

# North Shore School for Seniors

## Spring Classes Starting In March, April and May 2026

### Visit Our Website – [Nss4s.org](http://Nss4s.org)

Term 1 Dates:	Term 2 Dates:
Mondays, March 16 – April 6	Mondays, April 20 – May 11
Tuesdays, March 17– April 7	Tuesdays, April 21 – May 12

## Creative Arts, Crafts and Skills

### Art of the Blog – Joel Kriofske and Tad Kriofske Mainella

Term 1 on 2 Tuesdays:	March 31– April 7	11:00 – 11:50	\$20.00
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Online Journaling or "Blogging" is a fun way to share your stories and experiences with friends and family. We'll show how to use "Blogger.com" and "Substack" to start your own newsletter and offer tips for gaining a wider audience. Prep work: Important – You will need to have a valid email address!

### Brain Health – Melissa Meier

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	April 7	12:00 – 12:50	\$10.00
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Learn comprehensive ways to improve your brain health and gain new memory techniques to help you in your everyday life.

### Dementia 101 – Cristina Huitron

Term 2 on 1 Monday:	April 27	11:00 – 11:50	\$10.00
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During this Dementia 101 course presentation, we will be reviewing some statistics, discussing what is dementia and the disease types. Also, we will review some basics about the brain, the 10 early warning signs and the importance of early diagnosis.

### Finding Trustworthy News – Louisa Kamps

Term 2 on 1 Tuesday:	April 21	11:00 – 11:50	\$10.00
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As traditional media outlets continue to evolve – and podcasters and TikTok content creators seize attention with their unpacking and opining on the news of the day – it can be challenging to find reliable fact-based reporting. But this course will help you identify some basic guidelines for finding solid, trustworthy news sources.

## German Review – Jovanka Ristic

Term 1 on 4 Tuesdays:	March 17 – April 7	12:00 – 12:50	\$40.00
Term 2 on 4 Tuesdays:	April 21 – May 12	12:00 – 12:50	\$40.00

For those with some prior knowledge of German (whether from high school/college study or life experiences), here is a chance to "refresh" your language skills. We will work on pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar by reading, translating and doing a little conversation "auf Deutsch"! *Sign up for Term 1 or Term 2 or both.*

## Haiku Tarot Inspiration and Action – Faye Bonini

Term 2 on 3 Tuesdays:	April 21 – May 5	11:00 – 11:50	\$30.00
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Haiku Tarot combines the art of Tarot with the simplicity of Japanese haiku poetry. Both ask us to pause, observe and reflect in a moment of insight and inspiration. We will use haiku to learn the meanings of the Tarot cards and then create our own haiku for Tarot.

## Korean Paper Art: Cards, Gifts + Jewelry – SeonJoo So

Term 1 on 2 Tuesdays:	March 17 – March 24	10:00 – 10:50	\$20.00
Term 2 on 2 Tuesdays:	May 5 – May 12	10:00 – 10:50	\$20.00

**Term 1 – Make Jewelry:** You will be surprised by what you can make with shiny paper, using the Korean technique mastered by SeonJoo So. She adds that even without any experience with the art of paper-folding, you will be able make new designs from paper. View her artistry at the gallery at United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay through Feb. 27. "Creating something new and beautiful will make you happy," says the artist, making her first appearance at NSSS.

**Term 2 – Make Cards + Gifts:** Learn to make special gifts of thankfulness by creating magic cards and surprise gifts from paper.

*For both classes, shiny paper will be supplied. Sign up for Term 1 or Term 2 or both.*

## Le Petit Prince – Barbara Collignon

Term 1 on 4 Tuesdays:	March 17 – April 7	1:00 – 1:50	\$40.00
Term 2 on 4 Tuesdays:	April 21 – May 12	1:00 – 1:50	\$40.00

If you had two or more years of French, this class is for you! We will read St. Exupery's beautiful little classic "Le Petit Prince." Written in 1943, it blends childhood innocence with profound themes of love, friendship, loss, and the absurdity of adult life. Inspired by St. Exupery's own experiences, "Le Petit Prince" brings lessons that ring true forever. Barbara will bring copies for everyone. *Sign up for Term 1 or Term 2 or both.*

## Mah Jongg for Beginners – Maryanne Niesen

Term 1 on 4 Mondays:	March 16 – April 6	1:00 – 2:30	\$40.00
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Participants will be introduced to the basics of the game. Time will be spent on identifying the tiles, going over the card with the winning hands, discussing the order of play and the rules. Handouts will be given. *Note: Class will be limited to 8 people. Mail registrations: call to find out if space is available.*

