



San Antonio
Public Library
Director's Report
March 2015

LEARN at SAPL Job Fair, Carver Branch Library

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

A delegation from the Swedish Library Organization visited Central Library on February 16 to meet with Library Staff and tour Library facilities. Assistant Library Director Dale McNeill welcomed the delegation to the Library and several members of the Library's staff Management Team met with the delegation. The Swedish visitors were interested in learning more about the San Antonio Public Library's innovative programs and about libraries as promoters of democracy.

The San Antonio Public Library hosted Open Houses at the newest Learn at SAPL (Adult Education) locations: Carver Branch Library on February 17 and Cortez Branch Library on February 19. Councilman Warrick delivered remarks for the Learn at SAPL Open House at the Carver Library. Richard Keith, Assistant Director with the City's Department of Human Services, a partner in the initiative, was also in attendance to delivered remarks.

The San Antonio Public Library and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation delivered presentations to the City Council during their Work session (B Session) on February 25 regarding literacy and learning initiatives. Representing the Library, Dianna Morganti, Interim Central Library Coordinator, delivered a well-received report on the Library's new adult education initiative, Learn at SAPL. Katy Flato, Executive Director of the San Antonio Book Festival, delivered a presentation on the 2015 San Antonio Book Festival scheduled for April 11. The Book Festival is presented under the auspices of the San Antonio Public Library Foundation.

On February 26, Library Director Ramiro Salazar delivered a presentation to a Public Administration class at St. Mary's University. This class is taught by former City Manager Alex Briseno who invited Ramiro to deliver the presentation. Mr. Salazar provided a brief overview of the Library and shared information about the Library's digital resources and services.

Assistant Library Director Dale McNeill attended the San Antonio Public Library Foundation's reception featuring the Special Collections in Texana and delivered welcoming remarks. The Library Foundation hosted this event to showcase the valuable resources within the Texana Unit.

The San Antonio Public Library hosted the second annual Texas Women of Influence panel discussion in observance of National Women's History Month on March 10, 2015 at the Central Library. The theme for this year is "Weaving the Stories of Women's Lives." Confirmed panelists include: Akiko Fujimoto, Associate conductor of the SA Symphony; Rosie Castro, community leader, Dr. Yvonne Katz, Trustee, Alamo Colleges and Jackie Gorman, Executive Director of SAGE. Library Director Ramiro Salazar delivered welcoming remarks during panel discussion.

Branch Services Coordinator Kate Gray represented the San Antonio Public Library at the ribbon cutting for the Panther Springs Park on March 11. The park is adjacent to the Parman Branch Library and Kate represented the Library at the event.

On March 15, Assistant Library Director Dale McNeill attended the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Board Meeting and delivered a report on the Library.

On March 16, Library Director Ramiro Salazar welcomed to the Central Library a delegation from the Canary Islands headed by Cándido M. Padrón Padrón, Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Canary Islands. Also in attendance was Dr. Alfonso Chiscano representing the Canary Islands Descendants Association of San Antonio

As part of the City Auditor's work plan for FY 2015, two audits have been completed related to the Library. The first was an audit of the Library's revenue items and revenue collection including contracts, accounting, business processes and policies. The City Auditor recommended several improvements in this area which the library has since implemented or is in the process of implementing. These

improvements include business process changes in the following areas: referral of accounts to collection, accounting related to accounts receivable, the public printing/copying contract, library room rentals, making corrections to patron accounts and controls related to the Millennium system which is used to track fines and fees on customer accounts. It is anticipated that this audit, including findings and the management response, will be presented to the City Council's Audit Committee in April or May. The second audit was of the safety and security of Vital Records and there were no findings related to libraries.

REFERENCE

Reference staff participated in and presented a diverse range of programs relating to education, work and end of life decisions.

On February 17, March 3 and March 10, Julia Selwyn accompanied Little Read Wagon staff on an outreach at the Woodlawn Lake Community Center. She focused on introducing or demonstrating to busy parents many SAPL resources and services including Downloads and Streaming Media, Story times, the Job Center (JSBC) at Central and the new Learn @ SAPL sessions.

On February 22, Pannaga Prasad and Paula Davis organized a program called "Know Your Rights". Offered by the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD), the presenter reviewed the rights of employees with respect to wages and general information regarding the workplace. Attendees also received one-on-one assistance on regulations related to wages and compensation.

Ms. Prasad and Theresa Terrell presented a class on March 1 on learning to prepare homemade yoghurt, yoghurt lassi, and more. The class is part of the 'Explore Asia Vegetarian Recipe' series; attendees enjoyed an accompanying video and recipe handout.

On March 7, Diana Starrett and Ms. Prasad facilitated a presentation by the non-profit Funeral consumers Alliance called, "Things to Know Before You Go." The presenter offered tips on how to prepare in advance for a simple, dignified and cost effective funeral.

Cristine Mitchamore taught Database classes to Wayland Baptist University (WBU) students on March 10 and March 12. Students really appreciated the interactive, hands-on portion of the class.

Texana staff has been very active during this review period. On March 3 Matt De Waelsche led a computer class on using Ancestry (Library Edition) for genealogy research.

Sylvia Reyna discussed the many research riches Texana has to offer for a 'Celebrate Texas History Month' at the Landa Branch Library. The program, "Treasures of Texana" covered many of the unusual and highly useful materials housed in the Collection.

Deborah countess conducted a genealogy class in honor of 'Women's History Month', "Uncovering Her Story: Finding Your Female Ancestors." Attendees were taught search strategies for unlocking the mystery behind this hidden half of the family tree.

A delegation from the Canary Islands lead by Mr. Cándido M. Padrón Padrón, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and accompanied by Jonathan Cabrera Asensio, also of the Government of the Canary Islands, toured the Texana Collection on their recent visit to San Antonio. Ms. Reyna showed the group items relating to the Canary Islander settlement and their history and genealogy.

MARKETING

The marketing department continued its ongoing promotion of existing SAPL system-wide and individual branch programs. Additionally, marketing began its city-wide promotion of the new mySAPL app that SAPL introduced in March. The team is also continuing to plan #CelebrateCentral20 events for May and the Encino Branch Library opening in May.

mySAPL app

A marketing campaign was developed to include media interviews, branded counter-top clings, social media promotions, t-shirts and more.

Summer Reading Program

The graphic designers have begun working on all new marketing materials that will be shared with all branches and departments.

Public Relations

Marcie participated in the planning and production of the 2nd Annual Texas Women of Influence event that took place on March 10. There were more than 60 attendees at this program and it was streamed live at NowCastSA.com.

Marcie and Caitlin filmed a segment of Cover to Cover at Westfall Branch Library to promote Learn at SAPL and the Learn Job Fairs.

Marcie pitched and secured a live spot on KENS morning show Great Day SA to promote Teen Tech Week on Wednesday, March 11. Teen Tech Week took place from March 8 – March 14.

In her continual media communications work, Marcie produced and distributed Press Releases about: Women's History Month, Teen Tech Week, the new mySAPL app, Rainforest Maze children's programs and Learn at SAPL job fairs

SAPL received 93 media mentions during the reporting period.

Social Media

Joseph continues to promote all programs on social media. Several programs garnered special attention – especially Teen Tech Week, Texas Women of Influence and Black History Month programs.

Facebook has 8,239 followers, Twitter has 2,476 and Instagram has 300 followers and its numbers are growing quickly.

Joseph has written several blogs during the reporting period and he's continued the preparations necessary for the Central Library's 20th anniversary.

He also created the March newsletter and submitted three articles to the City's eConnections electronic newsletter.

Joseph also represented the marketing team at both the Carver and Cortez Learn at SAPL open houses.

Marketing

New Marketing Specialist, Arturo Gallardo, has spent most of his first month acclimating himself to the department and he's hit the ground running working on projects that include Spanish translations of marketing materials, mySAPL app promotions, taking over "This Weekend at SAPL" newsletter and more.

CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

The 2015 edition of SAPL's *Young Pegasus Poetry Anthology* is just about ready to go into production. Notifications to the 36 young poets accepted for publication went out on February 26. This mailing included a letter of congratulations as well as a Release Form for the poets and their parents to sign giving us permission to publish their poems. Once all of these forms are received, the 49 poems that comprise the 2015 Anthology will be handed over to the Graphic Artist Ana Farr who designs the layout and sends the work on for printing and binding. Funding for the 2015 competition is being provided by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation with monies received from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Library administration authorized the hiring of a part-time temporary clerical employee to assist the children's coordinator with the many tasks associated with the Young Pegasus Competition. Sincere thanks to both the Foundation and the administration of their on-going support of the Young Pegasus effort which is now in its 89th year. This year's awards ceremony is slated for Sunday, May 2.

Children's staff continued their partnership with the San Antonio Botanical Garden in early March by hosting programs in conjunction with the Garden's spring exhibit "Rainforest Maze Adventure." Twenty-four library locations presented programs that gave children opportunities to learn about the four levels of the rain forest (emergent, canopy, understory and forest floor) and to create dioramas highlighting the lush and diverse greenery of these ecological levels. Planning these rainforest programs was completed by the members of the Winter/Spring Celebrations Committee Kate Simpson (Central Children's), Imelda Merino (Westfall) and Jodi Miller (Carver).

Jasmin Salinas (Central), Trina Smith (Memorial) and Amy Roberts (Maverick) are the members of Spring Early Literacy Committee. This group has just put the finishing touches on the upcoming *Build It! Play and Learn at the Library* programs. Kits for these programs will circulate through twenty branch locations beginning March 18 at Guerra and concluding May 21 at Thousand Oaks. Play and Learn sessions give young children and their grown-ups opportunities to engage in some fun together while engaging in the five strategies that develop early literacy: talking, singing, reading writing and playing.

In looking towards summer 2015 and the library's commitment to support education, children's staff is developing three summer learning guides: Math, Reading and Science. These guides will include web resources and recommended apps as well as links to books in the SAPL collection. Marti Rossi from Region 20 Educational Service Center is providing information and technical advice about two valuable electronic resources available to students that will be included: Think Through Math and iStation. Funded by the Texas Education Agency and used across the state during the school year, access through SAPL will help students to retain and enhance their skills during the summer months.

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Off-Site Service

Teen Services Librarians Kathleen Fordyce (Central) and Matthew Loaiza (Tobin @ Oakwell) visited the Academy of Creative Education to speak to students at their orientation about the services, resources and free activities the Library offers for teens. Kathleen has been visiting the school once or twice a month for a couple of years. Matthew will now be the main SAPL contact for the school and will conduct school visits for the ongoing new student orientations.

