

Hamilton House Courier

March/April 2026



A fun and special Valentines Day luncheon hosted in February

Programs & Special Events

Please note any sign up or payment requirements. Please consider whether you will be able to attend most sessions before signing up for limited space activities.

Community Meeting

Thursday, March 12 at 9:30 am-11 am (DR)

Join fellow members, the board and director to learn about the latest news at Hamilton House, and share feedback and ideas. Light refreshments will be served.

All members are encouraged to attend. No other activities will take place during this time.

– SOCIAL EVENTS –

The Membership and Special Events Committees

New Member Coffee

Thursday, March 26 at 9:30 am|DR

This is a fun and informative gathering to learn more about Hamilton House's mission and programs. Members new to Hamilton House in the last six months are encouraged to attend.

Coffee, Tea & Conversation

2nd Wednesday of each month at 10 am |DR

Wednesdays, March 11 & April 8

Enjoy socializing with other members at this informal social gathering over tea and coffee. All members welcome!

Monthly Friday Social

4th Friday of each month

March 27 at 2 pm - 4 pm & April 24 at 3 pm-5 pm

Light fare will be served, but members are asked to bring a beverage of choice for themselves or to share. Members, neighbors, and friends are all welcome.

Pub Night–Family Feud Night

Monday, April 20 at 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Cost: \$12pp. Sign up at Front Desk

Pizza and beverages will be served. 2 Drinks per person limit.

The Family Feud will be hosted by member Frank Capecci. Various classes/groups (language, art, discussion, etc.) are encouraged to compete as teams in the Family Feud game. **Please contact Social Cmte chair, Merle Wolfgang to participate as a team mwolfgang47@gmail.com.**

– SPECIAL PROGRAMS –

St Patrick's Day Celebration & Lunch

The Kelly School of Irish Dance, directed by Meghan Kelly at 12:30-12:45 |DR
Irish Music Concert at 1 pm - 2 pm |Hallway

Tuesday, March 17 at 12:30 pm- 2 pm

Join the celebration of traditional lively music, dance and food! Three dancers will perform traditional and contemporary Irish dances.

Irish music concert by the trio of Mary King on harp, Ed Sweeney on guitar and Cathy Clasper-Torch on fiddle.



Special St. Paddy's Lunch Menu: The cafe will once again have a themed lunch this day. This special plate will be priced comparable to the regular menu.

Many thanks to the Social Events Committee for teaming up with the Program Committee for this celebration!

Through the Years of Dance!

Dance Lecture: **Tuesday, March 24 at 10 am |DR**
Dance Performance: **Friday, March 27 at 1 pm|Chapel Hall**

Director of Dance: Angelica Cardente-Vessella

The students of the Dance Senior Seminar at Rhode Island College have created a dynamic and engaging exploration of dance as it exists in our society today. This culminating experience examines how dance evolved across cultures, tracing its historical roots and highlighting the vital role it has played in communities around the world.

The presentation compares dance in the 20th and 21st centuries, exploring shifts in style, purpose, accessibility, and cultural influence.

Attend this event and support this class project!

– TRAVEL –

Trips: Sign-up is required at the Front Desk and payment due must be made at that time. Trip details are posted on the bulletin board in the Reception Area.

Museum of Work & Culture

Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 10:15 am-2:30 pm
→ **Cost: \$8pp** (includes 1.5 hour docent guided tour)
→ **Sign up at Front Desk | Deadline Friday, March 20, 2026 | Senior Bus Transportation—14 Max.**

The Museum of Work & Culture presents the compelling story of immigrants who came to find a better life in the mill towns along the Blackstone River. Lunch to follow at a nearby restaurant (self-pay).

– CONCERTS –

Pipe Organ Concert & Tour - Central Congregational Church

Patrick Aiken, Organist and Choirmaster
Wednesday, April 15 at 1 pm

Lift those Tax Day Blues with music! Explore the resonance and grandeur of this rare Aeolian-Skinner organ, with 3,456 pipes of various sizes! Patrick will explain the history of this organ, along with its sound-effect stops, 3 keyboards, foot keyboard, etc., and treat everyone to a delightful concert that brings it all together in sound.

Thank you member Marilyn Edwards for arranging this concert.

– LUNCH & LEARN –

African-American Artists: Elizabeth Catlett and Nancy Elizabeth Prophet

Instructor: Suzanne Lewis

Wednesday, April 22 at 12:30 (DR)

Elizabeth Catlett was a printmaker and sculptor who eventually moved to Mexico and combined Mexican and African American influences in her art.

Nancy Elizabeth Prophet was born in Rhode Island and was the first African American to graduate from RISD in 1918. Her sculptures were shown at the Salon d'Automne in Paris and the Whitney Biennials.

Talking About Art is a discussion group for those who want to learn more about Art and Artists.

Conversations in Science: A Double Header!

The Conversation is turning upward to the stars and asteroids.

How Do We Know What Stars Are Made of?

Ian P Dell'Antonio, Professor of Physics (Brown)

Wednesday, March 25 at 10 am

Ian teaches Astronomy, which is the study of celestial objects and related phenomena. He will address the history of the stars, the evolution of the universe, science and culture.

The Department of Earth, Environmental and Planetary Sciences (DEEPS) integrates teaching and research to investigate fundamental phenomena affecting the Earth and planets.

From Detection to Deflection: Protecting Earth from Asteroids

Emily Fischer, Ph.D. candidate (Brown)

Wednesday, March 25 at 12:30 (DR)

Emily's talk will focus on how scientists today detect and track near-Earth objects, what to do if a hazardous asteroid is discovered, and how these same objects may one day provide valuable resources through asteroid mining.

