

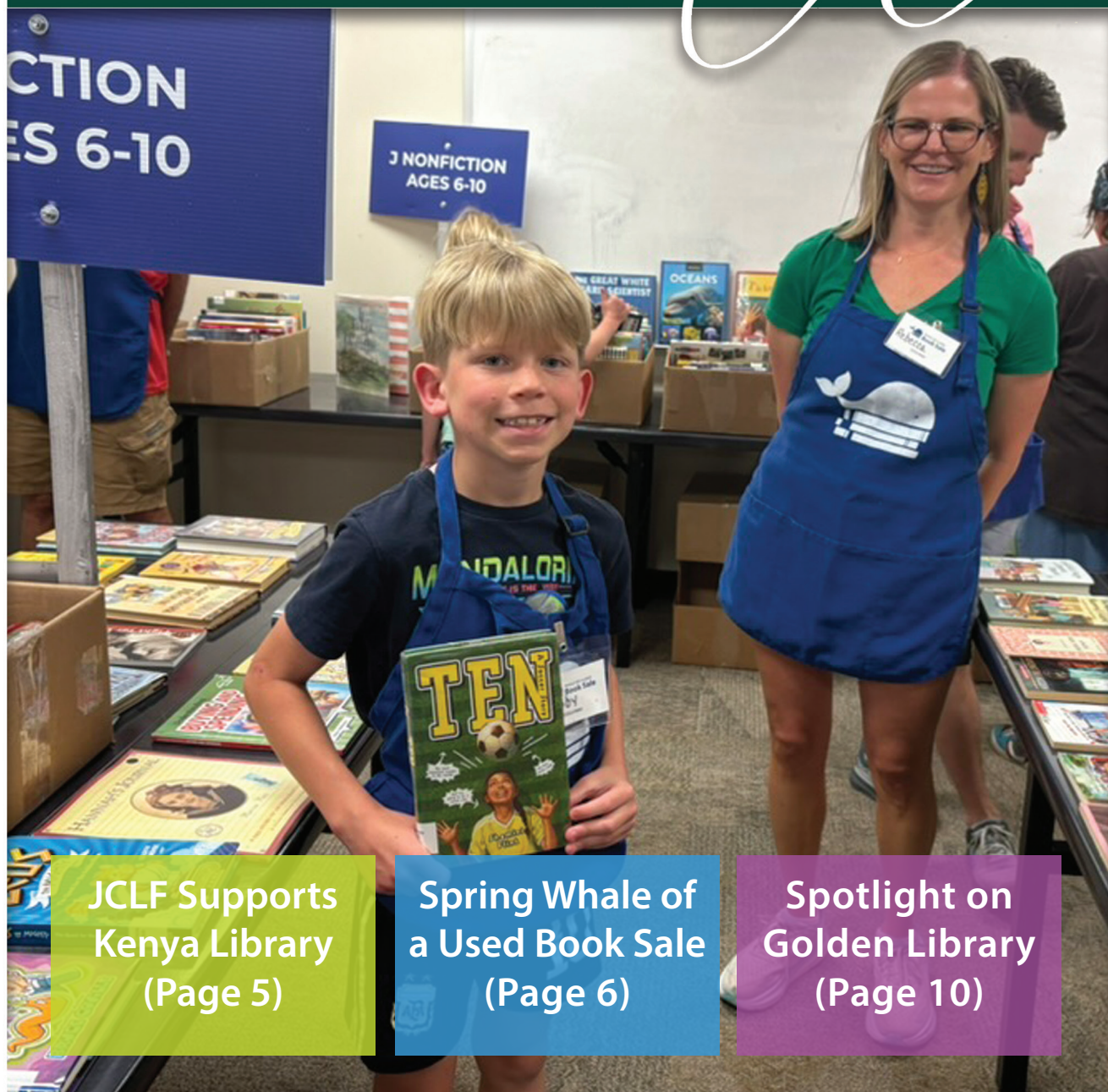


OF JEFFERSON COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Summer 2025
jeffclf.org

FRIENDS

Footnotes



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Kenya Library
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Welcome

Meet Our Newest Staff Member Oscar Guerrero

Oscar Guerrero began working with our Foundation on April 7th as our part-time Warehouse Assistant. His job will focus on handling book donations on Mondays and Tuesdays and trekking books and materials to our Whale's Tale Books & Gifts storefront on Wednesdays.



