



September 14, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Northwest Regional Library System receives Florida Humanities Council Community Project Grant.**

(Panama City, Fla.) The Northwest Regional Library System has been awarded a Community Project grant of \$4600 from the Florida Humanities Council with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. These funds will be used to support “A Determination to End This: Segregation Stories from Northwest Florida”, a project to collect the oral histories of those who experienced segregation in Northwest Florida.

“The preservation of these stories will help fill a void that is in our collection” says Laura Moree, Head of the Local History and Genealogy Department of Bay County Public Library. “We also hope these stories will provide opportunities for discussions among our adults and children to better the future.”

“A Determination to End This: Segregation Stories from Northwest Florida” will be conducted from September 01, 2018 to August 31, 2019. The project will result in a collection of oral histories gathered from Bay and Gulf county locals to be preserved long-term for research, a public exhibit at the Bay County Public Library, and a panel discussion inspired by these stories. The Community Project grant will be managed by Laura Moree.

The Florida Humanities Council is the non-profit statewide affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. As part of its mission, the Florida Humanities Council annually awards federal funds to community organizations statewide to create a variety of humanities resources and present hundreds of free public programs. These programs help preserve Florida’s rich cultural heritage, promote civic engagement, and foster connections among cultural organizations and community groups across the state.

If you are interested in sharing your experiences or would like to learn more about the Community Project grant, please contact the Bay County Public Library Local History department at 850-522-2132. Bay County Public Library is located on 898 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Panama City, FL 32401. The Local History room is open to the public on Monday (12 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.), Tuesday (9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.), Wednesday (9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.), Thursday (9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.), and Friday (9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).

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