– PRESENTATIONS –

Snowtown

Heather Olson, Laboratory & Collections Manager

The Public Archeology Laboratory, Inc. **Thursday,**

Wednesday, March 4 at 12:30 pm (DR)

Snowtown is one of Rhode Island's lost towns. "It was a small, mixed-race neighborhood in mid-1800s Providence, and the site of a racially motivated mob attack in the fall of 1831. By the end of the 19th century, the Snowtown community was displaced by the railroad construction and urban development, including the RI State House." (RIHumanities.org)

Heather is a member of The Snowtown Project Research Team, working to recover the history of this diverse community.

New Series! Regional, State and Local Issues in our Communities

Updates on Rhode Island's Climate Action and Clean Energy Programs

Tina Munter & Amanda Barker, Green Energy

Consumers, Inc.

Monday, March 9 at 12:30 pm (DR)

Tina Munter, Rhode Island Policy Advocate, will review a timeline of Rhode Island's actions to address climate change, and legislation currently in front of the General Assembly.

Amanda Barker, Clean Energy Program Manager, will discuss available clean energy programs that homeowners can take advantage of, like heat pump rebates and energy efficiency incentives.

Thank you member Barry Schiller for coordinating this series.

Garden Sustainability In A Time of Climate Change

Alan Newton

Wednesday, March 11 at 12:30 pm (DR)

The presentation will provide key considerations in creating a sustainable garden including topics such as the importance of native plants, companion planting of flowers with vegetables, soil health, water retention with a special focus on the effects of climate change on gardening in Rhode Island.

Thank you member Charlene Kneath for suggesting this speaker.

The Uses of AI Technology in Daily Life

Members Peter Croke & Jen Rosen

Monday, March 16 at 1 pm (DR)

This presentation will cover many aspects of AI (Artificial Intelligence) from its history, types, uses, ethical considerations and how it can assist people in their daily lives.

NEW Series! 250th Commemoration

On July 4, 2026 the country will commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and review the events leading to the creation of that document. This series will periodically highlight these various moments in history. Hills & Valleys is the first in this series.

Hills & Valleys: Exploring the American Revolution Along the Blackstone

Allison Horrocks, National Park Service Ranger

Wednesday, March 18 at 12:30 pm (DR)

Local Blackstone River Valley Ranger Horrocks will highlight the strategic importance of the Blackstone River in colonial trade and military movements, point out key historical sites along the river that played a role in the Revolution and note the local figures who contributed to the revolutionary cause in the region.

Emerging Technologies in Education and Society: AI, Robotics, and Design Thinking

Tracy Haswell, STEM educator

Wednesday, April 1 at 12:30 pm (DR)

Designed for curious lifelong learners, this interactive workshop invites participants to explore how emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence, robotics, blockchain concepts, and 3D design and printing, are shaping learning, creativity, and everyday life across generations.

Through hands-on demonstrations using devices and simple robots, participants will see how AI supports writing, research, and creative expression in the humanities, as well as problem-solving in STEM fields. Grounded in design thinking, the session emphasizes human-centered technology: tools that enhance curiosity, ethical reflection, and connection rather than replace it. No technical background is required.

Thank you Charlene Kneath for suggesting this speaker.

250th Speaker: Family Ties and Industrial Bonds: The Partnership of Brown, Almy, and Slater

Allison Horrocks, National Park Service Ranger
Wednesday, April 8 at 12:30 pm

Allison will explore the connections between John Brown, William Almy, and Samuel Slater, the early partners who provided ideas, financing, and some of the labor that launched the American Industrial Revolution. Connecting College Hill and Pawtucket, this talk will show how family connections were not just convenient, but essential to the first generation of industrialists.(RIHS.org)

Stories From the Stage

Facilitator: Member Elissa Arffa

Part 1 (Workshop): Monday, April 20 at 12:30 pm-2 pm (DR)

Part 2 (LIVE): Wednesday, April 29, 12:30 pm-2 pm (DR)

This program is all about storytelling, similar to "The Moth" radio or "Stories from the Stage" on PBS television. Members tell a vignette from their life - not a biography, but an incident that involved them. Each story is approximately 5-7 minutes.

Part 1: The workshop is a training session to work on the story and get feedback.

Part 2: Each storyteller will step up the mic and tell their story to a live audience!

Contact Elissa to sign up at earffa@cox.net. If a member cannot attend the workshop on the posted day, alternate arrangements are possible.

Fire Safety & Prevention for Seniors

Providence Fire Department Public Education

Friday, April 24 at 11 am (DR)

Don't take fire safety for granted! Everyone needs reminders and to think about handling an emergency. The Providence Fire Department was established in 1854 and is the second oldest continuously operating paid professional fire department in the United States.

Thank you member Jen Rosen for coordinating this presentation.

– LITERATURE –

Creative Thinking and Writing Course (Pt. 2)*

Instructor: Maggie Miles

Thursdays, April 16, 23 & 30 at 11 am (DR)

Class Size: 13 | Sign up at Front Desk

Looking for ways to exercise your imagination? Research shows that engaging in creative exercises, not only boosts memory, but also relieves stress. Each week, participants will participate in creative thinking and very short writing activities. Many of the writing exercises will be completed in class.

*Anyone who did not attend Part One is welcome to join this class.

– DISCUSSION FORUM –

History Reading & Discussion

Member Mary Buczynski

1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 1:30-3 pm (Oak)

(March 4 & 18, April 1 & 15)

This forum is open to any topic of history from World History to the history of an industry.

Contact Mary with an idea for a topic or book recommendation and the group will vote on what to pursue. buczynski.mary@gmail.com

Transvisibility Day Discussion Group

Facilitator: Pam Elizabeth

Monday, March 30 at 12:30 pm (Mirror)

Everyone is welcome. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, non-binary, and gender fluid – the transvisibility group discussion is about how these terms may relate to those in the group and to people they know. The intention of the discussion is to counter possible feelings of confusion and isolation; and to talk about how these terms may relate to members and the people they know.

