



HRLS

Director's Report and Highlights

For April 2022

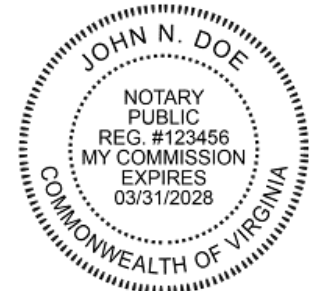


National Library Week Celebrated in April

This year's theme for National Library Week was "Connect with Your Library". Libraries are a place where you can get connected to technology by using the internet, computers, and other resources. Libraries also offer opportunities to connect with ideas, books, programs and media, and most importantly libraries connect communities to each other. This theme fell inline perfectly with the HRLS tag line: **Connect, Entertain, Inform!** The Friends marked the occasion by bringing in snacks for staff

Library Continues to Expand Notary Services

You certainly don't need one everyday. But when you need to sign a legal document, take an oath, or give oral or written testimony, it's of the utmost importance that you can find a notary to verify your identity. Responding to this community need the library has slowly been increasing the number of staff members who are commissioned as a Notary Public by the State of Virginia. For a number of years there was only one staff member at Handley who could provide notary services. Now there are three at Handley. Bowman Library has two with a third staff member expecting to be commissioned in May. Clarke County Library has one notary to serve patrons.



Awareness and Prevention



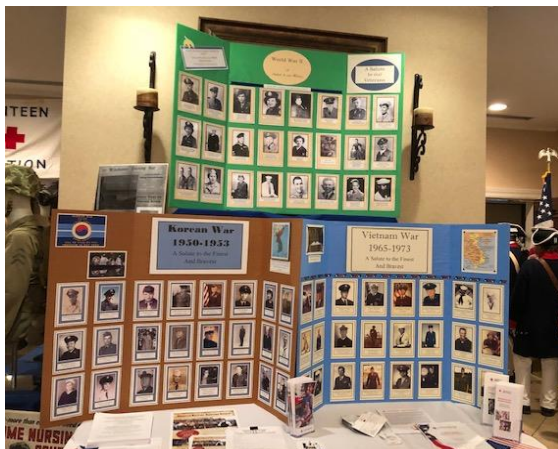
Thanks to the efforts of Handley Youth Services Manager Katie Moss, our community partnerships are expanding and growing stronger each month. This April, through our connection with Healthy Families of Northern Shenandoah Valley, the Handley Library branch was able to be a partner site for a Pinwheel Garden. The outdoor "Pinwheels for Prevention" is intended to help raise awareness during National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Indoors, and year round the Library provides referral information for services provided through Healthy Families.

Orrick Cemetery 100th Anniversary

The Black History Task Force, sponsored by the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives, met at Orrick Cemetery, 501 S. Braddock, to recognize the 100th. Anniversary of its incorporation. Taskforce members placed flowers at the graves of Rober Orrick, owner of the property, and the men who signed the deed of incorporation in 1922, providing a cemetery for the African American community in the Winchester area.



Apple Blossom Veterans Dinner



Archives staff provided display boards of veterans from WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, for the Veterans Dinner held at Millwood Crossing. They provided individual photos of veterans for the tables. Joan Wood created the display boards and Tina Clafin produced the individual photos. Joan also encapsulated eight photos of airplanes which were display at the entrance of the dinner. Becky Ebert attended as well and distributed cards encouraging veterans to bring their photos and stories to the Archives.

Films are on the Program Again

The Clarke County Advisory Council to the Clarke County library is committing \$2,100 to pay the Movie Licensing fees for all three branches of the Handley Regional Library System for one year. With this generous donation, plans are already in the works for two very different presentations at The Barns. The Clarke County Library is joining the Barns at Rose Hill for a “Great Lebowski Night”. Then going in a very different direction it will work with Clarke County Social Services to present “Instant Family” a film about adoption.



A Mishap Becomes An Opportunity



On Thursday, April 21st, dripping was heard, and a leak was discovered in The Archives at Handley Library. Carolyn Bly and Dennis Ball of the Facilities Department responded immediately. The water was contained with towels, then collections and shelves were moved to allow plumbers access the problem. April 22nd, additional leaks were discovered in other areas of the Lower Level and the first floor. A break in the sewer line had occurred. Bathrooms were closed, the water was turned off, and the decision was made to close the building.

The closure provided an unexpected opportunity. The Handley Youth Services Department was able to complete a months-long weeding, withdrawing, and shifting project of the Juvenile Nonfiction and Biography collections. Materials are now spread out with more intentional “face out” display space that allows for easier browsing at kid eye-levels. Originally scheduled for after hours, the project was able to be completed that Friday thanks to Alyssa Grant, Pam Eichhorst, and Rachael Hirsch, and Amanda Henry who stayed to help

Unfortunately, No Treasure Found



The Frederick County Sheriff’s Department did some underwater training in the lake behind Bowman Library. Using a ROV robot and a handheld metal detector the men donned wet suits to scan the lake bottom. Along with some random pieces of metal and rubber, the team found a tire which had become the home of a turtle.

Friends Continue Their Support

The Friends priority this month was the 2-week Used Book Sale. April 4th. Was the return of a Preview Night for member of the Friends only. The sale ran April 5th through 16th with sale hours matching those of the library. The second week of the sale featured 50% off for teachers and retired teachers. April 15th saw 50% off all purchases. April 16th, the last day offered shoppers to fill a bag for \$5.00.



Keeping Up with Technology



Library staff members continue to help the Tech Services Department with beta testing of the MyLibro app, sharing feedback with Kylie Feiring, while MyLibro techs work to implement the improvements and features that staff have requested. New Scannx credit card payment machines have been installed at Clarke County and Handley libraries along with new self-check equipment in the Handley Library Youth Services Department. All the while, working on the design and development of a new website for the library.

It also includes staff training on library resources to help patrons to get the most out of those resources. Training like that provided by Rachelle Long to her circulation staff at Bowman Library



Contributors:

Mary Anton, Bowman Branch Manager

Adrienne Davis, Handley Branch Manager

Barbara Dickinson, Exec, Director, Friends of Handley Library

Becky Ebert, Librarian of the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives

Donna Hughes, Youth Services Division Head

Kylie Feiring, Technical Services Manager

Katie Moss, Handley Youth Services Manager

Cheryl Nakagawa, Manager of Public Relations and Outreach

Ann White, Deputy Director

