

# ARCHBOLD COMMUNITY LIBRARY

## PROJECT: CREATION OF DIGITAL ARCHIVES FOR WEB ACCESS TO LOCAL NEWSPAPER

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The library contracted with Advantage Preservation of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to digitize 50 rolls of microfilm of the *Archbold Buckeye*, from 1913-1969. The project was begun on April 1, 2016 and concluded on May 31, 2016.

### PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Summary** - The goal of this project was to provide a method of searching the archives of the local newspaper to make it easier for persons to find local history and genealogy information. Prior to this project, the only recourse was to browse microfilm page by page for information.

**Results** - The completion of the project has enabled reference staff to search quickly for an obituary or other piece of historical information. The project has also opened up the pages of the local newspaper archives for searching by persons via the Internet, both locally and from a distance. (attachment A) To this end, the completion of the project has successfully met the initially stated goals and intent of the project.

**Promotion** - Steps taken to promote the project results included a link on the library homepage (attachment B), direct access through a library catalog record (attachment C), a posting to the library's Facebook page (attachment D), newspaper coverage, and in-house notices.

**Effectiveness** - It is somewhat difficult to measure the effectiveness of the project, but by using Google Analytics, we are able to see whether or not we are reaching those persons outside of our community, which was one of the goals. For the period of June 15-July 6, of the 31 sessions of accessing the site, 15 were from communities other than Archbold. Judging by the number of pages viewed, it seems that persons are using the site for more than mere curiosity. Twelve sessions were initiated from within the library—either by staff or patrons. (attachment E)

**Expenditures** - Costs of the project included: (attachments F & G)

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| • Digitizing 50 rolls of microfilm                              | \$4500 |
| • Backup of archives on external hard drive kept at the library | \$ 150 |
| • Creation of unique website                                    | \$ 300 |

- Approximately 7 hours of library staff time \$ 100

Of this amount, \$2000 was from the library's grant from OHRAB and the library's cash match was \$3050.

The Board and Staff of the Archbold Community Library would like to thank the Advisory Board for awarding a grant that enabled us to complete this project that we have long envisioned.