



BROOKS, EKIRCH, AND STUART RECEIVE LITERARY AWARDS

The Library of Virginia is pleased to announce the winners of the 9th Annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards. This year's awards celebration was hosted by award-winning actress Daphne Maxwell Reid. Award categories were fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and literary lifetime achievement. The Library of Virginia Foundation also recognized an outstanding corporation with the Semper Virginia Society Award at the event. Winners of the Library of Virginia's Annual Literary Awards and the People's Choice Awards receive a \$2,500 prize and a handsome engraved crystal book.

Geraldine Brooks is the recipient of the fiction prize for *March*, which covers the Civil War experiences of the absent father from Louisa Alcott's classic *Little Women*. *March* also was honored with the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. Brooks, an award-winning Australian-born writer, divides her time between homes in Waterford, Virginia, and Sydney, Australia.

Year of Wonders, Brooks's first novel, was a finalist for the 5th Annual Library of Virginia Literary award in fiction.

Rita McCleny, vice president of Industry Relations for the Virginia Film Office, recognized the three fiction finalists and the honorable mentions for the award and presented the fiction prize to Brooks. The other fiction finalists were *Little Criminals: Short Stories* by Kurt Rheinheimer and *Holy Skirts* by Rene Steinke. *Sabbath Night in the Church of the Piranha* by Edward Falco and *Lies* by William Hoffman received honorable mentions in the fiction category.

Dan Roberts, executive producer of *A Moment in Time*, presented the 2006 Literary Award for the best work of nonfiction to Roger Ekirch for *At Day's Close: Night in Times Past*. The other

finalists for the nonfiction prize were *A Land As God Made It: Jamestown and the Birth of America* by James Horn and *A World on Fire: A Heretic, an Aristocrat, and the Race to Discover Oxygen* by Joe Jackson. Earning an honorable mention was *Jefferson's Secrets: Death and Desire at Monticello* by Andrew Burstein.



Fiction Honorees: Edward Falco, honorable mention; Ren  Steinke, finalist; Geraldine Brooks, winner of the Fiction Prize for *March*; Kurt Rheinheimer, finalist; and William Hoffman, honorable mention

Ekirch, a professor of early American history at Virginia Tech, is the author of three books and numerous scholarly articles. *At Day's Close* examines the history of nocturnal activity before the dawn of the Industrial Revolution and electrical lighting.

May Lily-Lee, host and senior producer for *Virginia Currents*, presented the Library of Virginia Literary Award for the best work of poetry. Dabney Stuart, professor of English emeritus at Washington and Lee University, received the top poetry prize for *Family Preserve*, a collection of poems centering on the complexity and

intensity of family relationships, memory, and longing. Stuart's sister, Wynne Stuart, accepted the award for her brother, who was traveling in Europe.

The other poetry finalists were *Late Wife* by Claudia Emerson and *Reliquaries* by Eric Pankey. Lilah Hegnauer received an honorable mention for *Dark Under Kiganda Stars*.

Dean King, Virginia author and Library of Virginia Foundation board member, presented the People's Choice Awards, which are cosponsored by the Library of Virginia and the James River Writers, a non-profit Richmond-based writers' organization. The winner of the People's Choice Award in the fiction category is *St. Dale* by Sharon McCrumb and in the nonfiction category ...see **Awards**, pg. 6



THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

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MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS APPLY TO THE CERTIFIED PUBLIC LIBRARY ADMINISTRATOR PROGRAM

If you are a public librarian who is already a manager or who plans to become a manager, the Certified Public Library Administrator Program may help you reach your professional goals. CPLA is a post-MLS program for public librarians who want to know more about issues like budget and finance, personnel management, building maintenance, and technology management. Applicants should have an American Library Association-accredited MLS degree and three or more years of supervisory experience. Applying for CPLA is a simple process of completing the application at www.ala-apa.org/certification/cplaapplication.html, sending your resume to the ALA Allied Professional Association and submitting the ...see **CPLA**, pg. 6

Rediscovering the Forgotten Garden

An Exhibition on Lee Memorial Park Opens at the Siege Museum



The workers and supervisors of the WPA Wildflower and Bird Sanctuary in Lee Memorial Park, March 1936.

Rediscovering the Forgotten Garden explores the rich history of Lee Memorial Park in Petersburg. The exhibition at Petersburg's Siege Museum features photographs by commercial photographer William E. Lum, Jr., some of which were preserved through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission in 2003. Laura Willoughby, curator of collections for Petersburg Museums, worked with State Archivist Conley Edwards and State Historical Records Advisory Board deputy coordinator Jennifer Davis McDaid to obtain the grant to duplicate more than 200 nitrate negatives. The resulting photographs help to tell the story of Lee Memorial Park.

