

## FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF COUNTY ARCHIVES OPENING TO THE PUBLIC RECOGNIZED

It's now been exactly a year since the Washington County Archives officially opened to the public. That first day, Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018, no one actually showed up. But, the next day, three researchers came in from South Korea. They were writing a biography of Dr. John W. Heron of Jonesborough, who had founded their medical school in Seoul. From that day to now, the archives has been very busy in helping people with their research.

Usage figures on research in the archives is done on a fiscal year basis, so statistics for April-June 2018 cannot be separated from the full 2016-2017 totals, but from July 1, 2017 to April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 755 reference inquiries were handled from 35 different states and two foreign countries. This included in-person visits and phone, mail, and email assistance. Ninety-six individuals attended archive presentations. In addition, many people are finding us via the Internet through our webpage (url: [https://wctnarchives.org/.](https://wctnarchives.org/)) There have been 23,803 views of the website from a total of 4,549 visitors representing 17 different countries!

Archive research usage is increasing in a remarkable way. We expect this to continue as more people learn about us and more records are made available.

Note: For more on the Koreans researching Dr. Heron, see an article archived on the "News & Events" page.