



the magazine of the

LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

broadSIDE

2021 | NO. 3



Columbia Pike THROUGH THE LENS OF COMMUNITY

AN EXHIBITION

Through January 8, 2022

broadSIDE

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THE INSIDE STORY

Sharing Our Collections

Traveling displays let us bring our exhibitions to you

Exhibitions are an excellent way for libraries to share their collections with the general public. The Library of Virginia's first-floor Exhibition Gallery is modest in size, but we have used that space effectively over the years to inform and engage audiences on the wide variety of topics that our print, manuscript, and visual collections address. Our 2014–2015 exhibition, *To Be Sold: Virginia and the American Slave Trade*, explored Richmond's central role in the domestic slave trade, a harsh reality in Virginia's past that many wished to ignore or forget. In 2017 we marked the 100th anniversary of Prohibition with *Teetotalers & Moonshiners*, which examined the economic and social consequences of Prohibition and its legacy, from NASCAR to today's burgeoning brewing industry. In 2019 our *New Virginians* exhibition highlighted the rich cultural traditions that recent immigrants brought to Virginia and their contributions to our ever-evolving commonwealth. The following year we commemorated the centennial of the 19th Amendment with *We Demand: Women's Suffrage in Virginia*, which featured the Library's rich Equal Suffrage League Collection. Public programming accompanying each of these exhibitions encouraged community conversation about the past and its impact on who we are today.

It is not possible for every Virginian to travel to Richmond to view our exhibitions in person, so we make smaller traveling versions of our exhibitions available to local libraries, schools, historical societies, and other community-based venues across the state. These pop-up banner displays are usually booked as soon as they are announced and remain popular long after the main exhibition at the Library has closed. *Teetotalers & Moonshiners*, for example, will be on display this fall at Mecklenburg County Public Library in Boydton. Host institutions find that these traveling displays are easy to install and do not require a lot of space—and, best of all, they are free. Teachers, parents, and librarians can find resources that complement our exhibitions on the Library's education website at edu.lva.virginia.gov.

Host venues often plan programs relating to the exhibitions while they are on display. This provides an opportunity to showcase local authors, community members associated with the subject, or local collections that complement the topic. If you are interested in learning more or possibly hosting one of our available traveling exhibitions, please contact the Library's exhibitions coordinator, Barbara Batson, at barbara.batson@lva.virginia.gov—or visit edu.lva.virginia.gov/traveling-exhibitions-from-the-library-of-virginia.

Sincerely,

Sandy Treadway
Sandra G. Treadway, Librarian of Virginia



We make smaller traveling versions of our exhibitions available to local libraries, schools, historical societies, and other community-based venues across the state.

ON THE COVER

Photographer Lloyd Wolf captured this image of a Bolivian Oruro dance celebration in Arlington's Columbia Pike neighborhood. It's one of many photographs in the Columbia Pike Documentary Project, some of which are on display in the exhibition *Columbia Pike: Through the Lens of Community* running in the Library of Virginia's Exhibition Gallery through January 8, 2022.

PLAN YOUR VISIT

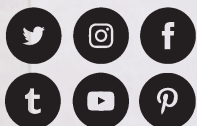


LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Appointments are no longer required to use our second-floor reading rooms. Visitors are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings in the building. For health and safety guidelines, visit www.lva.virginia.gov/covid-protocol.

FOLLOW US ON



Photograph © Ansel Olsen

800 East Broad Street | Richmond, Virginia 23219-8000 | 804.692.3500 | www.lva.virginia.gov

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 more than 100,000 visitors each year. Our collections, containing more than 130 million items, document and illustrate the lives of both famous Virginians and ordinary citizens.

INFORMATION

804.692.3500 | www.lva.virginia.gov

GENERAL HOURS

Monday–Saturday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM
(Saturday open hours begin Oct. 2)

READING ROOM HOURS

Tuesday–Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

Plus, special Saturday hours this fall:

October 2 & 23, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

November 6 & 20, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

December 4 & 18, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

www.lva.virginia.gov/news/holiday.asp

ADMISSION IS FREE

Some special programs may have fees. Check calendar listings for details.

PARKING

Limited parking for Library visitors is available in the underground parking deck, accessible from either Eighth or Ninth Streets.

EXHIBITIONS

Columbia Pike: Through the Lens of Community
Through January 8, 2022

EVENTS

804.692.3999

LIBRARY REFERENCE DESK

804.692.3777
refdesk@lva.virginia.gov
Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

ARCHIVES REFERENCE DESK

804.692.3888
archdesk@lva.virginia.gov
Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM

CALENDAR

lva.virginia.gov/news/calendar

THE VIRGINIA SHOP

804.692.3524
Tuesday–Friday, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM
The Virginia Shop at the Capitol
Wednesday–Friday, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM
Saturday, 10:00 AM–2:00 PM

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.

SUPPORT THE LIBRARY

804.692.3813
dawn.greggs@lva.virginia.gov
www.lva.virginia.gov/donate

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Columbia Pike

THROUGH THE LENS OF COMMUNITY

Photography exhibition explores the Arlington neighborhood that's been called "The World in a Zip Code"

Columbia Pike: *Through the Lens of Community*, a unique exhibition of photographs at the Library of Virginia running through January 8, 2022, celebrates the extraordinary cultural diversity found within a single community in Northern Virginia. Columbia Pike Documentary Project photographers, whose personal

connections to the community allowed them to capture the strength, pride, resilience, elegance, and beauty of so many overlapping cultures, created the works on view.

Columbia Pike originated in the 19th century as a toll road connecting rural Virginia with the nation's capital. Today, the Columbia Pike corridor is one of the most culturally diverse communities in the nation, and possibly in the world. More than 130 languages are spoken in Arlington County, with the densest concentration along the Pike. At first glance, life doesn't appear so different from other contemporary urban neighborhoods. Unlike in many other parts of the world, or even in our own country, however, the stunningly diverse group of people—representing every continent—who live and work there do so in relative harmony. "This is what peace looks like. People get along. This is how we should be," explained Columbia Pike Documentary Project photographer Lloyd Wolf.

The inspiration for the documentary project came from a conversation in 2006 when Wolf, along with fellow residents Paula and Todd Endo, recognized that Columbia Pike was something special and deserved attention. They



LIFE ON THE PIKE

1. Panorama, 3200 Block of Columbia Pike, 2008. Photograph by Xang Mimi Ho.
2. Columbia Pike Street Scene, July 2019. Photograph by Lara Ajami.

EXHIBITION

Through January 8, 2022 | Exhibition Gallery & Lobby



welcomed additional photographers and a writer to the project—including Dewey Tron, Xang Mimi Ho, Lara Ajami, Moises Gomez, Sushmita Mazumdar, and Aleksandra Lagkueva—and set about chronicling as many aspects of the Pike as they could. Together the team built a remarkable visual archive ranging in style from street photography to landscape photography to portraiture. Learn more about the documentary project at cpdpcolumbiapike.blogspot.com.

Several thousand photographs from the Columbia Pike Documentary Project were transferred to the Library of Virginia's Special Collections

“As the nation seems more divided than ever, this collection shows how one community is making diversity work.”

this spring. More than 70 of these images are highlighted in the exhibition, which also includes information about the neighborhood, the residents, and the photographers themselves. “The Library is grateful to welcome these compelling works to our collection,” said Visual Studies Collection

coordinator Dale Neighbors. “As the nation seems more divided than ever, this collection shows how one community is making diversity work.”

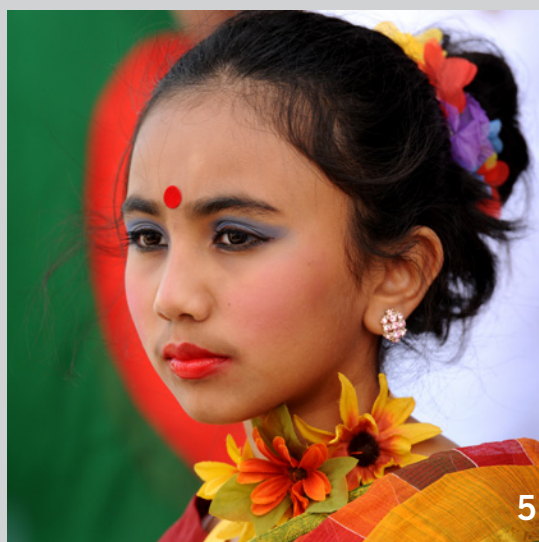
Look for information about exhibition-related events and programs on the Library's calendar (www.lva.virginia.gov/news) and Facebook page in the coming weeks.