– ART / FILM/ MUSIC –

Contemporary Australian Cinema

Member Jerry DeSchepper

March 20 & 27. April 3, 10 & 17 at 10 am - 12 pm (DR)

Contemporary Australian cinema is a diverse, globally recognized industry known for unique storytelling, strong national identity and a variety of genres. Acclaimed films like Sweet Country, Animal Kingdom, Lantana, Tracks, and The Babadook, explore themes from Indigenous culture to psychological thriller and outback survival.

Let's Sing!

Member Cathy Clasper-Torch

Fridays April 10 & 24 at 1 pm - 2 pm (Mirror)

All voices welcome. Music provided. Join Cathy in an informal gathering to sing traditional and contemporary songs from a range of diverse sources. Bring a favorite song to share. This program will continue on Fridays May 8 & 22

– VISUAL ARTS –

Zentangle Workshop

Charlann Walker, certified Zentangle instructor

Monday, April 13 at 1 pm (Art Studio)

Materials fee: \$10pp is paid directly to instructor.
Max class size: 15 | Sign up at Front Desk | Deadline: Monday, April 6.

The Zentangle Method is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns using repetitive steps that transcends its own rules. The method increases focus and creativity, provides artistic satisfaction along with an increased sense of personal well-being and mindfulness.

– HANDICRAFTS –

Kawandi Hand Quilting

Member Elizabeth Gibson

Friday, March 13 (DR) & March 20 (Mirror)
at 11 am - 12:30 pm

Class size: 8

Ever wonder what to do with all those piles of fabric scraps? Kawandi Quilting is a method of hand quilting that uses scraps of fabric and hand stitching from the outside toward the center of the quilt. A great way to make use of old blankets, clothing and all those endless piles of fabric.

NOTE: Participants should have a basic knowledge of sewing



Members learning kawandi quilting techniques in Fall 2025.

– *NEW* GAMES –

Cribbage

Wednesdays at 12:30 (Mural)
(begins March 4)

All levels welcome. Bring a Cribbage board.
Thank you to member Lois Blazer for suggesting this game.

Mahjong

Member Roberta Schwartz

Thursdays at 10 am - 12 pm (Mirror)

All levels welcome. A minimum of three players is required. There are three American Mahjong sets available. Members are welcome to bring their own set.

Ongoing Activities

Please note any RSVP requirements or payment details

– LANGUAGE –

Beginner French

Instructor: Member Susan Rubin

Mondays at 9:45 am (Mural)

Class limit: 9. [Sign up at Front Desk](#)

Beginner French focuses on enhancing students' ability to understand and communicate in the language in a comfortably-paced and welcoming environment. Students are introduced to grammar, vocabulary, and basic conversation, including simple expressions for practical situations. The class practices language skills through activities with one another and the instructor.

French: Conversation and Culture

Instructor: Member Sheila Zompa

Mondays at 9:50 am (DR)

Designed for intermediate French learners who have a basic knowledge of French grammar. Emphasis will be on speaking. French culture will often enhance the conversational experience.

German: Intermediate Study Group

Mondays at 10:45 am (Mirror)

Join a self-directed gathering of studious German language students.

Spanish I & II

Instructor: Member Alicia Elwin

Tuesdays (Mural)

Class size for I & II: 10 max

[Both classes require sign up at Front Desk](#)

– Spanish I: 10 am

This is a class for beginners and continuing students. Grammatical concepts will be explained in both English and Spanish. In addition, students will begin reading Spanish short stories that increase in difficulty.

– Spanish II: 11:30 am

A comfortable knowledge of Spanish grammar and verb usage is advisable. This is an advanced Spanish conversation class. Reading material for discussion may include novels, short stories or articles written in Spanish.

– LITERATURE/POETRY/WRITING –

Book Club

Coordinator: Member Sylvia Danforth

Last Monday of the month at 1 pm (DR)

Monday, March 30

"Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" by Jamie Ford

This book explores the age-old conflicts between father and son, the beauty and sadness of what happened to Japanese Americans in the Seattle area during WW II, and the depths and longing of deep-heart love.

Monday, April 27

"The God of the Woods" by Liz Moore

A teenager vanishes from her Adirondack summer camp and as the panicked search begins, a thrilling drama unfolds. This book is an expertly paced thriller where the author cleverly guides us through a tangle of trails to a thrilling and unexpected conclusion.

Writing Together

Coordinator: Member Catherine Goldhammer

Alternating 1st and 3rd Fridays at 1 pm-2:30 pm

(March 6 & 20. April 3 & 17| Oak)

Engaged in a writing project and want to work in the company of others? This is a low pressure way to get together with other writers and get some writing done.

The session begins with everyone briefly describing their project, then writing for 45 minutes, and wrapping up by saying how it went.

All experience levels are welcome.

Note: This is not a critique group. Work will not be read or shared.

Poetry Writers' Workshop

Coordinator: Member Nancy Cherico

Second and fourth Mondays at 11 am to 12:30 pm

March 9 & 23. April 13 & 27| Mirror

These sessions will provide a supportive space to get feedback from other writers about how to enhance the work—the high points, what works, what leaves questions for the reader, and what might work better. Bring a poem (or 2) to be work-shopped. This workshop is now closed.

Poetry Group

Coordinator: Member Jerry Deschepper
Tuesdays at 10:30 am (Oak)

Each month a member will lead a discussion focusing on a poet's works and influence on the genre.

March Poet of the Month, Part 1: Seamus Heaney

Discussion leaders: Joyce Walsh, Sheila Zompa

March Poet of the Month, Part 2: Robert Burns

Discussion leader: Wendy Holmes

April Poet of the Month: Elizabeth Arnold

Discussion leader: Jerry DeSchepper

Classic Novels

Instructor: Member Joan Scheer

Thursdays at 11 am (Mural)

Classic Novels takes an in-depth look at a variety of novels that have stood the test of time, and explores novels and authors who may be en route to this distinction.

