



Hampton

CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU

Media Release

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Historian Launches New Book ‘Hampton Roads Murder & Mayhem’ At Hampton History Museum Free Lunchtime Event October 17

Hampton, Virginia- Historian and author Nancy E. Sheppard recounts stories of our region’s nefarious past in her new book *Hampton Roads Murder and Mayhem* being launched as part of the Hampton History Museum’s free “Lunch in Time” series on Wednesday, October 17, Noon- 1 p.m.

Join her as she explores some of the darkest moments in Hampton Roads' vibrant history. Dive into the story of cannibalism in the Jamestown colony and learn the gory details of the tale of the Witch of Pungo. Blackbeard and his men wreaked havoc in Hampton Roads before Virginians brought them to justice. Explore rarely told stories of lynchings, riots and a hoax involving none other than famed aviator Charles Lindbergh.

Of particular note to Hamptonians, in addition to the story of Blackbeard, and the Civil

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War burning of Hampton, Sheppard will take attendees to more recent times, including the mysterious death of Jenny Graham Kane after swimming in the shallows off Grandview, and the subsequent 1931 “Trial of the Century” of her husband Elisha Kent Kane III.

After her talk, Sheppard will sign copies of *Hampton Roads Murder and Mayhem* (Arcadia Publishing 2018) that will be available in the museum gift shop for \$23.99 (publishes October 8). Members enjoy 10% discount.

About the Author

Nancy E. Sheppard is a historian, author and native of Hampton Roads, Virginia. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in history from American Military University. Her first book, *The Airship ROMA Disaster in Hampton Roads* (The History Press, 2016), earned a nomination for the 2017 Virginia Literary Awards. She is also a staff writer and photojournalist for the newspaper *Yorktown Crier-Poquoson Post*, focusing primarily on local history, museums, military and theme park news.

The Hampton History Museum is located at 120 Old Hampton Lane in Downtown Hampton. There is free parking in the garage across the street from the museum. For more information, call 757/727-1102.

Partially bordered by the Hampton Roads harbor and Chesapeake Bay, Hampton, with the 344,000 sq. ft. Hampton Roads Convention Center and the award-winning Hampton Coliseum, is located in the center of Coastal Virginia and the Hampton Roads metropolitan area. Hampton is the site of America's first continuous English-speaking settlement, the site of the first arrival of Africans in English North America, and is home to such visitor attractions as the Virginia Air & Space Center, Fort Monroe National

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Monument, Hampton History Museum, harbor tours and cruises, Hampton University Museum, The American Theatre, among others.

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Images:

Book cover. Courtesy of Arcadia Publishing

Prof. Elisha Kane leaving the courthouse during his trial. Courtesy Nancy Sheppard

Nancy Sheppard. Courtesy Nancy Sheppard