



Dr. Tomás Ybarra y Frausto

June 15, 2014 – July 12, 2014

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

On June 18, 2014, Library Director Ramiro Salazar attended the San Antonio Public Library Foundation's Executive Committee meeting and delivered a report on the status of the Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County for library services.

On June 20, Library Director Ramiro Salazar and Community and Public Relations Manager Caitlin Cowart attended the Texas Association for Women in Communication's Headliner Awards Banquet honoring Howie Nestel for his many contributions. Mr. Nestel is a partner with the San Antonio Public Library on the Holocaust: Learn and Remember series.

Library Board Chair Jean Brady and Library Director Ramiro Salazar provided a new Trustee Orientation for Judy Cruz, Mayoral appointee on June 24. Ms. Cruz was appointed to the San Antonio Public Library Board of Trustees on Thursday June 19. That evening, Ramiro Salazar delivered remarks during a reception recognizing Dr. Tomas Ybarra y Frausto for his contributions to the Library's Latino Collection. The San Antonio Public Library's Latino Leadership for The Library (L3) Committee sponsored the reception and provided contributions to revitalize the space housing the Latino Collection. The reception was well attended and Dr. Tomas Ybarra y Frausto delivered inspiring words about his youth and the role of libraries in his life.

Several members of the Library's Management Team attended the Café Commerce Grand Opening on June 30. Mayor Castro and representatives of Café Commerce and Acción Texas delivered remarks. The event was well attended by approximately 200 guests.

Assistant Library Director for Support Services Kathy Donellan, Branch Services Coordinator Cheryl Sheehan, Executive Assistant Jessica Ramos and Branch Manager Elma Nieto-Rodriguez attended the public meeting regarding proposed plans to develop land at the Mission Drive-in site, adjacent to the Mission Branch Library. The July 1 meeting was organized by City's Center City and Development Office.

On July 11, Library Director Ramiro Salazar and Assistant Director for Public Services Dale McNeill served plates during the City's Charitable Champaign Kick-Off Spaghetti Lunch event. Several Library employees participated in the event by purchasing tickets for spaghetti plates. Proceeds from the event benefit the United Way Charitable Campaign.

Since April 2014, the Library has experienced seven (7) break-ins and three (3) attempted break-ins. In each of the break-ins, the coin box associated with public printing was stolen. The break-in locations include Great Northwest Branch, Central Library (twice), Thousand Oaks Branch, Las Palmas Branch, Brook Hollow Branch, and the Westfall Branch. Library Administration has reached out to the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) for assistance and we are currently working with an Assistant Police Chief on this matter. The SAPD is conducting an investigation of this apparent pattern of targeting library facilities for these break-ins. As part of the investigation, SAPD issued a release to local media outlets to try and identify the thief(s) using video footage obtained at one of the break-ins. News reports regarding a rash of break-in incidents of library facilities aired over the July 4 weekend.

PRIDE Commemoration

The Celebrate Diversity committee recognized the contributions of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) community with eight events during Pride month. Programs included discussions on the relationship between faith communities and the LGBTI community, the benefit of diversity in the workplace, legal rights, the arts, and more. A partnership with the Metropolitan Health District provided free screenings for HIV. Community organizations such as the Human Rights Campaign, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), the San Antonio LGBT Chamber of Commerce, representatives from local churches, actors from The Playhouse San Antonio, and others provided invaluable advice, knowledge, and entertainment to the patrons of the San Antonio Public Library.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Summer Reading and Summer Programming are in full swing across the library system. As of July 14, 8,413 Listeners and 15,462 Readers have registered for the Mayor's Summer Reading Club, bringing the grand total to just less than 24,000. With six weeks to go before the Reading Club officially ends, the Children's Librarians are optimistic they can meet Summer 2013's record of 27,000 children enrolled.

The children's librarians extend a heart-felt "Thank You" to the Library Foundation for their support this summer. The Foundation has provided funding not only for the electronic version of summer reading, but for programming supplies, performer fees and replenishing the supply of give-away books. Additionally, their partnership-building with Whataburger has once again provided cookies and fruit chews for upcoming SummerFest celebrations at all 26 library locations.

Summer is not the only thing on the mind of the children's staffers, however. Fall 2014 is just around the corner so plans are underway for Hispanic Heritage month, Lego Days at the Library (in association with the San Antonio Botanical Garden's fall exhibition "Nature Connects: Art with LEGO Bricks), National Playdough Day (September 16) and a series of Alphabet activities in honor of International Literacy Day (September 8). Children's Coordinator Viki Ash recently met with the education coordinators of both the San Antonio Symphony and Opera SA to develop joint programming featuring Roald Dahl's ***Fantastic Mr. Fox***. Dahl's book is the basis for upcoming inaugural performances at the new Tobin Center for the Performing Arts that will feature both the opera and the symphony.

From June 27 through July 1, Viki was in Las Vegas for the American Library Association's Annual Conference. A long-time and active member of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), Viki has been appointed the priority consultant for ALSC's 2016 Award Committees. She will assist the chairs of the Newbery, Caldecott, Wilder, Siebert, Geisel and Batchelder Award Committees with procedural matters as they work throughout 2015 to select the 2016 award winners.

On July 8, Viki traveled to Austin for the Texas Library Association's Annual Assembly. At the request of the Children's Round Table Executive Board, she provided a training session for the 2 x 2 Committee. This committee is charged with selecting a list of 20 outstanding books recommended for children from the age of 2 through the second grade.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Programs for Teen Parents

Corinne Sanchez has established a relationship with Seton Home, a shelter for pregnant and parenting teens. Ms. Sanchez, with support from Ronnie Webb, Xelena Gonzalez, and Liliana Ornelas, will visit the shelter weekly throughout the summer to offer Every Child Ready to Read workshops. So far, the workshops have been very well received. The series will conclude with a Play & Learn program on August 2.

Workshops for Child Care Providers

The final "Exploring Math, Science and Early Literacy" workshop was offered on June 21. Theresa Brader, from the Great Northwest Branch Library, joined Julia Lazarin and Cresencia Huff to observe the workshop and provide some much-needed additional help with materials. Participants made sensory bottles, took lots of pictures of math and science activity displays, shared with each other from their own experiences, and indicated that they would be looking forward to the new workshop topic for the coming year.

Little Read Wagon staff has begun planning in earnest the 2014-15 workshops for early childhood teachers. The topic will focus on singing as one of the five pre-reading practices recommended by Every Child Ready to Read. Based on the plans made so far, the workshop is going to be very informative and fun for all involved!

Youth Outreach Story Time

Several youth outreach story time sites have closed for the summer. Little Read Wagon staff has taken this opportunity to serve a few new sites until the school year begins. Responsibilities for some sites have been reassigned to Children's Librarians at the Carver, San Pedro and Johnston Branch Libraries due to the departure of Martha Wichy. The remaining sites served by Ms. Wichy will be assigned to a new Little Read Wagon team mate.

Community Events

Cresencia Huff joined Viki Ash and Jodi Miller at Pershing Park for an Eastside Promise Neighborhood "Summer Learning Festival." Families enjoyed the shade of the VROOM! van and embellishing stick puppets with paint or markers. The afternoon was one of the hottest at that point in the summer, making everyone who attended very grateful for the cold water provided by the event hosts.

Play & Learn

The weather this summer has been very nice on Play & Learn days! The Play & Learn series at the Woodlawn Wi-Fi room concluded on July 1. A consistently large crowd participated in this series and was sad to see it come to an end. In addition to the Wi-Fi room, activities were set up on the porches of the gym and on the lawn in front of it so there was ample space for everyone. A final Play & Learn was offered at Arnold Park on July 11. Although this location had much lower attendance, the unique setting was appreciated. On July 3 Little Read Wagon began a Play & Learn series at the Las Palmas Branch Library. In spite of the Independence Day holiday, there was a sizeable crowd which grew significantly the following week.