Kathleen and Kristin Yourdon (Teen Services Librarian at Cody) gave several presentations to students at Cornerstone Christian Schools on February 26. The students watched the teen outreach video made by teen volunteers at the Central Library. After showing the students where to find resources on mysapl.org, such as databases and Live Homework Help, Kathleen and Kristin had them apply for library cards.

Partnerships

San Antonio Food Bank

To fulfill one of the Food Bank's Kids Café requirements, Kathleen Fordyce and Regina Almanza (Teen Services Library Assistant) attended the monthly nutrition lesson at the Food Bank on February 10. Then Kathleen attended the lesson on March 3. Teen Services staff incorporates what they learn from these nutrition lessons in teen programming at the Central Library.

Inspire U

Staff involved in the Inspire U Workplace Mentoring Program through Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Texas (part of SA2020), met with their mentees from Edison High School in the Central Library Auditorium on February 23 for their monthly lunch. Kathleen Fordyce continues to serve as the liaison for this program.

Programming

Teen Tech Week was March 8–14, and teens around the city participated in tech programs at 21 library locations. Several of the locations facilitated tech mini-workshops chosen from a program menu developed by Caroline Mossing (Teen Services Librarian at Central). Some of these programs included LED throwies, MaKey MaKey, and using 3D pens called 3Doodlers.

Teen Services at the Central Library was chosen for a second year to participate in an Hour of Code workshop—hosted by Best Buy—through a YALSA initiative. The SAPL was one of ten libraries nationwide to host this tech program. To promote this program, Jennifer Velasquez (Coordinator of Teen Services) and Ozzy, a teen volunteer from the Central Library, appeared on Great Day SA. During the show, Ozzy presented a robot he had built with technology from Teen Services, as well as a demonstration of Sphero, Teen Services' rolling robot ball, which is controlled by an iPad app.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S

Manager Ruth Chiego submitted a proposal to present at the 2015 TAPPestry Conference at Region 20 and it was accepted. The conference is for parents, teachers, administrators and other professionals who work with children with special needs. Chiego presented to a series of groups on the concept of "Sensory Story Times." The librarians in the Children's Department accompanied Ms. Chiego as she presented ideas to the audience which showed participants how to integrate the five senses into storytelling activities. Special acknowledgements went to SAPL's Little Read Wagon as they inspired a great deal of the work the Children's Department has done with their Play & Learn sessions. Librarians Kate Simpson, Jasmin Salinas and Amy Lewis interacted with both parents and other professionals sharing ideas and allowing the group to interact with many tactile tools such as sensory bins, play dough, and gel boards. The hands-on portion of the program also allowed the participants to explore pretend play stations along with sight and sound games. A short video (which can be seen at <http://bit.ly/1Gdorxp>) was created to convey what these ideas look like in action. These sessions were so well-received the team has already been asked to return to the conference next year. In addition, the planners for a similar conference in Region 4 (Houston area) have asked the group to present later this year. Ms. Chiego was also asked to share a portion of her presentation with the Library Board during the February meeting.

Ms. Simpson shared information about library resources such as Live Homework Help, story times, afterschool activities, and adult education opportunities during the Robert B. Green Elementary (SAISD) Parent's Breakfast. Ms. Simpson also worked with the Vestal Elementary (Harlandale) parents as they toured Central Library and explored resources for families and children.

The Chinese New Year was celebrated in the Children's Department with a boisterous Family Fun. Ms. Simpson shared information about Chinese New Year and read stories about the holiday. The children made their own dragon puppets to take home before collaborating to decorate a giant dragon made of red butcher paper. To cap off the festivities, the children brought the dragon to life by getting under the butcher paper and parading the dragon around the Children's Floor, accompanied by their parents making noise with tambourines and shakers.

Simpson served as chair of the committee that developed Rain Forest Adventure programming in partnership with the San Antonio Botanical Gardens. The families at this program learned about the plants and wildlife of the rain forest, made elaborate rain forest dioramas using a variety of paper and materials, and let their imagination run wild as they played with rain forest animal puppets in a lush setting of green paper streamers and flowers.

Ms. Sandoval, Ms. Lewis, and Ms. Salinas have all been working diligently on incorporating more science and math into their programs. The STEM and STEAM initiatives at schools have really driven the Department's programs to become more all-encompassing when it comes to touching on areas other than literature and the humanities. Ms. Lewis incorporated a growth chart activity into her flower-themed Play& Learn. Each child took a piece of green yarn (their flower's stem) measured to their height and added a flower to the top. The program culminated in a beautiful and diverse garden with flowers of many different heights. This activity provoked a lot of fun interaction and conversation between parents and their children. Ms. Salinas also incorporated math and science into Toddler Time by bringing in more activities like shape sorting as the children placed circles and stars onto sticky contact paper, creating their own outer space. Children even viewed bug specimens at another session using large magnifying glasses. The Children's Department has found that an opportunity to allow children to act as scientists creates a learning-rich and fun experience for all!

TEENS

Weekly Programs

Mondays with J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant): J.D. continued his weekly Eclectic Electric program, in which teens learn to play guitar and/or keyboards. Teens can also teach their peers to play. After the music ends, teens sometimes engage in different weekly craft projects.

Tuesdays with Caroline Mossing (Librarian I): Teens used Circuit Scribe conductive ink pens and modules to draw and power simple circuits, lighting LEDs and powering piezo buzzers. This hands-on experience helped participants to deepen their understanding of electronic circuitry. Electronics and music came together when teens created instruments using the LittleBits Synth kit, combining different synth components like keyboards, sequencers, and oscillators to create different sounds and series of notes. Teens also formatted and printed objects using 3D modeling software and the department's 3D printer.

Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II): On Wednesday nights, teens pick their favorite video or board game and engage in friendly competition with their peers. In addition, teens have the opportunity to express their creative side by participating in craft or art projects of their choosing. During the reporting period, teens have enjoyed playing the WiiU games, as well as board games like Apples to Apples and Bananagrams.

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Celebration, creation, and cookery were the themes for this reporting period. In honor of the Lunar New Year, teens suggested and made some Asian-inspired dishes: egg drop soup and ramen noodles with various toppings. As the Lunar New Year is the Year of the Goat, teens had the option of making a lucky goat (or their favorite animal) plushie. The following

week, using a mix, teens made a pancake batter that they tinted in various colors, using cocoa and food gels. They created pancake art of animal shapes, video game and comic book characters and various colorful artistic shapes. Encouraged by their peers, teens who considered themselves as the non-creative types were most invigorated to create, noting that if they thought their pancake wasn't as artistic as someone else's, it would still taste delicious. As decorations changed from the winter season to spring, neither teen volunteers or patrons had any inspiration, so a very basic and generic design was chosen. A week later, one teen noted that if it had been up to him, he would have done something entirely different and accepted the challenge of implementing something he'd like to see up until Teen Services moved upstairs. He acknowledged that last year's Pokemon Post-it art was impressive. So, he and a couple of his peers chose video game character designs for Teen Services' frosted wall and went to work. Afterwards, they made and partially enjoyed S'mores banana boats, a snack that involved keeping the banana in its peel, slicing it long-ways, opening it and stuffing it with chocolate, marshmallows, and crushed up graham crackers. One teen noted that she liked each ingredient, but not all together. During Spring Break, after the Best Buy Geek Squad Hour of Code program, teens made popcorn with some healthy alternative flavorings other than butter and salt and watched *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay—Part 1*. Afterwards, in a non-competitive environment, teens played video games such as Super Smash Bros. and Mario Kart on the WiiU and various games for the Xbox. Pictures from Thursday programs as well as system-wide programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>.

Tours and Groups

On March 2, two groups of students from the Henry Ford Academy visited Teen Services to use computers for research. On March 3, JD Elizondo gave a law class from Fox Tech High School a tour of the library and an overview of Teen Services. He showed the students the law databases the library subscribes to and introduced them to career resources. After the tour, the students participated in a library scavenger hunt created by Kathleen Fordyce and Regina Almanza. The students returned the next day to finish the scavenger hunt and complete a self-directed assignment.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents

Little Read Wagon concluded the workshop series at Pre-K 4SA South, West, North and East as well as the Carvajal and Knox Head Start centers with early literacy make-and-take workshop "Learning Through Play". Workshop participants and facilitators were sad to see the series come to an end. Little Read Wagon will soon return to the Tynan, Carroll and Burleson Head Start centers to complete the workshop series that began at those sites in the fall.

Elizabeth Huber, Julia Lazarin and Cresencia Huff made short presentations at several smaller Head Start centers and elementary schools, including: Brewer, Heritage, Burke, Cable, Spicewood Park and Hidden Cove. Most of these presentations were bilingual and about an hour in length.

Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Teen Parents

Corinne Sanchez, Elizabeth Huber and Xelena Gonzalez began offering services at Seton Home. Resident teen parents participated in an Every Child Ready to Read workshop followed by a story time or Play & Learn session with their children. The workshop and story time sessions were offered in English in the morning and Spanish in the afternoon to ensure full comprehension and participation. High school campuses served this reporting period include Sam Houston, Madison, Lee, and Southwest.

Library Promotion

Ms. Huff presented at Hirsch Elementary literacy night. Families rotated through six activity rooms, spending fifteen minutes at each station. The event was well-attended and adults were as fascinated as the children with the colored salt activity.

Play & Learn

Play & Learn at the Woodlawn Wi-Fi Room concluded March 10. The final group was augmented by older siblings and families of teachers on spring break. Julia Selwyn, Central Reference, joined Little Read Wagon on February 17, March 7 and March 10 to share information about databases and other library resources for parents. Ms. Selwyn's expertise was deeply appreciated as she was able to focus her efforts on helping parents navigate the library's technology resources (including the Digital Library wallpaper at Woodlawn) while Little Read Wagon staff continued to work with families on the early literacy activities.

Workshops for Early Childhood Professionals

February 28 was very cold, wet, and dreary. However, the Music and More Early Literacy Moves workshop was well-attended. Thirty-six participants braved the weather to come to Central Library. It was a lively group of early childhood teachers that were eager to share their own songs and movement activities with their peers.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

On February 26, the Bazan branch hosted a visit from Mayor Ivy Taylor as part of the "Meet the Mayor" library visits where the public was invited to share comments, questions or concerns with the Mayor. Twenty-five people attended the program.

Bazan continued to be a host for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. The very successful program utilizes volunteers from the community who help prepare basic, current year tax returns for eligible taxpayers free of charge.

