



San Antonio
Public Library

Director's
Report

June 2014

Meet the Author: Ignacio Garcia, Bazan Branch Library

May 19, 2014 – June 14, 2014

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

On May 19, Library Director Ramiro Salazar; Assistant Library Director Dale McNeill and Branch Services Coordinator Kate Gray attended the District 2 Branch Library Initiative Committee meeting. The Committee, comprised of community members, invited Library Leadership to discuss the planned District 2 Branch Library.

On May 22, Library Director Ramiro Salazar and Branch Services Coordinator Kate Gray attended a public hearing hosted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regarding an application for a new solid waste transfer station proposed in close proximity of the new District 2 Branch Library.

On May 28, the Library kicked off the Mayor's Summer Reading Club with a media event at the Central Library. Mayor Julian Castro; Library Board Chair Jean Brady; Library Director Ramiro Salazar; Children Services Coordinator Viki Ash and Teen Services Coordinator Jennifer Velasquez delivered remarks during the event. A number of media outlets attended the event.

On June 10, District 5 Library Trustee Lupe G. Ochoa and Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales to discuss library related issues. That afternoon, Library Director Salazar attended the City of San Antonio's Leadership Contributor Appreciation Reception hosted by the City's United Way Charitable Campaign Committee.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES (SYSTEM-WIDE)

The energies of all the children's librarians were focused on Summer Reading this month. "Fizz Boom Read" launched on May 28 with a press event featuring Mayor Julian Castro as well as Library Director Ramiro Salazar and Library Board President Jean Brady. Registration for the Reading Club, which officially began on June 1, is now at 3,164 Listeners and 7,288 Readers for a total of over 10,400 children already busy reading (and listening) this summer. Children's staff has expects to meet and exceed 2013's record Summer Reading registration of over 27,000 children.

The "Fizz Book Read" theme inspired a wide variety of science-themed programs including performances by Dinosaur George and Lucas Miller, the Singing Zoologist. Additionally, Mad Science of Austin and San Antonio will be visiting every branch to present a science demonstration that features plenty of fizzing – and at least a little bit of booming! Not to be outdone by the visiting performers, the children's librarians, under the leadership of Central Children's Department Manager Ruth Chiego, developed twelve Kids Time programs that all involve some level of scientific inquiry. And for the first time, special science-themed programs were also developed for the youngest children – those that attend Baby Time, Toddler Time and Story Time. These programs were created by members of the Early Literacy Committee with leadership provided by Clair Larkin (Landa).

Children's Coordinator Viki Ash participated in reading and scoring grant applications submitted to the City's Department of Human Services under the youth development rubric. These applications centered on after-school and summer enrichment programs. Final decisions regarding the applications will be made and announced in the coming months by DHS staff.

The City's introduction of a new employee evaluation system provided opportunities for clarifying job duties and expectations of SAPL's Children's Librarians. The City expects each department to articulate clearly defined and measurable outcomes for every job title. In children's services, the expectation of quality as well as quantity poses a particular challenge both for the children's librarians and for their supervisors. However, considerable headway was made in addressing both the city's expectations and the library's goals and objectives. Working together Mission Branch Manager Elma Nieto-Rodriguez and Viki are developing new "EPEs" for both Children's Librarians I and II. The first draft of these instruments is now available for use in FY 2014 with additional iterations expected before implementation in FY 2015.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Every Child Ready to Read Workshops (ECRR)

Little Read Wagon closed out the school year with a few more Every Child Ready to Read workshops presented at Medio Creek Elementary, Fenley Center and Esparza Head Start. With school barely out for the summer, phone calls and emails have already begun to come in requesting workshops for the next school year.

Programs for Teen Parents

Little Read Wagon staff made final teen parent presentations at the following area high schools: East Central, Sam Houston, Stevens and MacArthur. The teen parent team also presented a plenary session at the Teen Parent Summit hosted by San Antonio Independent School District and The Children's Shelter at Our Lady of the Lake University. The team prepared packets of summer reading program information for each of the teen parents. The more than 100 teen parents were all very excited about the interactive session with a quick make-and-take opportunity. Xelena Gonzalez also presented a Play & Learn program for the teen parents and their children enrolled at Fox Tech Learning Center and Cooper Academy.

Youth Outreach Story Time

Several youth outreach story time sites have closed for the summer. Little Read Wagon staff have taken this opportunity to serve a few new sites until the school year begins.

Community Events

Cresencia Huff joined Viki Ash at Douglass Elementary for their end-of-year carnival. Families enjoyed the shade of the VROOM! van and embellishing stick puppets with paint or markers. On June 9 Mrs. Huff represented the library at KLRN's Super Why event at Woodlawn Park. The event was cut short by a thunderstorm, but many families visited the library information table and played with the home-made bowling set before the downpour.

Play & Learn

Summer Play & Learn means big crowds for Little Read Wagon! Play & Learn programs are currently offered at Woodlawn and Arnold Park. Titles from the Texas 2 x 2 Reading List are the center piece of this summer's Play & Learn programs. Books featured so far are *20 big trucks in the middle of the street* and *Tap the magic tree*. The series at Fairchild Park concluded on May 27. The unusually high number of infants participating at Fairchild Park inspired the use of a small, empty wading pool to create a safe area for babies to sit while an adult seated outside the pool shares books and other materials. So far the "baby pool" has been very effective for encouraging parents to engage with their youngest child and preventing older children from invading the space.

Professional Development

Corinne Sanchez and Julia Lazarin have begun an online course on teaching adult learners. Cresencia Huff will begin the same course on June 18. So far Ms. Sanchez and Ms. Lazarin have found the course to be a good refresher with a few new ideas to apply. Ms. Sanchez has also agreed to be the Little Read Wagon's Technology Liaison. She and Mrs. Huff have already participated in a web-conference on internet filtering.

TEEN SERVICES (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Teen Summer Reading Program

The 2014 Teen Summer Reading Program, "BOOM," kicked off on June 1. The Teen SRP is focused on science and technology this year, with teen programs that include 3D printing, robotics, coding and more. Each book a teen reads or library program they attend earns them a chance to win a grand prize at the end of summer. Teens can register for the program online through the Library's website.

Programming

“Rock the Plaza,” a partnership between Teen Services and Alamo Music’s Alamo Rock School (ARS), took place at the Central Library Plaza on May 31. The concert was planned and implemented by Teen Services Library Assistant JD Elizondo, and featured teens from both the ARS and the Central Library. With the help of Central Library’s “Eclectic Electric” teens, the ARS, the Library’s Marketing team, the Teen Services staff and Teen Services Coordinator Jennifer Velasquez, the event was a great success.

Program Promotion

On May 23, JD Elizondo and Teen Services Librarian I Caroline Mossing appeared on an episode of *Cover to Cover* in which they discussed the Teen Summer Reading Program, the Summer Maker Camp at Teen Services, and the Eclectic Electric music program in Teen Services. On May 30, JD appeared on the evening edition of KENS News, in which he discussed the “Rock the Plaza” teen event with news anchor Randy Beamer.

Off-Site Service

During the reporting period, Teen Services Librarian II Kathleen Fordyce spoke to new students during Orientation at the Academy for Creative Education (ACE) as part of her monthly visits to the school. She informed the students about the services and resources the Library offers for teens and signed them up for library cards.

Teen Services Librarian I Caroline Mossing visited Navarro and Pickett Academies in SAISD, promoting the Teen Summer Reading Program, digital resources, and the YA collection, as well as issuing library cards.

Teen Services staff will begin hosting teen programming at the Sonny Melendrez Community Center every other Wednesday beginning in mid-June and finishing in August. Programs will include music, technology, gaming and art.

Partnerships

San Antonio Food Bank

Teen Services at the Central Library began serving free lunches to children and teens Monday through Friday from 12:30 to 2:00, through its ongoing partnership with the SA Food Bank. Lunches will be served through August 22 this year. Other library locations participating in the Food Bank’s Summer Food Service Program include Johnston, Memorial and Pan American.

Parks and Recreation

On June 4, JD Elizondo and Jennifer Velasquez met with a Parks and Recreation staff member to discuss a partnership with the City’s Take Note Band. Take Note is a professional-level band consisting of 13-18 year-olds that the city teaches and sponsors. More details will be included as this effort develops.

On June 9, JD Elizondo, Caroline Mossing and Jennifer Velasquez met with another division of Parks and Recreation to discuss a different partnership opportunity. Teen Services will conduct teen programming at the Lincoln Community Center every other Wednesday during the summer. This will also provide an opportunity for Teen Services to bring the V.R.O.O.M. to the community center, since it is located in the V.R.O.O.M.’s target service neighborhood.

Inspire U

Staff involved in the Inspire U Workplace Mentoring Program (part of SA2020), met with their “littles” from Edison High School for the last lunch of the school year on May 27 at the Central Library. The “bigs” gave their littles a summer goodie bag filled with lots of fun and useful items.

System-wide Support

JD Elizondo assisted Cody’s Teen Services Librarian, David Gallin-Parisi, with an outreach visit to Health Careers High School on May 21. JD and David spoke to teens about library services and resources for teens.

