

Upcoming workshops!

Representation, Our Federal Government and the Constitution

We'll look at the Constitution's creation, trace major changes and examine current limitations. We'll shatter some myths! Current status of democracy— The Constitution—Current issues of representation—Are changes needed?

"Donna is a consummate professional. Donna delivered relevant, timely, fact-based information in a non-partisan way. Participants were engaged and left knowing more. Thank you, Donna." ~ Liz Goodrich, Events Supervisor, Deschutes PL

Thurs. Jan. 22. 4-5:30 PST! 6-7:30 CST! Virtual! Check time zone!

Register: <https://tinyurl.com/ValleyCenterConstitution>

Mon. Jan. 26. 4:30-6:00 PST! 6:30-8 CST! Virtual. Check time zone!

Register: <https://cche.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/cche/event.jsp?event=1040>

Citizen Activism 101— Making Change Happen

Historical perspective; Examples of successful advocacy; Tools / strategies for change

Having your voice be heard; Tracking legislation and submitting testimony [aka your opinion]

Wed. Feb. 4. 6-7:30 PM PST In-person.

Multnomah County Library—Holgate Branch, 7905 SE Holgate Blvd., PDX, OR

Selected Civics for Adults Facebook posts:

Here is quite an interesting article on the immediate **spread on social media of AI generated images** relating to the shooting in **Minneapolis**. Good warning to us all. Unfortunately, too many people fall for this, especially if it confirms an existing bias of what may have happened ["confirmation bias"].

https://www.newsguardrealitycheck.com/p/minneapolis-ice-shooting-gets-ai?fbclid=IwY2xjawPQzqFleHRuA2FibQlXMAbicmlkETFMMDBFZnJ4R2Q3MUJEM1RDc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHszryAPWrgClbha13ahZlYpMmCXQZbXITB-OGBrKGLTQmZE7VLwNkxxciNg_aem_C6DW8akqdGKbD_XazIQSKQ

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It's interesting to **compare what happened in Venezuela with the invasion of Panama** and taking of Noriega in 1989. They are not the same. Here are some resources:

Bush Orders Invasion of Panama. 1989. Annenberg Center.

https://www.annenbergclassroom.org/timeline_event/bush-orders-invasion-panama/?fbclid=IwY2xjawPQzqFleHRuA2FibQlXMAbicmlkETFMMDBFZnJ4R2Q3MUJEM1RDc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHszryAPWrgClbha13ahZlYpMmCXQZbXITB-OGBrKGLTQmZE7VLwNkxxciNg_aem_tX1GCK-7fklJ8ajRCXtuogTIAAR6we9KuvDAKVDKf_nq0S4RCdIvE98dz1QF0ULen6FHLd_Hgf0IUJH-quUzksw_aem_tX1GCK-7fklJ8ajRCXtuog

Issues Related to US Invasion. GAO. 1991 <https://www.gao.gov/assets/nsiad-91-174fs.pdf>

Venezuela Isn't Panama—No Matter How Much Trump Wishes It Were. Ghosh. Time. Jan 3, 2026

<https://time.com/7342906/venezuela-maduro-trump-panama/>

Panama 1989 is not a good model for dealing with Venezuela. Cristina Guevara. The Hill. - 10/02/25

https://thehill.com/opinion/international/5533685-panama-venezuela-intervention-comparison/?fbclid=IwY2xjawPQzqFleHRuA2FibQlXMAbicmlkETFMMDBFZnJ4R2Q3MUJEM1RDc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHszryAPWrgClbha13ahZlYpMmCXQZbXITB-OGBrKGLTQmZE7VLwNkxxciNg_aem_4IsPcwW-KfRKxCFHXfSF7Q

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The K-shaped economy of the rich doing fine and everyone else struggling is back — and it could mean a rocky 2026 [Origin: Business Insider (subscription required) but routed via MSN newsfeed]

I talk about this in my Misinformation workshop [scheduled in March].

