

Robert J. Kleberg Public Library Newsletter
Happenings @ your library®
Saturday, April 19, 2014

Library Attends Air Show

The Robert J. Kleberg Public Library participated in the 2014 Wings over South Texas Air Show. Over 150,000 residents, visitors, and airplane enthusiasts from across the United States visited Naval Air Station Kingsville on March 29-30, 2014. As part of the air show events, the library, along with other local organizations, collaborated with the City of Kingsville's Tourism Department to



highlight some of the region's attractions. The air show provided an excellent opportunity to promote both services and unique points of interest to attendees who wanted to learn more about the area. Local residents who visited the library's information table were able to learn more about the electronic services available to them. These services include Discovery Texas-TexShare Databases, Mango® Languages, LearningExpress Library 3.0, and Overdrive digital books and materials. Also available at the library's table was information to assist military personnel who are transitioning

back to civilian life. To encourage non-residents to explore Kingsville, the library provided these visitors with coordinates and hints to seek out the library's "Jet Noise" geocache, a GPS-based scavenger hunt. The library filled the geocache with Air Show-specific items. Throughout the weekend, the library posted various updates on the library's Facebook account to help keep the public informed of the various Air Show happenings and library giveaways. Those Facebook postings had 821 views. In addition, the library provided free Wi-Fi access at the event. Nearly 700 attendees connected to the mobile hotspot. The library's involvement in this event was extremely successful and was a good experience for the library.

PirateBox Project

With the recent increase in patrons accessing the Wi-Fi network, the library is re-launching PirateBox as a part of its electronic services. The library reactivated the current pilot PirateBox at the beginning of April 2014. PirateBox is a freestanding, file-sharing 24/7 network where patrons



become the curators of what everyone sees and shares. PirateBox is not connected to the Internet and does not require a password. The device does not track, identify, or store the user's information. This network consists of only a router and an information-storing device. Users within range of the device can join PirateBox's open wireless network from any Wi-Fi-enabled device. All users have to do is connect to it, launch their web browser, and start uploading or downloading files. PirateBox users can post messages and chat anonymously with other users. The library wants the PirateBox to serve as an educational and informational depot where patrons can

store or retrieve personal stories, poems, documents, and other digital content. With this equipment, the library hopes to make the PirateBox a digital hub where patrons can share and express their creative ideas. Because the device is portable, the library is also making PirateBox available on the bookmobile during its outreach trips to Kenedy County. The library wants to give Kenedy County patrons the opportunity to share their materials, thoughts, and ideas with other locals. For more information, call the Information & Technology Librarian at 361-592-6381.