



# HRLS

## *Director's Report and Highlights*

*January 2024*

### *Starting Your Year Off Well ..... With a "Soaring" Party*

Marking the one year anniversary of the Airport Storytime Program, Ben Garrand, Youth Services Assistant, at the Bowman branch, (pictured here) led the event for young patrons and their parents. One and all enjoyed cake, cookies, a photobooth, a flying squirrel character, and an amazing Storytime. A collaboration between the Handley Regional Library System and the Winchester Regional Airport Authority, the storytimes are held in the airport's main terminal, with a view of the runway, and feature stories about flight, planes and travel stirring imaginations and offering the opportunity to learn about planes and aviation.



### *..... With a Win*

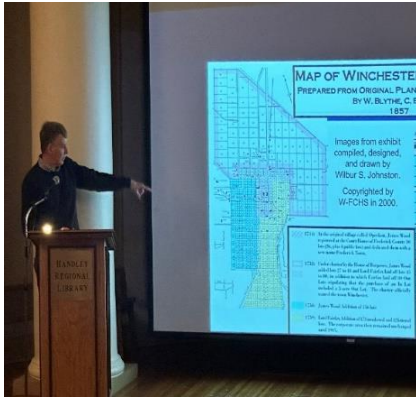


The Handley Youth Services Department carried in the New Year with the Youth Winter Reading Challenge, all about "Where We Come From". The Handley branch had 84 participants complete 147 tracks or bingo lines. Readers of all ages were encouraged to log their reading for a chance to be a raffle prize winner like Tyler and his parents pictured here. To support the challenge and to encourage participation, the staff developed material displays featuring the food, music and family life of cultures from around the world.

### *..... With a Staff Recommendation*

New social media posts/videos asking staff about their favorite library resource have proven to be highly informative and incredibly successful, as reflected in our social media stats going up more than 40% in January.







**..... With A Deep Dive into the Names of Streets and Alleys of Winchester**

January saw Archives host a program by Tim Youmans, City Planning Director about his recently published book, “The Streets and Alleys of Winchester, Virginia. Following in the footsteps of Garland R. Quarles, Youmans considers his book a companion to the 1958 Quarles publication which addressed a Winchester of 3.4 square miles. Youmans book looks at a Winchester now 9.3 square miles in size.

**..... With a New Branch Manager**

Alison Waddell is the new Branch Manager at Clarke. Already hard at work, Alison is leading her staff in creating a “Local Authors” section in the library. Efforts are also being focused on growing an Adult Graphic Novel Collection. The Collection is located on a circular display in the center of the library with the aim of grabbing the attention of patrons and highlighting the new offerings. Of special local interest has been the creation of the Jean Wilson Memorial Fund in honor of her many years of civic involvement in Clarke County, and her love of children, books, and the library. The goal of the fund is to provide funding for the purchase of children’s books and learning tools for the Clarke library.



<p><b>AtoZ Maps Online</b></p>  <p>AtoZ Maps is the world’s largest database of downloadable, royalty-free maps for student and library patron use. More than 100,000 maps are available in 48 categories. Users will find world, regional, country, and state maps as well as environmental, climate, antique and other maps. The database also contains extensive teaching tools for educators with lesson plans.</p> <p><a href="#">View Resource</a></p>	<p><b>AtoZ World Culture</b></p>  <p>AtoZ World Culture is an educational resource that contains 121 topics for 175 countries. Starting with a country snapshot and cultural overview, topics that can be explored include: climate; food and recipes; history; language; maps; money and much more.</p> <p><a href="#">View Resource</a></p>	<p><b>AtoZ World Travel</b></p>  <p>AtoZ World Travel includes 202 world city travel guides covering 67 topics. Topics include pre-trip planning, points of interest, excursions, neighborhoods, restaurants, nightlife, as well as health and safety. AtoZ World Travel is designed for anyone who wants to prepare for their trip abroad.</p> <p><a href="#">View Resource</a></p>
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**.....With New Databases**

The Library now has 3 new databases from World Trade Press: AtoZ Maps, AtoZ World Culture, and AtoZ World Travel. The new databases allow patrons to learn about the cultures of the world, download an array of maps and browse over 200 international city travel guides.

**With a Class .....**

Followig the Library’s theme of “Start Your Year off Well” the Friends offered both an Introduction to Tai Chi class and a Yoga Flow for Adults class at the Bowman branch. The Friends also started off the year well by raising over \$5,000 in a Pop-Up Sale at the Bowman Library.



**Contributors:**

**Mary Anton, Bowman Branch Manager**

**Matthew Bernstein, Technical Services Manager**

**Gina Byrd, Executive Director, Friends of Handley Regional Library**

**Adrienne Davis, Handley Branch Manager**

**Donna Hughes, Youth Services Division Head**

**Lorna Loring, Manager of the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives**

**Katie Moss, Handley Youth Services Manager**

**Cheryl Nakagawa, Manager of Public Relations and Outreach**

**Alison Waddell, Clarke Branch Manager**

**Ann White, Deputy Director**

*The Handley Regional Library System .... [www.handleyregional.org](http://www.handleyregional.org)*