"When I take a look at the policy landscape, it's all tilted toward the upper spur of the K," Brusuelas said. "So I'm expecting a further widening of that fundamental inequality in coming years."

https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/markets/the-k-shaped-economy-of-the-rich-doing-fine-and-everyone-else-struggling-is-back-and-it-could-mean-a-rocky-2026/ar-AA1TrP4V?ocid=msedgntp&pc=DCTS&cvid=695881055cbd4d12b4fda306f078cc3a&ei=43&fbclid=IwY2xjawPQz3hleHRuA2FibQlXMAbicmlkETFMMDBFZnJ4R2Q3MUJEM1RDc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHszryAPWrgClbha13ahZlYpMmCXQZbXITB-OGBrKGLTQmZE7VLwNkxxciNg_aem_ow4byRxEcJxtH1YDHg4LNg

[AA1TrP4V?ocid=msedgntp&pc=DCTS&cvid=695881055cbd4d12b4fda306f078cc3a&ei=43&fbclid=IwY2xjawPQz3hleHRuA2FibQlXMAbicmlkETFMMDBFZnJ4R2Q3MUJEM1RDc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHszryAPWrgClbha13ahZlYpMmCXQZbXITB-OGBrKGLTQmZE7VLwNkxxciNg_aem_ow4byRxEcJxtH1YDHg4LNg](https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/markets/the-k-shaped-economy-of-the-rich-doing-fine-and-everyone-else-struggling-is-back-and-it-could-mean-a-rocky-2026/ar-AA1TrP4V?ocid=msedgntp&pc=DCTS&cvid=695881055cbd4d12b4fda306f078cc3a&ei=43&fbclid=IwY2xjawPQz3hleHRuA2FibQlXMAbicmlkETFMMDBFZnJ4R2Q3MUJEM1RDc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHszryAPWrgClbha13ahZlYpMmCXQZbXITB-OGBrKGLTQmZE7VLwNkxxciNg_aem_ow4byRxEcJxtH1YDHg4LNg)

463FiSR41q1CpsqLjliGWfIf1T2sdy1Fev_aem_ow4byRxEcJxtH1YDHg4LNg

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Jack Smith Deposition Transcript and Video. Dec 2025

Transcript https://judiciary.house.gov/sites/evo-subsites/republicans-judiciary.house.gov/files/2025-12/Smith-Depo-Transcript_Redacted-w-Errata.pdf?fbclid=IwY2xjawPQ0A5leHRuA2FibQlXMAbicmlkETFMMDBFZnJ4R2Q3MUJEM1RDc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHszryAPWrgClbha13ahZlYpMmCXQZbXITB-OGBrKGLTQmZE7VLwNkxxciNg_aem_3f-syYBYFwEYZAiInNj5A

Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=IR-bhPzQYUE>

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A heads-up - I am noticing **A LOT of bogus emails supposedly coming from the Social Security Administration**. I would be DEEPLY SUSPICIOUS of any email that says it's from SSA. Please pass the word along, especially to those in the SS age range. CHECK THE FROM: EMAIL ADDRESS!

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In 1795 **Thomas Paine wrote a wonderful short essay entitled "Agrarian Justice"**. In it he "proposes a system of social welfare, including old-age pensions and a citizen's dividend, funded by a tax on land inheritance. Paine argued that while private property is necessary, land was originally common property, so landowners owe a "ground-rent" to the community, which should be used to provide a basic income for all citizens, especially the poor and elderly. It is considered a foundational text for modern concepts like universal basic income and land value tax."

I recommend this essay for all. It may be old but its ideas are completely relevant to today.

<https://www.ssa.gov/history/paine4.html>

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The Founders worried about concentrated wealth. Yet, that is where we are now. Here is one example, from the agricultural sector.



We Went to Arkansas. The Farm Crisis Will Shock You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cl02K72QFS0>

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Thank you to all the sponsors that have hosted my workshops!

Over the years, Civics for Adults has presented in many venues. Most often, libraries sponsor workshops, but other groups, like the League of Women Voters and other private organizations have also been supporters. Following is a list of sponsors. Keep in mind that for many of them, if not most, these libraries/organizations have funded multiple workshops. Shout out to Hillsboro PL in Oregon, which has sponsored too many to recollect [more than 12!].

[Note: location is Oregon unless otherwise indicated.]

Bethany
Bloomfield PL [CT]
Cook Cnty. Higher Ed. [MN]
Cedar Mill
Cheshire PL [CT]
Columbia County
Coos Bay
Cornelius
Corvallis
Estacada
Florence
Forest Grove
FVRL - Vancouver [WA]
FVRL - Battleground [WA]
FVRL - Three Creeks [WA]
Hillsboro – Brookwood
Hillsboro – Shute Pk
Lake Oswego
Lakeview
LWV Deschutes Cnty.
McMinnville

Milwaukie High Sch.
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Mult Cnty - St Johns
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More on my Civics for Adults Facebook page!

More at <https://www.facebook.com/Civics-for-Adults-1490728887922036>

Ask your local library or community group to sponsor a workshop! Thanks.

Flyer describing workshops: https://files.cdn-files-a.com/uploads/2516289/normal_68015c18b94c1.pdf