Help Us Share Virginia's History Through Exhibitions

The Library of Virginia tells the story of the commonwealth's history through in-person, virtual, and traveling exhibitions that illustrate and illuminate Virginia's culture. Support our work with a gift by using the enclosed envelope or by visiting www.lva.virginia.gov/donate.

continues page 4



CELEBRATIONS

- 3. Columbia Pike Blues Festival, 2012. Photograph by Lloyd Wolf.
- 4. Prio Bangla Festival, 2014. Photograph by Dewey Tron.
- 5. Prio Bangla Festival, 2012. Photograph by Lloyd Wolf.

Questions for LLOYD WOLF

Columbia Pike Documentary Project Photographer



THE DOCUMENTARIANS

ABOVE: **Lloyd Wolf** (FAR RIGHT) poses with other Columbia Pike Documentary Project photographers (SHOWN LEFT TO RIGHT) **Aleksandra Lagkueva**, **Xang Mimi Ho** (with daughter, **Mila**), **Paula Endo**, and **Dewey Tron** in 2014. Photograph by Lloyd

Can you tell us about your background in photography?

Lloyd Wolf: I became a photographer by working for my college newspaper, and I interned and freelanced for the *Hartford Times*. After college I moved back to Northern Virginia, where I worked in photo labs, freelanced, took night classes at the Corcoran School of Art, and serendipitously became a photography teacher at an alternative public school in Arlington. I earned my master's degree in photography from Goddard College, and later received a National Endowment for the Arts Documentary Grant with a colleague to record life in Arlington. The Arlington Photographic Documentary Project produced an exhibition and an extensive catalog, and is archived in the Arlington Public Library's Center for Local History. I began full-time freelancing with a wide range of editorial, nonprofit, and commercial clients, many of whom were engaged in social service, social justice, and community-empowerment activities. I'm a member of the U.S. Senate and House Press Photographer's Gallery and I covered the riot at the Capitol on January 6, 2021. I've been working on the Columbia Pike Documentary Project since 2006, have led it since about 2010, and plan to examine the community as it continues to evolve.

How did the Columbia Pike Documentary Project come about?

LW: The project began in 2006 as a confluence of related ideas that were floating around in the minds of Paula and Todd Endo and myself. Paula and I had worked together teaching photography in Arlington Public Schools, and as partners on the Arlington Photographic Documentary Project. Todd is an educational and civic activist in the community. Columbia Pike had become stunningly ethnically diverse, and we felt that this was worthy of examination, documentation, and sharing. More than 110 languages were spoken at Wakefield, the local high school, and the area was described in a Brookings Institution report as "The World In a Zip Code."

Paula had taught a photography class called the Columbia Heights West Teen Photo Project to mostly immigrant teens at an old community center along the Pike. The class produced a book, *Portraits of the Pike*, funded by Virginia Humanities, that contained portraits and interviews with a diverse group of Arlington citizens. We decided to expand on that idea. I received an individual artist's grant to start what became the Columbia Pike Documentary Project. We recruited more

photographers and interviewers, and secured additional funding and the sponsorship of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, our local business-citizen civic nexus. Our talented team of photographers and writers has produced two books, *Living Diversity* (2015) and *Transitions* (2020), and has interesting plans for the future.

When does an image become complete and powerful enough to narrate a story? Is there something for you that makes a "good" photograph?

LW: Frankly, like most photographers I know, I work largely by instinct, and respond to pictures the same way. Surprises or pictures that break through standard assumptions and practices are often the most effective.

Which images from the project are the most memorable for you?

LW: It's a big project spanning more than 15 years, so it's rather hard to choose. Dewey Tron's silhouette of a group of men walking at night through heavy snow under streetlights evokes a sense of wonder, of something beyond ordinary experience. My favorite by Xang Mimi Ho is a beautifully executed straightforward panoramic image of a shopping strip that will likely soon be lost to development. An uplifting image by Lara Ajami is a close-up of a recent African refugee teen holding her hands cupped into a heart symbol just below her chin, with a sweet and deep direct gaze at the viewer.

From my own pictures, there's a close-up portrait of a Carnival Boliviana dancer, his face in complete shadow, with bright strands of colorful strings and beads hanging across the dark space, and a riot of color in his hat against a blue sky that just resonates. It presents a secret hidden in clear sight, a glimpse perhaps of a shaman's inner workings moving in the world of everyday sight and experience.

How do you approach strangers you want to photograph?

LW: At big public gatherings, many people are photographed with little or no awareness of my presence. If anyone asks, or if the subjects are children, I approach them (or their parents) and explain what I'm doing. Most people are pleased to be part of the project. You get an occasional no, and you simply respect that. We are sensitive to people's immigration status, and do our best to avoid putting anyone in danger and to respect privacy in general. In businesses, schools,

and homes, of course, we get permission first, and often make arrangements ahead of time.

What advice can you give photographers who want to document their own communities?

LW: The most critical piece of doing community documentary work is to really know the community. Network extensively with individuals, community associations, businesses, schools—cast a wide net. Try to look at the buildings, people, and events with a questioning, curious eye, as if you have never seen them before. There are wonders to be seen everywhere—if your consciousness allows you to see them. Spend time on it. This kind of work needs steady cultivation. Walk the streets. Eat in people's homes and restaurants. Visit the houses of worship, construction sites, firehouses, playgrounds, parks, celebrations. Think about what's missing from your collection and add that to the mix.

You have a saying: "This is what peace looks like." How does it apply to Columbia Pike?

LW: Sometimes when I see people just playing together, celebrating, or going about their everyday business without strife or enmity, I think what a blessing that is, and say to myself, "This is what peace looks like." On Columbia Pike, where people from every corner of the planet have come to live all mixed together, from homelands where violence and interethnic bigotries are a common occurrence, there is, for the most part, real peace going on. It seems to me that the Pike is a model of how people of vastly different experiences and heritages can successfully live together with respect, harmony, and, yes, peace.

What do you think the future holds for the Pike?

LW: With Amazon's HQ2 headquarters coming to an area adjacent to the Pike community, all bets are off. We are noticing a marked increase

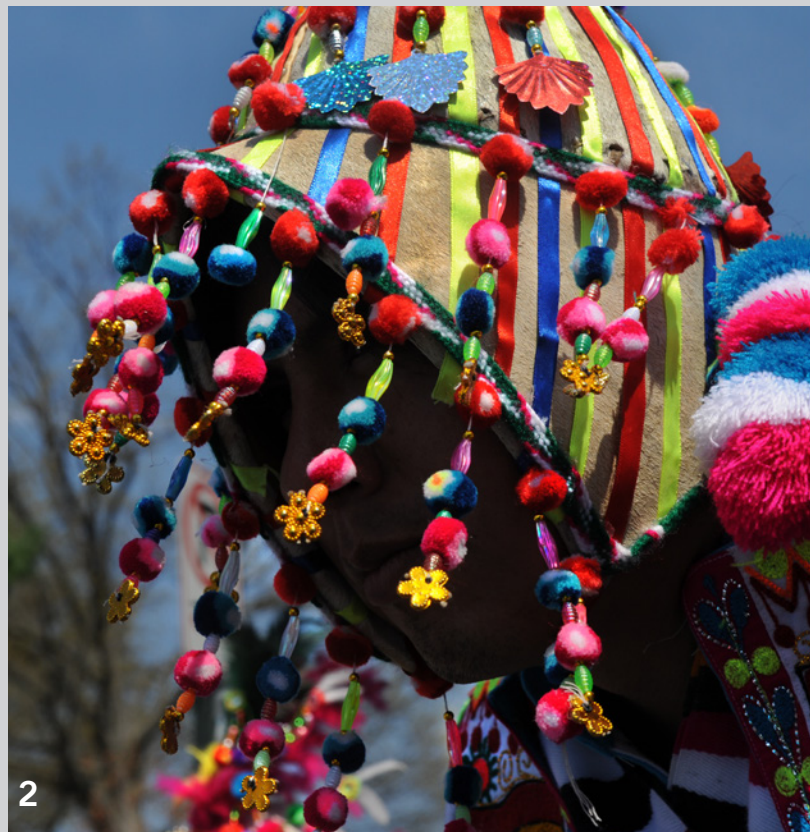
in real estate values, and a departure of lower-income renters, many of them immigrants. I expect that there will be large-scale development and urbanization in the next decades, a loss of green space, and an effort by the county and some civic groups to hold onto affordable dwellings. My

There are wonders to be seen everywhere—if your consciousness allows you to see them.

guess is that the Pike will become bigger, wealthier, trendier, less-family-oriented, and far less ethnically diverse, with fewer small locally owned ethnically focused businesses. ■

STRIKING SUBJECTS

1. *First Thanksgiving for Refugees, Ethiopian Community Development Council, 2018.* Photograph by Lara Ajami.
2. *Carnaval de Oruro Parade, 2014.* Photograph by Lloyd Wolf.
3. *Night Scene After Heavy Snowfall, 2009.* Photograph by Dewey Tron.



