

# broadside

the magazine of the

LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

2018 NO. 2

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**broadSIDE** is funded by the Library of Virginia Foundation and other special funds.

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### THE INSIDE STORY

# **Marking the Digital Highway**

The Virginia History Trails app connects users to the stories around them

istory can be found everywhere across the landscape of our state, which is why Virginia is one of the most fascinating places to call home. Since 1927, the
Virginia Department of Historic Resources (formerly the Virginia
Landmarks Commission) has placed distinctive signage along the commonwealth's roadways marking places associated with people and events of regional, state, or national significance. Until now, this important network of more than 2,500 historical highway markers has served as the primary gateway for visitors passing through
Virginia to learn about the state's rich history while they are near a site where it actually happened. Now, however, Virginians and tourists alike can access a new portal through which to connect to our shared history.



During the past year, the Library of Virginia partnered with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and Virginia Humanities to develop content for an innovative mobile app that will make it easy to identify and visit sites across the commonwealth that tell the story of the state's growth and development through four centuries. At its launch, the Virginia History Trails app (www.vahistorytrails.com) will feature 20 trails containing more

than 200 unique sites. The listing for each site will contain a brief description of its historical significance interactively linked to relevant images and sources of additional information. Users can earn badges for "checking in" to sites and share their experiences on social media with the hashtag #VAHistoryTrails. This digital trail is intended to encourage tourism, but it also has tremendous educational potential. The app will direct people to hidden gems as well as major

This digital trail is intended to encourage tourism, but it also has tremendous educational potential.

attractions, increasing public awareness of the richness and diversity of Virginia's history. With luck, the app will also engage younger audiences who regularly use app technology to connect with and explore their world.

Next year, Virginia will observe the 400th anniversary of several important historical events—the establishment of the first representative legislative assembly in the New World, the arrival of the first Africans to English North America, and the recruitment of English women to Virginia in large numbers, among others. The Virginia History Trails app was developed in collaboration with Virginia's 2019 Commemoration Steering Committee, which generously funded this work. The app launch this spring is just the first phase of this exciting project that should expand over time to include many locally curated history trails as well.

The Library of Virginia is proud to have played an instrumental role in creating Virginia History Trails. To learn more about Virginia's 2019 Commemoration and the Virginia History Trails app, visit www.americanevolution2019.com/programs/virginiahistorytrails.

Sincerely,

Sandy /readway
Sandra G. Treadway, Librarian of Virgini

### ON THE COVER

Church records can contain curious marginalia, such as these drawings of horses, cavalry, and an undetermined prickly and toothy creature found in the vestry books and register of New Kent County's Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, ca. 1685–1801.

# **PLAN YOUR VISIT**



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804.698.7661

Monday-Saturday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

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Welcome to the Library of Virginia, the state's oldest institution dedicated to the preservation of Virginia's history and culture. Our resources, exhibitions, and events attract nearly 200,000 visitors each year. Our collections, containing more than 126 million items, document and illustrate the lives of both famous Virginians and ordinary citizens.

DISCOVERY CAFE



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**EXHIBITIONS** 

True Sons of Freedom

Through November 9, 2018

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804.692.3888

archdesk@lva.virginia.gov Monday-Saturday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

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**CALENDAR** 

libva.com/news

STATEWIDE EDUCATIONAL **RESOURCES** 

804.692.3999

www.lva.virginia.gov/lib-edu/education The Library provides relevant and useful educational material on Virginia's history, culture, and people to educators, students, and lifelong learners of any age.

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dawn.greggs@lva.virginia.gov



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# Curiosities in the COLLECTIONS

## Unusual items live at the Library

here are millions of stories in the Library of Virginia's stacks, shelves, files, and digital holdings. Beyond the names, facts, and figures associated with government records and historic manuscripts, however, our collections contain the offbeat and unexpected. The following pages provide some examples. To see more, visit VirginiaMemory.com for digital collections, online exhibitions, and blog posts on the fascinating stories behind our items. Our Tumblr and Flickr pages also feature some intriguing images (libraryofva.tumblr.com and flickr.com/photos/library\_of\_virginia).



### **DELIGHTFUL DOODLES**

### 1 & 2. Sketches in New Kent County Church Records

Records from New Kent County's Saint Peter's Episcopal Church (ca. 1685–1801) reveal drawings and sketches in the margins and blank spaces. People appear, including a man in a knee-length, cut-away coat, along with animals such as dogs (one labeled "Rover"), horses, and unknown toothy creatures. One can imagine the children of ministers discovering a blank spot with delight in a time when paper was too expensive for most people to purchase for the pleasure of drawing.



### **CREEPY COLLECTIBLES**

# 3. Keys to the Death Chamber and Electric Chair

The records of the Virginia
State Penitentiary Collection
(1796–1991) include these keys
to the prison's death chamber
and electric chair, which had
belonged to Raymond M. Muncy,
the last warden to run the
facility before its closure and
demolition in 1991.









### 4. Bone Fragments Used as Evidence in a Commonwealth Cause

A 1903 story in the *Rockbridge Gazette* reports, "On last Wednesday night . . . an altercation took place between Dock Bane and Lone Vess, resulting in the latter getting his head split open with a fire shovel. [A doctor] extracted several pieces of bone from [Vess's] shattered skull." The Local Records Collection holds bone fragments used as evidence in the Rockbridge County Commonwealth Cause that resulted in Bane's conviction for the crime of "mayhem." Vess survived the attack and served as a witness for the prosecution.

### 5. Lock of Hair Used as Evidence in a Divorce Suit

"Here is a peice [sic] of my hair," wrote Ginny Davis in a letter to Andrew Courtney on August 30, 1906. "Look at it and think of me." A sweet sentiment, perhaps, but the letter and hair—now in the Chancery Records Collection—were among the evidence produced by Courtney's wife, Mary Courtney, in a 1907 divorce suit in Middlesex County.



### 6. Pyrography Portrait of **Thomas Jefferson**

From the State Art Collection, this strange portrait of Thomas Jefferson is an example of pyrography, the decoration of wood with burn marks made by a poker or other heated tool. Created by I. W. Wells, it's dated 1857 and was given to the Library in 1879.

### 7. Image from the Massie **Family Photograph Collection**

We're not sure what's going on in this ca. 1940s photograph from the Massie family of Richmond. Costumed characters? What do you think?



