



Erin Doran, Volunteer Library Ambassador

July 13 – August 16, 2014

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

On Wednesday, July 16, Library Director Ramiro Salazar attended the reception hosted by the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce to celebrate Mayor Julian Castro as he departed City Council to accept an appointment to serve as Secretary for Housing and Urban Development. That evening, Ramiro attended the National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures (NALAC) welcome dinner for the 2014 NALAC Leadership Institute.

Library Director Ramiro Salazar and Community and Public Relations Manager Caitlin Cowart attended the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Business Award Dinner on Thursday, July 17. The event honored several leaders in the San Antonio community. The San Antonio Public Library is a member of the San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

The 10th Anniversary of the Guerra Branch Library was celebrated on Saturday, July 19. State Representative Jose Menendez, District 6 Councilman Ray Lopez, District 6 Library Trustee Lora Eckler and Library Director Ramiro Salazar delivered remarks during the program. The Friends of the Guerra Branch Library provided refreshments for the celebration.

Assistant Director Kathy Donellan attended the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Board Meeting on July 20 and delivered a presentation regarding the library.

The Library launched the Digital Library Community Project on Thursday, July 24 at 10:30 AM at the Central Library. The initiative is located in front of the Connect digital space. The launch introduced the Library's digital offerings in more accessible way to our users and potential users and also allows the Library to announce partnerships with the Human Services Department –Senior Centers, Haven for Hope, Convention Center, and the YMCA as a strategy to extend the Library's reach. Additional partners and sites will be added as the Library expands the program. This initiative is being funded by the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation.

On July 30, Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with Mayor Ivy Taylor discuss the possibility of initiating a One Book, One City program. Ramiro shared with the Mayor a concept presentation that provided various elements for such a program. After discussing the possibilities, Mayor Taylor expressed the desire to move forward with two programs one to take place in the Fall of 2014 and the second in the Spring of 2015. The Library is developing an implementation plan for the Mayor's Book Club, the One Book, One City initiative.

On August 2, Mayor Ivy Taylor and District 4 City Councilman Rey Saldana delivered remarks during the Open House for the Cortez Branch Library. The Open House celebrated the facility improvements at the Cortez Branch Library. After the program, guests spoke were entertained with live music for a local band. The Friends of the Cortez Branch Library provided support for the celebration.

Library Board Chair Jean Brady and Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with City Manager Sheryl Sculley to discuss the proposed Fiscal Year 2015 budget for the Library on August 4. That afternoon, Library Director Ramiro Salazar attended an event hosted by the Witte Museum honoring newly appointed Mayor Ivy Taylor.

On August 5, Library Director Ramiro Salazar attended the Mission Drive-In Advisory and Public Meeting regarding the proposed public-private development on the undeveloped areas of the Mission Drive-In.

On August 7, Ramiro Salazar attended the San Antonio Public Library Branch Manager's Meeting and delivered a report on the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget development and the results of the 2014 City of San Antonio Community Survey.

Library Executives, Ramiro Salazar, Kathy Donellan, and Dale McNeill represented the Library at each of the five (5) Community Budget Meetings on the FY2015 Proposed Budget. The meetings took place between August 11 and August 14.

On August 12, Assistant City Manager Gloria Hurtado and Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with Charles Mazuca, Chief of Staff for District 9 Councilman Joe Krier to discuss the service model for the Encino Branch Library, the new District 9 Branch Library.

On August 18, the San Antonio Public Library welcomed Candelaria Mendoza, new Library Services Administrator. Candelaria is from Eastern Washington State and has worked in libraries for 13 years. She started as a shelver at a University library and moved up to management at a public library. Her areas of focus have been in strategic planning, system-wide programming and partnerships. She is excited to be able to continue to contribute in public services at the San Antonio Public Library. Candelaria will oversee children, teen and digital services as well as collection development at the San Antonio Public Library and will join the Library's Management Team.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Summer programming came to a close on Saturday, August 2 with the final SummerFest celebration at the Pruitt Library/Roosevelt High School. SummerFest celebrations were held at all 26 locations with attendance topping 2,600 and averaging just over 100 children per library. Reading (and Listening) Club registration stands at 29,060 as of August 9. A final Summer Reading report will be presented at the Board's September meeting, but there is every indication that 2014 was a fizz, boom, fun summer!

Fall 2014's programming schedule includes two noteworthy cooperative endeavors. Once again, SAPL's children's staff is working in concert with the San Antonio Botanical Garden. The Garden's fall exhibit features 27 garden-inspired sculptures created completely from LEGO bricks. Leading in to the exhibit opening on Saturday, September 6, sixteen library locations will be hosting LEGO Days at the Library between Tuesday and Friday. LEGO programming, introduced at SAPL in January 2013, has proven to be wildly popular and these upcoming events are expected to draw children to the library and families to the Garden's exhibit. Children's staff has also prepared an on-line resource guide highlighting the library's collection of LEGO-related books and DVDs. This guide is available at: <http://guides.mysapl.org/LEGOs>

The other notable cooperative venture features a new partner for children's services: OPERA San Antonio. This new opera company will be in residence at the Tobin Center for the Performing Arts beginning this fall. Their first presentation is an operetta based on Roald Dahl's *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. An on-line guide for this partnership has been created as well. It features the library's collection of Roald Dahl materials and a .pdf version of OPERA San Antonio's resource packet for young opera goers, their teachers and parents. This guide is available at: <http://guides.mysapl.org/dahl>.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Programs for Teen Parents

Corinne Sanchez, Ronnie Webb, and Xelena Gonzalez visited Seton Home, a shelter for teen moms, weekly throughout the summer to offer Every Child Ready to Read workshops. The series concluded with a Play & Learn program on August 2. The team hopes to continue a relationship with the shelter throughout the school year.

Workshops for Child Care Providers

Little Read Wagon staff has been planning the 2014-15 workshops for early childhood teachers. Two kinds of workshops will be offered: a three-hour session at the Central Library with a focus on singing as one of the five pre-reading practices recommended by Every Child Ready to Read, and a one and a half hour break-out workshop as part of the monthly Early Care and Education Training and Resource Fair events sponsored by City Council members. With these two options available, Little Read Wagon hopes to offer at least fourteen workshops for teachers in FY2015.

Ms. Gonzalez presented a break-out session at the Early Care and Education Training and Resource Fair on August 9. This event was at Northwest Vista College and served City Council Districts 6 and 8.

Youth Outreach Story Time

Several youth outreach story time sites have closed for the summer. With the arrival and training of new Early Literacy Specialist, Elizabeth Huber, two of the sites previously served by Martha Wichy, will resume services. Ms. Huber made her first visit to Nurturing Hearts Early Learning Center on August 13.

Community Events

It is back-to-school season and Little Read Wagon has been busy with community events. On July 24 Mr. Webb represented the Library at Teen Hopes, an event organized by The Children's Shelter as a service to teen parents. The Children's Museum and KLRN had their annual Back-to-School Bash on August 10. The event drew a tremendous crowd, as usual. Mr. Webb and Liliana Ornelas distributed hundreds of Library pencils, registered nearly eighty children for the Summer Reading Program, and delighted many with a shape matching and sensory activity. On the same day at Pica Pica Plaza, Cresencia Huff partnered with Library Ambassador Erin Doran at the Stuff the Bus and Family Health Fair. Mr. Webb relieved Ms. Doran and Mrs. Huff for the afternoon. Julia Lazarin and Ms. Huber had a Library information table at the August 16 Urban Pet Mart. The day was extremely hot and the event sparsely attended.

Play & Learn

The Play & Learn series at Las Palmas concluded on July 31. In addition to this series, there were two special programs scheduled. Unfortunately, the July 15 pre-Movies by Moonlight Play & Learn at Travis Park were cancelled due to anticipated rain. Not to be deterred, Little Read Wagon staff used the activities prepared to go with the showing of *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs, II* at House of Neighborly Service on July 18. Participants enjoyed bowling with "meatballs" and "spaghetti" pins, sensory tubs full of brightly colored spaghetti, bubbles, play dough and several story kits.