This summer, Travis Park is the site of Movies by Moonlight. Little Read Wagon offered a monster-themed Play & Learn prior to the showing of *Monsters University* on June 17. The park offered plenty of shade and a lovely setting for the event. Many families who had arrived early to secure seating for the movie enjoyed playing with rainbow gak, monster bean bag toss, a monster photo opportunity, play dough, bubbles and, of course, some great monster stories. Several families picked up Summer Reading calendars and were reminded that digital and audio books count toward their summer reading goals.

Professional Development

Corinne Sanchez and Julia Lazarin completed the online course on teaching adult learners and received a certificate for 24 training hours. Cresencia Huff began the same course on June 18.

TEEN SERVICES (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Program Promotion

To promote Teen Summer Reading, Maker Camp and science and technology programming for teens in general, Teen Services Coordinator Jennifer Velasquez and two teen volunteers, Ozzy and Analisa, appeared on SA Living to demonstrate a science experiment involving the extraction of DNA from strawberries.

Off-Site Service

Through a partnership with Parks and Recreation's Teen Connection Summer Program, Teen Services staff is hosting bi-weekly programs at the Lincoln and Sonny Melendrez Community Centers throughout the summer. Staff members are rotating Wednesdays. Teen Services Librarian I Caroline Mossier brought teen science and technology programming to both community centers. Teens did strawberry DNA science and composed short Lego stop-motion animation films. Teen Services Library Assistant JD Elizondo and Teen Services Librarian II Kathleen Fordyce brought JD's Eclectic Electric music program, as well as the VROOM! van with iPads for the teens to use. At a separate visit, Kathleen brought Cubee Crafts for teens to have fun building. Teen Services Library Assistant Regina Almanza brought bead sprites, a fun art activity, for the teens to work on at the community centers. At each visit, teens have a chance to apply for a library card and sign up for the Teen Summer Reading Program.

Partnerships

Family Service Association (FSA)

On June 16, Teen Services Librarian II Kathleen Fordyce and Teen Services Librarian I Cynthia Cruz (Mission Library) attended the FSA job fair to interview potential teen interns for seven library locations. The locations that requested an intern, in addition to Central Teen Services, are: Bazan, Forest Hills, Great Northwest, Johnston, Igo and Pruitt. The teen interns are paid and began working on June 23. The program is six weeks and is often the first work experience for the teens. Some of their job duties include helping to plan and implement teen programs, shelving, creating displays and promotional materials, serving summer lunches for kids and teens, and other tasks as needed at their location.

San Antonio Food Bank

Teen Services at the Central Library continues to serve free lunches to children and teens Monday through Friday from 12:30-2pm, through its ongoing partnership with the San Antonio 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.

System-wide Support

JD and Caroline brought Eclectic Electric music programming to the Pruitt Library at Roosevelt High School on June 19. JD took Eclectic Electric to Las Palmas Library on July 15.

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

The marketing department continued its work on all projects requested by branches. A major portion of time was dedicated to the design and implementation of the Latino Collection space on the sixth floor of the Central Library. While more work will continue at the end of the summer, the space was ready for a reception to honor the Latino Collection's major benefactor, Dr. Tomás Ybarra y Frausto, who donated more than 125 boxes of literature and other works dedicated to Latino and Chicano culture. Approximately 100 people attended the reception in his honor that was sponsored by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation's L3 Committee. Joseph Marks managed this project.

Graphic Design

While Ana focused almost exclusively on the Latino Collection space, Giselle was focused on the creation of digital library "wallpaper" that is getting installed in area community centers and city buildings. The wallpaper will contain QR codes that visitors can use their smartphones to read and check out books without actually visiting a website or a branch location. It is an opportunity to take the library to the streets and into places where readers may not be able to get into a branch.

Public Relations

Caitlin and Marcie continue to grow the Library's visibility in the community at a fast pace. The team coordinated two print stories and related interviews regarding the new teen space that will open in the fall at the Central Library. Additionally, the team coordinated media stories and live features on story times, and teen activities.

SAPL received media coverage 209 times during the reporting period.

Marketing

Daniel has continued his regular focus on building the monthly newsletter, capturing media, Spanish translations, new employee training, and community outreach.

Social Media

SAPL continues to grow its presence on social media and will soon introduce its web pages on Pinterest and Tumblr – two social media platforms that are growing in popularity very quickly. As of the reporting date, SAPL has 7,241 likes while the Twitter feed has 1,992 active followers.



CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Summer presenter Dinosaur George brought prehistoric science to life at the Central Library on Saturday, June 28 with jokes that got the whole family laughing out. He had everyone on the edge of their seats with fascinating facts about life in the time of dinosaurs. He displayed amazing replicas of bones and fossils to illustrate the variety of prehistoric life. He even let the children pose with their heads inside the jaws of a giant dinosaur skull!

A *Magic Tree House* Party was enjoyed by a wide range of ages during a Family Fun highlighting the beloved Mary Pope Osborne series of the same name. Jasmin Salinas (Librarian I) led the children into this world of adventure through setting the scene with a little story telling under the puppet theatre that had been transformed by staff into a tree house. The first four books of the series were featured through different activity stations and featured fun such as rescuing dinosaur eggs from a volcano, building castles out of LEGOs, dressing like pirates, and solving Egyptian hieroglyphics.

A *Pete the Cat* Party was also in order as the series has been incredibly popular throughout the City. Amy Lewis (Librarian I) created a fun filled array of activities inspired by the books including decorating their own pair of white shoes, running a cat obstacle course, and making a pair of cool cat shades after hearing some Pete favorites.

Kids Time programs for school age children were led by Kate Sandoval (Librarian II) and most recently focused on topics such as the water cycle, weather, and color theory. The highlights included a demonstration of a rainstorm using blue food coloring dropped onto a shaving cream which made a "cloud" that floated in a tub of water. The blue "rain" fell down through the water, just like a real rainstorm! Following the experiment, families worked together to create elaborate weather hats, decorating them with paper clouds, rainbows, and foil lightning. Other fun demonstrations included fun with Chromatography and also making a giant color wheel together.

Toddler Times featured teamwork between Ms. Salinas and Judith Slaughter (Library Assistant). The group was introduced to a variety of animals and they also squished, molded, and rolled play dough into animal spots and stripes. Best of all they splashed in a water bead sensory bin filled with whales and sharks! July kicked off *On the Road* themes filled with car and truck books and songs. Toddlers got to build a city of boxes and roll their toy cars through the streets of their city.

Ms. Chiego met with several large groups affiliated with SAISD summer enrichment activities as well as with the Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas to ensure as many summer readers were registered in SAPL's reading clubs as possible. Several celebrations for those completing the programs were enjoyed by children across San Antonio. Ms. Sandoval is also arranging three visits to Central Library for East Side Promise Neighborhood students enrolled in summer enrichment programs through SAISD where they will also "walk the red carpet" and receive their certificate signed by the Mayor and book reward while getting a tour of the Children's area.

Recent displays received a lot of attention, especially a collaborative one featuring all the books the Children's Department staff is reading this summer. Older elementary school students referred to the display often and many children tried to figure out which staff person chose which books based on the avatars staff created for the display. The display will continue to grow until the end of August. With the world focusing on soccer, and the World Cup in full swing, Ms. Slaughter created a nonfiction display to highlight some key players and books about the sport.

As supervisors, Ruth Chiego and Kate Sandoval attended two modules in the four module Supervisor Excellence training series which dealt with the recruitment and evaluation of employees.

DIGITAL SERVICES

Adam Spana and Veronica Rodriguez, along with Jo Ann Paredes of Cortez Branch Library, completed scanning 250 photographs for the Library's digital collection.

REFERENCE

Reference staff continues to host and participate in programs and activities that positively impact both the public and other City employees.

Due to the success of Michelle Hill's four-part "ArtSmart" art appreciation and history series, lectures on Roman and Early Christian Art, as well as Byzantine and Jewish Art have been added. Ms. Hill presented Part Three – Egyptian Art on June 19.