Geologists and paleontologists have unearthed prehistoric sites and fossils at Lee Memorial Park dating as far back as 330 million years. Today the park serves as a rich botanical meeting ground for rare plant species and is a habitat for a variety of birds and other wildlife. Named to honor General Robert E. Lee, the park contains portions of the Dimmock Line, a series of earthworks that were built around Petersburg by Confederate troops to protect the city.

A significant part of Lee Memorial Park's past was unlocked in the 1990s when the Petersburg Garden Club saved dried plant specimens and watercolors by Bessie Niemeyer Marshall. Her intricate paintings are the primary surviving record of a WPA project that put African American and white women to work creating a wildflower sanctuary in Petersburg during the 1930s.

In 1953, a group of African American citizens filed suit in federal court against the city of Petersburg for denying them use of the park's swimming facilities. Rather than integrate, the city officially closed the park in 1954. Eventually, the park's other facilities were integrated, but the swimming area never reopened. Today, Lee Memorial Park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a master plan has been adopted by Petersburg City Council for the preservation of the site along with goals for improving the park's accessibility and amenities.

The exhibition contains examples of fossils found in the park, a selection of the original WPA-era watercolors, and interpretive panels exploring both the natural resources and extensive history of Lee Memorial Park from the Civil War to the Great Depression to the park's pivotal role in the civil rights movement. Planning and fund-raising for the exhibition was undertaken by the Petersburg Garden Club, whose members have played an integral role in preserving the Depression-era history of the park. In 2000, the club sponsored the publication of the book *With Paintbrush and Shovel, Preserving Virginia's Wildflowers*, which showcases Marshall's watercolors.

In conjunction with the exhibition, the Siege Museum will host the Lee Memorial Park Forum, a series of lectures on the history and natural resources of Lee Memorial Park. An educator's guide for area teachers and students was also developed as a companion to the exhibition. *Rediscovering the Forgotten Garden* will be on exhibit at the Siege Museum in Petersburg until January 2007. The exhibition and related programs are made possible through funding from the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, the Cameron Foundation, and the City of Petersburg. For more information, call Laura Willoughby at 804-733-2427 or visit the Petersburg Garden Club's Web site, www.pgcvirginia.org.

—submitted by Jennifer Davis McDaid, Research and Information Services

Archival Holdings Increase in 1st Qtr.

The first quarter of fiscal year 2006–2007 brought an additional 357 cubic feet of materials, 155 reels of microfilm, 54 maps, and 15 compact discs to the archival holdings of the Library of Virginia. This valuable research collection continues to grow, thanks in large part to donations made by private individuals and families, churches, businesses, and organizations. The Library enthusiastically welcomes such gifts as contributions to the preservation of Virginia's documentary heritage. The following is a sample of the new accessions from the recently completed quarter:

CHURCH RECORDS

Oakrum Baptist Church (Prince William County, Va.). These records, 1883–1964, of the Oakrum Baptist Church in Prince William County, Virginia, consist of record books, 1883–1903, including minutes, rolls, and accounts; roll books, 1901–1962, including Brothers Roll and Sisters Roll, listing names with amount of dues paid; minute books, 1932–1958; and various loose papers. The loose papers include anniversary booklets (100th and 130th); correspondence; information on the highway marker entitled “Free People of Color at Thoroughfare;” savings pass books, 1946–1956; history; accounts; receipts; and resolutions.

FEDERAL RECORDS

Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served from 1784 to 1811: Virginia. The U.S. Army between the end of the Revolutionary War and the beginning of the War of 1812 consisted of a small regular army supplemented, when necessary, with state and territorial militia units called into national service. This collection contains the military service records of soldiers from Virginia who served in the various Indian campaigns, insurrections, and disturbances of the post-Revolutionary period. The records were compiled from the original records maintained by the Office of the Adjutant General.

PERSONAL PAPERS

Brock, Robert Alonzo. Correspondence, ca. 1880–1910, of Robert Alonzo Brock (1839–1914), written while he served as secretary for the Virginia Historical Society and Southern Historical Society. Topics include membership in the Virginia Historical Society, dues, subscriptions to the Southern Historical Society Papers, ...see **Holdings**, pg. 3

Holdings... purchases of archival manuscripts and publications for the society, and general Virginia historical and genealogical research inquiries. Also included are letters regarding Brock's involvement with many historical boards and associations. The letters include some Bible records and genealogical notes on families that the correspondents were researching, making these letters a great source for genealogists.

