

Robert J. Kleberg Public Library Newsletter
Happenings @ Your Library®
Saturday, August 23, 2014

Summer Program Comes to a Successful Close

The library's 2014 Summer Reading and Activity Programs ended on July 26, 2014, but what a summer it has been. This year, the reading program participants surpassed the "Ultimate Pizza Challenge" goal of 85,000 total combined minutes. The goal was shattered for a final total of 128,130 minutes read by 163 readers. Program participants who turned in completed reading logs earned an invitation to a congratulatory "Reading Reward" pizza party on July 31, 2014. Sixty-five children and 40 parents enjoyed Domino's Pizza as they listened to music provided by Johnny



Alaniz, who graciously donated his time as a reward to the children. Library staff presented each child with a goody bag and a certificate commemorating this achievement. Over 890 children participated in the activity program, which spanned a seven-week period. Each Thursday afternoon, the 6-11 year olds engaged in weather-related experiments. The activities covered hurricanes, tornadoes, thunderstorms, and earthquakes. However, the most thrilling activities were those related to snow and

volcanoes. Most South Texas children have never seen, felt, or played in snow. For that afternoon, the children played in a pool of artificial snow. When the program ended, the participants did not want to leave. Volcano week was also a thriller. During this outside activity, several Mentos® were placed in a large bottle of Diet Coke® to create a geyser eruption. The culmination of the library's summer was the visit from the Texas State Aquarium. The Aquarium's staff entertained the children with a fascinating and educational demonstration that included live alligators. The children were excited to have the opportunity to have a hands-on experience with the alligators. Throughout this summer, the library was fortunate in having 15 teen and college-age volunteers. Preparations are underway for summer 2015. Mark your calendars.

Bookmobile Project Update

Work on the library express bookmobile continues. For the past month, the library has been working closely with Macareno Signs to design and implement a full color, vinyl wrap that will encompass the entire "*Library on the Go*" bookmobile. The Friends of the Robert J. Kleberg Public Library



generously donated the vinyl wrap for the bookmobile. The bookmobile made its debut at the Kingsville Independent School District's Community Fair on Friday, August 15, 2014. Attendees had an opportunity to view the bookmobile, as well as learn more about the services that will be available, which include Wi-Fi hotspot capabilities. The bookmobile will be fully functional after the interior modifications are completed, which include electrical alterations, a work desk to circulate materials, and a

computer station for public use. "*Library on the Go*" will make its next appearance at the Pinto Bean Cook-off on August 30, 2014, at the J. K. Northway Coliseum. The library invites the public to come check out this mobile outreach. Individuals wanting to assist in the bookmobile conversion project can make their financial gift to the public library. For more information about the "*Library on the Go*" bookmobile, contact Joey Garcia, Information & Technology Librarian at 361-592-6381.