The Sunday "Marvel Summer Movie Series" has also been well received; Maria Hernandez reports well above average attendance for each presentation. This month's presenters included Blanca Hernandez and Dan Garcia.

The new "Technology Questions Answered" series offered on Sundays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Connect Training area has proved successful in meeting the needs of patrons. In the open forum setting patrons receive focused, individualized attention.

On June 21, in the Connect Training area, Pannaga Prasad and Cynthia de Leon presented "Prep Yourself Before You Test Yourself: Standardized Test Prep for SAP, ACT, GED and More with Learning Express". In the well-attended session, patrons learned how to access e-books and practice tests.

On June 20 Cristine Mitchamore and Blanca Hernandez attended the "New Employee Experience" and introduced City employees to the services and materials SAPL offers.

On July 2, along with Ms. Prasad, Ms. Mitchamore also participated in an employee Budget Focus group; they offered suggestions on saving money and improving the efficiency of Library services.

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. In addition to the music program, during the reporting period JD facilitated a kinetic program via a hacky sac game and a meeting of the teen leadership group, "Power Up". On June 23, Power Up established Monday as its normal meeting day. JD encouraged the teens to work on a mural, which has turned into an ongoing art project – it is shaping up to be a very interesting piece of art. On July 7, the teens got a double dose of kinetic programming – getting plenty of exercise – with Dance Dance Revolution and foam sword fighting. JD is currently working with a teen who suggested doing a talent show. The tentative date for this event is September 20.

Tuesdays with Caroline Mossing (Librarian I): During the reporting period, Caroline hosted Science and Tech Tuesdays. Teens drew instruments and used them to play music with the MaKey MaKey and Scratch programs, extracted and examined strawberry DNA, used Sphero to play augmented reality games, and created Lego stop-motion animation shorts. Maker Camp at Central Teen Services began on July 7 and will continue on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, with virtual field trips on Fridays, through mid-August. Projects so far have included 3D design, stomp rockets, and an up-cycled fountain, and teens attended the first Virtual Field Trip to Google Treks HQ.

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

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Teens were given the opportunity to express themselves creatively and partake in some yummy nutrition on Summer Thursdays. Teens attempted a new artistic technique: batik, a process that involves painting hot wax on fabric, dyeing it and then ironing out the wax. The results were great for a first attempt. Bringing back a popular and often requested summer program, teens made 5-minute ice cream; topping their creations with fruits, cookies and chocolate. Teens also attempted making Kool-Aid popcorn, a recipe almost like caramel corn but you use Kool-Aid as the flavoring. It was weird and colorful, teens said, but tasty. Crafts ranged from making Grumpy Cat masks, pom pom figures, and paper cutouts. In a non-competitive environment, teens played video games such as Rock Band, Brawl and sports games. Pictures from Thursday programs as well as system-wide programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>.

Weekend events: During the weekend of July 28 and 29, JD hosted a LEGO/LARP weekend with a LEGO party on Saturday and LARP, or Live Action Role Playing game on Sunday. The LARP day gained media attention, appearing on Fox 29 news that night.

Tours and Groups

On June 20, Regina Almanza provided a tour of the library to students from the Upward Bound program at Edison High School. Afterward, the students registered for the Teen Summer Reading Program, and then Caroline Mossing facilitated an “art bot” program in which the students used markers and a battery to create a robotic art device. On June 24 and 26, students from Rainbow Station School received a tour of the library.



BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Shelving in the area designated to house the Adult Education Center has been removed, and the collections shifted to other areas in the library. Ms. Soderberg has placed an information board in the area, which has generated interest and anticipation from customers.

Children’s Librarian Esperanza Sonnen and Library Assistant Jennifer Martinez visited several of the Parks & Recreation centers in the community, registering children and teens for summer reading. Ms. Martinez hosted zoologist Lucas Miller; he performed to a crowd of 50 eager children and parents! There was singing, science trivia, and lots of silliness.

Ms. Sonnen continues to host weekly Kid's Time story hour and Come and Go crafts; families are enjoying the opportunity to create and be together in a "cool" place.

Bazan welcomed Family Service Association intern, Ruben Basaldua, in early June. He has helped facilitate both Teens' and Children's weekly programs, has assisted staff with special projects. He continues to assist with shelving of materials and general upkeep of the collection.

BROOK HOLLOW

On June 18, the Teen Titans enjoyed decorating the Teen Area during with many colorful, illustrated teen posters and prints advertising young adult novels and materials.

The monthly Wednesday Evening Book Group met on June 18 to discuss *The Daughters of Mars* by Thomas Keneally and had a long and lively meeting about the book.

Brook Hollow Branch once again partnered with Bexar County to serve as an Election Day site for the ACCD runoff election on Saturday, June 21.

The Wee Wiggle Dance Party was a success! Eighty people participated in the fun and children's librarian Rachael Barrera received a lot of positive feedback. Jonnelyn (of the Read to a Dog Program) reported that three children told her dog Sunny all about the dance party and the fun they had.

The branch had 164 people attend the Dinosaur George performance on June 17 and Mad Science had a turn-out of 181 on June 24. Both programs were hugely successful with a lot of positive feedback from attendees.

Brook Hollow had its first ever Teddy Bear Sleepover on July 10-11. Thirteen children participated by taking a bear to the library, and their siblings and parents participated as well. Everyone involved had a wonderful time and it was a great success. All participants viewed a slide show of the experiences their animal friends had overnight and they each took home a souvenir photo of their animal and new friends posed in front of the library.

CARVER

On Wednesday, July 2, Carver's longtime gardening instructor Vernon Mullens passed away after being ill for several months. Services were held at Lewis Funeral Home on Tuesday, July 8 with interment at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Representing the library were at the service were branch manager DL Grant and Carver Friends President Shirley Coleman. The self-described ethno-botanist will be missed. Mullens, who formerly taught electronics at St. Philips College after retiring from the U.S. Army, never missed an opportunity to share his love of gardening. His love of nature was always apparent in any conversation. Evidence of his ability to make anything grow is practically everywhere at Carver Branch. Many of the plants used to decorate the interior are donations made by Mr. Mullens.

The summer reading program performers at Carver library brought an attendance of 29 people for Mad Science on June 18 and an impressive 72 people for Lucas Miller, singing zoologist on July 2. The Carver Library children's librarian partnered with Little Read Wagon and the SAPL children's services coordinator Vikki Ash to have a booth at the Eastside Promise Summer Learning event on June 20 in Pershing Park.

July marked the arrival of Buffalo Soldiers' Heritage Month. A celebration honoring their dedication and service to the nation was held at Carver Branch on July 1.

CODY

On July 10, Line Dancing continued to be a popular event for all ages. One young girl showed up thirty minutes ahead of time and proclaimed that she absolutely loved to line dance!

Cody is hosting conversational English classes on Thursday evenings through July. After only a couple of sessions, it has developed a small handful of regular attendees.

Beginner Readers Club members met on June 18. Sheila Acosta, Children's Librarian, introduced three word activities- a rebus story, a sight word tic-tac-toe, and a matching vocabulary game -- to strengthen their vocabulary and word comprehension. Sheila said the boys and girls partnered up on a couple of the word activities, and even had the parents assist with the rebus story. Also, in addition to checking out beginning reader books, each of the Beginner Readers created a bookmark to take with them.

Over 130 people attended the Mad Science program on June 19. The young scientist from UTSA had no trouble seeking assistance from the boys and girls in the audience, and Sheila said that many of the families were eager to speak to the scientist after the program.

Lego Club was well attended on June 20, and Sheila said that they had enough children to form 5 teams. Each of the teams created a team name decided on what they would create for the theme of the week. Sheila said that one of the teen volunteers suggested using the World Soccer games as a theme, and the students wasted no time creating their Lego version of the World Soccer event.

