

IT'S FUN TO READ!

We had a visitor to City Hall the other day and we were talking about the kickoff event at the Historic Cresson School on Saturday, February 27th from two to four in the afternoon. The Hood County Library has generously offered Cresson to bring the library to our little city periodically. The visitor went on to question who really reads books anymore.

Reading has been the saving grace to many during the pandemic for both children and adults. What a fun way to have an adventure without really going anywhere. This includes the possibility of learning a new skill or learning about healthy cooking which is always exciting!

We have taken our children to the library since they were youngsters, and they still love to read. Our bedtime ritual included us reading nightly to them and with the three of them listening at one time, it was always entertaining to hear their comments or even their barn animal noises at times. I remember trying to skip a page here and there to quicken the process of getting them to sleep but was quickly corrected by one of them telling me that I missed a page!

Whenever my brother and I were growing up in Cresson, we did not have a real library. We did have the books at the Cresson School then in the Granbury School District. At home we had a fancy set of Encyclopedia Britannica to reference for school projects. Whenever we used them, we were very careful with their slick pages. Our mother made sure we knew not to draw in these special books that sat very proudly on our bookshelf.

I think the sense of calmness that the library offers is very pleasing in these busy days. In college, we went to the library to study. Of course, there was some socializing at the campus library as well! Change brings us the internet, online book reading as well as a wealth of knowledge brought right to our fingertips.

One of my favorite buildings in Washington, D.C. is where the Library of Congress resides at 101 Independence Ave which is a 3-minute walk from the Supreme Court building. In the summer of 1977, I had a summer job working as a rotating staff member for the Honorable W. R. (Bob) Poage. One of my responsibilities was to set up tours for constituents from his district back in Texas. With over 24,863,177 cataloged books in the Library of Congress, nobody could ever run out of books!

My hometown of Cresson will not have the encyclopedias nor the 838 miles of bookshelves like the Library of Congress, but we are thrilled to have our friends at the Hood County Library offering to bring portions of their library to our community to help grow the love of reading!

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