

**TOWSON
UNIVERSITY**

HER
LIFELONG
LEARNING
INSTITUTE

A Superexplosion Opens a New Window on the Universe

Daniel Golombek

Tuesday, June 30

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away two objects collided and generated a set of waves that revolutionized the study of the cosmos. Two and a half years ago, in a Universe that seems so remote, the signature of the collision of two neutron stars was detected by space and earth-based observatories. Waves predicted by the theory of general relativity a century earlier were observed for the first time. This fascinating new window opened by these detections will help us understand not only the objects we can see at different wavelengths but also the realms of spacetime – that fabric that envelops the cosmos. We will travel in time, to when it was discovered and to the period of the explosion to look at what was seen and what produced it.

Daniel Golombek worked at the Space Telescope Science Institute where he has been responsible for leading the user support for the world-wide Hubble Space Telescope community, the team that developed and implemented its observations, and developing and executing programmatic and scientific plans and budgets. During his tenure as a Visiting Scientist at NASA Headquarters, he was responsible for the management of twelve space science observatories and three major space science grants.

Why are bees declining?

Jody Johnson

Thursday, July 2

The lecture will cover five of the main reasons that bee populations are declining, including pathogens, parasites, pesticides, habitat loss, and climate change. Natural or human-impacted stressors for each factor will be addressed for social and solitary bees. Honeybees have additional influences related to management practice. Updates on Tropilaelaps and giant hornets will be mentioned briefly.

Dr. Jodi Johnson is a pollinator scientist and an educator. During the summers, she researches impacts of pesticides, nutrition, and parasites on honeybee health at the USDA and through her business. During the academic year, she teaches environmental science, science of sustainability, physical sciences, and pollinators to college level and older students.

Senior Living—What Are the Pieces to that Puzzle?

Mark Beggs

Tuesday, July 7

Did you know that less than 10% of age and income qualified seniors will choose to move to a senior living community? And that most communities consider your home to be their greatest competition? In this interactive program you will learn about all of the typical components that make up the scope of 'senior living'. What are they? What services are offered? How is each paid for? Why would you look at one over the other? What are the benefits and drawbacks of each? What does a Long-Term Care policy mean in relationship to Senior Living? This open discussion will help you sort through what may or may not be right for you as you plan for the next exciting chapter of your life.

Mark Beggs is the President and CEO of Edenwald, a Senior Living community located in Towson. Mark has a career spanning 30 years in Senior Living starting out as a Social Worker and touching on every aspect of Senior Living operations. He joined Edenwald in January of 2019. Mark has spoken nationally on Sales and Census Development, Person Centered Care, and Lifelong Learning partnerships.

The American Suffrage Movement: A Family History

Dora Lewis Townsend

Thursday, July 9

This presentation focuses on the American Suffrage Movement beginning with the Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls, New York in July 1848. It was there that Elizabeth Cady Stanton drafted the Declaration of Sentiments which ultimately served as the genesis for the 19th Amendment. The 19th Amendment which secured the right to vote for American women was successfully passed by Congress on June 4, 1919 and was adopted as part of the United States Constitution on August 18, 1920, having been ratified by three-fourths of the thirty-six states in the union. These two events are bookends of an incredible story of courage, commitment, and perseverance in the face of physical violence, anger, and public efforts to hurt and humiliate the women who championed the cause. Dora Kelly Lewis, great-grandmother to Dora Townsend, played a significant role in many aspects of the movement. Learn about Lewis in the historical context of the entire movement. Included are excerpts from letters that she wrote to her mother and daughter from prison as well as other first-person accounts that help illustrate significant events in the story.

Dora Townsend is originally from Baltimore but has lived in Gettysburg with her husband since 1973. Her interest in the story of her great-grandmother began several years ago when author, Mary Walton, contacted her. Ms. Walton was writing a book on Alice Paul, a significant leader in the Suffrage Movement. Dora's great-grandmother, Dora Kelly Lewis, was an important and trusted colleague of Alice Paul and was often referred to as "Alice's first lieutenant". In gathering requested information, Townsend discovered that she was in possession of original source material and thus developed her own unique and personalized perspective of the American Suffrage Movement.

A Brief History of Gentrification in Baltimore City

Matthew Durlington

Tuesday, July 14 (12pm)*

Using his research in the South Baltimore community of Sharp Leadenhall, Dr. Durlington will walk attendees through the history of blockbusting, redlining and other historic urban renewal processes

The Economics of Climate Change

Daraius Irani

Thursday, August 6

Climate change has become a polarized topic in public discourse today and finds itself centered in political platforms and governmental policymaking. As time goes on and the scientific community continues its work in understanding climate change, the urgent regard with which changes in our planet should be taken has become increasingly clear. This presentation will illustrate what costs a lack of action towards climate change will have, as well as address how to mitigate the rate of climate change (reduction in greenhouse gasses & carbon emissions, etc.). Looked at too will be both the economic benefits and costs that come with mitigating climate change.

Dr. Daraius Irani serves as Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and Applied Research at Towson University as well as chief economist for the Regional Economic Studies Institute (RESI) at Towson University, a policy group providing economic, fiscal impact, and policy analysis to state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private sector firms. Dr. Irani holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

The Wonder Women of Comics

Arnold Blumberg

Tuesday, August 11

"Beautiful as Aphrodite, wise as Athena, stronger than Hercules and swifter than Mercury." Created by writer William Moulton Marsden (under the pseudonym Charles Moulton), his wife Elizabeth Holloway Marston, partner Olive Byrne, as well as artist Harry G. Peter, Wonder Woman first appeared in "All-Star Comics #8" (December 1941) and immediately took her place at the pinnacle of the DC Comics pantheon as a champion of the oppressed. Whether fighting shoulder to shoulder with costumed colleagues or battling injustice solo, her star-spangled heroism inspires generations of readers long after World War II.

Arnold T. Blumberg, D.C.D., is a cinema historian, publisher, author, and world-renowned pop culture scholar, having taught courses on the zombie genre, science fiction history, superhero media, comic book literature, and the Marvel Cinematic Universe. He spent fifteen years in the comics industry, curated a pop culture museum for five years, and lectures regularly at conventions and other events.

Dave Brubeck at 100

Seth Kibel