



## EXPLORERS LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE 2025 WINTER INTERSESSION SPEAKERS PROGRAM

**When:** Wednesdays from 10 AM to 11 AM

**Where:** Explorers LLI of Salem State University, 10 Federal Street, Suite 10, Salem, MA

**Website:** [www.explorersLLI.org](http://www.explorersLLI.org)

**Phone:** (978) 744-0804

Most of our speaker presentations this winter will occur in-person at our Salem headquarters as well as over Zoom . The only exceptions will be on January 15<sup>th</sup> and January 22<sup>nd</sup>, which are offered only on Zoom. The general public is invited to all talks. To access these meetings over Zoom, click or copy/paste this link into your web browser:

<https://bit.ly/winter25talks>

**Wednesday, January 8 – A Driver Safety Plan for Older Drivers - Michelle Ellicks**, Registry of Motor Vehicles lecturer. Our guest educates senior drivers about recognizing the warning signs of unsafe driving and the age-related changes that may contribute to it. Also many of the medications older people take can have an effect on their driving. People aged 75 and older have the highest collision rate of all drivers in the state. The new driving laws will be discussed, and how to create a specific plan for driving retirement if and when that becomes necessary.

**Wednesday, January 15 – (ZOOM ONLY) The Lioness of Boston-Isabella Stewart Gardner- Emily Franklin**, author. Our guest has published a new book about the life of the flamboyant dowager who used her husband's money from the Salem maritime trade to found the famous Boston art museum.

**Wednesday, January 22 – (ZOOM ONLY) Rethinking Medications- Donna Bartlett**, professor of pharmacy practice at the MA College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. She will discuss her book: "*MedStrong : Shed Your Meds for a Better, Healthier You*". Many "aging conditions" such as forgetfulness, confusion, insomnia, weakness, and falling can be linked directly to overprescribing of medication

**Wednesday, January 29 – A History of the Yiddish Language – Jeffrey Newton** , member- Yiddish Alive Affinity Group. Our guest speaks, reads and writes the Yiddish language fluently.. He will provide a brief overview of Yiddish, from its origins over a thousand years ago, through its development into the culturally rich language of today.

**Wednesday, February 5 - Reviewing the Assassination of RFK Sr. – Linda Weltner** – former Boston Globe columnist. Our guest examines the details about the death of Robert F. Kennedy and offers alternative views about his real killers.

**Wednesday, February 12 – A History of the Architectural Styles in Salem – Michael Cusick** .Our guest is an expert on the various architectural eras in Salem and will show photos of various examples up to the present day.

**Wednesday, February 19 – Tales of a Lady Dog Catcher– Nancy LeBaron**, former animal control officer for the city of Peabody, MA. Author of a book with the same title, our speaker will relate her often humorous experiences at age 19 as the “ first woman dog catcher in the country”.

**Wednesday, February 26 – Interesting Places to Visit, Less than an Hour's Drive of Salem – Ted Novakowski**, Explorer member. There are many culturally historic places in our area that are not very well known, but well worth visiting. Our speaker will show slides of a number of them, each of which he has personally visited.