



# The Knowledge Point

Shenandoah University Historical and Tourism Center

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **In Celebration of Women's History Month, The Knowledge Point™ Presents Three Lectures, Two with Corresponding Exhibits**

Winchester, VA (Feb. 16, 2004) – In honor of Women's History Month, Shenandoah University Historical and Tourism Center (The Knowledge Point™) is pleased to present three lectures and two related exhibits in the month of March. All events are free and open to the public.

The first lecture, "Jazz-Age Nudes by Women Sculptors," on March 16, features Dr. Theresa Leininger-Miller, associate professor and director of graduate studies at the University of Cincinnati's College of Architecture, Art and Planning. Her talk will be complimented by a photographic exhibit, "Selective Sculptures by Nancy Elizabeth Prophet and Augusta Savage," featuring images of the artists and some of their work. The lecture begins at 7:30 p.m and will be held at The Knowledge Point™, located in historic downtown Winchester. The exhibit is open to the public March 16-31, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

The second lecture, "Murder, She Wrote: The Mysterious History of Virginia Women," will be held on March 18, also at The Knowledge Point™, and features Dr. Suzanne Lebsock, Board of Governors Professor of History and an Affiliate, Women and Gender Studies, Rutgers University. Lebsock's lecture, co-sponsored by the Women's Studies program at Shenandoah University, is based on her critically acclaimed book, "*A Murder in Virginia.*" Her lecture will focus on this specific mystery but also the process of recovering the stories of woman from the past. The lecture will be accompanied by the exhibit, "Eleven Women of the Shenandoah Valley," which will feature the stories of eleven diverse women of the Shenandoah Valley, each offering a new perspective on our regional history. The Opening Reception is

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from 5-7 p.m. followed by the lecture at 7:30 p.m. The exhibit is open to the public March 18-April 30, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

The third lecture celebrating Women's History Month is "Willa Cather and World War I" on March 24. It will be held at a special location in the auditorium of the Handley Regional Library in downtown Winchester at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Steven Trout, associate professor of English, Fort Hays State University, will lecture on the intersection between Cather's 1922 novel, *One of Ours*, which was inspired by a lost American soldier, and the commemorative iconography contained in World War I monuments and histories. The event is sponsored by the Willa Cather Institute along with Friends of the Handley Regional Library.

The evening before the Willa Cather annual lecture, Dr. Trout will also be the guest speaker at The Willa Cather Institute's Annual Dinner and Presentation on March 23, beginning at 6 p.m. This event will be held at The Knowledge Point™ and Trout will speak about "Seeing the Rattlesnake in Willa Cather's *My Antonia*." For further information, please contact Shenandoah University at (540) 665-4512.

"We are so pleased to have such a diverse variety of lecturers and topics to celebrate Women's History Month," said Patricia Zontine, center development coordinator of The Knowledge Point™. "Women have a huge role in our nation's history and, oftentimes, they have taken a back seat to the more prominent male figures. Here at The Knowledge Point™, we are dedicated to featuring all facets of history. We also hope the added attraction of the two exhibits will encourage more enthusiasts to stop by."

The Knowledge Point™ is located at 20 South Cameron Street. For more information, contact The Knowledge Point™ at (540) 535-3543 or [www.TheKnowledgePoint.org](http://www.TheKnowledgePoint.org).

The Knowledge Point™ is a focal point for partnership, cooperation and knowledge, where the community and tourism industry can come together to communicate the Valley's unique heritage, history and culture. It utilizes all university resources as a means to help stimulate the community's economic growth through tourism. The Knowledge Point strives to become the best academic resource and authority for historical research, heritage tourism development, and interpretive programming support in the Northern Shenandoah Valley.

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Shenandoah University is a comprehensive Level VI university with an enrollment of approximately 2,500 students in six schools: College of Arts & Sciences, Harry F. Byrd Jr. School of Business, Shenandoah Conservatory, School of Health Professions, Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy and the School for Continuing Education. The university offers more than 80 programs of study at the undergraduate, graduate and professional levels. For further information, contact the Office of Public Relations at 540-665-4510 or visit our Web site at [www.su.edu](http://www.su.edu).

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