

PILLAR INSTITUTE



LEARNING FOR THE FUN OF IT



PILLAR is a dynamic hub for curious minds seeking intellectual growth and meaningful community connections. Through an array of engaging programs, thought-provoking lectures, and enriching activities, PILLAR fosters a culture of continuous learning for adults of all ages. Our mission is to inspire lifelong learners by providing opportunities to explore diverse topics, cultivate critical thinking, and connect with others who share a passion for discovery.

At PILLAR, learning is not just a pursuit—it's a way of life!

**Lifelong Learning Opportunities for
September to December 2026**

Mah Jongg Open Play

Every Wednesday morning, 10:00am to 1:00pm. Bring your NMJL card. **\$2.00 donation per session.** Open to everyone.

#3000 Taste of PILLAR - Three Mini Classes ~ **FREE for all** **Tuesday, September 1, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

1) An Overview of the Bill of Rights and Our Bill of Obligations ~ Bill Wright

Now that we have established our rights with the Bill of Rights, the Magna Carta, and the Constitution, what are our obligations?

2) Voting Methods in the US ~ Daryl Kuiper

We will discuss types of voting, especially ranked choice voting.

3) Why Are AI Data Centers So Large? ~ Dr. Dick Fairley

Learn why data centers require a large amount of physical space and consume significant electrical power.

#3002 Ready, Set, Safe: Fire and Emergency Preparedness **Wednesday, September 2, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

This presentation will be about fire and life safety, emergency preparedness, and best practices for prevention.

Kalee Nappo: Kalee is a Fire and Life Safety Educator and Youth Fire Setting Prevention and Intervention Specialist with the Colorado Springs Fire Department.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3005 NG: Feed Your Focus: Nutrition for a Sharper Mind **Tuesday, September 8, 10:00am - 11:00am**

Do you find it hard to concentrate or focus? Do you feel irritable or moody for no discernible reason? Are you absentminded or suffering from periodic brain fog? This class will explore brain improvement at any age.

Location: Natural Grocer, 7298 N. Academy Blvd.

Dawn Franz: BS in Nutritional Science from University of Arizona.

PILLAR Members FREE

Not-Yet-Member \$25.00

#3006 Steeped in Conversation: Tea at FestiviTEA **Wednesday, September 9, 10:00am**

Join us for tea at the FestiviTEA House. **Max: 10**

Location: 2336 Vickers Drive, Suite 130.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3007 IGP: Beyond the Stars: What Hubble and Webb Telescopes Are Teaching Us

Thursday, September 10, 10:00am - 11:30am

Learn what the space-based Hubble and Webb Telescopes have seen and what they have taught us.

Location: Inn at Garden Plaza, 2520 International Circle

Jamie Foster: BA in Geology from Carleton College.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3008 Walk: Gateway to the East: The Evolution of Platte Avenue

Friday, September 11, 10:00am - 11:30am

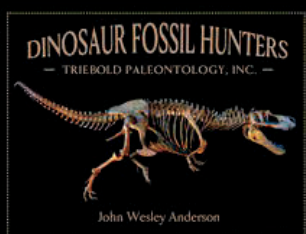
Learn about the evolution of the Boulder Heights neighborhood.

Location: The tour will begin on N. El Paso Street, north of the Platte Avenue underpass. Park on El Paso Street south of Boulder or on El Paso north of Boulder.

Tim Scanlon: Master of Regional and City Planning from University of Oklahoma.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00



#3010 Dinosaur Detectives: Fossils, Finds, and the Fight Over Prehistoric History

Tuesday, September 15, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Explore how the Dinosaur Renaissance transformed our understanding of dinosaurs and inspired worldwide fascination.

This class (based on John Anderson's latest book) examines the scientific discoveries that reshaped paleontology.

John Wesley Anderson: MBA from Regis University. He has published eight books and is the recipient of the 2022 Golden Quill Award for the Friends of the PPLD.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3011: Healthy Mouth, Healthy Body

Tuesday, September 15, 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Discover how preventative habits can create a healthier and happier you.