Tweens created "robots" on June 23. Sheila provided all of the materials, mostly recycled products, and the tweens were eager to begin making their robots. Some worked with a partner, and some wanted to work alone, but, in the end, there were 15 robots waiting to be judged. Sheila said that all of the robots showed the interest and determination of their creators, and tweens were most eager to show them off!

Sheila did outreach at Kids Campus and the Pineapple School on June 24, and reminded the teachers to sign up their children for the summer reading program.

Several families attended the Wacky Wednesday family movie of the week event on June 24.

Spikey Mikey entertained Cody patrons on June 26 for Kids Time. Boys and girls exclaimed to Sheila that Spikey Mikey is one of their favorite magicians, and they definitely showed their enthusiasm during his performance.

Sheila hosted the annual Fancy Nancy Tea Party on June 28. After she read the latest Fancy Nancy book to the attendants, she showed the young girls how to create some "fancy" items. In addition to the "fancy" crafts, the young girls enjoyed a couple of fun games, but, Sheila said their favorite activity of the day was walking down the red carpet.

How does your hand measure up to Kawhi Leonard's? How many paper clips does it take to measure your shoe size? How many cotton swabs does it take to measure the length of the table top? These were some of the questions that Tweens investigated when Sheila challenged them to measure normal things in a novel way. On June 30, tweens were busy calculating the measurement of common objects using not so common measuring devices. Sheila reported that this was one of the most popular activities with the school-aged crowd this summer.

Ronald McDonald performed his *Take Care of Books* program on July 3 for Cody families. Boys and girls especially enjoyed his demonstration of "How to create a puppet" from a book he checked out of the library.

On July 7, tweens challenged one another with tried and true favorites (e.g. checkers, magnetic darts/dartboard, bowling), and they also created pinhole sun catchers to take with them.

Many families were on hand for the Lucas Miller show on July 10. Children learned about a variety of animals through song. Parents and kids commented on how much they enjoyed the performance.

Lego Club was a popular event on July 11, with more than 30 children in attendance. Sheila said that each of the five Lego teams did a great job working together on their theme of the week- animal habitats.

Teen Services at Cody continued onward during the summer. The number of teens at programs dropped. However teens that did come had fun during energetic events. The end of school summer reading sign up party featured teens building their own RBFs aka Root Beer Floats. Teens also played board games, took pictures on Instagram, and hung out. Summertime programs started happening the following week. One teen interested in culinary arts suggested a few food-related programs. Teen Services Librarian and the teen came up with hosting a Mango Battle. The battle was between the best toppings people put on their mango. The winners of the Mango Battle included the reliable lime and salt combination. Other teens liked mixing up new concoctions, such as pomegranate molasses and chili powder was one such combination. Powdered sugar and cocoa powder was another popular topping.

Teen volunteers continued starting volunteer hours at Cody. Many returning volunteers from last summer came back to assist with a variety of events, like taking tickets from the Kids' Time/Thrilling Thursday crowd. Volunteers also helped with Lego Club, doling out Legos and assisting participants with their projects. Finally volunteers came to a volunteer appreciation party to celebrate their hard work. One volunteer, Pat Horlacher, had done more than 15 years of service and was recognized for her tenure as an incredible volunteer.

COLLINS GARDEN

The *Mad Science* and *Dinosaur George* programs attracted two very enthusiastic audiences. Attendees learned about fun science experiments, as well as interesting facts about dinosaurs. Thanks to the Children's Department for its help with both programs.

The San Antonio Food Bank has been sponsoring a Farmers' Market every first and third Sunday in the park behind Collins Garden Branch Library. To raise awareness of the market and the library, a Food Bank volunteer provided a cooking demonstration in the meeting room with herbs as its focus, which was well-received by participants.

A yoga instructor who lives in the Collins Garden Library service area has begun to offer a weekly yoga class at the branch on Thursday evenings.

CORTEZ

Cortez Library has reopened after completing an Extreme Library Makeover. Many great changes have been made such as new paint, furniture, and updates to the layout. The branch is also adding new programs: Cortez Book Club will be discussing an exciting true crime book for their first meeting in August, and librarian Michelle Ricondo will also begin eReader U courses. The first, Downloadable Basics, will discuss the free books, movies, magazines and more that are available through the San Antonio Public Library.

Children's librarian Connie Hejl continues to use the summer as an opportunity to visit local schools to read stories and promote the Summer Reading Program. Lucas Miller, the singing zoologist, presented a very funny and silly program all about animals for the Summer Reading Program (picture below). Kids Time has been a popular program this summer as well.

Zombie Meet, hosted by Madeline Vasquez, continues to be a popular monthly program and always welcomes newcomers to discuss zombie movies, books, survival tips, and more.

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

The English as a Second Language course has resumed its weekly Saturday meetings.

FOREST HILLS

Children's

Summer reading is in full swing at the Forest Hills Branch Library. Parents have eagerly signed up their children to participate in reaching their reading goals for the summer. As the summer progresses, children have excitedly arrived at the library to return their reading logs and collect their certificate and select a book to take home. Children from the City of San Antonio summer programs and area daycares have also been given the opportunity to participate in the program as they have been signed up at their locations. Everyone is having a great time reading and participating in the various activities offered. Children have made predictions, conducted experiments and drawn conclusions regarding measurement, floating/sinking objects, sight/braille, and more.

Dinosaur George delivered an exciting program on dinosaurs on June 19. Children were entertained with his humorous delivery of dinosaur facts. Some were excited as Dinosaur George selected them to help him demonstrate the facts in front of the audience.

Tweens had several experiments determining if they could walk on eggs without breaking them, created a shell-less egg and a shrinking egg. They experienced water bombs made of sponges and predicted and concluded which paper airplanes flew the furthest and had the best hang time.

Families have enjoyed the weekly Come & Go Craft as they created animal habitats and braille sensory posters.

Teens

The teen summer reading program has allowed teens to express their love of reading as they discuss all the popular books for the summer during their weekly meetings. Many of the teens have made new friends and connections which will be valuable to them as they enter high school in the fall. On June 26 the teens worked with the 3D Doodler on loan from Teen Services. They had fun experimenting with different textures and techniques as they used melted plastics to create 3D images. On June 10 they worked as a team to complete a difficult origami project. In order to create the origami firework, 72 individual pieces were created. Next week they will work on assembling the pieces into the final product.

Adults

Forest Hills continues to host two ongoing programs, Qi Gong and Project Linus. Both programs attract a steady number of participants. Many of the participants are retired seniors, as they make up a large part of the Forest Hills demographic.

Partnering with the WellMed Foundation, Forest Hills has hosted a series of Stress Busters classes. The participants have gained valuable knowledge about dealing with the stress they may have from caring for a patient with Alzheimer's/dementia. They have repeatedly expressed their appreciation for this offering.

The Ladies Chic Chat Club continued into the summer eager to complete their Adult Summer Reading Logs. A new member to the group brought a new perspective as she discussed her travels as she is new to the city.

Volunteers

Forest Hills has three weekly volunteers who assist with router, book retrieval, book check-in, weeding, making materials for and organizing programs, and assistance with programs. Their assistance has been of great benefit during the busy summer days.

Outreach

Mary Naylor visited the Bob Ross Senior Center on June 10 to introduce seniors to the new Digital Library Cling that will be installed at the center in the next few weeks. She demonstrated how to use a QR code scanner to access the information as well as a brief overview of the different digital collections now offered by the library. The seniors were eager to explore the different services. One senior later visited the library and offered this praise for the demonstration: "All the staff was wonderful and very friendly and very very helpful. I'm trying to learn the new digital book and music downloading. And at this time I find it very difficult. Mary came to Bob Ross to help us seniors and she was very informative friendly and helpful..." Ms. Naylor plans to return to the center to offer monthly classes on library services.

GREAT NORTHWEST

The GNW Thursday Book Club and the Alicia Trevino Senior Center Book Club discussed *The Good Luck of Right Now* by Matthew Quick in June and will be discussing the GNW Branch Selection of *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai in July. Cindy Moreno, Librarian II, moderated both of the book groups. Popular groups such as the Knitting and Sewing groups continue to meet on a weekly basis.

