



SPRING SPEAKER SERIES

Adult Daytime Programs

Meet up at the LBC on Thursday afternoons for snacks, socializing and speakers. A different topic will be discussed each week. The **Thursday Speaker Series is FREE and open to everyone**, no membership is required to attend. Have a topic you would like to learn more about or would like to present? Contact us at 319-895-9513.

All Politics is Local Politics?

Thursday, April 6th at 1:00 pm

The Rise of Nationalization of Politics in Mount Vernon, Iowa and Beyond

Megan Goldberg

Megan Goldberg, Assistant Professor of Politics at Cornell College, will address what she sees as a current trend of cities and states across the country considering policies that are virtually identical to each other, despite the distance between them and their differences. This talk will look at how and why our politics at the local level are increasingly driven by a national agenda and divided by the same issues.

Wickiup Hill Learning Center

Thursday, April 13th at 1:00 pm

Kent Rector

Kent Rector, Nature Center Manager, will speak about the health benefits associated with outdoor adventure and play (for both kids and adults). He will be highlighting the 2022 Wilderness Leadership Trek. This trek was offered last summer for the first time and attended by three Mount Vernon students.

Agritourism & How it Affects the Local Community

Thursday, April 20th at 1:00 pm

Chris Bass

Chris Bass, owner of Bass Family Farms will cover who we are, how our business got started, what we do today and how it influences the local community! Have you heard of the word agritourism? Learn about this term, what it means and how it affects where you live today. Join Farmer Chris for this jam packed educational session!

What has Happened to Trust in Public Education?

Thursday, April 27th at 1:00 pm

Jean Donham

Most of us recall a time when educators were highly regarded and our trust in them was implicit. Teaching was perceived as a noble and honorable profession - highly valued, even if not highly paid. Interestingly - although a Gallup poll found public approval of U.S. education at a low ebb, parents like their own kids' schools. Seventy-six percent say they are satisfied with the education their oldest child has been receiving. Clearly there is a disconnect between the negative hype about schools and the reality of the schools we know. State legislatures, especially in Iowa, are sending messages of a lack of confidence in public education, and these messages are creating a crisis in education. We examine these problems and what they mean for the teaching profession, for school libraries, and for public education.

American Heart Association

Thursday, May 4th at 1:00 pm

Heidi Hora

Heart Disease is the leading cause of death. About every 40 seconds, someone in the United States has a heart attack. Better cardiovascular health helps lower the risk for heart disease, stroke and other major health problems. Join Heidi Hora, Development Director, as she shares Life's Essential 8, the key measures for improving and maintaining cardiovascular health. She'll also teach the importance of administering immediate CPR and demonstrate an effective, simple-to-apply Hands Only CPR.

Iowa's Camp Courageous

Thursday, May 11th at 1:00 pm

Jeanne Muellerleile

Retired Director of Camp Courageous in Monticello, Jeanne will recap the history of the Camp and its unique mission to provide year-round recreational and respite care opportunities for individuals with special needs and their families. The Camp celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2022.

The Sun Newspaper

Thursday, May 18th at 1:00 pm

Nathan Countryman

What tools are used in today's journalism, and how have things changed at your local newspapers in the past decades? What things remain the same at your local and other newspapers today? Editor of the Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun, Nathan Countryman presents about what has changed in his more than 15 years as a journalist in two different communities, how he got into journalism in the first place and lessons he's learned over the span of his career.

Gathering and Manifestation

Thursday, May 25th at 1:00 pm

Bob Campagna

Mount Vernon photographer Bob Campagna began "purposeful" photography in 1976 and has taken well over a million images since. He continues to teach photography, having already created about 600 photo workshops to about 12,000 students in two countries and eight states. He will outline his journey and how it has evolved into self-publishing, with advice as to how each person can tell their own story through image and word.

The Psychology of Kids' Sports for Grandparents

Thursday, June 1st at 1:00 pm

Steve DeVries

Playing to Win? Kids and Sports.

Join former Cornell prof/coach and Hawkeye wrestler Steve DeVries in a discussion of what sport psychology tells us about our young athletes. How can adults (parents, grandparents, and coaches) help kids learn to compete and enjoy their sport experience?

Monday Game Days

Mondays at 11:00 am

Do you have a favorite board or card game you'd like to play? Maybe you'd like to teach others how to play? Or, maybe you'd just like to sit and watch others play? Whatever your level of interest, come join us on Mondays at 11am for an informal get together to play games and visit. Please bring your own board game or deck of cards and we'll provide the coffee.

Thank you for
sponsoring the
Speaker Series!

