

# Off the Shelf: News from Eastern Shore Public Library

March 2019

## Traveling Exhibits Coming This Spring

Proving that the library is “beyond books,” the Eastern Shore Public Library is bringing three traveling exhibits to the Eastern Shore this spring. The public, community groups, and students will enjoy these history, art, and humanities exhibits which are free and handicapped accessible.

“**Profiles of Honor**” celebrates the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World War I and the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of World War II and includes a scan-a-thon for family documents. The Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration Commission was created by the Virginia General Assembly to plan, develop, and carry out programs and activities to commemorate these anniversaries. The exhibits and scan-a-thon will be at two locations on the Eastern Shore of Virginia in April 2019, hosted by Eastern Shore Public Library. The walk-in traveling exhibit will be in Nassawadox on Friday, April 12 where it will be located at in the downtown municipal parking lot. It then travels to Parksley on Saturday, April 13 and Sunday, April 14 where it will be located in the Town Hall parking lot. The events will also include a family archives scan-a-thon. The exhibits and scan-a-thon will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.

Family and friends that served in WWI and WWII, whether in a service, an employee of a war-service industry such as a shipyard, or were otherwise impacted by the wars in these eras can be included in this Library of Virginia digitization project. The photographs, letters, sketches, telegrams, etc. will be scanned for free to be included in this database pertaining to the time periods of 1914 to 1920 and 1939 to 1947. They do not have to pertain to Virginia, but may be from surrounding states. For more information, visit the library’s website: [www.espl.org](http://www.espl.org) under the “news” tab or call the library at (757) 787-3400.

“**New Virginians: 1619-2019 & Beyond**” explores the changing demographics of the Commonwealth on the eve of the 2020 federal census through a series of interviews with first-generation immigrants and refugees who arrived in Virginia after 1976. Produced jointly by the Library of Virginia and Virginia Humanities, the exhibition is a Legacy Project of the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution. The exhibit features video-recorded conversations with immigrants and refugees from more than 30 countries. Some came to this country seeking new opportunity, others as refugees fleeing war and hardship. The exhibit will be at the library in Accomac from April 8 to May 18, 2019.

The **Artmobile** is back! Shore residents may remember it from the 1960’s. The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts has brought it back to life with a new project called “VMFA on the Road.” The currently exhibit is *How Far Can Creativity Take You: VMFA Fellowship Artists*, which celebrates the role VMFA has played in the lives of fellowship recipients. The exhibition includes works by the following acclaimed artists, who all have some connection to Virginia: Julien Binford, Ann Chenoweth, Esther Worden Day, Steven Fishman, Emmet Gowin, Sally Mann, Arthur Sawyers, Charles Sibley, Cy Twombly, Benjamin Wigfall, and Dennis Winston.

One of the artists, Emmet Gowin, lived on Chincoteague in his youth. He is now an internationally acclaimed photographer exhibiting in museums around the world.

VMFA on the Road will be in Parksley two days in May 2019. On Sunday, May 5, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., the public is invited to visit the exhibit during the “Celebrate Us!” multicultural festival. School and community groups are invited to come on May 6 and may schedule an appointment by contacting Janice Felker at [youthservices@espl.org](mailto:youthservices@espl.org) or calling (757) 787-3400. The exhibit will be back at another time, to be determined, in Nassawadox and Cape Charles.

Eastern Shore Public Library is looking forward to its new regional library in Parksley which will have more floor-space and a gallery for exhibits. The Eastern Shore Public Library System has four libraries in Accomac, Cape Charles, Chincoteague and Nassawadox. Your ESPL library card can be used at any of the four libraries. To learn about the regional library building project and ESVA Heritage Center in Parksley, opening in 2020, visit [www.shorelibrary.com](http://www.shorelibrary.com). For more information about your library services, library hours of operation, or your library account, visit [www.espl.org](http://www.espl.org), “like” us on Facebook and Twitter, or call the central library at (757) 787-3400.

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