## Wonderful World of Knitting – Suzie Hanks

Term 1 on 4 Tuesdays:	March 17 – April 7	1:30 – 3:00	\$40.00
Term 2 on 4 Tuesdays:	April 21– May 12	1:30 – 3:00	\$40.00

Come join us to learn new knitting skills and explore the craft of fiber work. The class is open to all skill levels of knitters. Bring ideas for new projects or UFO's (Unfinished Objects) if you want help with them. Beginners will learn how to cast on, knit, purl, increase and decrease and cast off. Please bring light colored worsted weight yarn and size 8 wooden needles if you are a beginner knitter. *Sign up for Term 1 or Term 2 or both.*

## Health, Wellness and Exercise

### Introduction to Public Health – Elise Papke

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	March 17	11:00 – 12:00	\$10.00
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What does public health mean to you? What would make your neighborhood a healthier place to live, work, play, and age? Curious about why public health matters now? Come learn about public health and engage in questions and discussion.

### Restorative Sleep and Dreams – Philip Chard

Term 1 on 2 Tuesdays:	March 17 – March 24	11:00 – 12:00	\$20.00
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Restorative sleep, dreaming and hypnagogic consciousness are critical to physical and mental wellbeing. However, a significant number of Americans are chronically sleep disordered. We will examine new research into the nature of sleep, why it is so important and what we can do to promote sound and restful repose.

### Strength for Life – Beth Eckman

Term 1 on 4 Mondays:	March 16 – April 6	1:00 – 1:50	\$40.00
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This class will teach you moves that build muscle and support everyday activities for a longer, healthier life. Using only your body weight, you will learn a routine that you can do anywhere with modifications for all abilities.

## Tai Chi – Janae Kakulis

Term 1 on 4 Mondays:	March 16 – April 6	11:00 – 11:50	\$40.00
Term 2 on 4 Mondays:	April 20 – May 11	11:00 – 11:50	\$40.00

Reduce stress and improve your balance and health by learning the ancient art of Tai Chi. We use the traditional Tai Chi forms as well as adaptations like Tai Chi for Health to provide participants with an opportunity to relax, recover and refocus their energy for a better life. *Sign up for Term 1 or Term 2 or both.*

## Tapping to Release Pain and Stress – Mary Liner

Term 2 on 2 Mondays:	April 20 – April 27	11:00 – 12:00	\$20.00
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This is an introduction to an easy process of tapping with your fingers on parts of your body to relieve stress and pain, lower cortisol, improve sleep and more. Classes will include the science behind tapping (EFT), handouts, resources and tapping as a group.

## Tools for Relaxation and Coping – Christine Straw

Term 2 on 4 Mondays:	March 16 – April 6	12:00 – 12:50	\$40.00
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We all have developed our own “toolbox” for dealing with stress and coping with challenges. We will explore the tools we use and ways we might expand our array of relaxation and coping approaches.

## Zumba Gold – Mimi Oxman

Term 1 on 4 Mondays:	March 16 – April 6	10:00 – 10:50	\$40.00
Term 2 on 4 Mondays:	April 20 – May 11	10:00 – 10:50	\$40.00

ZUMBA is a “feel-good,” fun and easy way to get some exercise and dance at the same time. The “steps” are simple, and the class is aimed at “older adults.” You can do Zumba sitting or standing. Come and have fun! *Sign up for Term 1 or Term 2 or both.*

## History, Culture and Politics

### Anatomy of a Catastrophe – Robert Habush

Term 2 on 4 Mondays:	April 20 – May 11	1:00 – 1:50	\$40.00
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On July 14, 1999, the worst construction accident in Wisconsin history occurred at the Miller Park construction area, killing three ironworkers and injuring others. Go on a journey led by the lawyer who represented the three widows – from the investigation, trial (including witness testimony), final arguments to the jury, verdict and judgement.

## **Artificial Intelligence: What It Is and Some Practical Uses and Implications – Allan Montezon**

Term 1 on 2 Mondays:	March 16 – March 23	11:00 – 11:50	\$20.00
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This course introduces artificial intelligence in an accessible, practical way for older adults. We'll explore how AI impacts daily life, demystify the technology, and provide hands-on experience with AI tools that can enhance productivity, creativity and connection.

## **Door County's Outstanding Attractions – Mary and Joel Kriofske**

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	April 7	10:00 – 10:50	\$10.00
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Whether one is a tourist or a traveler, the delights of Door County's many attractions – places to visit, things to do and see, including its excellent restaurants, coffee houses, bakeries, theaters, museums – are more than well worth the time and effort. It is Wisconsin's "Air-Conditioned" Vacation Land. Beauty, beaches, its Great Lake and Green Bay – swimming, boating, hiking. Adventure and relaxation unsurpassed!