Silent Reading Book Group:

Instructor: Member Catherine Goldhammer

Alternating 2nd and 4th Fridays at 1 pm - 2:30 pm
(March 13 & 27. April 10 & 24 | Library)

Prefer to be in a book group where everyone gets to read whatever they want? Here it is! Bring a book of choice and read in the company of others.

The group will begin by everyone giving a brief overview of their books, reading for 45 minutes (or an hour), and wrapping up by saying how it went. This is a fun way to get to know other people and talk about all kinds of books

– DISCUSSION FORUMS –

Readings & Discussion

Coordinator: Member John Stevenson

Wednesdays at 11 am (DR)

Join a lively, weekly discussion group about a stimulating essay or short article. Titles and links to the readings are listed in the weekly ebuletin.

Current Topics

Facilitator: Member Rick Tropper

Alternating Fridays at 12:30 pm (DR)

(March 6 & 20. April 3 & 17)

This is an opportunity for those who enjoy a good discussion to share their opinions about what they've been reading and hearing in the news. Bring a topic suggestion.

– ART/FILM/MUSIC –

Friday Flicks

Alternating Fridays | 10 am - 12 pm (Mirror)

2nd & 4th Fridays

Members gather for a movie and popcorn!

March 13: Good bye June (2025) 114 minutes

NOTE: Friday Flicks will be on hiatus until May, when Jerry's new film class ends.

Note: Films are scheduled at the time they are available on Netflix. Substitutions may occur.

– VISUAL ARTS –

Watercolor Studies

Instructor: Anne Wert

Tuesdays at 1 pm - 3:30 pm (DR)

(NO class March 17)

The class will learn various watercolor techniques and touch on the basics of painting, including color, value, and composition. Each class will start with a demo or lesson and end with a group critique. Artists should bring their own reference images. Some watercolor experience is recommended.

NOTE: This class is now at capacity for this session. There is a waiting list at the Front Desk.

Hand-Building Pottery

Instructor: Kate Champa

Tuesdays at 1 pm-3 pm

(Pottery Studio)

Materials Fee: \$25 to be paid directly to the instructor at the first class of this new eight-week session. The fee covers the cost of clay and firing the electric kiln.

Art Studio Group

Self-directed (assistance is available)

Thursdays at 10 am

This time is available for members who want to work on a project, but not necessarily be alone.

An artist volunteer will be in the studio to offer feedback or assistance if requested. A still life will be set up for inspiration. A few art materials will be available for anyone to use.

Intermediate Watercolor

Instructor: Anne Rourke

Thursdays 1:00 pm-3:30 pm (DR)

This is a class for students with previous training or experience in watercolor. Students will be able to explore a variety of techniques.

Open Art Studio

All members are welcome to use the studio to explore their creativity in this quiet space. The studio is available when art classes are not in session. Please check the schedule. Please leave the studio in good order.

The Art Studio is located in the basement. An automated 'stair chair' is available.

Mixed Media

Instructor: Robert Ramspott

Fridays at 9:30 am - 11 am (Art Studio)

(March 6-27)

Class size: 12. Sign up at Front Desk.

Part of the exciting world of mixed media is transforming ordinary everyday objects into unique works of art. Students will learn techniques like assemblage, decoupage and collage to breathe new life into objects.

Required materials will be announced.

The Joy of Pastels

Instructor: Robert Ramspott

Fridays at 9:30 am - 11 am (Art Studio)

(April 3-24)

Class size: 12. Sign up at Front Desk.

No prior experience necessary just curiosity and experimentation! This pastel class offers

a warm and supportive space to explore color, light and creative expression through pastels.

Each session includes a clear demonstration followed by a relaxed art atmosphere with individual and group guidance. From still life, landscape references, personal imagery this is a great way to encourage confidence and enjoyment in making art.

Materials required: A full soft pastel set and paper.

– HANDICRAFTS –

Card Making Workshops

Instructor: Member Ann Thomas

First Monday of every month at 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

March 16 (due to storm) & April 6 | (DR)

Class size: 10. Contact Ann directly the Friday before class to join.

\$10 materials fee to be paid directly to instructor at workshop. BYO glue and scissors. All other materials/envelopes will be provided. Contact Ann to join: annthomas8432@yahoo.com, 303-619-7622.

– **HEALTH, WELLNESS & COMMUNITY** –
\$5 Drop-In Rate for Non-Members: Yoga & Tai Chi
Adults 55+ are welcome to attend! **A signed liability waiver is required. Payment and waiver form must be completed at the Front Desk prior to class.** We encourage members to invite friends and family to join us!

Yoga

Instructor: Sara Davidson Flanders

Mondays at 11 am (Chapel Hall, CCC & Zoom)

→ March 2, Zoom Only

→ NO class March 30 & April 27

These weekly sessions of Anusara Yoga bring attention to specific actions to hone awareness and open subtle channels of energy. Actively moving energy through the body cultivates steadiness, strength, and freedom. Classes are in-person and on Zoom; the link is sent in the weekly ebulletin.

Tai Chi

Instructor: Bob McManus

Tuesdays at 1 pm (Chapel Hall, CCC)

This ancient Chinese martial art is known for its slow, intentional movements, gentle exercise, and active meditation.

Zoom Exercise Class

Instructor: Jodie Thompson-Piccerelli

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 am (Zoom)

This is a low impact class with upper and lower body exercises for active older adults. The class helps with balance, strength, preserving bone density, vitality, and mobility. **Zoom link is provided in the weekly eBulletin.**

Meditation Circle

Lee Clasper-Torch

Wednesdays at 9:30 am (Oak)

All members are invited to enjoy this quiet and welcoming space to learn about meditation, and discover their own inner calm, peace, and connection.