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

The Marketing department has been extremely busy designing creative and marketing campaigns for the following: Latino Collection space design and enhancements, Latino Collection reception scheduled for June 24, library vinyl clings, the Library Portal at the Briscoe Western Art Museum, and LGBT Pride Month.

The Library Ambassador training took place during the reporting period with more than a dozen volunteers attending who are interested in supporting the Library's outreach programs.

Marcie Hernandez continued her weekly public relations outreach to media and the weekly, "This Weekend at SAPL" event newsletter which has proven to be extremely popular with the eNewsletter. She was also instrumental in the coordination of the first "Rock the Plaza" teen program at Central Library. She worked closely with the program's lead, JD Elizondo from Teen Services.

Joseph Marks continued working on the Latino Collection logistical planning as well as work on the expansion of social media platforms. He also assisted the team at Bazan Branch Library with the Meet the Author: Ignacio Garcia program.

Ana Farr and Giselle Weyte focused their design efforts on the following: virtual library vinyl clings, Rock the Plaza (teen concert).

SAPL received a lot of social media attention during the reporting period. Facebook likes crossed the 7,000 milestone, placing it among the top four amongst City of San Antonio departments. There are currently 7,083 likes. Twitter has also seen a significant jump in followers. To date, there are 1,935 followers.



CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

The end of the school year introduced many visiting groups to Central Library's Children's Department. Kindred Elementary School students, graduating to middle school, joined Kate Sandoval (Librarian II) and Jasmin Salinas (Librarian I) for a tour of the third floor and an overview of the Teen area. The tweens then had a chance to hear about the Summer Reading Club and programs while browsing a variety of books. Towards the end of their visit the group was able to also enjoy solving all Boredom Buster activities before returning to school.

A City Year Group affiliated with Rhodes Middle School has been receiving electronic resource training from Manager Ruth Chiego and toured the third floor with Kate Sandoval at Central Library during a special, after-school experience. The tweens explored the art collections at Central and Ms. Sandoval encouraged them to attend the *Rock the Plaza* event taking place in teen services that weekend.

Howard Early Childhood Development Center's bilingual kindergarten class visits the Central Library annually. To continue this tradition, Ms. Sandoval led the group on a fun-filled visit that included a collaborative art project. The group had the distinctive honor of being the first children to sign up for the Mayor's Summer Reading Club at the Central Library, as they arrived mere minutes after Mayor **Julián** Castro officially announced the program's start via his press conference on the third floor.

The first outreach visit of the summer led Ms. Chiego and Amy Lewis (Librarian I) to St. Anthony's summer camp with fifty kids ranging from Kindergarten through fifth grade. After a question and answer session from the inquisitive bunch, Ms. Lewis and Ms. Chiego did a science demonstration called "Elephant Toothpaste" which made the group very excited about the SAPL summer of science and reading! Sign-ups for the Summer Reading Club continued at this event.

To promote the Library's summer offerings system wide, Ms. Sandoval also shared the exciting, science-themed programs and performances taking place at public libraries across the city for children, and described the Mayor's Summer Reading Club on the City of San Antonio's *Cover To Cover* television show.

"The Story Laboratory" at Central officially opened during Central Children's Department's Summer Kickoff Party! During the two-hour extravaganza of science exploration, the over 200 families in attendance built elaborate Lego and Duplo creations, investigated the properties of homemade play dough, played with logic-defying water beads, and discovered the joy of a baking soda and vinegar chemical reactions. To set the scene for their science play, kids made their own mad scientist costumes with wacky colored glasses and crazy hair made from paper.

The décor in the Children's area features fun, bright green "chemical splats" on the walls, and fantastically colorful beakers with bubbles oozing out. Library Assistant Judith Slaughter was instrumental in making all these magical elements, pulling the Story Laboratory theme together.

Adding to the science theme, Ms. Salinas also created two displays to help highlight engaging nonfiction and biography books from the collection. One display showcases a different scientist each week and the other features high interest experiment books which encourage further exploration.

The first *Family Fun* celebration of the summer was *Mess Fest*. And ooey and gooey it was! "Playdough Surprise", "Elephant Toothpaste", shaving cream painting, and water bead activities provided participants with plenty of opportunities to get their hands dirty (and clean)! Children also made bright and colorful mad scientist hats and goggles to wear during the party.

Kids Time (for school age children) returned to Central Library with a splash as Ms. Sandoval and Ms. Salinas led the group in an exploration of water properties. After hearing some stories about learning to swim, children delighted in experimenting with different objects to see which ones would sink or float. Using the knowledge they gained from these tests, they constructed their own boats from craft sticks, foil and masking tape. Participants saw if their boat creations would stay afloat in a tub of water. The group enjoyed sending their creations on their maiden voyages, and learned a little about physics in the process.

A visit from *Mad Science* an organization with the mission to "spark imaginative learning" dazzled the families in attendance with shocking science demonstrations causing as many gasps as magic tricks! DNA Dan's demonstrations inspired many budding, young scientists to try some kitchen science at home as many of the books displayed by the librarians were snatched up at the end of the program! The program truly reinforced the STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) focus of many of the programs created and selected this summer for children. This focus was also designed to help reinforce the Texas Essential Skills and Knowledge (TEKS) put forth by TEA (Texas Education Agency) since it absolutely encouraged scientific literacy and hands-on engagement.

For the second *Family Fun* Celebration of summer the Central children's librarians had an *Elephant and Piggie Party* inspired by the Mo Willems beginner book series. After reading *Happy Pig Day!* to the large

group of families, Ms. Lewis introduced them to all the fun play stations based on various books from the series. A dress up station with props and a photo opportunity backdrop for “We’re In a Book” was very popular. Children could take turns running their own imaginary ice cream shop. A bean bag toss and bird nest race kept busier bodies active. It was a fun-filled afternoon of imaginary play! The participants also flexed their artistic, creative minds by making their own *Elephant and Piggie* puppets, sculpting gray and pink friends out of homemade play dough. They also wrote and arranged their own *Elephant and Piggie* comic books to take home and read some more!

Ms. Salinas ushered in a new session of summer *Toddler Time* programs at Central. The group of young children and their parents gathered to sing songs, stories, and play! The highlight was the sensory bin where toddlers turned dried corn and beans into cups of “coffee” and “hot cocoa” to share with all the grownups in the room!

REFERENCE

Reference staff continues to transform lives by creating, hosting and participating in a diverse range of events, programs and trainings.

Pannaga Prasad, Cynthia De Leon and Gamini Haluwana organized one of the last presentations for Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. On May 31 at the Central Library, the program “The Many colors of Music” featured Indian music in all colors – Classical, Folk and Light. The audience appreciated the exposure to another culture’s unique heritage.

On June 1, several Reference staff including Maria Hernandez, Adolph Lopez, Tricia Masterson and Dan Garcia began a new series for patrons called “Technology Questions Answered”. This series is an expanded (in both scope and frequency) version of the “eReader U” tutoring program. On a rotating basis staff provides in-person support for a wide range of technology questions beyond the digital downloading process. On Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Connect Training area, staff offers patrons an open forum for questions about basic computing, tablets, smartphones and the Internet or software. This more open ended approach to technical literacy meets the changing needs of the community.

This summer, on Sundays, Reference staff will present films featuring iconic characters from the Marvel Comics universe. The “Marvel Summer Movie Series” kicked off on June 1 with a film featuring Marvel’s giant, green - “you wouldn’t like me when I’m angry” – rage-a-holic. The series runs through July 27. Fiction Team members led by Cristine Mitchamore and Ms. Masterson created an appealing tie-in display on Fifth Floor; the display theme is: ‘(Super) Heroes Come in Many Guises’.

Ms. De Leon and Ms. Mitchamore both volunteered at the Texana Department’s Family Heritage Name booth at the annual Folklife Festival held this year on June 7 and June 8.

On June 14 Ms. Mitchamore acted as liaison for a SCORE workshop; SCORE is a nationwide organization whose initiatives support entrepreneurs and small business owners.

TEEN SERVICES

Weekly Programs

Mondays with JD Elizondo (Library Assistant): JD continued his weekly Eclectic Electric music program, in which teens learn to play guitar and/or keyboards. Teens can also teach their peers to play. Other activities that are part of the “Eclectic” component of the weekly programming are gaming and art. On May 19, teens repurposed withdrawn children’s books by altering the story content and drawing pictures over the illustrations, effectively creating their own stories.

Tuesdays with Caroline Mossier (Librarian I): During the reporting period, Caroline hosted Science and Tech Tuesdays. Teens downloaded 3D models and made adjustments to them using 3D modeling

software before printing them on the Replicator 2; created ArtBots using up-cycled materials, markers, batteries and motors; evaluated iPad apps for library use; built and controlled Lego Mindstorms robots; and created and used accessories for Sphero. Beginning in July, during regular programming time, teens at Central will be participating in Maker Camp, an online project-based program created by Make: Magazine and Google.

Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II): During the reporting period, teens enjoyed playing video and board games, such as Rock Band, Madden and Apples to Apples. Teens also engaged in art activities and provided suggestions for nutrition programs for upcoming program days.