Dr. Nicholas G. Ruana: Doctor of Dental Medicine from the University of Nevada. Dr. Ruana is from Pinnacle Dentistry.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3012 On the Move: Migration, Immigration, and Changing Policy

Wednesday, September 16, 10:00am - 12:00pm

This is an overview of regional and global migration trends, with emphasis on evolving immigration policies.

Dr. Arlene Bjugstad: PhD in Social Work from University of Houston.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3013 The Middle East in Motion: Power, Alliances, Conflict
Wednesday, September 16, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

We will examine the geopolitical dynamics shaping the Middle East conflict, focusing on the strategic interests and objectives of the countries and organizations involved. Explore questions such as the roles of neighboring Arab states, Israel's military and political objectives, the significance of Iran, the future role of the US in the region and the challenges of post-conflict governance.

Dr. Jim Poole: PhD in Applied Statistics from the University of Northern Colorado, MS in Economics, MS in Geology.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3014 US Global Strategy Shift: What It Means for Asia and Beyond

Thursday, September 17, 10:00am - 12:00pm

The National Security Strategy and the National Defense Strategy detail the Trump administration's strategic orientations from a focus on Europe and East Asia to the Western hemisphere.

Dr. William (Bill) Berry: PhD in International Relations with a focus on East Asian Politics from Cornell University.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3016 The Future of NATO Unchained

Tuesday, September 22, 10:00am - 12:00pm

NATO's attention returned to Europe after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. The class will examine how diverging geopolitical concerns and opportunities stress test institutional bonds at NATO, crafting a strategic report card for the Alliance that assesses strategic deterrence, conventional readiness, and economic statecraft.

Dr. Damon Coletta: PhD in Political Science and International Relations from Duke University.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3017 The Courage to Grieve: Finding Hope Through Vulnerability

Tuesday, September 22, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

This presentation explores myths and truths of grief, how grief becomes complicated, the six needs of mourning, and the importance of healthy community support.

Sarah Lee: MA in Theology from Fuller Seminary. Sarah works for Pikes Peak Hospice.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3018 A House Divided: Politics of the Civil War 1826-1865
Wednesday, September 23, 10:00am - 12:00pm

We will explore the decades leading up to the election of 1860, a time in American history that exceeded today's divisions. That election became the breaking point, triggering secession and civil war, and bringing a leader with the political courage and determination to guide the nation through its greatest crisis.

Jim Furfari: BS in Electrical Engineering from United States Air Force Academy.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3019 The Constitution Amendments in Conversation
Wednesday, September 23, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

We will read and discuss the Amendments to the Constitution. Bring a copy of the Amendments if you can.

Daryl Kuiper: MA in Mathematics from University of Nebraska.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3020 Friday Foodies ~ Golden Bee

Friday, September 25, 1:00pm

Must pre-register with PILLAR. No walk-ins. We will be going Dutch. Max: 12.

Location: 1 Lake Ave.

#3021 Cowboy, Country, and Western Songs

Tuesday, September 29, 10:00am - 12:00pm

The cowboy, country, and western styles of music were distinct in the golden era of these genres.

Dr. Dick Fairley: PhD in Computer Science and Systems Engineering from UCLA. Dick was a disk jockey for KRCC.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3022 Your Home in Retirement: Wealth, Lifestyle, and Legacy

Tuesday, September 29, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Your home wealth is an important part of your retirement. We will discuss home wealth in the context of longevity, lifestyle, liquidity, and legacy.

Nathan Johnson: BA in Psychology from Crown College in St. Bonifacius, MN. Nathan is a Mutual of Omaha Mortgage, Inc. Reverse Mortgage Advisor.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3023 Prompt Your Life: AI Chatbots as Your Everyday Sidekick

Wednesday, September 30, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Discover how today's AI chatbots—including ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, Grok, and Perplexity—can become practical tools for work, creativity, and everyday life. This course explores real-world applications for improving productivity, supporting hobbies, and enhancing entertainment while introducing effective prompting techniques, privacy considerations, and best practices for getting reliable results.

