

## Library

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Humphrey said folks can access the yearbooks from the comfort of home.

"It's an amazing part of history," Humphrey said of the yearbooks.

The Digital Heritage Center started archiving public and private universities and colleges throughout the state two years ago.

Humphrey said the Hickory library also plans to have business clippings converted to digital files.

The library doesn't have to pay anything to have the books and files digitized, Humphrey said.

According to officials, Catawba County Public Library isn't involved in archiving local yearbooks.

# Hickory library part of yearbook archiving project

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HICKORY — Hickory Public Library is keeping up with the big boys when it comes to archiving.

Like North Carolina universities and colleges, the Hickory library is using North Carolina's Digital Heritage Center to preserve the yearbooks for some

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» <http://digitalnc.org/institutions/hickory-public-library>

area schools, said Louise Humphrey, director of Hickory Public Library. The library already has cataloged yearbooks for Ridgeview High School's "The Panther," Newton-Conover High

Schools "The Cardinal" and Claremont Central High School's "The Log."

Humphrey said the library started the project with NC Digital Heritage Center earlier this year. Space was limited in the Carolina Room of the library but she knew funding was tight. That's when the center said it would do some digital archiving for smaller libraries.

Officials from the center came to the Hickory library after the staff contacted them. The library was the first in the state to have yearbooks preserved digitally, Humphrey said.

Humphrey said yearbooks come in handy when folks are preparing for reunions. She said those planning a reunion can find out who was in their class, what activities classmates were

involved in, the hairstyles and clothing that were popular at the time and even possible contact information.

"You'd be amazed at the interest in old yearbooks," Humphrey said. Some of the yearbooks date back to the 1920s.

And you don't need anything special to access them.

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