Professional Development

Mrs. Huff completed an online course on teaching adult learners and received a certificate for 24 training hours. Mrs. Huff has also attended two of the new Supervisory Excellence Training modules and is looking forward to the rest of the series.

TEEN SERVICES (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Teen Summer Reading

Teen Summer Reading 2014 came to an end on July 31, and teens celebrated at the annual end-of-summer party: GameFest. The event took place at the Central Library and Igo Library on Saturday, August 9. Teens enjoyed video games, board games, door prizes, free pizza and jamming on electric guitars and keyboards. Teen were also treated to a special performance by Take Note, the City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation teen band. Three winners of the Teen Summer Reading Program were randomly chosen – from around the system – and will receive the following grand prizes: a Galaxy Tab, an iPad Mini and an iPod Nano.

Off-Site Service

Teen Services staff continued to provide bi-weekly programs at the Lincoln and Sonny Melendrez Community Centers during the reporting period. Staff members rotated the programming on Wednesdays. The last visit to the Lincoln Community Center was on July 30, and the last visit to the Sonny Melendrez Community Center was on August 6. Teen Services staff members enjoyed their time with the teens at both centers and hope to partner with Parks and Recreation again next year!

Partnerships

Artpace and Southwest School of Art

On July 16, Library Assistant, JD Elizondo, and Teen Services Coordinator, Jennifer Velasquez, met with Taylor Browning and Patricia Morales (from Artpace and the Southwest School of Art respectively) to begin planning a teen-centered collective to be held at SAPL and the galleries at Artpace and SSA in November of 2015.

Family Service Association (FSA)

Teen Services' teen intern, Brandon, completed his last day of work on August 7. Brandon was a big help to the department during the busy summer, and the Teen Services staff looks forward to hosting another teen intern next summer.

Professional Development

Teen Services Librarian I, Caroline Mossing, attended the OpenEdJam conference (July 25-27 in San Antonio), which focused on open-source educational tools and technology, where she made connections with other local professionals interested in technology and education and picked up some ideas and resources to use in future programming.

System-wide Support

JD took his popular Eclectic Electric music programming to Las Palmas and Pruitt Branch Libraries during the reporting period.

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

The Marketing Department continued its regular projects while also working on several new projects including FY2015 Budget presentations for both the library director and the chair of the Board of Trustees. Presentations will be made to city council the week of August 18.

Graphic Design

Ana Farr and Giselle Weyte spent most of their time working on budget presentations as well as an invitation to a program to be held on August 26 in the Latino Collection space and hosted by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation and the L3 Committee. Additional projects include design for Hispanic Heritage Month, event flyers, Every Child Ready to Read materials and Young Pegasus materials.

Public Relations

Marcie Hernandez spent the reporting period promoting program events. Additionally, she attended assisted in the planning of the Guerra 10th Anniversary celebration including managing the media relations. She also coordinated several television appearances including appearances on Despierta San Antonio, Great Day SA, an appearance on KENS 5. She also coordinated the Digital Library Community Project media event that took place on July 30.

SAPL appeared in media 231 times during the reporting period.

Marketing

Daniel Casillas produced the latest edition of the monthly SAPL newsletter and coordinated Back to School outreach efforts for the marketing department. He also translated various flyers into Spanish for branch use.

Special Programs and Social Media

Joseph Marks continues to coordinate an event in partnership with the San Antonio Public Library Foundation that will take place on August 26. He is managing all details including invitation design and logistics. He supported the Digital Library Community Project by promoting the project at Haven for Hope on the day it was officially unveiled (July 30). Joseph attended a Back to School community outreach event at Livingway Church on August 8.

Social media outreach continued during the reporting period with SAPL posting two Facebook ads that drew attention to two digital services: Hoopla and Overdrive. For a minimal cost, SAPL was able to drive its users to these two services.

SAPL currently has 7,408 followers on Facebook and 2,069 followers on Twitter.



CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Typically the Children's Department gets quieter as it gets later into July and early August, but not so for 2014! The third floor at Central has been a bustle of activity. Elementary schools in the Eastside Promise Neighborhood including Bowden, Pershing and Washington all had their soon-to-be kindergarten students visit the Central Library for tours tailored to their interests. A highlight of the experience for all participants was the Summer Reading Program finishing ceremony held for each school. Applause, certificates and books highlighted the reading accomplishments of each child visiting. Other groups visiting Central have included the Methodist Hospital Parenting Group, several Girl Scout Camp groups, Ignite Camp members, and several smaller groups of day campers in the downtown area which each enjoyed books, crafts, and getting to know the staff of the Children's Department at Central.

Thursday's Family Fun Celebrations were a hit this summer. Families enjoyed a Hawaiian beach party, complete with hand-crafted leis, tropical-scented play dough, ocean puppet play, and creating wacky beach hats, all set against the backdrop of a Hawaiian beach slideshow. During a "Trip to the Stars", families enjoyed playing with out-of-this-world black and sparkly play dough and creating a constellation masterpiece using watercolors, star stickers, and the magical effect of sprinkling salt over the drying artwork.

Toddler Time on Fridays at Central had children (and adults) happily shouting out "choo choos" and "chugga chuggas." Jasmin Salinas (Librarian I) had a month of songs and stories about things that go. The Story Room became abuzz with railroad tracks and toy trains for children and parents to play with together. Toddlers also enjoyed diving into the sensory bins while loading and unloading their colored pasta "cargo". For the last meeting of summer a "Wiggle Party" was held to celebrate the reading accomplishments of some of the branch's youngest reading club participants.

Saturday's school age program, Kids Time, was filled with outside-the-box science thinking. Children imagined the ultimate spaceship and then built a model from recyclable materials such as paper towel rolls, Kleenex boxes and egg cartons. During a Kids Time about the science of sight, kids imagined a life without sight, learned the Braille code and made sensory collages, then investigated optical illusion books from the collection. In a surprise turn of events, it was not only the LEGOS that captivated the kids' attention during Engineering Kid's Time, but the cup-stacking challenge! This activity brought children of all ages together as they tried to build taller and taller cup structures, each time delighting in the racket their fallen attempts created.

The summer of weekly activities came to a close with SummerFest at Central as hands on science experiments were in play during a busy hour as young scientists tried their hand at making "raindrops" fall within a huge "cloud" made of shaving cream, seeing chemical reactions first hand as "Elephant Toothpaste" was allowed to "WOW" the crowd, and the very young party goers tested their senses with a special baby/toddler zone of fun exploratory activities. Of course, LEGO building, crafts (alien and planet collages and weather hats), were also popular. To celebrate further, the large group of nearly 200 also enjoyed refreshments provided by Whataburger and several party-goers officially completed the reading club and received cheers for their accomplishments.

In early August, Central Library was among the lucky few branches treated to a visit from the Alamotion dance group which is a Parks and Recreation program. Families enjoyed their performance of "Gone to Texas" in the Central Library Auditorium. Dancers of all ages demonstrated a range of dance styles while highlighting the various features of the state of Texas.

Throughout the summer, Central Children's staff, with the amazing help of SAPL's Delivery Department, sent out all the Summer Reading book prizes for reading club finishers around the city. This task is a very labor intensive one. Fresh, new titles continue to arrive to help spur on the City's last finishers of the reading club.

REFERENCE

Reference staff facilitated and participated in a diversity of programs, trainings and workshops.

On July 17, Michelle Hill hosted part four of the *ArtSmart* lecture series. Attendees discovered "the beginnings of Western culture and [the] captivation with the human form" in Ms. Hill's lively discussion on Greek Art. Attendees were also excited that two more lectures have been added to this successful series.

Sally Bauer co-hosted a *Meet the Author* book signing and reading on July 22. A large and enthusiastic audience enjoyed poet, Dr. Santiago Daydi-Tolson's, discussion on the differences between writing in Spanish and writing in English.

On July 23, Cristine Mitchamore, Tricia Masterson, and Blanca Hernandez attended an all-day workshop hosted by the Romance Writers of America Conference. Ms. Mitchamore came away with ideas for programs, a better knowledge of LGBTQ Romances and ways to explain the appeal of Romance to non-Romance readers.