CELEBRATE VIRGINIA LITERATURE

Make plans to attend the virtual Library of Virginia Literary Awards celebration

24th Annual

OCTOBER 12–16, 2021



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA *Literary Awards Celebration*

For more information about awards events,
call 804.692.3813 or go to
www.lva.virginia.gov/public/litawards.

The Library of Virginia Literary Awards will be held virtually again this year with a week of author conversations and special events, most free, beginning Tuesday, October 12, 2021. The annual awards—our way of thanking the Virginia authors whose works have enriched our lives and filled our libraries—are presented to outstanding Virginia authors in the areas of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. (The nonfiction category includes any author whose book is on a Virginia subject.) Also presented are the People's Choice Awards for fiction and nonfiction and the Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award.

The winners of these juried awards, who receive a cash prize and an engraved crystal book, are announced at the Library's Annual Literary Awards Celebration, a virtual ceremony on Saturday, October 16, 2021, supported by presenting sponsor Dominion Energy. Award-winning Virginia author Adriana Trigiani will again serve as host for the evening. Tune in via the Library of Virginia's Facebook and YouTube pages to join the festivities.



Tuesday, October 12 | 6:00–7:30 PM

NONFICTION DISCUSSION PANEL

Place: Online | Cost: Free

Nonfiction Award finalists Chip Jones, Ryan Smith, and Nicole Myers Turner discuss their work.

Wednesday, October 13 | 6:00–7:30 PM

FICTION DISCUSSION PANEL

Place: Online | Cost: Free

Fiction Award finalists Rachel Beanland, Brian Castleberry, and Alma Katsu discuss their work.

Thursday, October 14 | 6:00–7:30 PM

POETRY DISCUSSION PANEL

Place: Online | Cost: Free

Poetry Award finalists Bill Glose, Annie Kim, and Kiki Petrosino discuss their work.

Friday, October 15 | 6:00–7:30 PM

ART IN LITERATURE:

THE MARY LYNN KOTZ AWARD

Place: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Marble Hall

Cost: \$8 (\$5 for Library of Virginia & VMFA members)

Registration details coming soon.

The Library of Virginia and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts present the Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award. This

year's honoree is Gaylord Torrence for his book *Continuum: Native North American Art at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art*. Join us for a presentation exploring the relationship between literature and the visual arts. A book signing and reception will follow the program.

Saturday, October 16 | 6:00–7:30 PM

LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA LITERARY AWARDS CELEBRATION

Place: Online | Cost: Free

Award-winning author Adriana Trigiani will again serve as host for the 24th Annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards Celebration.

FINALISTS FOR THE LITERARY AWARDS & PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

The Literary Awards finalists were chosen by an independent panel of judges from books nominated. The People's Choice Award winners were selected by votes from the public, which were cast online this summer. The winners in all categories will be announced at the virtual celebration on Saturday, October 16, 2021.

2021 LITERARY AWARDS

FICTION

RACHEL BEANLAND | Florence Adler Swims Forever

BRIAN CASTLEBERRY | Nine Shiny Objects

ALMA KATSU | The Deep

NONFICTION

CHIP JONES | The Organ Thieves: The Shocking Story of the First Heart Transplant in the Segregated South

RYAN K. SMITH | Death and Rebirth in a Southern City: Richmond's Historic Cemeteries

NICOLE MYERS TURNER | Soul Liberty: The Evolution of Black Religious Politics in Postemancipation Virginia

POETRY

BILL GLOSE | Postscript to War

ANNIE KIM | Eros, Unbroken

KIKI PETROSINO | White Blood: A Lyric of Virginia

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Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

2021 PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

FICTION

DAVID BALDACCI | Daylight

RACHEL BEANLAND | Florence Adler Swims Forever

S. A. COSBY | Blacktop Wasteland

KELLI JO FORD | Crooked Hallelujah

JOHN GRISHAM | A Time for Mercy

TJ KLUNE | The House in the Cerulean Sea

NONFICTION

LYNNE CHENEY | The Virginia Dynasty: Four Presidents and the Creation of the American Revolution

ALEXIS COE | You Never Forget Your First: A Biography of George Washington

TIFFANY JANA & MICHAEL BARAN | Subtle Acts of Exclusion: How to Understand, Identify, and Stop Microaggressions

BETTYE KEARSE | The Other Madisons: The Lost History of a President's Black Family

THOMAS E. RICKS | First Principles: What America's Founders Learned from the Greeks and Romans and How That Shaped Our Country

DAVID WRIGHT & ANTHONY DICOMO | The Captain

Help Strengthen Our Collections

Your support can help the Library of Virginia strengthen vital resources such as our Virginia Authors Collection—books by Virginia authors and on Virginia subjects. You can make a gift by using the enclosed envelope or by visiting www.lva.virginia.gov/donate.

**GOING MOBILE**

CARES Act funding allowed Danville Public Library to purchase a new mobile library vehicle to bring services directly to the community.

Federal CARES Act Funding Supports Virginia's Public Libraries

WiFi zones, vehicles, and programming strengthen underserved communities

BY NAN CARMACK

Twenty Virginia Public Libraries were awarded federal CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act funding through the Library of Virginia by the Institute of Museum and Library Services this past fall and have made great use of the funds as the grant period comes to a close. The libraries were chosen for their service to communities with high rates of unemployment and poverty and low rates of broadband connectivity. Faced with geographic and infrastructure barriers to Internet access, recipient libraries have been careful and innovative stewards of this opportunity, implementing multiple strategies for supporting their communities.

Lonesome Pine Regional Library, Halifax County–South Boston Library, and Danville Public Library each purchased vehicles (to be maintained with local funds) to provide outreach services in underserved parts of their communities, providing WiFi zones, programming, and book-lending services to those with limited access to libraries.

“COVID knocked us on our heels for a few weeks, but also provided us with a unique opportunity to really take a hard look at our services and the delivery of said services,” said Danville Public Library director Russell Carter. “We decided that we could no longer afford to sit in the building and wait for the community to come to us. We believe library services are crucial to the health and wellness of a community and should be afforded to everyone, no matter what challenges they face, even a global pandemic. The vehicle is the start of a whole new direction for us, one in which we are able to meet the community where they are and help overcome barriers to informational access.”

Almost all of the recipient libraries acquired WiFi hotspots and/or data-enabled laptops or tablets for patrons to check out and use at home, which provided access to at-home learning and

online job and government services for those who lacked high-quality Internet service while libraries were closed to the public because of the pandemic. These items will remain available for checkout post-pandemic. Petersburg Public Library worked with city government to provide WiFi zones on public transportation. Heritage Public Library collaborated with a local nonprofit partner to provide a parking lot WiFi zone for around-the-clock access to a community that previously had no access at all.

Additional innovations include the installation of outdoor lockers for access to library materials and expanding and strengthening WiFi signals in library parking lots for after-hours use. Many libraries subscribed to additional at-home learning and entertainment services during the pandemic, ranging from eBooks and children's content to homework help and crafting programs.

One goal of CARES Act funding was to make libraries clean and safe. To this end, libraries purchased PPE (personal protective equipment) for the staff and to distribute to the public. Hand sanitizer units, mobile handwashing stations, and the installation of self-checkout stations were common features of the project.

The Library of Virginia thanks the 20 recipient libraries for their diligent management of these resources: Alleghany

Highlands Regional Library, Blue Ridge Regional Library, Buchanan County Public Library, Central Virginia Regional Library, Charlotte County Public Library, Cumberland County Public Library, Danville Public Library, Eastern Shore Public Library, Essex Public Library, Galax-Carroll Regional Library, Halifax County-South Boston Public Library, Heritage Public Library, Lonesome Pine Regional Library, Lunenburg Public Library, Massanutten Regional Library, Mecklenburg County Public Library, Meherrin Regional Library, Pamunkey Regional Library, Petersburg Public Library, and Russell County Library.