## **Frank Lloyd Wright's Cancelled Housing Project – Nick Hayes**

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	March 17	1:00 – 1:50	\$10.00
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In 1916, Frank Lloyd Wright entered into partnership with Milwaukee real estate developer Arthur Richards to build modest residences called the American System-Built Homes (ASBH). High expectations soured and Wright sued Richards in 1917 to claw back his intellectual property and then hid the project from public view forever. Why? A fresh reading of court-secured documents explains the mysterious cancellation.

## **Great Lakes Maritime History – Christopher Winters**

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	March 17	10:00 – 10:50	\$10.00
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Author and photographer Christopher Winters will share highlights of his 30-year career documenting many facets of Great Lakes maritime history, both above and below the water's surface.

## **History of the First World War – Patrick Jung**

Term 2 on 4 Mondays:	April 20 – May 11	10:00 – 10:50	\$40.00
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World War I was truly a world war, not just a European war. Learn about the origins of the war, beginning with the earlier Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71 and the resultant conflicts among the European powers. The four-year stalemate on the Western Front overshadows other facets, such as the Eastern Front success of the Central Powers (Germany, Austria, and Ottoman Empire) that precipitated the Russian Revolution. Allied victories in the Middle East had lasting impacts as well.

## Human Dignity, a Blessing or a Trap? – Bill Washabaugh

Term 2 on 4 Tuesday:	April 21 – May 12	11:00 – 11:50	\$40.00
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This four-session discussion will rely on anthropology for definitions of dignity and for arguments about its importance in human affairs.

## Meet the Map – Georgia Brown

Term 1 on 1 Monday:	March 30	12:00 – 12:50	\$10.00
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UW–Milwaukee's American Geographical Society Library (AGSL) is one of the largest map and geography libraries in the United States. This class will talk about maps and how to think critically about them. Additionally, come learn about the history of this collection and how to use it for yourself.

## More on Wisconsin's Art History – Annemarie Sawkins

Term 2 on 2 Tuesdays:	April 21– April 28	12:00 – 12:50	\$20.00
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Come and learn about the world of art in Wisconsin from the co-author of *A Creative Place: The History of Wisconsin Art*. Enjoy an in-depth presentation on the artists and the art scene in the state.

## A Mystery Writer's Strategies and Secrets – Patricia Skalka

Term 1 on 1 Monday:	March 16	10:00 – 10:50	\$10.00
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Where do mystery writers get their ideas? How do they plot their stories? In this session I will share the behind-the-scenes strategies and secrets that I use to write the Dave Cubiak Door County mysteries.

## Native American Wisdom – Richard Gonzalez

Term 2 on 3 Tuesdays:	April 21– May 5	12:00 – 12:50	\$30.00
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How do Native Americans express wisdom? What are their thoughts on life, family, the earth, and democracy? In spite of 1492, how do the various nations form a sustained culture? Words, pictures, letters and histories will provide insight.

## Responding to Climate Change – Tim Tharp

Term 2 on 2 Tuesdays:	April 21– April 28	2:00 – 3:00	\$20.00
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This two-session class on the vital issue of climate change approaches the future with hope and action. The discussion will include the science behind our understanding of earth's

climate, the many human activities that contribute to climate change and how to prioritize our collective response to the climate crisis. The first session focuses on the science of climate change and the second on our response.

## **Shipwrecks, Haunted Lighthouses and the Schooner Frontier – James Heinz**

Term 1 on 4 Tuesdays:	March 17 – April 7	1:00 – 1:50	\$40.00
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Learn about shipwrecks and haunted lighthouses on the Great Lakes in this four-session class. Add an examination of the long-gone cargo schooners, affectionally referred to as the pickup trucks of the Great Lakes, and you will have plenty of tales to tell your children and grandchildren.

## **Ten Reasons Why We Believe Lies – Kevin Gibson**

Term 1 on 1 Monday:	April 6	1:00: – 2:30	\$10.00
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From "Santa Claus is watching everything you do" to "Mom will kiss it better" to "There are definitely weapons of mass destruction," we constantly swim in a riptide of lies. Sometimes they are benign, but often they are used by adversaries, advertisers and politicians for their own purposes. In this class we will survey ten reasons that motivate lying in contemporary society

## **Town Hall on the Economy Today – Bill Holahan**

Term 1 on 2 Mondays:	March 16 – March 23	1:00 – 1:50	\$20.00
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The economic issues facing the nation include affordability, unemployment, inflation, immigration, health insurance, Social Security, national defense and a host of other issues. The first class will include a brief introduction of these issues, and Bill will collect the questions you may have. Bill will address those questions and in the second class there will be an opportunity for discussion. All points of view are welcome.