Hines-West Family. Papers, 1909–1951, of the Hines-West family of Nottoway County, Virginia, consisting of letters, 1909–1918, concerning Walter P. Hines' (d. 1936) travels in Europe; commissions earned by Martha E. Hines (d. by 1936) on sales of lots for the Avondale Land Company of Richmond, Virginia, and a bathing apparatus invented by John H. Hines; papers, 1918–1951, concerning the estates of John H. Hines, Walter P. and Hortense Wise Hines (d. 1935) of Atlanta, Georgia, and Josepha Margaret Kingman (d. 1921) of Portsmouth, Virginia; an undated letter containing Civil War reminiscences from Highland County, Virginia; an article entitled "Trials of a Country Newspaper Correspondent"; short stories by Alice Allen Hines; a certificate from the Women's Missionary Union, Southern Baptist Convention, to Mrs. G. M. (Whittier Hines) West; and a diploma from the National Cooperative Realty Company to John H. Hines.

Hopkins, William L. Genealogical research papers, 1975–1995, kept by William L. Hopkins while researching his ancestors. Includes information on the related Cawthorne, Chastain, Cox, Daniel, Goodloe, Goodman, Griffin, Hatcher, Hawkins, Haynes, Hewett, Ingham, Irvins, Leftwich, Lindsay, Logwood, Rowland, Stevens, Turner, White, and Williams families of Albemarle, Bedford, Campbell, Caroline, and Spotsylvania counties, and Lynchburg, Virginia; and England and Scotland. Birth certificates, correspondence, death certificates, deeds, genealogical notes and charts, marriage certificates, and photographs are included. Also included are applications and certificates of membership to the Jamestown Society.

Jamgochian, Haigh. Papers, 1930–2006, of Haigh Jamgochian (1924–) of Richmond, Virginia, consist of correspondence; architectural drawings, plans, sketches, and models; and photographs related to various realized and unrealized structures designed by the architect. The collection also ...see **Holdings**, pg. 6

VOELKEL TO SERVE AS CURATOR OF STATE ART COLLECTION

The Library of Virginia is pleased to announce that David B. Voelkel has joined the staff as curator of the state art collection. He comes to the Library of Virginia from George Washington's Fredericksburg Foundation where he served as director of curatorial operations. George Washington's Fredericksburg Foundation owns and operates two National Historic Landmarks: Kenmore Plantation built in the 1770s by George Washington's sister, Betty, and her husband, Colonel Fielding Lewis; and Ferry Farm, the boyhood home of George Washington.

Voelkel previously served as assistant director and curator of the James Monroe Museum & Memorial Library in Fredericksburg and prior to that as curatorial consultant to Ashlawn-Highland in Charlottesville. He holds a bachelor's degree in historic preservation from Mary Washington College (now the University of Mary Washington) in Fredericksburg and a master's in museum studies from the University of Leicester in England. He and his family are currently restoring a house in Richmond's Ginter Park neighborhood.



T. J. READER MAKES HIS DEBUT

T. J. Reader, the Library of Virginia's new statewide reading mascot, will make appearances at the 2007 summer reading program workshops later this fall in Roanoke, Charlottesville, and Portsmouth. He also



attended the Virginia Educational Media Association Conference in Hampton in October. Tom Sollers, a graphic designer with the Baltimore County Public Library, designed T. J., a bear cub who hails from the Shenandoah National Forest.

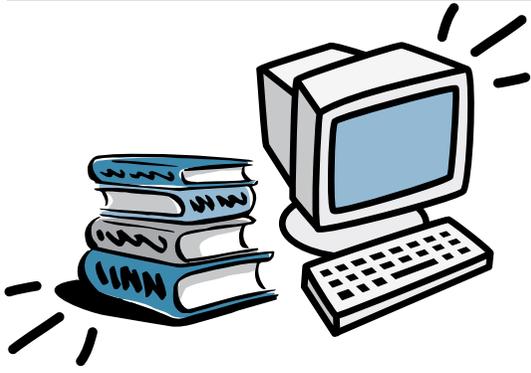
"T. J. is an avid reader who has been heard to say 'I cannot live without books,'" said Patricia Muller, children's and youth services consultant at the Library of Virginia.

"His well-read parents instilled the love of reading in their cub at an early age."