Slim' Mathis, Simmons Combine To Score Another New Song

FLAT FOOT FLOOGIE Above





### **NIFTY NEWSPAPER**

### 8. The Cavalier Skating News

The Virginia Newspaper Collection holds this 1941 issue of the *Cavalier Skating News*. Published by the owner and operator of the Cavalier Arena at 1302 McTavish Street in Richmond for its customers, the semimonthly newspaper cost 5 cents per copy (or 60 cents per year) and offered event schedules, employee profiles, skate-dance instruction, and even an advice column.

### **ECCENTRIC EPHEMERA**

### 9. Type Foundry Illustration

From the Ephemera Collection, this strange image from the 1952 Empire Type Foundry Printers Supplies Catalog No. 25 was listed under "Miscellaneous Cuts." We agree that it's difficult to classify.

# find your history

### VIRGINIA'S FORGOTTEN MEN OF WORLD WAR I

Researcher discovers his great-great-uncles in the *True Sons of Freedom* website and exhibition BY DAVID WADE

I was caught by surprise during a phone conversation with my cousin Nicole Swain-Brown about our Cannon family ancestry. She had been searching online and found a link to the Library of Virginia's *True Sons of Freedom* website, which features photographs and records of African Americans from Virginia who served their country during World War I. Among them were my family members John Daniel Cannon and General Jackson Cannon (General was his given name), the younger brothers of my maternal great-grandmother, Mary Cannon Boyd.

The Library of Virginia is one of the nation's best resources for African American genealogy, and I was able to find more information at the Library about my Cannon ancestors that is not available online. I traveled to Richmond from Illinois with my mother, Sophronia Wade, to visit the Library, look at other valuable documents there, and view the *True Sons of Freedom* physical exhibition, which includes a portrait of General Jackson Cannon.

I had been researching the paternal and maternal sides of my family for several years, recently focusing on World War I records for my Cannon and Riggins lines. I hit a wall in my research effort, however, since a 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis destroyed some 16–18 million official military personnel files—including, I assumed, all the records of service members in World War I. To my surprise, I was wrong.

The *True Sons of Freedom* exhibition consists mostly of longlost photos of black service members from Virginia. Accompanying the photos is information about the lives of the World War I soldiers taken from a questionnaire that the Commonwealth of Virginia distributed to service members in 1919 after they returned home from the war. Of 100,000 questionnaires sent out, 15,000 were returned. Some 2,500 came from African American veterans. John Daniel Cannon and General Jackson Cannon filled out questionnaires and returned them in November of 1920. The Library does not have a record of my great-grandfather on my father's side, Wiley Riggins, from Danville, Virginia, completing the voluntary questionnaire.

In June 1928, the commission in charge of collecting the records disbanded. The records were transferred to the Virginia State Library (now the Library of Virginia), where they were microfilmed in 1996 and then digitized for online access in 1998. In 2017 and 2018, the Library created the website and exhibition with the African

American soldiers' photographs and questionnaires as part of the centennial celebration.

Many African American families can find rare images of and information about their Virginia ancestors who served during World War I, a long-overlooked chapter of American military history with records that even experienced researchers have not seen.

General Jackson Cannon and John Daniel Cannon, two of the eight children of Walter Cannon and his second wife, Sophia Bracey Cannon, were born in Bracey, Mecklenburg County, in 1896 and 1897. Their male siblings were also given names that were military-related or shared by famous Americans: Captain, Colonel, Jesse James, and George Washington.

Their father, Walter Cannon, was born enslaved, the property of the Cannon family, local plantation owners. Following the Civil War and emancipation, Walter took the Cannon name. He became a successful entrepreneur, acquiring land and starting a ferry operation across the Roanoke River.

He purchased a 29-acre farm in Bracey from W. H. and Rebecca Shaw on March 16, 1889. In a deed in the Library's collection, the



### **FAMILY & COMMUNITY HISTORY RESEARCH**

land is recorded as follows: The "lands . . . bounded . . . on the North West by the lands of Peter King's estate by the Roanoke River east by the lands of W. H. Shaw." This is where the eight Cannon children were born and raised. Walter Cannon owned and operated Cannon's Ferry until his death in September 1915, when his oldest son, Captain Cea Cannon, took over the business.

Just over a hundred years ago, on July 26, 1917, John Daniel
Cannon reported for duty in the Regular Army in Fort Thomas,
Kentucky, at 19 years of age. He then went to medical officer training
camp at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, until November 3, 1917. He was promoted
to corporal on July 14, 1918, and served in France (August 26, 1918–June
28, 1919) with the 317th Ambulance Regiment of Company 365 and the 325th
Labor Regiment of Company A until his discharge.

His older brother, General Jackson Cannon, reported for duty at Camp Lee (now Fort Lee) near Hopewell, Virginia, on July 16, 1918, and trained for one month before heading overseas. He served in France (September 12, 1918—August 8, 1919) with the 155th Brigade and the 338th Service Battalion in Company A until his honorable discharge as a private.

My family is extremely proud of the dedication and service of our family members during World War I, including others on my paternal side not included in the website or exhibition. These men and their families made a sacrifice for their country at a time when it discriminated against them—while in the service and afterward at home. On General Jackson Cannon's questionnaire, when asked about his attitude toward military service, he wrote, "Felt it was my duty to honor country's call."

David Wade is the president of Incrementum Energy, LLC, and currently resides in Aurora, Illinois.

UNCLE JOHN
The author's great-greatuncle John Daniel Cannon is among the World War I soldiers included in the Library's *True Sons of Freedom* website.

My family is
extremely proud of the
dedication and service
of our family members
during World War I.



The author, **David Wade**, and his mother, **Sophronia Wade**, pose next to a portrait of her great-uncle General Jackson Cannon, which is on display in the Library's *True Sons of Freedom* exhibition.



Visit the Exhibition & Explore the Website
Through November 9, 2018 | Exhibition Gallery & Lobby
WWW.VIRGINIAMEMORY.COM/TRUESONS

*True Sons of Freedom*, a photographic exhibition at the Library of Virginia, explores the stories of Virginia's African American soldiers who served during World War I. An online component allows viewers to see all 139 of the photographs of African American soldiers submitted to the Virginia War History Commission, and to add comments and information you might have about the soldiers.



