

## WHA V Collection, 1946-2008

### Collection Summary

<b>Reference Code:</b>	MRQ, US.
<b>Repository:</b>	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
<b>Call Number:</b>	MSS 41
<b>Creator:</b>	WHA V
<b>Title:</b>	WHA V Collection, 1946-2008
<b>Dates:</b>	1946-2008
<b>Size:</b>	.438 linear feet (1 box)
<b>Language(s):</b>	Collection materials are in English.
<b>Abstract:</b>	WHA V was the first radio station in Haverhill, Massachusetts, and played a large role in the development of broadcasting in Haverhill.

### Organizational Sketch

The earliest use of the WHAV call was July 22, 1922, in Wilmington, Delaware. It was one of the first 100 broadcast radio stations licensed in the United States and changed to WDEL in 1926. Later, the Haverhill, Massachusetts, Police Department began using the call letters for its shortwave radio station. The call's entrance locally was conceived during World War II in the offices of *The Haverhill Gazette*, a daily newspaper serving what was, in the middle of the century, a shoe-manufacturing center 30 miles (48 km) north of Boston. The *Gazette*, as early as 1944, planned an FM radio station, but had to wait for the end of wartime controls on new construction. The *Gazette* ultimately bought a parcel of land on Silver Hill at auction and the FCC conditionally granted the license Dec. 10, 1945.

WHA V-FM finally went on the air April 14, 1948. WHAV-FM, as was the custom of the day, simply simulcasted the AM programs. Despite its earlier frequency announcement, the FM station occupied 92.5 MHz on the dial and is today known as WXRV.

*The Eagle-Tribune* and its associated ventures, including the *Haverhill Gazette* (which owned the original WHAV from 1947 to 1954), were sold in December 2005 to Birmingham, Alabama-based Community Newspaper Holdings Inc., leaving the new WHAV as the last 100 percent locally owned news medium in the region. In 2012, *The Eagle-Tribune* and *Haverhill Gazette* offices in Haverhill closed.

As of 2020, WHAV-FM is a non-commercial low-power radio station licensed to serve Haverhill, Massachusetts. Owned by Public Media of New England, Inc., WHAV-LP services the immediate Merrimack Valley and considers itself the successor station to the original WHAV (1490 AM), also licensed to Haverhill, and transmits from WHAV's original 1947 transmitter site; however, the original WHAV continues operations to this day as WCCM. The station continues to grow and present local programs such as live Haverhill Hillies football, live broadcasts of City Council and School Committee meetings, local news, Community Spotlight and more. It is now listener- and underwriter-supported public media.

## Scope and Content Note

This collection provides information about the history and operation of WHAV. The collection is made up of five series. Series one contains the programming schedule for the week of Sunday, July 13 until Saturday, July 19 1947. Series two contains an audio recording from WHAV; the audio cassette contains Arthur Flynn's "Assignment Haverhill"; WHAV Civil Defense Program; and WHAV Program by Jay Bovin. Series three includes two images of the WHAV images. Series four includes events from WHAV. These includes a high school promotion card, 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary invitation, a bumper sticker and promotion materials. Series five includes newspaper clippings.

## Arrangement

- Series 1: Programming Schedule, 1947
- Series 2: Three Recordings from WHAV, undated
- Series 3: WHAV Images, undated
- Series 4: Events, 1987, 1990, undated
- Series 5: Newspaper Clippings, 1946-2008, undated

## Administrative Information

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| <b>Preferred Citation:</b>        | [Item Identification], WHAV Collection, 1946-2008, <i>Reference Code</i> , Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts. |
| <b>Custodial History:</b>         | Unknown.  |
| <b>Acquisition Information:</b>   | Found in collection. The recording was donated by F. Gregory Cronin.  |
| <b>Processing Information:</b>    | Processed by Erik R. Bauer, 2020. Updated by Tamara Gaydos, 2020.   |
| <b>Access Rights:</b>             | Collection is open for research.  |
| <b>Phys. Access Restrictions:</b> | None.   |

- Tech. Access Restrictions:** The Haverhill Public Library may not have a cassette player available or other playback device to listen to the audio recordings.
- Copyright:** Copyright has not been assigned to the Haverhill Public Library. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Board of Trustees. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Haverhill Public Library as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.
- Related Material:** None
- Separated Material:** None.
- Conservation Notes:** Newspaper clippings were photocopied onto archival quality paper.
- Subjects:** Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)  
 Haverhill (Mass.)  
 Haverhill (Mass.)—History  
 WHAV  
 WHAV—Recording

## Collection Inventory

### Series 1: Programing Schedule, 1947

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
WHAV Programing Schedule, July 13-19, 1947	1	1

### Series 2: Three Recordings from WHAV, undated

Recordings from WHAV, undated Arthur Flynn’s “Assignment Haverhill” WHAV Civil Defense Program WHAV Program by Jay Bovin	1	2
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### Series 3: WHAV Images, undated

WHAV Building Image, undated	1	3
WHAV Building Image, undated	1	4

**Series 4: Events, 1987, 1990, undated**

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WHAV Invitation, 1987	1	5
WHAV Promotion Card, 1987	1	6
WHAV Promoting Materials, 1990	1	7
WHAV Bumper Sticker, undated	1	8

**Series 5: Newspaper Clippings, 1946-2008, undated**

Newspaper clippings, 1946-2008, undated	1	9
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