## Robert J. Kleberg Public Library Newsletter Happenings @ your library® Friday, March 1, 2013

## **Fun Fact Tidbit**

Did you know that United States public libraries circulate as many materials <u>everyday</u> as Federal Express ships packages <u>worldwide</u>?

## **Library Hosts Bilingual Storytime**

The library recently hosted a bilingual storytime for children as part of a Girl Scout project that



had a very successful outcome. Girl Scout Maya Iñiguez contacted the library in early February and expressed interest in wanting to earn her Silver Award. Maya enlisted the help of her father Marco, who is an English Lecturer at Texas A&M University – Kingsville, along with her friend Madison Boyd, to start a bilingual storytime that the library could offer to the public. The first storytime was held on Friday, February 22, 2013. The afternoon storytime brought in parents and children from all walks of life to hear the bilingual trio read stories such as

Angels Ride Bikes and Other Fall Poems (Los Angeles Andan en Bicicleta: Y Otros Poemas de Otoño) and a Spanish version of Goldie Locks and the Three Bears. Children and parents also made an "An All About Me" book where children told a brief story about who they were in both English and Spanish. The library is planning to conduct another storytime with Children's Librarian Danielle Friend teaching sign language, along with storytimes in French and in German. The goal of this new program is to reach out and encourage the community to visit the library, as well as to educate them about the existing programs and services the library offers.

## **Technology Projects Improve Library Computers**

Several projects have begun on the library's overall network and show great promise of improving the library's recently updated computer labs. HBMG, Inc. of Austin, TX recently

visited the library to provide a Technology Assessment that will offer insight to the safety, security, and reliability of the library's network. This assessment, which was provided as a "paid in full" service by the Texas State Library & Archives Commission, has helped the library re-evaluate the way its computers are setup and maintained. The assessment also offered new insight into improving computer maintenance, and has helped point the library in the right direction for maintaining its policies concerning computer and Internet access. Regarding maintenance, the library has also begun



filing paperwork to receive E-Rate federal funding to help replace and create consistency with the computer hardware (i.e. switches, hubs, cabling) on the library's network. This project is expected to be ongoing, with an anticipated completion date in 2014.