# community connections

### **OPEN GOVERNMENT & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

We of the Jury fine that the Mantiff Naung Pegee was brought into the bommon Wealth of Vorgen = in from the Math of storth barolina by Homas Jones Jubsequent to the fifth of October 1778—that if the said Planny that he said Thomas Jones, did come bly With the provisions of the act, intelled "an' otot of for priving the find from importation of Manuss" We of the Jury also find from inspection, that the od Planny hange from inspection, that the od Planny hanger find for the Moman: We of the Jury thousand find from some wind not Staves and we find for them one prince free porsons and not Staves are use find for them one princy bornsages.



### **DISCOVERY IN THE DOCUMENTS**

Nat Wooding volunteers through Making History: Transcribe by typing the contents of historic Library of Virginia documents and reviewing the work of others. Wooding, one of the Transcribe project's most prolific volunteers, found his greatgreat-great-grandfather's signature on a document (LEFT) as the foreman of the jury for the 1808 freedom suit of Nanny Pegee. She was suing for emancipation on the grounds that she was a Native American who had been enslaved as a young girl.

# MEETING ANCESTORS IN THE COURTS

TRANSCRIBE PROJECT VOLUNTEER FINDS HIS OWN FAMILY HISTORY IN THE RECORDS
BY NAT WOODING

ne night a few years ago, when boredom led me to do an "ego search" on the Web (look up my own name), I discovered some diaries kept by Julia Brumfield, an elderly woman living on a farm in Pittsylvania County in the 1920s, who received her mail delivery from someone named Nat Wooding. From my family's oral history, it was easy for me to recognize that the mail carrier was my Great-Uncle Nat. The site, called "From the Page," was set up by a descendant of Brumfield's using transcription software that he had written. I began transcribing handwritten pages from one of the diaries and eventually found the names of my great-aunts who lived nearby and had come calling. In looking at some of the transcriptions done by others, I learned that one of Brumfield's sons had helped dig my great-grandfather's grave. After a few months, I finished those transcriptions

and saw a *Broadside* magazine article about the Library's Making History: Transcribe project. Soon I was hooked.

While working as a volunteer for the project, I have transcribed a variety of documents, including broadsides, life histories gathered in the 1930s by WPA (Works Progress Administration) writers, and letters by Mrs. Robert E. Lee from the 1830s. I have spent most of my time, however, on a variety of types of court documents from Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative project. Many of the documents in that collection, ranging from the 1780s to 1865, seem foreign to us today since they deal for the most part with the legalities of slavery. These include claims by slave owners for compensation for slaves convicted of crimes punishable by death or banishment from the commonwealth, deeds of emancipation, at least one petition for re-enslavement, and

"freedom suits." In the latter, a slave could file suit in a county court for any of several reasons and ask to be freed. It was in one of these cases that I had my first "aha" moment. I found a note on a document from Alexandria County signed by one F. S. Key (as in "O, say can you see ...").

On my father's side of the family, I am descended from Southside Virginia farmers of enough means that they owned slaves, so venturing into these documents could mean an encounter with something ugly involving an ancestor. After I had been working on freedom suits for some months, I began transcribing a case that had dragged on for years while the owners had moved the enslaved woman around, making it difficult for the case to proceed. After working through many pages of testimony, writs, etc., I finally saw the jury's verdict granting freedom to the woman, a full-blooded Indian named Nanny Pegee, who apparently had been enslaved as a girl. The document was signed by the foreman of the jury, who happened to be my great-great-grandfather Thomas Hill Wooding. As my British cousins would say, I was gobsmacked.

In another court document, Thomas Wooding was one of the justices who convicted a slave of a crime. In Virginia, a committee working for the governor would review cases involving slaves convicted of capital crimes and recommend whether to execute or "transport" the prisoner, which meant that the person would be sold outside the commonwealth and never see friends or family again. In this case, because of the man's youth and prior good behavior, the justices petitioned the governor to reprieve the prisoner for sale—and my great-great-grandfather was a signatory.

Later, I encountered a petition written about 1786 by citizens of Pittsylvania County contesting a proposal for the emancipation of all slaves in Virginia. They argued that the freed men and women would not work and, therefore, would become a burden on the county. Thomas Hill Wooding's father, Robert Wooding (my great-great-great-great-grandfather), was the first

The document was signed by the foreman of the jury, who happened to be my great-great-grandfather.

signature on the document. The petition goes on at length to attempt to prove the validity of slavery and offers Bible citations in its defense. Despite his stance on this matter, Robert Wooding emancipated one of his elderly female slaves in his will and required that his children house and support her for the rest of her life.

I sometimes liken reading these documents to riding an elevated train in a city where you catch an occasional glimpse of an apartment interior and a hint of the lives lived there. It has been fascinating exploring these papers. Heaven only knows what will turn up!

Nat Wooding is a semiretired biologist and environmental analyst who spends a few days a week as a research analyst in the Office of Institutional Effectiveness at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.



### WWW.VIRGINIAMEMORY.COM/TRANSCRIBE

### Help Us Celebrate Our Transcribe-aversary!

Saturday, August 25, 2018 | 10:00 AM-2:00 PM | Free

All participants in the Library of Virginia's Making History: Transcribe project are invited to join us for a day of archival insights, tips on advancing your skills in reading old documents, and information about Virginia during World War I. We'll also be transcribing, of course. Coffee and lunch are provided—and birthday cake too! Please register in advance at: bit.ly/LVAvolunteer. These hours can be counted as community service through the HandsOn platform.

MAKING HISTORY: TRANSCRIBE, the Library of Virginia's collaborative online workspace, invites the public to help enhance access to collections documenting more than 400 years of Virginia history, people, and culture. Volunteers transcribe pages—most handwritten—by reading text and typing it into digital form to make our collections more visible, accessible, and "searchable." Prefer to work with other volunteers here at the Library? Sign up for one of our Transcribe-a-thons facilitated by our community volunteer partner HandsOn Greater Richmond. See our Events Calendar on page 16 for more information. Or visit the registration link: bit.ly/LVAvolunteer.

# literary virginia LITERATURE & LITERACY

# Sparks for Creative Expression

Photographs from Library's exhibition inspire writing by workshop attendees

s part of a recent workshop entitled "Sparks for Creative Expression  $oldsymbol{A}$ in the Library's Collections" led by poet-librarian Wendy DeGroat, attendees selected a photograph of one of the World War I soldiers in our True Sons of Freedom exhibition to observe closely. After jotting down details they had noticed and feelings that the photo had brought up, they wrote about it for several minutes. The poem below is one of the responses to this exercise. Watch our events calendar listings for future workshops.