Oscar has a history of working in maintenance, delivery and warehouses, and he is also employed during the night shift at FedEx in Broomfield.

Please welcome Oscar Guerrero to JCLF!

OUR NEW TRUSTEE LIAISON



We are pleased to welcome **Renny Fagan** as JCLF's new Trustee Liaison from the Library.

Renny was the President and CEO of Colorado Nonprofit Association for almost 12 years. During his tenure, the Association initiated legislation to increase charitable giving, including a 2018 law that enables Coloradans to donate their state income tax refund to any eligible nonprofit of their choice.

Renny is a former state legislator, director of the Colorado Department of Revenue, deputy attorney general and state director for U.S. Senator Ken Salazar.

Welcome New JCLF Board Members



Tyrenny Hidy has been a part of our JCLF "family" even before becoming a Board member this past January. She has been a key volunteer at our semi-annual Whale of a Used Book Sales for the past 8 years, serving as the ringleader, trainer and organizer for our event cashiers. In her real life's work, Tyrenny is a senior project engineer at Avangrid, and she lives with her husband David in Lakewood.



Retired geologist **Richard Kehmeier** joined our Board when he learned about the soon-to-be new location for his local Conifer Library. Richard is a 4th generation Coloradan, a talented nature photographer and the published author of "Every Rock Tells a Story: Seashells in the Mountains," a geology-focused book written for middle school students. Richard and his wife Andrea live in Conifer.



Rebecca Olchawa is the Executive Director, Senior Philanthropic Trust Advisory Specialist at Wells Fargo Private Bank. Previously, Rebecca served as Director of Development and Director of Philanthropic Services at Community First Foundation (now Colorado Gives Foundation). She is the mother of two young sons and has been a faithful patron of the Standley Lake Library for more than a decade. Rebecca, her husband and her family live in Arvada.

Once again we are grateful to all our JCLF donors who helped us raise more than \$2,500 during Library Giving Day (April 1, 2025) as well as throughout Library Giving Week. In today's turbulent economic times, we give thanks to the special contributors who generously supported our Foundation and Jefferson County Public Library as part of this year's annual campaign.



Library Giving Day began several years ago and was launched by the Seattle Public Library Foundation. The idea was to create a national day of giving that public libraries would rally around and that the public would embrace. So, Seattle Public Library partnered with its strategic library fundraising partner, Carl Bloom Associates, to turn the idea into a reality.

Since that time, Library Giving Day has generated more than \$39,400 for our nonprofit organization.

Director's Notes



In my comments from the last edition of Footnotes (Winter 2025), I spoke about a poem I admired written by Hebert Logerie titled "The End of the Year." One stanza of the poem pointed out that "the end of the year is the dawn of a new one."

That sentiment became truly heartfelt for me. Many of you know that my husband of 31 years, Robert Schantz, passed away unexpectedly in January 2023. That was definitely a hard time, but I filled my days by focusing on my work at the Foundation, my volunteer efforts and by leaning on the support of my good friends and family. All that helped me through some very difficult days.

Today, I more fully understand and appreciate that meaning of the dawn of a new year because I met Dwight F. Hall, my now husband, more than a year ago. We were married on February 15, 2025.

I am grateful to the many well-wishers who have been so supportive of me and who rejoice that I have found this new level of happiness in my life.

In the last Footnotes issue, I also mentioned the "new horizons" that were coming this year. One of those horizons turned out to be the closure of our second used bookstore, Whale's Tale Two Books & Gifts, in Belmar Shopping Center. This was a sad decision for me and for our Board, but the choice seemed inevitable even though our little storefront was on the upswing in terms of raising monies.

As you read this newsletter, you'll note we are still optimistic that our small store will reopen one day, and we are working hard to find just the right location where we can be sure of our success! In the meantime, I will ask for your continuing support of our Whale's Tale Books & Gifts shop in Colorado Mills Mall.

In 2025, and as we have for the past 59 years, JCLF will continue to provide ongoing fundraising support and advocacy for Jefferson County Public Library (JCPL). We do this all year every year by submitting grant requests, canvassing for corporate supporters, hosting our Whale of a Used Book Sales, promoting our planned giving program, via our annual appeals and special events, and by offering naming rights at select JCPL locations.