Children's librarian, Hope Sonnen, was invited to the Principal's Coffee meeting at De Zavala and spoke with parents about library services. Ms. Sonnen also attended a kindergarten teacher workshop at J.T. Brackenridge Elementary where she shared information about library services, highlighting BookFlix and TrueFlix. Ms. Sonnen hosted a Literacy Van visit to Bazan during Spring Break and continued Family Fun and Come & Go crafts weekly activities.

BROOK HOLLOW

In an effort to drive circulation, the Brook Hollow staff has been pulling out all the stops to fill the library with attractive displays. Women's stories and accomplishments are featured in a Women's History Month Display. For those planning to tie the knot or just dreaming about it, there is a display of wedding themed materials ranging from practical guides to happily-ever-after romance novels. Fans of *Fifty Shades of Grey* can peruse a range of read-alikes, and all things Irish are featured in the "Erin Go Bragh!" display. Finally, the works of the recently deceased satirist Sir Terry Pratchett are celebrated in an "in memoriam" display.

The San Antonio Storytellers Association continues to be a popular monthly program at Brook Hollow. On the first Wednesday of every month, the public is invited to listen to these talented entertainers spin their yarns. Participation is encouraged for those who would like to try their hand at the art. For those interested in discussing stories rather than telling them, Brook Hollow continues to offer several monthly book groups. Recent titles discussed include *Exodus* by Leon Uris, *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien, and *A Decent Interval*, by Simon Brett.

Teen attendance at Teen Time has risen over the last month. Board Game day was very popular as well as movies and popcorn.

On March 3, the branch hosted a Five Senses themed Play and Learn for 80 participants. Children five and under and their caregivers were invited to try salt writing in the branch's new homemade rainbow salt tray. They played with tactile balloons filled with everyday objects, like rice, pennies, and water. The children's librarian created a shaker egg guessing game, where children were encouraged to shake a sealed plastic Easter egg filled with common household items (such as macaroni and plastic beads) and match the sound to the picture glued to the bottom of a muffin tin and place each egg inside the appropriate space. In addition, kids and their caregivers could play in a pretend grocery store, experiment with sensory smell bottles, and other activities.

On March 10, the branch had a Rainforest Maze Story Time in partnership with the Botanical Gardens and their new rainforest exhibit. Seventy people enjoyed learning about rainforest habitats, along with a fun rainforest craft and other activities.

The branch is involved in a major weeding project of juvenile non-fiction in order to make room for more fiction before the summer months. Weeding criteria is primarily by condition, although relevance is also a factor, primarily in key categories such as social issues, science and technology, and geography.

CARVER

Carver's new Learn at SAPL Adult Education Center is a success. A grand opening introducing the center was held on February 17 with a celebration that attracted library users as well as such dignitaries as Assistant City Manager Gloria Hurtado, SAPL Board Chair Jean Brady, Assistant Library Director McNeil, Carver Branch Friends President Shirley Coleman and District 2 City Councilman Alan E. Warrick II, who offered remarks praising the establishment of the center as an important and highly useful addition to the community. Afterward, customers went to work using the center's equipment and services. Branch manager DL Grant commended learn center staffers Jeanne Johnson and Kenneth Franklin who worked closely with Didi Morganti and the SAPL marketing team to make the event a success.

The first of four "Learn at SAPL" job fairs was held at Carver Branch on March 3, exceeding the expectations of everyone involved. The branch was complimented by one job seeker on "the flow and layout" of the job fair and helpful volunteers who directed people to the different sections of the building, such as the interview rooms and locations of the job skills presentations. When the event drew to a close, it was estimated that nearly 130 job seekers had met with such employers as West, City of San Antonio, Marriott, First Mark Credit Union, and Ben E. Keith Foods, to name a few. Some fortunate job hunters were hired on the spot. Others were contacted for follow up interviews.

Assistant Branch Manager Monty Holcomb hosted four Teen Time events with the still popular Wii gaming device. But for anyone interested in more traditional games, he hosted four chess events, which proved to be equally popular. He believes support and enthusiasm for either activity will grow as more visitors learn about them. Mr. Holcomb also continued the Mayor's Book Club group at the District 2 Senior Center, where interest in Solomon Northup's *12 Years a Slave* has taken off. During this period he was able to facilitate three book club meetings. As the branch's Teen Services liaison, Mr. Holcomb initiated a partnership to feature a weekly Teen Life Skills group at Carver. Two very successful meetings were held in early March.

Children's Librarian Jodi Miller continued her efforts to promote children's services in the community during February and March. She was successful in building partnerships with St. Philip's College Early childhood education center and Herman Hirsch Elementary School, as well as re-establishing ties with Stephanie's Angels Daycare. She has also been able to create a lending arrangement with several centers, thus helping the branch boost circulation numbers.

CODY

Children at Cody Library celebrated the Chinese New Year (Spring Festival) on February 17 with colorful dragon crafts and hats to commemorate the "Year of the Goat". Many of the children asked Sheila Acosta, children's librarian, to display them in the kids' area. In addition, many children checked out the books displayed for the annual lunar celebration.

Country Home Day Care continued its in-house visits with two more children's groups for story time on February 18 and February 25. Sheila, Children's Librarian, accommodated them with several stories as well as songs.

A nutritionist from the San Antonio Food Bank presented a program for families on February 19. The focus of the program was on healthy snacks and foods for families. Informational handouts and food demonstrations of some of the healthier snacks were featured. Sheila said many of the young students who attended were amazed at how good healthy food tastes.

Tweens had great fun with balloon contests on February 23 for *Tween Time*. Sheila provided several balloons and the tweens formed teams for a variety of competitive events. It was a most popular indoor event for all who attended.

On February 24 *LEGO Club* fans eagerly assembled into teams to take on the monthly challenge. Four teams competed for the "Most Creative Display" in the theme "things one would find in a warm climate or cold climate". From a twelve-inch black scorpion to a frozen tundra scene, the children displayed their best ideas.

The *Tween Book Club* met on February 25 to "sell" their favorite book. Each attendee brought a book that he/she liked and presented it to the other members. After the presentations, tweens voted a "1" or a "2" for the books they would want to read first. In addition to the book talks, the tweens created slogans inviting other tweens to read. These slogans were posted in the juvenile fiction area.

On February 26, Sheila visited with six kinder classes at Boone Elementary and read a variety of books by Dr. Seuss. The outreach was an effort to recognize *Dr. Seuss' Read Across America Day* celebrated on March 2. Sheila invited the children to visit the public library to check out more books by Dr. Seuss and to attend some of the many children's programs.

Toddler Time on March 2 was a celebration of Dr. Seuss. For *Read across America Day* Sheila read a few of Dr. Seuss books and invited the children to interact with some of the scenes. A fun craft featuring a Dr. Seuss character followed the story time.

Tweens had an opportunity to use iPads to create music and photos with special effects for *Tween Time* on March 2. In addition to the iPads, the tweens used plastic coffee container lids as Frisbees for some Frisbee competition. This was a favorite activity with the boys.

The *Rainforest Maze* program on March 6 was very popular with toddlers and pre-kinder children. In addition to tropical animal stories and songs, Sheila created some play areas that replicated the levels of the rainforest- from tree vines to canopies. Children also enjoyed a couple of rainforest crafts.

Tweens stopped by during their spring break for *Tween Time* on March 9. They tried to break some records for paper cup pyramids. The tweens tried to build the tallest pyramid of paper cups without the cups toppling over. Sheila took some photographs of the successful pyramids.

Several young readers and their parents attended the *Beginner Readers Club* on March 11. The beginning readers each shared a book they had read by reading aloud scenes. Sheila provided iPads for some easy-reading stories that the children could read with their parents. The parents and children also joined in a beginning readers' game of Scrabble. Several of the children checked out beginning reader books that Sheila had displayed at the event

Hooper Luna demonstrated her hula hooping prowess with LED hula hoops by performing a variety of tricks at the *Hula Hoop Fun* event on March 12. After the demonstration, the audience was able to join in the hula hooping fun and learn some fun skills to do with the hoops. Attendees also had an opportunity to win a hula hoop as a door prize.

Sheila continued her early literacy outreach to the Pineapple School, Kids Campus, Discovery World, and Chabad Gan-Gani Pre-School.

Cody's Teen Librarian, Kristin Yourdon, focused on empowering teens to help them discover and refine their planning and leadership skills. Kristin recruited teens to serve as Teen Leaders on Cody's Teen Leadership Council. The Council is to develop program ideas for other teens and to assist with Teen programs. On February 24 the Teen Leaders met and developed some great upcoming programs for March.

On February 17' teens learned some of the traditional customs of traditional Mardi Gras. They made Mardi Gras masks using puffy paint, sequins, jewels, and markers, allowing them to express their own individuality. They were also able to take part in the tradition of eating King Cake. As per tradition, a plastic baby figurine was hidden within the cake, and the teen who found the figurine won a prize.

On March 3' the teens played a life-sized version of Monopoly. Kristin designed the game to reflect San Antonio streets and landmarks. Teens themselves served as the tokens as they played the life-sized board game.

On March 10, in celebration of Teen Tech Week the teens created LED plushie monsters. This technology project allowed teens to discover how electrical currents work and how to create a simple circuit using an LED light, conductive thread, and a coin cell battery. The teens also learned different sewing techniques to develop their creative pieces, using the various provided materials.

Kristin also assisted at a couple of outreaches this month. On February 21, she assisted the attendees of *Library Palooza* to sign up for library cards. Kristin was also gave three presentations to ninth grade students at Cornerstone Christian School on February 26. She spoke about the many unique services that were available to them.

The Cody Teen Time has continued to grow in attendance, and both the new and the returning teens are excited about planning future events!

On February 29, the Cody Library hosted Trinity University Professor Harry Wallace as he presented his lecture *Perils of Prosperity in the Pursuit of Happiness*. The lecture was well received and the Q&A sessions following lasted almost as long as the lecture. Thanks go to Sandra Griffin (Forest Hills) who coordinated this event as part of her *What's the Big Idea? Science for Adults* series.

With the assistance of Tracey Cundiff and Richard Garcia from Facilities in moving some shelving, the Cody staff completed the shifting project that created a dedicated teen space. The music CD display was moved as well and now has more visibility. Staff is confident that a similar shifting project for the children's collection will create more visibility and an alternate story time space. Prep work for that project is now underway.

In March, Adam Spana and Kimberly Ammerman inaugurated their senior outreach with a visit to the Adante Senior Living Center. With the assistance of Adante resident Anita Beizer, the library is providing books for a monthly book club. Coincidentally, branch namesake Ed Cody recently moved to Adante. Adam and Kim will continue to work to form similar partnerships at other neighborhood senior communities.