### NOTE TO HOBERT MAXWELL, WWI VETERAN

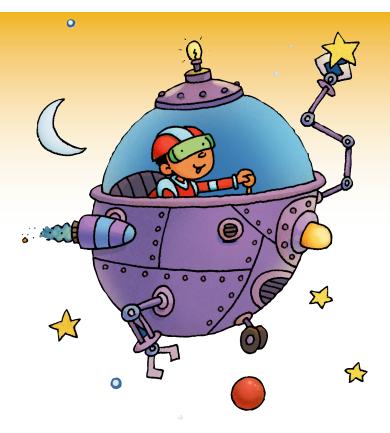
Scrawny, swathed legs, scuffed leather boots. Flapped pockets on uniform's drab. Broad forehead, flawless face. You are so young, so beautiful.

Then, with second sight, I notice the corners of your mouth drooping, your eyes glancing downwards, ringed fingers uncurling towards the earth.

I want to rescue you from this down-ness. With your uniform shrouding your shell, light barely escaping from your eyes, I want to ask, What was lost on the shores of France that never returned home with you?

—Nan Ottenritter





# Reading Takes You Everywhere

### Library of Virginia sponsors summer programs for children and teens at public libraries

ach summer, public libraries in Virginia offer a reading program for children and teens that is sponsored by the Library of Virginia and made possible with a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This year's theme, "Reading Takes You Everywhere," an iREAD program from the Illinois Library Association, will focus on the excitement of exploration and new discoveries to be found in books, libraries, our communities, and beyond. Children and teens in Virginia who participate in public library summer reading programs score significantly higher on all areas of Standards of Learning reading tests than peers who do not participate, according to research conducted for the Library of Virginia.

Artwork ©2018 P. Girouard for iREAD, funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

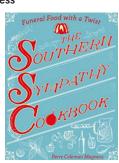


# featured book

### The Southern Sympathy Cookbook: Funeral Food with a Twist

by Perre Coleman Magness

So-called "funeral food" is having a moment. Comforting casseroles: jugs of sweet tea; creamy, cheesy potatoes—all these foods provide sympathy and sustenance for the bereaved. The Southern Sympathy



Cookbook includes unexpectedly humorous obituaries and anecdotes alongside staples of southern funerals such as three-bean salad with bacon vinaigrette, fried chicken, and pulled pork with homemade barbecue sauce. Whether feeding a congregation, delivering a meal to a friend in need, or cooking with weekday leftovers in mind, home cooks will embrace these recipes, guaranteed to comfort and to please a crowd.

Countryman Press, 2018, \$22.95

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# WHAT ARE YOU READING?

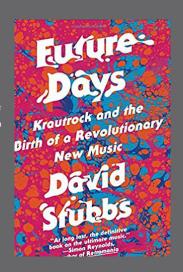
### PHIL FORD

Author, Musician, and Public Service Specialist with Henrico County Public Library's Mobile Library Service

Future Days: Krautrock and the Birth of a Revolutionary New Music by David Stubbs

s a volunteer DJ for a local community radio station  $A^{(Richmond's WRIR 97.3)}$ , I often go headlong into a music genre. This is no different for me when reading. Both come together nicely in this amazing history of German rock music in the late 20th century. Future Days covers a lot of what you would expect, with creative biographies on groups like Kraftwerk and Can, but it also delves into the culture, politics, and lives of these post-World War II children. They sought to define themselves as entirely independent of their recent history, as well as of American and English music influences. This is a fascinating look into a type of music that has had an impact on a lot of what we hear, even today.

Photograph by Anthony Pollock



# Mining the Manuscripts

### **Library hosts Virginia Humanities Research Fellows**

A partnership between the Library of Virginia and Virginia Humanities allows researchers to examine in-depth the Library's vast manuscript resources during their stay as scholars in residence.



MUSIC & MEMORY
Virginia Humanities Research Fellow Nicole
Maurantonio explored sheet music, among
other items in the Library's collection, in
her research examining memories of the

Confederacy in 21st-century Virginia.

### NICOLE MAURANTONIO

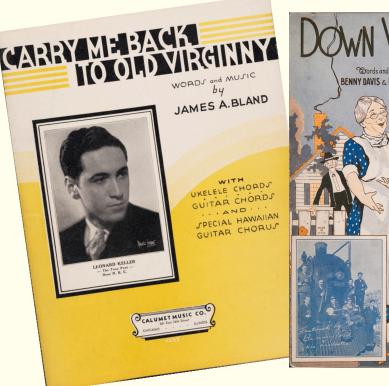
An associate professor in the Rhetoric and Communications Studies department and American Studies program at the University of Richmond, Nicole Maurantonio is conducting research on a book entitled Changing Hearts and Minds: The Myth of Confederate Exceptionalism in 21st-Century America.

### What is one of the most notable things you've found in your research here at the Library?

NM: I began with what I thought was a fairly straightforward question, "What songs use the word 'Virginia' in the title?" Hours later in Special Collections, I found myself searching through boxes of sheet music from the early 20th century. I was initially interested in song lyrics, with the goal of reading and interpreting them as texts to analyze. Quickly, however, my attention turned to the front pages of the sheet music, where graphics displaying a variety of colors, designs, and people were represented. My analysis shifted to the visual and the ways in which the aesthetics of the covers communicate particular, and at times competing, versions of "Virginia" and Virginia's relationship to the Confederacy.

### What will you remember about your time here?

**NM**: While research, particularly archival research, tends to be thought of as a solitary endeavor, this year has been an important affirmation of the collective and collaborative nature of such work. Between weekly discussions and informal conversations, I've become part of an incredible community at the Library of Virginia where knowledge is shared and ideas debated. There is great generosity among the team.





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### KRISTEN GREEN

Kristen Green is a longtime newspaper reporter and the author of Something Must Be Done About Prince Edward County, which won both the Literary Award for Nonfiction and People's Choice Award for Nonfiction from the Library in 2016. For her latest project, she is researching the life of Mary Lumpkin, a light-skinned girl who was enslaved by Richmond slave trader Robert Lumpkin and who gave birth to the first of at least five children with him when she was 13.