## **USO: Music and History – Jean Kaldunski**

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	April 7	11:00 – 11:50	\$10.00
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Learn about the USO with an emphasis on WWII era performers and music.

## **WPA Milwaukee Handicraft Project – Lois Quinn**

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	March 31	11:00 – 11:50	\$10.00
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Lois will share stories and historic photos from the amazing WPA project which employed nearly 5,000 Milwaukee County women during the Great Depression making toys, quilts, rugs, draperies and other products for the county orphanage, hospital, WPA nurseries and schools.

## **Movies, Music, Theater and Literature**

### **American Pie: The Song Revealed? – Greg Jenks**

Term 1 on 2 Tuesdays:	March 24 – March 31	1:00 – 2:00	\$20.00
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Don McLean's hit song from 1971 has been described as one of the most debated songs of the 20th Century. McLean has provided little information about the meaning of his cryptic lyrics which appear to allude to a number of events, people and social changes that took place in the 1960's. In this class, Greg will share his interpretation of the lyrics, referencing comments McLean has made about the song over the years while also sharing his own "detective work" and some educated guesses. So when was "the day the the music died"? Who is the "king", and who is the "jester" that "stole his thorny crown"? The answers to these, and other questions, will be "revealed."

### **Astaire, Rogers and Kelly – Nancy Weiss–McQuide**

Term 2 on 1 Monday:	April 27	12:00 – 1:00	\$10.00
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A behind-the-scenes look at the lives of these beloved dance performers of the Golden Age of movie musicals.

### **The Day the Music Died – Greg Jenks**

Term 2 on 2 Tuesdays:	April 28 – May 5	1:00 – 2:00	\$20.00
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The story of the Winter Dance Party Tour in the winter of 1959 that featured Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and The Big Bopper that ended up in the tragic plane crash on February 3. The talk will chronicle the rise of the three rock & roll stars, how they ended up together on a tour of the Midwest in the middle of winter and the many Wisconsin cities that played important roles in the story.

## **Favorite Poetry of American Poet Laureates – Barbara Collignon**

Term 1 on 4 Tuesdays:	March 17 – April 7	12:00 – 12:50	\$40.00
Term 2 on 4 Tuesdays:	April 21 – May 12	12:00 – 12:50	\$40.00

During Term 1 we will read poetry by poet laureates Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer, Ada Limon, Billy Collins and Ted Kooser. In Term 2, we'll read poetry by Theodore Roethke, Langston Hughes, Naomi Shihab Nye and Joyce Sutphen. Time permitting, we'll explore a few others.

*Sign up for Term 1 or Term 2 or both.*

## **Prokofiev and Shostakovich: Powerhouse Composers – Matt Annin**

Term 1 on 3 Mondays:	March 16 – March 30	10:00 – 10:50	\$30.00
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Prokofiev and Shostakovich composed masterpieces under the shadow of Stalin's watchful eye. We will investigate how these composers lived in an authoritarian society and how it shaped their lives and music. We will listen to their most famous music and take a side trip to the incredible story of Shostakovich's "Leningrad" Symphony.

## **Nature's Wonders: Birds, Bees, Butterflies and Critters**

### **Animals, Culture and Art – Andy Holman**

Term 1 on 1 Monday:	March 30	11:00 – 11:50	\$10.00
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Animals have been part of culture since the dawn of humans as manifested in art. This class will review such interactions, ranging from places including the ancient Sahara, New Guinea, the Beni Amazon, Egypt and others.

### **Creating a Butterfly Garden – Meghan Anderson**

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	March 31	10:00 – 10:50	\$10.00
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Explore why you should attract butterflies to your garden space, and how you can do that. We will cover considerations for the site, plant choices, and the benefits of pollinators.

### **Signs of Life in Estabrook Park – Andrew Dressel**

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	March 31	2:00 – 3:00	\$10.00
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Come and see the incredible array of wildlife that can be found in Estabrook Park. The presentation will include pictures of the critters and the stories behind them.

## Spring Bird Migration – Charles Hagner

Term 1 on 2 Tuesdays:	March 17 – March 24	2:00 – 3:00	\$20.00
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In this two-part class, Charles Hagner will describe the miracle of spring bird migration in Wisconsin. You will learn where birds spend the winter, why they migrate, how high and fast they fly, when they arrive, how to recognize their nests and more.

## Wildlife from the Road – Andrew Dressel

Term 2 on 1 Tuesday:	April 21	1:00 – 1:50	\$10.00
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If you like seeing the wildlife that can be found in Estabrook Park, you also may enjoy seeing some of the amazing sights that can be found farther afield. Locales will include Africa, the Middle East, and South and Central America.