To learn more about federal CARES Act funding for libraries, visit www.imls.gov/grants/available/imls-cares-act-grants-museums-and-libraries.

The best way to support YOUR public library is to use it! ■

Nan Carmack is director of our Library Development and Networking Division.

ECONOMIC AID FOR LIBRARIES

TOP RIGHT: Youth Services specialist Beth Rohne hosts online story time for Essex Public Library using studio equipment purchased with CARES Act funds.

RIGHT: Alleghany Highlands Regional Library provides hotspot kits for patrons to check out to provide Internet access at home, made possible through pandemic-related funding.

The libraries were chosen for their service to communities with high rates of unemployment and poverty and low rates of broadband connectivity.





DONORS & GUESTS GATHER

R. Scott Dodson (executive director, Library of Virginia Foundation), at far right, presents a certificate of adoption for the Evergreen Cemetery interment volume to LDS Church members and other guests. Shown left to right are: **Larry Clark** (president, Greater Richmond Chapter, Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society), **Hal Miles** (assistant director of Communications – Outreach, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Chesterfield Stake), **Alan Earnshaw** (assistant director of Communications – Media Relations, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Richmond Coordinating Council), **Katie Derby** (assistant director of Communications – Family History, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Richmond Coordinating Council), **Stuart Scott** (assistant director of Communications – African American Outreach, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Richmond Coordinating Council), **John Mitchell** (great-grandnephew of John Mitchell Jr., the editor and publisher of the *Richmond Planet* newspaper, who is buried in Evergreen Cemetery), **Rev. Dr. J. Elisha Burke** (director of Health and Wellness, Men, Social Justice, and Sacred Spaces, Baptist General Convention of Virginia), **John Sydnor** (executive director, Enrichmond Foundation), and **Michael Mabe** (president, Chesterfield Stake, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and director of Library Services, Chesterfield Public Libraries).

Helping to Preserve African American History

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints adopts an Evergreen Cemetery interment volume for conservation and digitization

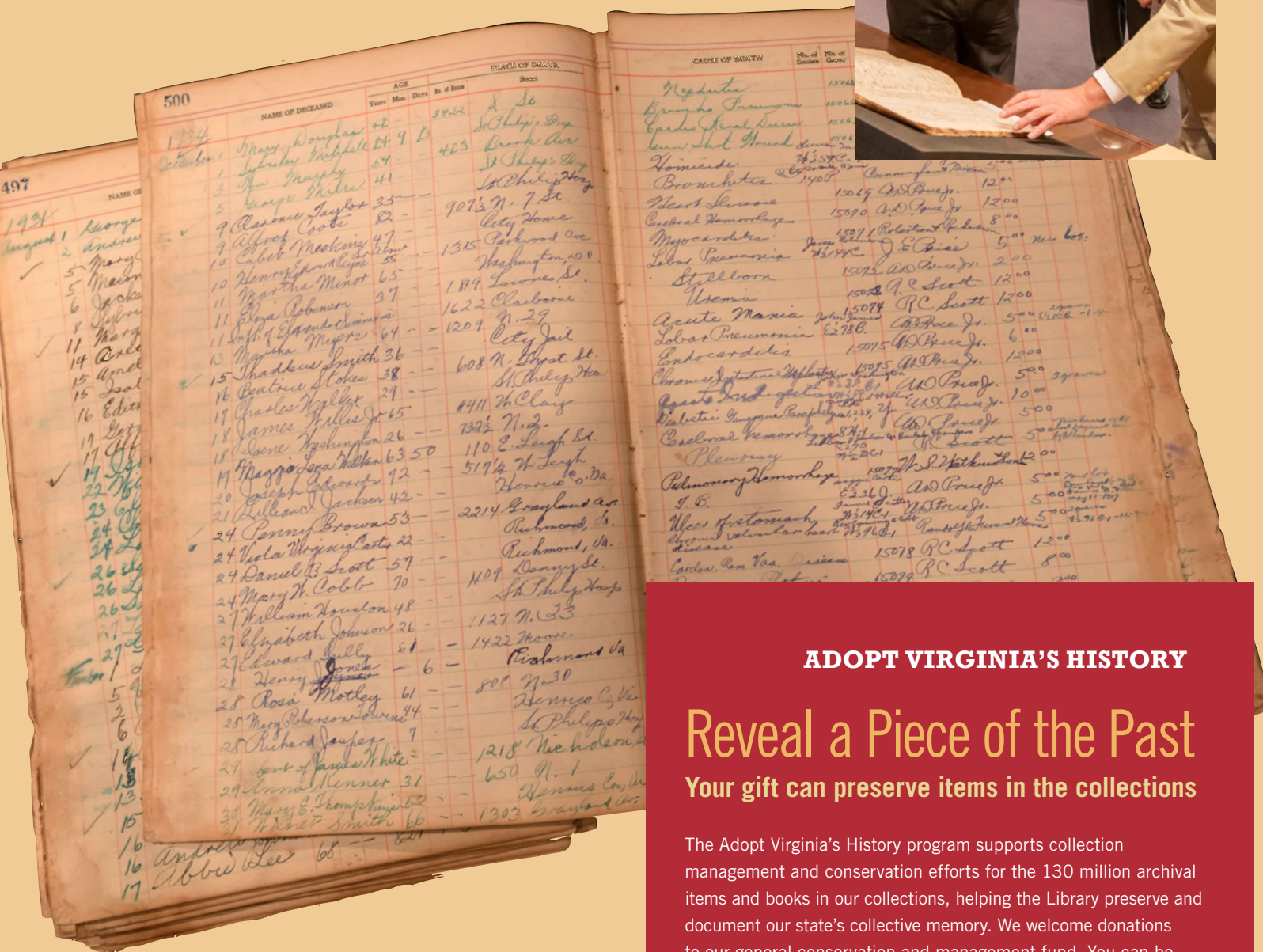
Thanks to a generous donation from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a record book that holds vital information on the history of Richmond's Black community has been adopted for preservation and digitization. The Evergreen Cemetery Interment Volume, 1926–1962, will be conserved, deacidified, given a new binding, and made available on the Library of Virginia's website in digital format for review, research, and transcription. Staff members with the LDS Church and other interested guests gathered to commemorate the adoption and view the volume in the Library's Special Collections Reading Room on July 12, 2021, before the item was sent out for conservation.

The Evergreen Cemetery is a historic African American cemetery located in the East End neighborhood of Richmond, Virginia. Founded in 1891 as a Black equivalent to Hollywood Cemetery, Evergreen is the final resting place for many notable African Americans, including entrepreneur and civic leader Maggie L. Walker, newspaper editor and civil rights activist John Mitchell Jr., and business leader Alfred D. "A. D." Price.

"The Library of Virginia is grateful for the generous support of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which will allow us to conserve an interment register for Evergreen Cemetery," said Librarian of Virginia Sandra G. Treadway. "This register contains invaluable information about so many men and women who played an important role in Richmond's history. Descendants, genealogists, and historical researchers will find these registers immensely useful. We are so pleased to be able to preserve this treasure trove of information about Richmond's African American community for future generations."

Founded in 1891 as a Black equivalent to Hollywood Cemetery, Evergreen is the final resting place for many notable African Americans.

"The Library of Virginia, by restoring the Evergreen records, is providing support to open the pathway for families to discover the burial plots of their loved ones and possibly many other unknown family histories," said Larry Clark, president of the Greater Richmond, Virginia, Chapter of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogy Society. "Cemetery records are critical to family history research. Restoring the Evergreen Cemetery records will be of valuable assistance to our mission. Our organization provides information on tools and techniques for families who are undertaking genealogical research of their ancestors. Having clear and accurate cemetery records is critical to the Evergreen families' quests to understand the history and lives of their ancestors. Unfortunately, at times this is the only information that can be found pertaining to an ancestors' birth and death information." ■



REVEALING RECORDS

ABOVE: These pages in the Evergreen Cemetery Interment Volume, 1926–1962, include the interment listing for John Mitchell Jr., who was a prominent newspaper editor, politician, banker, and civil rights activist.

TOP RIGHT: **John Metz**, the Library's deputy of Collections and Programs, presents the Evergreen Cemetery Interment Volume to the group.