### What is one of the most notable things you've found in your research here at the Library?

KG: It is hard for me to name just one notable thing because I have found so many bits of information that have shaped my narrative. My work at the Library has been like pulling a thread. Each discovery leads me to another discovery. Perhaps my favorite resource is the collection of historic newspapers that the Library has put online through Virginia Chronicle. They are searchable, free to use from anywhere, and provide a massive amount of information. Advertisements and articles that ran in the Richmond papers from the 1840s to the 1860s have helped me tremendously as I tried to learn more about Robert Lumpkin and the Richmond slave trade. I have also used local records, including deeds and wills that shed light on Lumpkin's business and how he wanted his assets distributed when he died. These are available on microfilm at the Library and can be borrowed via interlibrary loan through community libraries

around the state. During my time here, I learned how to make better use of Ancestry.com and discovered the wealth of documents available there. With guidance from historians and the use of the Library's subscription (available to the public on computers in the reading rooms), I have created genealogies for Lumpkin family members by

I screamed for joy when I came across court documents that included a long and detailed interview with Mary Lumpkin.



#### STORIES IN THE RECORDS

Virginia Humanities Research Fellow Kristen Green discovered items relating to Richmond slave trader Robert Lumpkin in her research using the Library's resources. A manifest [BELOW] lists names of enslaved people that Lumpkin sent by ship from Richmond to New Orleans, while the front page of an 1865 issue of Richmond's Daily Dispatch newspaper carries a runaway slave advertisement [LEFT] placed by him.

combing through decades of census records and city directories that help me track their moves, their marriages, and the births of their children. I screamed for joy when I came across court documents on Ancestry that included a long and detailed interview with Mary Lumpkin. I developed a more nuanced understanding of Robert Lumpkin's role in the downriver slave trade when I found several slave manifests that documented his shipment of slaves to New Orleans. These records, also available on Ancestry, list the sex, age, and sometimes the names of slaves, as well as the buyer's name and the date of the shipment from Richmond.

### What will you remember about your time here?

KG: I will remember how inspired I have been every day by the rich histories that surround me at the Library that are just waiting for researchers to find them and writers to tell them. I will also remember how helpful the historians, archivists, and librarians have been to me. I have particularly enjoyed the weekly lunch meetings of Fellows and historians, where I have been encouraged to bounce ideas off my colleagues. I loved learning about the work the Library historians are doing and hearing about their expertise in research, and I have appreciated their thoughtful advice about other records I could access to help tell

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Mary Lumpkin's story. I am so grateful to the Library and to Virginia Humanities for developing a partnership that has allowed me to work in this beautiful library as a Fellow.

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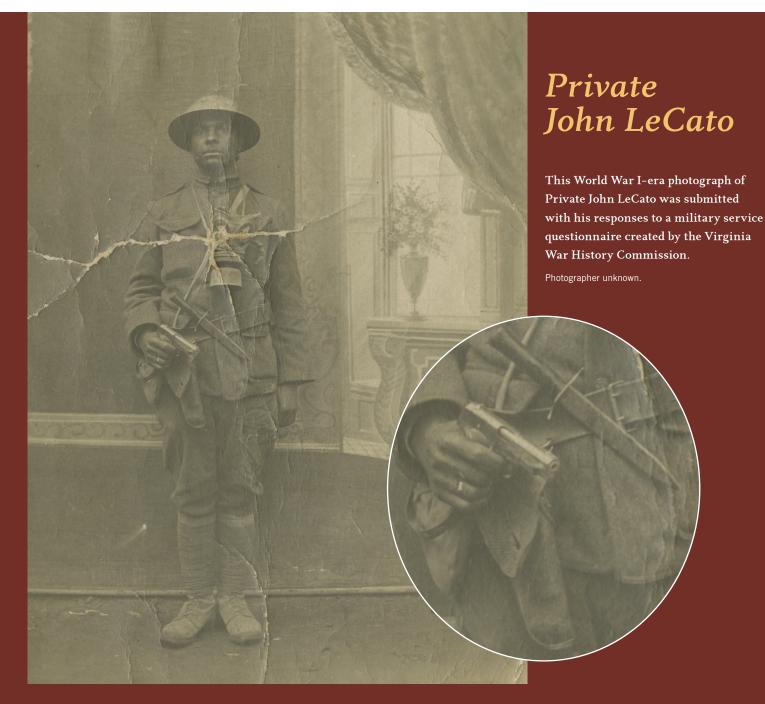
### RUNAWAYS.

TIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS RE-WARD.—Ran away from Greensboro', North Carolina, on the 15th of this month, a negro man, named LEWIS. Said negro is about twenty-four years old, five feet ten or eleven inches high, black complexion, and weighs one hundred and ninety-two pounds. He was bought on the 3d of February from Dr. R. H. Christian. I will pay the above reward for his delivery to me.

ROBERT LUMPKIN,
fe 16—Im\*

Richmond, Virginia.

TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS WARD.—Ran away, January 31st, from subscriber, in Prince Edward county, my M. SAM; about twenty-two years old; about five six inches high, and polite when spoken to. It supposed to have gone either to Richmond or Lyburg, but most probably to the latter place.



# a closer look

n many ways, the studio photograph of Private John LeCato (born 1893) of Wachapreague in Accomack County looks like many of those taken of U.S. servicemen during World War I. The high-style French interior of the studio backdrop, however, contrasts with LeCato, who looks as if he just stepped off the battlefield with his helmet, muddy boots, and drawn pistol. While his helmet and uniform are American, the Reba-style service pistol and the pistol belt are French. A closer look reveals even

more intriguing details, including a latemodel ARS French gas mask hung in the "ready position" around his neck, a French trench knife clipped to his belt, and a French-issued haversack on his right hip, used for daily rations and personal effects.

LeCato's service record and his War History Commission questionnaire submitted in 1922 indicate that he served in Company 2 of the U.S. 372nd Infantry Regiment, which was transferred to the French Army's 157th "Red Hand" Division

## WORLD WAR I COLLECTION

under General Mariano Goybet. African Americans serving in French combat units were issued French field equipment and weapons so that they could be effectively resupplied. LeCato's questionnaire confirms that he experienced intense combat during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive and at the Battle of Verdun. For his service in the 372nd, LeCato received the French Croix de Guerre for meritorious service.

