



HRLS

Director's Report and Highlights

November 2024

Saving the Past for the Future

In November, Archives completed two major processing projects. First, Tina Helms finished transferring *Winchester Star* photos on optical discs to hard drives for preservation and access. A total of 33,400 images from the 1990s and 2000s were processed. Shown at right is an example, a January 2002 photo of Fireworks Over Roush City Hall taken by Winchester Star photographer Rick Foster.



The second project, undertaken by volunteers Tom Maccubbin and Ken Dougherty, completed an index of 276 USDA aerial maps of the Winchester-Frederick County area taken in the 1950s. The indexes created for these projects will be added to the collection guides to assist researchers in locating materials.

Forming Partnerships

Archives also formed a new partnership with *Preservation of Historic Winchester and Friends of Old Town* to develop an app to provide residents and visitors with information about Old Town Winchester. Hosting about 20 volunteers from the "History of Us" project, Lorna Loring provided an introduction on how to do research in the Archives and shared examples of business records in its collection, like the "Illustrated Business Directory" from around the year 1900 featuring advertisements from downtown businesses of the day.



And the Bowman Library has been working with the Winchester Chapter of the Embroiderers Guild of America to form a partnership that will offer monthly sessions to teach embroidery stitches to its patrons. The sessions will start in January and run throughout 2025.

Participating in a Community Event

For the first time, the staff at Clarke County Library participated in the **Berryville Main Street Holiday Parking Meter Decorating** event. It has proved to be a wonderful “outreach” effort, putting the Library’s presence on display for the entire community from Thanksgiving until New Year’s. With the support of the Friends, CCL staff painted a Little Free Handley Regional Library and filled it with donated books. In the first weekend alone, approximately 95 books were share with the community.



Meeting and Competing

Bowman Library was the site of the **Fall Scholastic Chess Tournament**. Drawing chess players from all over the area, children and adults were matched to complete the round robin play. The Meeting Room was the battle ground while the library lobby served for placement exercises as seen in the photo to the left.

Designing the Future

As the result of a generous bequest made to the **Friends of the Handley Regional Library System**, a new “Pop-up Mobile Library” is in the future for HRLS. Being designed and manufactured by Matthews Specialty Vehicles, in Greensboro, N.C. the vehicle will allow the Library to more effectively serve the region by taking resources and programming out into the community. The vehicle’s anticipated delivery date is May of 2026.



Contributors:

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The Handley Regional Library ... handleyregional.org