As always, I'm grateful for your support of our Foundation and our Jefferson County Public Library.

Sincerely,

Jo Schantz Hall, MNM, CFRE, GPC
JCLF Executive Director



Foundation Board 2025

President **Deborah Deal-Blackwell** Vice President **Ron Benson**

Secretary **Cleo Arellano** Treasurer **Linda Fleming**

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Nathan Richter **Tim Rogers**

JCPL Board Advisors

Renny Fagan **Donna Walker**

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Bookstore Manager **Kirstin Kraig**
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Bookstore Assistant **Janet Spaeth**

Volunteer & Events Coordinator **Megan Fessenden**
megan@jeffclf.org



@JeffcoFriends
jeffclf.org

The mission of JCLF is to support and enrich the capabilities, resources and services of Jefferson County Public Library through fundraising and advocacy efforts that benefit our diverse community.

Footnotes is a newsletter for Friends of Jefferson County Public Library, and we welcome your input.

Please contact the Friends office at 303.403.5075 or friends@jeffclf.org with comments or submissions.

Photo this page courtesy of Steve Hostetler Photography.

Front cover photo courtesy Susan Spring.

GOOD-BYE (FOR NOW) TO WHALE'S TALE TWO



Sadly, and after 15 months in business, JCLF made the hard decision to close the doors on our second used bookstore -- Whale's Tale Two Books & Gifts -- in Belmar Shopping Center.

Although the storefront was slowly increasing revenues month after month, and had a popular customer following in Belmar, we were suddenly and unfortunately told by management to move the operation to a less visible location within the shopping center. In addition, the relocation would cost the Foundation thousands of dollars in moving fees and renovation expenses for the new unit.

Our Board deliberated for a long time, and the final verdict was to close the Belmar store and concentrate our efforts on the more profitable Whale's Tale store located in Colorado Mills Mall. Whale's Tale Two closed on February 14.

However, we are continuing to look for a new site and perhaps a new city where our second used bookstore can flourish! In recent weeks, we have been in active conversations with staff representatives from the City of Wheat Ridge, City of Lakewood and City of Arvada in the hopes of finding a new home for our storefront.

For now, we are encouraging those who love our little bookstores to please patronize the Colorado Mills Mall location near Dick's Sporting Goods. That store is open from noon to 6 pm Sunday through Friday and from 11 am to 6 pm on Saturdays.

COME VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Besides bargain shopping, our semi-annual book sales offer a boatload of volunteer opportunities such as cashiering, table tidying, and cart running. Plus, volunteers earn two free books for each four-hour shift they sign up for during set-up, during the sale, and afterward for post-sale clean-up. This is a great opportunity for corporate employee groups or civic clubs to come out and show support for our public library! Questions? Please contact our Volunteer & Events Coordinator Megan Fessenden at megan@jeffclf.org or at 303.403.5073.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

People often ask us, "How can we help support the Foundation?" Other than volunteering, becoming a member of the Friends of the Library or by donating books or a financial gift, here are two easy ways you can contribute to JCLF:

Donate your cars, trucks, trailers, boats, RVs, motorcycles, campers, off-road vehicles, planes, heavy equipment, farm machinery, and most other motorized vehicles to the Jefferson County Library Foundation and receive a tax-deduction. This no cost, no hassle process begins when you contact our fundraising partner, CARS, at 855-500-7433. Make sure you ask for us by name (Jefferson County Library Foundation) or you can visit <https://careasy.org> to schedule your vehicle donation.



Did you know that you can support JCLF and JCPL just by shopping at King Soopers? It's true, and it's easy!



To register for the King Soopers Community Rewards Program, visit <https://www.kingsoopers.com> to create or log into your account. When you are logged in, enter "community rewards" in the Search Products box, which will take you to the community rewards page. Enter "Jefferson County Library Foundation" in the Find an Organization search, then click "Enroll" in the Jefferson County Library Foundation organization box.

From that point on, every time you use your King Soopers Rewards Card or enter your alternate ID at checkout, 5% of the purchase amount will benefit JCLF.

BOOKS BELONG IN HANDS, NOT IN LANDFILLS . . .