Cari Raley, Children's Librarian, continues to create exciting children's programs and includes activities that draw in large numbers of families. The Lego Club has been very successful in bringing in older children interested in building and creating. Both children and adults are signing up for the Summer Reading program. Registration and completion numbers continue to increase as the summer goes by.

Teen summer programs have included Kitchen Science where teens learned how to make honey comb candy and a Tech Lab where teens were able to create using a 3D pen doodler. Teen summer programs also include Video Gaming every Wednesday.

GUERRA

Pre-K for SA staff held day-long enrollment sessions on July 11 and 12. The Thursday book club met on July; the group discussed *Astor Orphan: A Memoir* by Alexandra Aldrich. With the financial support from and active participation by members of the Friends Group, all branch staff have been making ready for the 10th Anniversary on July 19.

Branch Manager Dexter Katzman attended two Supervisor Excellence Trainings--Coaching, Counseling, and Progressive Discipline (June 20) and Leave Management (July 9). On June 26, he attended the COLS meeting. He attended the Safety Security Work Group meeting on July 2. On July 3, he attended a meeting to discuss emergency and after-hour reporting procedures followed by a branch managers meeting. He continued to monitor the process of filling two vacancies--a part-time Library Assistant (recommendations made) and a part-time Library Aide (candidates being selected for interview being scheduled).

During the reporting period, Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson-Gibbs continued her Summer Reading programs--Toddler Time, Story Time, Tween Time, and Kids Time. She planned and presented nine programs to 334 children and 194 adults. On June 2, 65 children and 26 adults enjoyed a presentation by Lucas Miller, the singing zoologist. To date, a total of 1,152 children have registered for summer reading at the branch. Arlene arranged to begin the Read to Foxie (a Golden Retriever) program which began on June 26. On July 11, she visited the Marbach Christian Church Daycare where she delivered certificates and vouchers to 57 children and extended congratulations to the location which had 100% completion.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson moderated the Club de Lectura (Spanish language book club) discussion of *Orgullo y prejuicio (Pride and Prejudice)* by Jane Austen on June 26. He designed a display on water safety promoting books on swimming, water safety, and drown-proofing.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry polled his teen group with the result that he held Game-Ra competitions--rather than movies--on June 19 and 26 and July 3 and 10. He has been developing plans to improve outreach for the 2014-2015 school year.

Circulation Attendant Corinna Cabeza volunteered to coordinate the branch charitable campaign effort.

IGO

Igo's new Branch Manager, Ashlee Chavez, joined the San Antonio Public Library team on June 16. Her previous work experience includes time spent as Library Director for the Lompoc Public Library System in California.

For this reporting period, the Igo Children's Services librarian, Nancy Rodriguez, presented 23 programs which served 2,370 children and their caregivers. Programs included four weekly early literacy story times, weekly Kids Time, bi-monthly Tween Time, and two special system-wide summer reading club events, Dinosaur George and Mad Science.

This year's Summer Reading Club theme, Fizz, Boom, Read, with its focus on science has proven to be extremely popular with Kids Time program attendees. Children were given the opportunity to learn more about sight, scientific method, and engineering and construction, as well as, several other STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) concepts through wonderful literature and hands-on science enrichment activities.

In addition to our book and enrichment activities, two special guests shared their talents with library visitors. Dinosaur George with his remarkable artifacts delighted dinosaur enthusiasts of all ages. To round out our program schedule, a scientist from Mad Science demonstrated Newton's Laws of Motion with experiments designed to inspire attendees to read more about physics through exploration of the library's juvenile non-fiction collection.

All programs and story time events were extremely well attended and invited readers to look to the library for great books and fun and enriching programs. Patrons continue to express their appreciation for the Friends of the San Antonio Library for generous support of summer activities for children of all ages.

The Igo Teen Services librarian, Barbara Kwiatkowski, presented several Teen Summer programs beginning with a series of programming designed to help teens relax after a difficult school year, including "Read a Book – See the Movie" and a "Gaming Extravaganza."

Two new teen programs were introduced – M.E.G.A. (Makers, Engineers, Gigs, Artists) Camp and a Creative Writing Camp. At M.E.G.A. Camp (affiliated with the national organization Maker Camp) teens conducted experiments for creating games and animation and learned the basics of computer science and coding (examples of programming taught and experimented with include Blender and Raspberry Pi). Participants have the opportunity to make high and low tech DIY projects and share them nationwide through Google+. M.E.G.A. Camp programs are presented by members of Igo Teen Library Leadership Council and the Igo Teen's DigiLab.

The Creative Writing Camp is led by published authors and covers different aspects of writing fiction. Both camps meet twice a week to give local teens more opportunities to learn and interact. Attendance at both programs has reached capacity.

The Igo Summer Reading Program Teen Registration reached 201 on July 12 and of that amount, 75% have completed the requirements of the program.

Igo's two book clubs have continued on with their normal participants through the summer. Eleven members of the Afternoon Book Club met on June 17 to discuss Jonas Jonasson's *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed out the Window and Disappeared*. On July 2, seven members of the Mystery Club discussed *The Expats* by Chris Pavone.

The Igo Adult Services librarian, Ramona Lucius, arranged for professional storyteller Mary Grace Ketner to tell "Ghost Stories and Haunting Tales" to an audience of seventeen adults and youngsters on June

23. She also worked to ensure a successful blood drive. On July 28, South Texas Blood and Tissue brought their mobile unit to Igo and twelve people donated blood.

Library Assistant, Ms. Irene Scharf, who facilitates the Igo Elderberries' programs, attended the General Fund Budget Focus Group Meeting on July 2 to share feedback on the budget process.

The Igo Elderberries enjoyed the program "Climate Change: A Challenge for Our Time" on July 3, presented by Darby Riley, a local attorney, former Leon Valley City councilman and environmental activist. Thirteen members attended the presentation.

JOHNSTON

Johnston Branch has really enjoyed summer reading this year! The branch has kept pace with a high level of registered patrons across children, teens and adults. (As of this writing, the branch has 1,320 children, teens, and adults registered!) The staff was treated to a "Great Job with Summer Reading lunch" on Wednesday, June 18 by the Friends of the Library. They provided pizza, soda and all the fixings for ice cream sundaes.

Children's Librarian Beverly Wigglesworth has had really good attendance at her programs. On June 25, 117 children and adults enjoyed Dr. Dylan's "mad" science experiments, such as making a battery with Mr. Pickle, creating sound waves with tubes, and demonstrating types of waves with a slinky. On July 2, 77 children and adults gathered to listen to Lucas Miller sing about metamorphosis, stinky animals, and anacondas. He accompanied his music with a video presentation of the animals featured in the songs. On July 8, Dinosaur George wowed an audience of 72 with his fossil artifacts of skulls, claws, and teeth. From saber tooth lion skulls to T-Rex teeth, Dinosaur George kept the children engaged and laughing. This program was supported financially by the Friends of the Johnston Library.

Christina Martinez, Teen Liaison, led the teen group with fun programming as well. On June 19, Teens made pickledillys. The pickles were donated by Irene Salazar. Pickledillys consist of frozen Cool-aide jammers, cubed pickles, gummy worms/bears, and Mexican candy. On June 26th teens played on the Xbox. The Friends of the Library purchased two new games "Minecraft" and "The Need for Speed." Youth worker Jonathan Gomez Rangel, from Family Service Association, started at Johnston Library, and was given orientation. For the Fourth of July holiday, the Teens made water bottle rockets. They created them out of soda bottles. They went to the Sun Valley Park to launch the water bottle rockets. Ms. Martinez also completed the evaluation and ordering of the Branch's 2014-2015 magazines.

