

**The Carl and Mary Welhausen Library is a recent recipient of a \$2,500 grant from the Texas Book Festival** to further develop the adult large print and audiobook collections within the library. The addition of this new material will better assist the vision impaired and others in need of this specific material. An initial order has been placed and should be added to the shelves over the next few months for checkout.

These and any other material may be checked out at no cost with your library card. If you do not have a library card, it's a quick and easy process to get one! All you need is a VALID driver license, proof of address (addresses must match), AND to complete a short application. There is NO fee for Dewitt and Lavaca County residents; out of county is \$5 per month or \$25 per year.

The Texas Book Festival has awarded a total of \$125,500 in 2021 to various libraries for collection development, which brings their grand total to over \$3.1 million since the start of their grant program in 1995. To raise funds to help libraries, a book festival is held each year in Austin, Texas. This year's festival will be both virtual and in person beginning October 25<sup>th</sup>. For more information, visit them online at <https://www.texasbookfestival.org/>.

This organization is also "calling all young writers in Texas" to participate in their Fresh Ink Fiction Contest that is open now through September 15<sup>th</sup> to those in grades 6-12. This is a fantastic opportunity for all young writers; it would be a great honor to be chosen as a winner, and an advantage point on scholarship and college applications. For more information, please visit <https://www.texasbookfestival.org/fresh-ink-fiction-contest/>.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the Texas Book Festival for all the work they do for Texas libraries, especially your local library. The Carl and Mary Welhausen Library is located at 810 Front St., in Yoakum. For questions, please call (361) 293-5001.