



HRLS

Director's Report and Highlights

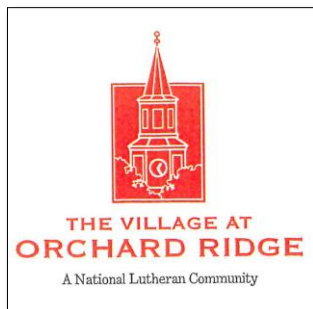
June 2025

Extending a Welcome

High school students from across the HRLS service area, participating in the **Top of Virginia Regional Chamber Arising Leadership Program** met with Lorna Loring, Archives Manager, at the Handley Library to learn about preserving and accessing local history. The session with Archives was followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of the Handley branch and an opportunity to learn

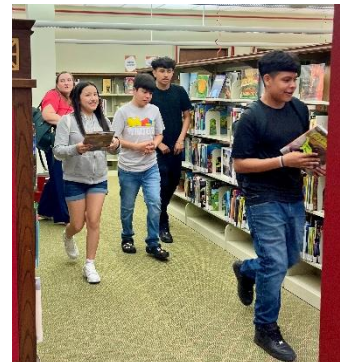


about the wide array of library services available to the community through the library system. This is the second year the library has been included as a location for the Arising Leadership Program.



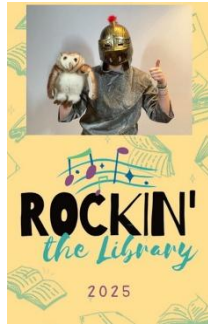
The Handley branch also hosted a group of residents from the **Village at Orchard Ridge**. The visit provided the perfect opportunity to sign up for a new library card or to renew an old one, to discover the Handley Library building and its history, and most of all, to learn about the range of adult programming available at all three of the HRLS branches.

Twenty students and four teachers/translators from the **Daniel Morgan Middle School Newcomers Summer School** received a special welcome from the staff at the Handley branch. Their visit included a tour of the facility and a scavenger hunt to help them learn how to locate materials in the library. Visiting the library is one of the several field trips that are provided through the Newcomers Summer School program for Spanish speaking students new to the area to help them learn about the community.



ROCKIN' ON

Once again, the Handley Youth Services Department hosted famous children's authors/illustrators in collaboration with the annual **Children's Literature Conference at Shenandoah University**. Moving the



event inside to the Robinson Auditorium removed the “worry about the weather” and put the focus wholly on the authors/illustrators in attendance: Christopher Denise, Rafael Lopez, and Juana Martinez Neal. Each author had an activity that centered around a popular book for kids and families attending to enjoy. From eating “*Fry Bread*” from our local **Knead Bread** bakery to meeting the “*Knight Owl*” in person, the library was truly **ROCKIN’**.



Reaching Out

Since 2005 HRLS has provided books to various community groups through its Deposit Collection Program. The collections are selected from gently used books donated to the library. Each collection is curated for its particular audience or location. A group may use the books for its own library or give them to individuals within the population it serves. The library does not monitor their use and does not expect the books to be returned.



The original and longest-running deposit collection has been at the **Northwestern Regional Detention Center (NRDC)**. About 200 paperback books a month are delivered to the facility. NRDC provides guidelines as to the materials they would prefer and makes the final decisions on what items to share. Most recently, the facility has asked for more books at easier reading levels.

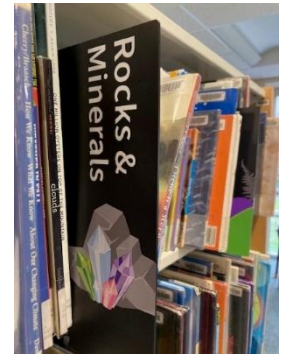


Bagging a Bargain!

In June, Friends again “outraised” a sale’s goal for this year’s Summer Used Book Sale at the Bowman Library. Friends raised \$14,841.26, even with 50% off of the regular price of books for teachers. On the last day of the sale bargain hunters bought 85 “bags-of-books” at \$10 per bag. But most impressive is the fact the Friends volunteers gave 260 hours of time to make the event such a success.

Sprucing Up

Updates in the Children's room at the Bowman Library included several new tables and chairs that allowed staff to move the game computers out of the main entrance to the room for better and safer circulation. New bold shelf dividers were also added to make it easier for children to find non-fiction books by topics of interest.



And Just Having Fun at the Clarke County Summer Reading Kick-off



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The Handley Regional Library ... handleyregional.org