Jerome (Jerry) Nowosatko: MBA in International Business/ Finance from UCCS and MS in Software Engineering from Colorado Technical University.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3024 Your Hands, Your Story

Wednesday, September 30, 12:30pm - 2:00pm

Your hands are a powerful reminiscence that reflects and celebrates a life well lived. Validating life experiences helps increase a sense of purpose and joy.

Temiya Bryant: MSW from the University of Louisville.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3026 Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival

Tuesday, October 6, 10:00am - 11:30am

Join us for a free film from the Rocky Mountain Women's Film. Film Title: TBD.

FREE for all! Must register with PILLAR.

#3027 Marijuana After Woodstock: Safer Than Alcohol or Deadly?

Tuesday, October 6, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Researchers applaud changing marijuana from a Schedule I drug to Schedule III; however, there may be a downside. Dr. Johnson presents her first-hand, medical examiner knowledge of at least five deaths where marijuana played a major role.

Dr. Deborah Johnson: MD from CU School of Medicine, Denver, Colorado. Deb was employed for 27 years as a forensic pathologist/Medical Examiner.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3028 The Assassination of William McKinley: Would He Have Survived Today?

Wednesday, October 7, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Explore the aftermath, emergency medical care, surgery, post-operative care, and autopsy results of McKinley's assassination.

Dr. Jeff Oram-Smith: Retired, 30-year surgical doctor in Colorado Springs and serving as Chief Medical Officer of Penrose St. Francis Healthcare System for five years.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3030 Smoke and Fire: Flying the Space Shuttle

Tuesday, October 13, 10:00am - 12:00pm



It was Dick Covey's voice in mission control who said the now infamous words, "Challenger, go at throttle up," shortly before the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster. Former Air Force fighter/test flight pilot and NASA astronaut, Dick flew four space shuttle missions including the first one after the Challenger tragedy and one to fix the Hubble Telescope. Watch and hear fascinating and fun videos and stories of Covey's real life experiences as a Space Shuttle pilot astronaut.

Dick Covey: MS in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Purdue University and BS in Engineering Science from the US Air Force Academy. Dick is a former Air Force fighter/test pilot and NASA astronaut.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

**#3031 American Mah Jongg Refresher
Tuesday, October 13, 12:30pm -2:30pm**

Do you need a refresher on American Mah Jongg? This class is for those who have played before, know the suits and the tiles, and just need to be refreshed on the rules. Please bring a current NMJL Mah Jongg card.

Sandy Halby: BS in Mathematics from the University of Alaska. Sandy plays at Mah Jongg tournaments around the country.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

**#3032 What's on the Ballot? Understanding the 2026 Issues
Wednesday, October 14, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

We will cover upcoming 2026 ballot issues.

Daryl Kuiper: MA in Mathematics from the University of Nebraska.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3033 The Many Connections Between Oral and Systemic Health

Wednesday, October 14, 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Learn about the many connections between the whole body and oral health.

Dr. Nicholas G. Ruana: Doctor of Dental Medicine from the University of Nevada. Dr. Ruana is from Pinnacle Dentistry.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

**#3034 Iran: Power, Isolation, and Regional Conflict
Thursday, October 15, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

Since the 1979 Iranian Revolution, Iran and the US have experienced decades of political and military hostility. Iran supports armed groups including Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis, while US officials and many allies argue that these activities contribute to regional instability. Concerns over Iran's nuclear program remain a central issue in Middle Eastern security and international diplomacy.

Dr. Brent Talbot: PhD in International and Comparative Politics from the University of Denver with a concentration in International Security. Brent is a Professor of Military and Strategic Studies at the Air Force Academy.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3035 Neanderthals: Smarter Than We Thought**Tuesday, October 20, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

Many, including some archaeologists, believe Neanderthals were of low intelligence. This presentation will demonstrate, through their hunting practices and the evidence from Neanderthal sites, that they were both linguistically and cognitively advanced.

Dr. Bruce Lutz: PhD in Anthropology/Archaeology from University of Pennsylvania.

