



SUMMER QUARTER 2024 PRESENTATIONS

Presentations \$5 each for **Silver** members Non-member fee: \$10 each session
Registration prior to attendance requested. **Gold** members: Please **register** via email or phone.
Contact Mankato Area Lifelong Learners at (507) 389-2011 or LifelongLearners@mnsu.edu

#1: Thursday, July 11th, 2 - 4 p.m. – To Banish Forever: The Story of the Knights, the Ho-Chunk, and the Ethnic Cleansing of Southern Minnesota

Author Cathy Coats, M.S. will share the tragic story of the Ho-Chunk Nation and the secret organization that sought to expel all Indigenous people from our region during the 1800s. She will explain why her new book, *To Banish Forever: The Story of the Knights, the Ho-Chunk, and the Ethnic Cleansing of Southern Minnesota*, is as much about Mankato as it is about the Ho-Chunk, also known as the Winnebago. *To Banish Forever*, will be available for purchase after the presentation.

Presenter: Cathy Coats is a metadata specialist for the University of Minnesota Libraries. She researched the removal and relocation of the Ho-Chunk for her master's degree thesis at St. Cloud State University.

Location: Pathstone Latitude, 115 Rogers Street, Mankato

Sponsor: Anne Fletcher

#2: Monday, July 15th, 2-4 p.m. — An Introduction to Traumatic Brain Injury

A nationally prominent neuropsychologist, Dr. Karol will provide an overview of the nature of traumatic brain injury, including a review of variable onsets and causes, and descriptions of possible cognitive and emotional changes after injury.

Presenter: Dr. Karol is President of Karol Neuro + Rehab Consulting. He has held positions including Vice President of Brain Injury Services for a chain of long-term care facilities and Director of Brain Injury Service for a specialty hospital. He co-founded the Minnesota Brain Injury Association/Alliance in 1984, served on its Board of Directors for 14 years, and is a current Board of Trustee of the United States Brain Injury Alliance, chairing its Governance Committee. He is the Senior member of the Minnesota Department of Human Services Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Committee, of which he is a past Chair. He has published four books, numerous journal articles and has given over four hundred presentations. He is the recipient of the Lifetime Practice Excellence Award from the American Psychological Association Rehabilitation Division, the Distinguished Contributions to the Field of Brain Injury Award from the VCU School of Medicine, and the Elinor Hands Award Advancing the Cause of Brain Injury Services from the Minnesota Brain Injury Alliance.

Location: Pathstone Latitude, 115 Rogers Street, Mankato

Sponsor: Steve Gilbert

#3: Tuesday, July 23rd, 2 - 4 p.m. — Building Affordable Housing for the Community: Habitat for Humanity in Southern Minnesota

Learn what Habitat for Humanity does in South Central Minnesota to help provide safe and affordable housing in the Mankato Area. This will include a discussion on Habitat's activities both in the area and nationally.

Presenter: Holly Schoettler, the Community Service Manager for Habitat for Humanity

Location: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1706 Lee Blvd, North Mankato

Sponsor: Greg Suskovic

#4: Monday, August 5th, 2 - 4 p.m.— The Criminal Justice System

Learn how arrestees are processed from booking through court proceedings in Blue Earth County. Roundtable discussion by representatives from law enforcement, prosecution, defense, probation, and the court will discuss the criminal justice system from arrest through probation. We hope to have a behind the scenes tour of what an arrestee might see during processing at the jail through a first appearance in court.

Presenter(s): Blue Earth County (BEC) District Court Judge Mark E. Betters, BEC Assistant County Attorney Todd Kosovich, Fifth Judicial District Public Defender Managing Attorney Aaron Zurek, Mankato Public Safety Department Sergeant Jesse Gilbertson, and BEC Community Corrections Department Probation Agent Jennifer Guse.

Location: Blue Earth County Justice Center, 401 Carver Rd. Mankato.
Gather on the second floor outside the Court Administrator's Office.

Sponsor: Larry Nicol

#5: Thursday, August 8th, 2 - 4 p.m. — German POWs in Minnesota 1943-1946

Hidden in Minnesota's history is the story of over 15 Prisoner-of-War subcamps that dotted the landscape from 1943-1946. Mostly built for German POWs, these camps helped farmers and the lumber industry across the state while thousands of young Minnesota men were serving overseas. This presentation will focus on the role of these camps, the impact they had on the war effort, as well as the communities they were in.