It's a wrap! On July 27 Maria Hernandez hosted the final movie in the Marvel Summer Movie Series. This summer's series was very successful; Ms. Hernandez reports, "the best attended program yet!"

On August 10, Pannaga Prasad and Cynthia de Leon presented *Prep Yourself before You Test Yourself* training. Attendees were taught to use the Learning Express Library database to access practice tests for SAT and ACT. One mother expressed her appreciation by saying, "the one-hour training session was most helpful."

James Laferla attended an 'Overdrive Advanced Training' session on August 12 to provide more detailed technical support to Library customers.

Adolph Lopez, Blanca Hernandez, Dan Garcia, Maria Hernandez, and Tricia Masterson continue to host the Technology Questions Answered forums every Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in the Connect Training area.

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 weekly meetings of the teen leadership group, Power Up. On July 28, JD led a craft program, during which teens made miniature catapults from clothespins, binder clips, a rubber band and a spoon. During one program, a teen suggested a program wherein teens would build a fort out of blankets and watch movies of their choice.

Tuesdays with Caroline Mossing (Librarian I): During the reporting period, Caroline hosted Maker Camp activities on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and staff facilitated virtual field trips on Fridays.

Teens made paper and sewn circuits, using small batteries and conductive tape and thread to light up LEDs. Maker Camp participants created a DIY operation game using electronic components and 3D printed "ailments," built and collaborated online using Minecraft, and looked behind the scenes at Cartoon Network, LEGO, and Jim Henson's Creature Shop. Teens made plastic from milk, a smartphone projector (that worked surprisingly well) from a shoebox and a magnifying glass, and a light-responsive Arduino theremin. Teens learned to solder with blinking badges, played tunes on a MaKey MaKey carrot piano, created claymation stop-motion short films, and made shadow puppets and paper animatronics.

Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II): During the reporting period, Wednesday afternoons were dedicated to Maker Camp. In the evenings, teens enjoyed playing video and board games of their choice. On some Wednesday nights, Teen Services Library Assistant, Victoria Tijerina, assisted teens with arts and crafts projects, such as bead sprites.

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Peer interaction and encouragement, creative expression and friendly competition rank high on Thursday nights. During this reporting period, teens made some tasty snacks. Only using a glass bowl, popcorn kernels, a little corn syrup and oil; the teens made kettle corn in the microwave. They added food coloring for some interesting effects. Afterwards, they decorated a ceramic pot to house some miniature plants. Three teen-planned events occurred in July and August. One, a party, based around the movie *Frozen*, where teens suggested some cool snacks and crafts based on ideas from the good old Internet. The other, activities revolved around the ninja. Teens made nun chucks using pool noodles and decorated ninja-shaped cookies and sewed Naruto plushies. In August, a teen requested having a "Throwback Thursday" by watching the original *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle* movies and making the Turtles' favorite food: pizza. Matthew Molpus from the San Antonio Food Bank returned to Teen Services in August. His healthy tips, helpful facts and easy manner engaged teens. They asked questions and gave him a thumbs-up on the easy watermelon granita he shared. Afterwards, 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>.

Tours and Groups

On July 31, the Southwest School of Art reserved computers in Teen Services for a group of summer camp students to use.

TEXANA / GENEALOGY

During this reporting period Texana/Genealogy staff continued to digitize the department's photograph file. Sylvia Reyna is working with a new computer program, Dragon Speak, purchased with funds from the Friends of Texana/Genealogy, making transcriptions of oral histories easier to accomplish. Barbara Brownell, cataloguer, continues to assist in re-cataloguing the Hertzberg Collection, and is nearing the end of that project.

A new display on World War I has been installed in the display window in Texana/Genealogy. Fourteen World War I posters, which had been travelling the country, will be hanged along the wall leading to the Texana room soon.

Texana/Genealogy and its Friends group are preparing for the annual meeting of the Federation of Genealogical Societies meeting in San Antonio during the week of August 25.



BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

Bazan staff members welcomed *Learn at SAPL* trainer Ms. Sonia Colon. She and Ms. Debra Carter (Westfall) have been meeting on Wednesdays to outline priorities, program goals & objectives. They continue to conduct outreach in their service areas to literacy groups, adult education groups & stake holders to inform them about the program. They are also attending training sessions and administration report meetings that help them understand City /Library policies and program expectations. As the point person at Bazan, Librarian II Patricia Soderberg has worked with contractors to accommodate their work schedule, as well as meeting on a regular basis with the SAPL project update team. In addition to her Peer assignment, she is also facilitating the on-boarding process for Ms. Colon.

Children's Librarian Esperanza Sonnen hosted children & parents for a fun-filled SummerFest; as of August 11, 732 Listeners/Readers have registered for Summer Reading. She and Circulation Attendant Tina Serna shared library information with 225 attendees at the *West End Baptist Church Back to School Event*.

Librarian Rebecca Alvarez was on hand at the *Last Chance Ministries Back to School Event* on August 16 but with a much smaller audience of 33.

Library Assistant Jennifer Martinez had a successful Summer Reading Program, reaching her goal of increased participation over last year; she was on hand to host Teen SummerFest at Central.

Circulation Attendant Rene Lieja has begun his training as Bazan's *Tech Designee*.

Ms. Soderberg is working with AARP to present a TEK (Technology, Education, and Knowledge) PC training program at Bazan. She, Ms. Colon & Ms. Carter visited a class on August 4 for a first-hand look at the program.

BROOK HOLLOW

The 2014 summer programming is over and was a huge success this year. Staff worked hard to increase attendance at summer programs by 35% to 2,798 and we are very pleased with the turnout.

The Happy Tails program on July 15 far exceeded the branch's expectations of attendance at 190 people. Despite the torrential rain, all involved had a good time and Brook Hollow received good media coverage. Four media outlets attended the event.

SummerFest was a success. Attendance reached 105 people. Participants enjoyed popcorn, snacks, balloon animals, and crafts.

Regular, year-round story times continue to be a success. Average attendance for story time increased from 37 during last summer to 56 this year, and Baby Time attendance increased from an average of 27 to 38 this summer.

Brook Hollow hosted seven book groups in the past month. The titles under discussion included *The Hundred Thousand Kingdoms* by N.K. Jemisin, *The Beautiful Mystery* by Louise Penny, and *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett. The San Antonio Book Lovers Meetup Group also held a book swap and discussion at the branch on August 9. Brook Hollow patrons had the opportunity to find out what steampunk is all about at Steampunk 101 on July 23, and to enjoy live storytelling courtesy of the San Antonio Storytellers Association on August 6.

Thanks to the gift of a bookcase from the Westfall branch, Brook Hollow has expanded the graphic novel and science fiction sections. This has allowed for a more attractive presentation, a more easily browsed collection, and the possibility of more displays.

CARVER

This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the historical Civil Right Legislation signed into law by President Lyndon Baines Johnson. To commemorate the occasion, the branch assembled a panel of community leaders and educators on July 19 to discuss strides Africans American and other minority groups have made in the years since was passed.

On August 2, D.L. Grant attended the Community Outreach Fair at Region 20 Education Service Center. The event was geared toward migrant families to make them aware of resources available to them in the San Antonio area.

August 9 was Book Lovers' Day. Staff wore special badges bearing the cover of their favorite book. The purpose was twofold: to increase branch circulation and engage the public a dialogue about books. Children's librarian Jodi Miller, who spearheaded the campaign, prepared cards shaped like books and encouraged customers to write down the name of their favorite book. The selections were placed on a Book Lovers' Day display arranged by staff member Alexandria Martinez.

CODY

Cody's Beginner Readers Club members met on July 16 and created Gerald the Elephant and Piggie puppets. They selected scenes from one of Mo Willems' *Elephant and Piggie* beginning reader books, and performed an impromptu puppet show for their parents. All of the young readers shared plots or scenes from their latest books with one another. Snacks were served afterwards.

Over 100 people attended the *Happy Tails* live animal show on July 17. Sheila Acosta, Children's Librarian, said that children waited patiently in line to have their pictures taken as they petted two of the animals after the show. It was one of the summer's most popular family events at the branch.

