

March 2019 Director's Report to the Library Board

Submitted April 16, 2019

The first program of a Little Noon Music at Bowman Library featured a performance by Rain Crow, a Classic Rock Band from West Virginia



HIGHLIGHTS FROM LIBRARY DEPARTMENTS

Friends of Handley Regional Library, Barbara Dickinson

At least 90 people attended the first ever Little Noon Music at Bowman Library to listen to classic Rock n Roll music performed by Rain Crow's band members: Bill Harris, bass; George Constanz, drums, Jim Morris, lead guitar and vocal; Steve Bailes, rhythm guitar.

The Friends of Handley Regional Library System held their Spring Book Sale at Bowman Library and each day saw crowds of patrons taking advantage of the amazing selections and prices, bringing the total attendance to over 1300. We want to thank the many, many hard-working, dedicated volunteers who are invaluable to making the sale a success!

Youth Services Department Head, Donna Hughes



Handley, Bowman and Clarke County libraries embraced many different cultures through spring celebrations. Bowman and Handley branches hosted the Armstrong Irish Dance Academy to demonstrate Irish Step Dancing in celebration of St. Patrick's Day, over 200 attended!

The Indian Holi Festival of Colors celebrating the victory of good over evil along with the passing of winter and the arrival of spring was held featuring traditional stories, music, and crafts along with cultural refreshments. Pancake Day was part of Storytime at Bowman to usher in spring in the Russian tradition.

Circulation Services Department Head & Outreach Coordinator, Mary Anton

The new LaunchPads have arrived! They are educational and game programs that don't benefit of ensuring that unwanted programs

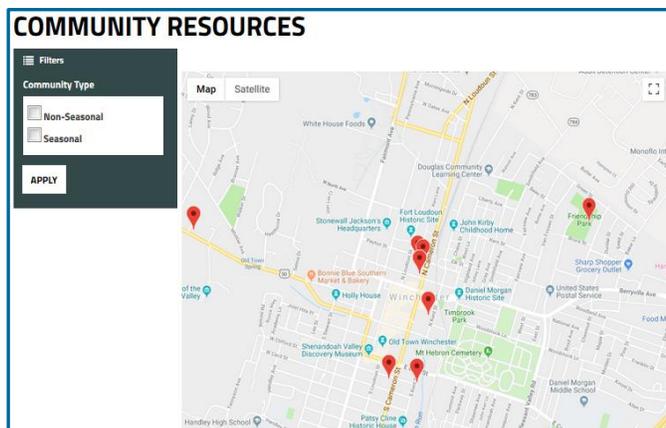


preloaded electronic tablets with require the internet, having the added are not accessible by children.

Adult Services Department Head, Adrienne Davis

Two new features have been added to the 'Adult' department page to help staff connect patrons with important tools and resources. First, the **"News"** blog section will increase awareness by highlighting major upcoming programs and spotlighting services and collections. A current blog post, "Finding Your Next Great Read" by Handley Reference Associate Todd Strader, focuses on our Reader's Advisory services. In April, Bowman Reference Associate Mandy Foote will post "Ways Your Library Can Help You Learn a Language". The address **"handleyregional.org/adults"** will be used throughout the Adult Services Division's promotional materials to make it easier for adult patrons to find the programs and services for them and connect with staff members.

The second feature furthers the Library's **Community Referral Service Response**. Our goal is to address our patrons' need for information related to services provided by community agencies and organizations. On the **"Community Resources"** page, staff members and patrons can easily find area services and the locations with an embedded map and website links.



Public Relations & Technology Coordinator, Matt Swain

The Handley Library Regional System Spring Used Book Sale, the performance of the Rain Crow Rock Band, a program on African American Heritage, Video Games and Top 5 Things to Do This Weekend were all featured in the March Winchester Star. A full page color spread advertising our adult programs such as Little Noon Music and Film Talks appeared in the Winchester Star as well. Our social media audience continues to grow as we share photos and information of our many programs and featured materials; an example was the almost 1,000 views of our video highlighting LaunchPad tablets!

Matt attended a three-day Computers in Library Conference in Alexandria. A big takeaway was how other libraries are creating their own in-house videos for use in their marketing of new products and programs.

Handley Library Operations & Business Manager, Ann White

We encourage the community to drop in and see our many new changes to the library, from new seating for patrons to the many dvds, audio books, fiction and non-fiction books for children, youth and adults. Outdoor lighting has been upgraded to improve evening visits to the library, and a ramp alongside the building provides wheelchair accessibility. We would also like to remind our patrons visiting Handley Library that free parking throughout the neighborhood in designated areas is available at any time.

Bowman Library Operations and Technical Services Manager, Kim Bean



Colorful, durable, and roomy tote bags with our brand new logo have arrived at each of the three branches. The totes are available at the circulation desks for \$8.00 each.

Clarke County Library Branch Manager, Laurine Kennedy

Our Trivia Night had 65 attendants and continues to be very popular! The program is once a month and will continue to be offered throughout the year, except for the summer months. In March Clarke Co. had its first in a series of adult programs called Community Conversations. Are you interested in sharing your thoughts and ideas about issues facing our community and country? Our goal is to have a frank conversation, led by a trained moderator, to foster communication between diverse viewpoints.

Thank you to our many Community Partners:

- Armstrong Irish Dance Academy
- Barefoot Puppets, Heidi Rugg
- Barns of Rose Hill
- Blue Ridge Dog Training Club, Alice Seabright
- Blue Ridge Wildlife Center
- Community Music School of the Piedmont
- Discovery Preschool
- Four-Color Fantasies
- Frederick County Education Association
- Fremont Street Nursery
- Friends of Handley Regional Library
- Grace Lutheran Preschool
- Great Big Faces, Paul Merklein
- Impressions Theater, Chris Markham
- JustBirth, Gretchen Smith
- Kid Pan Alley, Donna Burkweitz
- La Leche League, Natasha Ossinova
- Master Gardeners from the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service
- One-Man Band, Peter McCory
- Pint-Size Polkas, Mike Schneider
- Rock Room of Winchester, Kimmon Waldruff
- Sacred Heart Academy
- Shenandoah University, Karen Huff
- Shenandoah Valley Chess Club, David Hubbard
- Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum
- Southern Academy of Irish Dance
- Spanish Oak Rabbitry, Lynn Miller
- Spring Arbor of Winchester
- Stephens City Chess Club, John & Matthew Clark
- Tampa Taiko Drums, Ron Collins
- Valley Makers Association
- Virginia Commission of the Arts
- Virginia Cooperative Extension
- Wildlife Ambassadors, Becky Shore
- Winchester City Sheriff's Office

Locations of Staff Outreach Programs in the Community:

Museum of Shenandoah Valley
Shenandoah University
Shenandoah Valley Westminster-Canterbury
Indian Hollow Elementary