Presenter: Dr. Kyle Ward is the Director of Social Studies Education at MSU, Mankato where he also teaches a course titled "America and World War II." He has had seven books published and a workbook series for high schools. His books have focused on both what history textbooks are teaching students, in the US and around the world, as well as military history. Dr. Ward lives with his family in North Mankato and is originally from central Minnesota.

Location: Pioneer Bank, 1450 Adams St, Mankato

Sponsor: Steve Gilbert

#6: Thursday, August 22nd, 2 - 4 p.m. – Get Moving: Motivating Yourself to Exercise

Alone or with others? Balance, Strength-training, or Aerobic? What are recommended exercises and ways to get yourself to stick with them? New research from a geriatric expert spotlights key findings with particular importance for older adults.

Presenter: Siobhan McMahan, Ph.D., MPH. is Director of the Center on Aging Science and Care Innovation and Associate Professor at the School of Nursing, University of Minnesota. She is the lead author of a study recently published in *JAMA Network Open* that offers key insights.

Location: Pathstone Latitude, 115 Rogers Street, Mankato

Sponsor: Anne Fletcher

#7: Wednesday, Aug. 28th, 10 -12 p.m. - Speciesism and Society: Rethinking Our Relationships with Animals

Why do some species share our beds while others are served on our plates? How and when do human interactions with other animals become harmful? What insights can we gain from the historical and cultural variations in how humans choose to accept, love, and disdain different species? Human-Animal Studies (HAS) is a burgeoning interdisciplinary field dedicated to exploring these fascinating questions. This presentation will introduce you to HAS and delve into the main ways humans interact with nonhuman animals. The audience will be encouraged to engage with important concepts such as social construction, speciesism, and empathy and join in enlightening discussion that will challenge your perspectives on the complex relationships between humans and other animals.

Presenter: Carol Glasser is a Professor of Sociology at Minnesota State University, Mankato, where she is passionate about teaching, social justice, and human-animal studies. In recent years, she co-founded the university's human-animal studies minor, served as Chair of the Animals and Society Section of the American Sociological Association, and organized an international colloquium series in human-animal studies.

Location: Pathstone Latitude, 115 Rogers Street, Mankato

Sponsor: Steve Gilbert

#8: Wednesday, Sept. 4th, 2 - 4 p.m. — Politics & Film: American Political Culture on the Big Screen

Films both reflect the attitudes of their times and shape the public's understanding of politics. For example, the lone cowboy risking all for the town folks was about greater dangers than just those to the town, and "Network" warned us of a cynical America that was mad as Hell in the 1970s. Films tell us a great deal about their times and great classic films transcend their times and tell us about the enduring values and beliefs of Americans.

Presenter: Dr. Kevin Parsneau is a Political Science professor at MSU where he teaches American Government, the U.S. Presidency, and Democracy and Citizenship. His research interests include the U.S. Presidency, executive branch nominations, campaigns and primaries, party elites and social media. He has also loved films since his days as a car-less teenager stuck at home late at night watching WTBS, WGN, and Turner Classic Movies.

Location: Pathstone Latitude, 115 Rogers Street, Mankato

Sponsor: Steve Gilbert

#9: Monday, Sept. 9th, 2 - 4 p.m. — Is America a Chosen Nation? Examining Christian Nationalism

What is Christian Nationalism? What are its historical roots? How does it interpret Christianity? What claims does it make? Is it more cultural than religious? How does it relate to the First Amendment? How does it overlap with White Christian Nationalism? What level of support does it have in America today? Darrell Jodock, Professor Emeritus of Religion at Gustavus and lead author of the National Council of Churches 2021 policy statement on "The Dangers of Christian Nationalism in the United States", will answer these and other questions about this timely topic.

Presenter: Prof. Darrell Jodock is a Professor Emeritus of Religion at Gustavus Adolphus College. He currently serves on the National Council of Churches (NCC) Task Force on Theology, the NCC interreligious "convening table" and the ELCA Consultative Panel on Lutheran-Jewish Relations. His most recent book is *Embracing Diversity: Faith, and the Promise of America*.