Women's Circle

Coordinator: Member Janice Arsenault

Alternating Thursdays at 1 pm (Mirror)

(March 5 & 19. April 2, 16 & 30)

Women will meet and share what is on their minds in a safe, supportive environment, without judgment, allowing bonds of friendship to form.

Women's Health & Wellness Group

Facilitator: Member Pat Donovan

Alternating Thursdays at 1 pm (Mirror)

(March 12 & 26. April 9 & 23)

Group limit: 11. The Women's Health and Wellness Group is an opportunity for women to explore life issues to share, discuss and problem-solve.

The group decides the topics. Consistent attendance is expected and essential to ensure commitment and confidentiality.

Please contact Pat Donovan directly to inquire about joining: elmgroveavenue25@gmail.com

Men's Group

Coordinator: Member John Stevenson

Alternating Fridays at 12:30 pm-2 pm (Mural)

(March 13 & 27. April 10 & 24)

All male members are welcome. Conversations explore ways in which men are dealing with aging and life choices, reflecting on things learned over the years about what makes life interesting, and gaining perspective on barriers and struggles (including some continuing) all from a perspective

of being "men" in today's society. Please contact John with any questions: jstevenson@uri.edu

Horticulture Therapy At-Home Kits

Certified Horticulture Therapist: Sally Gruber

March: "Looking at the Leprechaun"

To be delivered: Tuesday, March 17

Cost: \$24.00 per participant

Order by: Tuesday, March 10

April: "Terrific Terrariums"

To be delivered: Tuesday, April 21

Cost: \$25.00 per participant

Order by: Tuesday, April 14

Members order the kits to construct at home. Each personally-delivered kit includes instructions, fresh flowers and greens, accents, container, thematic poetry or music, and an edible treat!

Call or email Sally directly to order: 401-823-8077 or flowersforeveryone@msn.com

The American Horticultural Association notes that horticultural therapy in its various forms helps improve memory, cognitive abilities, task initiation, language skills, and socialization.

Wingate Water Aerobics

Instructor: Jodie Thompson-Piccerelli

Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10 am

Wednesdays & Fridays at 11:00 am

Aquatic exercise is considered an effective, joint-friendly way to strengthen the cardiovascular system and muscles, and burn calories. The exercises will be similar to Jodie's Zoom class. Locker and changing room available. Bring whatever personal items needed (i.e. bathing suit and towel)

This activity is generously provided at no charge by Wingate Residences on the East Side!

A waiver is required to participate. Members must sign in and out at the Wingate East Side Front Desk.

Wingate East Side is located 1 Butler Ave, Providence, RI 02906. Transportation is not provided. to Wingate Residences on the East Side is a 6 min (0.9 mile) drive from Hamilton House. Members are encouraged to carpool.

– GAMES –

Scrabble

Mondays at 12:30 pm (Mural)

All player levels are welcome.

Contact member Charlene Kneath with questions:

chark46@aol.com, 401-339-6922

Contract Bridge

Thursdays at 1 pm-3 pm (Mural)

All levels welcome.

Bridge is always open to new players! If interested in

joining or would like more information, contact

member Joan Breen: jjj606@verizon.net or

401-521-0276

Backgammon

Fridays at 11 am (Mural)

All player levels are welcome.

Pool Table

The pool table is located in the basement and available for members to use at their leisure during the day. Please remember to leave the room as you have found it.

Technology Help-Desk Hours

Tech Volunteer: JD Stettin

Alternating Thursdays at 11 am - 12:15 pm

By appointment only. Sign up at the Front Desk.

The Help Desk is now available on *alternating* Thursdays.

Upcoming Dates: March 19 | April 2, 16 & 30*

***Dates are subject to change, please check in with the front desk.**

Genealogy & Family History Explorations

Researcher: Member Helen Litterst

Appointments required. Contact Helen at:

helenlitterst@gmail.com

A Look at our Snow Days!



Photos of Hamilton House, February 2026





Staff Messages

- Executive Director's Note -



Dear Members,

We've had a lot of snow this year! The impact of the weather on our operations in January and February got me thinking about the many local businesses and nonprofits who remained closed due to the conditions, and the importance of third places. Spaces outside of home and work—"third place(s)" – a term coined by sociologist Ray Oldenburg, are, in his words: *Havens of sociability where conversation is the main activity and conviviality prevails. The atmosphere is democratic and festive, as both worldly status and personal troubles are checked at the door when a regular enters and takes his or her place amid familiar company.*

Hamilton House is an important third place for our members. Winter months can already feel long and dreary. When we close, we recognize that it affects our community. It certainly makes *me* miss, and appreciate the folks that gather here throughout the week. With rates of loneliness and social isolation on rise, the mission and vision of Hamilton House offers a remedy to this epidemic. I look forward to warmer, and longer days ahead, and enjoying the opportunity to be together, here at Hamilton House!

Warmly, Chloe Clasper-Torch

- Program Manager/Editor's Note -

Old man winter is taking his sweet time leaving, but that won't slow the Spring Equinox from making its way through the cold & snow. Just as we know Spring will always arrive, we also know that Hamilton House will continue to be a fun and busy place to be - even on Zoom as we remain resilient and determined to be connected when weather causes us to close.

This semester offers two concerts and two dance performances - St Paddy's Day Celebration being one of them, a new film series, five social activities- including Pub Night, a day trip, ten speakers, group singing, workshops, two new games, and a new reading & discussion group—in addition to the cornucopia of regular programming. Once again, I encourage you to try something new! With 36+ activities each week, why only attend one or two? Meet other members and take full advantage of the concerts & speakers we are so lucky to have. And don't forget the Community Meeting—it's a good time to hear what's happening, learn what's planned and provide feedback.

Outside of Hamilton House March & April hold many notable days to ponder: World Wildlife Day, Women's HERstory Month, Spring Equinox, Transgender Day of Visibility, Passover, Easter, the end of Ramadan, Earth Day, and Arbor Day.

