

FRIENDS OF THE
JEFF DAVIS COUNTY LIBRARY
ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Highlights of 2021

Mobile Comunidad was launched, offering our vast county greater food pantry accessibility, a bookmobile, and social services. It also strengthened partnerships with several other non-profit groups and agencies. A new Ford Transit van was purchased and grants totaling more than \$300K funded it all. A separate annual report for Mobile Comunidad is available upon request.

Book sales from the terrace and book shop average \$300 to \$500 each month, with funds designated for collection development.

Our membership campaign in October and November brought almost \$5,500 with some new members, many renewals, and donations.

The quilt drawing brought in \$375 for a beautiful hummingbird-themed handcrafted quilt. The Tesla EV Charger donation box garnered \$250 for the year.

Some staff changes of note occurred in 2021. Library Director Gwin Grimes moved away in December after five-and-a-half years of outstanding work at the helm of the Library. Experienced library staffer, Dawn Healey was appointed Interim Director. Summer intern Elsa Damm performed a great service during her time on-board.

Three scholarships were awarded in the amount of \$500 each to graduates of Fort Davis and Valentine High Schools.

The idea for a *Dancer, Texas* anniversary community movie event was developed and continues in the planning stage.

A separate room to provide private meetings, Tele-Med conferences, or similar services, was designed and completely funded through a grant. Equipping the room began in December for unveiling in early 2022.

The Literary Landmark special recognition, held October 22, revealed a bronze plaque on the building, honoring late local author, Lonn Taylor. Just more than 100 people attended and our donation jar brought \$225. This was a popular event, bringing folks out together after so much pandemic isolation.



The Literary Landmark event honored late local author Lonn Taylor and remarks by his wife Dedie were a highlight.



Our bookstore, Secondhand Prose, and related terrace book sale, continue to be popular

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In spite of the continuing pandemic, the Friends of the Jeff Davis County Library were able to achieve some milestones and even host a few events. We continue to grow our Mobile Comunidad outreach program in collaboration with the Food Pantry of Jeff Davis County and the Jeff Davis County Library, bringing food, library offerings, and social services to our neighbors, right where they live.

Saying good-bye to Library Director Gwin Grimes, with much thanks, was THE bittersweet moment of the year and we wish her well in new endeavors.

We appreciate our members, who help support our mission. To join FJDCL or to learn more about our work, contact us at admin@friendsjdclibrary.org. We welcome new board members, as well!

Happy New Year!

- Jeanine Bishop