PILLAR Member-FREE**Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00****#3036 Maintaining Strong Bones and Muscles as You Age****Tuesday, October 20, 12:30pm - 2:30pm**

Learn strategies to maintain strong bones and muscles and why it's important as you age. What's the role of strength training, power training, and everyday movement in supporting independence, physical capabilities, resilience, and an active lifestyle?

Erin Eleuterio: BS in Kinesiology from California State University-Long Beach

PILLAR Member-FREE**Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00****#3037 Oil, Power, and the World****Wednesday, October 21, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

This starts with an explanation of the oil and natural gas industry then enters into the global energy system, including consumption, international trade, and transportation. We will then discuss how energy resources shape international relations, national security, and the import dependence of major economies such as the U.S., China, Russia, and Europe, amid the continuing geopolitical significance of the Middle East in global energy markets.

Dr. Jim Poole: PhD in Applied Statistics from the University of Northern Colorado, MS in Economics, and MS in Geology.

PILLAR Member-FREE**Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00****#3038 Jimmy Stewart: Hollywood Star, Wartime Hero****Wednesday, October 21, 12:30pm - 2:00pm**

Learn about actor and war hero Jimmy Stewart, his prewar activities, and training for war, featuring training locations and promotions.

Dr. Nick Cressy: PhD in Management from Madison University, Florida.

PILLAR Member-FREE**Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00**

#3039 Friday Foodies ~ European Cafe
Friday, October 23, 1:00pm
Must pre-register with PILLAR. No walk-ins. We will go Dutch. Max: 12.
Location: 115 East Dale St.

#3040 Rituals Part 1: Helping Us to Connect
Tuesday, October 27, 10:00am - 12:00pm
Rituals in our lives serve as a bridge for the changes that disrupt our daily routines. The goal is to understand how our life rituals provide opportunities for growth and transformation.
Kent Mathews: MSW from Arizona State University.
PILLAR Member-FREE Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3041 End of Life Discussions and Options
Tuesday, October 27, 12:30pm - 2:00pm
We will discuss the importance of documenting and sharing your end of life wishes, including the Dementia Addendum and the Voluntarily Stopping Eating and Drinking (VSED).
Carol Folsom: BSW from Colorado State University.
PILLAR Member-FREE Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3042 Supreme Court Decision on *Birtheright Citizenship*
Wednesday, October 28, 10:00am - 12:00pm
We will discuss the Supreme Court decision on *Birtheright Citizenship*.
Eric Hall: JD at Notre Dame. He represents religious institutions and schools in all legal matters with an emphasis on First Amendment Litigation.
Richard Hall: JD in Law from the University of California at Berkeley. He was a Judge for 46 years in the municipal, county, and district courts.
PILLAR Member-FREE Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3043 Cycling in Secret: The Heroic Story of Gino Bartali
Wednesday, October 28, 12:30pm - 2:30pm
Gino Bartali was a great Tour de France cyclist winner in 1938 and 1948. He was also a war hero to many Italians and hundreds of Jews. This presentation includes a live performance.
Norm Renaud: MS in Administration/Elementary Education from UCCS.
PILLAR Member-FREE Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3044 What Will You Leave Behind? Values-Based Legacy Planning

Thursday, October 29, 10:00am - 1:00pm (note time)

Join us for a thoughtful introspection on navigating your personal legacy, providing you the opportunity to delve into your own values and ethics, and explore considerations that can help you realize satisfying legacy decision-making and outcomes.

Illene Roggensack: MBA from Colorado Christian University. Ilene works for Third Sector Innovations, Inc. / Strategic By Nature, Inc.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

Tour: #3045 Penrose Heritage Museum

Friday, October 30, 9:00am - 11:00am (note time)

Take a guided tour of the Penrose Heritage Museum with exhibits featuring Spencer and Julie Penrose's personal collection of thirty carriages and memorabilia of the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb. **Max. 15**

Location: 11 Lake Circle Dr. Park in the Broadmoor parking garage next to the museum. 1.5 hour validation by the museum. Take the elevator to the ground floor of Broadmoor Hall then the paved pathway to the museum entrance.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3046 Rituals Part 2: Creating Meaningful Rituals

Tuesday, November 3, 10:00am - 12:00pm

We'll cover five basic ritual types along with the necessary elements to create these rituals. Participants will be provided a guideline for creating their own rituals for any life occasion.

