



LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

Dennis T. Clark
Librarian of Virginia

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CONTACT: Angela L. Flagg, APR, Director of Marketing and Communications
804.692.3653, angela.flagg@lva.virginia.gov

Library of Virginia receives NEH grant to digitize historical Virginia imprint newspapers

The Library of Virginia Foundation has been awarded a \$235,692 grant on behalf of the Library of Virginia from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for a two-year project to digitize 100,000 pages of historical Virginia imprint newspapers dating from 1860–1963. The award is part of \$37.5 million in [NEH grants for 240 humanities projects nationwide](#) and is one of nine grants totaling \$2.72 million awarded through the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a partnership between NEH and the [Library of Congress](#).

“From exhibitions, books, and documentaries about our past, to research centers to help us meet the challenges of the future, these 240 new humanities projects contribute to our greater understanding of the human endeavor and add to our nation’s wealth of educational and cultural resources,” said NEH Chair Shelly C. Lowe (Navajo). “We look forward to the exciting range of products, discoveries, tools, and programs these grants will generate at institutions and in communities across the United States.”

The Library’s project will focus on expanding the African American and German language Virginia newspapers already available through the Library of Congress’s *Chronicling America*, the national newspaper database, as well as a selection of 19th-century agricultural newspapers and weeklies published in Virginia’s Eastern Shore and Southwest. With coverage spanning 1860–1963, the newspapers cover a range of pivotal topics, including both World Wars, the rise of antisemitism, the Civil Rights Movement and much more.

“For more than 30 years, the Virginia Newspaper Program has connected millions of people around the world with a wide array of historically significant Virginia newspapers, nearly 750,000 pages,” said Scott Dodson, Executive Director of the Library of Virginia Foundation. “We are thrilled to continue this important digital partnership with NEH and Library of Congress to make Virginia and America’s story more accessible to the public than ever.

The latest award is the eighth NEH grant for the Library’s [Virginia Newspaper Program](#), an original partner of NDNP.

“We’re incredibly grateful that NEH and the Library of Congress have supported our efforts over the years to increase the amount of newspapers available to researchers and the public,” said Dennis T. Clark, Librarian of Virginia. “This latest selection of important newspapers offers diverse perspectives on news that impacted Virginia and the nation during transformative periods in history.”

NDNP supports the creation of a national, digital resource of historically significant newspapers published between 1690 and 1963, from all states and U.S. jurisdictions. To date, the Library has digitized more than

750,000 pages for Chronicling America, including Colonial and Revolutionary-era newspapers, antebellum and Civil War-era newspapers, African American and German language newspapers and a varied selection of local weeklies published throughout Virginia during the 19th and 20th centuries.

To learn more about the Virginia Newspaper Program, visit https://www.virginiamemory.com/collections/virginia_newspapers.

Find related images here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/toh19b483cwvetfsmflxd/AIPD5OfFRFO3t230vPQd9Uk?rlkey=j3pyyjgmpas9wtoo3vlg6boli&dl=0>

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ABOUT THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA AND FOUNDATION

The Library of Virginia is the state's oldest institution dedicated to the preservation of Virginia's history and culture. Our online offerings attract nearly 4 million website visits per year, and our resources, exhibitions and events bring in nearly 100,000 visitors each year. The Library's collections, containing more than 130 million items, document and illustrate the lives of both famous Virginians and ordinary citizens. The Library is located in downtown Richmond near Capitol Square at 800 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219. Learn more at www.lva.virginia.gov.

The Library of Virginia Foundation supports the Library of Virginia and its mission by raising private financial support, managing its endowment, helping to bring Virginia's history and culture to life. Learn more at www.lvafoundation.org.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH)

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports research and learning in history, literature, philosophy and other areas of the humanities by funding selected, peer-reviewed proposals from around the nation. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available at neh.gov.