. . . that's our philosophy! Here are some of the ways we keep over 38 TONS of donated and ex-library books out of landfills each year and also raise funds for community programs at Jefferson County Public Library:

- Whale of a Used Book Sales
- Whale's Tale Books & Gifts at Colorado Mills Mall
- eBay and Amazon Bookstores
- DreamBooks resellers
- Supplying books to hospitals, prisons, shelters, nursing/retirement homes, schools, etc...

We love finding used books new homes.



TOUCHING LIVES AROUND THE WORLD: KENYA'S DREAM INSPIRATION ACADEMY

"Welcome to The Dream Inspiration Academy (DIA), located right at the heart of the Mathare Valley Slums (in Nairobi, Kenya). We are committed to breaking barriers created by extreme poverty. We provide quality education to the underserved children of this community. We are on a mission of empowering our students with skills and knowledge, fostering a brighter future for every student who walks through our doors."

This is just one of the organizations that JCLF is helping to support via our free children's book donations service. Through this program, we contribute excess children's books, audio books, board books, DVDs and various materials to other nonprofit entities at home abroad, including schools, day care centers, and more.

This effort in Kenya is being led by Jeffco residents Max Bryant and his wife, Teresa, who are the founders and Board members for DIA.

"For these children, (having books) is such a big deal because these children have NO books, and there is no library like this in the entire slum," says Teresa, referring to the miles of squalor and 800,000 people who surround Dream Inspiration Academy. "Books are an unimaginable luxury for these children."

The couple recently returned from another trip to Kenya where they took nine suitcases full of books.

"The teachers and the principal were "wow!" They couldn't wait to tear into (the suitcases) and see all the cool books they will have access to," Teresa commented. "One teacher said it's 'opening up the world to our children.' Their world is a three-square mile of slums...these books are everything to them."

Max added: "As we continue to build this library with carpet, furniture, and a reading program, these books are going to help tremendously." Then he indicated his long-term plan: "I want to get to the point where our library is full, and we can give these children a book to take home with them. This is our goal!"

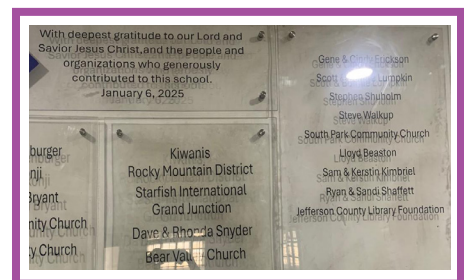
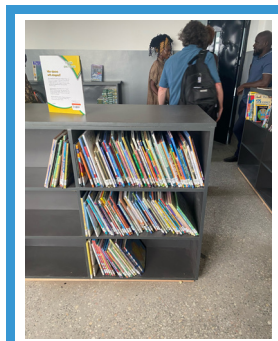
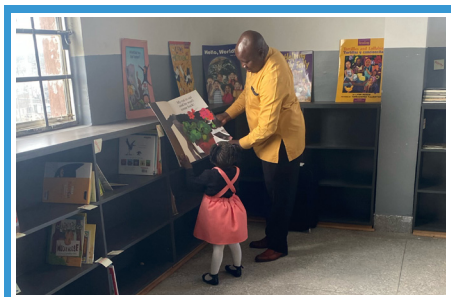
JCLF is pleased to know that due to our contributions of children's books to DIA, our Foundation has been acknowledged by a plaque outside the school library!

Our Foundation is always happy to help other schools, organizations and nonprofits by donating books, CDs, DVDs and other materials. Beyond the Dream Inspiration Academy, here is a current list of organizations that we have recently assisted:

- The Mango House (a clinic for refugees in Aurora, CO)
- The Denver Rescue Mission
- Lakewood Kiwanis Club
- Arvada Kiwanis Club
- Life Art Dance Ensemble
- Jefferson County Human Services



To learn more about
Dream Inspiration Academy,
please visit
DreamInspirationAcademyKenya.org



OUR SPRING WHALE OF A USED BOOK SALE!

The Jefferson County Library Foundation's (JCLF) spring 2025 Whale of a Used Book took place May 29 through June 1 at the Jeffco Fairgrounds, 15200 W. 6th Avenue in Golden. At the sale, bibliophiles and bargain book hunters swam through three exhibit halls teeming with gently used books, CDs, DVDs, comic books, themed gift baskets, and vinyl records, along with rare books and one-of-a-kind collectibles.