About fifteen Girl Scouts visited the library on July 17 to earn a badge. Sheila gave them a tour, had them answer some questions on their observations, and gave each of them a library card application. They were most eager to check out books and items they discovered on their tour.

LEGO Club enthusiasts were on hand both July 18 and July 25 to accept the LEGO challenge. Four to five teams of LEGO players worked diligently to create something with a musical theme as well as scenes from their favorite movies. All of the LEGO creations were displayed for the week.

Children and their families gathered to hear Storyteller Mary Grace Ketner spin tails that stretched their imaginations on July 23. Several attendees made a point of mentioning how much they enjoyed the program.

Over 19 children and their families attended a jump rope program sponsored by the Jumping Dragons, a jump rope team, on July 29. Boys outnumbered the girls in their efforts to learn various jump roping skills. Even a few parents showed off their jump roping talents.

Hula hoop entertainment and hula hoop contests were enjoyed by many of the families at Cody's SummerFest on July 31. After the hula hoop show, refreshments were served and new books were given away as door prizes.

Teen Services at Cody rocked around the clock during the middle of summer. Teens requested to do programs like a LGBT Pride event and a test preparation workshop. Voracious readers and lively conversationalists attended the LGBT Pride event, discussing books read and to be read, along with library resources available. Teens learned that the public library is a welcoming, safe place to be, especially if they feel like they cannot find support at their schools. Teen Leaders at Cody started the glowing ball of energetic happenings rolling. Teen Leaders decided to host a Counter Cultural and Tie Dye happening. Shirts were dyed, and information about beat writers was shared. Teen Leaders are started to meet again with some regularity, planning programs and making the library a cool place to be.

Adults and children gathered to learn to do magic tricks in an *Introduction to Magic* on July 15. Magician Paul Mims discussed the fine art and history of "doing magic." He then taught the audience some basic tricks that they could use to amaze their friends.

Adults felt a chill in the air as Storyteller Mary Grace Ketner spun eerie tales that sent chills down their bones with her *Scary and Haunting Tales* on August 5.

Volunteers assisted with many facets of the library's operation. Volunteers also celebrated Pat Horlacher's 13 years of service with a going away party. The cheerful event was a fun chance for volunteers to reminisce about the way the library was, and for new volunteers to marvel at how much has changed. Volunteers also helped with the popular children's programs like LEGO Club, Kids Time, and other neat happenings. Finally, teen volunteers wrote hilarious blog posts about their various tasks and approaches to volunteering at Cody Library. One example is here:

<http://210teenlibrary.wordpress.com/2014/07/24/at-the-library-a-compilation-of-weekly-visits/>

COLLINS GARDEN

Summer continues strong at Collins Garden with patrons enjoying story times and craft activities. Collins Garden is also a popular destination with children from Parks and Recreation, who are redeeming their vouchers for books awarded for summer reading participation. Collins Garden Branch has over 700 participants in summer reading, a remarkable feat considering that circulation has dropped due to the closing of our neighboring HEB.

Collins Garden loves elephants! The branch celebrated National Elephant Day August 12 with a display and a craft. The attendance was small but the families that did come had fun making colorful elephants.

Towards the end of summer, most families have completed their summer reading activities and are looking for materials relevant to the new school year. To honor this need, Collins Garden has several displays featuring books useful to students. Grammar guides, science books, and popular fiction titles are all on display for students to browse and hopefully, check out and take home.

Volunteers from the Food Bank are offering cooking demonstrations featuring produce that is on sale at the Sunday Farmers' Market, which is scheduled to take place every first and third Sunday of the month at least until the new HEB opens.

CORTEZ

Cortez Library hosted an Open House on August 2 to celebrate the Extreme Library Makeover. The event opened with remarks from Mayor Ivy Taylor, District 4 Councilman Rey Saldaña and Library Director Ramiro Salazar. Assistant City Manager Gloria Hurtado, members of the Library Board of Trustees and other San Antonio Public Library administration staff members and many regular patrons attended the event. The Friends of the Cortez Branch Library generously provided refreshments and raffle prizes while

Optic Arrest played a rousing performance in the meeting room. Magician Paul Mims performed magic tricks to an impressed audience.

Patrons were enthralled by Gracy Ketner's Ghost Stories and Haunting Tales on July 15.

Children's librarian Connie Hejl's SummerFest was a popular program that celebrated the Summer Reading Program. The branch was lucky to get another visit from the Scholastic Literacy Van. Mad Science brought their fun and crazy spin on science to the branch on July 22.

Regular patrons may have recognized Library Assistant Jo Ann Paredes at the 2014 Senate District 19 Back to School Fair on August 16 where free backpacks filled with school supplies were distributed.

Zombie Meet, hosted by Madeline Vasquez, continues to be a popular monthly program and always welcomes newcomers to discuss zombie lore, survival tips, ghost hunting 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 continues its weekly Saturday meetings.

This month, the Cortez Crafters Group will begin with a Meet and Greet on August 25 at 11 am. The group will meet on the second and fourth Mondays and is a perfect place for those interested in crafts to socialize and share their skills.

The new monthly program, Cortez Book Club meets at 6:30 on August 26 to discuss the book *Presumed Guilty: Casey Anthony: The Inside Story* by Jose Baez.

FOREST HILLS

The Forest Hills Branch Library celebrated the Adult Summer Reading program with an Introduction to Magic program on July 26. The audience was thrilled to learn the history behind magic tricks and enjoyed the fun demonstrations. One enthusiastic grandfather had seen the program at another branch and brought his granddaughter along to the Forest Hills event so that she too could enjoy the show.

Also on July 26, teens participated in an art program hosted by Artpace. The teens were given Artpace caps and instructed to use needle and thread to sew unique designs. Teens have spent the summer exploring different art techniques such as origami and painting.

As the Summer Reading Program comes to an end, staff has been delighted to see children coming in to claim their reward books and certificates. A large number of children signed up during the last weeks of July and first week of August. They will have until August 31 to complete their reading log and claim their prizes. On July 30, families came out for the Children's Summer Reading closing party SummerFest. The children and their families played with LEGOs and created silly hats. Clowns Bee-Bop and Donnabelle entertained with balloon animals and glitter tattoos. Snacks were provided by Whataburger.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Cindy Moreno, Librarian II, conducted a book discussion to the Alicia Trevino Senior Center in July and August. July's book discussion was about the book, *I Am Malala*, by Malala Yousafzai. The title discussed in August was *Outlander* by Diana Gabaldon.

The Great Northwest Thursday Book Club met to discuss *I Am Malala* as well the third Thursday in July. Both regular and new members attended this discussion.

Senior Hula Dance Classes began at the branch in August and continue to draw large crowds. Various media outlets reported on the event, including the San Antonio Express News and the local Time Warner news channel.

The branch held its end of Summer Reading Party the last Tuesday in July. The group Optic Arrest played as customers enjoyed the music and refreshments. Teens played video games and children and parents made fun crafts to take home. The Friends of the Great Northwest Library generously sponsored the event.

The Friends of the Great Northwest Library held its annual Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on August 6. Staff and volunteers were treated to food, prizes, and camaraderie.

The branch ended the year with some of the highest registration numbers in the system. A total of 2,850 children registered for the program, as well as 145 Teens and 310 Adults.

Teen programming included learning about electrical currents with squishy circuits and learning how to photo shop using iPad apps. A Teen Video Game Tournament where our winner Jeremiah and runner up Tyler received gift cards courtesy of the Great Northwest Friends.

Librarian Stephanie Vazquez and Library Assistant Monica Trejo presented the Digital Library Introduction class to introduce and answer questions about the new and old digital services the library provides.

Librarian Stephanie Vazquez visited the Alicia Treviño Senior Center to promote the Digital Library Community Project. She also signed-up the public for library cards and answered questions on how to access the libraries digital collection.

GUERRA

The branch celebrated its 10th Anniversary on July 19. Library Director Ramiro Salazar welcomed Board President Jeanne Brady, Board Member Lora Eckler, and about 75 members of the community. Also present were Assistant Director Dale McNeill and Community and Public Relations Manager Catlin Cowart (whose staff had provided valuable marketing materials and assistance). District 6 Councilman Ray Lopez commented on the history and future of the branch. District 124 Representative Jose Menendez read a proclamation congratulating the library. Happy Tails entertained families, visitors ate cake and drank punch, and there were door prizes. The branch hosted the monthly Library Board meeting on July 23. COSA auditors were at the branch on July 25.

