



HRLS

Director's Report and Highlights

February 2025

Making Things Even Better

The Handley Youth Services Department began working on its new **Grab and Grow Kit** collection. **Grab and Grow Kits** will introduce families with children 8 and under to books, toys and manipulatives that support their learning and development. The kits put everything together in a colorful, see-through, easy to carry, backpack. They enhance existing reading programs and include 3 different categories: “**Every Child Ready to Read**”, “**1000 Books Before Kindergarten**” and “**My First Experiences**”. The new collection is made possible by a generous grant from the J2W Foundation.



Welcoming Spring at Bowman

In early February the Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardeners partnered with the Bowman branch for the annual **Plant Clinic**. Attendance reached 212, with participants going home with information, tips, and even plants. Later in the month the Northern Virginia Gardeners provided a **Starting Seeds Indoors Clinic** and encouraged folks to get their hands dirty getting seeds ready for Spring planting.

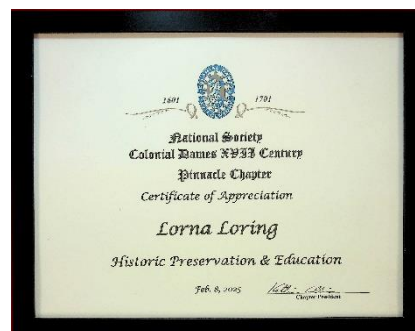
Reaching Out to the Community

The Public Relations & Outreach Team began its 2025 efforts at D.G. Cooley Elementary School in Berryville. The team met with a small but enthusiastic group and the effort resulted in 9 new card signups in just an hour. They also took the opportunity to introduce the new HRLS bilingual Spanish/English brochure **Usando la Biblioteca / Using the Library** that provides information about the library system, its branches, resources, services, and how to become a library patron.



Recognizing Archives

In recognition of its efforts to support lineage society programs like Family History Hunters and Applying to Lineage Societies, the **National Society of Colonial Dames, Pinnacle Chapter** has awarded **Certificates of Appreciation** to Archives and Lorna Loring its manager.



Dressing the Part

Cosplay opportunities were available for youth and teens as the Mad Hatter Tea Party drew in children dressed as Alice and her friends at the Bowman branch. The Teen Game Night featured a Roaring 20s theme and some of the teens even dressed up as flappers and gangsters.



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The Handley Regional Library ... handleyregional.org