COLLINS GARDEN

Despite the cold and rainy weather, spring is right around the corner and Collins Garden Branch Library is celebrating by offering craft programs and displays to honor the San Antonio Rodeo. Our customers checked out books on cowboys and enjoyed making colorful paper cowboy hats and boots.

The branch has changed out the book bundles to reflect themes more consistent with spring – such as gardening, Fiesta and Easter. Additionally, in the hopes of sparking interest in reading during spring break, branch staff members created a display of popular and funny juvenile fiction titles with the goal of reminding young customers that reading is fun and should not stop when school is out.

Teen Tech Week is being celebrated with MaKey, Makey. Makey Makey is a simple electronic board that can be used to provide a literal connection between disparate objects and computers. You can type using connections to coins, food or anything else that allows an electronic signal to be transmitted to the computer. It is interesting to see the teens use their imagination to see what they might be able to use to communicate with the computer and what they create, once they have established the connection.

One of the most important ecosystems in the world is the rainforest. The San Antonio Botanical Gardens knows this and during the spring is offering a chance to learn more about the rain forest. Collins Garden Branch Library is sharing in the fun by offering rain forest crafts and displays.

Optic Arrest performed on February 28 – a rainy and cold Saturday afternoon – to an appreciative crowd of sixteen people. The animated duo performed an acoustic set of original songs and popular covers. Staff members would like to thank the San Antonio Public Library Foundation for the honorarium that made this performance possible.

CORTEZ

The Cortez Branch Library celebrated the grand opening of the Learn @ SAPL center on February 19. The event was covered by Telemundo, San Antonio Express News and La Prensa. Attendees heard from Assistant Director Dale McNeill and Assistant Director of the Department of Human Services Richard Keith as well as success stories from regular users of the Learn center. English as a Second Language courses have proved to be extremely popular – so much so the class has had to move into the branch's

meeting room to accommodate all the patrons. The Learn @ SAPL center is open regular branch hours Sunday through Thursday.

The citizenship class offered in partnership with Academia America remains a very popular class. Academia America continues to sign up potential students for future session of the course. The citizenship class takes place on Sundays at 10:30 am. At the completion of the 10-week course, students will be able to enroll in an advanced course which may qualify them for low-cost assistance with their naturalization application.

The branch continues to offer Affordable Care Act assistance for those who received extensions. A certified Navigator from SRA International is available to help patrons find a health plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

Our younger patrons may recognize children's librarian Connie Hejl as she visits local elementary schools and daycare centers throughout the month to share stories and sing silly songs. Story time continues every Wednesday at 11 am, Game Time is at 3:30 on Wednesdays, and Family Fun is every Tuesday at 4 pm.

The Gettin' Crafty Cortez Crafters' Group continues to be a popular program to make interesting creations and socialize. The crafters are working on Easter and Fiesta crafts such as baskets, wreaths, and eggs.

The Once Upon a Crime Book Club is reading *Orange is the New Black: My year in a women's prison* by Piper Kerman.

The English as a Second Language continues weekly on Saturday mornings with loyal attendees.

Teen Time continues to offer a place for teens to hang out with friends, play video games, and grab some snacks. Thanks to the Friends of the Cortez Library for refreshments.

Zombie Meet with Madeline Vasquez continues to be a popular program on the second Saturday of the month. At March's meeting, eleven members of the Meet played zombie games with program leader Madeline Vasquez. They always welcome new members to join their zombie survival team.

FOREST HILLS

The Forest Hills Branch Library was honored to host Mayor Ivy Taylor on February 17. The Mayor's Roadshows were featured at a number of San Antonio Public Library branches and gave patrons the opportunity to have one-on-one chats with the Mayor. While Mayor Taylor was in the branch, she was pleased to hear from Branch Manager Mary Naylor that she had hosted a book club at the Bob Ross Senior Center which read her Book Club pick, *Rocket Boys* in October. The book club members related to the Ms. Naylor that the chosen book well received by the group prompting 100% participation by its members. Mayor Taylor was so pleased with this report that she has scheduled a visit to speak to the Bob Ross Senior Center book club in March. While the Mayor was visiting she was also very pleased to see the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. display in the Forest Hills foyer. Mayor Taylor is a member of the sorority and a newspaper clipping of her Mayoral appointment is one item that was on display. The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. display was in honor of Black History Month at the library.

Children were treated to a musical program presented by the San Antonio Symphony on February 21. Viola player Allyson Dawkins shared her love of music as well as her experience as a professional musician in the orchestra with children of all ages.

A new offering at Forest Hills, a *LEGO* Club, was a popular program on March 7. Using the *LEGO* kit from the Central Children's Department, Librarian Valerie Shelley developed the *LEGO* Club program after it was requested by a patron. This program turned out to be a great success and will be repeated the first Saturday and third Monday of every month.

Forest Hills offered special programming during the week of Spring Break. Children were invited to travel around the world with the Reading from the Heart program. This non-profit group led the children and their parents on a weeklong tour through countries such as China, Egypt, Puerto Rico, India, and Mexico. Each child received a passport which was stamped for each country they visited.

The Northside Independent School District newsletter *Inside Northside Weekly* featured the Glen Oaks Elementary School second grade Saturday morning tour of the library which took place in February. A photo included showed students with their parents and teacher in the Forest Hills children's area.

Flash Volunteering for Teens has proven to be a popular offering as teens are able to earn community service hours for helping out at the library. The Flash Volunteering program allows teens to volunteer for periods as short as one day and assists them in avoiding the waiting period typical volunteer commitments require. Hours earned can be used for school activities such as National Honor Society or other requirements.

The VITA Service continues to offer a valuable service to Forest Hills patrons. As one patron was leaving VITA on March 6, she commented to staff "Thank you for having them here, they saved my house!" This was a nice notion to prove that the library is providing a valuable service to the community and is well worth the staff time it takes to host the service in the library.

GREAT NORTHWEST

Children's Services

The Great Northwest Library hosted a variety of programs for families and their children. For this reporting period, children's services staff presented 16 story time programs. These programs include the very popular Toddler Two program and the ABC Club, which guides participants through the alphabet year-round. The ABC Club, created by the Children's Librarian, continues to be popular with children and their parents and engages participants through interactive learning activities.

In addition to the story times, two new programs are gaining popularity at the branch. Library Assistant Theresa Brader has created a family program called "Bedtime Story time." Once a month, children and their parents convene in the meeting room for a fun story time aimed at parents that may not be able to attend programs during the day. This program is a unique opportunity for parents to bond with their children before bedtime. Many children come dressed in their pajamas or with their favorite stuffed animals to enjoy stories, songs, and activities. Another program recently initiated by Ms. Brader is the Tween Book Group. Participation has increased from the first month and participants are now eager to provide their book club suggestions to Ms. Brader.

On February 20, Theresa Brader visited a local day care and presented a story time for a group of children. The children enjoyed stories and songs and actively participated in this activity.

The Scholastic Literacy van made a visit to the branch during the very busy Spring Break week. After a story time, families were invited to board the van and participate in an activity. Children were able to pick out a free book to keep as part of this interactive experience.

Teen Services

Great Northwest Library has a Teen video gaming program every Wednesday evening where teens can bring their own controllers to play Wii U games. During this period, four events were held on Wednesday evenings. Teens interested in gaming played games with each other and exchanged techniques and other pieces of useful gaming information in a fun environment.

Great Northwest Library celebrated Teen Tech Week by inviting teens to visit the library to make a *LEGO* Movie. Teens were encouraged to bring their devices to record a stop motion video they could post on the Teen Services social media account. Various *LEGO* movies were made by the teens and shared with staff and one another. The event linked Teens to technology and encouraged them to work together and share ideas.

Great Northwest Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez visited the school library at Brennan High School to provide a teen program to the students during their lunch period. The monthly program, which is held during lunch time, drew 200 participants. Teens enjoyed gaming and were able to make buttons during the event. This popular event is in collaboration with the Brennan High School Librarian Caby Hugues and is a way for the branch to reach out to teens in their own environment.

Adult Services

The Great Northwest Book Group, facilitated by Adult Services Librarian Cindy Moreno, met on February 19th to discuss their latest title. Participants actively discussed the book and conversed with one another during this program. In addition to this book group, Ms. Moreno facilitates a book group at the nearby Trevino Senior Center. During the month of February, Ms. Moreno recorded the highest number of participants ever.

The Great Northwest Quilters and Knitting Club continued to meet on Saturdays. Members share stories and techniques with one another and continue to attract new members. Various other groups, such as the Teen Drama Club and the Wearable Arts group, continue to meet at the branch.

The Mobile Fit Unit made a visit to the branch on March 12. The Mobile Fit Unit offers free health screenings for blood pressure and Body Mass Index (BMI). In addition, the mobile unit offers free fitness classes for the public. The staff shared information about these services to participants and conducted several health screenings during their time at the branch.

GUERRA

The VITA program provided assistance to about 550 members of the community during the reporting period. On February 28, the branch, with the assistance of the Friends Group, the branch hosted the opening of the international photography exhibit. Tony Diaz, the photographer, discussed his images from the United States, Mexico, Central America, and Europe. The opening was well-attended and patrons with an interest in both travel and photography enjoyed the afternoon.

Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard moderated the Clube do Livro (Portuguese language book club) on February 28. The group discussed *A Vine in the Blood* by Leighton Gage. The Thursday Evening Book Club met on March 12 to discuss *One for the Money* by Janet Evanovich. Cristiane designed and installed a display in the biography section celebrating Rodeo in San Antonio; it included country singer and cowboy biographies.

Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson-Gibbs planned and presented thirteen in-house programs---four Kids Times, four Toddler Times, and four Story Times and one Family Fun event. On February 19, she attended a TLA online event - "*Can We Fix It? Nurturing a Diverse and Inclusive Team in Your*

Workplace." On February 20, Arlene visited Greatest Gifts daycare where she presented story time to 45 toddlers. On February 27, she read stories to 59 toddlers at Angelic Smiles Daycare. On March 1, she mounted a rainforest book display. Families enjoyed a themed Family Fun event on March 10 when they celebrated the opening of the San Antonio Botanical Garden's Rainforest Adventure Maze. Children and their parents created their own rainforests and enjoyed stories about the animals and plants of the rainforest. On March 6, she visited Marbach Christian Church Daycare and read stories to a group of 60 toddlers. On March 13, she visited Lil' Dragon Den Daycare and presented story times to 24 toddlers and 22 school age children. During the period March 7 – March 13, Arlene worked with Intern Florene Dickerson whose career goal is to become a Children's Librarian. Florene received guidance on children's resources, children's programming, readers' advisory, children's book awards, collection development and maintenance and outreach.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson moderated the Club de Lectura (Spanish book club) on February 27. The club discussed the life and death of Jenni Rivera with emphasis on her accomplishments. Mr. Jackson, with assistance from other staff, trained a new volunteer, Safiye Limon.

