JULY 2026

JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY

History, Archives & Special Collections

This month at The Jones

Revolutionary Open House

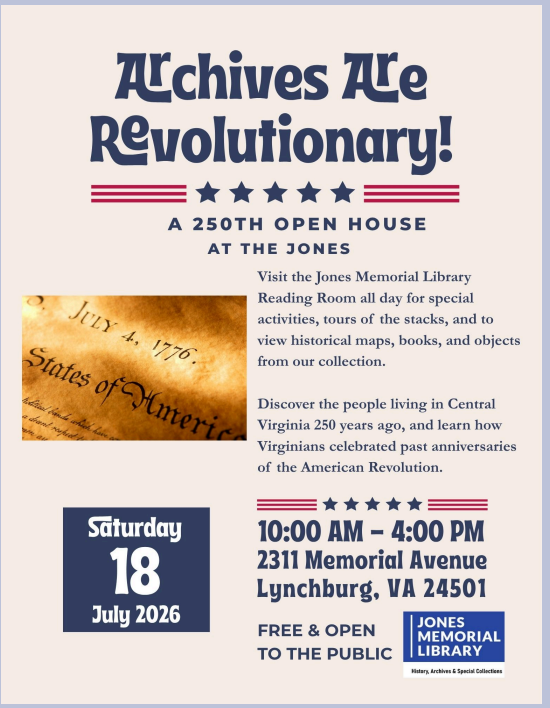
Saturday, July 18
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
The Jones Reading Room

Visit with us during our "Archives Are Revolutionary" Open House!

All day long on Saturday, July 18 we'll have special tours of the collections, a commemorative book bag raffle, plus activities and tabletop exhibits to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

Discover more about the people who lived in Central Virginia in 1776 and learn how Virginians have celebrated Revolutionary anniversaries in the past.

This event is free and open to all.



VA Tech Student Designs

On display in the Reading Room

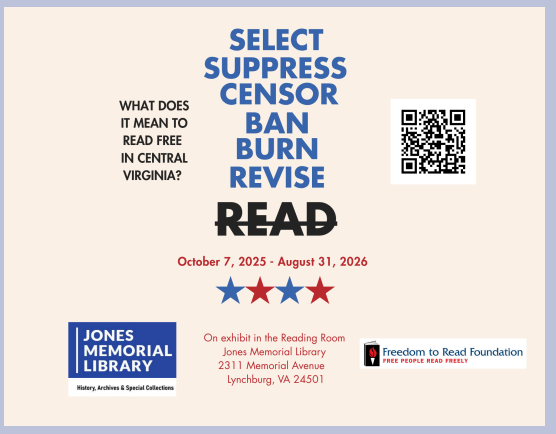
This summer, view work by the creative students in Virginia Tech's Interior Design Studio IV class.

Last year we approached Virginia Tech's interior design department about providing a practical learning opportunity for students. During the Spring semester, students studied how to design archival and reference library spaces, using The Jones Reading Room as a test case. The 14 semester-long projects represent a re-imagining of our Reading Room.

Stop by to view the student work and let us know which ideas and designs you like most!

Exhibit: ~~READ~~

Online and at The Jones



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.

"~~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 available online on our website.

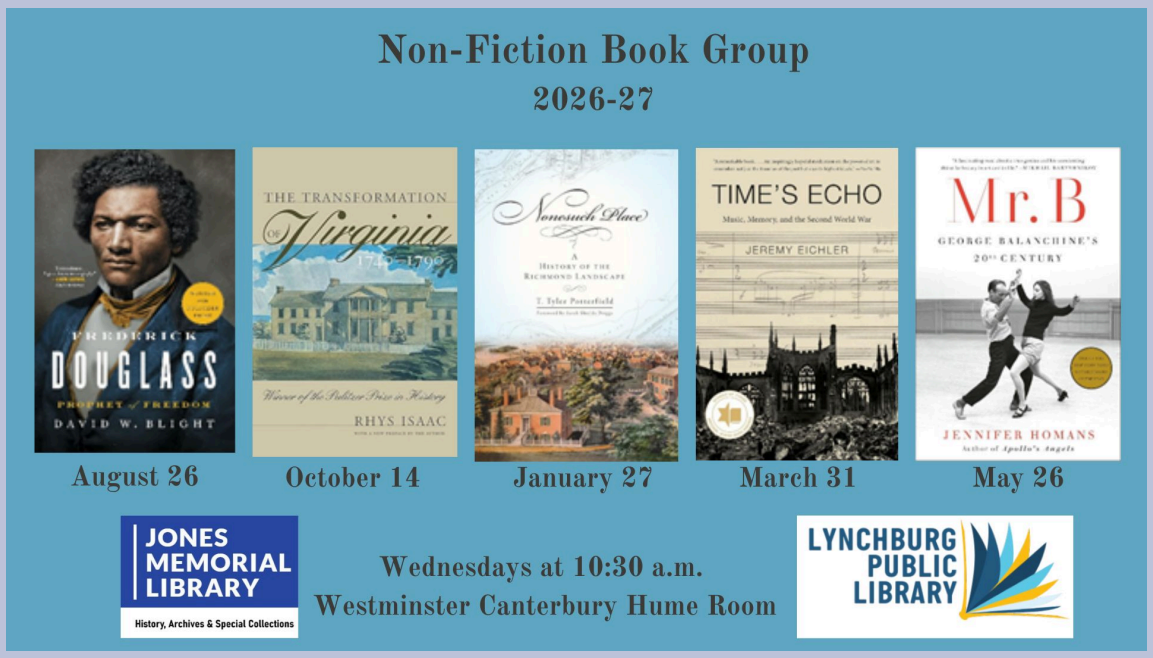
Save the Dates!