Kent Mathews: MSW from Arizona State University.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3047 Stephen Sondheim: A Musical Journey

Tuesday, November 3, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Potentially the most important American Musical Theatre composer, Sondheim's work spanned the 20th and 21st centuries. This class charts his career, with audio and video examples, highlighting his six-decade career.

Scott Levy: MA in Educational Theatre from University of New York.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3048 Jefferson's Bible: Religious Views of an American President

Wednesday, November 4, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Jefferson edited a version of the New Testament Gospels in four languages. We will compare his method of editing to the Gospel writers' composition technique.

Dr. David Weddle: PhD in Religious Studies from Harvard University. Dr. Weddle is a Professor Emeritus of Religion at Colorado College. He is also a published author.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3049 IGP: The Great Depression: When the Economy and Nation Collapsed

Thursday, November 5, 10:00am - 11:30am

The Great Depression of the 1930s resulted in the worst economic and social crises in US history with international impacts.

Location: Inn at Garden Plaza, 2520 International Circle

Dr. Dick Fairley: PhD in Computer Science and Systems Engineering from UCLA. He was a jazz disk jockey at KRCC.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3050 The Vietnam War: Perspectives from Hanoi

Tuesday, November 10, 10:00am - 12:00pm

This presentation will focus on the motivations and strategies of North Vietnamese political and military leaders (Ho Chi Minh, Vo Nguyen Giap, *et al*) during the war against France (1950-54) and against the United States (early 1960s-1975).

Dr. William (Bill) Berry: PhD in International Relations with focus on East Asian Politics from Cornell University.

Dr. Berry taught at the AF Academy, the National War College, and the Asian Pacific Center for Security Studies.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3051 Building Better Balance

Tuesday, November 10, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Discover how balance works and what you can do to improve it at any age.

Erin Eleuterio: BS in Kinesiology, California State University-Long Beach

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3052 Contemporary Indian Politics**Wednesday, November 11, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

Trace Indian democracy and governance, India's partition from Pakistan, and the early dominance of the Nehru family leading the Indian National Congress. End with the rise of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) led by Narendra Modi.

Dr. Paul Bolt: PhD in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Political Science Professor at the AF Academy.

PILLAR Member-FREE**Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00****#3053 Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia****Wednesday, November 11, 12:30pm - 2:30pm**

Learn about the impact of Alzheimer's, Alzheimer's and dementia differentiation, the stages and risk factors, the current research and selective treatments, and Alzheimer's Association resources.

Dr. Peter Knepell: PhD in Applied Mathematics at Cornell University and BS in Mathematics at the USAF Academy.

Peter taught at the USAF Academy for ten years.

PILLAR Member-FREE**Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00****#3055 Palmer, McAllister, and the Quaker Roots of Colorado Springs****Tuesday, November 17, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

The McAllisters and William J. Palmer were Hicksite Quakers, the sect with a firm stance against slavery starting in the late 1600s. Explore the McAllisters' Hicksite Quaker connections and their impact on early Colorado Springs.

Eric Metzger: MA in Museum Admin Harvard University and a BA Anthropology from the U of C Boulder. Eric is the Executive Director at McAllister House.

PILLAR Member-FREE**Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00****#3056 Oral Diseases and Their Effects On the Body****Tuesday, November 17, 12:30pm - 1:30pm**

Can gum disease and cavities really affect your heart and mind? Learn why taking care of your mouth is also taking care of your body.

Dr. Nicholas G. Ruana: Dr of Dental Medicine from University of Nevada. Dr. Ruana is from Pinnacle Dentistry.

PILLAR Member-FREE**Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00**

**#3057 Jazz and Blues: Nat King Cole and Bonnie Raitt
Wednesday, November 18, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

Pop stars Cole and Raitt began in jazz piano and blues guitar. Discover their full musical journeys and hear stories and music of some who helped them along the way.

