

**Color Me!**



**JRJML**  
J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library

# Newsletter



News about  
your local  
Library

Appomattox  
Virginia

Welcome to the  
June 2026  
newsletter from the  
Jamerson Library

Our Social Media Venues

Facebook  
Instagram  
Pinterest  
Bluesky  
YouTube

## 2026 Summer Reading Program "Unearth A Story"

The J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library welcomes you to the 2026 Summer Reading Programs "Unearth A Story"! Patrons of all ages, including adults, can enroll in this program using the Beanstack App. To register and track your progress, download the Beanstack App, available on the Apple Store or Google

Play. Search for the Jamerson Library and sign up each participant by following the instructions and answering a few simple questions on the app. If you have any difficulties logging on, come to the circulation desk with your cellphone/tablet and a friendly staff member will be happy to help you. For more detailed instructions please see page 5 of this newsletter.

Books  
Movies  
Magazines  
Programs for Everyone

Online Services  
Libby  
Kanopy  
24-Hour WiFi  
Universal Classes

[www.jrjml.org](http://www.jrjml.org)

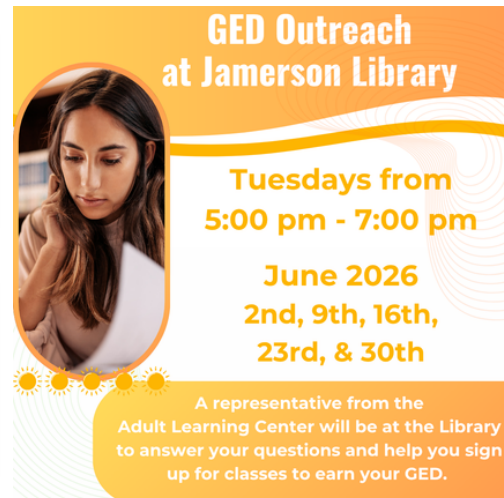


157 Main Street

# What's Happening at your local Library



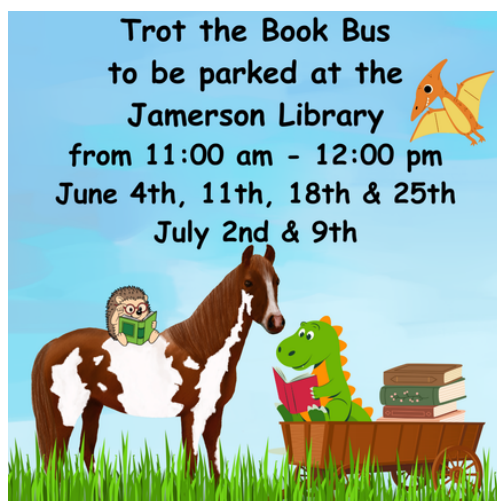
**Sun Bonnet Sue Stitchers** to meet at the Jamerson Library  
**Monday**  
**June 1st & 15th**  
 Starting at 10:00 am




**GED Outreach at Jamerson Library**  
**Tuesdays from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
**June 2026**  
**2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th**  
 A representative from the Adult Learning Center will be at the Library to answer your questions and help you sign up for classes to earn your GED.



**JAMERSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY'S Fun & Craft Day IN ABBITT PARK**  
**FREE PUBLIC EVENT!**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3RD**  
**10:30 AM - 1:30 PM**  
**BRING YOUR OWN T-SHIRT FOR TIE-DYEING!**  
 GAMES \* FAMILY FUN \* DISPLAYS \* CRAFTS \* ACTIVITIES  
**SERVICE ANIMALS WELCOME BUT NO PETS!**



**Trot the Book Bus to be parked at the Jamerson Library**  
**from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm**  
**June 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th**  
**July 2nd & 9th**