## Stepping into the Future

### The Critical Role of a Power of Attorney – April DeValkenaere

Term 2 on 1 Tuesday:	May 12	1:00 – 2:30	\$10.00
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One great way to make sure your decisions are adhered to is to draft a legally binding Financial Power of Attorney (POA). We will discuss who should have a POA and fiduciary responsibilities created by a POA document to protect your fortress.

### Estate and Financial Planning for Peace of Mind – Lyssa McGauran and Jess Henrickson

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	March 17	11:00 – 11:50	\$10.00
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Everyone, regardless of age or wealth, can benefit from having an estate and financial plan. Wills, trusts and beneficiary planning provide direction and continuity for passing on your assets after death and helping your loved ones administer your estate. Equally important are during-life issues such as health care directives and durable powers of attorney. We will discuss strategies to help you protect your assets and ease the burden on your loved ones.

### Exploring Senior Care Options – Jessica Nye and Katie Deprey

Term 2 on 2 Tuesdays:	April 21 – April 28	10:00 – 10:50	\$20.00
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Please join us for an interactive discussion about all the different levels of Senior Living and Care/Support Options, Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care, Long-Term Care, Short-Term Rehabilitation, Home Care, Respite, Palliative and Hospice. Learn about a Healthcare Power of Attorney and how to be a health care advocate. We know there are lots of questions, so we are here to help!

### **Preparing Your House for Sale – Mary Liner**

Term 1 on 3 Tuesdays:	March 24 – April 7	11:00 – 11:50	\$30.00
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Learn what you need to do to get your house ready to sell: from what to keep and what needs to be given away, how to interview a real estate agent so you get the most money for your house and tips on how to make a move smoothly and who/when to contact someone to help get you organized for the move.

### **Outsmarting Scammers in 2026 – Lisa Schiller**

Term 1 on 1 Tuesday:	March 17	12:00 – 12:50	\$10.00
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Did you know that scams targeting older adults are on the rise? Fraud losses among Americans over 60 rose 400% to \$2.4billion in 2024—an amount far below the true total, since many victims never report being scammed. Every day, scams become more sophisticated with twists and turns to fool victims out of hundreds, sometimes even thousands, of dollars. In addition, ongoing technology continues to provide scammers with opportunities. Join us and learn about the common scams targeting older adults, how to spot the scams and how to report them.

### **Stay or Go: What’s Your Next Move? – Melinda Stuart**

Term 2 on 2 Mondays:	May 4 – May 11	11:00 – 11:50	\$20.00
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In the first class, we will explore the pros and cons of aging in place or moving to a new location. Which is the right fit for you? In the second class, we will consider our possessions. What to keep and what to let go. And for those things we want to let go, what should we do with them?

### **Tipping Point: When Safety Comes First – Phyllis Brostoff**

Term 1 on 1 Monday:	March 30	1:00 – 2:00	\$10.00
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When do you know when you, or someone close to you (spouse, relative, friend, neighbor) needs to stop driving, or can no longer manage their own finances, or needs to move to a more protected living arrangement, or can no longer make their own health care decisions? Come with your questions to explore when a TIPPING POINT has been reached.

## Instructor Biographies

**Meghan Anderson:** Meghan lives on the east side of Milwaukee and operates a landscape design and garden consultation business that specializes in small urban spaces and native plants.

**Matt Annin:** Matt has been the Principal Horn of the Milwaukee Symphony since 2011. He has performed concerts with many orchestras in the United States and Canada.

**Faye Bonini:** Faye has worked with Tarot for more than 25 years. She has read cards at Bastille Days, local theaters and private events and taught Tarot at UWM–Waukesha and with OSHER/Milwaukee and LIR/Waukesha.

**Phyllis Mensh Brostoff:** Phyllis is a social worker who has spent more than 50 years working with the elderly, including 35 years as the co-founder and CEO of Stowell Associates, a geriatric care management and home care company. She is also a board member of NSSS.

**Georgia Brown:** Georgia is the Public Services Librarian at UW–Milwaukee's American Geographical Society Library (AGSL). She works with students, faculty, community members and researchers from around the world to help them use the primary sources available at the AGSL.

**Philip Chard:** Philip is a psychotherapist specializing in health psychology and trauma treatment. He writes an award-winning weekly column titled *Out of My Mind*, previously in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* and now the *Shepherd Express* and has authored three books. Previously, he was Director of Behavioral Science Education and Associate Professor at Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine, where he received the Outstanding Faculty Award.

**Barbara Collignon:** Barbara enjoyed an extensive career teaching French and serving as translator and interpreter in healthcare. She is a lifelong aficionado of poetry, member of the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets and a published poet.