Chloe Parham joined the team on August 4 as a temporary Library Aide. She has learned quickly and the team is glad to have her with them.

Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard facilitated the Thursday Evening Book Club on August 14th. Four members of the community discussed the Margaret Mitchell classic *Gone with the Wind* and contrasted it to a more recent work by Donald McGain--*Margaret Mitchell and Rhett Butler's People*.

Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson-Gibbs continued her Summer Reading programs and presented 12 programs to 391 patrons during the reporting period--three Tween Times, three Toddler Times, three Story Times, two Kids Times, and SummerFest marking the conclusion of the Summer Reading programming. On July 16, she participated in an online training program--"A Menu for Successful Family Engagement" presented by Bev Schumacher and facilitated by Early Childhood Investigations. She worked closely with Elma Nieto-Rodriguez, Branch Manager/Mission, Troy Hoyles, Branch Manager/Thousand Oaks, and Ashlee Chavez, Branch Manager/Igo on reviewing applications and holding interviews to fill four part time temporary Library Assistant positions. Arlene installed a Back to School display.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson moderated the Club de Lectura (Spanish language book club) discussion of *El prisionero del cielo* (*The Prisoner of Heaven*) by Carlos Ruíz Zafón on July 31. He designed a display on the Ukraine conflict that included cultural and historical books and resources.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra on each Thursday during the reporting period. The teens preferred to have Game night instead of movies. Edward visited John Jay High School on August 14 for freshman prep day and spoke with 250 students and staff.

IGO

Children's Services

The Igo Children's Services librarian, Nancy Rodriguez, presented 17 programs which served 1,596 children and their caregivers. Programs included four weekly early literacy story times, weekly Kids Time, the bi-monthly Tween Time, and a special modern ballet performance presented by San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department: Cultural Division's dance troupe Alamotion, entitled, *Opus Texas*.

Kids Time themes for the month included Color Science, Storms and Rainbows, and Flight. Children were given the opportunity to experiment with mixing colors, creating tornados in a bottle, and gained an understanding of flight science through construction of straw loop gliders, various designs of paper airplanes, and simple craft stick catapults. Interactive learning at these science programs led to increased demand for science activity guides, craft books, and, in general, demand for juvenile nonfiction books on a wide variety of science topics.

In addition to book and enrichment activities, the Igo Branch Library was fortunate to be chosen as one of three sites to host the San Antonio Parks and Recreation's modern ballet performance of the bilingual book, *I'm Going to Texas/Yo Voy a Tejas*. This live performance set to music showcased the dance talents of Alamotion, a dance troupe consisting of both the children and teens. The vibrant costumes and charming western themed dance brought smiles to the faces of all in attendance and will be remembered as a highlight of the summer. Bravo to program coordinator Mona Lisa Montgomery and instructor/director Alysya Perez for a beautiful fine arts experience at the library.

The Literacy Caravan made a visit to the Igo Library on July 30 to the delight of all patrons at the library that day.

Teen Services

The Teen Services librarian, Barbara Kwiatkowski, presented 9 MEGA camps during the reporting period with a total of 284 participants! The teens (and their parents) who participated left rave reviews with staff about the programming. The end of the Teen Summer Reading Program was capped off with a Game Fest, where 70 teens had fun playing real life version of Pac-man, video games and board games. The Igo Library's windows were decorated with post it notes, to create an 8-bit version of some favorite Pac-man characters. Teens worked together to create these amazing art pieces and other library patrons are able to enjoy the art of it. Overall, there were 245 teens registered at Igo for the Summer Reading Program, with an 89% completion rate.

Adult Services

The theme of the month for adult programming was health, as the Alamo Area Council of Governments advised Igo patrons about the Affordable Healthcare Act on July 30-31, while on August 4, the Alzheimer's Association informed listeners about the symptoms and treatment for various forms of dementia.

Igo also provided entertainment, with magician Paul Mims offering tricks and comedy on July 14. The Afternoon Book Club met on July 15 to discuss Mary Beth Keane's *Fever*; the Mystery Club discussed Michael Connelly's *Brass Verdict* on August 6.

A voter registration table was setup in the lobby of the library twice during the reporting period and a good variety of people were assisted in registering.

The Igo Elderberries group hosted a Games Day and Ice Cream social on August 7. Attendees played “brain games” to help defend the mind against memory loss and other mental diseases, shared ice cream and stories and even performed a session chair yoga led by a certified yoga instructor.

JOHNSTON

Johnston’s new branch manager, Heather Muller, joined San Antonio Public Library on July 14. Her previous work experience includes Library Director of the Woodland Public Library in California, Branch Manager at the Tacoma Public Library, Online Resources Coordinator for the Washington State Library, and Photographs Librarian at the Alexandria Library, Special Collections/Local History division in Virginia.

For this reporting period, the Johnston Children’s Services Librarian, Beverly Wrigglesworth, presented 14 programs which served 388 children and their caregivers.

On July 30, Johnston held a SummerFest to celebrate the accomplishments of Summer Readers. Great Al, Magician Extraordinaire, entertained 137 young (and young-at-heart) readers. Snacks were provided by the Library and the Johnston Friends of the Library provided pizza to participants.

Christina Martinez, Teen Liaison, was very busy during this period. This summer she worked with the San Antonio Food Bank to provide healthy snacks to 25-30 teens on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons. For the seven weeks the Johnston Library participated, approximately 525 children and teens were served.

Ms. Martinez also provided weekly teen programming on Thursday afternoons. During this reporting period, the teens made candy sushi, watched movies, played Minecraft, and participated in a water balloon toss (outside the building, of course). The teens also helped create and paint murals for the Johnston Library Batman Day celebration that took place on July 23.

Ms. Martinez also performed outreach at a John Jay High School back to school event with Edward Mayberry from Guerra Library on August 14 where they were able to contact about 500 students.

Adult Services Librarian Monica Bustillo facilitated the newly named Athena Readers Book Club on July 16. Participants selected Lois Lowry’s *The Giver* as September’s title due to the movie release in August. Ms. Bustillo continued to conduct weekly Open Computer Lab time at Johnston Library on Wednesday evenings with the last program on August 13. On July 23 Ms. Bustillo organized Batman Day which celebrated the 75th Anniversary of Batman and drew a large crowd of several hundred patrons. On July 24 Ms. Bustillo helped promote the new Digital Library Community Project at Bob Ross Senior Center along with Public Information Officer Marcie Hernandez.

During this reporting period, Ms. Bustillo and Ms. Martinez attended the Texas Library Association District 10 social event. Ms. Bustillo also attended the Senior Programming Committee Live Well, Age Smart meeting at Las Palmas Library and a Grandparents Day planning meeting at Thousand Oaks, the virtual School Library Journal SummerTeen conference, and the 11.5 Staff Training Module launch.

With the help of Library Aide Vida Salas, Ms. Bustillo organized several displays including: Drawing, Cookbooks, and Back to School.

LANDA

Children’s Services

It was a wildly successful summer at Landa Branch! Librarian Clair Larkin recorded a 49% increase in July program attendance over last year’s statistics. Staff had a busy month between wrapping up summer programming and celebrating finishers of the Mayor’s Summer Reading Club. In keeping with the theme of Fizz, Boom, Read, finishers are adding their names to our chain reaction, which is generating lots of

positive feedback from patrons. SummerFest was a blast. Children learned about the mechanics of flight with three different types of paper airplanes and then chose a superhero persona, complete with power cuffs and disguises.

Discovery Time participants explored colors, music and sound, and shapes and letters in the last three weeks of the program. As usual the most popular stations were also the messiest. Luckily Landa has lots of outdoor space to keep the mess outside and hoses to clean help clean off the children. Discovery Time was an extraordinarily successful program, attracting between 40-50+ children to each session.