The 2007 summer reading program theme is "T. J. Reader's Virginia Trails." The summer reading program will offer four reading trails: the Discovery Trail, which centers on Jamestown; the Appalachian Trail, which features natural history; the Story Trail, which features folk tales, legends, and family history; and the Adventure Trail, which covers travel around the state. Three large puppets are being fabricated by Mary Ann Taylor, a puppet maker in Salem, and will be available for use by public libraries for literacy events.

The teen theme is "Lost in Time" and will feature a graphic novel about three teens who go back in time to Jamestown and move through the centuries before returning home.

Comic book artist Bentley Boyd, creator of the Chester the Crab series of Virginia history comic books, will write and illustrate *Lost... in Time*. Boyd is a graduate of Harvard University with degrees in history and literature. He lives in Williamsburg, Virginia, and has been a professional cartoonist for 15 years.



Did you know...?

Old newspapers hold valuable information for genealogists and historians alike. Unfortunately, the task of poring over hundreds of pages of tiny print in hopes of possibly finding a related article is too time-intensive for most researchers. Many helpful indexes to newspapers exist, from electronic archives to marriage and death notices abstracted in local historical society publications. To help Library of Virginia patrons gain access to these indexes, Library Reference Services has expanded and revised the research guide “Selected Indexing of Virginia Newspapers,” providing an exhaustive listing of the many newspaper indexes in our collection, arranged by locality. Copies of this guide are available in the Library’s reading rooms and on our Web site, www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/news/IndexingVaNewspapers.pdf.

HISTORICAL FICTION

The imaginative portrayal of American history through historical novels is not only enjoyable for readers who love this genre, but useful as well as for understanding how Americans see themselves and their past. Here are three sources in our Reference Collection that discuss this popular genre in addition to identifying novels for readers and scholars alike:

What Historical Novel Do I Read Next? by Daniel S. Burt begins by defining a historical novel and describes briefly the history of this genre. Volume 1 is organized by author with each entry starting with a critical comment on the author’s works. A list of titles with plot summary, listing of major fictional and historical characters, and time period and subject matter covered follows. Particularly useful are remarks on historical accuracy. In addition, the first volume contains lists of Pulitzer Prize winners, as well as the most popular historical novels, time periods, settings, subjects, and historical figures. The author also includes a list of recommended titles. Volume 2 contains indexing by time period, locality, subject, fictional and historical character, and character description in addition to author and title. This is an enjoyable work to browse through.

American Historical Fiction: An Annotated Guide to Novels for Adults and Young Adults by Lynda G. Adamson is organized by time period, beginning with “North America before 1600” and ending with “After 1975—The Late Twentieth Century. Then titles with

one-line plot descriptions are listed by author. In order to describe the novels more precisely, each one is categorized by one or more sub-genres, such as “Family Saga” or “War Story.” A diamond symbol indicates novels intended for “Young Adults.” Indexing is by author, title, genre, geography, and subject. Also included are appendices listing book awards and books for young adult readers. Be advised that the author’s definition of a historical novel is rather vague (“If the setting is in a time earlier than that with which the reader is familiar, it is historical fiction.”).

Historical Fiction: A Guide to the Genre by Sarah L. Johnson, the most elaborate of the three reference titles, opens with a discussion of the genre, its definition, and history as well as comments on its trends and how to judge historical accuracy. The rest of the book, arranged in broad categories such as “Sagas” or “Romance,” is then sub-divided further by locality, time period, or themes such as “Regency-Era Romances,” “The Mythic West,” or “The Real Wild West,” providing a more precise system of identifying and describing particular titles. Each section begins with introductory remarks. Individual entries include plot summaries. Icons indicate notable features about certain novels, for example, award-winners or those suitable for young adults. The coverage is selective, focusing primarily on English-language novels for adults published between 1995 and mid-2004. Chapters on “Alternate History,” “Historical Fantasy,” and “Historical Mysteries,” as well as other hybrid trends, show the broad and versatile appeal of the historical novel.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Forts of the United States: An Historical Dictionary, 16th Through 19th Centuries (2006) is the culmination of 20 years of research by author Bud Hannings, a historian and publisher specializing in military history. The information provided in the text is actually a byproduct of Hannings’s research for other texts he has written. He found that having factual information about fortifications helped him to form more accurate conclusions concerning military events. The illustrated text includes brief histories of pre- and post-Revolutionary War fortifications, describing all primary forts in the original 13 colonies and in those sections of the country settled by the Spanish and French that later became part of the continental United States. The entries, arranged alphabetically within each state, supply the location of the fort; the date of its establishment; military events that occurred at or near the fort; the dates of capture, abandonment, or destruction; and information to assist those who wish to visit the site. The text also includes brief histories of the major Spanish missions, as well as the British-controlled posts during the American Revolution and the War of 1812. The work provides an extensive bibliography and detailed index, as well as the following six appendices: Washington, D.C.; Civil War Defenses; Florida Seminole Indian War Forts; Pony Express Depots; Spanish Missions and Presidios; Conflicts in America and Europe, 1492–1898: A Chronology; and Twentieth Century U.S. Forts, Posts, Bases, and Stations (includes forts established prior to

the 20th century that were active during the 1900s and bases that are currently active worldwide).