**Katie Deprey:** Katie is an experienced Registered Nurse with a background in care management, public health, home care, assisted living and acute care settings. Katie has her Certified Case Manager designation, which demonstrates the ability to provide case management and care coordination to clients with complex medical needs and situations, while advocating for the client throughout the continuum of care.

**April DeValkenaere:** April is CEO of Fortress Forensic Investigations ([www.protectyourfortress.com](http://www.protectyourfortress.com)); providing justice for victims of financial exploitation through evidence analysis and forensic accounting investigations. April is a Certified

Financial Crimes Investigator (CFCI), State Bar of Wisconsin Certified Paralegal (SBWCP) and Certified Cryptocurrency Investigator (CCI).

Andrew Dressel: Andrew runs the Bicycle and Motorcycle Engineering Research Lab at UWM, has taught engineering mechanics at UWM and MSOE, and started taking pictures of wildlife in Estabrook Park as a sanity project soon after UWM closed its campus in March of 2020 for COVID.

Beth Eckman: Beth is a certified instructor of both education and exercise. She has a master's degree in educational leadership from Marquette University and obtained her fitness certification through the American Counsel on Exercise. She has two teenagers who keep her busy with tennis, soccer, and in the weight room! She specializes in strength for seniors.

Kevin Gibson: Due to the lack of a trust fund, Kevin has been an infantry officer, tour guide, bus driver and mediator. Prior to retirement, he was a philosophy professor at Marquette University for 25 years.

Richard Gonzalez: Richard is a member of the Iroquois Confederation, Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin, and Turtle Clan. He is a seasoned and informed lecturer and consultant on the origin of Iroquoian thought influencing the U.S. Constitution as well as Indian Boarding Schools, as his mother and maternal grandparents were subjected to this travesty. He holds advanced degrees in education and administration.

Robert L. Habush: Robert retired in 2017 after practicing law for 50 years. A University of Wisconsin Law School graduate, he has held numerous leadership positions in Bar Associations, including president of the American Trial Lawyers Association and the Wisconsin Academy of Trial Lawyers. He has been awarded numerous tributes, including the Champion of Justice Award, the highest honor of the American Association of Justice.

Chuck Hagner: Charles (Chuck) Hagner is a writer and editor who lives and watches birds in Shorewood, Wisconsin, his hometown. From 2001 to 2017, he was the editor-in-chief of nationally distributed *BirdWatching Magazine*, which he joined after a successful thirteen-year career as a staff writer and editor with *Time Life Books*. He served as the state director of Bird City Wisconsin for five years and was a founding director of the Lake Michigan Bird Observatory. He is the author of the *American Birding Association Field Guide to Birds of Wisconsin* and two other books about birds and is a frequent speaker at meetings and festivals. He has birded in more than a dozen countries.

Suzie Hanks: A life long self-taught knitter, Suzie has made countless afghans, baby blankets, sweaters, scarves, socks. She will guide you to finding your most comfortable way to knit and help you to figure it out for yourself.

Nicolas Hayes: With wife Angela Hayes, Nick cares for the Elizabeth Murphy House, an historic American System-Built Home designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, built in 1917-18. During the day, Nick is the Program Director at the Milwaukee Community Sailing Center and writes for *Sailing Magazine*.

James Heinz: James is a retired police officer who learned to dive after watching *The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau* as a kid and continued to dive until three episodes of "the bends" ended my diving career.

Jess Henrickson: Jess has been a financial advisor at Baird since 2008. He received a B.S. in Business Management from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. His expertise in retirement income planning, portfolio construction and risk management help clients attain financial peace of mind.

Bill Holahan: Emeritus Professor William Holahan taught in the UWM economics department for 40 years and served for 10 years as its chair. Since retirement, he has published more than 150 newspaper articles on economics for general readership.

Andy Holman: Andy is a retired CPA with a lifelong passion for photography, coupled with conservation and biodiversity. He says that "much of the world has amazing environments and I have had the good fortune to travel to see many environments and cultures."

Cristina Huitron: Cristina is a Bilingual Dementia Care Specialist (DCS) for the Milwaukee County DHHS Aging and Disabilities Services. She has been a DCS for 5 years. Cristina is a support for people with dementia and their families and/or caregivers. Cristina provides support during her care consultation, helps plan care for people with dementia, provides memory screening and informs caregivers about available resources. Cristina has her master's in social work, which she acquired from the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee.

Greg Jenks: Greg retired from Franklin Public Schools in 2017 after 32 years as a school psychologist and has reinvented himself as a home brewer, amateur actor/singer and presenter on historical topics, including those of his greatest passions: music and sports.