The spring sale opened Thursday evening, May 29, with Friends-Only Preview Night (for members of Friends of the Library), followed by three days – May 30 through June 1 – when the event was open to the public. Sale items ranged in price from \$.50 to \$3. Rare and collectible items and gift baskets were individually priced.



The last day of the sale, on Sunday June 1, shoppers were invited to visit neighboring CSU Extension in Jefferson County to gain information on their Master Gardener program and tour Extension's gardens on site. This activity was free and open to the public from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

At each of our Whale of a Used Book Sales, there is an entry fee of \$5 per day for adults. Children under age 18 are free. Shoppers can sign up and pay online or pay at the door. Pre-payment can be made at whalesale.org. Adults

who produce their SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) card or show proof for their children to receive free/reduced school lunches will receive free admission each day of the public sale.



We are pleased that this year our attendance was over 3,500 shoppers, and our gross revenues topped out at more than \$90,000!



For more than two decades, and at each individual event, JCLF's Whale of a Used Book Sales have typically offered up more than 80,000 gently used books, CDs, DVDs, vinyl records and many more items. These sales enable the Foundation to raise thousands of dollars in support of the many free programs, services, and activities offered by Jefferson County Public Library.

This event was supported by JCLF's 2025 Friends Community Partners: Denver7, Comcast Internet Essentials, Pinkard Construction, Confluence Companies, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), City of Golden, Colorado Women's Day, Rocky Mountain Safety & Security, and Bank of Colorado.

For more information on our Whale of a Used Book Sales, visit www.whalesale.org or call 303-403-5075 for details.

COMMEMORATIVE GIVING

The following individuals were recognized by JCLF donors with recent gifts given in their name.

Rakesh Agrawal
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Anne Kallus
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Beth Rand
in memory of Roy and Hazel Rand

Chris Baumann
in memory of Bo Baumann

Nachee Lee
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Daniel Roenker
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Anna Bilyeu
in honor of Sarah Ampleman

Nancy Lee
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Catherine Salisbury
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Jeanne Bradford
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Kristi McDonald
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

William Salisbury
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Dr. Jan R. Bramham and Camilla A. Collins
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

David Menendez
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Mark Spiroff
in honor of Denise Spiroff

Lana Flynn
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Nike Noor LLC
in honor of Nike Noor

The Educated Remarkably Bright
Creatures Book Club
in memory of Lisa LaBelle Scott

Kathy Frank
in memory of Billie Higgins

Tim and Gail O'Neil
in memory of Joyce Mills

Richard and Leslie Weigel
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

Jo Schantz Hall
in memory of Robert D. Schantz

Olivia Overton
in honor of Autumn and Robyn

David Wells
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

William Horger
in honor of Carol Horger

Brian Pesis
in honor of Buddy Pesis

Christina Wessel
in memory of Michele Heenan Salisbury

OUR 2025 FRIENDS ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, April 11, was the date for this year's Friends Annual Meeting held at the Wheat Ridge Rec Center in Wheat Ridge featuring acclaimed Colorado author Melissa Payne. Nearly 40 guests attended the author presentation, book signing and the luncheon, which was catered by Texas Roadhouse.



AUTHOR MELISSA PAYNE

Melissa is the bestselling author of four novels, including *A Light in the Forest* and *The Night of Many Endings*. Her stories feature small mountain towns with characters searching for redemption, love, and second chances. Her books have been three-time Colorado Book Award finalists and 2019 and 2023 Colorado Authors League winners for mainstream fiction. Her most recent work, *In the Beautiful Dark*, was published this April.

Many thanks to our event sponsors: Foothills Vision Center, Dr. Jackie O'Beirne DDS and the Taurus Fund.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY FEATURES EAST INDIAN CULTURE

Volunteers are the life's blood of our organization. So it is fitting that each year, JCLF is proud to host a special luncheon honoring these fabulous volunteers.

In 2025, we will celebrate these dedicated individuals with a special luncheon on Friday, July 25, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Wheat Ridge Rec Center in Wheat Ridge.

This year's theme is *A Day in India*, and we will welcome unique East Indian entertainment and cuisine to assist us in paying tribute to those who work tirelessly on our behalf. We will also offer our annual awards to key volunteers who have gone above and beyond in their service to the Foundation and to our public Library.

