

Rosenberg Library Activities Report

NOVEMBER 2022



TECHNOLOGY | BRIDGE THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

‘I felt like I won the lottery’

Laptop giveaway answers prayers for digital have-nots

By **JOSÉ MENDIOLA**
The Daily News

» GALVESTON

More than 100 people lined up outside Rosenberg Library on a cold Thursday afternoon to receive laptops, hotspots and high-speed internet services as part of an organization's initiative to help bridge the digital divide.

Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy Ave., was awarded more than \$750,000 in federal grant money to provide 1,500 laptops, hotspots and high-speed internet to those who never had access to that technology.

"This is exciting," said Mike Miller, executive director of the

See **LAPTOPS** » A5



JENNIFER REYNOLDS/The Daily News

Monique Riggs smiles and thanks Mike Miller, executive director of Rosenberg Library, for the laptop, hotspot and high-speed Internet service outside the library in Galveston on Thursday. The library teamed up with Compudopt, a nonprofit organization, to give away 1,500 laptops to Galveston residents who lack access to Internet.

FRONT PAGE GALVESTON COUNTY DAILY NEWS

“One of the children’s librarians was at a store picking up supplies for a program. When the cashier noticed that she was from the library, the cashier expressed her gratitude at how she was able to receive a computer from the library’s Isle Connect program.



She mentioned that she had been taking online courses, but had only been able to do her homework on her phone. As soon as she got her computer, she was able to hop online and finish her assignment that was due that Thursday evening!”

- ISLE CONNECT

8,437

Visitors



2,093

reference transactions

14,305

circulation

20,539

Rosenberg website visits

PROGRAMS

ONSITE PROGRAMS

61
sessions
1,358
attendance

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

4
sessions
144
attendance

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

5
sessions
87
attendance

EXTENSION SERVICES



859
items delivered

15
items mailed

44
homebound visits

MEETING ROOMS



62
reservations

1,086
attendance

COMPUTER USE



2,458
public computer sessions
2,745
wi-fi sessions



\$45,756.37 IN DONATIONS

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



1,560
materials
processed or added



7
collections added



2,115
items digitized



“Loved the 1900 Storm exhibit.
Especially the written document from the child’s perspective.”
- VISITOR FROM MICHIGAN

“We really enjoyed our visit! My husband and I read *Isaac’s Storm* aloud together last year after our middle school granddaughter told us what she was learning in school about the Hurricane of 1900. Native Texans we are, but completely ignorant of the devastation that really took place. I’m proud of Galveston for rebounding and rebuilding and becoming the wonderful Texas city it is today!”
- INSTAGRAM

“Joan Elmer called to thank the Children’s department for their help in recommending books for her great granddaughter’s visit. The books were a hit! The great granddaughter had everyone in the family reading to her. Everyone had such a good time with the books, Joan reached out for more suggestions in hopes to purchase them as Christmas gifts.”

- CHILDREN’S DEPARTMENT

“I had the pleasure of working with Children’s Librarian Heather Owens. I asked for assistance in choosing age-appropriate books for my three oldest grandboys as a list for Christmas reading.

Within 24 hours, she emailed me a wide array of children’s books, segregated into those three age levels.

Moreover, she gave me titles for both of my two year old grandsons, whom I had mentioned, but hadn’t thought there would be titles for kids so young; Heather, however, went the extra mile for me and included suggestions for them as well.

As a retired director of a UTMB departmental publication and grant support office, I was particularly impressed by Ms. Owens’ rapid assistance and the trustworthiness she displayed in fulfilling a promise.

I’ve been a patron of Rosenberg Library for 40 years and have always felt very lucky to have access to such a wonderful library whose collection is vast and diverse and whose staff is always quick to assist.”

READING | HEATHER OWENS

Rosenberg Library has books for making family traditions

Perhaps you have checked off all the items you need for an incredible Thanksgiving dinner. However, one priceless ingredient can only be

found at your local library — books.

During your holiday preparations this year, remember that books are a vital part of any holiday celebration. Whether the kids are pouring over books while you pour the gravy, or the family reads together during bedtime, adding a book to the mix creates lasting memories.



HEATHER OWENS

COLUMN: GALVESTON COUNTY DAILY NEWS

DATABASE USE

16,466
total database uses

6,136

Database use

10,330

GTHC Digital views

- MAC MCCONNELL