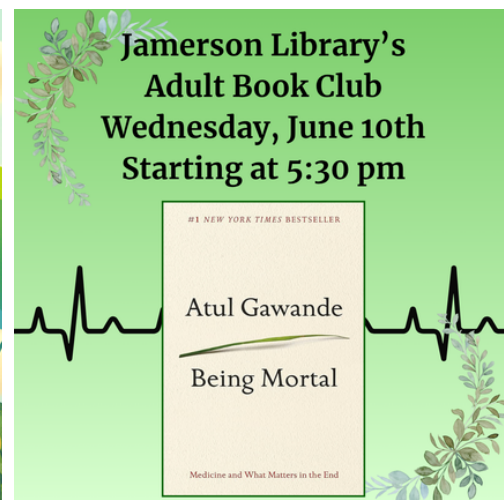
**Jamerson Library's Creative Class for Adults**  
**Saturday, June 6th @ 10:00 am**



**Appomattox Court House Quilt Guild** to meet at the Jamerson Library  
**Tuesday, June 9th**  
**Starting at 5:30 pm**



**Minicamelot's Emotional Support Horses (MESH) to host the Jamerson Memorial Library's Family Storytime**  
**Wednesday, June 10th**  
**Starting at 11:00 AM**  
 Pre-register for the event at: <https://www.jrjml.org/kids-program-registration/>



**Jamerson Library's Adult Book Club**  
**Wednesday, June 10th**  
**Starting at 5:30 pm**  
 Atul Gawande  
**Being Mortal**  
 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER  
 Medicine and What Matters in the End



**Jamerson Library Presents Tampa Taiko!**  
**Friday, June 12th**  
**1:00 pm in Abbitt Park**  
**For all ages!**  
**History of Taiko Music of Japan**  
**Drum Performance**  
**Drum Making**



The data behind this transformation is compelling. According to the Public Library Association's (2023) Services for Strong Communities survey, nearly all public libraries—99%—offer Summer Reading programs for children, teens, and adults to support learning outside of school. Libraries are also providing GED and diploma support, English language learning services, and growing workforce development programs to help job seekers in their communities (Public Library Association, 2023). These are not the offerings of a quiet book repository. These are the offerings of an institution committed to lifelong learning for every patron, at every stage of life.

Technology access and digital equity have also become central to the modern library's mission. According to the Public Library Association's (2024) 2023 Technology Survey, 95.3% of public libraries offer some form of digital literacy training, nearly half offer hotspots for checkout—a 14.4% increase since 2020—and almost 30% now offer dedicated digital navigator programs to assist patrons in building technology skills (Public Library Association, 2024). For many residents of rural communities like ours, the library is not simply a convenience—it is the primary gateway to the digital world. Researchers have observed a fundamental redefinition of what libraries are: they are no longer temples of culture, but complex hubs and spaces for engagement, promoting sustainable development, social enrichment, and wellbeing (Bertot, 2018).

Inclusion is not an afterthought at the modern public library—it is the foundation. Libraries in 2024 increasingly embraced “universal design” principles, creating environments that are usable and welcoming to all people—renovating spaces for physical accessibility, building sensory-friendly areas, and enhancing digital platforms to accommodate assistive technologies (Rose, 2024). The goal is simple and profound: every person who walks through the door should feel that the library belongs to them.

As one library advocate put it, “an iPhone will not replace the neighborhood or downtown library. Google and Wikipedia won't render direct, personal contact with librarians obsolete. The public library is not going to go

behind a pay wall, it won't require you to foot a monthly bill, and it's never going to make anyone feel unwelcome” (Kent, 2014). That promise is one the Jamerson Memorial Library has kept for nearly ninety years—and one we renew every single day.

The era of the shushing librarian has given way to something far more meaningful. The staff of the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library are here to engage, encourage, and empower—in a safe and welcoming environment where curiosity is celebrated, potential is limitless, and every member of our community has a place. Public libraries support lifelong learning by offering a wide range of programs for people of all ages, from story time for toddlers to computer classes for seniors (Institute of Museum and Library Services, as cited in American Academy of Arts and Sciences, n.d.). From our earliest days as a bookmobile rolling through Appomattox County to our place today on Main Street, that has always been—and will always be—our purpose.