- See you soon, Liz Kelley

House Information & Announcements

Parking Lot Reminders:

- **Please do not park in the space that has the 'Reserved Parking' sign.** This space is for our 2nd floor office tenant.
- **Cars entering the driveway have the right of way.** Cars leaving the driveway, **MUST** back up—even with cars behind yours.
- We ask that members who do not require accessible parking, please park on the street. Street parking decals are available at the Front Desk for *members only.*

March/April Closure Dates: None on calendar.

Closure Policy: Hamilton House is closed on all Federal Holidays, when the Providence Public Schools are closed for weather-related events, or if there is a city-wide parking ban. Our priority in reopening is always safety and accessibility. Notices go out via email, social media, and on our website when the building is closed.

Hamilton House Café

Soup | Sandwiches | Dessert | Snacks | Coffee | Tea

Open weekdays 11:30 am-1:30 pm

Cash and checks are accepted at this time.

Non-member guests are welcome! The cafe menu is emailed to members every Monday. *Please note that items are subject to change based on popularity!*

More Kitchen Volunteers Needed!

Please consider signing up for a one or two-hour shift on occasion or regularly. The ebulletin will list the types of tasks needed, many that can be completed at flexible times. **A benefit of volunteering is getting a free lunch from the cafe!**

Donations for Rhode Island Community Food Bank

The Special Events Committee is encouraging donations for RI Community Food Bank at all special events. The donation box is located in the main entrance near the door.

Canned and boxed goods only. Please do not donate open, expired, or damaged items, nor include glass packaging, perishable, or prepared foods.

The collection of items will be ongoing. For any questions, please contact Special Events Chairs.

Hamilton House Staff

Chloe Clasper-Torch, Executive Director
hamiltonhouse276@gmail.com or
chloe@historichamilton.org

-
Liz Kelley, Programs & Outreach Manager
hamiltonhouseoffice@gmail.com

-
Collin Mills, Facilities & Maintenance Manager
collin.n.mills@gmail.com

-
Patty Tanalski, Kitchen Assistant

Hamilton House Board of Directors 2025-2026

Charlene Kneath, *President*

John Setevnson, *Vice President*

Jerry DeSchepper, *Secretary*

Rob Distefano, *Treasurer*

Elissa Arffa

Bill Irons

Kip Brott

Maggie Kuriakose

Frank Capecci

Sue Pandit

Herman Dekoe

Dee Dee Witman

Pat Donovan



Get Social! Search @hhlearningexchange to Follow and Like our Organization Page on Facebook! If you aren't on Facebook, consider leaving us a review on Google. This helps us greatly when members of our community look us up online. Click the icons or scan the QR codes provided.

Hamilton House Committees & Chairs

Interested in becoming involved with one of our active standing committees? Members are welcome to reach out to committee chairs with questions and interest. Please find their contact information listed below.

Development Committee

Frank Capecci, fcapecci@aol.com

-

Governance Committee

Sylvia Danforth, sdanforth42@gmail.com

-

Finance Committee

Carl Romanovich, carlromanovich@yahoo.com

-

Kitchen Committee

Jenny Rosen, jedgehthco@yahoo.com

-

Membership Committee

Sylvia Danforth, sdanforth42@gmail.com

-

Personnel Committee

Pat Donovan, elmgroveavenue25@gmail.com

-

Program Committee

Elissa Arffa & Charlene Kneath
earffa@cox.net
chark46@aol.com

-

Property Committee

Collin Mills, collin.n.mills@gmail.com

-

Special Events Committee

Merle Wolfgang
mwolfgang47@gmail.com

-

Travel Committee

Chair Vacant, hamiltonhouse276@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone who helps with the catalog, from proofreading and fact checking to printing and folding: Garo, Ginny, Helen, Sylvia and the entire folding crew!

