

November - December Director's Report to the Library Board
Submitted January 21, 2020

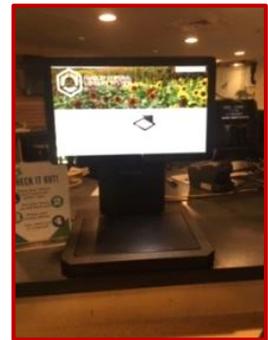


*Could that be Elsa and Anna from Arendelle visiting Handley Library? Over **600 patrons** of all ages came to the Frozen Celebration to sing songs and listen to readings of this popular story.*

HIGHLIGHTS FROM LIBRARY DEPARTMENTS

RFID installed!

November and December were focused on installation, implementation and training for our new RFID system. The new equipment was installed at both Bowman and Handley the week of November 18. Working through the changes and training were completed that week, and patrons were able to use the new services immediately. Patrons are quite amazed that after a small stack of books is set on the base under the monitor every item is instantly identified and listed on the screen. A receipt can be printed at that time, or sent to the patron's email for their convenience!



Circulation Services Department Head & Outreach Coordinator, Mary Anton

A further addition to our new streamlined check-out system has been installed near the Circulation Desks of all three libraries: hold shelves that allow patrons to pick up the items they requested online. This system has improved workflow as items can be picked up and self-checked out by patrons at one time without having to wait for assistance.

Bowman Library Operations and Technical Services Manager, Kim Bean

• The library's program of sharing informative and entertaining literature continued with Ms. Bean delivering 275 paperback books to the Northwestern Regional Adult Detention Center and Matt Swain joined her in presenting 60 books to the Winchester's Child Safe Center. • On December 11th Kim and Matt were interviewed by the Winchester Star about Handley Regional Library's RFID project and materials sorter at Bowman Library and the front-page story was published in the Star on Saturday, December 14th.

Youth Services Department Head, Donna Hughes

• In November Bowman Library celebrated the culture and rich heritage of El Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) with stories, music, and sampling of food and art exploration. • December: Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen! Katie Moss served as the holly jolly storytime reader at the bilingual Healthy Families of the Northern Shenandoah Valley's Holiday Celebration on December 13th where she read "Twas the Night Before Christmas" to families. Library services and programs were also highlighted at this outreach event. • Donna Hughes read stories at Chick Fil-A as part of their Ugly Sweater Event on December 10th. • A second Toddler Time was added to the upcoming Winter-Spring program season due to increased attendance which averaged 50 at each program.

Public Relations & Technology Coordinator, Matt Swain

•It was a busy two months as we had two published articles in the Winchester Star and the Northern VA Daily. These were very helpful in educating the public on the new RFID system installations at the libraries. A full-page holiday ad for programs and events was published thanks to the sponsor Tech Team Solutions with another ad in the Old Town Paper. • Matt and Cheryl Nakagawa attended the Shenandoah University reveal of the promotional videos the students created for us. We will be releasing the video in the near future with a press release. • Our podcasts continue to be very successful, the most recent being an interview with Donna Hughes with a youth services update and will be next interviewing the Friends and Archives Departments in January and February.

Adult Services Department Head, Adrienne Davis

• The Adult Services Division is partnering with NW Works to provide a new “Job Help” service for job seeking patrons. The service includes bi-weekly one-on-one assistance with completing job applications and monthly instructional workshops. Associate Todd Strader, who is coordinating the service with NW Works, shared this recent success story: “NW Works staff members have consistently met with at least two patrons each visit. Yesterday, I had a gentleman at the Handley Information Desk report he was making a follow-up visit. NW Works found him a position and he is now getting continuing support as he begins his new job.”

• *Traveling Exhibit from Library of Virginia:* Representatives from the Library of Virginia delivered and installed the Teetotalers & Moonshiners exhibition on December 9 in the Bowman Library lobby area. Associate Mandy Foote wrote a corresponding article “New Exhibit on Prohibition at Bowman Library” for the Adult Service blog that also highlighted a corresponding Archives Department display at Handley.



Friends of Handley Regional Library, Director Barbara Dickinson

• The Friends of Handley Regional Library were happy to thank all library staff for their yearlong work with a catered luncheon delivered to all 3 branches on December 16th. • Holiday Music program favorites were provided by local talents Maddie MacNeil and The Apple Valley. • The author series 1455 – A Place for Writers continued into its 2nd year with cook book author John Segal and local author Norman Fine’s talk highlighting his book Blind Bombing.

Handley Library Operations & Business Manager, Ann White

• Once again, Handley Library was a performance site for the First Night Winchester activities. Just over 300 New Year’s revelers were able to enjoy six performances held throughout the evening. This year’s performers were Robbie Limon and MLO Fusion. • **Wireless / Remote printing:** The long awaited wireless / remote print release (EFI PrintMe) stations were installed in early November at both the Handley and Bowman Library locations. The M600 station provides an easy way for users to access files, print, copy, or scan and pay in a completely self-serve environment. Files can be accessed from their USB drives, mobile devices or popular cloud storage accounts such as Dropbox, Box and Google Drive, right from the large 10" color touch screen with intuitive user interface.

Archives Librarian, Becky Ebert

Joan Wood hosted two programs on FamilySearch. Company representative Manuel Sahuenza came from Canada for the presentation. 42 adults attended the first session and 27 attended the evening program. • In November the Sons of the American Revolution presented Handley Library with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of outstanding support given to the organization, which Ms. Ebert accepted on behalf of the Library.

Clarke County Library Branch Manager, Laurine Kennedy

• In November, Clarke was the first branch in the Handley Library System to have the new RFID system go live! Our patrons overwhelmingly like the system and the staff is experiencing the benefit of having more time to assist our patrons. • Manager Laurine is making plans for new 2020 programs for children and adults, aiming for one each per month in addition to the regular programming. • With so many family programs scheduled, December was once again a great month for attendance. • The staff invites all to visit and enjoy the new bright look in the branch resulting from fresh paint and reorganization with more changes to come!

Community Partnerships:

- Characters by Chelsea
- Chick Fil-A, Keri Mounts & Pam Whitt
- Child Haven Preschool
- Face Paint by Rachel
- Four Color Fantasies
- Gifts Giving Back @ Quarles ES
- Head Start of Winchester
- Friends of Handley Regional Library
- JustBirth, Gretchen Smith
- La Leche League, Natasha Ossinova
- Master Gardeners from the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, Lynn Hoffman
- Museum of the Shenandoah Valley
- Old Town Winchester
- Shenandoah Valley Chess Club, David Hubbard
- Sherando High School Intellectual Disabilities, Wilma Jennings
- Spanish Oak Rabbitry, Lynn Miller
- Stephens City Chess Club, John & Matthew Clark
- TAC (The Traveling Art Club), Julia Young & Cheryl Abbott
- Tinkergarten
- Village at Orchard Ridge
- Virginia Cooperative Extension
- Winchester City Sheriff's Office

Locations of Outreach Programs in the Community:

- Winchester's Child Safe Center
- Northwestern Regional Adult Detention Center
- Westminster Canterbury
- Northern Shenandoah Valley's Holiday Celebration
- Chick Fil-A storytime