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): On Thursdays, teens participate in activities at their library that encourage peer-to-peer assistance, creativity and helping plan out future activities. To round out Teen Spring, teens requested making bead sprites, using perler beads, a pattern and an iron to melt the beads together. To start Teen Summer Reading 2014: BOOM, teens suggested making doughnuts, coincidentally, the day before National Doughnut Day. They made the dough, cut out shapes and cooked them. As they waited for the dough to rest, teens played chess. Getting messy and sparking lots of creativity, teens cut out stencils from freezer paper using x-acto knives, ironed them on t-shirts and bandanas, and then used fabric paint to modify their item. Programs range from creating to playing to eating and pictures of most Thursday teen programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>.

On Saturday, June 14, teens gathered to make crafts and foods related to Hayao Miyazaki, the famed Japanese anime director. The movies played all day, with spurts of spirited discussion and conversation. A teen volunteer felt so moved by one movie character, she wrote a very short and thoughtful blog post: <http://210teenlibrary.wordpress.com/2014/06/14/spirited-away/>. Then teens used polymer clay to make mini-characters from the movies. Using felt and polyester stuffing, teens also had the opportunity to create cute plushies. Afterwards, they made sushi rice and shaped them into typical riceball shapes, and most notably, Nintendo character, Kirby. Regina Almanza worked with teens to plan and host the event.

Tours and Groups

150 students from the Academy of Creative Education (ACE) visited the Central Library on May 22 for a tour of the library, catalog and database instruction and a creative activity. Teen Services staff at the Central Library was on hand to rotate the groups through each "station." The students spent the entire morning in the library, and then had pizza in the Auditorium before returning to school.

TEXANA / GENEALOGY

The highlight of this month for Texana/Genealogy and their Friends group was the Folklife Festival. On June 7 and 8, the Texana/Genealogy Department co-ordinated for the fifth consecutive year the ever-popular Heritage of Family Names booth at the 43rd annual Texas Folklife Festival. Staff, along with a wonderfully dedicated group of fifty volunteers, researched the meaning of festival-goers surnames and then presented them with an attractive keepsake certificate. In spite of the rain and the rising temperatures, approximately nine hundred certificates were handed out. Sylvia Reyna and Debbie Countess once again co-ordinated and organized this fun and educational event.

On May 20, Frank Faulkner spoke to the San Antonio Vaqueros about the resources in Texana/Genealogy and told some stories from San Antonio's forgotten past. The Vaqueros are the local chapter of the Western International, a group interested in Western history, life, and literature.

On June 5, Edward L. Miller donated the research collection for his book *New Orleans and the Texas Revolution* to Texana/Genealogy. Mr. Miller began research for his book in the library on Market and South St. Mary's, finally publishing it in 2004. Mr. Miller delved into previously unused or overlooked papers housed in New Orleans to reconstruct a chain of events that set New Orleans in many ways at the center of the Texian fight for independence. In the fall of 1835, mercantile houses were split over supporting Texians or Mexico in the fight for Texas. In the end New Orleans capital and loans supported

two military companies known as the New Orleans Greys who went to support the Texians and purchased large tracts of land in Texas for investment purposes. This collection contains copies of the documents and other materials used by Mr. Miller in his research.



BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Planning continues that will bring two partnerships—the *Adult Learning* program & the *AmeriCorps Vista* program—to the Bazan community this summer.

The June 5 book discussion of *When Mexicans Could Play Ball: Basketball, Race and Identity in San Antonio-1945*, led by author Dr. Ignacio Garcia, was a wonderful kickoff to Bazan's Adult Summer Reading program. Included in the audience of 65 were Lanier High School alumni, who shared photos and memorabilia from their years at their alma mater. This presentation was a team effort: Bazan Library Assistant Jennifer Martinez suggested the title as Bazan's *Read Our Book*. Librarian Patricia Soderberg met Dr. Garcia at the SAPLF 2014 *Book Festival*, and invited him to Bazan. He graciously included the Bazan program to a full agenda on a return commitment to San Antonio, working with Ms. Soderberg to iron out the details. Thanks to the SAPL Marketing team for the promotional flyer, for contacting Lanier High School, and for the social media publicity.

Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen and Library Assistant Jennifer Martinez visited DeZavala Elementary school to share Career Day and Summer Reading information with students.

BROOK HOLLOW

Children's Librarian Rachael Barrera went to Thousand Oaks Elementary School to conduct an outreach visit on May 28. Ms. Barrera presented to over 600 school children about the summer reading program and the many resources, programs and events the library has to offer families this summer.

On May 31, Brook Hollow hosted a presentation by local author Barbara Lazar. Ms. Lazar has written a historical novel set in 12th century Japan, *The Pillow Book of the Flower Samurai*. This program was part of the library's observance of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Through the generosity of the Brook Hollow Friends, the branch now has attractive locking binders for the current issues of all magazines. The binders allow for a more streamlined, professional presentation, as well as providing added security for high demand items.

Brook Hollow again hosted early voting and also served as an Election Day location on May 27.

Brook Hollow's popular series of American Sign Language classes offered in partnership with students from MacArthur High School concluded for the school year on May 25 with 15 in attendance. The branch has already received inquiries about whether the classes will be hosted again in the fall and arrangements to continue are being made.

CARVER

G.W. Carver staff, on May 20, led 13 George Gervin Academy students on a tour of the branch and demonstrated library services. The school sent another group, about 18, for the same presentation on June 4. During each visit, the students obtained library cards and learned about the Summer Reading Program. The SRP was also among the topics for discussion when DL Grant visited S. J. Davis Middle for career day. In addition to the SRP, he promoted careers in SAPL and the City of San Antonio. About 100 students attended the Davis presentation.

On May 27, the branch welcomed new Children's Librarian Jodi Miller. Ms. Miller holds a bachelor's degree from Mesa State University and an MLS from the University of Texas. She is a native of Colorado. Ms. Miller hit the ground running once she arrived. One of her earliest outreach visits was to Carmelite Daycare Center, where she met with 33 children and teachers. Her numbers for Come and Go crafts and Kids' Times have been very strong.

At its annual volunteer awards ceremony on June 2, S.J Davis Middle School honored Carver Branch staffers DL Grant, Deanna Sutton and Alexandria Martinez with certificates of appreciation. The three were recognized for their service to students and faculty.

Ms. Martinez earned the associate of the arts degree from San Antonio College. She plans to further her studies at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

District 2 Councilwoman Ivy Taylor returned to Carver for a second installment of her book discussion group. Featured title was *Extraordinary Ordinary People* by former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. The event drew more than 20 readers. About 75 of Ms. Taylor's constituents jammed the branch meeting room for a discussion of an African American history initiative to preserve the community's cultural presence. The dialogue featured a panel including community advocate Nettie Hinton, and Eugene Coleman, former publisher of the SNAP News.

The Friends of Carver Branch held its spring book sale on Saturday June 7. The event was a hit with customers who were lured to the branch by bargains on print and visual and audio items. The same day, the Summer Reading Kickoff Party got underway, attracting nearly forty revelers who munched on hotdogs and chips. Children were invited to play games.

CODY

On May 29, as part of *The Holocaust: Learn and Remember* series, 34 attendees listened to Dr. Edward B. Westermann discuss the history of the Holocaust. Participants expressed their enthusiasm for the program and expressed that they appreciated that the library was offering these forms of educational programs.

Councilman Ron Nirenberg was on hand for story time on May 19, where he read stories to approximately 35 children and their parents.

Students from Boone Elementary, and Locke Hill Elementary Schools received information on May 28 about the Kids Summer Reading program when Sheila Acosta, Children's Librarian, visited with each of the classes in the schools' libraries.

On May 30, Sheila spoke to over 1,000 students and teachers when she visited both Thornton and Rhodes Elementary Schools in NISD to promote the Summer Reading Program. Sheila demonstrated how children could sign up for the summer reading both online and by visiting their branch library.

NISD Title I Family Involvement Department coordinated a program with Sheila to acquaint parents and their children with free programs for children during the summer. Sheila was able to address parents at

this family involvement and information program held on May 31 regarding library programs and the summer reading program for children, teens and adults.

Sheila also visited with Howsman Elementary students, kinder through fifth grades, on June 3 to present the summer reading program, and inform students of all of the programs taking place at the Cody Branch this summer.

On June 4, over 300 students from Larkspur Elementary received information from Sheila about the summer reading program as well as information about kids' book and media downloads.

Two pre-k groups from Howsman Elementary School visited Cody on June 4 to sign up for library cards and the summer reading program. Sheila read a story and then gave a quick tour to the children and their parents.

Cody's summer reading kick-off program was held on June 5. Children were busy creating animal habitats. Sheila served snacks to the children and parents, approximately 60 in attendance, and some of the children even created chalk art drawings of some of the animals.

Over 100 patrons attended the arts and crafts event for Father's Day. Sheila hosted this children's program on both Tuesday and Wednesday, June 10 and 11. Sheila said the children wanted to do all of the crafts, and parents commented that they really enjoyed the variety of crafts available.

Kids Time on June 12 was a popular event with Cody patrons. Rodney Rash, magician, produced a show which complemented the summer reading theme- "Is it science or is it magic?" Sheila reported that many of the students were so excited that they stayed after the show to discuss science with him.