During the August programming break, Clair is busy planning the Fall 2014 line up to feature four weekly programs, three monthly programs and lots of special events. One program that has patrons particularly excited is Landa Lab, featuring a hands-on science or math activity once a month in the after school hours. In addition, Clair is working on a system-wide Play & Learn event with the Early Literacy Committee for any branch to use in their fall program schedule. Between program planning and maintaining the juvenile collection, there is not a minute to spare!

Adult Services

Landa's first-ever weekly Adult Summer Reading Programming Series came to a close with three programs designed to appeal to a variety of interests. John Fagin, a retired school librarian and adjunct professor of history, informed an interested group of prospective volunteers about ALIR: Academy of Learning in Retirement. This non-profit group seeks both volunteer instructors and those wishing to take courses ranging from crochet to Medieval History. The following week, Jim and Maggie Fox demonstrated "The Lure of Celtic Music," entertaining a large audience with lilting Irish tunes and the added value of an informal lecture on the science behind the sound of Celtic instruments. The final program in the series was a discussion of *Big Red Tequila* by Rick Riordan (who started out as an adult mystery writer before switching to juvenile fiction) which is Landa's "Read Our Book!" selection. Reaction to the adult programs was so positive that Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta has established a fall series, "October Mondays @ Landa" and has a line-up of presenters including the Audubon Society and other local organizations scheduled for informational programs.

Regular adult programming continued through the summer with Silver Screens Classics *Pajama Game* with Doris Day and John Raitt. The Seniors Mystery Book Club discussed *A Fistful of Collars* by Spencer Quinn, the increasingly popular P. I. series that is told from the perspective of the detective's dog, Chet. "Geek Gaming Night" is also a popular monthly program attracting young adults who engage in a variety of board games. It is led by several SAPL employees who come to kick back and enjoy friendly games of competition.

Teen Services

Teens at Landa had a very busy month. The Teen Library Leadership Council welcomed five new members to its weekly group. They met on July 10 to discuss an environmental awareness campaign in the fall. Maddie Carrola, Landa Teen Council member, met with Megan from the Spurs/Stars Silver and Black Give Back (SBGB) Team Up Grant Junior Review Committee to review the weekly Tutoring for Young Children program's progress. The council's Science Demonstrations Live! program received scientific equipment as part of the SBGB grant.

There are four programs at Landa that are still going strong. On August 3 The International Teen Club voted to contact teens for pen pal exchange library program at a Sister City in India. This pen pal exchange program is through the leadership efforts of Rubi Jaimes, a seventeen year old from St. Anthony's High School.

"Landa Teen Reader's" is a blended (online and meeting face to face) teen book club is accumulating members. They are going to spearhead the YALSA Teen Read Week campaign for teens to vote for their favorite book out of twenty-five nominees. This online club will also join forces with the Landa Teen Banned Books teen committee for a campaign in September.

On August 13 Bea Canales, Teen Liaison, led a workshop for juniors and seniors on “Scholarship Writing”. For the Summer Reading program, Landa Library registered 157 teens and was the third highest in the system.

LAS PALMAS

Branch Manager Tim Johnson has assisted with Food Bank lunch program on several occasions. He has been working with a member of the Las Palmas community to develop a chess curriculum for a program beginning in the fall. He continues to oversee the Las Palmas book club. Members of the club consist of longtime Las Palmas community residents. The last book discussed was Maria Semple’s, *Where’d You Go Bernadette*.

Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi continued her outreach to literacy centers Madonna, Good Samaritan, and Avance Castroville & Mirasol. Kids from the YMCA and Urban Connection summer camps visited the library and had a blast making engineering creations with packing peanuts and toothpicks. Over 50 children and adults participated in Play and Learn sessions in conjunction with Little Read Wagon and over 40 children and their parents visited the Scholastic Literacy Van. Kids Time events were well received by children and their parents and at SummerFest kids were racing the straw hoop gliders they had built. In August Ms. Brudi attended the Girl Scouts of the Southwest annual event for volunteers and spoke to over 40 adults about library services.

Teen Librarian Marco De Leon’s the Super Cool Awesome Teen Gaming Block 3000 continues to attract attention. Mr. De Leon has made contacts with a local boy’s home and they have agreed to bring teens on their shuttle every week. They are currently making arrangements with Mr. De Leon for educational support programs during the school year. Mr. De Leon has also been overseeing the Food Bank’s lunch program which has grown in attendance since its inception.

MAVERICK

During this reporting period, the Maverick branch continued to be hopping with summer reading activities and programs for all ages. On July 26, the Ladies Choice Book club had 16 attendees at their lively meeting. That same day, 37 people listened to the acoustic guitar of a representative of Guitar SA. On August 9, another program for adults was presented by an acupuncture specialist who provided information for 6 attendees.

The end of summer party, or SummerFest, was on July 30. Children’s Librarian, Amy Roberts, and other volunteers helped served ice cream to over 100 children and caregivers. Sprinkles, whipped cream and syrup toppings allowed the patrons to decorate and eat their own ice cream sundae! As of August 11, 944 children had registered for the summer reading program and 379 kids completed the program!

McCRELESS

Three Summer Story Times were held during this time period, with kids learning about the alphabet, counting, opposites and music. The kids had fun constructing happy/sad clown puppets and making and playing their didgeridoo instruments.

The three Kids Time programs presented in this time period were also successful, especially SummerFest, with 47 members of McCreless families enjoying hot dogs, chips, cookies and other goodies. Participants made party hats, kazoos and sailboats and had a good time playing with their creations. Families had great times learning about science at the Mad Science show with 59 children and caregivers in the audience.

Also in July, Children’s Librarian Kathleen Brown presented two outreach story times, one at Good Shepherd Day Care and another at the Children’s Garden Center. The children enjoyed acting out rhymes, singing songs, listening to stories and interacting with puppets.

Three of the Librarians have been attending SET module training classes for Supervisors.

Twelve patrons enjoyed the showing of "The LEGO Movie" at McCreless on August 2.

The branch benefited from the make-over at Westfall by acquiring a dozen gently-used padded chairs for use at the public Internet terminals. The chairs perfectly match the carpet and are much more comfortable than the wooden stools they replaced.

Monty Holcomb, Librarian I, hosted three informal weekly chess events and is currently serving as the primary coordinator (with the help of assistants) for two teen events.

Branch Manager Cammie Brantley hosted her monthly book club twice during this period. Ms. Brantley also attended the monthly meeting of the Highland Hills Neighborhood Association. Before the meeting the Association made a \$50 donation to thank the branch for allowing them to use the meeting room a couple of times a year at no charge.

MEMORIAL

The Summer Reading Program at Memorial was a huge success as performers such as Donnabelle the Clown, HappyTails, Dinosaur George and Mad Science educated and entertained families. Children also had a blast learning Origami, the art of Japanese paper folding, from our Circulation Attendant, Adam Capelo. Fitness was also part of the mix as the Jumping Dragons jump rope team showed how exercise can be both fun and good for you and the City's Parks and Recreation department program, through Kids Fit Pass, presented additional information on healthy habits.

School-aged children enjoyed S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) themed activities such as color science, astronomy, flight, and animal habitats during weekly Kids Time programs. Summer fun wrapped up at SummerFest where children enjoyed snacks, crafts, face painting, balloon art and music.

On July 21, the library provided an information table for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals or "DACA" applicants. The non-profit group, RAICES (Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services), presented information on free legal services for new or renewal applicants for the program.

Memorial held Zumba classes throughout July; the classes were very popular with the community and customers enjoyed the opportunity to dance, have lots of fun and to get fit.

Circulation Attendant and origami artist, Adam Capelo exhibited several unique and complex origami pieces including figures of spiders, dogs and intricate flowers. Many customers were drawn to the display case, and the accompanying book display was popular.

English as a second language classes were presented by NEISD adult education teacher Steve Pekarsky who has also taught for the City's learning centers. Attendees of the class expressed appreciation for having access to the class in their community.

Artist Roberto Botello exhibited block prints encompassing themes that were both urban and rural, with the latter being characterized by an ecological consciousness. The urban-themed works included street scenes from San Antonio, while the rural ones are from an archaeological trip to Belize. Mr. Botello is currently an educator for San Antonio College and Our Lady of the Lake University.