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 130 million archival items and books in our collections, helping the Library preserve and document our state's collective memory. We welcome donations to our general conservation and management fund. You can be proud of your contribution to this important cause, which is tax deductible. When you adopt a project, your gift will be noted in our online catalog record, and you will be invited to come and see your work after conservation is completed. For more information about this program, please contact Elaine McFadden, assistant director of development with the Library of Virginia Foundation, at 804.692.3592 or elaine.mcfadden@lva.virginia.gov. To view images of previously adopted items, visit www.lva.virginia.gov/involved/adopted.asp.



CIRCUIT COURT CARETAKERS

City of Chesapeake circuit court clerk Alan Krasnoff (LEFT) and Suzanne Shoemaker (RIGHT) from deeds and records show off some of the treasures in their vault. Krasnoff has helped the clerk of court's office receive Circuit Court Records Preservation Grants along with other funding to conserve deed and will books, plats, and plat books.

SAVING HISTORY

Circuit Court Records Preservation Program conserves community narratives

The Circuit Court Records Preservation Program, known as the CCRP, provides resources to help preserve Virginia's permanent circuit court records and make them accessible to the public. Part of the Library of Virginia's Government Records Division and administered by the Local Records Services Branch, the CCRP is funded through a \$3.50 recordation fee on land instruments recorded in the commonwealth's circuit court clerks' offices. The program awards grants to the clerks to help them address the needs of the records housed in their localities. Since 1992, the CCRP has awarded more than 1,800 preservation grants totaling more than \$24 million dollars.

The Library's Local Records staff members travel across the state visiting circuit court clerks' offices to examine records and offer advice about records management and preservation.

The CCRP also provides resources needed to process and house the circuit court records that are transferred to the State Archives for safekeeping and increased access, as well as tracking, duplicating, and maintaining circuit court microfilm stored in the Library's media vault.

For more information about the program—including grant program documents, guides and indexes to government records, and finding aids—visit www.lva.virginia.gov/agencies/ccrp.

What Kinds of Local Government Records Receive Conservation Grants?

The records in Virginia circuit court clerks' offices document the history of the city or county and its inhabitants, and can help genealogical researchers and historians tell the stories of the community and the people who lived there. Because of the wide variety of information contained in local government records, it can be difficult to prioritize the conservation needs for the different types of items in a circuit court records room.

Records that are used frequently, such as land books and will books, can be good candidates for conservation. Some items that are used infrequently, however, may also need prompt treatment. They might be rare or unique, documenting historic events or holding special importance to a locality. The size, shape, or artistic qualities sometimes found in plats, maps, or blueprints might make them distinctive. In addition,

The Library's local records archivists often see documents that are chipped and torn, have tape repairs, are overly acidic, or display signs of water damage or mold.

the older the records, the higher a priority, especially if they are pre-Civil War.

The physical condition of items also factors into prioritizing. The Library's local records archivists often see documents or pages in a volume that are chipped and torn, have tape repairs, are overly acidic, or display signs of water damage or mold. Record books can have all of these maladies, plus loose or detached spines, boards, signatures, and pages.

Records that are fragile or in an unstable medium or format, such as the Emery Silking Process or cellulose acetate lamination, are likely candidates. Records that are improperly housed or stored in poor environmental conditions also deserve attention.

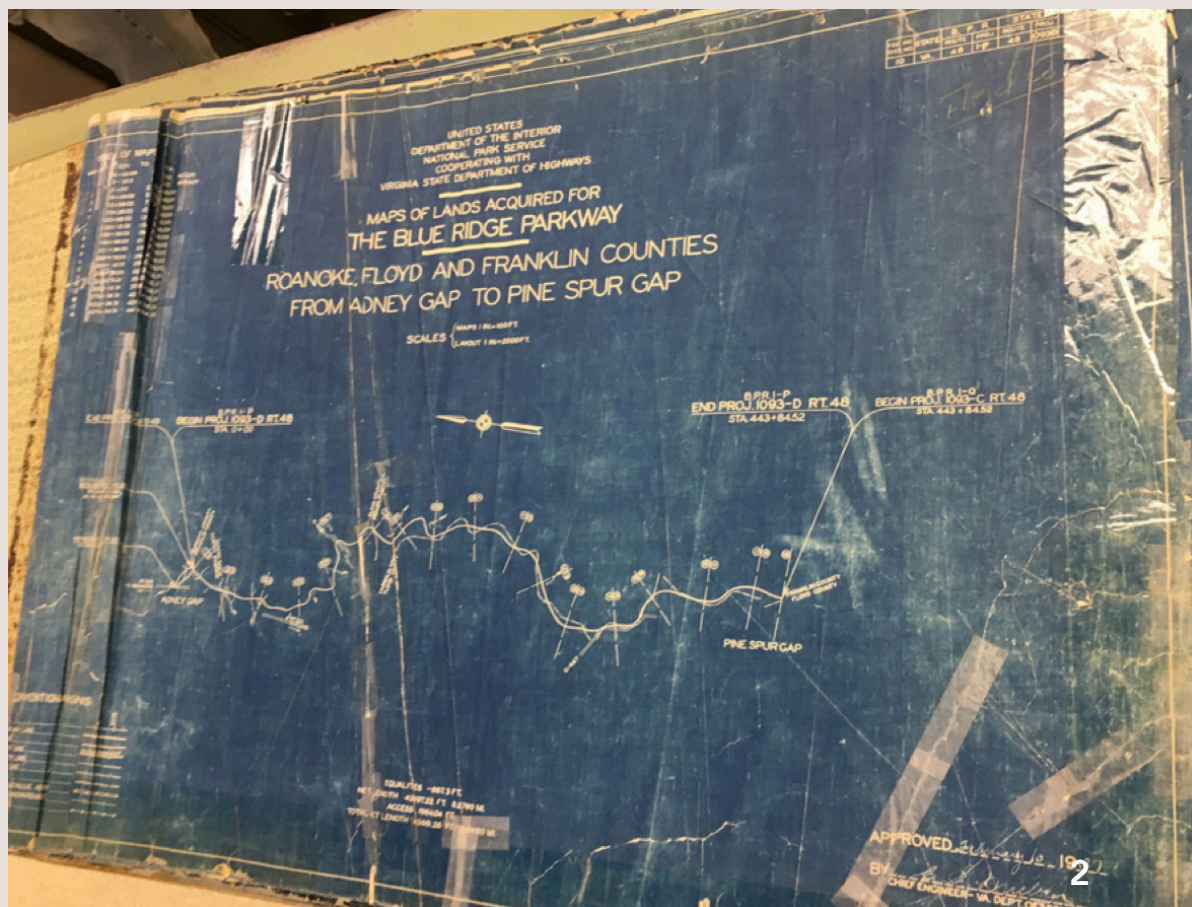
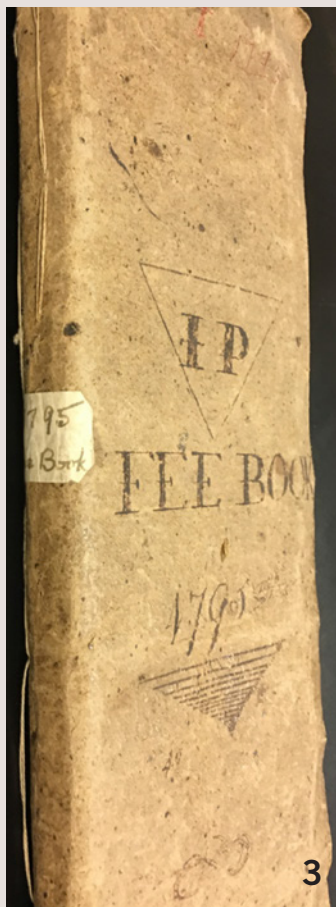
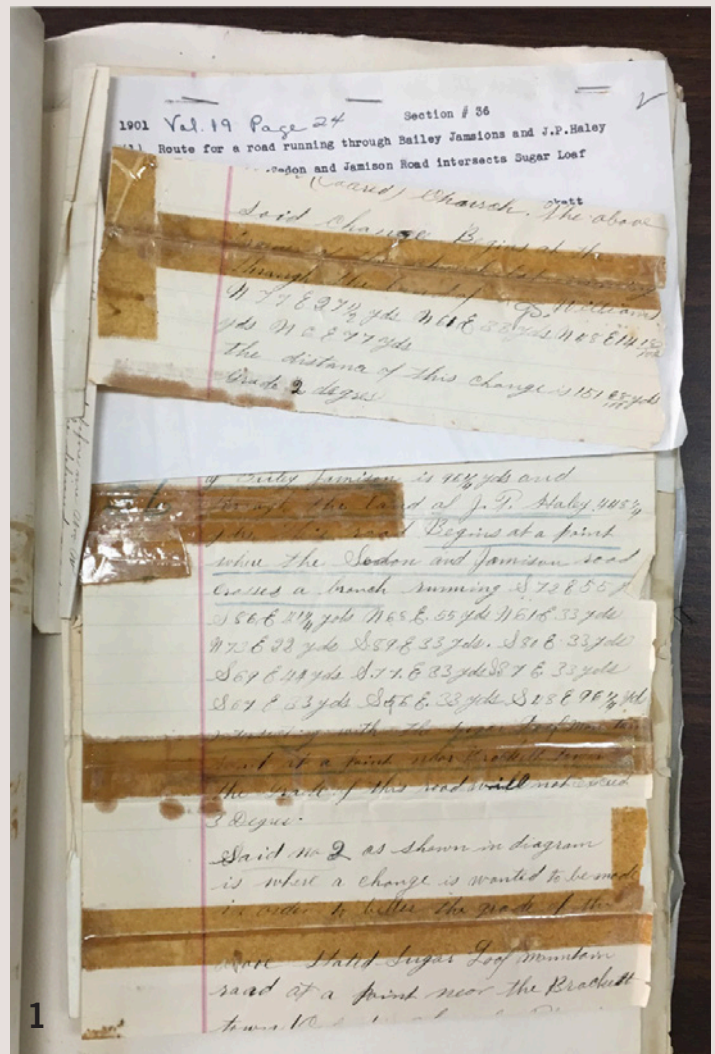
There is no simple formula for making these determinations. The importance and usage of a record must be considered along with its physical condition. For example, a 1940s deed book that is used frequently but has little or no damage or deterioration is probably not as good a candidate for conservation as an 1850s road book that is rarely used but has detached signatures and pages, tears and tape repairs, and no spine or boards.

