

ABILENE

Abilene Cultural Affairs Council

June 14, 2018

Abilene Southwest Rotary Club
PDG Jim Aneff
3210 Curry Lane
Abilene, Texas 79605

Dear Jim:

We are so very grateful for Abilene Southwest Rotary Club's generous grant in the amount of \$5,000 to support the purchase of the newest addition to the Storybook Capital of Texas, the "Storybook Capital Express" train. The cost of the train with trailer was \$47,000. After renting a train each year for one weekend for CALF at a cost of \$5,000, the decision was made to try to raise the funds necessary to purchase a train so that it could be used not only during CALF but at other child friendly events throughout the year. It seemed like a perfect addition to help build Abilene's Storybook brand.

Thanks to the generosity of Abilene Southwest Rotary Club, KTAB-TV, First Financial Bank, First Financial Trust, Union Pacific Railroad and the Adamson-Spalding Family Charities, we were able to purchase the train. It arrived last week, Thursday morning, June 7th, just in time to debut in the Storybook Parade that evening. We are also very grateful to the Abilene Model Railroaders who have volunteered to transport and drive the train, and to Cal Sumeral who is kindly storing it for us.

Over the course of the CALF festival hundreds of families had the opportunity to experience a train ride through Everman Park. It was definitely one of the most popular offerings at the festival.



We can't thank the Abilene Southwest Rotary Club enough for their help in making this train possible and for being such a wonderful part of our Storybook Family!

Kind Regards,

Lynn Barnett
Executive Director

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