

## Library Receives Rare Wheeling Book Donation

Thanks to a gift from an anonymous donor, the Ohio County Public Library has made a significant addition to its collection of books and pamphlets dealing with the early history of the city and the region.

Included in the contribution of over 150 items are 30 unusual, uncommon or rare publications relating to authorship, printing and publishing in Wheeling and the Upper Ohio Valley. These range from the works of local poets and literary people (the oldest dated 1816) to tracts on religious affairs, the abolition of slavery, and the arrival of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. There are also early city directories, including the city's first one (published in 1839), as well as works of pure eccentricity.

The transfer was made possible by the Community Foundation for the Ohio Valley, the Wheeling National Heritage Corporation, the Wheeling Genealogical Society, and a second local resident who also wishes to remain anonymous.

“Special thanks go to Jeanne Finstein whose hard work facilitated the process,” says Dottie Thomas, library director.

The material will become part of the library's Wheeling Room.



Jeanne Finstein unpacks the rare books recently donated to the Ohio County Public Library.