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WHITEFORD LIBRARY CELEBRATES 35 YEARS SERVING COMMUNITY

(Belcamp, Maryland – January 12, 2015) The Whiteford Branch of Harford County Public Library celebrated 35 years serving the community with a casual gathering of staff and customers on January 5th.

Guests viewed a display of photos narrating the branch's history and took part in an interactive exhibit, "The Once and Future Library," in which residents could write about how they remembered the Library when they were younger and how they predicted the Library might evolve in the years ahead. Guest musician Christy McCall, majoring in music at Elizabethtown College, played soft melodies on piano, and Whiteford Library Manager Linda Zuckerman welcomed visitors to enjoy the celebration and refreshments.

"The Whiteford staff is honored to be part of the lives of the Whiteford community," Zuckerman commented. "We want to support the people of northern Harford County as they explore great books, learn how to navigate in a digital world and seek opportunities for lifelong learning. Many people who attended story times when they were children are now bringing their own children to our programs. You never know what you will find happening at the Whiteford Branch!" further exclaimed Zuckerman.

Beginning as a small modular unit in 1980, the former Whiteford Reading Center opened as the 7,300-square-foot Whiteford Library in 1992. When the area's

population began to outgrow this space, the Harford County Library Foundation, with the support of the North Harford Friends of the Library and local businesses, began a campaign to raise funds for expanding the branch, and in 2010, the 13,278-square-foot Whiteford Library, now nearly double its former size, reopened to the public.

The expanded Whiteford Library boasts a teen room equipped with a gaming system, a children's puppet and play area offering early literacy activity kits, a quiet study room, self-checkout stations, 24 public-access computers, Wi-Fi and a large meeting room.

Harford County Public Library operates 11 branches located throughout Harford County, Maryland. The library serves over 191,000 registered borrowers of all ages and has an annual circulation of over 4.1 million. Harford County Public Library is committed to connecting people with information and promoting the love of reading within the community.

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Photo caption: Customers and staff gathered January 5th to celebrate the Whiteford Library's 35 years of service to the community. From left to right, Friends member Margaret Harkins, Senior Administrator of Public Services Joe Thompson, staff member Ann Winkler, Whiteford Library Manager Linda Zuckerman, staff member Kristen DeLambo, North Harford Friends President Betsy Galbreath, former Whiteford Library Manager Heidi Richardson, Harford County Public Library CEO Mary Hastler, staff member Bernadette McKey, staff member Charlotte McCall and Senior Administrator of Human Resources Terri Schell.