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Photographs available.

David Library Will Present Two Lectures in October

WASHINGTON CROSSING, PA - The David Library of the American Revolution will launch its fall series of lectures with two offerings in early October. The series will open on Wednesday, October 7 at 7:30 PM with “From Tea Parting to Lexington and Concord: The Missing Sixteen Months” by Ray and Marie Raphael, followed on Sunday, October 11 at 3 PM with “Becoming Men of Some Consequence” by John A. Ruddiman. Both lectures will be held in Stone Hall at the David Library, 1201 River Road (Rt. 32) in Washington Crossing, PA, 1.3 mi. from the Washington Crossing Bridge. While David Library lectures are admission-free, reservations are required and can be made by calling (215)493-6776 ext. 100, or by sending an email to rsvp@dlar.org.

The Raphaels will draw their talk from their new book, The Spirit of ’74: How the American Revolution Began. Ray Raphael's seventeen books include A People's History of the American Revolution, The First American Revolution, Founders, Mr. President, Constitutional Myths, and Founding Myths. He is currently a senior research fellow at Humboldt State University and associate editor of Journal of the American Revolution. His wife Marie Raphael is author of two historical novels. She has taught literature and writing at Boston University, College of the Redwoods, and Humboldt State University. The Raphaels collaborated on The Spirit of ’74, a work that turns the traditional story of the American Revolution on its head. “Americans know about the Boston Tea Party and ‘the shot heard 'round the world,’” says Ray, “but sixteen months divided these two iconic events, a period nearly lost to history.” In their lecture, the Raphaels plan to explore the gap in the narrative, and show how, step by step, Massachusetts patriots seized control of their province and prepared to defend themselves in the British counter-revolution they knew would come.

“Jake” Ruddiman is an Assistant Professor of History at Wake Forest University. He researched his book, Becoming Men of Some Consequence: Youth and Military Service in the Revolutionary War while a Fellow at the David Library of the American Revolution. “Young men carried the heaviest burden in the War of American Independence,” he notes. His lecture will examine the Continental soldiers’ youthful expectations about respectable manhood and goals of economic competence and stable families, and how that shaped their fighting capabilities and the course of the war. “Their
experience of coming of age during the upheavals of war provide a novel perspective on the Revolutionary era, reshaping of our understanding of families, economics and politics.”

The David Library’s enormously popular lecture series will continue into November and December with the following lectures: “Mastering Empires: The Anishinaabeg of the Great Lakes and the Making of America” by Micahel A. McDonnell, Ph. D. of the University of Sydney on November 18 at 7:30 PM; “Carolina in Crisis, 1761: The James Grant Expedition Against the Cherokees and the Rumblings of Revolution” by Daniel J. Tortora, Ph. D. of Colby College on November 23 at 7:30 PM; and “The Indian World of George Washington and the ‘Other Revolution’” by Colin G. Calloway, Ph. D. of Dartmouth College. For more information, visit the Library’s website, www.dlar.org.

The David Library of the American Revolution is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study of American History, 1750-1800. In addition to making its unparalleled collection of primary source materials available to researchers, DLAR offers educational programs, such as its fall and spring lecture series, to the general public.

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