Self-Directed technology classes were presented by Adult Services librarian, Rhonda Davila. The classes allowed flexible learning modules according to the student's needs and skill level. Topics included learning Microsoft Word, Gmail account setup and use, and keyboarding drills.

Adult Services Librarian, Rhonda Davila, attended a webinar entitled "Adult Library Programs Gone Mobile" on July 30. The class covered incorporating mobile devices into adult library programs and teaching digital literacy skills.

MISSION

The Friends of the Mission Library's dedication garnered a nod from Union Pacific. On August 7, Union Pacific donated 500 dollars to our library supporters. The donation will be used to enhance library programming. The Friends also recently submitted a grant to the company in an attempt to purchase a digital interactive play/study workstation. The library is excited about the prospect.

On August 5, Mission hosted a Site Development Town Hall Meeting lead by Center City Development. The public meeting drew a large number of attendees.

Mission partnered with UIW students to promote a voter registration initiative and Academica Southwest polled community members related to a nearby playground.

Table Tennis was introduced as a fun fitness program for adults. The initial program was met with much interest and resulted in very tired participants. A Silver Screens event drew 15 moviegoers and August 8 offered a dance program which brought in 65 audience members.

With a new school year quickly approaching Mission saw an upsurge of immunization and birth certificate sales as parents attempted to register their children. Sales greatly outpaced previous week's sales.

Mission Teen Services had a total of 15 programs with 245 teens participating for the reporting period. Two outreach visits also took place during the reporting period.

Teen Time this month included activities that allowed teens to use their maker skills to create pop tab necklaces, build digital clocks powered by vegetables, and make homemade ice cream for a delicious treat. Teen Time drew 72 participants.

Dungeons and Dragons night continues to draw a loyal following with 22 teens participating. The teens participate in activities that encourage teamwork and support decision making skills in the process.

Mission Video Game Club had 130 participants during the reporting period. Teens enjoyed using the Xbox 360 and Wii gaming consoles along with laptops for access to online games.

The Anime Club made kumihimo bracelets which use a Japanese braiding technique. Anime Club had 21 teens participate.

On August 2, Teen Librarian Cynthia Cruz and Branch Manager Elma Nieto- Rodriguez took part in a back to school event held at Harlandale High School. While there, they provided information on the library's homework resources and created buttons for teens and children. Estimated number of visitors to the information table reached 600. The Teen Librarian also attended GameFest at Igo Library and assisted with programming and games.

The Kid's Time programming successfully ended with SummerFest which included a visit from the Scholastic Van. The children enjoyed the many games and crafts made available during this time including giant Jenga, which was also used to express their creativity to build, and a bean bag toss game as well as several insect themed crafts such as lady bug hats and butterfly rings. They also enjoyed having their faces painted by staff. Due to the surge in popularity this summer for the Baby Time program the children's librarian decided to continue it and Toddler Time for an extra two weeks which the children and parents enjoyed. July 22 Jane provided BASH homeschooling outreach. The outreach is a precursor to a longer partnership with the homeschooling program and the library.

On July 17, Assistant Manager Oscar Gonzalez promoted summer programming as well as the library's resources on Univision. During this reporting period Manager Elma Nieto-Rodriguez partnered with Pan American Manager Nathaniel Laubner to provide early literacy resources to young mothers at a nearby WIC Clinic.

PAN AMERICAN

Pan American Branch Manager, Nathaniel Laubner, along with Mission Branch Manager, Elma Nieto-Rodriguez, attended a nearby WIC clinic community resource fair on August 6. Nathaniel and Elma passed out information about the branches and distributed "Born to Read" bags to attendees. Not only was the event an outreach opportunity but also a way to network with other community partners.

Children's Services Librarian Carol Collins delivered 250 Summer Reading Program certificates to seven daycares and early learning centers in the Pan American Branch service area. 153 people attended 9 children's outreach programs during the reporting period. Additionally, 169 people attended 15 in-house children's programs, including Summer Fest with refreshments provided by the Central Library.

The Pan American Branch Library provided five teen programs during July and August. In July, Teen Liaison, Angela Olivarez, held three programs, which included "Night at the Movies", "Let's Go Camping", and "Wii Gaming". In August, Angela held a fun, interactive Scavenger Hunt to get teens thinking about all the resources available at the library.

PARMAN

Because programming continues to grow in popularity at Parman, several programs have expanded. The Parman Pawn Stars Chess Club now meets every Sunday, and the Read to a Dog program will soon occur every week rather than two times a month.

Branch Manager Haley Holmes attended the Panther Springs Park groundbreaking ceremony which was held in the parking lot of the library. Dan Parman was recognized for his donation of land for a dog park to be built as part of the park.

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library held their meeting at the Parman Branch on July 20. Ms. Holmes attended the meeting of the Friends of Parman Library on July 26. The Friends are planning their annual book sale for the weekend of November 7. The staff and friends will be having an appreciation potluck together on September 10.

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance took advantage of the story time break to do outreach at local schools. She visited St. Andrew's Day School and the Blue Roof School. SummerFest was a huge success with over 150 children. In the days leading up to the party, Parman volunteers built an igloo using 450 milk jugs donated by patrons. The igloo was a big hit. Children also played games and made crafts with recycled materials. During the summer break, the Foundation's Literacy Van visited Parman for an afternoon.

Library Assistant Sherrie Sholes represented Parman at an outreach at the North Central Baptist Hospital. She spoke with 105 people. Many Parman patrons stopped by and had kind words to relay including, "Parman is beautiful and airy" and "we love the downloadable audiobooks."

On Saturday August 9, Parman hosted two afternoon programs. The Pride Showband of San Antonio performed in the library playing hits through the years. Paul Mims, Magician, taught 48 audience members easy to perform magic tricks.

To assist with a staffing shortage at the Cody Branch, Carrie Vance, Haley Holmes, and Marisa DeBow have each worked a day at Cody. They've enjoyed experiencing a different busy branch and getting to know the staff there.

PRUITT

Summer has been a busy time at the Molly Pruitt Library. Roosevelt High School hosted NEISD's summer school program. This brought many busy teens to the library to participate in many fun events. Each of those events centered on science themed activities.

Librarians Rae Downen and Cynthia Saenz hosted Batman Day for both teen and children on July 26 and July 29. Crime did not stand a chance at the library on those two days. Attendees received a bag full of goodies and a batman mask. They viewed age appropriate Batman films and snacked on cupcakes. Felt Faith Puppets hosted several puppet shows with reading as a theme. This is the fourth year Felt Faith has participated in Pruitt's summer programming. Teens learn puppeteer skills and honed their skills by performing the shows at the library.

Pruitt hosted their first Family LEGO Camp. An average of 35 participants attended each day of the five day LEGO Camp. This camp's unique quality was the addition of parents to the fun. Each "family" was given a challenge for the day. The families were to come up with an entry for the day's challenge. Winners were acknowledged with a certificate and all creations were displayed in the branch's display case until the next day. Themes were beach, playgrounds, transportation, space, and family. The branch will host a LEGO Day in the fall to feature the Botanical Garden's LEGO Theme.

Children's librarian Cynthia Saenz has attended two outreach opportunities signing children up for summer reading and informing parents of resources the library has to offer. She attended the Eisenhower Road Day Care and the Walzem WIC clinic's parent information event.

Adults have been feverishly reading Pruitt's Book Challenge *Still Life with Bread Crumbs* by Anna Quindlen. The TGIF Book Club read Joanne Fluke's *Cinnamon Roll Murder*. The Book Was Better Book Club discussed *Cry, The Beloved Country* by Alan Paton. The Springhill Apartment Book Club enjoyed *Where'd You Go Bernadette* by Maria Semple.

SAN PEDRO

Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton presents monthly story times to children at the VIA Child Development Center (two classes), Educare Child Care Center (two classes), and Monte Vista Montessori (two classes). Fifteen books are also delivered to each child care class for their use during the month.

Ms. Dalton presented a weekly Kids Time for Kindergarten through 5th grade students and a weekly Story Time program for special needs children from Respite Care San Antonio. The last program for the summer was on July 30 and programming will resume during the last week in August.