Hannings aims to provide clarification regarding locations commonly thought to have had forts or camps, but that actually had none. He explains that settlers often built crude blockhouses and trading posts and then referred to them as forts. Also, in some instances, towns were named after forts that never existed, causing confusion in the historical record. The author notes that researching the forts constructed near Washington, D.C., during the Civil War proved to be a particularly challenging task. This was due in part to their large number (with nearly 50 established during the first six months of the war and 120 in existence one year into the conflict), as well as the fact that it was not uncommon for one regiment to name a fort, and then another regiment to call the post by a completely different name. Additionally, historical texts often mention the names of forts, but not their locations. Thus, much analysis was done and assistance gained from historians, librarians, and the National Park Service to unearth facts about these forts, as well as the thousands of other installations included in this text. Hannings has produced an interesting and well-documented resource for all those seeking information about U.S. fortifications of yesterday and today.

The rapid pace of change in contemporary science and technology can leave non-specialists seeking a concise, authoritative guide to current information in these fields. The makers of the *American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language* have responded to this need by producing the new *American Heritage Science Dictionary*. This resource contains more

than 8,500 entries covering concepts from all the major fields of the sciences, from anthropology to zoology. Each entry contains a guide to pronunciation, with some entries also featuring notes on proper usage of terms. The editors have also included 350 detailed illustrations throughout the text. Nearly 200 important concepts in the work include a more detailed discussion under the heading "A Closer Look." Topics selected for more in-depth treatment include such concepts as absolute zero, dwarf star, relativity, and vitamin. Although the dictionary provides a wealth of information on contemporary research, the work also serves as a valuable guide to the history of science. Biographical entries on 320 scientists and individuals highlight those whose work has influenced scientific thinking. Many seminal figures from the sciences, such as Nicholaus Copernicus and Alan Turing, receive extended biographical entries that give their contributions expanded coverage. The volume closes with a concise "Timeline of Scientific Discovery" that provides a chronological listing of the years in which major scientific advances were achieved. The timeline ends with the completion of the human genome project in 2003. Certainly, scientific and technological progress will continue and new discoveries will eventually merit inclusion in such a listing of achievements. As these new discoveries are made and documented by new reference works, the Library of Virginia will continue to build its collection of resources to serve the information needs of Virginians.

—submitted by Sarah Huggins,
Lisa Wehrmann, and Chris Higgins

COUNCIL OF STATE ARCHIVISTS RELEASES EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS REPORT

The Council of State Archivists has completed a report for its Emergency Preparedness Initiative and submitted it to Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein for eventual presentation to President George W. Bush. This effort began shortly after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast. Tom Wellman and Glenn Smith of the Library of Virginia participated in discussions about the survey, with Wellman completing the survey for Virginia. The sidebars on "What Worked" contain some interesting examples, including one related to Arlington County.

A PDF copy of the draft version of the report can be found on the CoSA Web site at www.statearchivists.org/prepare/. The final version of the report will be published in November 2006.

Look at the section on "Why Records Matter." Is there any better example than the doctor who was forced to improvise treatment for 80 child cancer patients based on what parents could remember because medical records had not survived?

—submitted by Conley Edwards,
State Archivist

Library Leaders Issue Guidelines to Reshape Libraries for Boomers

As the first wave of the baby boomers turns 60, public libraries are preparing to offer creative alternatives to retirement to a generation well-known for their idealism and activism. A new report from the Americans for Libraries Council and the Institute of Museum and Library Services describes this demographic revolution and offers guidance and examples of model programs to public libraries interested in connecting these active older adults to new opportunities for learning, work, and community service.

Designs for Change: Libraries and Productive Aging features input from a 2005 Library Leaders Forum, which included 40 of the nation's top library leaders as well as leading gerontologists, social workers, and educators. The group considered the impact that the growing number of active older Americans will have on libraries and future librarians. Forum participants concluded that traditional adult services for "seniors" fall short in appealing to the interests of these older adults, and do not take full advantage of their willingness to work, volunteer, and impart expert knowledge within the community.