Edward Mayberry, Teen Liaison held Game-Ra events on February 2, March 5 and 12. The film, *Guardians of the Galaxy*, was viewed on February 9 and the friends of the Guerra Branch Library provided snacks. He participated in an outreach to Brennan High School with Stephanie Vazquez, Teen Librarian/Great Northwest on February 25. The program included a Teen Services video, information about upcoming workshops for college preparation, and the opportunity for the students to play video games; over 110 students participated.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl designed and installed a display for Women's History Month and created a memorial display in honor of Terry Pratchett.

IGO

Children's Services

The cold and rainy weather did not dampen the enthusiasm for children's programming this month at the Igo Branch Library. Story time programs continue to draw young families to the library for early literacy enrichment. In addition to these programs for preschool audiences, the Igo Branch joined in the San Antonio Botanical Garden's in a special education enrichment program to promote their new exhibit entitled the Rainforest Maze Adventure. Guests enjoyed a story and information presentation followed by an art experience to create their own rainforest dioramas.

Spring Break proved to be an excellent opportunity for the Igo Tweens as well with a Bird Watching presentation by local naturalists Patsy and Tom Inglet. Guests, ages 9 to 12 years old, were given information on bird species native to San Antonio and instruction on bird watching and binocular basics. They learned how to apply their background knowledge to identify birds using library birding guides and were then treated to an outdoor bird adventure on the grounds of the Igo Library. For those who missed this bird watching opportunity, the library plans to have the Inglets back for another birder's walk-about.

Lastly, Discovery Time, math and science enrichment for pre-schoolers, had a record number of children attend this month's session. Thirty-five children and their caregivers joined children's librarian, Nancy Rodriguez, to explore shapes and numbers. Attendees were treated to stories and play activities that allowed for creative art expression with play dough and paints, as well as, counting, matching, and number games. Parents and caregivers left the session with a number of ideas for extending learning at home with their young children.

Teen Services

This month in addition to regular programs, the teens at Igo have been enjoying Teen Tech Week activities. A four day long "Programming Fun" was added where 16 teens, led by the team of two

experienced programmers, were comparing different programming languages (Java, C++ and C #). They also had an opportunity to write a short program in each of them. Evaluations of the program from attendees show a desire for more classes on this topic.

The Russian Language Culture Club become also became a hit within the Igo community. At this month's meeting the participants were celebrating "Maslenitsa" - Spring Festival, the merriest of Russia's festivities observed by Russian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian and Kazakhstan communities. The event brought 62 community members of all ages.

Adult Services

On February 17, Barbara Froebel of the Texas State Genealogical Society gave recommendations of local and state resources for genealogy. Several new attendees joined the group, having learned about the club from announcements on Texas Public Radio. The Mystery Club discussed *The Dead Will Tell*, the Afternoon Book Club discussed *Lost in Shangri-La*, and the Romance Readers Book Club discussed *Three Weeks with Lady X*. A new film club focusing on the American Film Institute's 100 Greatest Movies held its inaugural session with *It Happened One Night*. A book club for adults who are learning to speak English was launched. The new Options Trading Club met for the second time and had many new faces present eager to learn about this topic.

Two Celebrate Diversity programs were held at Igo in celebration of Black History Month. "Back to My Roots" drew thirteen people, while "The Legacy of the Venus Hottentot in Contemporary Rap Culture" drew twenty-six.

The San Antonio Romance Authors in partnership with the Igo Library held an open public panel discussion on the general topic of writing and had over forty people in attendance. The San Antonio Novelists @ Igo group met and award winning author Karen Casey Fitzjerrell spoke about her experiences writing and getting published.

The Friends of the Igo Library held their twice annual Book Sale event during Valentine's Day weekend. Despite the construction, road closures and cold weather, the sale still did quite well.

The March meeting of the Igo Elderberries featured Dr. Paul Ringenbach, Chief Writer for San Antonio's application for the San Antonio Spanish Missions to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Twenty-six people heard about the eight-year process that started with little hope of achieving this significant designation to a pending vote of the UNESCO Committee in Bonn, Germany in June-July of 2015.

Library Assistant and organizer of the Igo Elderberries, Irene Scharf, joined the San Antonio delegation for the Senior Day at the Capitol.

Lastly, a group of Swedish librarians who visited San Antonio on a grant visited the Igo Branch library as a part of their tour of San Antonio Public Library. Staff greatly enjoyed meeting this wonderful group and the librarians were very impressed with the facility and programming levels at Igo.

JOHNSTON

Johnston Library continues to promote the Mayor's Book Club selection of *Twelve Years a Slave* by Solomon Northup. The Athena Readers Book Club will discuss the book on March 18 and there are an ongoing display of books and the movie.

On Saturday, March 14, Adult Services Librarian, Monica Bustillo, coordinated a program as a tie-in to *Twelve Years a Slave*. Johnston hosted Chef Gregory Williams from the culinary school at the Art Institute of San Antonio. Chef Greg is an expert on American regional cooking and he presented a program on the Origins of Southern Food. He provided an excellent lecture along with recipes from the Deep South, such as Carolina BBQ Sauce, potato salad, slow cooked greens, hushpuppies, and peanut brittle.

Johnston's circulation in February increased almost 11% over the same period in 2014. The staff works hard to create attractive and interesting displays to gain attention for material. Besides the *Twelve Years a Slave* display, the library also had displays focusing on Texas History, Women's History and "Read a Green Book".

Beverly Wrigglesworth, the Children's Librarian, provided weekly baby time, story time and family time. The themes for this reporting period were hugs and kisses, Mother Goose; mysteries; babies, and the Rainforest.

On February 25, Mrs. Wrigglesworth attended a Dr. Seuss event at Allen Elementary School. She read "Mr. Brown Can Moo, Can You?" to the students.

A violinist from the San Antonio Symphony talked about violins and played some tunes for a very enthusiastic audience on February 28.

Mrs. Wrigglesworth read Saint Patrick's Day stories to the children at Nurturing Hearts Learning Center on March 12.

Library Assistant/Teen Liaison, Christina Martinez, continued to provide weekly programming for the teens in the area. The programs included the movies *Attack on Titan* and *Big Hero 6*, gaming (Xbox and cards), and Internet research and the Learning Express database. The teens also held a twice-monthly manga book club.

Teen Tech Week occurred during this reporting period. To celebrate, Ms. Martinez gathered the teens on March 9 for MaKey MaKey and the Scribbling Machine. MaKey MaKey is an invention kit for the 21st century. It turns everyday objects into touchpads and combines them with the internet. It is a simple invention kit for doing art, engineering, and everything in-between. Scribbling machines are super-basic motor-powered contraptions with writing utensils affixed so that they mark their path as they move.

Ms. Martinez also moved the magazines to an interior area of the library where they should receive more attention.

During the month of February, Adult Services Librarian, Ms. Bustillo, presented the Friday Oscar Film Series. The films shown during this reporting period were *Captain America: Winter Soldier* and *Big Hero 6*. Ms. Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of *After I'm Gone* by Laura Lippman.

Ms. Bustillo conducted outreach visits to two Senior Centers: the Willie Cortez Senior Center and the Virginia Gill Senior Center to promote the Mayor's Book Club title *Twelve Years a Slave*.

Ms. Bustillo attended the Adult Summer Reading Program Committee and the Adult Programming Committee meeting for Live Smart, Learn Well.

LANDA

Children's

Landa Branch and Clair Larkin, Children's Librarian, hosted Eric Gratz, concertmaster, as part of the Symphony at SAPL series. It was a very successful program, enjoyed by children and adults alike. Mr. Gratz is the second symphony performer that Landa has been privileged to host and staff looks forward to welcoming other symphony members soon.

Landa program attendees have been regularly filling the meeting room to capacity during Toddler Time! Both weekly Baby Times and Story Time is also well attended and have explored themes ranging from

rain, to night, to the rainforest, in conjunction with the Rainforest Maze at the San Antonio Botanical Garden. This month's Come & Go Craft theme was also rainforest, so participants had an opportunity to make a colorful Toucan or a Red-Eyed Tree Frog.

Thanks to Landa Friends, *LEGO* Club participants had an opportunity to try out Landa's brand new *LEGOs*. They created police stations, mysterious magic stations, and castles among other creations on display in the juvenile area. Visiting children request a lift up to inspect the *LEGO* creations more closely.

Clair welcomed New Frontiers Charter School's second graders to Landa Branch for their first library tour. The children listened to stories and learned the answers to questions such as "Who owns the library?" The class was introduced to the kinds of materials the library has available and they all are looking forward to visiting the library again! After visiting with Clair, the class took advantage of the playground and ate their lunch onsite.

Teens

Landa Teens celebrated Teen Tech Week activities during Spring Break. The Teen Library Leadership Council hosted a MIT game called DUST, an alternative reality game. The Cool Teens Club enjoyed using LED throwies from Teen Services and combining them with string theory art. On March 14 Pi (3.14) Day and Albert Einstein's birthday was celebrated at Landa.

Teen volunteer, Fernanda, was a guest advice columnist writer, "Dear Juliet", for the month of February. She wanted to do this in part because she "had experienced things that made [her] wise on everyday decisions. With this said, [she] wanted to help others with their problems, especially teens. Teens are in a stressful age where they need help from others but are too shy or scared to ask for it". On February 27, during the Cool Teens Club, teens shared their experience meeting District 1 Councilman Roberto Treviño and Mayor Ivy Taylor in blog posts <http://wp.me/pnROx-39F>, <http://wp.me/pnROx-39D>. Ms. Bea Canales, Teen Services Liaison, was busy writing reference information for scholarships for teen volunteers and weeding teen fiction books.

Adult

March Mondays @ Landa, the Monday night series of adult programming, is well underway with special presenters that speak to the varied interests of Landa customers. The series started out Women's History Month with Alanna Avant, local president of Texas Outdoor Woman's Network, describing outdoor activities for women ranging from kayaking and backpacking to rock climbing. The following Monday, Texana Librarian Sylvia Reyna presented "Treasures of Texana" featuring the many resources available to the public at Central Library.