—John Metz, Deputy of Collections and Programs

### **UPDATE: THIS EVENT IS FULL.**

Go to the registration link to join the waiting list.



AT THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

# IMMIGRATION IN VIRGINIA Democracy, Diversity, and Opportunity

Wednesday-Friday, August 1-3, 2018 | Conference Rooms | Free

Institute, presented in collaboration with Virginia Humanities and with support from the 2019 Commemoration. The ninth annual Brown Teacher Institute will examine the implications of immigration and the experiences of immigrants as they come to Virginia, focusing on the themes of democracy, diversity, and opportunity. The event features remarks by keynote speaker Atif Qarni, Virginia's secretary of education. Teachers will explore how to use primary sources to enhance student learning in their classrooms, discover new digital resources, and learn about the lives of immigrant and refugee students and their families in anticipation of the Library's upcoming exhibition, *New Virginians: 1619–2019 and Beyond*, on display December 10, 2018–November 23, 2019. Go to www.lva.virginia.gov/lib-edu/education/brown/institute.htm for registration and details for this free program. Continuing education credits are offered.

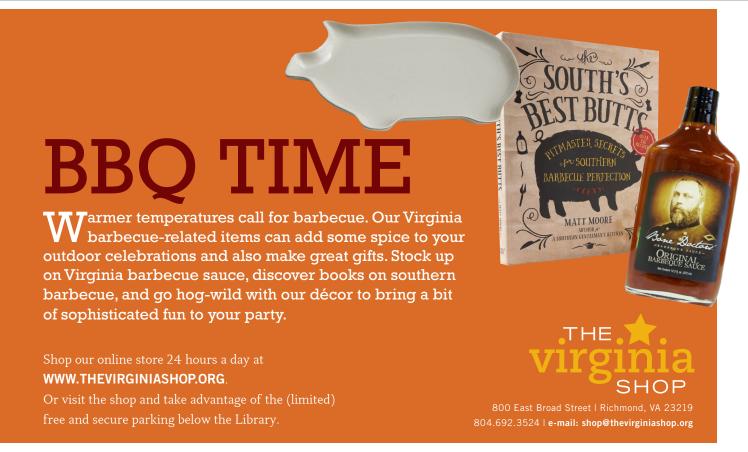


### HANDS-ON HISTORY

Teachers examine historic documents with State Records archivist **Claire Radcliffe** during the Library's 2017 Brown Teacher Institute.

# LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR EDUCATION RESOURCES

Visit our education website: http://edu.lva.virginia.gov Or follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/educationLVA



# Summer Events Calendari

All events are free unless otherwise noted.



Saturdays: June 23, July 28 & August 25

Noon-2:00 PM

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

#### Transcribe-a-thon

Place: Network Training Center
Registration required: http://bit.ly/LVAvolunteer
Join other volunteers to transcribe handwritten
pages by reading text and typing it into
digital form. Participate in enhancing access
to collections of more than 400 years of
Virginia history and culture. Twelve computer
stations will be available. If you have your own
laptop, please bring it! Transcribe-a-thons
are facilitated by the volunteer organization
HandsOn Greater Richmond. Minimum age
is 16 (12 with an adult).





**Saturday, June 23** | 1:00-2:30 PM

### A TALK ON SCRAPBOOKS WITH CAROLINE PRESTON

## World War II in Virginia: Homefront Stories Told Through Scrapbooks

Place: Conference Rooms
Caroline Preston will discuss her new
novel, *The War Bride's Scrapbook*, which
is presented in the unique form of a World War
II scrapbook. The novel tells the story of Lila
Jerome, who impetuously marries a soldier a
week before he ships out to the European front.
In a kaleidoscope of letters and drawings,

Lila redefines her life and come to terms with a new marriage separated by an ocean and war. Preston will also show examples from the Library's vast collection of WWII-era scrapbooks. You are invited to bring in your own family scrapbooks and WWII records. After the talk, Preston will give advice on how to preserve old scrapbooks and how to reproduce them for future generations. Media sponsor: The *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. Funding is provided by the Carole Weinstein Endowment for Virginia Authors and the Library Services and Technology Act administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

### Wednesdays: July 11 & August 8

5:30-7:30 PM

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

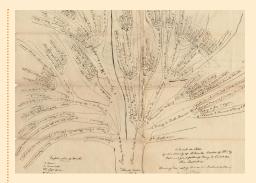
#### Transcribe-a-thon

Place: Network Training Center
Registration required: http://bit.ly/LVAvolunteer
Join other volunteers to transcribe handwritten
pages by reading text and typing it into
digital form. Participate in enhancing access
to collections of more than 400 years of
Virginia history and culture. Twelve computer
stations will be available. If you have your own
laptop, please bring it! Transcribe-a-thons
are facilitated by the volunteer organization
HandsOn Greater Richmond. Minimum age is
16 (12 with an adult).

### Wednesday, July 11 | 6:00 PM NEW BOOK CLUB

### Literary Virginia Book Group

Place: Orientation Room
Read and discuss the best of today's Virginia
literature—books by Library of Virginia
Literary Award winners and nominees
in fiction and nonfiction. On the second
Wednesday evening of each month, join us
for a book discussion with light refreshments,
additional historical context, and even
occasional author visits. Loaner books
available. For more information, contact Nan
Carmack at nan.carmack@lva.virginia.gov or
804.692.3792.



### Friday, July 13 | 9:30 AM-12:30 PM INTERMEDIATE GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

#### **How to Trace Your Virginia Roots**

Place: Conference Rooms
Cost: \$25 (\$20 for members)
Preregistration required: https://
virginiaroots2018.eventbrite.com
Library of Virginia reference archivist Amanda
Morrell and reference services librarian
Sarah Huggins introduce you to the types
of records in the Library's collections and
help you get started with your Virginia-based
genealogical research. For more information,
contact catherine.wyatt@lva.virginia.gov or
804.692.3999.

### Wednesday, July 18 | 5:30–6:30 PM Exhibition-related Book Talk With Rosemary Thornton

**Penniman: Virginia's Own Ghost City** See page 17.

### Wednesday, August 8 | 6:00 PM

### Literary Virginia Book Group

Place: Orientation Room

**NEW BOOK CLUB** 

Read and discuss the best of today's Virginia literature—books by Library of Virginia Literary Award winners and nominees in fiction and nonfiction. On the second Wednesday evening of each month, join us for a book discussion with light refreshments, additional historical context, and even occasional author visits. Loaner books available. For more information, contact Nan Carmack at nan.carmack@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3792.