Designs for Change: Libraries and Productive Aging may be downloaded at www.ims.gov/pdf/DesignsforChange.pdf (PDF format; 1.7 MB). Hard copies may be obtained directly by calling the Americans for Libraries Council at 646-336-6236.

—submitted by Eileen Maxwell, Institute of Museum and Library Services, and Vandra Thorburn, Americans for Libraries Council

COVITS Honors Warner Web Archive Work

The Library of Virginia's ArchiveIt system received an honorable mention at the Commonwealth of Virginia Innovative Technology Symposium 2006 for its work in making the Web archive of the Warner administration accessible to the public through the Library's Web site.

The awards program honors outstanding achievements and recognizes innovative technology initiatives in the public sector throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Governor's Technology Awards program recognized winners in seven areas of service. The Library's award was in the Increased Accessibility to Government category.

MULLER LEAVES TO JOIN HENRICO COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Patricia Muller, children's and youth services consultant for eight years at the Library of Virginia, is leaving to become the first children's coordinator for the Henrico County Public Library system. Muller's program experience and expertise in the needs of children and youth has been a tremendous asset to the Library of Virginia and the state's public libraries.

Muller grew up in Detroit, Michigan, and attended library school at California State University at San Jose. Before coming to the Library of Virginia she worked for the Arlington County Public Library system. From 1995 to 1996, Muller served as president of the Young Adult Library Services Association, a division of the American Library Association. In 2003 she was asked to present a series of workshops in Brazil on behalf of the U.S. Department of State International Information Programs. The series was praised as "one of the most valuable ever sponsored" for the message and techniques she shared in training Brazilian librarians on the value of specialized services for youth. She currently serves as the YALSA representative to the Standing Committee for Libraries for Children and Young Adults of the International Federation of Library Associations, the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users.

One of Muller's top priorities has been the Library of Virginia's annual summer reading program. Working closely with a development team of public library staff, Muller has added new features to the annual program that have been well-received by library participants. Muller is committed to early literacy initiatives in public libraries and is an ardent supporter of Smart Beginnings, a statewide collaboration to share information about making the most of the early years for Virginia's children. She worked to ensure that the existing efforts of public libraries in promoting early childhood literacy were recognized and included in Smart Beginnings. She built partnerships with the Virginia Department of Social Services to provide training and materials for child care providers.

"Pat's energy, positive attitude, and expertise will be greatly missed," said Libby Lewis, director of the Library Development and Networking Division. "We understand, though, her desire to return to working more closely with children and young adults."

The Library is now recruiting to fill Muller's position. Please see "Employment Opportunities" at www.lva.lib.va.us/whoware/jobs/index.asp for additional information.

Awards... *Clapton's Guitar: Watching Wayne Henderson Build the Perfect Instrument* by Allen St. John. The finalists for these awards are selected by a panel of independent Virginia booksellers and librarians from the list of books nominated for the Library's literary awards. Winners are decided by readers voting online and in bookstores and libraries.

Henry Wienczek, Virginia author and Library of Virginia Board member, presented the Literary Lifetime Achievement Award to William Styron. "From *The Confessions of Nat Turner* to *Sophie's Choice* to his impassioned opposition to the death penalty, William Styron has engaged the literate reading public with his riveting prose and explorations of moral complexities," said Wienczek. Styron's wife, Rose, accepted the award on behalf of her husband.

Carole Weinstein, vice chairman of Weinstein Management Company and Library of Virginia Board member, presented the Weinstein Poetry Prize to Brian Henry, who teaches at the University of Richmond. An editor of *Verse* since 1995, Henry also is a contributing or guest editor at various magazines, including *Fulcrum* and *The Prague Review*. He has published four books of poetry, *Astronaut*, *American Incident*, *Graft*, and *Quarantine*. The Weinstein Prize winner is selected separately from the Library of Virginia's Literary Awards by a special board of curators.

Charles W. Sydnor, Jr., chair of the Library of Virginia Board, presented the Semper Virginia Society Award to Dominion, which has been a supporter of the Library of Virginia's Literary Awards for a number of years and was a supporter of the 1990 Virginia Governor's Conference on Libraries. William C. Hall, Dominion's vice president of external affairs and corporate communications, accepted the award. "Dominion's long-standing community involvement has been highly beneficial to libraries, public education, and cultural programs in central Virginia," said Sydnor.

