For many of us, Christmas is “The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!” But did you ever wonder why it’s celebrated on December 25th or when it became a federal holiday? And why do we exchange gifts, send cards, and decorate our homes at Christmas? Or who initiated the New Year’s Eve Ball Drop from a flagpole on top of the Times Tower in NYC while “Auld Lang Syne” is sung? And what about the Three Kings? Were they really kings and just what is a King Cake? Join me as we explore the many joyous Christmas and New Year traditions in America.
Fee: $12 Barbara Barrett
# 2393 M 12/13 1–2:20 p.m. Remote