Patrick J. Jung: Patrick received his doctoral degree in American history from Marquette University in 1997 and has taught history and cultural anthropology at Milwaukee School of Engineering since 2003. He has written several books and articles on the history of the western Great Lakes.

Janae Kakulis: Janae has been teaching water aerobics for six years and practicing Tai Chi for four years. She was certified in Tai Chi four years ago and enjoys teaching participants how to slow down in their lives.

Jean Kaldunski: Jean is a retired educator and musician living in Brookfield. After learning about the Wisconsin native known worldwide as the Incomparable Hildegarde, Jean studied the life and music of the cabaret singer and developed presentations linking Hildegarde to historical events during the 20th century.

Louisa Kamps: Louisa is a journalist, editor and personal historian. Her profiles, articles, essays and reviews have appeared in many publications, including *The New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, and ELLE, where she was a contributing writer for 21 years. Through her personal history business, Let's Write Your Story, she helps businesses and individuals share their stories with custom books, articles and biographies. She can be reached through her website, [www.louisakamps.com](http://www.louisakamps.com).

Joel Kriofske: Joel is the author of 3 books and "renowned" film actor.

Mary Kriofske: Mary (and Joel) are not just tourists, but travelers who, over many years of visiting Door County, have collected a great deal of information and memories about this extraordinary Wisconsin destination. Mary is an avid chronicler of all things "Door." Both will share their many experiences in the "Thumb County," more than 45 years' worth!

Tad Kriofske Mainella: Tad is an educator, prolific writer...Milwaukee Record and WMSE Contributor.

Mary Liner: Mary has been a real estate agent for more than 35 years, consulting sellers on how to make their homes sell for the most money and advising them through her experience how to make that next move. Mary was diagnosed with fibromyalgia 26 years ago and has found alternative modalities to help handle the pain and keep moving forward with life.

Lyssa McGauran: Lyssa is a Financial Advisor and CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER® at Baird. She graduated from UW Madison with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Finance, Investment, and Banking and a Certificate in Wealth Management. She joined Baird in 2020 and has a passion for helping families, individuals and their next generations reach their financial and personal goals.

Melissa Meier: Melissa has her Masters in Gerontology, serves as Executive Director of Eastside Senior Services (ESS) and is a member of Shorewood's Dementia Awareness Work Group. ESS is a neighborhood outreach program serving the eastside of Milwaukee and Shorewood.

Allan Montezon: Allan retired from Northwestern Mutual as Director of IT Operations & Infrastructure. He has used various chatbots and continues to explore practical uses. Allan describes the speed and breadth of artificial intelligence's impact as incredible, with "unforeseen consequences."

Maryanne Niesen: Maryanne is a former classroom teacher and an administrator. She has been playing Mah Jongg for more than ten years and has taught it to many friends. She continues to play in person weekly and often online.

Jessica Nye: Jessica brings over 16 years of experience in healthcare as both a direct care provider and in leadership roles in sales and marketing. She has worked in multiple levels of care from community – based, inpatient hospital acute care, critical care, and sub-acute rehab. She helps guide older adults navigate the challenges of senior living options. She is an advocate for seniors and their families.

Mimi (Michele) Oxman: She is a former MPS teacher, curriculum supervisor and assistant principal. Since retiring in 2001, Mimi has spent time doing what she loves – needlework and dancing. She started teaching Zumba in 2008 and (before COVID) was teaching three classes a week at Alexian Village, the Shorewood Senior Center and Milwaukee Catholic Home.

Elise Papke: Elise is Assistant Dean Emerita at the UWM Joseph Zilber College of Public Health. She loves walking in Lake Park and on Madeline Island. Her favorite kitchen gadgets are a green zester, lavender spatula and blue Dutch Oven pot.

Lois Quinn: Lois researched employment and education issues for UWM for 35 years. Lois heard many stories about the WPA Handicraft Project during a 15-year friendship with Mary Rice, the college student who had supervised the project in the 1930s.

Jovanka Ristic: Jovanka is a native Milwaukeean who grew up speaking German at home (her mother was a German immigrant). She has travelled extensively in Germany and also done some translating from German to English.

Annemarie Sawkins, PhD: Annemarie is a Milwaukee-based curator, art historian, author and curator of exhibitions for museums across the United States. She has worked for the Milwaukee Art Museum and was curator at the Haggerty Museum of Art at Marquette University.

Lisa Schiller: Lisa, the Senior Director of Investigations and Media Relations for the Better Business Bureau serving Wisconsin, is a member of the Wisconsin Association of Fraud Investigators, the Financial Abuse Specialist Team and the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators. She has spent her entire career in the field of consumer issues and education and while-collar crime matters.

