

# APRIL 2026

## JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY

History, Archives & Special Collections

## This month at Jones

### History Lecture Series A Century of Women in Lynchburg Politics 1920-2020

Wednesday, April 8  
5:00 p.m.  
Reading Room

The John D. Owen, Jr. History Lecture series returns with our April talk by Lynchburg Museum Director Ted Delaney.

Women formally entered local politics in 1920, just after the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guaranteed all women the right to vote. Learn more about how they responded to this new right - and shaped government and public policy in the Hill City over the next century.

Lectures at Jones Memorial Library are free and open to public.

SPRING 2026  
Freedom *Forward!*

Jones Memorial Library  
John D. Owen Jr. History Series

LECTURE SERIES

2311 Memorial Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501  
www.jmlibrary.org 434-846-0501

4/8

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026  
5:00 P.M.



Ted Delaney

*A Century of Women in Lynchburg Politics:  
1920-2020*



Women formally entered local politics in 1920, just after the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guaranteed all women the right to vote. Learn more about how they responded to this new right—and shaped government and public policy in the Hill City over the next century.

*Ted Delaney is the director of the Lynchburg Museum System and chief public history officer for the City of Lynchburg. Ted is a graduate of the University of Virginia, and is the former executive director of Lynchburg's Old City Cemetery Museums & Arboretum. He has written, lectured, and consulted about local history and genealogy for over 20 years.*

## Nancy Knows! Essential Resources at JML

Saturday, April 11  
11:00 a.m.  
Reading Room

Join Research Assistant Nancy Weiland for a look at how research has changed during her 30-year career at Jones Memorial Library.

Nancy will share what library life was like before the internet and highlight the classic book sources that are still vital today!

This bittersweet session is held in honor of Nancy's upcoming retirement in May. Free and open to the public, refreshments to follow.



**NANCY KNOWS!**

**JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY**  
History, Archives & Special Collections

A Workshop on Essential Resources in the JML Collection

Join Research Assistant Nancy for a look at how research has changed over her 30 year career at JML. She will share what library life was like before the internet and highlight the classic book sources that are still vital for patrons today!

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**SATURDAY**  
APRIL 11  
11 AM - Noon

Jones Memorial Library  
www.jmlibrary.org

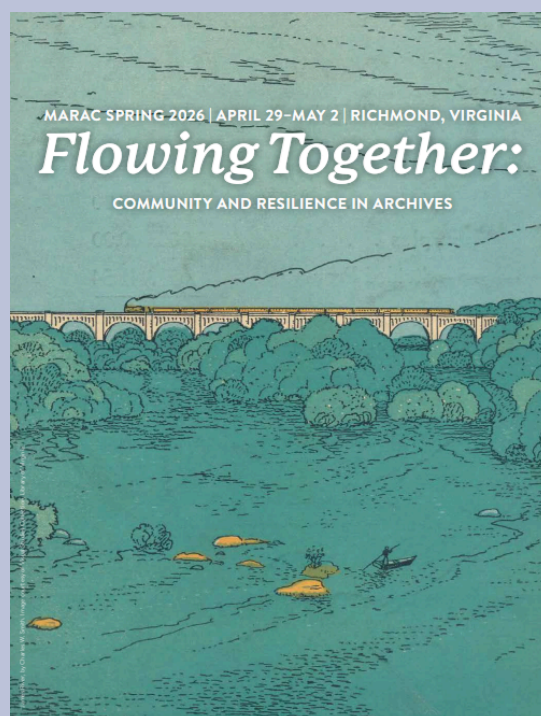
2311 Memorial Avenue  
Lynchburg, VA 24501

## JML On-the-Road!

April 29 - May 2, 2026  
Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives  
Conference in Richmond, VA  
Session #2: "When Churches Die:  
The Archivist Doula"

Jones Memorial Library is attending the MARAC Spring conference, and we're also presenting!