Cody Teen Programs ramped up in preparation for the summer. The last after school *Teen Time* featured RBFs (aka Root Beer Floats). One musically inclined teen compiled a playlist for the RBF program, featuring relevant music that added to a fun atmosphere. Many teens reviewed the library event for the teen summer reading program. During other programs, teens continued to post pictures on Instagram, documenting their library activities. Finally creative teens made their own *Teen Time* signage for library programs.

Teen Volunteers started training for the summer time. New and old volunteers returned to Cody to assist with programs and processing holds. The volunteers have learned a ton in their first weeks and enjoy being at the library. Two active teen volunteers posted a blog post to the teen blog and said this, ""Eventually Gabby and I got the hang of working here and honestly there is no better way to earn volunteer hours." (<http://210teenlibrary.wordpress.com/2014/05/16/the-story-of-how-we-got-here/>).

Outreach activities happened toward the end of May, with visits to Health Careers High School and Hobby Middle School. Materials about volunteer opportunities and the teen summer reading program were distributed to students, teachers, and school librarians. Students were excited to participate in library programs and learn about earning volunteer hours.

COLLINS GARDEN

In the middle of May, preparations for summer reading began in earnest, transforming the look of the children's department into science lab. Paper chains that suggest DNA strands are on display, as well as paper beakers, green ooze, and fun signs that say *Fizz Boom Read* in bright colors. Activity Calendars and bookmarks have been placed where families are sure to find them and all the displays have been expanded to include a wide variety of science topics. Each display is changed out once a week, to keep it fresh and interesting.

Collins Garden is celebrating the new Farmers Market in the adjoining park with books and activities that will encourage the local community to support the Farmers Market. The branch is displaying books on home gardens and healthy eating; and the craft offerings celebrate farming and cooking.

Since school is completed for the year, school outreach has been replaced with more activities for local daycares. All daycares are signing up for summer reading and afterschool programs are also being signed up for summer reading.

Collins Garden Elementary invited our Children's Librarian, Leigh Bedford, to join them for Career Day. She is always eager to accept such invitations because it is an opportunity to meet local teachers, as well as talk directly to the students about being a librarian while promoting summer reading.

Collins Garden Branch Library once again served as an Early Voting location and Election Day site – this time for the runoff election.

On Thursday June 5, a certified navigator from AACOG was available to provide information about the Affordable Care Act and assistance with enrollment by using the Marketplace site.

CORTEZ

Cortez Library closed June 9 for renovations. The Extreme Library Makeover is well underway. The staff is excited for the public to see all the new changes when the branch reopens on June 30. A grand reopening is being planned for late July, along with many new programs.

Zombie Meet, hosted by Madeline Vasquez, continues to be a well-attended monthly program.

Cortez Library's weekly Teen Time on Thursdays remains a popular place to play video games and use laptops. The Friends of the Library continue to generously donate refreshments.

The English as a Second Language course, offered on Saturdays, remains popular.

Children's librarian Connie Hejl has been visiting many local schools for story time and to promote summer reading. Ms. Hejl and Ms. Vasquez threw a great end-of-school party with games, treats, and lots of fun activities. The Scholastic Van made a stop at the branch during the party as well.

Cortez Library hosted Dr. Edward Westermann, who presented an overview of the Holocaust for Holocaust Remembrance Month.

Patrons had the opportunity to learn about the Health Insurance Marketplace at two information sessions with a Navigator from the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG).

The library hosted a program by JOVEN – parents and children created Guatemalan worry dolls together.

FOREST HILLS

Children's Librarian Valerie Shelley made numerous visits to schools in the last weeks of their school year in order to promote the Mayor's Summer Reading Club. Over 2,570 students were invited to join the library this summer in Fizz Boom Read activities. The Summer Reading Kickoff event on June 6 featured a fun-filled performance by Donnabelle the clown. Donnabelle shared her favorite books with the audience and had some participate in her funny skits. The children were treated to balloon animals and snow cones afterwards. Funding for this program was provided by the Friends of the Forest Hills Library.

The first Kids Time for the summer was confidently presented by Viki Ash. She demonstrated primary and secondary color mixtures and encouraged the children to make tissue paper designs overlapping the

paper to create different hues. This was a great segue into the Come & Go Craft the following day at which the children fashioned color wheels.

Tween Time began its first summer venture. The tweens had fun discovering how far the planets are from the sun using toilet paper (59,000,000,000 miles per square). They discovered ways to make the work easier, yet still accurate.

Branch Manager Mary Naylor is leading the Teen Summer Reading program this year. The summer started with the first event on June 12. Teens decorated bookends to be used in the Young Adult section of the library. The Spare Parts organization presented an art event on June 14. Teens created unique sculptures from random objects. Each teen was able to take home 2 of their sculptures and left 1 for the library to use to decorate the teen area. The sculptures created were all unique and very creative. Teens will have numerous opportunities to participate in activities all summer long which will qualify them for the prize drawing at the end of the summer.

Forest Hills will be encouraging adult patrons to participate in the Adult Summer Reading program by reading the *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*. As a connection to the main character in the story, a teenaged boy with autism, adults were invited to an open forum with Ms. Lynne Parsons Heilbrun, Autism Research Coordinator with the UTHSCSA Dept. of Family and Community Medicine. She offered some personal insight into the main character at this meeting on June 2.

The Forest Hills has two volunteers who assist with pulling books, preparing materials for programs, setting up and tearing down for programs, and helping patrons. Their assistance has been greatly appreciated as the branch enters in to the very busy summer season.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Adult

Cindy Moreno, Librarian II, visited Alicia Trevino Senior Center on Monday, June 2. She has started a book discussion with interested seniors and they discussed *The Good Luck of Right Now* by Matthew Quick. She also spoke to seniors about the Adult Summer Reading program and the San Antonio Public Library.

The Adult Summer Reading program has interested many customers and staff has signed up many eager participants. Nicole Garza created a white board for the *I Am Malala* branch selection and many customers enjoyed looking at the artistic display as well as signing up for the reading program. Justine Causey, Library Aide, has created a Literary Elements book display. Cindy created a book display titled "Got Book Chemistry?"

The Friends of the Great Northwest Library held a very successful book sale in June.

Childrens

Cari Raley, Children's Librarian, prepared for Summer Reading during the end of May and customers were eager to start with the Summer Reading programs. The first day of children's programs brought in approximately 450 attendees.

Ms. Raley and volunteers created a Summer Reading display on the window by the Adult Reference area as well as by the Children's area. The window display follows the theme of "Fizz Boom Read!"

Teens

Teens kicked off the summer reading program by making ice cream from scratch. Every Wednesday is video gaming for teens.

Stephanie Vazquez, Teen Librarian, visited the Taft High School and Brennan High Schools to drop off summer reading sign up information at the school libraries.

GUERRA

The staff is working hard and sharing ideas and information to make the Summer Reading Program a success. Staff participation is also important as the branch prepares for its 10th Anniversary on July 19. Guerra was early voting (May 19 through May 23) and election site (May 27) for the primary election runoff. Librarians participated in training on the new performance management and review system.

Branch Manager Dexter Katzman spent most of the reporting period at Pan American as Interim Manager.

Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard was acting manager during the reporting period. She held the Thursday Evening Book Club on June 12. Four members joined Cris for a discussion of the *The Haunting of Josie* by Kay Hooper. She designed and installed two Summer Reading Program displays. She worked closely with Jef Martin, Branch Manager/Maverick, and Cate Prazak, Branch Manager/Cortez, on reviewing applications and holding interviews to fill between ten and twelve temporary Library Aide positions.

Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson-Gibbs continued her visits to elementary schools and daycare centers in the area where she promoted the Mayor's Summer Reading Club 2014. On May 21, she participated in an Infopeople Webinar--What's New in Children's Literature presented by Penny Peck. On May 22, she attended Mary Hull Elementary School's Career Day where she presented to 100 first grade students on her job as a Children's Librarian. Arlene planned and presented one Tween Time on June 10. On June 4 and 11 she planned and presented two Toddler Times and two Story Times. She presented one Kids Time on June 11. Arlene created a Summer Reading Lab to encourage reading during the summer months. She created a space and displayed books for new or reluctant readers to gain confidence and develop fluency---children in the 5 to 12 age range have the option to read alone or with or to a friend or caregiver.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson designed and installed a display promoting authors of gardening books with a focus on gardening in Texas and a display commemorating the work of Maya Angelou. He gave a bilingual presentation about the Summer Reading Program to parents at Woodward Terrace Elementary School on May 23. On May 24, he assisted local artist Kristin Sue Kim in hanging a number of her original acrylics emphasizing the international nature of painting and art. He moderated the Club de Lectura (Spanish language book club) discussion of *Inferno* by Dan Brown on May 29. He attended the quarterly volunteer liaison meeting on June 3.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra on May 22 and 29 and June 5 12. Based on expressed interest from the group, he provided game activities instead of movies during this reporting period. In support of the Summer Reading Program, he made an outreach visit to the John Jay High School Community Resource Fair on May 22 where he distributed literature and promoted library programs and services to ten students. Edward also created a Teen SRP display in the teen area.