For more information about the Library of Virginia's Annual Literary Awards visit www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwedo/awards/index.htm.

Holdings... contains materials related to his architectural education and unique projects on his Rockfalls Drive property.

Tanner, Gertrude Diehl. Papers, 1904–1970, of nurse Gertrude Diehl Tanner (1880–1972) of Norfolk, Virginia, and Henderson, North Carolina, including the questions for the 1911 Virginia state board exam for nursing, her 1913 board certification, and 47 photographs, including portraits of several of her St. Vincent's Hospital nursing school friends. Two newspaper clippings and a transcription of a newspaper article pertain to "Woodstock," the Dinwiddie County home where Gertrude Tanner was born. Other items include a certificate marking husband Charles Pendleton Tanner's membership in the Shriners.

CPLA... application fee. The deadline for the Midwinter Review is January 5, 2007.

The courses are designed to offer practical learning and exercises to strengthen the competencies required to run a public library. There are 18 courses, including several covering marketing, politics and networking, fund-raising and grant writing. Courses are offered by providers as diverse as the Library Administration and Management Association, North Suburban Library System (Ill.), PALINET, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and University of North Texas and taught by respected and experienced faculty. Courses are online, face-to-face, or a combination and all require completion of assignments and final projects. CPLA candidates have five years to complete courses in seven of the nine competencies.

Librarians who are not quite ready to apply for CPLA may still enroll in courses. For more information, see www.ala-apa.org/certification/cplacourses.html. Applicants have up to 24 months after completing the program to apply to CPLA.

CPLA was created by the Public Library Association, the Library Administration and Management Association, and the Association of Specialized and Cooperative Agencies.

—submitted by Jenifer Grady,
ALA Allied Professional Association

FIND US ONLINE
WWW.LVA.LIB.VA.US

The Virginia State Historical Records Advisory Board, 1976–2006: Thirty Years of Documenting Democracy

The Archives Research Services staff recently received a request to copy a 1954 recording of a family group singing on Richmond radio station WRVA. In 2003, the Library of Virginia received a \$38,909 National Historical Publications and Records Commission grant to support the restoration of the station's sound recordings and the creation of compact disks for reference use. Among the musical selections in the collection are performances by Al and Verna Zahlout, along with their four young daughters. The researcher who requested the CD (after searching the Library catalog online) is married to one of the Zahlout daughters. In addition to the recording, a photograph in the collection shows the family dressed in their Sunday best and ready for a performance. For the family, these voices and



Al Zahlout family

images from the past serve as a poignant, and personal, reminder of history.

Grants like these ensure the essential documentation of our national history, connecting communities to the past and bringing it to life. By preserving historical records and making them available to researchers, the NHPRC and state historical records advisory boards across the nation play a unique and valuable role in documenting democracy.

This year the 12-member State Historical Records Advisory Board celebrates 30 years of working to preserve the documentary heritage of Virginia. Governor Mills E. Godwin, Jr., appointed the first members of the board in 1976. "Preservation of Virginia's records is especially important," Godwin wrote, "because of the richness of her history and the high quality of her contributions to the formation of the nation." State Librarian Donald Haynes served as the first coordinator and began the board's work

with the state archivist, two court clerks, and representatives from the College of William and Mary, the University of Virginia, and the Virginia Historical Society. For three decades, the board has worked cooperatively with repositories across the commonwealth to facilitate federal grants for archival work.

SHRAB serves as the central advisory body for historical records planning, as a coordinating body to facilitate cooperation among historical records repositories, and as a state-level review body for federal grant proposals. The board promotes an understanding of the importance of historical records and works to ensure their preservation. Under the leadership of the state archivist, it reviews records and grant proposals by institutions in the state and makes recommendations to the NHPRC.

Board members are appointed to three-year terms. They bring expertise and experience to their posts, as well as enthusiasm and dedication—the longest-serving board member to date, Virginia State University history professor Edgar A. Toppin, was a member for 21 years (1983–2004). Through the years, the board's membership has reflected the diversity of those who have an active role in documenting and describing Virginia history, including archivists, records managers, archaeologists, teachers, public historians, museum professionals, and county clerks. State Archivist Conley L. Edwards has served as the board's coordinator since 1996 and Jennifer Davis McDaid began working as deputy coordinator in 1999.

Since 1976, the Virginia State Historical Records Advisory Board has facilitated grants for 31 records projects. SHRAB works with record keepers throughout Virginia—at local historical societies, archival institutions, museums, and other organizations—to save endangered records, preserve them, and make them available for all researchers. Ultimately, these records help illuminate the history of the commonwealth and the nation.