—Eddie Woodward, Senior Local Records Archivist

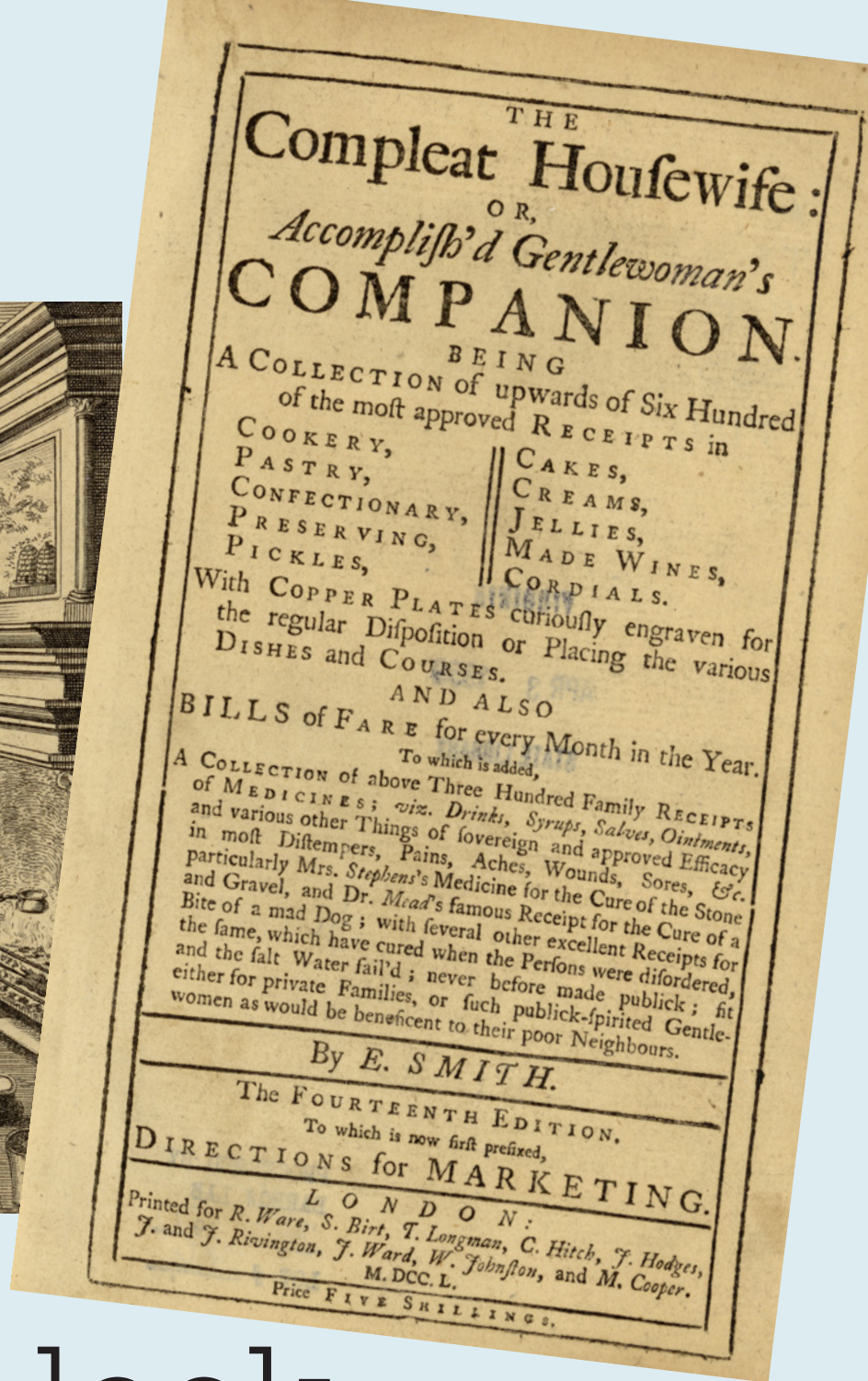
A version of this article first appeared in the Spring 2021 issue of CCRP News: The Newsletter of Virginia Circuit Court Records Preservation Program.

DESERVING OF PRESERVING

Examples of records in Virginia's circuit court clerks' offices that need conservation treatment include 1. Roanoke County Roads Vol. 19, Section 36a; 2. Floyd County's Maps of Lands Acquired for Blue Ridge Parkway, 1937; and 3. 1795 Mathews County Fee Book.



The Compleat Housewife London, 1750



a closer look

RARE BOOK COLLECTION

The most popular cookbook in 18th-century America came from England in the form of *The Compleat Housewife: Or, Accomplish'd Gentlewoman's Companion* by Eliza Smith. The first cookbook to be published in the American colonies, it was issued in Williamsburg by William Parks in 1742. Using Smith's 5th London edition as his basis, Parks deleted some recipes and

added several for colonial tastes in the first American edition.

The Compleat Housewife went through 18 editions between 1727 and 1773. Pictured here is the 14th edition, from 1750. Each page holds approximately four to five recipes, with only two to three sentences devoted to each. The book runs 400 pages within 10 sections and contains

more than 600 recipes, as well as some home remedies.

Although Smith writes plainly, most of her recipes do not provide enough detail for use by today's standards. She doesn't include cooking temperatures or times, for example. Smith provides an extensive bill of fare for every season and month of the year, and offers tips on how to tell if meat and poultry

A GENTLEWOMAN'S COMPANION

LEFT: The 14th edition of *The Compleat Housewife*, shown here, was the first to offer "Directions for Marketing."

FAR LEFT: The book's frontispiece presents a lively kitchen scene with servants at work.

are fresh. She devotes many pages to soft foods for elderly palates, such as Scotch collops, fricassees, ragouts, soups, gravies, and plum porridges. There is a lengthy recipe for English "Ketchup" that requires a week to reach proper strength.

This edition includes an illustrated frontispiece image showing a kitchen scene with servants preparing food for guests in the dining room in the background. It also contains engravings showing table placement of food courses for Winter, Summer, and "A Supper, Second Course —The Dessert in the Middle."

Eliza Smith herself remains a bit of a mystery. In the book's preface, she writes that she spent her life as a cook and housekeeper for wealthy households for more than thirty years, but she offers no other personal information and produced no further books.

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

**There is a lengthy recipe
for English "Ketchup"
that requires a week to
reach proper strength.**

Help Preserve Virginia's History!

Establishing an acquisition or preservation fund is the perfect way to help the Library care for and expand its world-class collection. Call Elaine McFadden, assistant director of development at 804.692.3592 or email elaine.mcfadden@lva.virginia.gov to learn more.