Tuesday, August 21 | Noon-1:00 PM
TALK BY EMILIE RAYMOND

### Food for Victory during World War II

Place: Conference Rooms
Many Americans remember food rationing,
shortages, and victory gardens during
World War II, but few realize the powerful
role food played during the war. Virginia
Commonwealth University professor Emilie
Raymond will discuss new research and her
experiences teaching food policy. Raymond
specializes in 20th-century American
politics and culture, focusing
on the intersection between Hollywood
and politics.



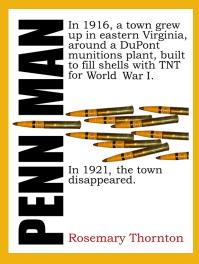


# EXHIBITION-RELATED BOOK TALK WITH ROSEMARY THORNTON

Penniman: Virginia's Own Ghost City Wednesday, July 18, 2018 | 5:30-6:30 PM

Conference Rooms | Free

Join author Rosemary Thornton as she discusses her new book, *Penniman: Virginia's Own Ghost City.* If you've never heard of Penniman, you're not alone. It's a lost chapter of Virginia history. Located on the York River between Williamsburg and Yorktown, Penniman was the site of a DuPont munitions plant that produced artillery shells for World War I in 1918. At its peak, it had 15,000 inhabitants, many of whom lived in newly



built Sears Modern Homes, kit houses sold primarily through mail order by Sears, Roebuck, and Company. The predominantly female workforce loaded TNT into 2.8 million shells. When the war ended, so did the town.

Within the pages of this fascinating story, you'll learn about:

- German espionage at Penniman
- Why the "Great Atlantic Fleet" remained anchored in the York River at the town's front door
- Why 90 percent of the plant's shell loaders were female
- What happened to Penniman's houses

A book signing follows the talk. This event complements the Library's exhibition *True Sons of Freedom*. The *Richmond Times-Dispatch* is media sponsor for our book talks. Additional funding is provided by the Carole Weinstein Endowment for Virginia Authors and the Library Services and Technology Act administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

# **Through November 9, 2018** Exhibition Gallery & Lobby

True Sons of Freedom, a photographic exhibition at the Library of Virginia, explores the stories of Virginia's African American soldiers who served during World War I. More than just mementos for families and sweethearts, these portraits challenge the crude and demoralizing cultural products of an era that often reduced African Americans to stereotypes and denied them full participation as citizens of the United States. Reflecting the pride and determination of African American World War I servicemen,

the images were submitted with the soldiers' responses to military service questionnaires created by the Virginia War History Commission as part of an effort to capture the scope of

Virginians' participation in the Great War. The original photographs, reproduced in the gallery at nearly life-size dimensions, place visitors at eye level in front of the soldiers. The monumental scale allows viewers the opportunity to examine rich details not seen in the original photo postcards.

# exhibitions at 800 east broad

### For the latest event information...

Check our online calendar: www.lva.virginia.gov/news/calendar.asp

### TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

For a schedule of our traveling exhibitions, please visit: www.lva.virginia.gov/public/smw/2018/exhibit.htm www.lva.virginia.gov/public/vawomen/2018/events.htm www.virginiamemory.com/docs/T&Mltinerary.pdf

### " I

# In Need of Collection Management and Up for Adoption

### Sellers Family Papers Collection

**Genre**: Correspondence, photographs, and other items

Date: 1869-1965 | Accession Number: 51955

**Description**: This collection contains correspondence, photographs, newspaper clippings, financial records, ephemera, diaries, and ledgers of the Sellers family. Correspondence is primarily to and from Sellers and Gray family members in Virginia and Texas discussing subjects such as holiday greetings, family relations, social conditions, travel, weddings and engagements, education, and mental health. The families primarily lived in Richmond and Homewood, Virginia. The photographs date from the 1870s and include portraits, postmortem photographs, and images of Italy, Brazil, Norway, Sweden, and Virginia. The collection contains dozens of diaries and account ledgers belonging to Rosa Sellers Gray, of Richmond, which provide intimate insight into the life of a Virginia woman in the first half of the 20th century. Also included are a number of artifacts, including early-20th-century wallets, a necklace, and other accessories.

Estimated Remaining Processing Cost: \$1,350

# ADOPT VIRGINIA'S HISTORY

# Reveal a Piece of the Past

Your gift can preserve items in the collections

The Adopt Virginia's History program supports collection management and conservation efforts for the 126 million archival items and books in the Library's collections. The Library of Virginia Foundation raises funds for the Library's collections and conservation projects through private donations to the program by individuals, groups, and member societies, such as the Fry-Jefferson Map Society, which focuses on map conservation. For more information about this program, please contact Dawn Greggs at 804.692.3813 or dawn.greggs@lva.virginia.gov. To view "before" and "after" images of our Adopt projects and the current list of collection management and conservation projects in need of adoption, go to www.lva.virginia.gov/involved/adopt.asp







#### **FAMILY KEEPSAKES**

Letters, accessories such as these shoe buckles, and keepsakes like this daguerreotype of William Harvey Sellers (1827–1874), taken about 1861, are among the items in the Sellers Family Papers Collection, which is in need of processing.



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net was

I am so proud of all of

my Dad's work and can

only imagine how happy

he would be to know

that it is all archived

## **ADOPTION SUCCESS STORY**

### John Maynard Poythress Genealogical Notes

### Donated and Adopted for Processing by Leigh and E. Dewayne Wilson

Genre: Personal Papers | Date: 1633-2012 | Accession Number: 52087

orn in Macon, Georgia, John Maynard Poythress (1934–2012) graduated from Mercer University with a degree in English literature, and worked for 36 years at Inland Container, where he was a general manager. He and his wife, Jean Knott Poythress, were married for 54 years and had two children and four grandchildren. Poythress enjoyed the fiction according to the first large and process of the first large and the poythress and process of the first large and the poythress and process of the first large and the poythress and process of the first large and the poythress and process of the poythress and poythress and process of the poythress and poythress are poythress.

fly-fishing, canoeing, and genealogical research, including tracing his family history to 12th-century Scotland. He was known as a Poythress family expert and provided guidance to others in the online Poythress genealogical community.

