

# Newspaper Digitization Project

## OVERVIEW

New Richmond Public Library obtained the original bound copies of the New Richmond News and previous publications. In efforts to preserve our community history and increase access to historical content our goal is to fully digitize this collection.

### Wisconsin Historical Newspapers Project

The **Wisconsin Public Library Consortium (WPLC)**, **Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS)**, **Wisconsin Newspaper Association (WNA)**, and **WiLS** are working together to provide digital access to Wisconsin’s historical newspapers through the Archive of Wisconsin Newspapers, freely available to all Wisconsin residents through BadgerLink.

All of the historical newspaper content contributed to the Archive by Wisconsin libraries between 2015 and 2020 remains fully searchable through BadgerLink, almost 600,000 pages from 40 different titles in 26 Wisconsin communities. Anyone with a Wisconsin library card can explore these historical newspapers by title, city, county or date, as well as more than 250 daily and weekly Wisconsin newspapers from 2005 to 90 days ago.

## GOALS

After investigating many options, it is our goal to join this initiative in partnership with the New Richmond Heritage Center. Our vision would have the Heritage Center archive and preserve the recently acquired bound volumes of New Richmond’s newspapers, and the library staff would work with the WPLC and WHS to have New Richmond’s historical newspapers added to its digital collection.

### Cost of Digitization:

Digitizing:	\$0.23 per page
Uploading & Hosting:	\$0.12 per page
	<u>\$0.35 per page</u>
143,000 pages x .35 =	\$50,050



## NEXT STEPS

- Identifying and securing adequate funding.
- Relocating and preserving bound volumes.
- Continued dialogue with WHS regarding print content not on film.

## Advantages:

- Of the options considered, this is by far the most affordable.
- Working with this state-wide initiative is consistent with the mission of every Wisconsin public library.
- Easy access to digitized content is a priority for WPLC, and we are encouraged by their commitment to providing the most user-friendly platform.
- Our library would receive a backup external storage drive of all the digital content.

## CURRENT STATUS

- Primarily due to Covid-related disruptions, the Wisconsin Historical Newspaper Project had been on hold since March, 2020. The microfilm lab at WHS has a backlog of jobs in both their film and digital production; the lab's director is hopeful to resume production by early 2022.
- Bound volumes of New Richmond's papers are being temporarily stored in the basement of the Civic Center.

## Newspapers in Bound Collection

### 143,000 Pages Total of the Following

<b>The Republican Voice</b>	<b>1901-1905</b>
<b>New Richmond News &amp; Republican Voice</b>	<b>1913-1924</b>
<b>The Leader (Thos. Ryan)</b>	<b>1914-1917</b>
<b>The Leader (Madsen and Bloom)</b>	<b>1937-1951</b>
<b>New Richmond News</b>	<b>1925-2019</b>

## SUPPORT

If you are interested in financially supporting this project, please contact Monica LaVold, Library Director, at 715-243-0431 or [monical@newrichmondlibrary.org](mailto:monical@newrichmondlibrary.org).