Landa was privileged to host a musical program in celebration of The Mayor's Book Club. The San Antonio Youth Wind Ensembles played a program of spirituals featuring Civil War-era tunes up to contemporary selections. Thanks to Oscar Gonzalez for getting this program.

Landa's regular senior programs continue to attract both returning and new members. This month's Silver Screens Classic was *An American in Paris* with Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron. Reader's Ink Book Club discussed *Housekeeping*, an award-winning literary work by Marilynne Robinson. The Seniors Mystery Book Club discussed *The Sinister Pig* by the late Tony Hillerman. Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta has a monthly outreach at the DeMatel Nursing Home at The Village at Incarnate Word. February's theme was President's Day and featured a presidential trivia and a craft with red and blue stars on a white background. Karen also hosted a group of disabled adults for a program featuring readings, music, a library tour and the opportunity to check out materials.

LAS PALMAS

Branch Manager Tim Johnson hosted the Las Palmas book club on February 18. The group discussed *12 Years a Slave* by Solomon Northrup. Mr. Johnson also orchestrates a regular chess program which

meets every Monday evening. Members can work on chess puzzles, read on tactics and strategy, or just play.

Children's Librarian, Gina Brudi attended the YWCA Health Fair and spoke to over 40 adults about library services especially digital services. The Valentine Day Kids Time celebration with everyone making a heart sun catcher craft was a big hit. Ms. Brudi continues her outreach to local early literacy centers with story times and book collections.

Teen Services Librarian Marco De Leon has continued to promote the Teen Night at Las Palmas, The Super Cool Awesome Teen Gaming Block 3000, where the teens are given the option of choosing their entertainment. The teens choose whether they want to play video games, play board games, watch a movie, or have a dance night. In an effort to reach more teens and to create better programming, Mr. De Leon, with the help of fellow Teen Librarians, has created a Teen Survey that will be used in the month of April to find out what teens are interested and what direction they want to take programming. Mr. De Leon is hopeful that the data collected will provide insight into the needs of the teens that visit the library. Mr. De Leon has strengthened the partnership with St. PJ's Children's Home by establishing a weekly tutorial program. Every Saturday, St. PJ's brings a group of boys and a group of girls for tutorial support. They make good use of an iPad fleet by logging in to tutor.com. The response has been very positive and more programming is being planned by Mr. De Leon and St. PJ's Children's Home. The special needs volunteers from JFK continued to work at the library three times a week. Their contribution for the month of January totaled to approximately 40 hours. The volunteers have become proficient in shelving DVDs and Blu-ray and have begun to shelve Juvenile books this month. The skill set of the special needs volunteers has continued to improve and they are on their way to expanding their shelving duties. One of the bigger successes this past month was the SAT Practice Test that was programmed on February 28. Despite the very cold weather and freezing rain, most of the slots were filled and the test proctor declared it a complete success. The majority of the teens that showed up were students from Holy Cross High School, so there is still plenty of opportunity to reach students from other local high schools to take advantage of the next programmed SAT Practice Test. Mr. De Leon also did some outreach to JFK High School and Lanier High School to promote Teen Service programming and to establish partnerships with the school librarians and counselors. Mr. De Leon also represented SAPL at the annual LibraryPalooza held at Brandeis High School.

Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez continued to host Bilingual story time. In the month of February Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez presented 4 Bilingual story times. Preschoolers enjoyed listening to stories about Valentines' Day, frogs, and nursery rhymes. Everyone had fun creating paper heart and frog crafts.

MAVERICK

The meeting room at Maverick was well utilized during the reporting period. Maverick was an Election Day site on February 18. Thank you to staff that opened early and stayed late. In addition to branch programs, several HOAs had their meetings at Maverick. Also, the Friends of the Maverick Branch Library had a successful Spring Book Sale on March 7 - 8.

Many programs occurred during the reporting period. A Spring Festival took place on March 7. Several staff members participated, including Library Aides Raina Gaitan, Laura Lopez, Daniela Tolle, Cetta Dae Poore and Circulation Attendant, Sarah Borque. The festival included pet adoptions and the showing of "Despicable Me". Staff provided Minion cupcakes while kids decorated toilet paper roll Minions. Jorge and Nicole, an acoustic guitar duo, then graced patrons with music in the afternoon. On March 10, Adult

Librarian, Ben Longoria, showed the film "First Ladies" in honor of Women's History Month. Teen Tech Week was March 9-13. On Thursday, March 12, Teen Liaison, Lucy Villa, presented a paper airplane program.

In other news, both Ben Longoria and Children's Librarian, Amy Roberts attended committee events. On March 3, Mr. Longoria attended a job fair at Carver Library where he provided career resources from the Library. Ms. Roberts helped inventory the Early Literacy I Committee's "Build It!" kits for the Spring Play & Learn series on March 4. The Friends of the Maverick Library donated money for the children's librarian to purchase more LEGOs for the branch. They also donated funds for food at teen programs. The staff appreciates the generosity and hard work of the Maverick Friends!

McCRELESS

Four Story Times were presented during this time period. Children learned about trucks and traffic, monkeys and the jungle, nursery rhymes and food chains. Projects included a stop light, a monkey stick puppet, a stand up wooly lamb and an origami frog puppet.

Of the four Family Fun programs, themes included Chinese New Year, Read-to-a-Dog, Dr. Seuss' birthday, and the Rain Forest. The Rain Forest program, held during Spring break, was a big hit, with 42 people attending and creating model Rain Forests.

Librarian Kathleen Brown participated in three outreach events: a School Career Day, a Parent Meeting, and a School Literacy Night, with a total of 668 parents and children attending the various presentations.

The Literacy Caravan bus visited McCreless Library on March 7, giving branch families a chance to participate in art and reading activities on board.

There's been a lively turnout for Teen Time at the branch, with over 40 teens participating in the past month.

For adult patrons, the staff offered one Book a Librarian session for help with an e-reader, and had a hour-long Tech Time, where patrons could drop in and get assistance with their technology-related questions.

Ten people attended the film showing and book discussion of *12 Years a Slave*.

The Friends of McCreless held a book sale the weekend of March 7 and 8 and made \$500 to support the branch. They are currently working on a garden bed for the front of the library and are continuing to support programming for the branch.

The Adult Book Club has grown through the years and this month the loyal attendees enjoyed a discussion of *The Miniaturist*.

MEMORIAL

Families at Memorial Library celebrated African American Heritage Month during our Family Fun program by creating individual paper quilts. Children also participated in a collaborative art project by creating quilt patterns for display in the children's area. Children's Librarian, Trina Smith, invited students and their parents, from the Woodlawn Hills Elementary School-Texas Bluebonnet Book Award Club, to meet at the branch to discuss ideas for participating in the voting process and selecting the Bluebonnet Book winner.

Children at Memorial Library enjoyed a special Family Fun program by participating in the celebration of Dr. Seuss's Birthday program, Read Across America. The book selection for this year was, *Oh, the*

Places You'll Go, along with various crafts. As a member of the library's Early Literacy Committee, Trina helped plan the activities and various resources for literacy kits that will circulate to those libraries that would like to host a Play and Learn program. She was also invited to attend Career Day at Loma Park Elementary School to discuss with students what it takes to become a librarian. In partnership with the San Antonio Botanical Gardens' *Rainforest Maze Exhibit*, the library planned children's crafts and activities that focused on the rainforest. Kids of all ages enjoyed the books and activities.

Memorial featured a new art exhibit by San Antonio College Professor Emeritus, Marleen Hoover. The exhibit entitled: *Recycled: Toys, Beads, Art*, was a collection of framed scenes cleverly made with recycled material that juxtaposed found objects, discarded toys, broken jewelry, scraps of fabric and other objects immersed in resin. Along with the art work itself, the frames and other supporting structures were also made from recycled materials, such as wood cabinet doors. Customers were drawn by these odd but beautiful conglomerations of recycled objects. The framed 18 pieces of artwork feature a great variety of scenes and ideas with some reflecting Hoover's own life and experience. The exhibit runs from through April 30, 2015 and will include a lecture on her work.

MISSION

Affordable Care Act enrollment, Familias en Acción, the San Antonio Film Community, Academia America citizenship classes, and VITA continue to be beneficial partners. An ongoing partnership with Parks and Recreation provides free and healthy alternatives for spending a Saturday afternoon. The family-friendly program invites participants to enjoy yoga and cycling classes. Table tennis for adults continues to be a popular program. Participants have advanced to doubles play and members have asked for updated table tennis guides. Mission's community can find entertainment with the library's Cult and Classic movie series, Trivia Game night and the Chess Club.

A SAWS informational meeting was held on February 17 and a Planning and Community Development-HUD consolidation Plan was outlined for the public on February 24.

San Antonio Youth Wind Ensembles program held at Mission continued to Central Library on February 21 and Landa Library on March 1.

Attendance at Teen Time on Tuesdays continues to grow steadily. Activities included pizza party, arts/crafts, and a "Minute to Win It" challenge night. Teens competed against each other in fast-paced games to win prizes. Participants had a mummy challenge (wrapping up a partner in toilet paper), cup stacking challenge, and a Tic Tacs challenge (shaking out all of a container of Tic Tacs attached to a craft stick.) Teens had the opportunity to meet their peers and work together in teams which created more group cohesion. Gaming after arts/crafts and "Minute to Win It" activities provided more opportunities for teens to get to know each other. Teens also created "scribble machines" as part of SAPL's Teen Tech Week festivities. The "scribble machine" creations challenged teens to use recycled materials, small motors, and batteries in innovative ways.

In addition to robust weekly programming, outreach to local schools is a priority for Mission staff. Three 4th and 5th grade classes from Stonewall Flanders Elementary school participate in a monthly book club with the Mission children's librarian at the school library. The children are eager and avid readers who enjoy diverse genres and devour each month's new book. This month one of the children's teachers was very happy to report that one of the weaker readers in the book club had markedly improved her reading skills since joining book club.

Outreach took place at Harlandale High School on February 20. Cynthia Cruz presented information on library resources focusing on Live Homework Help to students participating in Communities in Schools, an organization that strives to keep kids in school while preparing them for college.

On March 4 Librarian Oscar Gonzalez provided a tour for parents of students attending Vestal Elementary from Harlandale ISD. On the same day Library Assistant Amanda Flores and Librarian Gonzalez participated in an Outreach program at CentroMed WIC Nutrition Program.

PAN AMERICAN

The Pan American Branch Library continued to hold weekly health and wellness classes for the south side community. These included Gentle Stretch Yoga on Mondays and the popular Tai Chi, Easy on Friday mornings. Additionally, Cindy Pope, Adult Services Librarian, held a “*12 Years a Slave*” book discuss for the Mayor’s book club initiative.

