

Salado Public Library District President's Annual Report

November 2019

Dear Friends and Patrons of the Salado Public Library:

The Salado Public Library (SPL) continued this past year to achieve the goals that support the mission of the library. The library serves as a place where community needs for information, for community connection, and for community interests are nurtured. It is supported by our Library Director, Jeanie Lively, and her staff of five dedicated people, aided by volunteers and Friends of the Library to provide excellent service to the community.

Accomplishments of the past fiscal year include the completion of the Long-Range Strategic Plan to be implemented beginning in 2020. This was done with the help of the community, the library board of trustees, the staff, and volunteers. Pat Rehm, Manuela Smith, Jeanie Lively, and I committed our time to complete the process. With this blueprint for growth and success, the library is preparing for the growth of the Salado area and the changes that that will bring.

Many events increased the participation in library activities this year:

1. SPL was awarded a \$6000 grant and training to begin a new program called Family Place in which children up to age three are given special programming, play space and materials, and community support. Julie Hoy and Jeanie Lively completed the training, and the Friends of the Library supported this by providing casters for the shelving units to accommodate the rearrangement of the children's area for better use of the floor space facilitating this program.
2. The programming in the library increased with 369 activities with the participation rising to 4,906, an 85 increase. Julie Hoy, our Children's and YA Librarian, in her first full year has been influential in initiating new and increased programming for our children's and teen programs included the Summer Reading program which registered both children and adults. She has been assisted by the new position of part-time Library Assistant, April Edmiston. Two story hour times have been very successful in serving pre-school children and parents. A variety of activities for after-school students of elementary and teen students such as an Area 51 library adventure "sleepover." The Teen Advisory Board was formed providing valuable input for teen programming. Adult programming has been well attended with volunteers contributing many hours to promote our library.
3. The library hosted several authors during the year sponsored by the Salado Writer's Group which meets in the library including local authors.

4. SPL partnered with several community groups and businesses to promote library services. Several Barrow based events were very successful, and local civic groups hosted our director as speaker and helped disseminate our questionnaire in preparation for our Long-Range Strategic Plan completion. The Friends of the Library have been invaluable for the volunteer efforts that they contribute.
5. The Library has been able to accommodate the public by supplying technology, expertise, and materials needed by a wide variety of patrons in our serving area. The meeting spaces that are available for library programming and for the public have been used more than ever. Computer usage by all ages has increased by 9%, with our staff and website enabled to assist many of our citizens with life and career supporting tasks.

The library has been successful in meeting the needs by adding materials and services in the past fiscal year with the funding provided by the sales tax revenue from our district.

Total number of books and digital circulated items – approximately 75,000

Total patrons – 7,500

Total library visits – 51,099

Total items circulated – 49,854

The library's leadership is sound and composed of the following:

Jeanie Lively, our library director, and her able staff have dedicated themselves to serving our community. Those on the board include Bill Kinnison, a former board president who continues to serve as Board Vice President, Nancy Mills Mackey, former president of the board who continues to serve as Treasurer. Pat Rehm and Bobbette Bell who both contributed to the board who served until May when Barbara Morris and Emmy Alvarez began their trustee terms after being elected to the board in April. Each member of the team has given time and energy to better our community through the Salado Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Joycelyn A. Miller

President