Adult Services Librarian Monica Bustillo attended the Library Journal Webinar "Making Your Maker Space: Building for Hands-on Learning in Libraries." She facilitated the second meeting of a new book club at Johnston on June 18. She attended the Senior Programming Committee Live Well Age Smart meeting and will chair the Grandparent's Day event committee for September 7 events. She conducted an open computer lab at the Parks and Recreation Department's Virginia Gill Senior Center. She continues to conduct weekly Open Computer Lab time at Johnston with increasing popularity. On July 11, Monica presented The Lego Movie film as part of the summer Johnston Family Film series. With the help of Library Aide Vida Salas, Monica organized several displays including, *Game of Thrones* read-a-likes, Books to Movies, Mythology, Magic, Shapes and Numbers, Science, and Soccer.

LANDA

Children are getting a chance to do some hands-on exploration of science, engineering and math concepts this summer. From elementary aged students building complex structures with toothpicks, packing peanuts, spaghetti and marshmallows at Kids Time, to toddlers making grass soup during water play at Discovery Time, to Lego Club, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Discovery Time takes advantage of Landa's unique outdoor space and luckily can accommodate the large crowds children's librarian Clair Larkin sees weekly. And if the programming numbers are anything to go by, they are

definitely enjoying it! Informal feedback is highly complementary and new faces appear every week based on word of mouth.

A special performance by Lucas Miller, the singing zoologist, brought in the crowds on June 30. Alamo Heights ISD kindergarten through second grade summer school students visited four story times and kept track of their reading to participate in the Mayor's Summer Reading Club. A nearby preschool wrapped up its month of exploring literacy with a trip to the library.

Landa Teen Services was extremely busy preparing for the Silver and Black Give Back campaign. The Spurs Foundation gave \$5,000 to the San Antonio Public Library Foundation for Landa Teen Library Leadership Council's Tutoring for Young Children program. The teens co-wrote the grant and followed the stipulations to create a community service event, Children's Writing Workshop, for the Spurs' Silver and Black Give Back Day (SBGB) on July 7. Maddie C., teen volunteer, coordinated with Karen Sanchez, volunteer shelter coordinator and invited twenty children from the San Antonio Children's Shelter. Two players from the WNBA Stars were present to sign autographs and pose for pictures for children and teens.

This event was held at SAPLF Jung House and Log cabin. It was a great success and inspirational! Here are some of the teens' reactions "What has been the most fun part of your project?" "The most fun part of our project was seeing how much the kids enjoyed their day with us. It was gratifying to know that all our planning and hard work made them happy."

The weekly Summer Adult Reading Programs at Landa have proved to be a great success, thanks to promotion by SAPL Marketing and by Landa library staff. In addition to a number of faithful weekly attendees, the great variety of programming has also brought new faces each week. Since mid-June, the series has included a program on gemstones presented by representatives of the Southwest Gem and Mineral Society and a program on the craft, inspiration and science of watercolor painting by nationally-known artist Clay McGaughy. Di-Anna Arias, Vice-President for Sales and Culinary Vision for Don Strange of Texas gave a very tasty talk on cooking, recipes and cookbooks (samples included!). July opened with an informational program by Robin Skoglund, Georgetown University Fellow, who taught college ESL teachers in Morocco. She related stories of the cultural complexity of this little-known nation. Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta is hoping to make this series an annual event.

A variety of groups utilize the branch meeting room home for their events. Landa was pleased to host "Speak Out," one of the many Pride Programs presented throughout SAPL during June. The San Antonio Library Foundation wound up its popular Great Book Seminar in Landa's meeting room in late June. And the monthly Geek Gaming group attracts a young crowd of board game lovers, most of whom are library employees. Finally, the Landa staff and members of the Reader's Ink monthly book club bid a sad farewell to Randolph and Elspeth Blakeman who have led this group for many years. The Blakeman family is headed to Mississippi to make its home. Reader's Ink will continue with Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta as its new leader but she knows that the Blakemans are a tough act to follow.

Karen's monthly programs continue to attract both new and old participants. This month's Silver Screens Classic movie was *The Pajama Game* with Doris Day and John Raitt. The Seniors Mystery Book Club discussed *By a Spider's Thread* by Laura Lippman. Karen also took her "show on the road" to the De Matel Incarnate Word Nursing Home. This month's subject was "Cats," with the residents sharing stories of cats in their lives and participating in a "cat trivia" game.

LAS PALMAS

Branch Manager Tim Johnson met with the Las Palmas book club on June 18. This month's selection was *Untold Story* by Monica Ali. It was a very interesting alternative history wherein a Princess Diana-like character fakes her death to escape the limelight. Members especially enjoyed her "revenge" on the one member of the paparazzi who happened to stumble onto her secret.

In the month of June the Las Palmas Library hosted Dinosaur George and Lucas Miller to enthusiastic crowds. In July the Little Read Wagon Play and Learn sessions have been very popular with parents and children offering a variety of hands on activities. The YWCA summer camp kids visited the library and had a great time making and playing kazoos. Children's Librarian Gina Brudi continued her outreach to the Good Samaritan, *Avance* Marisol & Castroville, and Madonna day care centers, presenting story hour and delivering classroom collections and signing up everyone for summer reading. Currently over 800 children have registered for Summer Reading at the Las Palmas Library.

Teen Librarian Marco De Leon began hosting the Super Cool Awesome Teen Gaming Block 3000 which has been well-received by the Las Palmas teen community. Mr. De Leon has also been instrumental in resurrecting the summer lunch program. Every weekday Mr. De Leon drives out to the San Antonio Food Bank and picks up meals to distribute here on site. He has additionally reached out to several local comic stores to find partners for Las Palmas' upcoming Batman Day.

The Friends of the Las Palmas Library continue their incredible support. They recently purchased several Lego sets and many craft supplies for the location. We are extremely lucky to have such a committed group.

MAVERICK

Summer reading is in full swing at the Maverick Library! As of July 7, 665 children had registered for the program and at least 147 have collected their free books to take home! As for the other programs, 42 adults registered for the adult summer reading program and 29 teens signed up for the teen summer reading program.

The branch also had many successful programs during the reporting period. On June 21, Library Aides, Raina Oster and Elizabeth Santos, plus Circulation Attendant, Sarah Borque, had another Elephant and Piggie puppet show and craft on June 21 with 40 attendees. The next play will be on July 12, with different Elephant and Piggie stories and a craft. Paleontologist Dinosaur George visited on June 27 and performed for an enthusiastic crowd of 230 people. Spikey Mikey the Magician performed two shows for families on July 9. The magic program was funded by the Friends of the Maverick Library.

Adult programs also garnered good attendance during the reporting period. The Ladies Choice Book club had 16 attendees on June 28. Tom Sprayberry, representing Guitar SA, performed for 39 people on June 28. Jorge and Nicole, acoustic guitar players, performed on July 12.

Branch Manager Jef Martin returned full-time at Maverick on June 23 after a few months stint as dual manager at both Igo and Maverick. Branch Coordinator, Kate Gray, came for her quarterly meeting with staff on June 18.

McCRELESS

The June 21 showing of *Despicable Me 2* was very popular with patrons. There were 36 in attendance.

Mary Grace Ketner's storytelling event was well received with ten patrons in attendance to hear her Texas-themed ghost stories. A few patrons chimed in with stories of their own as well.

The Librarians have begun taking Supervisory Classes through the City of San Antonio to enhance their management skills.

Branch Manager Cammie Brantley continued her monthly book club with a core group of involved participants and a lively discussion of "Language of Flowers".

Monty Holcomb, Librarian I, is currently serving as the primary coordinator (with the help of assistants) for four teen events. Mr. Holcomb is also the facilitator and instructor for a weekly Chess Club and he has a wide range of attendees from children to adults interested in learning the basics or improving their games.

Summer Story Times have had great attendance this summer, averaging about 50 people for each program. Themes for this time period included movement, geometry, weather and the five senses. Children made a variety of projects, including a musical shaker, a shape snake, a weather meter and a sensory hand print. Kids Time has also enjoyed good attendance, especially for Lucas Miller, the Singing Zoologist, with an audience of 84.