IGO

Early voting kept Igo's meeting rooms occupied through the third week in May. The Afternoon Book Club met on May 20 to discuss Ernest Gaines' *A Lesson Before Dying*, while next door, the Genealogy Club learned from Frank Faulkner how to find information in newspapers. The Mystery Club discussed Erika Chase's *Killer Read*.

The Igo Elderberries Groundbreaking Memoirs Anthology was printed and is being distributed to the memoirists, the Igo Library, and the Igo Friends.

On May 22, the Live Well Age Smart program on Gentle Exercise and Healthy Eating was presented by WellMed. There were 10 attendees.

On June 5, the Igo Elderberries presented The Book Arts with Rose Harms, Fine Arts Teacher at UTSA and the Southwest School of Art. 21 people attended and viewed the varied artistic books she had created and learned about the history of the book.

JOHNSTON

The staff at Johnston supported early voting twice during this reporting period: the week of May 19-23; and June 9-June 17. It is great to see many of the voters spending more time in the library, and checking out library materials.

Children's Librarian Beverly Wrigglesworth visited Sun Valley Elementary School on June 2 and shared information with over 600 students and staff. The school year ended for this neighborhood on Friday, June 6. The spring schedule for children's programming was very successful. Mrs. Wrigglesworth had good attendance for Baby Time, Story Time and Kids Time. She will also be presenting four weekly programs during the summer: Baby Time, Story Time, Kids Time and Tween Time.

We have had a great response to the Summer Reading Program. As of June 14, 817 children, teens and adults had registered for the program. Every staff member has been encouraging patrons to register. Monica Bustillo set up a registration table, and had a trivia wheel to encourage adults to sign up. Several adults *did* sign up because of the wheel. A come and go craft table was also set up for children to create their own Father's Day cards. A total of 100 cards were made!

Teen Liaison Christina Martinez has put together an appealing series of programs for the teens this summer. The Friends of the Johnston Library have agreed to support programming at the branch. Ms. Martinez' programs will be enhanced with craft supplies and video games recommended by the teens.

Adult Services Librarian Monica Bustillo started a new book group at on May 21. The group will continue to meet every third Wednesday. She presented a Downloadable Basics program with Library Aide Daniel Blancas on May 30 to demonstrate the extensive additions to SAPL's digital collection. She started conducting weekly Open Computer Lab time on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30 with great success. She volunteered at the Texas Folklife Festival with the Texana/Genealogy Department researching surnames. She also presented the second film in the Johnston Family Film series *Frozen*.

LANDA

Summer at the library is in full swing! Clair Larkin, children's librarian has been host to over 700 children and adults at a variety of programs over the past month at the branch. Area schools made Landa a field trip destination and enjoyed story time with Clair then picnicked and played on the playground. At the branch, Clair is offering a number of programs this summer, including Kids Time, two Baby Times, Toddler Time and Discovery Time. A highlight of Kids Time so far was Mad Science where children delighted in wild chemical reactions. Discovery Time is a hands-on exploration of science that takes advantage of Landa's unique outdoor space. Five or more stations are set up on the Terrace or lawn so children and their grownups can move between them at their own pace. Themes included Habitats and Clouds & Rain and have been highly successful.

Summer Reading Club sign up is going very well and all Landa staff are participating in making sure the entire family gets involved. The prize book cart is ready and enticing readers to finish their logs and get their names up on the shelves.

Kayleigh Miller, a violist and Sarah, a violinist with the San Antonio Symphony treated 50 lucky program goers to a fabulous musical program. The discussion began with the science of sound and the differences between the viola and violin. Children then participated in creating a rhythm section while Ms. Miller

played along. *Mole Music* was the story choice with Ms. Miller accompanying. Clair has highly recommended Ms. Miller to all SAPL Children's Librarians.

The Adult Summer Reading Program at Landa has been notched up a bit with adult programming events scheduled throughout the months of June and July. Each program features a special event, time for mixing and discussion plus refreshments. Librarian Karen Sebesta launched the weekly programs on June 2 with an overview as well as a book talk on Landa's Read Our Book competition selection, Rick Riordan's *Big Red Tequila*, the first in his Trés Navarre series set in San Antonio. On June 11, Coach Beth Murguia from Cambridge Elementary in the Alamo Heights School District and did a program on healthy eating for adults, complete with some of the best healthy snacks around. A certified nutrition coach through the Dr. Bill Sears Family Health Institute, Beth is a virtual rock star at Cambridge and inspires her students and their families toward healthy eating habits.

Karen's regular programs continue to have a devoted membership. This month's Silver Screens Classic movie was *Forty-Second Street* produced in 1933 and starring the (then) very young Dick Powell, Ginger Rogers, and Ruby Keeler. These movies create nostalgic moments for those in attendance as well as a healthy repartee of movie trivia.

This month's selection for the Senior Mystery Book Club was *Gone Tomorrow*, a political thriller by Lee Child. Based on the reality of espionage and treatment of captured soldiers in Afghanistan, it produced some very heated discussion by group members.

Karen continues to take programs to the De Matel Nursing Residence at The Village at Incarnate Word. Her programs highlight library materials through crafts, book displays and games of trivia. The Catholic Charities program for refugees brought a group of adult Iraqi men and women to visit the library. Karen treated them to a tour of Landa Library and challenged them with a "Scavenger Hunt" to help them get better acquainted with using a library. Their translator was a recent immigrant himself but is now very proficient in English.

The popular San Antonio Public Library Foundation's "Great Books Seminar" concluded Aeschylus' Oresteia trilogy with a discussion of *The Furies*. This event is open to the public; refreshments are served.

Geek Gaming attracts a group of (mostly) library staff from across the city who relax and play board games in the Landa meeting room. They meet on a monthly basis.

Summer Teen Services at Landa started out with great news! The Landa Teen Library Leadership Council (TLLC) continues to gain momentum for quality teen-led programming at Landa. The San Antonio Public Library Foundation (SAPLF) submitted a grant on behalf of the Landa's TLLC and on June 2 received word from the Spurs Silver and Black Give Back (SBGB) foundation that SAPLF received \$5,000 for Landa's TLLC "Tutoring for Young Children and Science Demonstrations Live!" programs. SAPLF will purchase microscopes, beakers, safety goggles, and all necessary paraphernalia for Landa's TLLC-led tutoring, science demonstration, and the Silver and Black Give Back Day children's creative writing workshop.

On June 11, Landa received 25 books from YALSA's Teens' Top Ten Book Giveaway to begin their Teen Express Collection. The teens are mobilizing to create a "marketing revolution" to recruit other teens for an online/offline book club and fan fiction contest.

Teen Summer Reading registrations have great numbers and are poised to beat 2013 counts. This is thanks to the teamwork of the Landa staff.

LAS PALMAS

Las Palmas staff warmly welcomed two new members in the month of June: Library Manager Tim Johnson and Teen Services Librarian I Marco De Leon.

Mr. Johnson oversaw his first meeting of the Las Palmas Book Club on May 21. Members discussed the book **Dreams of Joy** by Lisa See, which was enjoyed by all.

Children's Librarian, Gina Brudi visited four kindergarten and four 2nd grade classrooms during Career Day at Las Palmas Elementary for a total of 160 children on May 28. Ms. Brudi talked about being a librarian; programs at Las Palmas this summer; and presented a story time for each classroom. Ms. Brudi delivered additional informative materials with the school librarian about Summer Reading. Ms. Brudi also continued her outreach to the Good Samaritan, Avance Marisol & Castroville, and Madonna early literacy centers, presenting story hours and delivering classroom collections.

Ms. Brudi attended the Girl Scouts of the Southwest and the Hawaiian Luau Party at Avance Mirasol to promote library services. The Mad Science special program on June 9 with Vapor Val was a big hit with kids and adults with lots of "oohs and aahs" during the science demonstrations.

Library Assistant Anne Schuette operated a library booth at the YWCA Immigration outreach event on Saturday, May 24. Ms. Schuette spoke with and distributed library literature to more than a hundred attendees. Ms. Schuette also coordinated with Pete Hernandez from AACOG to arrange public information sessions regarding the Affordable Care Act. Eleven guests were able to get individual guidance from Mr. Hernandez. Responses were so positive that Mr. Hernandez will return for some follow up sessions.

The Friends of the Las Palmas Library held their second book sale on June 7. Jim Jimenez and the Friends of the Memorial Library graciously supplied a book sale banner and some tables to assist with this effort. Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales from District 5 read the book *The Very Clumsy Click Beetle* by Eric Carle to ten children and nine adults in the Las Palmas Library. Twenty children decorated rockets at the Come and Go Craft in the library. Thanks to the combined efforts of these parties and the Las Palmas staff that tirelessly promoted the event, the book sale raised over \$300 dollars.

MAVERICK

The Maverick Branch had Early Voting the end of May and was an Election Day site. Once again, thanks to staff who opened the branch early and closed the branch late.

The EPE training was attended by Branch Manager, Jef Martin, Librarian II Ben Longoria, and Children's Librarian II, Amy Roberts. Mr. Longoria also attended a volunteer training meeting.