SeonJoo So: SeanJoo studied and mastered her craft in South Korea, beginning in 1996. In 2008 she moved to Shorewood and by 2012 opened So Cool Crafts, a Korean Paper Art & Craft Studio at 4160 N. Oakland Ave. (lower level) in Shorewood. Through Feb. 27, an exhibition of her art is at the Open Door Gallery of United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay.

Patricia Skalka: Patricia is the award-winning author of the *Dave Cubiak Door County Mysteries*, a former staff writer for *Reader's Digest*, and a Board Member of the Society of Midland Authors.

Christine Straw: Chris is a psychotherapist with a special interest in imagery therapy and coping skill development. She is a psychologist, school psychologist, and graduate school faculty member. She also enjoys singing and writing songs and poetry.

Melinda Stuart: Melinda is a certified move manager and the owner of Smart Moves. She enjoys hearing people's life stories as they prepare for their next chapter.

Tim Tharp: Tim earned his doctorate in plasma physics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, studying fusion, an ideal energy source for the future that can provide clean energy without any pollution or radioactive waste. A physics professor at Marquette University since 2015, he has been teaching a climate change course for more than five years and has been actively working to reduce emissions in the Milwaukee area through teaching, research and personal action.

Bill Washabaugh: Bill is a professor emeritus of Anthropology at UWM since 1974. He focuses on linguistics of Creole societies and Deaf communities, music and politics in southern Spain, and personal identity as represented in movies.

Nancy Weiss-McQuide: Nancy is a professional actor, choreographer, mime artist, dance teacher, writer and speaker. She also has been a teaching artist for the Milwaukee Repertory Theater for 14 years and a dance teacher at UWM for 15 years.

Christopher Winters: Christopher is a lifelong student of Great Lakes maritime history. A photojournalist by training and veteran shipwreck explorer, his award-winning books *Centennial: Steaming Through the American Century*, and *Edmund Fitzgerald: The Legend Lives On* were published in 2008 and 2015, respectively.

## Spring 2026 Registration, Procedures, and Office Hours

**Our phone number is 414-292-0960.**

**We welcome all interested seniors to our classes – there is no age limit. We hold our classes on the first floor of the United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay. Our office and hospitality room is 114.**

You will also find cookies and refreshments in the office so please stop in anytime that we are in session.

**Office hours:** The North Shore School for Seniors office, Room 114, is open on Mondays from 9 am and 3 pm and Tuesdays from 10 am to 4 pm while school is in session.

**Phone contact:** You can call and leave a message, and we will make every effort to get back to you within a day or two.

**Register for Classes: Use one of the methods below:**

***Preferred method: Website:*** Check out our website [www.nss4s.org](http://www.nss4s.org), to view our Fall classes where you can also register and pay online. **Use the Classes link on the first page of the website.**

**\*By mail:** Print and mail the website registration form provided on the website [www.nss4s.org](http://www.nss4s.org), Or mail the form in the printed catalog. Be sure to include your check for the classes you wish to attend with your registration form.

**\*Pick up a registration form or drop it off with a check at the United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay, 819 E. Silver Spring Drive.**

**\*First day of classes:** If space is available, you may register on the first day of class in the school office, Room 114, on the first floor (where the classes are held). Call ahead to be sure classes are still available: 414-292-0960.

**Refunds:** No refunds are issued for missed classes. If classes are cancelled because of weather or Instructor's illness, **you are welcome to sit in on another class.** Refunds are issued if you cancel before classes begin or if the class is cancelled due to low enrollment.

**Closures: When the Milwaukee Public Schools cancels classes because of weather conditions, we also close. For MPS closure information, check your local stations.**

All of our classes are now held in the first floor of the church. One of our volunteers will greet you in the lobby and direct you to your class.

**Catalogs** are available in the United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay office where you also can register. You can also request a catalog by calling 414.292.0960 and leaving a message with your mailing address. You also can access the catalog at [www.nss4s.org](http://www.nss4s.org).

**Parking:** Street parking is available. Please be sure to heed the parking signs. There is additional parking behind Winkie's.

**The mission of North Shore School for Seniors is improving mind and spirit through learning and friendship. The school is an adult outreach program of the United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay.**

## **Become a volunteer!**

**Volunteers help us brainstorm new class ideas, greet and guide folks to their classes, and post flyers in local coffee shops, etc.**

## **Become an instructor!**

**Contact us if you have an idea for a class or if you are thinking of teaching a class. We are always looking for new instructors and class ideas.**

**Volunteers and instructors can take classes for free.**

**Please contact us if you are interested in becoming a volunteer or an instructor.**

# My Class Schedule