



The Newsletter of the Argyle Public Library Building Committee

Off the Shelf

January/February 2022

A Patron's View: Tom Ellefson

Tom Ellefson grew up on the family homestead farm near Lamont, about halfway between Darlington and Argyle. When the family ran errands, they almost always chose to go to Argyle, and one of the main reasons was the Argyle Public Library. Tom fondly remembers his mother taking him to the library when he was five years old, and the thrill of finding a new book to take home and read. He says, "Reading was a huge thing in our family. Mom encouraged it, and always had a book in her hand." He traces his lifelong appreciation of reading and learning back to these early library visits. Today Tom lives with his wife Betsy on the homestead where he grew up. He said, "I raise Black Angus, all organic, grass fed, and believe in the sustainability of grass-raised cattle."



Sustainable farming practices and a strong local public library go hand-in-hand in Tom's view, because they both contribute to an "overall quality of life" for people here. He emphasizes the importance of a "public" library where services are free to those who use them, making access to information, knowledge, technology, and entertainment available to everyone, no matter their financial status. Some of the services he personally uses and appreciates at the Argyle

Public Library include checking out movies and music, reading newspapers, using the computers, making photocopies, and of course, finding great books to read.

Argyle's librarians are top-notch, Tom says. He believes that with a larger and more accessible space being planned for the future, the library staff will be able to apply their talents, providing additional and expanded services to meet the community's needs.

He believes that good public libraries are part of what make the nation strong: "We need a well-informed, educated public. This is the foundation of the democratic ideal."

Tom anticipates significant population growth in the Argyle area in the next decade, and envisions a library that has space to become the hub of the community. This is why he believes a larger, fully accessible library space is an urgent need here, and that right now is a particularly opportune time to plan and carry out such a project. He looks forward to Argyle area residents continuing to enjoy a great quality of life, and believes that a new library space will be an important part of that future. 🍷 **Over→**

The Building Committee mission: To move the Argyle Public Library to a fully accessible space that will better serve the needs of all patrons and that can also be used for community events such as meetings, lectures, and elections.

To receive this newsletter by email,
contact us:
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For Kids! Circle all the words you can find and bring it to the library for a prize!

**AUDIOBOOKS
STORIES
JENNY
LIBRARY
VAL
LIBRARIAN**

**MUSIC
JOB SEARCH
SARAH
WELCOME DESK
CALL NUMBERS
FANTASY**

**COMPUTERS
DVD
VIDEOS
NEWSPAPERS
SPANISH BOOKS
STUDY SPACE**

**RESEARCH
EVA
CLASSES
EBOOKS
MAGAZINES
MYSTERY**

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J O B S E A R C H H B K T S R
F J E N N Y N H L I B R A R Y
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