Ms. Roberts visited 4 schools and talked to 3,000 students to promote the summer reading program for kids. Many children from the schools have signed up and visited Maverick Library already! The kick-off party, funded by the Friends of the Maverick Library, drew 77 parents and children. They constructed cars, scorpions, buildings and more with Styrofoam peanuts, paper, glue, toothpicks, and pipe cleaners and enjoyed cookies and punch!

In other news, Branch Manager, Jef Martin continued to do double duty as manager of Igo as well. The Ladies Choice Book Club had 14 attendees on May 31.

McCRESS

The Friends of McCress held a book sale on May 31 and June 1. The sale was very successful and allowed the Friends to support programming through the end of the year as well as purchasing shelf backs for the DVD collection.

Monty Holcomb, Librarian I, hosted four informal weekly chess events and helped to coordinate activities for the first teen event of the summer after a two week hiatus.

A grateful patron shared this praise in person for Manager Cammie Brantley: "I just want to thank you for what you do. Thanks to you I can speak English." Later she brought a card that said: "In fact, God gave you the abilities to push us and got wishes. Thanks a lot for your job!!! Honesty I love you and all your team. We got our DREAM: 'Get COMMUNICATION in English'. Thanks to your job, because not only we used staff from Library but we enjoy your Brilliant SPIRIT. Thanks a lot. "

Summer Story Times got off to an exciting start with 48 people attending the Fun with Water program on June 10. Kids Time also had great attendance for June 10 when 34 people attended the Color Science program. Two Story Times and two Kids Times were held in all.

Children's Librarian Kathleen Brown attended Career Day at Charles C. Ball Elementary School on May 30. She had the opportunity to talk with 81 children about library careers, summer reading and library services.

Adult Services Librarian, Tina Hudec, is working with the "Live Well Age Smart" committee to develop more programming for the branch with several ideas for upcoming events. Tina has already done two movie showings of recent animated films to kick off the summer viewing fun for all ages.

MEMORIAL

The Fizz Boom Read summer reading club at the Memorial branch was kicked off by Donnabelle, our beloved clown, who entertained families with a fun and interactive presentation. During Kids Time, amazing structures were created using Styrofoam peanuts, toothpicks, plastic straws and connectors, followed by a discussion and stories about weird and unique buildings. Summer Thursday Movie Time was very popular with kids of all ages, who enjoyed a family-friendly movie. The children of Memorial also enjoyed story time by listening to stories, singing songs, and making crafts about ice cream.

For the fifth consecutive year, Memorial was a host site for the San Antonio Food Bank's Summer Food Service program which provides free nutritious lunches for children 1-18 at various locations throughout the city including several libraries. Over 1,200 lunches were served from the Memorial branch the previous summer.

Customers were signing up at a steady pace to join and read Memorial's Adult Summer Reading Book selection, *When Darkness Falls: Tales of San Antonio Ghosts and Hauntings*, by Docia Williams.

The Memorial branch hosted an information table with an Affordable Care Act Navigator to help customers find out if they are eligible for the special enrollment plan. This was for enrollees who may have had changes to their status.

The Teen program at Memorial had a successful school year with an average of 13 students attending each Teen Tuesday meeting. In preparation for summer, the Teen area was revamped making it more visually appealing with new displays and the Teen Summer program was kicked off with a pizza and a movie.

MISSION

Mission Library continues its partnership with the Department of Human Services to assist residents of the Mission Trails Mobile Home Park. DHS hosts informational sessions to assist families with relocation resources.

Seventeen adults attended the *Caring with Respect* program held on May 19. Doctors, nurses and community organizations were on hand to help individuals caring for family members with Alzheimer's disease. Forty-three library visitors took the opportunity to sample a variety of teas during an Asian Pacific American Heritage Month's Tea Tasting program.

Landscape for Life Class, a three week program related to sustainable gardening, opened with great interest. The program was featured in both the San Antonio Express News and the Southside Reporter. It is being sponsored by both the Friends of the Mission Library and the San Antonio River Authority. Rachel Cywinski provides instruction.

Mission Library's neighboring Mission Marquee saw its first performance on June 7. Hosted by Gemini Ink, the Paletas y Poesía program offered poetry readings by local poets including a reading from Poet Laureate Laurie Ann Guerrero. The evening was closed by local band Bombasta. Mission Library was invited to participate. Librarians Elma Nieto-Rodriguez and Cynthia Cruz registered new summer reading participants.

Teens were offered a variety of programming during the reporting period that incorporated technology, gaming, and crafting. The Anime Club meeting, organized by Circulation Attendant, Megan Feeley, was held on June 3rd and garnered 13 teens. Teens had the opportunity to gather and discuss their shared interest in Anime and Japanese culture as well as participate in a craft. Mission Video Game Club was held on Saturday, May 31 with a total of 16 participants.

Tuesday Night Teen Time had 50 teens in attendance for the reporting period. A variety of programming is offered during Teen Time. Our newest offering for teens, Dungeons and Dragons Night, had 14 participants and continues to grow in participation. Teens enjoyed learning and interacting with Library Assistant Servando Peña and Guest Expert Dan Garcia who facilitated the program.

Outreach at Terrell Wells Middle School on May 21 offered the opportunity to connect with middle school students and teachers at the on-campus outreach. Teen Librarian Cynthia Cruz connected with students and faculty and presented six sessions discussing Teen Time and branch activities, as well as the Summer Reading program. Library card sign-ups also took place with 84 applications completed.

The summer is off to a great start for the children of Mission Library. As of June 12, 457 Listeners and Readers have registered for the Summer Reading Program. The first two Kids Times of the summer were well attended and focused one on weather and one on flight. Flying contraptions of all sorts were seen soaring through the Mission skies.

All of the children's area enhancements, summer decorations, and SRP signup station are in place. Staff members have noticed a dramatic increase in the number of children and families enjoying the new space. The new location and arrangement of the Early Learning Station is proving to be very popular. Story times have resumed after a two week break. Both have been attended by "regulars" and many new library patrons. Baby Time on June 11 hosted 18 babies and their caregivers, the most to attend so far. Several remarked that they came to Mission Baby Time due to the recommendation of other parents who attend.

Arrangements for two new community outreach programs were finalized in the last two weeks. A home school co-op, BASH, met with Mission's Manager and Children's Librarian to work out the details for weekly sessions starting in the fall. And SAYL, San Antonio Youth Literacy, is now set to begin reading tutoring of at risk second and third graders each week.

PAN AMERICAN

On June 2, Nathaniel Laubner was assigned as Branch Manager at the Pam American Library. Previously, Nathaniel was the manager at the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Library. Nathaniel is looking forward to working with everyone at the branch and system wide to deliver library services to the community.

Children

Children's Services Librarian Carol Collins made 35 presentations to 2,648 children and 84 adults at six daycares and five elementary schools in Pan American's service area.

Carol presented 11 in house programs for 54 children and 37 adults. The branch's first Toddler Time after schools dismissed for the summer had a whopping 19 children, four times the usual number of children at Toddler Time!

Teen Services

Librarian II Amy Miller visited Leal Middle School on May 22 and gave a presentation on library programs and services. Special emphasis was given to upcoming teen activities associated with The Mayor's Summer Reading Club. This outreach effort was part of Leal Middle School's annual Family Reading Night, which was open to students, parents and other interested community members. Ms. Miller answered questions about Pan American's participation in the Food Bank's free lunch program as well as many general questions about library services including basic instruction for downloadables and how to obtain a library card. Pan American was happy to be invited to participate in this event again next year.

During May and June Teen Liaison, Angela Olivarez, held a variety of game nights to kick off the summer. On May 19 and June 2, teens played Wii Just Dance or Smash Brothers, but also had the option to go old school and play board games such as Monopoly, Jenga, Scrabble, Connect Four and Uno.

On June 9, the branch held an Arts and Crafts program where teen used duct tape to make a variety of items such as flower pens, wallets, change purses, and cell phone or iPod/mp3 cases, or make friendship bracelets with or without beads.

PARMAN

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance continued to promote summer reading to area schools. She visited Roan Forest Elementary, St. Andrew's, and Wilderness Oak Elementary. In addition, the Parman staff made a summer reading video that Ms. Vance was able to show at 11 schools.

The Parman staff is always excited to try something new. Library Assistant Christina Hess is filling in at the Library portal at the Briscoe Museum on Friday mornings. Library Assistant Sherrie Sholes is participating in the City's Train the Trainer program.

For Asian American Heritage Month, Parman hosted the Kaveri Natya Dance Group. Many patrons enjoyed the dancing and colorful costumes. As part of the Big Idea Series, Parman hosted architects from Lake Flato Designs and the Dean of the School of Architecture for UT Austin, Fritz Steiner, for a conversation about their recent book publication. Participants learned about how the firm designs for their clients based on regional specifics using many recycled and native materials.

The Summer Transformation Station Experience has started for the second year. Participants are asked to complete a project each week to earn badges and stamps in their passports. At the end of the summer, those with at least 4 badges will earn a Parman lanyard. The first projects included Static Electricity and Volcanoes.

Parman's Adult Summer Reading book is *The Rosie Project* by Graeme Simsion. The staff read the book and held a discussion so that it is able to promote the book to patrons.

