

Theresa Free Library
Progress Report
2021

As we find ourselves well into the second year of a COVID-19 existence, there is still much to be thankful for at the Theresa Free Library. Unlike last year's complete shutdown for several months, the arrival of vaccines and continued responsible health measures have allowed library services to continue uninterrupted since our reopening last fall. Here are just a few of the celebrations we had at the Theresa Free Library in 2021.

Firstly, we were finally able to recognize Mr. Ken McCormick for his 28 years of dedicated service as a library trustee. Mr. McCormick stepped down at the conclusion of his term of service in December 2019, but the pandemic put a halt to the recognition. We also welcomed Pam Brown as the newest trustee this past September, and now the board is once again complete.

Library Director Kristy Perry also noted several celebrations within the realm of library programming. These include: 10 lively book club discussions; 12 summer reading participants who read for a total of 187 hours; 23 practically professional pumpkin entries for our annual pumpkin decorating contest; over 50 virtual story hours and make-and-take projects; and countless donations of time and money from community members eager to support the library. Patrons were also able to participate in a tiny art show, and in the spring, Mrs. Perry visited the Indian River Intermediate School to share historic artifacts from the museum with students.

Perhaps the highlight of the year was our August 17th Open House celebrating the 110th anniversary of the dedication of the library. Senator Patty Ritchie issued a proclamation commemorating the event and Bonnie Fikes presented a copy to the board of trustees on her behalf. Community members were invited to enjoy locally made sweet treats provided by Doll-icious while touring the local history museum and borrowing items from the collection. The original charter was also on display for guests to more closely examine.

Some of the changes precipitated by the sudden arrival of COVID last year continue to remain as silver linings for many community members. Ebook and audio book circulation numbers continue to show robust use from patrons, and many families still look forward to picking up curbside crafts to enjoy putting together at home. For those patrons who have a need for continued limited social interaction, the library's request and pick-up curbside service remains an option to ensure no one has to go without an armful of delightful books for some cozy fireside reading.

The Theresa Free Library looks forward to remaining open for the foreseeable future and continuing to provide an essential service to the residents of Theresa. Library hours are as follows: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 12:00-5:00 p.m., and 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Saturday hours are 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Curbside pick-up services can be arranged by contacting the library director, Kristy Perry, during open hours at 315-628-5972.