Leigh Poythress Wilson and Dewayne Wilson, Poythress's daughter and son-in-law, not only donated his archival research and several rare genealogical books to the Library, but they also adopted the collection for processing with a \$1,000 donation. We are extremely grateful for their generosity, which will allow us to make the collection accessible through online catalog records and detailed collection guides.

The collection consists of Poythress family genealogical research material relating to descendants of Francis Poythress (d. ca. 1650), who emigrated from England about 1633. The papers include references to early colonial Virginia families such as Francis Poythress's daughter Jane, who may have married researchers.

Thomas Rolfe, son of John Rolfe and Pocahontas. The materials reference family branches that settled initially in Charles City County and Prince George County, Virginia—including Flowerdew Hundred, the plantation owned by Joshua Poythress and his descendants from 1725 to 1949—and later in North Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama.

"Dewayne and I received the certificate in the mail today and it literally brought tears to my eyes," Leigh Wilson wrote to the Library. "I am so proud of all of my Dad's work and can only imagine how happy he would be to know that it is all archived and available for other researchers."

—Audrey C. McElhinney, Senior Manuscript, Map, and Rare Book Librarian

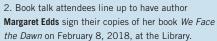


# in circulation what's been happening at the library

Find more event images at www.flickr.com/photos/lvaevents



1. The Strong Men and Women in Virginia History Awards Ceremony, presented by the Library and Dominion Energy on February 8, 2018, at the Richmond Marriott, commemorated the accomplishments of seven outstanding African Americans. Shown are (LEFT TO RIGHT) Librarian of Virginia Sandra Treadway; Mark Webb, Dominion Energy's senior vice president for corporate affairs and chief legal officer; Edwin B. Henderson representing his grandfather, honoree Edwin Bancroft Henderson; honoree Warren Wesley Buck III; honoree Angela Edwards Roberts; Doris Cole representing her grandfather, honoree Dana Olden Baldwin; honoree Marguerite Bailey Young; honoree Mavis Claytor-Ford; Charles Coolidge Green representing his father, honoree Calvin Coolidge Green; and Governor Ralph Northam. Photograph by Clinton Strane courtesy of Dominion Energy.



- 3. The Virginia Women in History program, presented by the Library on March 22, 2018, commemorated the accomplishments of eight outstanding women. Shown are (LEFT TO RIGHT) Librarian of Virginia Sandra Treadway, keynote speaker and author Meg Medina, and event emcee May-Lily Lee.
- 4. Virginia Women in History honoree **Gaye Adegbalola** performs one of her songs during "A
  Life in the Blues: A Musical Conversation with Gaye
  Adegbalola," a Women's History Month event held
  at the Library on March 23, 2018.
- 5. Guest speaker **Dr. Buck Woodard** discusses "Mapping Colonialism: British Cartography of Indigenous Lands" during the 2018 Alan M. and Nathalie P. Voorhees Lecture on the History of Cartography held at the Library on April 28, 2018.



### **Membership Has Its Privileges**

Though millions of people from across the country and around the world use the Library's collections for research, the Library is only partially funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia. Did you know that the Library has a membership program that supplements its programs, events, and exhibitions? Our corps of members provides the support needed to share and enrich the Library's collections. Membership is tax-deductible and offers many benefits:

- A subscription to *Broadside*, the quarterly magazine of the Library of Virginia
- A one-time, 30% discount at the Virginia Shops each year you renew
- A 10% discount for the remainder of your membership at the Virginia Shop and the Discovery Café
- Discounted tickets for special trips
- Invitations to exclusive members-only programs and events
- Discounted tickets for fee programming

The best benefit of all? Ensuring the continued legacy of Virginia's history and culture.

To learn more about the Semper Virginia Society and benefits of membership, contact Dawn Greggs at 804.692.3813.

### PLANNED GIVING

# $\overset{ww}{H}$

# Please Consider a Gift to the Library of Virginia Foundation in Your Estate Planning WILLIAM WALLER HENING SOCIETY

he William Waller Hening Society was formed in 2002 to recognize thoughtful donors who are committed to ensuring the vitality of the Library of Virginia's programs and services by providing for the Library of Virginia Foundation in their estate plans.

Estate gifts are a crucial source of continuing support for the Foundation, helping the Library staff to plan and prepare for the future. You may restrict your gift to be used toward a specific purpose or program, or choose to allow the Foundation Board to designate the best use of your gift. Our goal is to honor your wishes.

Once the Foundation receives documentation of your bequest, the estimated value will count toward current fundraising goals, while the addition of your name to the Hening Society membership list will inspire others to follow in your footsteps. As a member, you will be invited to special Foundation events and programs. Or, if you wish, you may remain anonymous and exclude your name from any donor listings.

Thank you for considering a gift to the Library of Virginia in your estate planning. Your support is critical to our future. Please contact Amy Bridge, executive director, at 804.692.3590 for more information or to enroll in the Hening Society.

# Special Giving Opportunities

Do you have a particular passion within the Library? If so, one of these special giving opportunities may be for you.

### Adopt Virginia's History

Each year the Library of Virginia conserves hundreds of books, documents, and other artifacts. By "adopting" an item for conservation you help to keep it safe and available for future generations. Visit www. lva.virginia.gov/adopt to learn more and see items available for adoption.

### Virginia Authors Circle

All funds raised by the Virginia Authors
Circle go directly to support the
acquisition, conservation, and study of
works by Virginia authors. Membership
is open to Virginia authors, their families,
and those interested in all things literary.

## The Hening Society: Planned Giving

Bequests can help the Library in many ways, always based on your wishes, and are best made with the assistance of an attorney.

### Fry-Jefferson Map Society

Funds raised by the Fry-Jefferson Map Society develop, enhance, and promote the cartographic collections of the Library of Virginia. The \$75 membership fee includes admission to the annual Voorhees Lecture and advance notice of other lectures and programs.

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For more information, please call Dawn Greggs at 804.692.3813.

# Donate Your Books and Papers

Do you have books, family papers, or business records that you would like to see preserved for future generations to study? They might belong at the Library of Virginia! Contact Audrey McElhinney at 804.692.0166 or audrey.mcelhinney@lva.virginia.gov.

Library of Virginia Online Donation Page www.lva.virginia.gov/donate



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**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018** | 6:00 PM