Dance and musical entertainment will be provided by Madhvi Chittoor. Fifteen-year-old Madhvi is not only a talented dancer and musician, she is also the prolific author of several children's books plus she's an environmentalist and "Eco Warrior," having founded the 501 (c)(3) nonprofit Madhvi4EcoEthics at age 6. Recently she worked with Colorado state government to declare April as Plastic and Styrofoam Pollution Awareness Month in Colorado. Madhvi has been invited to speak before the United Nations, and last August, she gained high-profile recognition on TIME magazine's Kid of the Year list.

This event is by invitation only. If you have questions, please call us at 303-403-5075.

BOOKS ON FILM – JURASSIC WORLD REBIRTH

JCLF held our 4th annual Books On Film benefit Wednesday, July 2nd, at Harkins 14 Theatres in Arvada.

This year's book-turned-celluloid (based on the 1990 novel *Jurassic Park* by Michael Crichton and as part of the continuing film series) was *Jurassic World Rebirth*. The movie starred Scarlett Johansson, Jonathan Bailey, Ed Skrein and Mahershala Ali.



JEFFERSON COUNTY LIBRARY FOUNDATION

BOOKS ON FILM



JULY 2, 2025 6 PM

ARVADA HARKINS THEATER



As an added bonus, the nonprofit Friends of Dinosaur Ridge presented a highly informative and entertaining Q&A about dinosaurs, new discoveries and ongoing debates in the world of paleontology, and a fun discussion about these prehistoric creatures' onscreen portrayals.

This fundraiser was near sold-out and raised monies that provide direct financial support for children's and family literacy programs at Jefferson County Public Library.

We would like to thank everyone who attended the event and our event sponsors: Thrivent, IX Power Foundation, Rocky's Rocks, Sally Reed, Taurus Fund, and our event partner, Dinosaur Ridge.



ROCKY'S ROCKS

Sally Reed

NAMING RIGHTS AT EVERGREEN LIBRARY

For the past few years, our Foundation has been reaching out to donors in various locations and encouraging them to show support for their home library by naming a room or a special amenity at that same facility.

We are pleased to tell you that many local library-lovers have stepped forward to claim and name a library study room, a reading area, a children's area or an outdoor reading deck! Plus, monies garnered by these naming rights help to fund the individual libraries that we all treasure.

As examples, and at our Evergreen and Conifer Libraries, JCLF and JCPL have gained support from many key donors who have chosen to acquire naming rights. These include:

Evergreen Library

Outdoor Reading Deck – The Gardner Family Foundation

Children's Area – Cynthia and Bob Benson

Story Time Area – Jeannie Mann

Study Room – Jefferson County Library Foundation

Quiet Reading Area – The Charles Naumer Family

Conifer Library

Community Room – Judith and Mark Cook Family Foundation

Children's Area – Laura Coffey

Study Room – Conifer Area Council

Art Walls – Harsha/Kerns Families

Technology Access Area – Core Electric Cooperative

Reading Alcove – Alison Thayer

Teen Area – Judy Atwater

In a few months, donors will have opportunities to name rooms at the soon-to-be-remodeled Arvada Library, and at two new JCPL facilities located in the Northwest part of the county (in Arvada) and in the Southern part of Jeffco near C-470 and S. Kipling Street in Littleton.

Naming rights remain in effect for five years for gifts ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000, and for gifts of \$10,000 or more, naming rights remain in place 10 years. Both levels are offered the first right of refusal to re-name those amenities when the terms expire.

Even smaller donations are very welcome! Contributions ranging from \$100 to \$999 will be acknowledged with the donor names placed on a permanent wall display at each location.