Location: Pioneer Bank, 1450 Adams St, Mankato

Sponsor: Steve Gilbert

#10: Thursday, Sept. 19th 2 - 4 p.m. — The Prairie Ecology in South Central Minnesota

This discussion will focus on the diverse ecosystems within the Southern Minnesota prairie. She will also discuss the DNR's role in maintaining and preserving the prairie ecosystem.

Presenter: Megan Benage is the Regional Ecologist for the Southern Region, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Location: Messiah Lutheran Church, 1760 Lee Blvd, North Mankato

Sponsor: Greg Suskovic

#11: Tuesday, Sept. 24th, 2 - 4 p.m. — Using County Resources to Build Your Family Tree

Not sure where to begin your family history research project? Want to know what is available to use in Blue Earth County? This program is for you. Hear from Heather Harren, BECHS Communications and Events Manager about how to use the History Center resources and what else is available in Blue Earth County to help with your search.

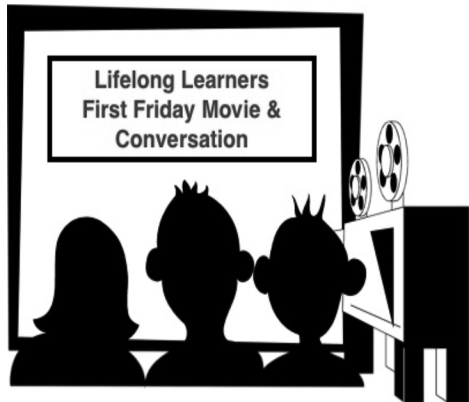
Presenter: Heather Harren has a bachelor's (2009) and master's (2011) degree in History from Minnesota State University, Mankato. She began working at the Blue Earth County Historical Society in September 2011 and has worked in many different areas of the building including the Research Center and Front Desk. Currently, she is the Communications and Events Manager working on planning programs and letting the public know all that is happening with the Historical Society.

Location: Blue Earth County Historical Society, 424 Warren St, Mankato

Sponsor: Steve Gilbert



Free Activities for All Members of Lifelong Learners



First Fridays Movie & Conversation

A monthly movie and conversation will be hosted on First Friday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. at Pathstone Latitude, 115 Rogers Street, Mankato.

Upcoming movies:

July 5: *City Lights* (1937, Chaplin's masterpiece)
August 2: *Death at a Funeral* (2007, British comedy)
September 6: *The Descendants* (2011, family drama)

For information on each film, enter the name of the movie in the search bar at imdb.com and find a trailer, director and cast list, run time and more. Trailers are also on YouTube. Organizers Ron

YeZZi and Steve Gilbert select the movies and facilitate conversation afterwards. There is no need to pre-register but signing in to validate membership is required. See you there!

Lunch, Dining, and Sip & Chat meet monthly at local restaurants.

All members are welcome to participate! Watch your emails for dates and times to join fellow members and their guests for food, fun, and lively conversation. **Sip & Chat at the Curioso-Tea House will be on July 16, August 20, and September 17.** Join LLL friends for two kinds of tea and a fruit pastry. (*See calendar of events*).

Our Bridge and 500 card groups meet at the WOW Zone on the third Monday of each month at 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. respectively.

If you'd like to participate in either of these groups, please contact the office.

Enjoy one or both of our Book Clubs.

New members are always welcome. *Contact the office.*

Book Marks reads fiction and meets monthly on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

History & Science book club reads non-fiction and meets at 2 p.m. quarterly on second Thursdays.

Sep 12: *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell

Dec 12: *Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanches, the Most Powerful Indian Tribe in American History* by S.C. Gwynn

Coffee & Current Events meets via Zoom on the fourth Friday of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

For the summer:

July 26, August 23, September 27



This monthly discussion group, hosted by Steve Gilbert and Georgia Holmes, is a welcoming place for members to come together for informal conversations about current affairs when we help one another try to make sense of the headlines and newscasts. There is no fee or required preparation and no commitment to attend every month. New members are welcome!

To sign-up and receive the Zoom link for the next meeting, simply send an email to: coffeandcurrentevents@gmail.com.

Want to see a new social activity?

Contact the office to get it started. Email LifelongLearners@mnsu.edu or call (507)389-2011.