The NHPRC promotes the preservation and use of America's documentary heritage that is essential to understanding our democracy, history, and culture. In Virginia, the commission has awarded more than \$9.6 million in direct federal grants since 1977 in support

of both records and publications projects in 16 localities across the commonwealth. Recent Virginia grants provided funds for an archival administration fellowship, an archives and records management program, and for statewide disaster planning workshops. A 2004 grant to Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond helped to establish the Archives of the New Dominion, which will preserve a documentary history of urban communities whose history otherwise might be lost. Because of the NHPRC, minute books from the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, daguerreotypes of long-ago Virginians, and early twentieth-century photographs of Petersburg have been preserved.

Thanks to grant funding:

- James Madison, George Washington, and John Marshall still speak (their papers are being edited and published with NHPRC money).
- Virginians can tune in to Richmond radio station WRVA for historic news broadcasts and musical programs (records were preserved, transferred to CDs, and cataloged with NHPRC funds).
- Virginia women like Dolley Payne Madison and Adèle Goodman Clark have a voice in history (their papers have been arranged and made available to researchers with NHPRC money).
- The Virginia State Historical Records Advisory Board meets at repositories across the state and encourages the preservation of scrapbooks, ledgers, photographs, and other historic records (an NHPRC grant supported administrative and travel expenses).

These grants help preserve the story of the commonwealth and its citizens for future generations, provide seed money that nurtures fledgling archival programs, encourage institutional investment by means of matching funds, and leave lasting contributions to the history of the commonwealth by revealing new sources for historical study.

To find out more about SHRAB, go to www.lva.lib.va.us, click on the site index, and select "Boards and Advisory Groups."

—submitted by Jennifer Davis McDaid,
Deputy Coordinator,
State Historical Records Advisory Board



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA JOINS FORCES WITH BOOKS AND BUGS TO PROMOTE READING

The three- to five-year-old children who attended the Library of Virginia's "Get Carried Away with Books and Bugs" program in August won the hearts of Library staff. The children listened intently, giggled openly, added sound effects to familiar stories, sang enthusiastically, and proved highly creative with crafts. "They are adorable and so well-behaved," commented one Library volunteer at the event.

One of the most endearing moments occurred while Angie Miles, literacy advocate and former television news anchor, was reading "The Little Red Ant and the Great Big Crumb," a Mexican fable. When Miles read a



Audrey Johnson reads *Aaaarrggghh, Spider!* by Lydia Monks as Grace Thompson checks out the illustration.

line saying "gracias" a youngster quietly replied "de nada!" Other highlights were the large ant cutouts leading children from the front doors to the rooms where the activities were being held, as well as Wade Harrell and his Traveling Bug Zoo. This bug display elicited great interest and appropriate squeals as tarantulas crawled up Harrell's arm and cockroaches hissed. And that was just from the adults!

Celebrity readers for "Get Carried Away with Books and Bugs" were Sara Fender of *Style Weekly*; Angie Miles; First Lady Anne Holton and daughter, Annella; Leigh Lambert, children's librarian from the Henrico Public Library system; and Judy Nickels, author of *A Monarch's Journey*. Numerous Library of Virginia staff members served as readers, led songs and activities, and helped with crafts and refreshments. Pat Muller, children's and youth services consultant, coordinated the event for the Library.

The "Books and Bugs" program was offered in conjunction with *Storytime: Our Favorite Children's Books*, an exhibition of favorite books of the Library staff. A list of good books for parents can be found on the Library's Web site under the listing for the Storytime exhibition on News and Events.

KUDOS

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission has selected Don Chalfant and Kathy Jordan of the Library of Virginia as 2006–2007 NHPRC Electronic Records Research Fellows. Using the recent transfer of electronic records from Governor Mark Warner's administration, Chalfant and Jordan will work with Library staff members to create a relational database that will serve as a processing tool for archival electronic records. Through their project, they hope to develop workflows to facilitate and measure the processing of electronic records, as well as analyze the nature of born-digital archival content transferred to the Library. More on the program can be found at www.ils.unc.edu/nhprcfellows/.

LIBRARY IS A BEST SITE

The August 2006 issue of *Family Tree Magazine* includes its annual list of the 101 best Web sites for genealogical research. The Library of Virginia is one of the elite sites. The Library is no stranger to the pages of the magazine, having been included in the December 2005 issue in the directory of 95 Best State Web Sites.



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