

***September 2019 Director's Report to the Library Board***  
***Submitted October 15, 2019***



***September Library Card Sign Up Celebrations  
began with a ribbon-cutting by Stephens City Mayor Michael Diaz  
along with Chamber CEO Cynthia Schneider, Director John Huddy, library managers and staff***

***HIGHLIGHTS FROM LIBRARY DEPARTMENTS***

***Monthly Highlights***

On September 17, a ribbon-cutting was held by the Top of Virginia Regional Chamber “in recognition and celebration of Library Card Sign Up Month and re-dedication of the Bowman Library.” The mayor of Stephens City, Mike Diaz, cut the ribbon after a few words about the occasion were given by John Huddy, Library Director and Cynthia Schneider, CEO of the Chamber. Several representatives of the Chamber and staff members of HRL attended the event. After the ribbon-cutting, Kim Bean gave a tour of the Bowman Library for Mike Diaz. The week before John met with Mayor Smith to do a similar press event at Handley!

John and Ann continued leadership training by attending Leadership Leverage: The 5 Keys to Building a Leadership Culture” – by Dr. Dave Miles.

***Bowman Library Operations and Technical Services Manager, Kim Bean***

The Library-wide RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) project began to get underway. Tagging the Bowman Collection is expected to take about three weeks, and then the team will move on to the Handley Library.

***Public Relations & Technology Coordinator, Matt Swain***

The main focus in September was the Library Card Sign-up where the Public Relations department had several key accomplishments:

- 113 programs were listed in the local papers along with 6 featured articles/interviews in the Winchester Star and Podcasts for Winchester City and Frederick County
- We had a full page in the Winchester Star thanks to our sponsor Tech Team Solutions and a free full page ad in the Top of VA Regional Chamber of Commerce Monthly Newspaper insert in the Star
- Winchester City filmed their online news show, PubliCITY, at Handley Library and took a tour by Ann White and Barry Lee from radio station WINC FM.

***Circulation Services Department Head & Outreach Coordinator, Mary Anton***

RFID was at the forefront in September as planning sessions continued with Envisionware and Tech Logic. We also shipped Tech Logic 100 items from collections at all three locations to use in testing our Automated Materials Handler scheduled to be installed the week of October 27.



The RFID tagging coordinator arrived on site at Bowman Library in mid-September. He interviewed and hired local workers to begin tagging in October. These taggers will work for approximately eight to nine weeks with completion expected the week before Thanksgiving. Training of those tagging teams and some library staff is scheduled for October 1 and 2.

### ***Adult Services Department Head, Adrienne Davis***



We had record attendance for Adult Services' programs - almost **300** in September! That includes 90 patrons at our "Later in the Library" ASRP Finale, over 60 Sherando High School students at our "Online Research Tools" demos, and a Bowman Reading Porch filled during our Tech Tuesday's series with 17 attending "Windows 10" and 33 attending "All Things Android".



During Deaf Awareness Week, 19 patrons learned basic sign language with Donna Day from Access Independence during our "10 Signs Everyone Should Know" workshop.

Handley Reference Assistant Amelia Ritzenthaler facilitated an eBook Workshop at Shenandoah Valley Westminster Canterbury retirement community. This was the first in a series of workshops offered in partnership with the SVWC. She guided 13 new Libby app users through the process of browsing, borrowing and reading library eBooks.

Bowman Reference Associate Mandy Foote facilitated the first session of Conversation Partners at Bowman Library. These monthly meetings give patrons an opportunity to practice conversations in a second (or third) language with fluent speakers. The first seven patrons to join the group also received a demo of the Mango Languages app and a tour of the Library's other language learning tools such as DVDs and audiobooks.

### ***Youth Services Department Head, Donna Hughes***

Handley Library hosted an Extracurricular Activities Fair with the purpose of having local organizations share information about their programs for children and youth. Twelve outside organizations gathered at this year so that families could browse local after-school options. Kids, tweens, and teens were invited to try out what each organization had to offer from piano lessons to taekwondo.



The Fall graduation of participants in the Handley Regional Library system 1000 Books before Kindergarten was held on September 21 at Bowman Library. Another class of 29 preschoolers graduated in this fifth year of the program.

### ***Handley Library Operations & Business Manager, Ann White***

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, Ann White escorted Barry Lee, on a sneak peek tour of Handley Library. The purpose of the video was to create a teaser for the history and architecture tours that are offered by volunteer tour guides twice a month. During the video we were sure to include information on new and exciting programs and offerings available at the library. To view the video visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C3-BSOK0Mo>



All four of the decorative light poles on the grounds of Handley Library were repaired and painted during the month of September. The marketing department will be working on designing banners on the two prominent street side light poles.

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Ms. White attended the chamber's lunch and learn Peer to Peer Leadership training titled "Leadership Leverage: the 5 keys to building a leadership culture" led by Dr. David A. Miles. In short, the five keys are: Define, Teach, Practice, Measure, and Model.

### ***Friends of Handley Regional Library, Director Barbara Dickinson***

The month was busy with preparing for the upcoming book sale in October. The programs for the month included the Arts and Music Festival, “1455 A Place for Writers” Authors Series, and talk on “Private Confederacies: The Emotional Worlds of Southern Men as Citizens and Soldiers” by author James J. Broomall. The community also enjoyed the program on “Conservation in Your Watershed & In Your Backyard”. All 54 seats were reserved for the Friends Genealogy Bus Trip to Washington D.C. to research local and family histories.



### ***Clarke County Library Branch Manager, Laurine Kennedy***

In September Ms. Kennedy attended the Clarke County Farmers Market and spoke with many attending the event and shared information on obtaining library cards. The library had very successful outreach events for two Berryville schools which introduced students and teachers to our materials and programs. In just one month Clarke County Library had 101 attending programs; a favorite was the children’s program “Pet Rock Adoptions”.

### ***Archives Librarian, Becky Ebert***



Archives volunteers have been busy as usual; a sampling of their projects are: processing oral histories, indexing the Frederick County Edition published by Winchester Star, repairing rare books, updating Frederick County Deed indexes making particular note of historical references to free blacks and slaves, and transcribing family Bible records.

Pictured is Ms. Ebert (left) meeting with Craig Cobb and his family as they donated a personal account of the Battle of Cedar Creek written by Mr. Cobb's ancestor, B. F. [Benjamin Franklin] Cobb who served with C Company of the 10<sup>th</sup> Georgia Regiment. This record is now part of the Civil War Collection in the Archives.

### ***Community Partnerships:***

- Armstrong Irish Dance Academy
- Blue Ridge Dog Training Club, Alice Seabright
- Blue Ridge Youth Soccer Association
- Four Color Fantasies
- Girls on the Run
- Head Start, Shannon Triplett
- Italia Performing Arts
- June Smalls, Local Author
- JustBirth, Getchen Smith
- Kids First Swim School
- La Leche League of Winchester
- Museum of the Shenandoah Valley
- Shenandoah Valley Chess Club, David Hubbard
- Sherando High School Special Educations, Wilma Jennings
- Soccer Shots
- Spanish Oak Rabbitry, Lynn Miller
- Stephens City Chess Club, John & Matthew Clark
- Super Splasher Aquatics
- Tinkergarten
- USTMA Taekwondo
- Virginia Cooperative Extension
- Vostrikov’s Ballet Academy
- Winchester City Sheriff’s Office
- Winchester Parks and Recreation

### *Locations of Outreach Programs in the Community:*

- Alamo Theatre
- Boyce Elementary School
- Bright Futures Open House
- Johnson Williams Middle School
- Quarles Elementary School
- Sherando High School
- Westminster Canterbury