We invite you to come make some noise with us.

*\*References for article upon request\**

## Find us on Social Media

Facebook  
 @J Robert Jameson MemorialLibrary

Instagram  
 @Jamerson Memorial Library

Bluesky  
 @jamersonlibrary.bsky.social

YouTube  
 @jamersonlibrary3856

Pinterest  
 @JamersonLibrary

# Director's Spotlight



Cindy Scheu, Library Director  
J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library

## The J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library: A Vibrant Hub for Every Generation

The J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library has traveled a remarkable distance from its humble origins. What began in 1936 as a bookmobile serving the residents of Appomattox County grew into a physical public library in 1940, and by 1992 had found a permanent home on Main Street—along with a fitting new name: the J. Robert Jamerson Memorial Library. That journey of nearly nine decades mirrors a transformation playing out in libraries across the country, as these beloved institutions reinvent themselves not merely as places to borrow books, but as the beating heart of the communities they serve.

In the decades since moving to Main Street, the Library has embraced a broader and more dynamic mission. The role of the public library has shifted fundamentally—from a quiet repository of books to what novelist Russell Banks described as the very foundation of civic life: “Public libraries are the sole community centers left in America. The degree to which a branch of the local library is connected to the larger culture is a reflection of the degree to which the community itself is connected to the larger culture” (Banks, n.d.). The Jamerson Memorial Library has answered that call, standing today as an active center for learning, collaboration, technology access, and community connection—providing free and equal access to entertainment, education, and information for patrons of all ages.

The sounds within our walls have changed considerably over the years—and that is something to

celebrate. As one library director noted, the library has shifted “from a quiet space for books to a noisy space for people,” adding plainly, “the library is a place for people” (Russell, 2024). In a time of widespread loneliness, the low hum of people connecting, laughing, and working together is a precious thing (Book Riot, 2025). Comedian Paula Poundstone may have said it best: “The truth is libraries are raucous clubhouses for free speech, controversy and community” (as cited in Book Riot, 2018).

That vibrant noise reflects something deeper: a community that is engaged, connected, and growing together. Across the nation, researchers and sociologists have identified the public library as an essential “third place”—a space outside of home and work where people can gather freely and build genuine human connection. In many communities, the library is the last social safety net, providing everything from internet access to community resources to a simple, welcoming place to belong. The Pew Research Center found that 94% of respondents considered their library to be welcoming and friendly (Marquez, 2024). Third places offer opportunities for interaction and connection within the community, (fostering a sense of belonging, security, and comfort—and helping to counteract the growing feelings of isolation that affect so many Americans today (EveryLibrary Action, 2025).

Modern libraries have evolved far beyond traditional book lending. As The Guardian observed in 2024, where else can you find craft workshops, coding and chess clubs alongside reading challenges and author events—all for free? Libraries can be a lifeline not just for book lovers, but for anyone who needs internet access, a warm space, or simply a sense of community (as cited in PressReader Blog, 2024). The Jamerson Library reflects this spirit fully, offering updated computers, streaming services, e-books and audiobooks, Summer Reading programs, educational events, special checkouts, and a wide array of interactive programs—all at no cost to our patrons.

# J Robert Jamerson Memorial Library

Jamerson Memorial Library  
to host a live streaming of  
**TED DEMOCRACY PHILADELPHIA**  
**Founding Futures**  
Saturday, June 13th  
Starting at 11:00 am

Jamerson Memorial Library  
to host  
**ACG Hospice**  
Life Planning & Hospice Care  
Interactive Seminar  
Wednesday, June 17th  
Starting at 10:30 am  
157 Main Street  
Appomattox, VA

Jamerson Memorial Library  
to be a guest vendor at  
Appomattox for Equality's  
**JuneTeenth!**  
Celebration  
Honoring the Past - Celebrating the Present  
Building the Future  
Friday, June 19th  
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
Carver Price Cultural Center  
106 Patricia Ann Lane

In observation of  
**JuneTeenth!**  
the  
Jamerson Memorial Library  
will be closed on  
Friday, June 19th  
Our book depository, located at the  
back of the building, will be open.