As part of a grant funded project to promote literacy for elementary age children, the branch hosted parents and their children from Harlandale ISD’s Stonewall Flanders Elementary on February 17. Children’s Services Librarian, Carol Collins, held a story time for the group as well as gave a tour of the branch and discussed the many resources available to them. On March 4 Ms. Collins began a monthly story time at the Texas Migrant Head Start center in the branch’s service area. Additionally, Ms. Collins continued to have story times at daycare centers within the community as well as deliver library books.

The Pan American Branch Library continued to offer fun and creative activities for teens in the community. Programs included Wii Gaming, board games, and fun crafts. On March 2, the teens got a chance to play Mexican Bingo Chalupa. Not only was it a fun time, but it also gave the kids a chance to practice their Spanish language skills.

PARMAN

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance conducted outreach at the Blue Roof School at St. Andrew's Lutheran and gave a tour of Parman to members of Cub Scout group 502 Den 3 in February.

Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow hosted a couple of special events in February and March. Members of the Teen Advisory Council put together a registered Robotics 101 event for tweens. They planned and presented basic robotics to 16 tweens. Ms. Debow also arranged for a special screening of the documentary *To Light a Candle*. The film focuses on the persecution of Baha'is in Iran. The event was well attended, mostly by teen patrons.

On March 6, Library Assistant Christina Hess presented the new mySAPL app to numerous patrons. She set up a series of demonstrations to take place each day where she brings out the large TV and uses the branch's iPad to show interested patrons what they can do with the new app.

The Spring Semester of Parman Library's DIY U started in March and will continue through May. The first classes included Native Shrubs of South Central Texas taught by a Texas Master Gardener Linda Higby, Scrapbooking Crop presented by Library Assistant Eva Banda, and Vermicomposting taught by a Parman patron and previous DIY U student Shelley Stone.

Parman held its second Star Party with the San Antonio Astronomical Society on March 10. Over 100 people attended the event arranged by Library Assistant Christina Hess. Members of the San Antonio Astronomical Society started with a presentation in the meeting room and then led participants outside to have a look through their telescopes.

For Pi Day, March 14, Parman hosted a geocaching event. Members of a local geocaching group gave an overview of the pastime, brought pies to share, and took participants out to find a geocache that is located close to the library. Around 100 people participated.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Children at the Molly Pruitt Branch celebrated Black History Month each Saturday in February by viewing a different movie each week. In March, the kids made Dr. Seuss hats to celebrate Read Across America and Dr. Seuss' birthday. Tweens got together on Monday, March 2 to play Dr. Seuss Trivia. To kick off Spring Break, Cynthia Saenz, children's librarian, held the second annual *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* Party on Sunday, March 8. Over 75 participants joined together to play games, snack, and enjoy all things *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*. The Scholastic Literacy Van was on hand at the end of the party to show off all the great educational and fun available for kids.

Teen Tech Week was March 8 through 14. Libraries are for Making was this year's theme. Librarian, Rae Downen, challenged the teens to construct one of the *LEGO* Mindstorm robots. It was amazing how the teens worked together to construct and test their robot, nicknamed Eve. Look for more robotic fun during the summer.

Branch Manager, Troy Lawrence attended the CentroMed WIC Clinic's parent information fair on Wednesday, March 4. Parents were provided with information about the library and a free book. Plans are underway for a fun summer of reading.

SAN PEDRO

Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton presented monthly story times to children at Educare Child Care Center (two classes), Study Hall Learning Center (two classes), and Monte Vista Montessori (two classes). Fifteen books were also delivered to each child care class for their use during the month. She also presented a monthly story time to two groups of children (each group was a combination of two classes) at Respite Care, a child care facility for developmentally disabled children. Books were left for each of five

classes. In addition, she presents a special weekly story time at the library for some of the children who live at Respite Care's shelter facility.

On March 4 a group of children enjoyed creating with LEGOs and DUPLOs on LEGO Day at the Library. Betsy challenged them to build the habitat for an imaginary or actual creature. The winner was a charging station for a robot! The children rose to the challenge!

On Sunday March 8 children and their grownups enjoyed a special Family Time celebrating the Rain Forest Maze at the San Antonio Botanical Garden. Due to the rainy weather, Betsy created an indoor maze of yarn complete with dangerous anacondas and spiders! The children also sorted and classified animals by how they moved and made a fun butterfly craft.

Ms. Betsy presents a weekly Kids Time for Kindergarten through 5th grade students. In addition, a four day Board Game Bonanza was held during Spring Break. There were approximately twelve different games played, with the favorites being Connect Four and Don't Break the Ice! Neighborhood parents and children enjoyed and appreciated the Bonanza.

During this period, Ms. Betsy facilitated monthly books discussions at Monte Vista Montessori (4th) and Hawthorne Academy (4th and 5th grades) book clubs. The book clubs have 12 members each. The book clubs meet during the students' lunch period in the school library where the books read the previous month are discussed. In addition, Ms. Betsy facilitates the Great Hearts 4th grade book club which meets monthly at the library. The activity the children did after discussing the book, *McElderry Book of Greek Myths*, was art-based this month. The Icarus myth was discussed and then two pieces of art, a paper cut out composition by Matisse entitled *Icarus* and a painting entitled *Landscape with the Fall of Icarus* by Breughel, were examined and discussed at length. The students then recreated the Matisse work with construction paper.

Monte Vista Montessori brings approximately 50 students once a month to the library. These students range in age from eight to thirteen, grades 2 through 8. When the class comes to the library, the Children's Librarian spends approximately thirty minutes with the students, suggesting books and helping them navigate the Dewey Decimal system, place holds, use the catalog and databases, and locate materials.

Branch manager Diane Backhus represented the Library at the Beacon Hill Elementary Health and Wellness Fair on Saturday, February 21. She shared library information with 41 attendees. It was a good networking experience as well.

SEMMES

Semmes Library celebrated Black History Month with two very successful programs presented by Natural Hair Texas as part of the "Back to My Roots" series. On February 19, the group presented "Curly Kids", parents were invited to come and learn how to style curly and wavy hair. 24 people came out and enjoyed the program. On February 26th, the group returned to the branch and did a talk/demonstration about DIY Organic Hair and Skin products. 50 people attended this popular program. Special thanks to Andy Gordon for coordinating and scheduling these programs.

Blue Star Contemporary Art Museum's MOSAIC Program installed a new art show at the branch. It is called "Icon" and features the MOSAIC students' art work. An opening reception was held on Saturday, February 28. The exhibit features linoleum printmaking. In addition to the finished prints, a selection of carving tools and the original carved blocks are also on display.

The Friends of the Semmes Branch Library held their quarterly meeting on March 4. They approved several expenditures for the branch, including new display materials and three book carts. The group also began early discussions on celebrating the Branch's 10th anniversary in November.

Teen Tech Week was celebrated at the branch on March 10. Semmes teens were invited to come out and build an LED Throwie. Everyone who came enjoyed making the throwies and hanging out with their friends.

THOUSAND OAKS

Children's Activities

The Thousand Oaks Friends group purchased a new, fun display for the children's area! It is the shape of a tree, which is perfect for Thousand Oaks! So far, books on the display have included animals that live in trees, such as squirrels and birds! The books are flying right off the tree!

A number of children's activities have taken place in the past month. For spring break, a Come and Go Craft was available for children each day during their week out of school. During *LEGO* Time on March 5, the kids had the opportunity to participate in a *LEGO* building challenge: they had to build whatever was written on piece of paper that they drew out of a box. The kids were very enthusiastic and successful at the building challenges, which included an ice cream cone, apple, eagle, pizza, pirate ship and many other options. Rodeo Story Time on Feb. 19 was a lot of fun: the kids made cowboy hats and sheriff's badges out of construction paper and they played horseshoes. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, Story Time on March 12 had a green theme, and the kids made shamrock hats and exploding green volcanoes – baking soda, vinegar and green food coloring!

Book Groups

On March 2 the MnM (Monday Night Multimedia) group met. The discussed the book *The Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Cline. Everyone enjoyed the book as it presented a time and event that nobody had heard of before.

The Thursday Afternoon Book Club met on February 19 to discuss the book *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann. This title was a huge hit with the group, as everyone found the selection to be both entertaining and thought-provoking. It was also an author that the entire group was unfamiliar with, which made it an even more successful selection.

Teens

New Teen Liaison (and new Library Assistant to Thousand Oaks) Theresa Ybarra has hit the ground running, and has done a wonderful job with her new assignment. Teen participation has increased, with Wednesday evenings seeing a boisterous and enthusiastic crowd here at Thousand Oaks. Circulation Attendant Zaneta Taylor has also been helping out, and along with Ms. Ybarra, bring a lot of passion and excitement to the Teen activities.

Programming/Events/Outreach

The Gaming for Adults group met on March 9, with eight people attending.

VITA continues to experience large crowds, with people lining up early to receive the service. The VITA folks are here five days a week, including on both weekend days, making it even more convenient for people to receive tax assistance.

TOBIN AT OAKWELL

In partnership with Girl Scouts, a *Pinkalicious* party was held on February 18, where attendees decorated paper cup cakes and made their own special wand based on Victoria Kahn's series of books. George Gervin Academy returned for library field trips in February when four kindergarten classes and one first grade class visited to check out books with their own library cards. Several classes have begun checking out two books for each child instead of one. Come and go crafts were quite popular with several staff planning and preparing a different craft for each day of spring break week.

Teen Librarian, Matthew Loaiza enthusiastically helped with the Librarypalooza at Brandeis High School where teen authors were featured. M. Loaiza also began teen outreach at the Academy of Creative Education in February where he will continue with once a month visits. Teen programming has been well attended with Smash Brothers Brawl and Mario Kart Wii gaming and playing volleyball and soccer, outside of course.

Fans of Joss Whedon are meeting at Tobin Library to talk about their favorite writer and director and watching different series that he's created. Library Assistant, Elvia Ramos, attended Stonebrook Manor for senior outreach on February 16, while Library Assistant Terry Verner went to Northeast Service Center for senior outreach on March 10.

Tobin Library at Oakwell Friends held their annual meeting at the branch on February 21. Guests heard Tom Poyner, book arts expert, talk and demonstrate the 500-year-old technique of relief printing using a printing press.

Tobin at Oakwell personnel have shifted and shelf read parts of the collection to provide easier access to adult genre materials and ensure item location accuracy. Many thanks go to Theresa Ybarra, Thousand Oaks Library Assistant, who aided Tobin with holding editor duties and collection updates for two days in February.