PRUITT

Children's Librarian Cynthia Saenz has been busily preparing for Summer Reading. Ms. Saenz made an outreach visit to Candlewood Elementary in the Judson ISD to present Summer Reading information. She and Kim Wygant held Dinosaur Day at the library where children could sort dinosaurs, sing dinosaur songs, read dinosaur tales, and enjoy the company of other children. Sheri Watkins, library assistant, has taken on organizing fun activities for Tweens.

Rae Downen, Teen Librarian, has worked hard to produce some really fun activities for Teens this summer. Activities include building a marshmallow tower, DNA extractions from strawberries, and making glow sticks.

Adults are enjoying the Summer Reading Book Challenge. Pruitt has chosen *Still Life with Bread Crumbs* by Anna Quindlen as their chosen read.

SAN PEDRO

The popularity of San Pedro Branch Library's Summer Reading Program is evident by the brightly colored test tube beakers on the windows. Each child who registers gets a beaker with their name on it and when they finish their name will go on a "splat" on another window.

Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton talked to more than 100 students and parents at a community event at Cotton Elementary School. Ms. Dalton also spoke with three classes at KIPP Aspire and held Story times for student at Monte Vista Montessori and Respite Care of San Antonio. She facilitated two book discussion groups for students at Hawthorn Academy. Both groups have 25 students and meet during the lunch hour.

Chess Tuesdays, an open chess group for all ages and all abilities, attracted a total of 28 players. Circulation attendant James Sontag attended training on the upcoming changes to ReferenceUSA, and circulation attendant Ana Sandoval completed cash handling class.

SEMMES

Semmes Library hosted Early Voting from May 19-23. May was also the month for Summer Reading outreach and Children's Librarians Randi Jones and Shannon Seglin reached out to over 1,500 children! The branch has definitely seen the effects of that in Summer Reading sign-ups. Library Aides pitched in as well by creating a spectacular Fizz-Boom-Read themed display in the entryway. The patrons love it!

THOUSAND OAKS

Children's Activities

Thousand Oaks offered a Play and Learn event called Dinosaur Day on May 22 at 10am. The event proved hugely popular with about 150 children and their parents attending.

Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser continued her monthly outreach to the Little Engine Learning Center on May 21. She presented three story times about bugs to the babies, toddlers and preschoolers.

During the summer reading months, Thousand Oaks is offering five weekly programs for children: LEGO Time, Kids Time, Toddler Time, Story Time and Come and Go Crafts. During the first two weeks of June, Thousand Oaks had more than 450 children sign up for the Summer Reading Club, which was a great number and bodes well for the rest of the summer!

Teen Time

The Thousand Oaks Teens did a number of interesting and enjoyable activities in May and June, but the most exciting program was on June 11. To prepare for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, Thousand Oaks was visited by performers from the Capoeira Luanda, who entertained 38 guests of all ages with a demonstration of the Brazilian martial art form that incorporates dance, aerobatics, and music. For nearly an hour, patrons were treated to a visual and musical display of this highly entertaining art form. With further World Cup events planned throughout June, it was a wonderful way to kick off a month-long celebration of the one of the world's biggest sporting events.

Book Groups

Two books groups met at Thousand Oaks in May and June, with interesting selections making for lively debate. The Thursday Afternoon Club, led by Circulation Attendant Brenda Ramos, met on May 22 and discussed the merits of David Mitchell's *The Thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet*. The Thousand Oaks Monday Night Book Group met on June 2 to discuss the book *The Expats* by Chris Pavone. Opinion was split, as half of the group thought it was a gripping and exciting read, while the rest thought it was, in one member's frank assessment, "absolutely silly."

Programming/Events

Thousand Oaks held a number of programs and events in the past month.

NE Senior Center Outreach

Branch Manager, along with Tobin at Oakwell Library Assistant Terry Verner, hosted the monthly Trivia Time at the NE Senior Center of May 20. As always, participation was high and, more importantly, enthusiastic among the 40+ seniors who played along. Perennially popular, the Trivia Time program is a constant reminder of how important outreach can be and why it can be such a positive part of what the library does.

Friends Book Sale

Organized and ran by the Thousand Oaks Friends of the Library, the annual summer Book Sale was another success for both the Friends group and Thousand Oaks on June 7. With a large number of the events the branch puts on being funded by the Friends group, all parties involved are thrilled when we have a lucrative sale.

Summer Reading Kick-off Party

Even with an immense storm, and rainfall that bucketed down, the kick-off event for the Summer Reading at Thousand Oaks was a success. Once the rain subsided, the branch had a large crowd come out and sign-up for all three summer reading options. Patrons also were treated to sno cones, which always makes everyone happy.

Other Events

Tai-Chi for Seniors on May 20

Order of the Grandaderos y Damas de Gálvez on May 31

San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition presentation on June 14

Participation for these events at Thousand Oaks was strong, and numerous patrons expressed their appreciation for them.

TOBIN

Tobin hosted Early Voting May 19 – 23, as well as Election Day on May 27 with very good turnout during both sessions. Librarian, Keri Moczygemba and The adult Life Long Learning Committee coordinated Dr. Frantz from The University of Texas Health Science Center speaking about "New Drugs for Stem Cells that Harm Not Heal" on May 24 to a large crowd. Tobin's favorite book for the adult summer reading challenge is *The Night Circus*, by Erin Morgenstern. Librarian Ariel Cummins has tweeted the author, who has responded she is rooting for Tobin to have the highest number of check-outs.

Ms. Ariel Cummins continues popular Toddler and Story Times with 30+ Toddlers enjoying stories, then play and learn activities afterward. Ariel shared Summer Reading Information with three area schools, and two day cares prior to Tobin's Kick-Off on June 7. Over 200 kids and adults attended the celebration to partake in the *Where the Wild Things Are* party and Fizz, Boom, Read crafts and activities. Everyone was entertained for over an hour by singers, Sellers and Hymel during the festivities. Ms. Cummins began a new summer maker space "Boredom Busters". Activities rotate every couple weeks with the initial buster being I Spy plastic bottles filled with colored rice that children search for a list of items inside by rolling and shaking the bottle.

Teens and tweens signed up for Summer Reading and feasted with a pizza party for the end of school on June 3. Many thanks go to the funding provided by the Friends of the Tobin Library for purchasing the pizza and refreshments. Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell held a very successful book sale on May 30 - 31. Nearly all items sold with proceeds benefitting Tobin. Recent purchases include shelving adapters, periodical shelves and easel display materials

Librarian Keri Moczygemba started a new book club, "Food for Thought" on June 10. Each month participants discuss a particular type of cookbook or title. Folks are free to make and bring sample recipes. The *Casserole Queens Cook-book*, the first selection, had attendees enjoying both main courses and desserts while sharing cooking tips. Highlighted topics for displays featured Fizz, Boom, Read for all ages, Lego Club structures, Blockbuster movies, What Television Shows Do You Enjoy, National Small Business Week and *The Night Circus*.

Thanks to lots of hard work and diligent efforts by K. Moczygemba and Library Aides, Jesus Jimenez and Rebekah Corley, the entire Adult Non-Fiction was weeded and shifted prior to summer reading beginning in June.

WESTFALL

Westfall Branch staff has been busy working to establish a FOCUS center – one of two for the system. FOCUS will embed a Department of Human Services social worker and SAPL trainer at Westfall and Bazan branches to offer patrons a comprehensive approach to literacy issues. A perfect example is a currently unemployed job seeker who may be in need of assistance to pay their utility bills or may qualify for food benefits. The social worker can help them receive the aid and the training officer can work with them to learn how to launch a job search or help them improve their skills.

Branch staff spent a lot of time at the end of the school year telling students about Summer Reading Program. Librarian I Karen Sagun accompanied Cresencia Huff of Little Read Wagon on the Vroom van at Maverick Elementary School. They were next to the African Crested Porcupine, one of the most popular exhibits at the event.

Mrs. Sagun also spoke with approximately 50 students at Mount Sacred Heart Academy and Lee High School. Children's Librarian Imelda Merino almost 300 students total at Baskin and Colonial Hills elementary schools.

Assistant Branch Manager Jernell Williams was asked to work on transferring information from the current EPDP forms to the new EPE forms. The group spent a few hours working on this process.

Circulation attendant Abbigail de la Garza went through training on issuing new library cards and Karen completed a session on updates to ReferenceUSA.

Manager Sherrie Hardin, in addition to working on creating FOCUS, participated in a discussion on filtering options for professional staff.

The Third Thursday Book Group facilitated by Ms. Williams read *Son* by Lois Lowry and the Stranger Than Fiction Book Group facilitated by Mrs. Sagun read *Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President* by Candice Millard.

Mrs. Merino staged a successful SRP kickoff party that featured boats made of sponges, paper flying fish, fans and a table with seashells to view with a microscope and items to test for magnetic properties. Mrs. Merino also presents BabyTime, StoryTime and KidsTime each week.

The branch also hosted WorkOUT as part of Pride Month. Business people spoke about their experiences as a member of the LGBT community in the workplace. Westfall also served as a polling place during the runoff election.



