

New Digital Collection to Celebrate Arlington Women and their Achievements

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- *New curated digital collection to launch in March 2018*
- *Related author event and local history exhibit on October 26*
- *Call for community donations and oral histories*

Arlington Public Library will launch a new digital collection of Arlington women and their achievements in March 2018.

The Center for Local History's (CLH) Community Archives contains many collections pertaining to women's history and consequently the history of Arlington County.

"Many of these women were not well known, however their contributions to education, civil rights, conservation and healthcare aided in the development of this community from a rural to suburban county, and Arlington would not be the same today without their achievements," said Library Director Diane Kresh.

The CLH will follow their journey over the next two years by examining documents, photographs, scrapbooks and oral histories culled from the archival collections, all of which will be digitized and made available online as a celebration of the accomplishments of these women.

This new digital collection will be introduced during Women's History Month in March 2018 with a second and final installment in March 2019.

A related author event will be held at Central Library on October 26, 2017. Author Liza Mundy will talk about her new book: "*Code Girls: The Untold Story of the American Women Code Breakers of World War II*". In conjunction with this event the CLH will present an exhibit of material from the community archives including historic photos of Arlington Hall, the former girls' school which became the headquarters of the U.S. Army's Signal Intelligence Service. (*Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St., October 26, 7:00 p.m.*)

The CLH continually seeks community donations and oral histories, particularly as they relate to Arlington's past through the achievements of its women. Contact the CLH at 703-228-5966 or localhistory@arlingtonva.us.

This digital access project will be completed using FY2018 funding in the Department of Libraries budget dedicated to increasing public access to government records and archival materials.

The Center for Local History at Arlington Public Library is committed to collecting, preserving, and sharing the history of Arlington County. To learn more about the Center for Local History, visit <http://library.arlingtonva.us/center-for-local-history>.

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The Arlington Public Library provides access to information, creates connections among people and promotes reading and culture.
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