**Library Hours**  
Mon & Fri  
9:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Tue, Wed & Thu  
9:30 am - 8:00 pm  
Sat  
9:30 am - 1:00 pm

JAMERSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
will be at the  
James River State Park's  
Batteaux & Banjo Festival  
104 Green Hill Drive  
Gladstone, VA 24553  
Saturday, June 20th  
10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Find us at the visitor's center!  
Games  
Library Outreach  
Photo Booth  
Crafts  
Displays  
TIME TO EXPLORE!

**JAMERSON LIBRARY**  
Summer Blockbuster  
Movie Night  
Thursday  
June 25th  
6:00 pm

Jamerson Library  
Presents  
**Rodney's Raptors  
in Abbitt Park**  
Friday, June 26th  
1:00 pm

**Library Contact Info**  
Phone  
434 352 5340  
Fax  
434 352 0933  
Email  
Info@jrjml.org



2026 Summer Reading

## Jamerson Memorial Library



Programs are from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

### **Week 1: Dino-mite Paleontology (June 1st – 6th)**

Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> – Dinosaur Documentary

Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Dino Track Fossil Necklace & Adopt-a-Dino!

Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup> – Interactive Fossil Book & Fossil Fest

### **Week 2: Rawr-some Science (June 7th – 13th)**

Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> – Dinosaur Sun Catchers & Dino Discovery Eggs

Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> – Dinosaur Documentary

Thursday, June 11<sup>th</sup> – Quick Egg Carton Geodes & Erupting Volcano

### **Week 3: Tricera-tastic Geography (June 14th – 20th)**

Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> – Dinosaur Dioramas & Dino Scramble

Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> – Dinosaur Documentary

Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> – Dino Masks & Jurassic Discovery Tour

### **Week 4: Ptero-fyingly Archaeology (June 21st – 27th)**

Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Create Your Own Petroglyphs & Dino Excavation

Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> – Dinosaur Documentary

Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> – Write Like an Egyptian & Gemstone Dig

### **Week 5: Prehysterically Art (July 5th – 11th)**

Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup> – Dinosaur Sunset Silhouette Art & Dino Impressions

Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup> – Dinosaur Pointillism Art & Build a LEGO Dino

### **Week 6: Fossil-ize Literature (July 12th – 18th)**

Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> – Dino-rrific Bookmarks & Dino Perler Beads

Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup> – Dinosaur Gardens & Dino Stomp

### **Week 7: Bone-appetite Mathematics (July 19th – 25th)**

Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> – Tangram Dinosaurs & Dig for Treasure

Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> – Dinosaur Dirt Cups & Hot Dinosaur Egg

**2026 Summer Reading**

## Jamerson Memorial Library

**Steps to Create an Account through Beanstack on the Computer**

- Go to [www.jrjml.org](http://www.jrjml.org) and click on the Beanstack tab.
- Scroll down and click on "Register an Individual or Family". If you haven't used Beanstack previously, select "no".
- 18+, click the "register yourself" button.
- Follow the prompts to create your Beanstack account.
- Once you create your account, select the challenges you want to participate in.
- If you don't want to add another adult, select "no," if you're done with your account.
- If you're a parent or guardian wanting to add a child, select "yes."
- Follow the prompts to register your child.
- You can add more readers under your account by clicking "add reader."

**Steps to Log in Minutes and Books through Beanstack on the Computer**

- Select the challenge(s) you want to log in minutes and books.
- Click the "log reading" button.
- Search for the book by title or author.
- Select the book once it has been found.
- Type in how long you spent reading the book. \*
- Remember to switch between readers to log in minutes.

**\*\*Reading counts if you're reading for yourself, to someone else, your stuffed animals, or even plants! \*\***

**If you have any questions, come to library and a staff member will be happy to help you! A video will be available on Facebook to show how to sign up for Beanstack.**