CONSTRUCTION

District 2 Branch Library

Description: Development of a branch library in Council District 2.

Funds: \$6,000,000 (2012 Bond); \$100,000 (Public Art Piece)

Location/District: 5.73 acre site on US Hwy 87 East near Fosters Meadow Road / District 2

City Architect: Stacy Gonzales

Project Architect: O'Neill Conrad Oppelt Architects, Inc. (OCO)

Design Enhancement: Cakky Brawly – Artist from San Antonio

Construction Contract: TBD

Estimated Completion Date: FY 2016

Project Scope:

Development of a Branch Library in Council District 2. There is a commitment for a donation of land for this project, as such funding does not include resources for the acquisition of land

Current Status:

Library Board voted March 27 to accept property donation for new library, contingent on the completion of due diligence. Planning Commission approval was received on May 22nd, and City Council approval for acceptance of donated land was given August 8.

Design Kick-off meeting was held with OCO Architects on Sept. 12th.

The first public input meeting was held on Sept. 21st at Sinclair Elementary School. On September 25th an input session was held with the Library Board of Trustees.

The Owner Project Requirement meeting (OPR) was held on October 1st in the Central Auditorium. A library staff input meeting was held on October 12. On November 13th, the Facilities Committee recommended accepting an additional donation of land from Mr. Schaefer that would allow for a possible driveway into the as yet developed subdivision. The Library Board of Trustees approved accepting the land donation at their December 4th meeting. A staff meeting was held January 16 to finalize programming requirements. Conceptual floor and site plan was recommended for approval by Facilities Committee on February 12, and was approved by the Board of Trustees February 26. A second public input session was held on February 20, 2014 at Sinclair Elementary School. HDRC approved project on May 7th. Bi-Weekly project team meetings are being held as Architectural team continues developing design documents.

The selected artist has been introduced to the design team and will begin developing conceptual themes for the project. An artist workshop was held on April 30 to receive input from selected stakeholders. The artist is preparing conceptual ideas and will be presented to the project team. Project team will present their recommendation to the Facilities Committee and Library Board at their July meeting.

District 6 Branch Library Outlet Site

Description: Development of a branch library site in Council District 6.

Funds: \$1,400,000 (2012 Bond)

Location/District: TBD/District 6

City Architect: Stacy Gonzales
Project Architect: TBD
Design Enhancement: N/A
Construction Contract: TBD
Estimated Completion Date: TBD

Project Scope:

Development of a branch library site in Council District 6

Current Status:

Library staff met with Councilman Lopez to provide an update on the project, solicit his feedback regarding the target area and to obtain feedback regarding service model options. Staff met again with CM Lopez on August 29, 2013 to explore a potential opportunity for Library Outlet. Outlet would be approx. 5,000 s.f. co-located in a 40,000 s.f. recreation center. On September 25th, an executive session of the Library Board of Trustees was held regarding proposed Real Estate transaction.

District 9 Branch Library

Description: Development of a branch library site in Council District 9.

Funds: \$7,000,000 (2012 Bond); \$100,000 (Public Art Piece)

Location/District: 2515 East Evans Road/District 9

City Architect: Stacy Gonzales

Project Architect: Alvidrez Architects

Design Enhancement: Joe O'Connell & Blessing Hancock - Artists from Tucson, AZ

Construction Contract: TBD

Estimated Completion Date: FY 2015

Project Scope:

Development of a branch library in Council District 9. This project will require the purchase of land. Funding includes acquisition of the land

Current Status:

Library Board voted February 27 to accept offer for property located along Evans Road, west of HWY 281. Planning commission approved on March 27. City Council approved purchase on May 2, 2013. Property closed on May 10th, and all locks were re-keyed after ownership transfer to secure building. Staff has begun scoping meetings with Alvidrez Architects.

Owner Project Requirement meeting (OPR) was held on Sept. 6th at the Central Library Auditorium.

First public input meeting was held on October 12 at Encino Park Elementary School. On October 23rd an input session was held with the Library Board of Trustees. A library staff input meeting was held on October 30th. A Second public input session was held on November 20th at 2515 East Evans Road from 6:30-8:00pm. On December 4th, Library Board of Trustees approved a conceptual floor plan for the facility. Floor plan, exterior elevations and selected finishes were shown to the Library Board of Trustees on February 27th and approved. HDRC approval was given on March 7th for this project. A third public community meeting was held on March 24th at the library site, 2515 East Evans Rd. to update the community on project progress. Bi-Weekly project team meetings are being held as Architectural team is finalizing construction documents. Construction documents were completed in May, and on May 28th a pre-submittal conference was held for all interested contractor to review the project. Construction bids will be open for public disclosure on June 17th, and a review committee will determine qualified low-bid contractor. Project is scheduled to go before City Council for approval of construction contract in August, and construction will begin soon after that.

The selected artist has been introduced to the design team and will begin developing conceptual themes for the project. Conceptual design will be presented to the Facilities Committee and Library Board of Trustees at their June meetings for approval.

Central Library

Description: Renovations, repairs, upgrades and space reconfiguration to the Central Library facility

Funds: \$4,000,000 (2012 Bond)

Location/District: 600 Soledad / District 1

City Architect: Stacy Gonzales

Project Architect: Marmon Mok

Design Enhancement: N/A

Construction Contract: TBD

Estimated Completion Date: FY 2017

Project Scope:

Renovations, repairs, upgrades and space reconfiguration to the Central Library facility

Current Status: Preliminary meeting with the selected Architectural firm (Marmon Mok) has been held to finalize their contract scope. Kick-off meeting was held on Sept. 17th. Marmon Mok is currently designing 1st floor restroom renovations to coincide with Café Commerce project. Additional planning meetings have been held with Marmon Mok to finalize project scope for FY 2014. Scope to include new carpet in public areas on floors 2, 5 & 6; restroom renovation to all public restrooms; installation of new exterior sign along Soledad Street; staff and collection moves associated with Café Commerce project; Audio/Visual improvements to Auditorium and other assorted mechanical, electrical and HVAC repairs. Work has been completed at the 1st floor restrooms adjacent to Connect Space. Renovations have begun at the restrooms adjacent to the auditorium, and will be complete in May. Carpet replacement contract for 2nd, 5th and 6th floors was approved by City Council on June 12th. Installation will begin within the next two weeks, and is expected to be complete by Sept. 30th. Carpet replacement for the Chihuly area on the 2nd floor is complete. Design work is being finalized for the rest room renovations at all public rest rooms throughout Central, and construction bids will be solicited by TCI Department. Collection and staff moves relative to Café Commerce Phase 2 are complete. A/V improvements to Auditorium have been completed, and a new podium has been installed in the auditorium. Assorted building repairs highlighted in the 2009 Facilities Assessment Study have been completed. Exterior sign has been installed, and lighting was also added for illumination of the sign. Lights were also installed to illuminate the flag, so security guards will no longer need to raise and lower the flags each day. Design for the Teen Space is being finalized.

Café Commerce Phase Two

Description: Renovation of 1st floor Central Library 'Fiction' area (EDD Project)

Funds:

Location/District: 600 Soledad / District 1

City Architect: Stacy Gonzales

Project Architect: Marmon Mok

Design Enhancement: N/A

Construction Contract: Davila Construction

Estimated Completion Date: June 2014

Project Scope: Design, construct and install office area with meeting room and conference space for entrepreneurial development.

Current Status: Pre-construction meeting held March 31st. Construction began April 1 with installation of construction wall between 'Connect Space' and construction area, and demolition of existing space began with carpet and wall removal. All work scheduled to be complete in early June. A Grand Opening is schedule for June 18th, at which time both Phase 1 and Phase 2 will officially open to the public

2013 Facilities Assessment Study

Description: Repairs and improvements to 8 Branch Libraries

Funds: \$1,492,000 (Deferred Maintenance Funding)

District: 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10

Project Architect: Debra J. Dockery Architect, PC.

Design Enhancement: None

Construction Contract: BES / Job Order Contractor system (CIMS) / Vendor Contracts

Original Target Completion Date: September 30, 2014

Project Scope: Make branch repairs and improvements, based in part on the April, 2009 Facilities Assessment Study conducted by Debra J. Dockery Architect, PC. Some additional repair items identified since the 2009 FAS study have also been included in this work. There will also be three Extreme Library makeovers completed at Carver, Cortez and Tobin at Oakwell Libraries.

Current Status:

1st quarter projects: Work at Guerra (retainer block repair) and Maverick (roof, irrigation and wall repair) has been completed.

2nd quarter projects: Work has been completed at Landa (interior painting, roof repairs, front door replacement and other building repairs). Johnston parking lot improvements have been completed and security camera installation is pending ITSD scheduling.

3rd quarter projects: Work has begun at Westfall (interior and exterior improvements) and Cortez (Extreme Library Makeover) Cortez closed as scheduled on June 9th and will re-open to the public on June 30th. An open house will be scheduled. All work to be complete by June 30, 2014

4th quarter projects: Work scope has been finalized for Carver and Tobin at Oakwell (both Extreme Library Makeovers). Construction contract for Tobin at Oakwell was approved by City Council on June 12th. All work to be complete by September 30, 2014