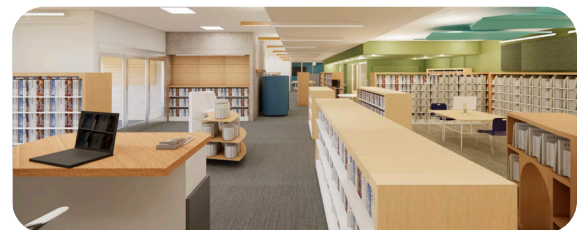
EVERGREEN LIBRARY - READING ALCOVE



EVERGREEN LIBRARY CHILDREN'S AREA



CONIFER LIBRARY - MAIN LIBRARY ZONE



CONIFER LIBRARY - CHILDREN'S AND TEEN AREA



CONIFER LIBRARY - COMMUNITY ROOM

DONOR SPOTLIGHT - CONIFER LIBRARY

Judith and Mark Cook – Connecting the Heart and the Home of a Community

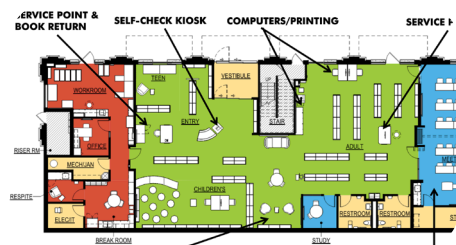
Judy Cook's school libraries were always filled with wood... wood floors, wood windows, wood shelves. They had a unique smell, and they felt solid and timeless and dependable. "I love libraries because I feel at home there. Through years of use, I became familiar with the systems and practices of libraries and no matter which library I go to, I can quickly get my bearings, accomplish whatever it is I came for, and know that I am welcome to take off my coat and stay awhile."

In earliest days of libraries, patrons wrote their names on cards that were kept in pockets glued in the inside cover. Judy continues, "You could see who had read the book before you. Sometimes, those names were from decades ago. It made me feel connected to the students who had passed through the school before me. I loved the old card catalogs with all the drawers and the coded information. It was like a secret language and the initiated could decode them and immediately find what they needed. It was empowering for a child."

In my church library when I was about 8, I read *Miracle at Carville*, about the only leprosarium in the country. The tragic, powerful story stayed with me for over 50 years, and I finally visited the historical site in Louisiana a few years ago.

Books are a powerful connector.

When Judy first moved to Conifer, her first thought was of the library. "I wanted to be a part of establishing a branch in Conifer, so I could browse the new releases, sit in a quiet place, hang out with like-minded people. I love to see children learning to enjoy the library, and I love to see people having access to computers, literacy programs, meeting rooms, and interactions with others. In my mind, the library is the heart of a community, providing something for everyone. It is one of the few places that is truly egalitarian: everyone is welcome."



interesting place where all kinds of activities happen, and all kinds of people interact." Judith and Mark Cook

RAISE A READER FESTIVAL COMING IN SEPTEMBER

If you are a parent or guardian of a very active and inquisitive baby, toddler or preschooler, you'll want to mark your calendars for this special event – the Raise A Reader Festival!



Each year since 2019 (except for 2020) Jefferson County Public Library has produced its very popular Raise A Reader Festival at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden. The Festival is a culmination of a month-long program known as Raise A Reader, and best of all, it's FREE to participants.

The overall focus of the program is to help small children gain essential pre-reading skills through this simple series of activities – singing, dancing, reading, writing and talking. That's why the special activities at the Raise A Reader Festival tie into these key categories.

Families who attend the Raise A Reader Festival will enjoy free train rides, face painting, puppet theatre, story telling, dance and movement, bubble making, and more!

For more information, visit jeffcolibrary.org.



GET TO KNOW YOUR GOLDEN LIBRARY

Currently, Jefferson County Public Library (JCPL) has 11 locations scattered throughout our county plus the bookmobile. Here at the Foundation, we want to help shine a light on those local libraries starting with the Golden Library.

Alada Ramsey, the Library's public services manager, was eager to share information on all the activities and programs that her JCPL site has to offer, including a new community partnership with the City of Golden. This summer, Golden Library is teaming up with the city for "Movies & Music in the Park," a family event that will be held on select Fridays in Golden's Parfet Park.



This year's line-up of events starts with the film *The Wild Robot*, a DreamWorks© animated movie that is based on a popular chapter book for children. At the event on June 13, "Our library will be offering 'Build your own Roz' (the name of the robot) out of recycled materials," states Alada.

In tandem with another blockbuster movie, Golden Library recently celebrated "All Things Star Wars" with a special May the Fourth program for kids and adults.

And just wait until this summer! "We will have a whole slew of programs!" Alada declares, referring to this year's Library Summer Challenge theme "Color Our World."