The branch supported Summer Reading programming with the Mad Science and Lucas Miller performances. They were popular, drawing over sixty people each!

Ms. Dalton continues to serve on the Committee of Thinkers subcommittee, the iPad subcommittee and the Literary Committee of children's librarians. She also serves on the Floating Collections Committee 2.

During this period, Ms. Dalton attended SET Recruitment, Leave Management, and Coaching Training.

The branch welcomed new Branch Manager Diane Backhus on July 21. She previously served as the manager of San Pedro from 2002-2003. She looks forward to working with a great staff! Branch staff is very appreciative of all the support from Westfall, especially Sherrie Langston Hardin, who served as interim Manager. The staff also appreciates all the branches that sent people to help during this time.

SEMMEES

Shannon Seglin, Children's Librarian I, had a very successful Beginner Reader's Book Club on Tuesday, July 15, 2014. Six children and four adults enjoyed reading and discussing *We are in a Book!* by Mo Willems. One mom even donated the Elephant and Piggie masks she had made for a program at her daughter's school. The children enjoyed acting out some scenes from the book as well as doing an Elephant and Piggie craft project.

The finale to the Semmes Branch Library's summer programming for children happened on July 31, 2014 with the branch's SummerFest celebration. Children's Librarian Randi Jones hosted a party for all of the participants in this year's Summer Reading Program. With the help of Library Aide, Indarani Phillip, Ms. Jones read stories, played games, did crafts and provided snacks for all of the party's attendees. An enjoyable time was had by all who stopped by.

The outreach book group that meets at the Waterford Senior Living Apartments continues to grow. The group now has six regular members that meet once a month to discuss an interesting book.

The Friends of the Semmes Branch Library held their quarterly meeting on Wednesday, August 6, 2014. They discussed setting the date for the fall book sale. It will be held on Saturday, September 6, in the branch Meeting Room. There was also discussion about selecting a new treasurer for the group. Special Guest, SAPL Friends President, Linda Arronge, was able to attend the group's meeting.

Teen Time on Tuesday, August 12, 2014 had a special visitor as well. Edward Mayberry, Library Assistant at the Guerra Branch Library stopped by to visit Semmes' Teen Time. He and Beth Schorlemer, Librarian II, shared ideas about teen programming and Edward participated in Tuesday's teen event.

THOUSAND OAKS

Children's Activities

Thousand Oaks signed up more than 1100 children for the Summer Reading Club. That number is about 300 more than last year! Kids continue to return their reading logs to claim their free book, and they can do so until Aug. 31.

Summer Reading programs ended on a high note at SummerFest on July 31. More than 130 people came for crafts, snacks, games, balloon animals and face painting!

The Thousand Oaks Friends group generously purchased LEGOs for children's programming! A LEGO program was offered weekly during the summer, and it consistently had high participation. A LEGO program will be offered monthly during fall programming. The Friends group also provided funds for the popular magician Spikey Mikey to perform at Thousand Oaks on July 23. A crowd of more than 100 kids and their grownups enjoyed the show.

Teen Time

The Thousand Oaks Teens met for their regular Wednesday night activities which included making a variety of fruit juices, trying out Teen Services new 3D pens, making origami magnets, and learning to make Zentangles.

Book Groups

Thousand Oaks hosted two lively book groups in July and August. The Thursday Afternoon Book Group met of July 17 to discuss *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks. This selection was highly popular with the group, and there was universal consent that this was a book well worth reading. The Monday Night Book Group met August 4 and discussed *Heartburn* by Nora Ephron. While all agreed that this was not her best book, the key lime pie recipe it included was a hit.

Programming/Events

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

Tuesday Afternoon Chess

A regular patron of Thousand Oaks was interesting in starting up a chess club on Tuesday afternoons, and it was an activity that made sense, so the patron was given the green light to proceed. After a slow start in June, interest has picked up and it is not uncommon to see a flurry of activity every Tuesday from 1 to 3 in the meeting room. It's geared for all ages and skill levels, and is a nice change of pace for the branch.

San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition presentation on August 9

TOBIN AT OAKWELL

Staff said sad goodbyes with well wishes to two employees in July. Library Aide, Jesus Jimenez left for Columbia University where he impressively starts medical school. Teen Librarian, Betsey Leitko, resigned to stay at home after the recent birth of a second baby. Summer Reading continues with solid sign-up and completion of all ages, in particular with Tobin having the highest adult sign up of all branches.

Special children's programming this period was *Magic Tree House* party on July 15, along with Toddler and Story Time themes of weather, water and endangered animals. Summer Fest wrapped up summer programming on July 26. Folks of all ages tried science experiments of what floats, wiggly worms, lava lamps and collaborative star art poster. A special Toddler Dance Party was held with tots grooving to some fun tunes.

Tobin Library at Oakwell closed for renovations on August 2 for a make-over which includes painting, carpet and a new look. Personnel have been deployed to other branches while some librarians remain at the branch working on the collection and returns of the book drop. The branch is scheduled to re-open after the Labor Day Holiday on September 2.

WESTFALL

Westfall Branch's dull, drab chalky gray walls are no more. The branch was closed a week in for the installation of a new universal Circulation/Reference desk and a new public computer desk. The branch also got fresh paint on the interior walls. Patrons have had only nice things to say about the calming lilac and bright purple accent wall in the children's department. A dark navy blue makes the columns on the front wall stand out and a bright, electric green defines the columns down the middle of the building. The public restrooms are yellow and the staff break room is a fun tropical teal.

The universal desk has made serving patrons easier because reference staff is right there to assist with circulation if necessary and vice versa.

New desks and chairs make using the public internet computers more comfortable for patrons. There is now adequate space between users and the desk is the proper height.

Work has begun on the Learn @ SAPL center, which is scheduled to open in early September. Training Officer Deborah Carter started at the branch on August 3 and is working to develop outreach opportunities.

Circulation Attendant Priscilla Medina attended a Tech Gadgets training session at Central Library. Branch Manager Sherrie Hardin, Librarian II Jernell Williams, Librarian I Karen Sagun have been attending Supervisor's Excellence Training, a series of four day-long workshop designed to improve skills in Coaching, Counseling and Discipline, Leave Management, Performance Management and Recruiting.



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. Conceptual approval of the artwork was presented to the Facilities Committee at their August 13th meeting, and they recommended the concept be presented to the Library Board at their August 27 meeting. Final design development documents were presented to the Facilities Committee on August 13, and they recommended they be presented to the Library Board at their August 27 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. Presentation was made by TCI to Facilities Committee on August 13 detailing the latest developments for this project, and the Library Board will be updated on August 27.

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 contractors 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 on August

21, and construction will begin soon after that. A Transformation Launch Event will be held on September 9 at 9:00am 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 on August 23 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 23rd Library Board of Trustees meeting. A public input meeting was held on July 24th at the building site for community feedback.

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, and at the restrooms adjacent to the auditorium. 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 flags, so security guards will no longer need to raise and lower the flags each day. Design for the Teen Space has been finalized, and will be advertised for bid the week of August 18th. Staff moves to accommodate the Teen Center space will include ILL will move from 3rd floor to basement, Facilities will move from 2nd floor to basement, Periodicals will move from 6th floor to 2nd floor, and Marketing will move from 3rd floor to newly designed area on 6th floor. Carpet installation for 2nd, 5th and 6th floors has begun on the 2nd floor, and is scheduled to be complete by September 30. Elevator replacement of the 4 public elevators at Central is underway, and is being partially funded by the Bond project.

2014 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 at Landa (interior painting, roof repairs, front door replacement and other building repairs) and Johnston (parking lot improvements and security camera installation) has been completed

3rd quarter projects: Work at Cortez (Extreme Library Makeover) and Westfall (interior and exterior improvements) has been completed

4th quarter projects: Work is ongoing at Tobin at Oakwell (Extreme Library Makeover). Branch closed on August 4th and will re-open September 2nd. Work at Carver (Extreme Library makeover) will take place during their closure of September 2-28. All work to be complete by September 30, 2014