



Lancaster Virginia Historical Society announces
Zooming In On Lancaster County History
Thursdays at 3:00

Biweekly Virtual Speaker Series beginning Nov 19, 2020

Each program will be a 30-45 minute Zoom webinar featuring local authors, researchers, and historians. The presentations will include slides and visuals and the opportunity for interactive Q&A with the speaker. Our first seven programs are planned through February and we have many more topics and speakers in mind. Some of the presentations will highlight new publications and research, while others will revisit popular topics from past museum exhibits and author talks.

FREE for LVHS Members ~ \$5 per Program for General Public

All viewers must register for each webinar separately at www.mkt.com/maryball or 804-462-7280 with a valid email address. Registration deadline for live webinar is Noon on day of program. After a program has aired live, viewers can still register for access to the video recording.

Series Schedule:

November 19, 3:00 p.m.: *“Life at Lawson Bay Farm”* by Robby Robison. Robby’s recent book, *The Lawsons of White Stone and Lawson Bay Farm*, spans 1650 to the present, but his talk will emphasize the post-Lawson years from the 1880s onward, with just a brief review of the generations of the Lawson family who farmed the land for more than 200 years before the era of steamboats and beach resorts. Robby will also tell stories of his own Gill, Smith, and Robison family history in White Stone, growing up at Lawson Bay Farm in the 1950s, and coming back in recent years to take over the property and update the circa 1830 house.

December 3, 3:00 p.m.: *“My Grandmother, the Midwife.”* Denise Mazyck will talk about her ancestor Claudine Curry Smith and will feature Smith’s autobiography *My Bag Was Always Packed* along with audio clips from Smith’s 2001 interview as part of the LVHS oral history project, “Closing the Gap: African American Family Histories of the Lower Northern Neck.”

December 17, 3:00 p.m.: *“1930’s Christmas in Lancaster: Holiday Cheer in Spite of Hard Times.”* Shaune Lee will share research from a past LVHS museum exhibit including numerous ads and stories gleaned from Northern Neck newspapers of the period.

January 7, 3:00 p.m.: *“The Lees of White Stone.”* Lois Williams will speak about her recently published book of the same title, which she created with the assistance of mapmaker Tom Kinney. Epaphroditus Lawson patented 1000 acres in 1650. His grandniece married into the Cobbs Hall line of the Lee family and Lee descendants owned the land for two centuries until much of it was sold to African Americans in small parcels in the 1880s and 1890s.

January 21, 3:00 p.m.: *“Dr. Peirce’s Babies.”* Margaret Forrester will talk about her research methods and findings that resulted in her 2018 book, *Home Birth Records of Dr. Chichester Tapscott Peirce: 1919-1954*, and Peirce’s grandson Page Henley will share stories about the life of this familiar country doctor.

February 4, 3:00 p.m.: *“Black Voices: African American Oral Histories from the Lower Northern Neck.”* LVHS researchers will share recently digitized audio clips, stories, and information about local black life and families in the early-to-mid-1900s from interviews collected in the 2001 Closing the Gap Project.

February 18, 3:00 p.m.: *“Free Blacks in Lancaster and Northumberland Counties during the American Revolution.”* Karen Sutton will share research from her nearly-completed doctoral dissertation, including information about her ancestor, Amos Nickens, and eight other men from this free African American family who served in the Revolutionary War.