Using that theme as a guidepost, Golden Library is planning a wealth of activities for area residents, including: ukelele strum-alongs for adults; Nailed It! colorful cupcake decorating for tweens; paper circuitry for children (creations using LED lights on paper); The Colorful World of Gardening (for tweens); adult painting and crafts classes; a Teen Pride Party featuring Pride Dice Making; and an Amazing Race (scavenger hunt) for teens that will take place on June 17.

For this last program, "(Participants) will break into teams all through the city gathering historical information, discovering landmarks, solving riddles, and finding a clue for the next item (on the list)," Alada explains.

Throughout the year, this branch JCPL location also hosts children's preschool visits once a week to familiarize youngsters with how the library works, plus children get to select books to take home. Each summer, the Golden Library provides three outdoor story times a month. As Alada points out: "These are outdoor story times because we can only have 40 children inside. We use the grassy area between the Library, and city building and the creek."

The fourth Thursday of each month, Golden Library provides a program known as Library for All, serving adults and teens with developmental disabilities. Activities feature handicrafts, games and dance parties. With 60 to 70 patrons in attendance each month, "We are so large we use the entire meeting room," says Alada.

This Library is also well known for its Gingerbread House-making competition each December preceded by its Spooky Secret Halloween in October. Due to the latter program's popularity, patrons are required to sign up well in advance, and last year more than 100 children and families participated.

Coming this fall, Golden Library staff members have planned some interactive programs for teens and tweens, such as Teen Iron Chef. "Our teen librarian does this each fall. It's a marquee event!" comments Alada.



JOIN OUR LEGACY CHAPTER!

What is Planned Giving?

According to the website Kindful: A planned or legacy gift is a donation that is designated for an organization at a future date, often at the time of death through a will. This gift is made through a formal financial or estate plan.

In 2018, our Foundation launched its first planned giving program known as the Legacy Chapter. To date, we have added more than a dozen donors, some living and some deceased, to that roster of contributors.

Why is Planned Giving so important?

Contributions that are distributed to our Foundation after death can be applied to support a specific Library program or asset, they can be used as a general gift to the Foundation with few restrictions, or they can be used to help build our endowment. In this way, and after the donor has passed, those funds can live on in supporting a cause that is very dear to library lovers.

A planned gift can be a wonderful way for donors to leave a sizable contribution when they no longer need those funds or those assets, such as houses, vehicles, stocks, real estate, or many other valuable holdings.

As with most nonprofits, JCLF cultivates planned giving as a way of ensuring our organization's ability to support Jefferson County Public Library far into the future.

If you are curious to learn more about the Legacy Chapter and the ways in which you can continue to support our local Library system for years to come, I would welcome you to contact me for more information.

Jo Schantz Hall, MNM, CFRE, GPC
JCLF Executive Director

Are You Ready for the Library Summer Challenge?

Each year for more than a decade, Jefferson County Public Library (JCPL) has produced its popular Library Summer Challenge – a summer reading program that is designed to keep children, teens, adults, and families reading throughout the summer season.

This year, JCPL's theme is "Color Our World," and the Library team has developed a whole range of activities for all ages designed to explore that theme.

For example, children's programs will include:

- Survival Camp.
- Chess Camp.
- Art Camp.
- Full STEAM Ahead!
- Music Studio!
- Autism Creates: Pottery Camp.
- Art Unleashed!
- Graphic Novel Creation.

New this year, Autism Creates: Pottery Camp is the first attempt at a summer challenge program for those on the spectrum. Meanwhile, teenagers can sign up for these activities:

- Teen Drone Camp.
- Watercolor a Bookmark.
- Game Development Camp.
- Culinary Camp.
- Cosplay Camp.
- VEX Robotics Camp.
- Girls in STEM Camp.
- Chaos Control Camp.



Sign-up and learn more at jeffcolibrary.org.



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DATES TO REMEMBER!



Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon – July 25 at Wheat Ridge Rec Center (invitation only)

Shred-A-Thon – August 16 at Bank of Colorado, Lakewood

Dine & Donate – September 17 at 240 Union Creative Grille

Barnes & Noble Bookfair - September 20, Denver West Village

Raise A Reader Festival – September 27 at Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden

**Fall 2025 Whale of a Used Book Sale – October 16 - 19
at Jefferson County Fairgrounds**