



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927 • Fairfax, VA 22035-5500
703-324-8700 • Fax: 703-324-3974 • www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

For Immediate Release

Judy Pedersen, PIO

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E-mail: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov

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Press Inquiries: 703-324-8662

Workbook on Display for First Time at New Park Exhibit

The public is invited to view a new temporary exhibit at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park in Chantilly, Va. *Harvest Time at Walney* interprets what harvest season was like on Walney farm during the 19th century. The highlight of the exhibit is an original workbook created by Lewis H. Machen who purchased Walney in 1843 and lived there until his death in 1863. This is the first time the workbook has been shared publicly. The exhibit is open through January 2015, in the park's visitor center and admission is free.

Researched, developed and installed by park staff members and the Museum Collections manager, the exhibit includes images, original artifacts, and interactive features for visitors to experience. The interactive aspects include touching grains and guessing which products are made from them. Visitors will learn what types of products the family harvested, how they were harvested, and how they impacted the family. The exhibit invites visitors to think about how they get their food today and how it differs from how the Machens obtained their food in the 1850s.

Lewis H. Machen was a clerk for the United States Senate until 1859 and, as a result, he spent the majority of his time in Washington, D.C. However, he was very interested in the operation of the farm, so he recorded who worked on the farm on what days, who completed what tasks, and even tracked the weather. On display is one of four workbooks from the Fairfax County Park Authority's museum collections.

More information about the Walney workbooks is available on our blog at ourstoriesandperspectives.com/2014/11/13/the-walney-workbooks-a-new-exhibit.

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park is located at 5040 Walney Road in Chantilly, Va. The Walney Visitor Center is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, except Tuesdays, and noon to 5 p.m. on weekends. For more information call 703-631-0013 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/eclawrence.

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If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563, at least 10 working days in advance of the registration deadline or event. TTY (703) 803-3354.