



# WHO are you?

## GENEALOGY -N-E-W-S-



OCTOBER 2017



**October** is the month of painted leaves. Their rich glow now flashes round the world. As fruits and leaves and the day itself acquire a bright tint just before they fall, so the year near its setting. October is its sunset sky; November the later twilight.

~Henry David Thoreau

### October 11<sup>th</sup>: Jennifer Shaker 5PM

#### Making Memories Last:

...a how to program

What to do with all the stuff?

✂ **Jennifer** is a Certified Guided Autobiography instructor, and she can certainly help you figure out what to keep and how to keep it. Isn't that a whole lot better than in a pile in a box? For sure!

All year long we have been speaking about "the story" of our ancestors by appreciating the history of the times, by checking on living conditions for those who went before us, by going to old house tours, by learning more than just the dates of relatives. Here is the opportunity to learn more about how to use tools such as audio recordings, scanners, and get ready to publish, to make a true story of your ancestors. Join Jennifer for a memorable time when she shows you how to go about "Making the Memories Last." (See bio on page 2)



Thanks!

Elaine  
Vivencio



and the Church

A hearty thanks and appreciation for a fine program at the Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Warwick. The program was informative with a warm touch of humor. And to Bob as well in the library!

*I urge you to pursue preserving your personal history to allow your children and grand-children to know who you were as a child and what your hopes and dreams were." ~ Oprah Winfrey*



#### French Ancestry – but NOT from Canada – Anyone?

Elaine Vivencio helped teach me a wonderful French database, so if you do have relatives in NORD France or Belgium, see me...

**Mohr Library  
Genealogy Group**

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 4:30

Special Program times vary

**Library Hours**

Mon – Thurs 9-8/

Friday 9 – 6// Saturday 9 -5

This newsletter is created  
and written by  
**Grayce Moorehead, MILS**

## Why would you care that someone owns your DNA?

When I was first studying to be a Librarian in 2002, I learned a lot about how we as Americans and world citizens are losing our privacy. Whatever we purchase, where we go, where we drive to, what we say on our phones, what we type and search on our computers is all “data mined.” To my horror, I used to hear people say:

*“why would I care if other people had my information – I have nothing to hide.”*

Now, not that many years later, you hear people say -- rather complacently and knowingly: *“there is no privacy...”* as though we have to accept it, and sadly we probably do have to accept that we have little or no privacy. [As an aside, genealogists of the future will have a gold mine of information!]

So when I saw an article in this month's “The Weekly Genealogist” (Vol. 19, No. 89, Whole #862, September 20, 2017) titled: *Could a DNA Test Really Predict What You Look Like?* I was not shocked, but profoundly disturbed, as should most everyone, I would think. **Heather Dewey-Hagborg** who is described as an Information



Stranger Visions by Heather Dewey-Hagborg

Artist and bio-hacker, created an artistic installation called “Stranger Visions” which she designed from DNA collected from discarded hairs, gum and cigarette butts. The idea was to predict how complete strangers could look. *From the article:* “Human Longevity, headed by renowned genomics expert J. Craig Venter, claimed that just by looking at your DNA, it can craft a fairly accurate model of your face...” About 70 percent of the time, they found that their algorithm could correctly identify the right person from a lineup of 20 photographs of an ethnically-mixed group.

A word of caution: Therefore, I know genealogically speaking, folks like to order their DNA results to see where in the world their ancestors are from. But, remember, when you order DNA, most of the companies “own” your DNA, and “what do they do with it?” is a good question. Have you read the fine print? Just food for thought...

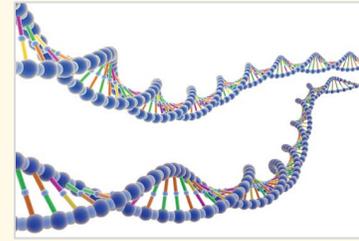
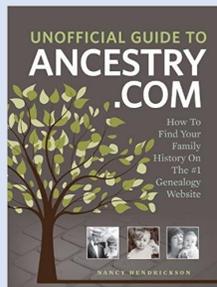


Image from Encyclopedia Britannica

### About Jennifer Shaker

My credentials include an undergraduate degree in Fine Arts and a Master's Degree in Library and Information Studies from the University of Rhode Island. I am a Certified Guided Autobiography Instructor through the Birren Center for Autobiographical Studies. I am a member of the Association of Personal Historians (APH), the American Library Association (ALA), and the League for the Advancement of New England Storytellers (LANES). I am a voracious reader and I enjoy writing and communications of all kinds.



### Appreciation!

**Unofficial Guide to ANCESTRY.COM:  
How to Find Your Family History on the #1  
Genealogy Website** by Nancy Hendrickson

Mohr Library received a generous gift of this exciting complement to Ancestry.

*Thanks Ed!*

### Genealogy: Ask the Librarians

**Saturday, September 30, 2017, 10-11:30am  
at the RIHS Robinson Research Center (121  
Hope Street, Providence, RI)**

Come ready to break through those brick walls and tie up loose ends in your genealogical research. Bring prepared questions to ask this panel of librarians and research associates.



## Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library

One Memorial Avenue ■ Johnston, RI 02919 ■ 401-231-4980  
■ fax: 401-231-4984 ■ website: <http://www.mohrlibrary.org>