A special Egyptian-style Family Fun with both Katy Brown and Cammie Brantley hosting was another popular event, with 38 people attending. Families made Egyptian sarcophagi from VHS cases and watched a movie about Egyptian archeology.

On June 25, Children's Librarian Kathleen Brown presented an outreach Story Time "Who Eats What" at Good Shepherd Day Care with 44 children and caregivers. The children really enjoyed the Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly puppet who gobbled up animals.

MEMORIAL

Families visiting the Memorial branch library were delighted and entertained by interactive programs presented by paleontologist Dinosaur George, science experiments by Mad Science, fantastic jump roping tricks and skills by the Jumping Dragons, and Origami instruction by our very own Circulation Attendant, Adam Capelo. School-aged kids enjoyed science-themed stories and crafts about, flight, animal habitats, sound, and cause and effect. Children of all ages enjoyed family friendly movies during our Thursday Movie Time.

For the month of June and July, Memorial held Zumba classes for adults. And while the classes were temporary due to the instructor's schedule, the classes were well attended and popular.

As part of the Adult Summer Reading programming, professional storyteller, Mary Grace Ketner, visited the Memorial branch on the evening of June 19 to share ghost stories. Attendees of the program were enthralled by Texas ghost stories such as at the story of the Grey Moss Inn and the folk legend story of *La Llorona*.

The Memorial branch was one of several locations that displayed items associated with the Holocaust as part of the San Antonio Public Library program Holocaust: Learn and Remember. Sponsored by the Holocaust Museum and the Library Foundation, the travelling exhibit featured items from extermination camps and German Nazi party regalia. Many customers stopped to view and contemplate the items and were encouraged to learn more about their history by borrowing books selected to accompany the display.

This month's art exhibit at Memorial featured the works of John A. Coleman. Mr. Coleman's oil and acrylic paintings done in a folk art style have been featured at the Central library and throughout San Antonio.

Teens found a cool spot this summer to enjoy movies, gaming and craft activities: Teen Tuesdays at the Memorial branch. They were also encouraged to sign up for the Summer Reading program and to have a free lunch provided by the San Antonio Food Bank.

MISSION

Mission Library continues partnerships with COSA's Department of Human Services, San Antonio Youth Literacy, Academia America, and SANTA, a non-profit embroidery and craft group.

June 21 marked the end of the Friends sponsored Landscape for Life class. After a three week instruction, participants were able to create personalized sustainable gardening plans for their own yards.

On July 1, Mission hosted a site development meeting. The public event garnered 50 attendees. Teens participated in a variety of gaming options that included video games, air hockey, and ping pong. Dungeons and Dragons night continues to draw a loyal following with 17 teens participating. Teen

members of the group create character profiles that engage in role-playing adventures. Adventures encourage teamwork and support decision making skills in the process.

Mission Video Game Club had 27 participants during the reporting period. Teens enjoyed using the Xbox 360 and Wii gaming consoles along with laptops for access to online games.

Circulation Attendant, Megan Feeley, and the Anime Club created a display of CDs in decoupage with Manga scenes. The teen creations were used to decorate the Young Adult Manga section. Anime Club had 13 teens participate.

Teen Librarian, Cynthia Cruz, visited the YMCA and signed up 22 young people to the Summer Reading Program.

The branch's newest offering for teens, Mission Makers, constructed bows and arrows out of everyday craft items and supplies. Teens enjoyed making the bows and blunt arrows and testing their aiming skills. Mission Makers garnered 17 teens.

During the week of July 7-11 Mission hosted Lives Touching Lives - Diversity Celebrated!, the writing camp for elementary school students stemmed from a partnership with UTSA Instructors Cathy Whitlow and Dr. Lori Falcon and the Friends of the Mission Library. During the week students were provided a tour of the library, learned about the writing process and interviewed family members for story ideas. They presented their completed projects at the end of the week. Midweek, Author Diane Gonzales Bertrand provided a motivational discussion. The students were gifted copies of her work.

Mission children are having a wonderful summer. Summer Reading Program Signup is still moving at a brisk pace and many children have completed their reading logs and claimed their books. Baby Time continues to have record numbers of participants. When asked how they heard about the program, some looked at the online events calendar, some saw the event advertised in local children's publications and many chose to join the fun based on friends' recommendations. Toddler Time continues to be popular with many new faces appearing each week. Kids Time is seeing packed rooms of happy, engaged children.

Mad Science attracted an enthusiastic group of kids and adults on June 16. Over 100 enjoyed learning about science through demonstrations and interaction. Many children got the opportunity to get up and help demonstrate some exciting, surprising, and loud science concepts. The next Monday our other special summer event took place. 153 kids and adults greeted Dinosaur George like a rock star. Many excited fans had seen Dinosaur George's presentations before and couldn't wait to see what he had in store for them. After the performance, Dinosaur George told the children's librarian, Jane Miller, that the Mission audience was one of the best and most knowledgeable he had ever had. He said the kids were very well behaved, listening when appropriate and laughing and enjoying the show without getting out of control. That of course, made Ms. Miller very proud.

PAN AMERICAN

The Pan American library continues to provide free lunches for children and teens in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank. Anywhere from 20 to 30 children participate in the weekly program.

Children's Services Librarian Carol Collins visited five community daycare centers and gave seven presentations to 149 people. Additionally, Carol attended one local school's parent meeting to provide an overview of services offered at the Pan American Branch Library.

On June 17, the Pan American Branch Library hosted Dinosaur George who entertained over 137 children and parents. Dinosaur George was a huge hit. The Singing Zoologist, Lucas Miller, also stopped by the branch on July 1 and drew a crowd of 104 children.

Foxie, the trained therapy dog and her handler, volunteer Mary Valdez, made bi-weekly visits to the branch during the reporting period. Several reluctant readers have benefited from spending time reading to the listening dog. The children have become more confident and accurate readers. A total of 306 people enjoyed 15 in-house programs at the Pan American Branch Library.

PARMAN

The door count and circulation seem to increase exponentially in the summer at Parman. Several special programs saw attendance numbers over 230 each including a snake presentation called Slithery not Slimey, Mad Science, and Lucas Miller, the Singing Zoologist.

In honor of Pride Month, the Parman library hosted a performance by local queer artist Saakred. Known for their confrontational, electronic performances, Saakred presented a gentler side featuring songs from their latest acoustic EP "Ballroom Sessions." The performance and refreshments were funded by Brad Parman.

On July 10, representatives from the new HEB on Wilderness Oak presented Branch Manager Haley Holmes with a \$1,000 donation. The store features a full service restaurant, Oaks Crossing Bistro and Bar. Servers at the restaurant do not accept tips so any tips left are collected and will be donated to a local non-profit organization. Parman Library was chosen for its first donation. Library patrons enjoyed refreshments provided by HEB as well including a Very Hungry Caterpillar cupcake cake.

The Summer Transformation Station has been popular again this year. The latest projects included sound waves, brain training, aerodynamics, and natural gases. Aerodynamics was particularly exciting since it involved levitating a ping pong ball using a hair dryer.

PRUITT

Children's

This summer's "Fizz, Boom, & Read" got off to a great start as kids became "little engineers" constructing pyramids, towers, and bridges out of Dixie cups, marshmallows, and connector straws. During Kids' Times, children learned about cause and effect relationships as they listened to the book, *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, and then they practiced the skill by performing "The Runaway Glitter" experiment. Children also enjoyed their "Trip to the Stars" as they learned some fascinating information about space and had the opportunity to construct their own spacecraft using paper cups, toothpicks, marshmallows, and stickers.

For the second year, the LEGO Camp has been hugely popular. Held for one week, children compete in teams as they try to build the best building, car, dinosaur, or home, depending on the theme for the day. Pruitt looks forward to July's Family LEGO Camp where parents can join in on the fun!