Dr. Dick Fairley: PhD in Computer Science and Systems Engineering from UCLA. He worked as an engineer, university professor, consultant, and as a jazz disk jockey at KRCC.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

**#3058 ICE 5: A Group Word Game of Logic and Reasoning
Thursday, November 19, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

Word lovers will enjoy this challenging and fun session of a new game written by PILLAR member Thom Rogers. Designed to appeal to Wordle players, Scrabble players, readers or anyone who likes words and figuring things out. **Max: 8**

Thom Rogers: AS in Telecommunications Technology from Napa Valley College, California.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

**#3061 The Evolution of the American Flag
Tuesday, December 1, 10:00am - 12:00pm**

Recent generations have thought of our flag as static. But we had many variations of the American flag in the first 150 years.

Jamie Foster: BA in Geology from Carleton College.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

**#3062 Football and Finance: Playing Offense and Defense
With Your Money**

Tuesday, December 1, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

A fun, unintimidating class that simplifies both the game of football and money and investing. Using a football analogy, participants will gain a greater understanding of both. We will cover offense (scoring points in football and growing wealth with our money) and defense (preventing losses in football and protecting what we have invested and earned).

Kelly Steele: JD from University of Iowa. Kelly has been a lawyer for over 35 years and a financial advisor for over 25 years.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3063 Clear the Clutter: Organize Your Space, Simplify Your Life

Wednesday, December 2, 10:00am - 12:00pm

An organized home eliminates frustration and allows you to focus on what matters most. Learn practical tips to help conquer your clutter and organize your spaces.

Tami Gale: MA in Public Administration and Nonprofit Management. Tami is the owner of Gale Force Organizers.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3064 PILLAR's Annual Membership Meeting

Monday, December 7, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

All members are invited to attend the Annual Membership Meeting to hear the state of PILLAR.

PILLAR
INSTITUTE

LEARNING FOR THE FUN OF IT

#3065 The Story and Music of *Porgy and Bess*

Tuesday, December 8, 10:00am - 12:00pm

We'll cover the origin, main characters, story line, excerpts from staging the folk opera, film clips from the lost movie, and some popular versions of the songs.

Dr. Dick Fairley: PhD in Computer Science and Systems Engineering from UCLA. Dick was a disk jockey for KRCC.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3066 80 Years...

Tuesday, December 8, 12:30pm- 2:00pm

80 years signifies a long life, but 80 is also an Interstate highway. US Route 80 marks its 100th anniversary. There's a military aircraft—the F-80. Learn about these “80” things through stories.

Tom Menza: JD in Law from Denver University.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3067 When Is War Just?: Theory, Morality, and Modern Conflict

Wednesday, December 9, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Is war ever justified? Explore Western Christian answers from Augustine and Thomas Aquinas to contemporary military ethics, and discuss applying just-war principles to modern US conflicts.

Dr. David Weddle: PhD in Religious Studies from Harvard University. Dr. Weddle is a Professor Emeritus of Religion at Colorado College and published author.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3068 Einstein, Black Holes, and Gravitational Waves

Wednesday, December 9, 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Learn how our understanding of the universe has been enhanced by the observation of Black Holes and Gravitational Waves using modern instruments.

Dr. Henry Gertzman: PhD in Nuclear Physics from the University of Rochester and a BS in Physics from MIT. He is retired from the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3070 *Star Trek*: The 60th Anniversary

Tuesday, December 15, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Look back to the short-lived series that spawned a vast empire of Trekkers, spin-off television series, conventions, and movies.

Sandy Halby: BS in Mathematics from the University of Alaska.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

#3071 Beginning American Mah Jongg: Two Extended Lessons

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 15 and 16, 12:30pm - 3:00pm

Learn American Mah Jongg using the National Mah Jongg League rules. The 2026 card will be available to purchase for \$14.