March 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
9:45am - NO Beginner French (Mural) 9:50am - NO French Conversation (DR) 10:45am - German Intermediate (Mirror) 11am - NO Yoga (Chapel Hall) 12:30pm - Scrabble (Mural) 1pm - NO Cardmaking Workshop (DR)	10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Spanish I (Zoom) 10:30am - Poetry Group (Oak) 11am - Exercise (Zoom) 11:30am - NO Spanish II 1pm - Tai Chi (Chapel Hall) 1pm - Pottery (Pottery Studio) 1pm - Watercolor Studies (DR)	9:30am - Meditation Circle (Oak) 11am - Readings & Discussion (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - NEW! Cribbage (Mural) 12:30pm - SPEAKER: Heather Olson-Lost Snowtown (DR) 1:30pm - NEW! History Reading & Discussion (Oak)	10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Art Studio Group (Art Studio) 10am - NEW! Mahjong (Mirror) 11am - Classic Novels (Mural) 11am - [ZOOM] Exercise Class 1pm - Bridge Club (Mural) 1pm - Watercolor- Intermediate (DR) 1pm - Women's Circle (Mirror)	9:30am - Mixed Media 11am - Backgammon (Mural) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Current Topics (DR) 1pm - Writing Together (Oak)
9	10	11	12	13
9:45am - Beginner French (Mural) 9:50am - French Conversation (DR) 10:45am - German Intermediate (Mirror) 11am - Yoga (Chapel Hall) 11am - Poetry Writers' Workshop (Mirror) 12:30pm - SPEAKERS: Tina Munter & Amanda Barker-Green Energy 12:30pm - Scrabble (Mural)	<i>Deadline: Order floral home therapy kit</i> 10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Spanish I (Mural) 10:30am - Poetry Group (Oak) 11am - Exercise (Zoom) 11:30am - Spanish II (Mural) 1pm - Tai Chi (Chapel Hall) 1pm - Pottery (Pottery Studio) 1pm - Watercolor Studies (DR)	9:30am - Meditation Circle (Oak) 10am - Coffee, Tea & Conversation (DR) 11am - Readings & Discussion (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - NEW! Cribbage (Mural) 12:30pm - SPEAKER: Al Newton-Sustainable Gardening	9:30am - COMMUNITY MEETING 10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - NO Art Studio Group 10am - NO Mahjong 11am - Classic Novels (Mural) 11am - NO Tech help 11am - [ZOOM] Exercise Class 1pm - Bridge Club (Mural) 1pm - Watercolor- Intermediate (DR) 1pm - Women's Health & Wellness (Mirror)	9:30am - Mixed Media 10am - Friday Flicks (Mirror) 11am - Backgammon (Mural) 11am - Kawandi Handquilting (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Men's Group (Mural) 1pm - Silent Reading Book Group (Library)
16	17	18	19	20
9:45am - Beginner French (Mural) 9:50am - French Conversation (DR) 10:45am - German - Intermediate (Mirror) 11am - Yoga (Chapel Hall) 12:30pm - Scrabble (Mural) 1pm - Cardmaking Workshop (DR) 1pm - SPEAKERS: Peter Croke & Jen Rosen - Practical Uses of AI at Home	<i>Delivery: floral home therapy kit</i> EVENT: St. Patrick's Day Celebration 12:30pm-2pm 10am -Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Spanish I (Mural) 10:30am - Poetry Group (Oak) 11am - Exercise (Zoom) 11:30am - Spanish II (Mural) 1pm - Tai Chi (Chapel Hall) 1pm - NO Watercolor Studies (DR) 1pm - Pottery (Pottery Studio)	9:30am - Meditation Circle (Oak) 11am - Readings & Discussion (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Cribbage (Mural) 12:30pm -SPEAKER: Allison Horrocks - American Revolution 1:30pm - NEW! History Reading & Discussion (Oak)	10am -Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Art Studio Group (Art Studio) 10am - NEW! Mahjong (Mirror) 11am - Classic Novels (Mural) 11am - Tech help. By appt. 11am - [ZOOM] Exercise Class 1pm - Bridge Club (Mural) 1pm - Monthly Board Meeting 1pm - Watercolor- Intermediate (DR) 1pm - Women's Circle (Mirror)	9:30am - Mixed Media (Art Studio) 10am - NEW! Australian Cinema (DR) 11am - Backgammon (Mural) 11am - Kawandi Handquilting (Mirror) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Current Topics (DR) 1pm - Writing Together (Oak)
21	24	25	26	27
9:45am - Beginner French (Mural) 9:50am - French Conversation (DR) 10:45am - German - Intermediate (Mirror) 11am - Poetry Writers' Workshop (Mirror) 11am - Yoga (Chapel Hall) 12:30pm - Scrabble (Mural)	10am -Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - SPEAKERS: RIC -Through the Years of Dance! 10am - Spanish I (Mural) 10:30am - Poetry Group (Oak) 11am - Exercise (Zoom) 11:30am - Spanish II (Mural) 1pm - Tai Chi (Chapel Hall) 1pm - Pottery 1pm - Watercolor Studies (DR)	9:30am - Meditation Circle (Oak) 10am - Conversations in Science- Astronomy (DR) DAY TRIP: Museum Work & Culture 10:15am -2:30 pm 11am - Readings & Discussion (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Conversations in Science - Asteroids (DR) 12:30pm - Cribbage (Mural)	9:30am - New Member Coffee 10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Art Studio Group (Art Studio) 10am - Mahjong (Mirror) 11am - Classic Novels (Mural) 11am - NO Tech help 11am - [ZOOM] Exercise Class 1pm - Bridge Club (Mural) 1pm - Watercolor- Intermediate (DR) 1pm - Women's Health & Wellness (Mirror)	9:30am - Mixed Media 10am - NEW! Australian Cinema (DR) 11am - Backgammon (Mural) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Men's Group (DR) 1pm - RIC Dance Performance (Chapel Hall) 1pm - Silent Reading Book Group (Library) 2pm - Monthly Friday Social
30	31			
9:45am - Beginner French (Mural) 9:50am - French Conversation (DR) 10:45am - German - Intermediate (Mirror) 11am - NO Yoga 12:30pm - Scrabble (Mural) 12:30pm - Transvisability Day Discussion Group (Mirror) 1pm - Book Club "Hotel on Corner of Bitter&Sweet" (DR)	10am - Wingate Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Spanish I (Mural) 10:30am - Poetry Group (Oak) 11am - Exercise (Zoom) 11:30am - Spanish II (Mural) 1pm - Tai Chi (Chapel Hall) 1pm - Pottery 1pm - Watercolor Studies (DR)			Room Abbreviations KEY: Dining Room - DR Mural Room – Mural Mirror Room - Mirror Oak Room – Oak Chapel Hall - Located next door at Central Congregational Church – (entrance on Diman Pl.) Wingate Residences East Side - 1 Butler Ave.