THE UNCOMMONWEALTH

Voices from the Library of Virginia

A wealth of stories. Far from common.

The **UncommonWealth** blog shares stories from the **Voices of the Library of Virginia**. Learn about what we do, why we do it, and how our efforts relate to current issues and events. In addition to our intriguing collections and groundbreaking projects, we spotlight public libraries, staff members, and specialized professions. Visit the website below to start exploring.

uncommonwealth.virginiamemory.com | #thisisLVA

behind the scenes

INSIDE THE EXHIBITIONS PROGRAM

Questions for Barbara Batson, Exhibitions Coordinator



GUIDING THE GALLERY

Exhibitions coordinator **Barbara Batson** prepares a collection item for display.

How did you get into this line of work? What is your background?

Barbara Batson: I've been involved with museums since I was in high school. I was a costumed interpreter at Old Salem Museums and Gardens and later worked as a researcher at the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, both in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. I had a yearlong internship at Historic Deerfield in Massachusetts and then joined The Valentine here in Richmond as curator. I was at The Valentine for 11 years before joining the Library of Virginia. In fact, I started working at the Library the day before we opened this building to the public. My academic background is in anthropology and art history.

What do you like about your job?

BB: I tell people that this is the best job: I work with a great collection, I work with really smart people, and I learn something new every day. No kidding!

The Library of Virginia's exhibitions program explores the commonwealth's social and cultural history by highlighting its rich collections and the stories they hold. The program began in 1997 after the Library moved into its current building, which provided space for the Exhibition Gallery on the first floor just beyond the main lobby. Since then, exhibitions have explored topics such as a self-taught African American sculptor, Virginia's roots music, architecture that was never built, the internal slave trade, post-Civil War Virginia, the long campaign for woman suffrage, and many others. In addition to on-site exhibitions, the Library offers online and traveling exhibitions (see sidebar article at right). Exhibitions coordinator Barbara Batson, who has guided this work, answers some questions below.

How do you safely display historic collection items in our Exhibition Gallery?

BB: Light is the big enemy for displaying paper items, so I work with the Library's conservator, Leslie Courtois, and a professional lighting designer to ensure that lighting levels in the gallery are acceptable. We use museum-quality framing materials and secure vitrines for display. The idea is to display materials safely in order to preserve them.

Are there any unusual or particularly memorable items you've worked with for an exhibition?

BB: Probably the most memorable and most fun exhibition for me personally was *Freeing Art from Wood: The Sculpture of Leslie Garland Bolling*. I wrote Bolling's biographical entry for the Library's *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*, and I became intrigued with the idea of mounting an exhibition of his work. I knew the location of only about 10 sculptures, but as I did research, I wound up with more than 20 of his works. And I keep finding them! As a result of the exhibition, Bolling's sculpture *Saver of Soles* is now in the collection of the Art Institute of Chicago, and *Cooking on*

Saturday, a work that was located after the exhibition, is now in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. More recently, I had a blast working on *We Demand: Women's Suffrage in Virginia* with editor Mari Julienne and historian and author Brent Tarter. We found lots of new information that changed the narrative. Read our book *The Campaign for Woman Suffrage in Virginia*, which complements the exhibition.

Is there anything that would surprise people about the work that you do?

BB: Organizing and mounting exhibitions takes a village. ■



INSTALLATION DAY

Education and Outreach staff members work to install the *We Demand: Women's Suffrage in Virginia* exhibition, which ran from January 2020 through the spring of 2021.

ABOVE: Editor **Marianne Julienne** works with text panels in the Exhibition Gallery.

AT LEFT, LEFT TO RIGHT: **Catherine Fitzgerald Wyatt** (Education and Outreach manager), **Mari Julienne** (editor), **Barbara Batson** (exhibitions coordinator), and **Ashley Ramey** (community outreach specialist) install items in the lobby.

Online & Traveling Exhibitions

Online exhibitions on a wide variety of topics can be found on the Library's website at virginiamemory.com/exhibitions. Some are digital versions of past on-site offerings, while others are created for online viewing and hosted through the Google Arts & Culture platform. Both types allow the public to access fascinating and important items from our collections.

The Library also provides traveling exhibitions free of charge to public libraries, museums, and smaller historical societies throughout the commonwealth. Drawn from our on-site exhibitions, these traveling versions go on the road to reach more than 100,000 Virginians each year. If you're interested in bringing a traveling exhibition to your organization, contact Barbara Batson at barbara.batson@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3518.



Photograph courtesy of Shenandoah University

Congratulations to Dr. Brent Tarter!

Brent Tarter, historian, author, and editor of the Library of Virginia's *Dictionary of Virginia Biography*, received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Shenandoah University in recognition of his contributions to the study of Virginia history. The ceremony took place in Winchester on May 23, 2021.

The Cardinal Rules

Celebrate our state bird with new home décor and charming gifts featuring stunning cardinals! The Virginia Shop's selection of merchandise includes prints, mugs, pillows, plush toys, and more to meet your gift needs.



Shop in store (Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM) or online anytime at thevirginiashop.org.

THE
virginia
SHOP

800 East Broad Street | Richmond, VA 23219 | www.thevirginiashop.org
804.692.3524 | email: shop@thevirginiashop.org

calendar

Fall Events

For the latest information, please follow us on social media and visit our Calendar of Events at www.lva.virginia.gov/news/calendar.

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.



Saturday, September 25 | 12:00–2:00 PM

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

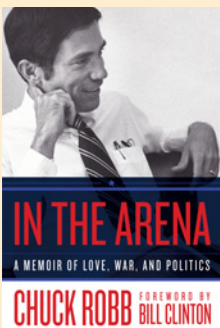
Transcribe-a-versary Celebration

Place: Online

Registration required:

bit.ly/LVAvirtualvolunteer

The Library invites past transcribers and new volunteers to join us for a virtual Transcribe-a-versary! This event celebrates the ongoing contributions of our volunteers and offers information about the future direction of Transcribe projects. Guest speaker Dr. Robert Nelson, director of the Digital Scholarship Lab at the University of Richmond, will provide insight into the possibilities of digital humanities projects. Volunteers will then transcribe handwritten pages and historical newspapers by reading the text and typing it into digital form. We will conclude with a discussion about crowdsourcing projects at the Library of Virginia. Contact Sonya Coleman for more information at makinghistory@virginiamemory.com.



Wednesday, October 6

5:30–7:00 PM

BOOK EVENT WITH CHUCK ROBB

In the Arena:

A Memoir of Love, War, and Politics

Place: Lecture Hall

Registration required:
bit.ly/3xCXMKW

Join us for a

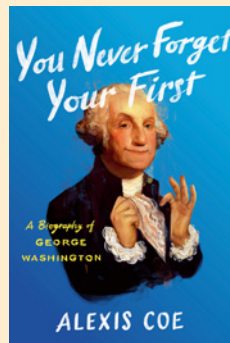
conversation with former U.S. senator and Virginia governor Chuck Robb about his new memoir, *In the Arena: A Memoir of Love, War,*

and Politics. Former Secretary of Education Anne Holton will join Senator Robb on stage to reflect on his extraordinary life and career. Full of honest reflections, the book pulls back the curtain on one of America's proven political leaders. A book signing will follow the talk. The book is available at the Virginia Shop (thevirginiashop.org). For more information, contact Courtney Bryce at courtney.bryce@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3524.

Tuesday–Saturday, October 12–16

LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA LITERARY AWARDS Awards Celebration & Related Events

See pages 6–7 for details.



Wednesdays:

Oct. 13, Nov. 10 & Dec. 8

6:00–7:30 PM

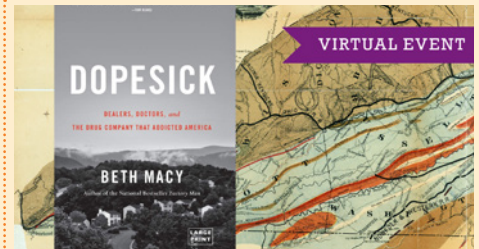
BOOK CLUB

Literary Virginia Book Group

Place: Orientation Room or Online

Read and discuss the best of today's Virginia literature—

including books by Library of Virginia Literary Award winners and finalists in fiction and nonfiction. On the second Wednesday evening of each month, join a book group discussion either in person or online. In October, we'll discuss *You Never Forget Your First: A Biography of George Washington* by Alexis Coe, a nonfiction finalist for the People's Choice Award and the subject of our November Weinstein Author Series talk. November's book is *Crooked Hallelujah* by Kelli Jo Ford, a fiction finalist for the People's Choice Award. December's book is *Daylight* by David Baldacci, another fiction finalist for the People's Choice Award. Books are available at the Virginia Shop (thevirginiashop.org) and other retail outlets. For more information (including how to join by Zoom), visit lva.virginia.gov/public/literary_virginia_book_group or contact Nan Carmack at nan.carmack@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3792.



