

June 14, 2025

Governing Board
Burnet County Library System
100 E. Washington
Burnet, TX 78611

Subject: Genealogy Department: Herman Brown Free Library

This letter is sent as a huge round of applause for the wisdom to set goals to provide a viable and intense Genealogy Department within the Burnet County Library System. There are few locations that meet your standard and every person involved in the creation and continuing growth of this Department should be commended. I've visited many local libraries in my genealogy research, several of which are located near me in the Orlando area and several out of state as I trace the journey of those that came before me. I can assure you your Herman Brown Free Library Genealogy Center is one of the very best I have discovered in terms of the depth of the diverse resources available, but in the overall willingness to be of service to the public.

I am a strong believer that Genealogy is not for those of us here today, but for those who will follow us in the future in learning and understanding our roots and our histories. With today's resources available on line, libraries suffer .. but the reality is that library documents that can be held and the pages that can turn are the most precious. Libraries provide the avenue to find those documents as entire shelves can be researched as a whole – shelf after shelf/book after book/page after page -- while online resources are only available if you specify the item you're looking for and then only if the digitizing was accurate and/or successful. Add access to technology, and the world opens to knowledge.

I hope this Board will avail itself of every opportunity to publicize your Genealogy Department to the surrounding areas, not only in Burnet County, but neighboring areas, as well as major areas outside nationally, for the benefit of those interested in their heritage and history. The travel and distance to your Library is well worth the time and energy.

Hats off for an outstanding Genealogy Department, and kudos to your staff. Ms. Florence Reeves, Director of the Herman Brown Free Library, is an asset to your organization: professional, courteous, very knowledgeable, and so helpful with a smile and positive energy.

I am sincerely looking forward to my next visit. I can only hope that I discover your roster of patrons has grown because they have also discovered, as I did, the value of time spent at the outstanding Herman Brown Free Library Genealogy Center.


Diane Davis

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