

October 2015

Please join the Friends of Fairfax County Archaeology and Cultural Resources for

Dr. Garrett Fesler

Shields's Folly: A Tavern and Bathhouse in Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia

Saturday, October 3, 2015 at 10 AM James Lee Community Center Auditorium 2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church

OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND SILENT AUCTION

Open to the Public



Dr. Garrett Fesler and Alexandria Archaeology recently completed excavation of a 12-foot deep well feature located in the basement of a historic building in the Old Town section of Alexandria, Virginia. The artifacts recovered from the well indicate that it was filled ca. 1820, when Thomas Shields operated the property as a tavern and bathhouse. Shields most likely dug the well in order to draw water directly from the premises instead of hauling water from a public pump down the street. Alas, the story does not have a happy ending. Shields's well never

reached water. He soon went bankrupt, due in part to bad timing (the War of 1812 and global economic turmoil), but also because of his inability to convince enough Alexandrians that a warm bath was worth 50 cents. Their work on "Shields's folly" has prompted them to think about concepts of hygiene and cleanliness in early nineteenth-century Alexandria.

Following the presentation, FOFA will hold a brief meeting to highlight its recent activities, preview what is currently active in Fairfax County Archaeology, and to discuss FOFA's plans for future events and symposia.

FOFA will also hold a silent auction prior to and after the meeting, with proceeds to support the acquisition of needed field equipment, artifact storage systems, and computer software for the Cultural Resource

Management and Protection Branch of the Fairfax County Park Authority. *FOFA is a 501c(3) non-profit organization*.



Archeological Society of Virginia 75th Annual Meeting

The ASV will hold its Annual Meeting from October 16-18, 2015 at the Best Western Battlefield Inn in Manassas, Virginia. Here's your quick guide to Fairfax County/FOFA papers. In addition to the session organized by the Cultural Resource Management and Protection Branch, Kellie White, who just finished her summer internship at Old Colchester Park and Preserve (OCPP), and John Mullen (FOFA Secretary) will be presenting papers.

Friday morning, October 16

9:30 - 9:50 am

Kellie White: The Investigation of 44FX0704 – A Cemetery in Colchester Park: An Examination of Field Methodology

9:50 - 10:10 am

John Mullen: At Rest? The Archeological Recovery of Human Remains from a Forlorn Cemetery in Prince William County, Virginia

Friday afternoon, October 16

Cultural Resource Management and Protection Branch, Fairfax Park Authority (Organizer and Moderator – Christopher Sperling)

1:00 - 1:20 pm

Jonathon Mayes and Alisa Pettitt: Terrible Tools and Terrifying Ticks

1:20 - 1:40 pm

Aimee Wells: Privileged Priorities: Archaeological Collections at a Crossroads

1:40 - 2:00 pm

Alexandra Parke: Archaeology Collection Care Development at the Fairfax County Park Authority

2:00 - 2:20 pm

Christopher Sperling: Archaeology at the Old Colchester Park and Preserve, An Overview

2:20 - 2:40 pm

Megan Veness: A Teardrop Shaped Foundation in Fairfax County, Virginia

2:40 - 3:00

Sheila Koons: Lithic Analysis of Site 44FX1670/2409, Big Prehistoric

PAMUNKEY FEDERAL RECOGNITION

On **October 6, 2015**, the decision to grant the Pamunkey Indian Tribe federal recognition becomes final. They join the other 566 federally recognized tribes in the



United States, but are the *first* tribe to be granted this status in the Commonwealth of Virginia (http://wpo.st/QAsc0).

State-Recognized Virginia Indian Tribes

- Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Tribe in Southampton County
- Chickahominy Tribe in Charles City County;
- Eastern Chickahominy Tribe in New Kent County;
- Mattoponi Tribe in King Will iam County;
- Monacan Nation in Amherst County;
- Nansemond Tribe in the Cities of Chesapeake and Suffolk;
- Nottoway Tribe in Southampton County and Surry County;
- Patawomeck Tribe in Stafford County
- Pamunkey in King William County
- Rappahannock Tribe in King & Queen Counties;
- Upper Mattaponi Tribe in King William County.

Virginia officially recognizes eleven organized Indian within tribes the Commonwealth, and most of these State-Recognized Indian Tribes have been seeking federal recognition since at least the 1990s - which can be obtained through administrative processes or legislative actions. The Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act, passed by the 103rd Congress in 1994, "formally" established three ways to federal recognition: 1) by an Act of Congress; 2) through administrative Page 3

procedures (under 25 CFR Part 83); or 3) by a US Court decision. Currently, the only way to obtain Virginia state tribal recognition is through the passage of state law. The Cheroenhaka, Nottoway and Patawomeck Indian tribes followed this route in 2010.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS –

October 2, Friday (8am-4pm) Colleague Open House – Mount Vernon Slave Cemetery Please RSVP by September 25 to ebreen@mountvernon.org

October 10, Saturday (10am -4pm) Civil War Artillery Day at Fort Ward More info: 703-746-4848

October 10, Saturday (1pm -2pm)

The Return of Martha Washington's Will:

A Centennial Celebration

Fairfax County Courthouse

October 10 and 11, Saturday and Sunday
Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve
Public Archeological Dig (Supervised)
ASV Banshee Reeks Chapter / Hayden
Mathews at hwmathews@comcast.net

October 10 and 24, Saturdays (1:30-4pm) Family Dig Days at Shuter's Hill Contact: archaeology@alexandriava.gov or call 703.746.4399

October 17, Saturday (Noon -4pm) Archeology Day at Gunston Hall

October 31, on Fridays (11am and 3pm) Walking Tours of Fairfax Courthouse

November 7, Saturday (8:30am 3:30pm) Fairfax County Annual History Conference Fairfax County Founding Fathers

PAST FOFA EVENTS-

The Annual Open House at the Old Colchester Park & Preserve (OCCP) was held on June 6, 2015 and was a huge success with over 100 visitors touring the Colonial Port Town, the artifact and GIS displays, and the foundations uncovered at the Cemetery Site. Don't miss Megan Veness's presentation on this foundation at the ASV Meeting on October 16, 2015.