Come hear JML Archivist Gwen Wells and Executive Director Deborah Smith discuss how archivists emerge as essential companions in a profound transition when churches close. We'll examine case studies from two recent closures and highlight the challenges and opportunities these transitions present for archives and religious communities.



MARAC SPRING 2026 | APRIL 29 - MAY 2 | RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

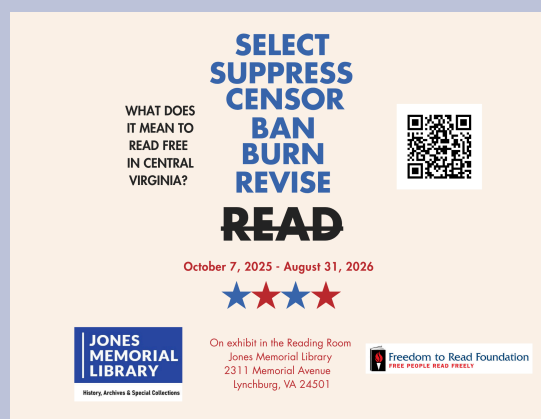
**Flowing Together:**  
COMMUNITY AND RESILIENCE IN ARCHIVES

## Exhibit: READ

On view in the Reading Room

JML's exhibit about the history of censorship in Central Virginia examines the historical frameworks for restrictive efforts that occurred from the 1660s to the 1960s.

Covering issues related to religion, abolition, and communism, "READ" shares censorship examples from across the Commonwealth, including from JML's own history.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO READ FREE IN CENTRAL VIRGINIA?

**SELECT  
SUPPRESS  
CENSOR  
BAN  
BURN  
REVISE  
READ**

October 7, 2025 - August 31, 2026

**JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY**  
History, Archives & Special Collections

On exhibit in the Reading Room  
Jones Memorial Library  
2311 Memorial Avenue  
Lynchburg, VA 24501

**Freedom to Read Foundation**  
FREE PEOPLE READ FREELY

"READ" is supported by a Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund Banned Books Week Programming Grant from The Freedom to Read Foundation. In 2025 five awardees from across the nation were selected among a competitive pool of libraries, schools and nonprofit organizations to offer innovative and engaging programming. "READ" is free and open to the public in the JML Reading Room through August.

## Next month at Jones

### The History of Censorship in Virginia

Wednesday, May 6  
5:00 p.m.  
Reading Room

Join us for a special talk by UVA Librarian and author Keith Weimer about the History of Censorship in Virginia. Learn about the hidden history of restricted ideas in the Commonwealth, from colonial restrictions to modern-day challenges.

The lecture is free and open to the public with support from the Judith F. Krug Memorial Fund and the Freedom to Read Foundation.

The poster features a light green background with a blue header for the Jones Memorial Library. The main title 'HISTORY OF CENSORSHIP IN VIRGINIA' is in large, bold, blue letters. Below it, a blue circle contains the text 'FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC'. To the right, a red circle contains the date 'WEDNESDAY MAY 6' and the time '5pm - 6pm'. At the bottom left, a red circle contains the speaker's name 'GUEST SPEAKER: KEITH WEIMER' and a bio. At the bottom right, a circular portrait of Keith Weimer is shown. The Jones Memorial Library logo and address are at the top right.

**JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY**  
History, Archives & Special Collections

# HISTORY OF CENSORSHIP IN VIRGINIA

Join us for a lecture on the hidden history of restricted ideas in the Commonwealth, from colonial restrictions to modern-day challenges.

**FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**WEDNESDAY MAY 6**  
**5pm - 6pm**

Jones Memorial Library  
2311 Memorial Avenue

**GUEST SPEAKER: KEITH WEIMER**  
*Librarian for History and Religious Studies, University of Virginia*

Keith Weimer is former Chair of the UVA General Faculty Council and past President of the Virginia Library Association. He writes about censorship in Virginia and is the Librarian for History and Religious Studies at UVA. Keith holds a B.A. in History from Allegheny College and a Masters in History and a Masters of Library and Information Sciences from the University of Pittsburgh.