Sandy Halby: BS in Mathematics from the University of Alaska.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$100.00

#3072 The History of the Patty Jewett Neighborhood

Wednesday, December 16, 10:00am - 12:00pm

The Patty Jewett neighborhood's roots go back to the late 19th century, when it began as an early residential suburb, exhibiting the late Victorian residential architecture of that era.

Tim Scanlon: Master of Regional and City Planning from University of Oklahoma.

PILLAR Member-FREE

Not-Yet-Member-\$25.00

Thank you to our sponsors for the
PILLAR Institute's 30th Anniversary!



Senior Resource Council



Mutual of Omaha
REVERSE MORTGAGE



2960 Tutt Blvd, Colorado Springs,
CO 80922

(719) 394-9629

[https://revelcommunities.com/
communities/province/](https://revelcommunities.com/communities/province/)



THE INN AT
GARDEN PLAZA
A CENTURY PARK COMMUNITY

2520 International Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80910
(719) 652-8882

[https://www.centurypa.com/
senior-living/inn-garden-plaza/](https://www.centurypa.com/senior-living/inn-garden-plaza/)

PILLAR brings classes to these Partners



ABERDEEN RIDGE®
A PMMA Community

2744 Grand Vista Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80904
719-286-3014

<https://www.aberdeenridge.org/>



1514 North Hancock Avenue
Colorado Springs CO 80904
(719) 955-3400

<https://seniorcenter.ppymca.org/>

*These \$750 sponsors support
PILLAR 's mission of lifelong learning.*



Power Representation. Personalized Approach

Employment, Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice, Insurance Bad Faith, Legal Malpractice, Civil Litigation & Estate Planning Law Firm

Serving Colorado Springs & Denver, Colorado

A poster for the Colorado Springs Philharmonic's 100th anniversary. It features a conductor, Chloe Dufresne, in a black dress, holding a baton. The text "100 CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF MUSIC" is at the top. Below the conductor, it says "Chloe Dufresne Music Director". At the bottom, it says "COLORADO SPRINGS PHILHARMONIC" with "CHLOE DUFRESNE MUSIC DIRECTOR" underneath. A QR code is in the bottom right corner, and the text "Explore & Buy Tickets csphilharmonic.org" is at the bottom left.



Pinnacle Dentistry offers a variety of services to keep your teeth healthy for years to come!

Crowns Full or Partial dentures
Bridges Dental Implants

PinnacleDentistryCO.com
Briargate Business Center
2430 Research Pkwy, Suite 200
info@PinnacleDentistryCO.com
719-590-7100

\$1500 Sponsor



Silver Key™

Senior Services

Silver Key Senior Summit

Wednesday, June 16th and Thursday, June 17th, 2027

8am – 2pm

Great Wolf Lodge – 9494 Federal Dr.

Grantor



**PIKES PEAK
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

PILLAR Institute for Lifelong Learning

Chapel Hills Mall

Mailing Address: 1710 Briargate Blvd., Suite 847,
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Email: Director@PillarInstitute.org

Website: <https://www.PillarInstitute.org>

Phone: 719-633-4991

PILLAR office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:00am - 2:30pm. Thursday 9:00am - 12:30pm. You can always email outside of hours.

PILLAR Classroom: Chapel Hills Mall. Use Jamboree Dr. to find the north mall entrance, between Dillard's and Peak Pickleball. Enter there and walk straight ahead.

Class Registration Information

- Pre-registration is required for all classes and tours because of the maximums.
- Register for classes online yourself at <https://www.PillarInstitute.org/learn>, call the office at 719-633-4991 or come in when the office is open.
- The most current class schedule is in the weekly emails. Make sure you are on the PILLAR email list to receive class updates.
- A mailed print catalog is \$5.
- **If you cannot make a class, please send an email to director@PillarInstitute.org, so someone on the waiting list can attend.**

NEW! - All Inclusive PILLAR Membership

\$75 per trimester (Sept. - Dec.)

with All Classes FREE!

(Day trips and special classes may have associated costs.)

Not-Yet-Member is \$25.00 per class

PILLAR needs volunteers!

Office volunteers, fundraising volunteers, classroom volunteers, and board members. Contact the office for more information.