Tuesdays: Oct. 19, Nov. 16 & Dec. 21

6:00–7:30 PM

BOOK CLUB

Common Ground Virginia History Book Group

Place: Online

Registration required: lva.virginia.gov/public/virginia_history_book_group

Read and discuss compelling nonfiction books handpicked by Library staff members that explore Virginia history, society, and culture. On the third Tuesday evening of each month, join a virtual book group discussion. October's book is *Dopesick* by Beth Macy. November's book is *Fearless: How a Poor Virginia Seamstress Took On Jim Crow, Beat the Poll Tax and Changed Her City Forever* by Charlene Butts Ligon. December's book is *Steel Drivin' Man: John Henry, the Untold Story of an American Legend* by Scott Reynolds Nelson. Check your local public library to borrow titles, or purchase through the Virginia Shop (thevirginiashop.org) or other online retailers. For more information, contact Rebecca Schneider at rebecca.schneider@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3550.



Friday, October 22 | 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

Immigration Records at the Library of Virginia

Place: Online

Registration required:

immigrationrecordsatlva.eventbrite.com

Cost: \$15 (\$10 for Library members)

Library of Virginia reference archivist Cara Griggs leads this workshop focused on records from 1607 to 1929 concerning the immigration of individuals who came to Virginia. Learn about passenger lists and naturalization records as well as strategies for identifying birthplaces through records that relate to immigration and naturalization, vital records, obituaries, cemetery records, the records of religious organizations, and records from an individual's country of origin. Contact Ashley Ramey at ashley.ramey@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3001 for more information.



Saturdays: Oct. 23 & Nov. 20 | 12:00–2:00 PM
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY
Making History with LVA
 Place: Online
 Registration required: bit.ly/LVAvirtualvolunteer
 Crowdsource with us! Volunteers will transcribe handwritten pages and historical newspapers by reading text and typing it into digital form. Join us for a virtual session to learn how you can help make historical documents more searchable and usable for researchers now and in the future. Each session will focus on one or more of these three crowdsourcing projects (depending on document availability): Making History: Transcribe; From the Page: WWI Questionnaires; or Virginia Chronicle. Contact Sonya Coleman for more information

at makinghistory@virginiamemory.com or call Hands On Greater Richmond at 804.330.7400.



Wednesday, November 17 | 6:00–7:30 PM

WEINSTEIN AUTHOR SERIES TALK

You Never Forget Your First

Place: Lecture Hall

Registration required:

lva.virginia.gov/public/weinstein



Join us for a talk by historian and *New York Times* best-selling author Alexis Coe on her book *You Never Forget Your First: A Biography of George*

Washington, which takes a closer look at our first president and finds he is not quite the man we remember. Coe's form-shattering book combines rigorous research and lively storytelling that will have readers—including those who thought presidential biographies were just for dads—inhaling every word. The Carole Weinstein Author Series supports the literary arts by bringing both new and well-known authors to the Library of Virginia through online or in-person events. The book is available from the Virginia Shop (thevirginiashop.org). For more information, contact Dawn Greggs at 804.692.3813 or dawn.greggs@lva.virginia.gov.



Friday, November 19 | 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

How to Trace Your Virginia Roots

Place: Online

Registration required: bit.ly/LVA-VaRoots

Cost: \$15 (\$10 for Library members)

Back by popular demand: Library of Virginia archivist Amanda Morell and reference services librarian Becky Schneider introduce you to the types of records in the Library's collections to help you get started with your Virginia-based genealogical research. We encourage you to view the resources available on our Family History Playlist on YouTube before attending the workshop. Contact Ashley Ramey at ashley.ramey@lva.virginia.gov or 804.692.3001 for more information.



exhibitions at
800
 east broad

Columbia Pike
 THROUGH THE LENS OF COMMUNITY

Through January 8, 2022
 Exhibition Gallery & Lobby
 See pages 2–5 for details.

in circulation

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING
AT THE LIBRARY

Find more images at www.flickr.com/photos/lvaevents and follow us on Facebook.



1. On May 27, 2021, as the Library prepared to allow visitors back to the second-floor reading rooms with no appointments needed, staff members gathered on the stairs in the Lobby to pose for a “welcome back” photo.

2. LEFT TO RIGHT: Summer interns **Kofi Mason**, **Joellen Ceide**, and **Julia Preston** toured the Library’s closed stacks to learn about our collections on June 29, 2021.

3. **Governor Ralph Northam** (AT FAR RIGHT) visited the Library to view original copies of four of Virginia’s constitutions on July 1, 2021, along with the University of Virginia’s Warner-Booker Distinguished Professor of Law, **A. E. Dick Howard** (AT HIS LEFT), and Librarian of Virginia **Sandra G. Treadway**. The items were on display in honor of the 50th anniversary commemoration of the Virginia Constitution of 1971.

4. **Anne Walker**, one of the Library’s Brown Teacher Research Fellows (LEFT), leads a session during the 12th annual Anne and Ryland Brown Teacher Institute at the Library on August 3, 2021. This year’s one-day conference focused on the 50th anniversary of the 1971 Virginia Constitution, offering resources to help educators teach students about the document and its legacies.

5. Panelists enjoyed a light moment during the Library’s first in-person event of the year, “Looking Back, Looking Forward: The 50th Anniversary of the Virginia Constitution,” on July 1, 2021. Shown are **Brian Cannon**, director of campaigns for the Institute for Political Innovation (LEFT), and **Henry L. Chambers Jr.**, a professor of law at the University of Richmond (RIGHT), who discussed the advances made possible by the Constitution of 1971, as well as the work that still remains.



SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

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. The Library relies on individuals like you to help support its programs, collections, education activities, and outreach initiatives. **Become a member today to help us continue to share Virginia's history and literature with the world.** Membership is tax-deductible and offers many benefits. In gratitude for your support, the Library of Virginia Foundation extends the following benefits to all donors of \$100 or more:

- Priority seating at Library events
- One free Library workshop per year
- 10% discount at the Virginia Shop
- Discounted tickets to Library programs
- Invitations to members-only lectures and events
- One-year print subscription to *Broadside*
- Recognition in the Library's annual list of donors on our lobby display

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

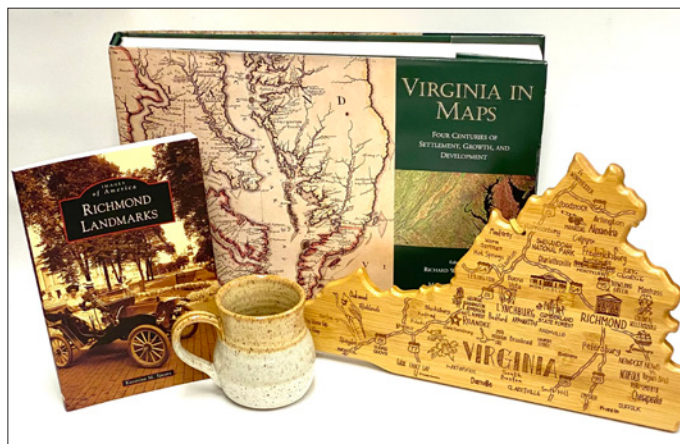
To learn more about the benefits of membership, contact Dawn Gregg at 804.692.3813.

SEMPER VIRGINIA SOCIETY

Make a significant investment to aid the Library in its mission to acquire, preserve, and promote access to unique collections of Virginia's history and literature. Donors whose annual giving totals \$1,000 or more become members of the Semper Virginia Society.

Join fellow donors at exclusive Semper Virginia programs, events, and travel opportunities. To learn more, please contact Elaine McFadden at 804.692.3592 or elaine.mcfadden@lva.virginia.gov.

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



Planning Ahead for the Holidays?

It's never too early to get a head start on your shopping list! The Virginia Shop is stocking up on the perfect gifts, from locally crafted treasures to state seal merchandise to literary-themed items and books.

Browse our selection in person, Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM, or shop online anytime at thevirginiashop.org. Keep an eye out for shop specials coming soon!