## History Lecture Series Resilience, Resolve, & Rising Up: Lynchburg's Voices for Civil Rights

Wednesday, May 13  
5:00 p.m.  
Reading Room

In the final lecture of our 2025-26 series, Robert L. Canida II will share how Lynchburg's Civil Rights Movement and Movers addressed pressing issues and how the 'community' came together to speak up and demand equity and justice.

This lecture is free and open to the public.

## LYH GLAM Meet-Up

Thursday, May 14  
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.  
Amherst County Museum

Staff and volunteers at area galleries, libraries, archives, and museums are invited for a free networking event and tour with Amherst County Museum director Octavia Starbuck.

Register in advance by emailing [staff@amherstcountymuseum.org](mailto:staff@amherstcountymuseum.org)

## Non-Fiction Book Group

Wednesday, May 27  
10:30 a.m.  
Westminster Canterbury  
Hume Room

Join the Non-Fiction Book Group in May as we discuss Pulitzer Prize winner Kate Zernicke's *The Exceptions: Nancy Hopkins and the Fight for Women in Science*.

At our May meeting we will finalize our non-fiction history reads for 2026-27. See [proposed titles here](#) and come with your own suggestions!

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Freedom *Forward!*

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5/13

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026  
5:00 P.M.



Robert L. Canida II

### *Resilience Resolve and Rising Up: Lynchburg's Voices for Civil Rights*

This presentation will examine how Lynchburg's Civil Rights Movement and Movers addressed pressing issues and how the "community" came together to speak up and demand equity and justice. The "movement" served, and continues to serve, as the vehicle to challenge actions that prevent freedom for all!



*Robert L. Canida, II, Ph.D., has 30 years of experience in higher education. Currently he serves as the Chief Inclusive Excellence Officer for the University of Lynchburg. In this role, he provides leadership for the development, design and execution of the University's inclusive excellence initiatives. Dr. Canida serves on numerous Virginia boards and is a proud member of the Lynchburg Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated. He has earned degrees from Xavier University, the University of Kentucky, and North Carolina A&T State University.*

## LYNCHBURG GLAM MAY 2026



Join us for a tour and get together with  
Amherst County Museum & Historical Society  
RSVP to [staff@amherstcountymuseum.org](mailto:staff@amherstcountymuseum.org)

Thursday, May 14, 2026  
5:30 - 7:00 P.M.

Amherst County Museum  
154 South Main Street, Amherst, VA 24521

Jones Memorial Library and  
Lynchburg Public Library invite you to:

Nonfiction Book Group  
May 2026

*The Exceptions*  
by Kate Zernicke

Wednesday, May 27 at 10:30 a.m.  
@ Westminster Canterbury Hume Room



"Exceptional and interesting... Zernicke's book will inspire!"  
—BRYAN GARDNER, author of *CRACKDOWN BY CONGRESS*,  
*The New York Times Book Review*

The  
EXCEPTIONS

NANCY HOPKINS  
AND THE  
FIGHT FOR WOMEN  
IN SCIENCE

KATE ZERNICKE  
Winner of the PULITZER PRIZE

The book discussion group is free and open to the public. Sessions are co-moderated by librarians from Jones Memorial Library and the Lynchburg Public Library.

## Now Open!

### **New Catalog System with Combined Search Now Online**

In March, JML launched a new online catalog system with unified search. Previously, physical materials and digital items had to be searched separately. Now a single keyword search can find everything the library holds on a topic – manuscripts, architectural plans, maps, photos, and books, alongside items in our digital collections portal.

The new catalog also connects JML's records with the Library of Congress and other special libraries across the country, increasing discoverability for researchers everywhere. Users can access the catalog directly at [catalog.jmlibrary.org](http://catalog.jmlibrary.org) or through the search bar at [www.jmlibrary.org](http://www.jmlibrary.org)

The new catalog system was developed in partnership with [Bywater Solutions](http://BywaterSolutions.com), a leading provider of open-source library technology

## Memory & Digitization Lab now open for appointments

JML's Memory & Digitization Lab is now open for appointments. The Lab is funded with a 2025 grant from the George W. Reynolds Memorial Fund and the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation.

