



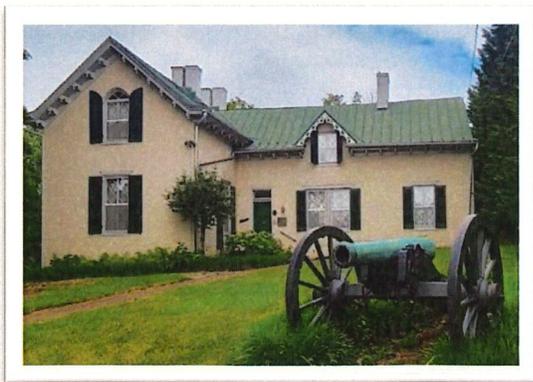
HRLS

Director's Report and Highlights

November 2025

Sharing History

In early November, a group of eight **Civil War enthusiasts** visited the Archives to view the **Hotchkiss maps**. The men, who are from different parts of the country, get together to travel to different Civil War sites and were spending time in the Shenandoah Valley. The maps they came to see were created by **Major Jedediah Hotchkiss** (1828-1890), a topographic engineer in the Confederate Army who made detailed battle maps, primarily of the Shenandoah Valley, some of which were used by Generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson for their combat planning and strategy. It was through the efforts of the Handley Library's first **Director, C. Vernon Eddy** that the maps were obtained for the Library from one of Hotchkiss's descendants. The Archives has three of the original maps, with the remainder being housed in the Library of Congress.



With the help of Archives volunteer, **Brian Daly** and the **Winchester/Frederick County Historical Society, the Friends** sponsored a presentation on the history of the **Fuller-Moore House** located at 415 N. Braddock Street. The house was built in 1854 by William McP. Fuller and later sold to Lewis T. Moore, who was a Lt. Colonel in the Fourth Virginia Volunteers. During the Civil War Moore invited Stonewall Jackson to use his home as his headquarters.

Sharing the Library

In its continuing efforts to reach out to the community and to invite the community in, the Handley Library welcomed participants from the Literacy Volunteers ESOL program for a tour of the library and a presentation on the resources that the library makes available to the community.



Sharing the Fun



November was a “Dino-centric” celebration month at the Bowman Library. **Stevie the T-Rex** paid a visit to greet all the kids and families and to pose for pictures. Stories, music, crafts, and a dinosaur stomp filled the November 1st start day. Ninety-nine hunters took part in a dinosaur scavenger hunt and 492 participants voted for their Favorite Dinosaur throughout the month.

November also saw the last of this year’s Trivia Nights at the Bowman Library. The Broadway themed event included special refreshments including pretzels shaped like Elphaba’s brooms.



Sharing Resources



The Handley Youth Services Department celebrated Family Literacy Month with the launch of the brand new **Read and Seed Activity Program** that debuted in November. Partner agencies like the **Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society, Master Gardeners of the Northern Shenandoah Valley and Sky Meadows State Park** educated families on the natural world. Two hundred people attended the event and thirty-five children aged 0-5 registered for the Activity Program. Those who sign up for the program receive a seed packet and a set of activity cards that

introduce families to library-centric resources and activities to help “grow their readers” based on their age and reading stage. The program materials are made possible through a generous B5 Grant from the J2W Foundation.

Contributors:

Mary Anton, Bowman Library Branch Manager
Matthew Bernstein, Technical Services Manager
Gina Byrd, Executive Director, Friends of Handley Regional Library
Adrienne Davis, Handley Library 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 County Library Branch Manager

The Handley Regional Library ... handleyregional.org