April 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Room Abbreviations KEY: Dining Room - DR Mural Room – Mural Mirror Room - Mirror Oak Room – Oak Central Congregational Church – CCC located next door (entrance on Diman Pl.)		1	2	3
		9:30am - Meditation Circle (Oak) 11am - Readings & Discussion (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Cribbage (Mural) 12:30pm - SPEAKER: Tracy Haswell - AI & Robotics (DR) 1:30pm - History Reading & Discussion (Oak)	10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Art Studio Group (Art Studio) 10am - Mahjong (Mirror) 11am - Classic Novels (Mural) Tech help [ZOOM] Exercise 1pm - Bridge Club (Mural) Watercolor- Intermediate Women's Circle (Mirror)	9:30am - The Joy of Pastels 10am - Australian Cinema 11am - Backgammon (Mural) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Current Topics (DR) 1pm - Writing Together (Oak)
6	7	8	9	10
9:45am - Beginner French (Mural) 9:50am - French Conversation (DR) 10:45am - German - Intermediate (Mirror) 11am - Yoga (Chapel Hall) 12:30pm - Scrabble (Mural) 1pm - Cardmaking Workshop (DR)	10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Spanish I (Mural) 10:30am - Poetry Group (Oak) 11am - Exercise (Zoom) 11:30am - Spanish II (Mural) 1pm - Tai Chi (Chapel Hall) 1pm - Pottery (Pottery Studio) 1pm - Watercolor Studies (DR)	9:30am - Meditation Circle (Oak) 10am - Coffee, Tea & Conversation (DR) 11am - Readings & Discussion (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Cribbage (Mural) 12:30pm - SPEAKER: Allison Horrocks-Partnership of Brown, Almy & Slater (DR)	10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Art Studio Group (Art Studio) 10am - Mahjong (Mirror) 11am - Classic Novels (Mural) NO Tech help [ZOOM] Exercise 1pm - Bridge Club (Mural) Watercolor- Intermediate Level (DR) Women's Health & Wellness (Mirror)	9:30am - The Joy of Pastels (Art Studio) 10am - Australian Cinema (DR) 11am - Backgammon (Mural) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Men's Group (Mural) 1pm - NEW! Let's Sing! (Mirror) 1pm - Silent Reading Book Group (Library)
13	14	15	16	17
9:45am - Beginner French (Mural) 9:50am - French Conversation (DR) 10:45am - German - Intermediate (Mirror) 11am - Poetry Writers' Workshop (Mirror) 11am - Yoga (Chapel Hall) 12:30pm - Scrabble (Mural) 1pm - Zentangle Workshop (Art Studio)	<i>Deadline: Order floral home therapy kits</i> 10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Spanish I (Mural) 10:30am - Poetry Group (Oak) 11am - Exercise (Zoom) 11:30am - Spanish II (Mural) 1pm - Tai Chi (Chapel Hall) 1pm - Pottery (Pottery Studio) 1pm - Watercolor Studies (DR)	9:30am - Meditation Circle (Oak) 11am - Readings & Discussion (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Cribbage (Mural) 1pm - CONCERT: Pipe Organ (CCC) 1:30pm - History Reading & Discussion (Oak)	10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Art Studio Group (Art Studio) 10am - Mahjong (Mirror) 11 am -NEW! Maggie Miles-Creative Thinking & Writing (Pt. 2 DR) 11am - Classic Novels (Mural) Maggie Miles Tech help [ZOOM] Exercise 1pm - Bridge Club (Mural) - Monthly Board Meeting Watercolor- Intermediate(DR) 1pm - Women's Circle (Mirror)	9:30am - The Joy of Pastels (Art Studio) 10am - Australian Cinema (DR) 11am - Backgammon (Mural) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Current Topics (DR) 1pm - Writing Together (Oak)
20	21	22	23	24
9:45am - Beginner French (Mural) 9:50am - French Conversation (DR) 10:45am - German - Intermediate (Mirror) 11am - Yoga (Chapel Hall) 12:30pm - Scrabble (Mural) 12:30pm - Stories From the Stage - Pt. 1 (DR)	<i>Delivery: Floral home therapy kits</i> 10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Spanish I (Mural) 10:30am - Poetry Group (Oak) 11am - Exercise (Zoom) 11:30am - Spanish II (Mural) 1pm - Tai Chi (Chapel Hall) 1pm - Pottery (Pottery Studio) 1pm - Watercolor Studies (DR)	9:30am - Meditation Circle (Oak) 11am - Readings & Discussion (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Cribbage (Mural) 12:30pm - Lunch & Learn: Talking About Art-Suzanne Lewis-African American Women Artists (DR) 1:30pm - History Reading & Discussion (Oak)	10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Art Studio Group (Art Studio) 10am - Mahjong (Mirror) 11 am Maggie Miles - Creative Thinking & Writing (Pt. 2 DR) 11am - Classic Novels (Mural) NO Tech help [ZOOM] Exercise 1pm - Bridge Club (Mural) Watercolor-Intermediate Women's Health & Wellness (Mirror)	9:30am - The Joy of Pastels (Art Studio) 11am - Backgammon (Mural) 11am - SPEAKER: PVD Fire Dept - Fire Safety & Prevention for Seniors 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Men's Group (Mural) 1pm - Let's Sing! (Mirror) 1pm - Silent Reading Book Group (Library) 3 pm - Monthly Friday Social
27	28	29	30	
9:45am - Beginner French (Mural) 9:50am - French Conversation (DR) 10:45am - German - Intermediate (Mirror) 11am - NO Yoga 11am - Poetry Writers' Workshop (Mirror) 11am - SPEAKER: Barry Schiller - Transportation 12:30pm - Scrabble(Mural) 1pm - Book Club "The God of the Woods" (DR)	10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Spanish I (Mural) 10:30am - Poetry Group (Oak) 11am - Exercise (Zoom) 11:30am - Spanish II (Mural) 1pm - Tai Chi (Chapel Hall) 1pm - Pottery (Art Studio) 1pm - Watercolor Studies (DR)	9:30am - Meditation Circle (Oak) 11am - Readings & Discussion (DR) 11am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 12:30pm - Cribbage (Mural) 12:30pm - LIVE! Stories From the Stage (DR)	10am - Water Aerobics (Wingate Residences East Side) 10am - Art Studio Group (Art Studio) 10am - Mahjong (Mirror) 11 am Maggie Miles-Creative Thinking & Writing (Pt. 2 DR) 11am - Classic Novels (Mural) Maggie Miles (DR) Tech help [ZOOM] Exercise 1pm - Bridge Club (Mural) Watercolor- Intermediate (DR) Women's Circle (Mirror)	