The Memory Lab at Jones Memorial Library is a do-it-yourself space equipped for scanning and digitizing letters and photographs. The Lab is free to use by appointment and includes equipment to convert slides, cassette recordings, and video tapes into digital format. The Lab also has equipment to record oral histories.

The Lab is housed in re-purposed office space within the library and can accommodate 1 to 4 people at a time. Users are encouraged to bring a USB drive and an SD or SDHC card to save digitized files. You can also donate a copy of your digitized materials for long-term preservation in JML's collection.

Lab equipment is available for short-term loan to community groups such as churches, service member organizations, and others. To learn more and book a free appointment, visit <https://www.jmlibrary.org/lab/>

# THE ORAL HISTORY & MEMORY LAB

Preserving Stories  
Sharing Memories



Jones Memorial Library  
2311 Memorial Avenue  
Lynchburg, Virginia

## Online @ [digital.jmlibrary.org](https://digital.jmlibrary.org)

### Collection Finding Aids

A book has a Table of Contents but a manuscript collection has a Finding Aid!

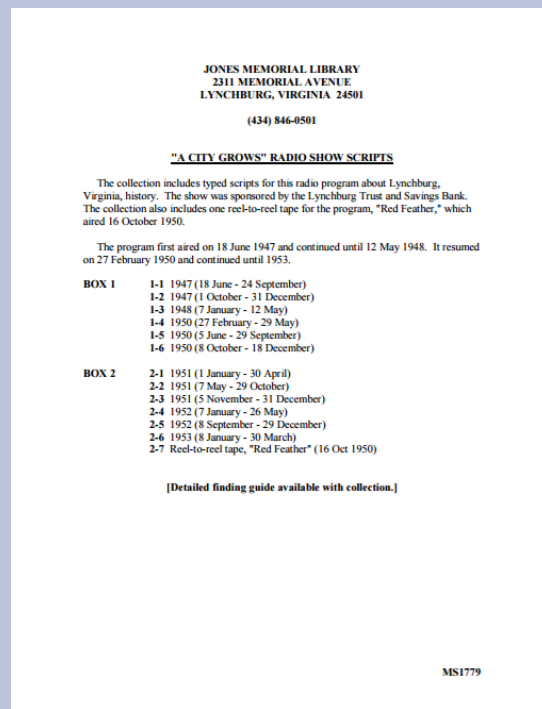
Finding Aids are guides to what is filed where. They list the contents of what is in each box or folder within a collection.

JML has more than 600 manuscript collections. Researchers can "find" our finding aids in several places:

- All Finding Aids are batch uploaded in pdf format, in alphabetical order by title, within the JML [Finding Aid Collection](#).

Finding Aids to Jones Memorial Library Manuscript Collections

- Finding Aids for manuscripts are loaded as the first document with the individual manuscript entry on the digital portal at [digital.jmlibrary.org](http://digital.jmlibrary.org)
- Finding Aids are available in print format at the Reference Desk.
- A printed copy of the Finding Aid is always filed with the physical manuscript collection.



## Facility Update

### JML Open While LPL Renovates

Jones Memorial Library is an independent genealogy and history archive. We are pleased to share a building with the Lynchburg Public Library. JML is located on the 2nd floor while LPL is on the 1st floor.

Extensive renovations are underway at LPL on the 1st floor. You can stay up to date and learn how to access public library services at [lynchburgpubliclibrary.org/](http://lynchburgpubliclibrary.org/)

**During LPL renovations, JML is open to serve researchers using our genealogy and history collections.** Our hours remain the same. Please note that limited parking is available near the library.

**MAKE A GIFT TO THE 2025-26  
ANNUAL FUND  
BEFORE JUNE 30**

### Jones Memorial Library

2311 Memorial Avenue, Lynchburg VA 24501

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