LYH GLAM Meet-Up

Thursday, September 17
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Lynchburg Police Dept. Museum

Staff and volunteers at area **G**alleries, **L**ibraries**, A**rchives, and **M**useums ('GLAM') are invited for a free networking event and tour with Katie Jennings at the Lynchburg Police Department Museum in September.

Register in advance:
kathleen.jennings@lynchburgva.gov



Non-Fiction Book Group: 2026-27

The Non-Fiction Book Group meets five times a year. Discussions are on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Hume Room at Westminster Canterbury and open to the public. Staff from The Jones and Lynchburg Public Library moderate discussions.

In 2026-27, the group will read these titles:

August 26, 2026
Frederick Douglass, Prophet of Freedom by David Blight

October 14, 2026
The Transformation of Virginia, 1740-1790 by Rhys Isaa

January 27, 2027
Nonesuch Place by T. Tyler Potterfield

March 31, 2027
Time's Echo by Jeremy Eichler

May 26, 2027
Mr. B.: George Balanchine's 20th Century by Jennifer Romans

Fall 2026 John D. Owen, Jr. Local History Lectures

Our line-up for the 2026-27 season is set! Save the dates for these upcoming talks this fall.

Can't make it to a talk? Our lectures are recorded and added to our YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/@jonesmemoriallibrarylynchb432

LECTURES FALL 2026

"LYH LONG AGO"

Jones Memorial Library
John D. Owen Jr. History Series

WEDNESDAYS @ 5:00 P.M.
2311 Memorial Avenue, Lynchburg, VA 24501
www.jmlibrary.org 434-846-0501

9/09

SEPTEMBER 09, 2026

Dianne Nash & Kim Price

Healers in Training: Virginia Baptist Hospital's First Nursing Class

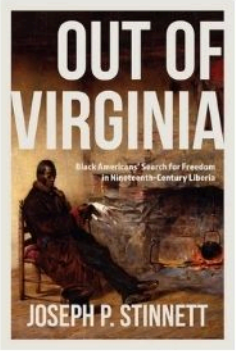
In 1927, Virginia Baptist Hospital graduated its first class of nurses—women who stepped forward to meet the medical needs of a growing community. Learn how these trailblazers were trained, what challenges they faced, and how their work shaped the future of healthcare in the Hill City.

10/14

OCTOBER 14, 2026

Joe Stinnett

Leaving America Behind: The Lynchburg Colonization Society



Emigrate—or stay and fight for freedom? In the 1820s, a group of Lynchburg residents founded a local branch of the American Colonization Society, promoting the resettlement of emancipated Black Americans to the west coast of Africa. Learn about the Lynchburg Colonization Society, the debates it ignited, and how this controversial movement reflected—and complicated—the struggle over slavery and freedom in antebellum Virginia.

11/04

NOVEMBER 04, 2026

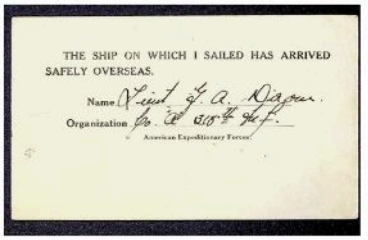
William Hansen

Lynchburg's WWI Last Man's Club

One bottle. One promise. One final survivor. During and after World War I, veterans from across the country formed "Last Man's Clubs"—groups of comrades who vowed that the last

surviving member would open a shared bottle of wine in memory of those who had fallen.

Discover the local men who made a pact in France after frontline loss, and how the club's legacy honored a generation shaped by the Great War.


THE SHIP ON WHICH I SAILED HAS ARRIVED SAFELY OVERSEAS.

Name

Organization

American Expeditionary Forces.

New Staff News

New staff @ The Jones

Isabella Kilper joined The Jones as Oral History & Reference Assistant in June.

Bella has a B.A. from Clemson University and holds a master's degree from Trinity College Dublin.

Bella has several years of experience in the cultural heritage sector, including roles with Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest, Clemson Libraries, and the Upcountry History Museum.

At the Jones, Bella will connect researchers with the library's resources and coordinate our oral history initiatives which complement and enhance our existing print collections.

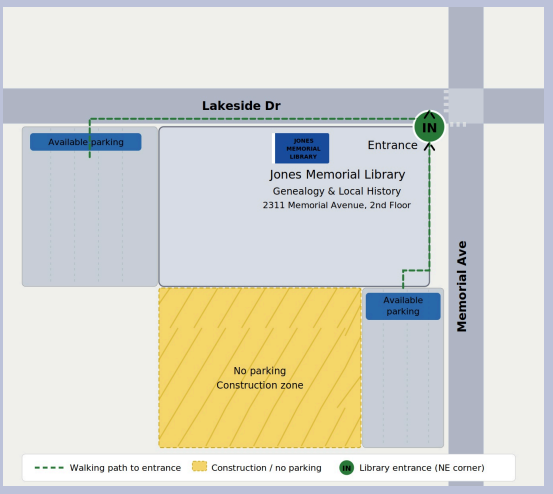
Facility Update

Where to park 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. The Jones is located on the 2nd floor while LPL is on the 1st floor.

During LPL's renovations, we are open as usual to serve researchers using our genealogy and history collections. Parking is available on both sides of the library parking lot.

To learn how to access public library services during the renovations visit



lynchburgpubliclibrary.org/

Launch the new fiscal year with a gift to the Annual Fund

Donors who make a gift between
July 1, 2026 and June 30, 2027
will be listed in our FY27 annual report

Look for our FY26 report in August

Click to make a tax-deductible donation
Thanks for your support!

Happy Birthday America!

The Jones will be closed on Saturday, July 4 for Independence Day

Jones Memorial Library

2311 Memorial Avenue, Lynchburg VA 24501

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