Teen

Pruitt has six interns from the city's Joven and Family Services Association programs. They have been instrumental in assisting in the fun programs for teens at the Pruitt library this summer. Teens have participated in extracting DNA from strawberries, created glow sticks, compared the marshmallow launching capabilities of vacuum cleaners, and learned about the dispersal of airborne microorganisms.

Adult

Adults at the Molly Pruitt Library have enjoyed Peter Mim's Introduction to Magic program, the storytelling of Mary Grace Ketner in her Ghost Stories and Haunted Tales program, and learned about how to begin the journey of filing for Social Security. The branch is busily promoting the Summer Reading Book Challenge book, *Still Life with Breadcrumbs*.

SAN PEDRO

San Pedro Branch Library's Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton conducted several outreach events. She led two Story Time sessions at VIA Child Development Center. She met with 47 children and five adults. She also led two Story Times for 27 youngsters and two adults at Educare and for 10 children and two adults at Monte Vista Montessori.

Children from Respite Care of San Antonio visited the library for special Story Time activities. San Pedro's weekly Kid's Time events have attracted 29 children and 18 adults.

The Tuesday Chess Club continues to thrive, with about six to seven playing each week.

The hit of the summer was Singing Zoologist Lucas Miller, who amazed a huge crowd of children and big people alike with this information about insects.

SEMMEES

Semmes Branch Library staff has been enjoying a great many busy summer days. There has been lots of patron interest in the Kids Time programs being held on Thursdays. "Dinosaur George" on June 19, was a very popular program. 161 people enjoyed his two performances at Semmes. Another very popular program was held on July 10. The "Mad Science" program enthralled 151 people over two performances. Children's Librarians Randi Jones and Shannon Seglin were very impressed with the young man who did the presentation and tried to encourage him to become a Children's librarian!

Librarian III, Jamie Flowers, attended the monthly outreach book group at the Waterford Senior Living Apartments on June 24. Two new members have joined the group, bringing the total of regular attendees to six. The group discussed "The Age of Miracles" by Karen Thompson Walker.

Semmes staff members have been meeting with Assistant Director Dale McNeil and Branch Coordinator Cheryl Sheehan to discuss finding innovative ways to increase adult circulation at the branch. Reference team members at Semmes have noticed a great many patron requests for Christian or Inspirational fiction titles. In July, staff members pulled all of the titles in the fiction collection that were classified as Christian fiction and separated these books into their own section. The hope is that readers of these books will find them much easier to browse. So far, patron response to this special collection has been very positive. If this experiment is successful, staff may try highlighting other genres, such as Horror.

THOUSAND OAKS

Children's

Nearly 900 children have signed up for the Summer Reading Club at Thousand Oaks! The number is already higher than last summer's sign up number, and there are still several weeks left in the summer. Close to 100 children have completed their reading and have brought in their reading logs to receive their free book!

Children have enjoyed attending the library's programs this summer. The library is offering a variety of programs for children of all ages: Lego Time, Kids Time, Toddler Time, Story Time and Come and Go Crafts. Mad Science and Dinosaur George have also performed and brought in crowds of more than 100 people! The children have had many fun activities this summer including making kites and flying them outside the library and using frozen ice chalk to draw on the library's sidewalks!

Teens

Thousand Oaks Teens had numerous Wednesday evening programs in this busy summer, which included programs such as a Game Day and a visit by DJ Drew on July 9. On June 25, the Teens arranged a Frozen Sing Along, which was a big hit with the younger kids and their parents, with total attendance of 52 patrons.

Programming/Events

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

World Cup Bash

To celebrate the World Cup Thousand Oaks had a World Cup Bash on June 21. There were numerous soccer (futbol!) games for the kids to take part in, Brazilian treats to be enjoyed, flags of your favorite nation face painting, and a highly enjoyable Ghana-Germany clash to take in. Over 45 patrons showed up to take part in the festivities and celebrate the world's largest sporting event, which concluded a month-long set of events.

NE Senior Center Outreach

Branch Manager Troy Hoyles, along with Tobin at Oakwell Library Assistant Elvia Ramos, hosted the monthly Trivia Time at the NE Senior Center of May 20. As always, participation was high and, more importantly, enthusiastic among the 30 seniors who played along. After a few rounds of questions, the contest concluded with a lightning round of state and world capitals, with a promise that staff would ask them capitals again next month.

TOBIN

Summer Reading is very active at Tobin for all ages. Adults are particularly interested with 285 signed up thus far. As part of Pride Month, the branch hosted Dr. Amy L. Stone, Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Trinity University, for a discussion of her current research. Dr. Stone explained the dynamics of San Antonio's Fiesta and the way that gay and lesbian visibility is part of a broader democratization of Fiesta. An Introduction to Magic with Magician Paul Mims was well attended on June 19. Mims discussed the art of stage magic and interacted with the audience with some basic tricks.

Children's Programming is flourishing with attendance up 115% from last year with Children's Librarian, Ariel Cummins presenting 25+ programs each month. School age kids had a terrific time at the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, party on June 17, while toddlers and young children enjoyed the Play and Learn "At the Beach" on June 27. Dinosaur George entertained a lively crowd of over 150 people to close out June's special programming. Popular Come and Go crafts included Spider Hats, Tie-Die Fireworks with coffee filters and model roller coasters.

Tobin's Interesting Book Club exchanged thoughts on S.J. Watson's; *Before I Go to Sleep* for July's meeting. The Writer's Group continues with steady numbers of eager participants. Special displays this period are BBQ and Grilling, materials related to Dr. Stone's research and the 75th Anniversary of Batman.

WESTFALL

Summer has been busy at Westfall Branch Library. Attendance at weekly events has increased considerably. More than 100 youngsters and their big people participated in Children's Librarian Imelda Merino's Story Time activities, while another 89 children and adults came to Family Fun and Kids Time. The Mad Science program drew a crowd of 66 children and 31 grownups, and the History of Magic was attended by 34 children and 23 adults. Baby Time brought in another 32 parents and infants.

The Friends of Westfall Library treated staff to a lunch of roast chicken, salad, homemade desserts and drinks. Friends and staff took the occasion to get to know each other as they ate.

Both The Stranger than Fiction Book group and the Third Thursday Book Group had 6 people in attendance. Stranger than Fiction, a group that reads non-fiction is facilitated by Librarian I Karen Sagun, and Librarian II Jernell Williams lead the Third Thursday group.

Branch Manager Sherrie Hardin, Mrs. Sagun and Ms. Williams are all completing the city's Supervisor Excellence Training. The course covers Recruiting, Performance Management, Leave Management and Coaching.

Ms. Hardin also has been working on getting the adult education center established at Westfall and is talking with contractors to complete a remodeling project.



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 gave conceptual approval of the 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 August meeting. Final design development documents will be presented to the Facilities Committee and Library Board at their August 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 sf co-located in a 40,000 sf recreation center. On September 25th, an executive session of the Library Board of Trustees was held regarding proposed Real Estate transaction. Additional discussions were held at an executive session of the June 25th Board meeting regarding this project.

Encino 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. A Construction Kick-Off event will be held on August 27th at 11:00am at the building site.

At the June 25th Board meeting, the Board approved the geographic name "Encino Branch Library". The Naming Committee will hold a public comment meeting in August (16th or 23rd) at the building site.

The selected artist has been introduced to the design team and will begin developing conceptual themes for the project. Conceptual design was presented and approved at the July 9th Facilities Committee meeting and will be presented at the July 25th Library Board of Trustees meeting.

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. 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. Carpet installation for 2nd, 5th and 6th floors will begin in early August, and is scheduled to be complete by September 30.

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 completion.

3rd quarter projects: Cortez closed as scheduled on June 9th and was re-opened to the public on June 30th. An open house will be scheduled. Work is near complete at Westfall (interior and exterior improvements). Installation of new circulation desk and public computer tables will be complete during Board approved closure from July 28th to August 3rd.

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 and closure dates of August 4-31 were approved by Library Board in June. Carver closure dates are September 2nd -28th, and were approved by the Board at their June meeting. All work to be complete by September 30, 2014