



Bexar County IT News

September 2013



BiblioTech – Bexar County Digital Library



After several months of planning and hard work Bexar County BiblioTech will open its doors to the public on Saturday, September 14, 2013. BiblioTech is one of a kind and offers Bexar County residents a wide range of services like internet services, computer classes, on-site use of laptop computers, desktop computers, tablets and even the ability to check out an e-reader. Joining BiblioTech is free for Bexar County residents.

Bexar County Information Technology employees visited BiblioTech on Friday, September 6, to help test the many devices, software, and network facilities to ensure the library is patron-ready for the Grand Opening.

Through the BiblioTech, residents of Bexar County will be able to access approximately 10,000 current titles through e-readers that they can check out to take home or read on the premises. Residents will also be able to use their own e-readers or tablets to access the collection.

As a member of BiblioTech you will have access to 615 e-readers, 200 pre-loaded enhanced e-readers for children, 48 computer stations, 8 laptops, 15 enhanced e-readers for the visually impaired and 40 tablets to use on-site. Children will have the ability to read their book from their e-readers.

The Mission of BiblioTech is to *“Provide all Bexar County residents the opportunity to access technology and its applications for the purposes of enhancing education and literacy, promoting reading as recreation and equipping residents of our community with necessary tools to thrive as citizens of the 21st century.”*

BiblioTech is located at the Precinct 1 Satellite Office on 3505 Pleasanton Road, and they are open Mon - Fri 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Sat and Sun 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

In addition, you can logon to the library website <http://bexarbibliotech.org/> 24 hours a day 7 days a week and still have access to all the books. Logon today and register to have access to the hundreds of books that are available at Bexar County BiblioTech.



Microsoft Office Home Use Program



As a Bexar County employee you are eligible to participate in Microsoft's Software Assurance Home Use Program (HUP). This program enables you to get a licensed copy of most Microsoft® Office desktop PC applications to install and use on your home computer.

There is a limit to one license per Bexar County employee and you must have a valid Bexar County email address.

For up-to-date information on the availability of Home Use Program software, please visit <http://microsoft.com/licensing>.

To purchase a license:

1. Go to <http://microsoft.com/licensing>
2. Select the country to which you want your order to be shipped to and choose the language for viewing the order Web site
3. Enter your corporate email address and insert the following program code DBA84CFE51. Note: This program code is assigned to Bexar County for our sole use in accessing this site. You may not share this number with anyone who is not a Bexar County employee.
4. You will receive an 'Activation Required' email from Microsoft to your Bexar County email address.
5. Forward this email to your personal email account.
6. From home, open the 'Activation Required' email and click link to buy now.
7. Purchase product and license key.
8. Click "Add to cart". You may choose from Office Professional Plus 2013 for PCs or Office for Mac 2011 for \$9.95.
9. You are given the option to purchase a backup DVD for an additional \$13.99.
10. Click "Checkout" to complete your order.
11. Click the Download button.
12. Download to your PC and install.

New Juvenile Probation Dashboards Debut

Information access has taken a dramatic turn for the better in the Bexar County Juvenile Probation Department (BCJPD) lately. Gone are the days when it sometimes took weeks just to receive a hard copy of a pre-programmed data table - stale data which primarily was only used to prepare administrative reports.

The Juvenile Probation Department has just rolled out (9-3-2013) a significantly enhanced version of the new dashboard that was initially implemented on May 1st of this year. Now, in addition to

the original Probation Officers dashboard, there is a Programs dashboard and a Juvenile Profile dashboard which can all be accessed from the same, easy-to-use Dashboard Navigation page (see illustration).

Utilizing these new dashboards, Juvenile personnel (from Probation Officers on the front line all the way up to the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer) are able to get on-line, real time, valuable information in a variety of forms with a few clicks of a mouse. For instance, they can gather information and create a personal profile on an individual juvenile; get a list of upcoming court appearances involving their assigned cases; see any psychological assessments scheduled for the juveniles in their care; and even see any gang affiliations the juveniles in question may have. And that is just a sample of the information that is available to them.

Bexar County Information Technology Department (BCIT) personnel and Juvenile Probation Department personnel have worked diligently together to create and implement this new system of dashboards designed to assist Juvenile Probation employees in accomplishing their important work more efficiently and effectively - on a daily basis. Using SQL and SSRS software, reports are produced from replicated mainframe data and updates to the Juvenile Justice Information System (JJIS) are available in the dashboards right away.

And this is not the end of this collaborative process. In fact, there is additional functionality being developed to leverage the power of information technology in the Juvenile Probation Department. Topics being discussed include refining existing dashboards, creating a special Supervisor dashboard, utilizing smart forms and revising the departmental homepage to be even more useful and attractive. So, stay tuned for further updates on this ongoing process by BCIT and BCJPD. They are showing how it's done!

San Antonio Founders Day Celebration

Bexar County IT (eServices & Innovation Technology Division) will be participating in the 10th Annual San Antonio Founders Day Celebration, showcasing interactive mapping of historical information as “A tribute to all who shaped our heritage”.

When: Saturday, October 26, 2013

Where: The Alamo

For more information visit: <http://sanantoniofoundersday.org/>

Saying Hello!

He’s six foot five inches tall and every inch a true Systems Programmer. He’s **David Hecht** who joined the County in July as the new Systems Programming Administrator. He has been in Information Technology (IT) since 1980 and as a Systems Programmer since 1985.

David comes to the County after serving as Technical Project Manager for financial institutions such as Wells Fargo and Wachovia where he was instrumental in explaining and resolving operating systems issues. In the past he has managed a Help Desk and Network Operations centers supporting 500 nationwide locations and 10,000 users. He has been involved in projects to relocate Data Centers, converting from in-house processing to a Service Bureau and from a Service Bureau to in-house processing. His expertise covers the full array of IBM Mainframe software such as z/OS, MVS, JES, VTAM, TCP/IP, CICS, DB2, TMONs, etc.

When he is not speaking computers you will find David on the Golf Course or working on his home improvement list. Like everyone in this part of the country, David wishes it would rain. Then he can start sailing on the lakes again.

Saying Goodbye!



This month the CIJS team says goodbye and good luck to Allison Sciaraffa. Her sweet, bubbly personality always brought a ray of sunshine. Cathy Maras commented, “Allison was such a treat to work with”. Allison had been working with the CIJS team since June 2012 as our Technical Support Specialist III, where she helped with desktop support and help desk support. Before becoming a full time employee she interned for BCIT Technical Support for over a year while attending school. Allison graduated from Northwest Vista in June 2012 with a degree in

Information Security & Assurance. As part of the CIJS team, Allison was responsible for prepping PC’s that required AiCMS. Other duties included installing AiCMS and working on help desk calls for the CIJS team.

We asked Allison if there were any words of wisdom she would like to leave us with. She referenced Gandhi and said, “Be the change you want to see in the world.” Allison was that change for CIJS and will be truly missed.