WESTFALL

Westfall's Learn @ SAPL Center continues to stay busy. More than 75 people attended a variety of classes, including English as a Second Language games night, ESL conversation, Tech Sunday, Basic Computers, Learning Microsoft and improving reading and math skills to prepare for the GED.

Training Officer Deborah Carter spoke to a group of grad students from Texas Women's University's adult education program. Deborah also talked about the Learn @ SAPL Center with staff at Region 20 Education Service Center and Granados Senior and Adult Center.

Historically Westfall has not served as a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance site, but has been this year. Volunteers have sessions Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and each session attracts dozens of people who get their income taxes prepared at no cost.

Westfall is a polling site for Precinct 2065 and was open February 17 for the Special Runoff Election.

Children's Librarian Imelda Merino hosted students from Discovery School and did outreach at Briscoe Elementary School and Kindercare. Imelda also received a great compliment from a woman who called Central Library. The caller wanted to make sure her comments about Imelda were relayed "as far and as high" as they could be. The caller used many, many positive adjectives when describing Imelda, including amazing, dedicated, perfect, model employee, one-of-a-kind, fabulous and many more.

Branch manager Sherrie Hardin also received a nice note from a patron she assisted. Sherrie was asked to find a book called *Letters to Olivia* by Roald Dahl. In fact, the patron was looking for a letter written by Dahl about his daughter Olivia's death due to measles. Sherrie found the full text of the letter and an

article detailing why the letter was written. In an email, the patron wrote: Dear Ms. Hardin: Thank you so very much for all the time and effort you put into researching this information for me. Obviously, I misheard the details while listening to the news, yet you were still able to find what I was looking for. Amazing! I can't thank you enough for all your help. I have been coming to Westfall since I was a teenager, and through the years, all the staff has been most helpful and kind, and I want to tell you how much you are appreciated. Thank you!

Assistant Branch Manager Jernell Williams and Librarian I Karen Sagun each hosted meetings of their monthly book groups. Jernell's Third Thursday Book Group read and discussed *Fortune Hunter* by Daisy Goodwin, and Karen's Stranger Than Fiction Book Group read the Mayor's Book Club title, *Twelve Years a Slave*.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES (FEBURARY 2015)

San Antonio Public Library
Fiscal Year-to-Date Comparisons
Feb 2015 (41.7% of FY Completed)

Performance Measures	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	% Chg	FY 15 Goal	% of Goal Achieved	FY 15 Status
Total Circulation	2,856,653	2,838,831	0.6%	7,313,500	39.1%	✓
- Physical Circulation	2,507,970	2,607,852	-3.8%	6,471,500	38.8%	✓
- Digital Circulation	348,683	230,979	51.0%	842,000	41.4%	✓
Visits	2,150,026	2,129,610	1.0%	5,390,000	39.9%	✓
Program Attendance	121,749	112,021	8.7%	302,450	40.3%	✓
- Adult's Program Attendance	17,747	13,002	36.5%	39,000	45.5%	✓
- Teen's Program Attendance	21,486	19,115	12.4%	43,450	49.4%	✓
- Children's Program Attendance	82,516	79,904	3.3%	219,000	37.7%	✓
Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use	953,395	860,442	10.8%	2,202,000	43.3%	✓
Website Visits	1,338,113	1,485,176	-9.9%	3,400,000	39.4%	✓
Bexar County (Outside the City of San Antonio)			Customer Satisfaction*			
% of Circulation	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	2014	2012		
Total Circulation	19.1%	18.7%				
- Physical Circulation	18.3%	18.2%	96%	94%		
- Digital Circulation	25.2%	24.2%				

Goal Status ✓ = On Target ◆ = Monitor ⓧ = Not on Target

FYTD 15 Renovations/Closures:

FY 14 Renovation/Closures: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28-Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-31, Carver Sep 2-28

* From the Biennial City of San Antonio Community Survey

San Antonio Public Library February 2015 Usage

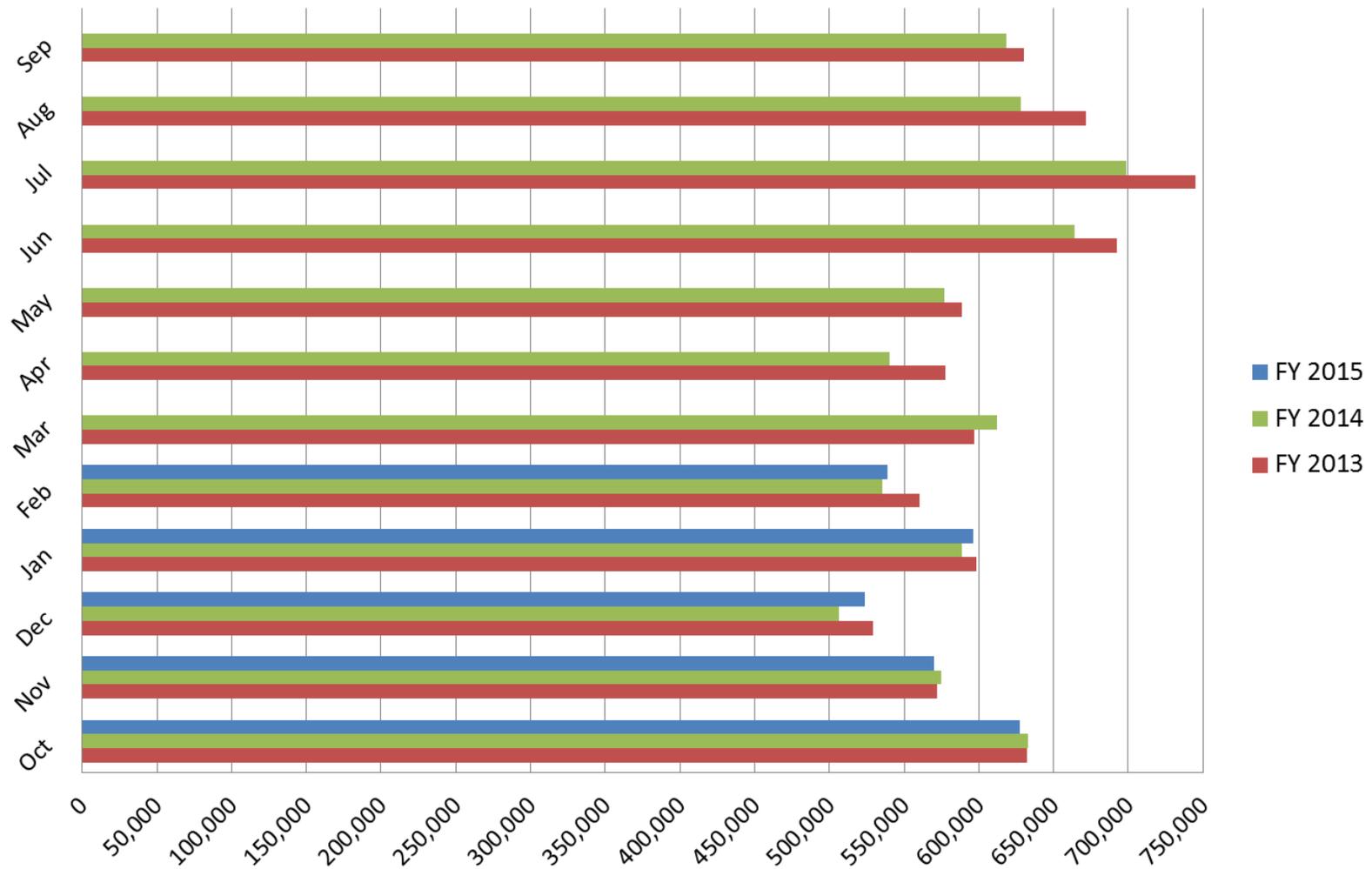
Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Total Programs	Number of Programs			Total Program Attendance	Attendance			Hours of Computer / Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
				Adult	Teen	Children's		Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs			
Bazan	4,742	12,964	53	29	4	20	984	834	12	138	6,569	1,823	4,747
Brook Hollow	27,310	17,364	43	12	4	27	1,006	165	9	832	6,155	1,471	4,684
Carver	5,159	9,051	48	20	4	24	620	328	10	282	4,847	1,980	2,867
Central	27,591	57,122	244	18	106	120	3,838	241	1,233	2,364	46,126	13,857	32,269
Cody	35,744	25,032	57	7	8	42	1,896	93	416	1,387	7,359	1,628	5,731
Collins Garden	5,479	9,741	28	7	0	21	254	32	0	222	4,257	1,358	2,899
Cortez	6,341	10,594	45	7	4	34	693	47	45	601	5,360	1,859	3,501
Encino*	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
Forest Hills	8,327	10,690	40	12	3	25	458	106	44	308	4,966	1,328	3,637
Great Northwest	29,026	19,472	34	9	5	20	1,480	111	120	1,249	6,931	2,026	4,905
Guerra	13,036	16,114	31	4	5	22	608	38	119	451	7,307	2,254	5,053
Igo	25,910	20,501	62	16	12	34	2,365	192	761	1,412	4,520	1,482	3,038
Johnston	10,340	10,708	33	10	4	19	491	135	59	297	5,758	1,443	4,315
Landa	10,722	10,165	39	4	12	23	966	32	101	833	1,978	857	1,120
Las Palmas	5,728	10,093	41	1	7	33	445	5	187	253	5,912	1,856	4,056
Maverick	25,410	14,723	28	3	8	17	639	27	55	557	6,366	2,235	4,131
McCreless	13,132	16,718	16	3	3	10	708	15	31	662	5,733	1,925	3,809
Memorial	6,957	10,793	21	6	2	13	231	71	21	139	5,719	1,845	3,874
Mission	10,883	20,684	57	26	9	22	663	233	80	350	9,066	2,779	6,287
Pan American	6,339	9,714	57	18	4	35	627	351	8	268	4,975	2,103	2,872
Parman	32,620	23,089	66	17	4	45	1,391	180	38	1,173	4,485	921	3,564
Pruitt	6,633	12,298	69	19	24	26	1,099	202	501	396	6,209	1,515	4,695
San Pedro	3,968	6,474	26	4	0	22	314	15	0	299	2,039	670	1,369
Semmes	24,448	17,622	47	5	7	35	905	84	46	775	6,879	2,459	4,420
Thousand Oaks	11,912	14,853	26	7	4	15	296	27	23	246	6,257	1,313	4,945
Tobin	17,084	10,830	29	7	9	13	711	36	283	392	5,028	1,753	3,275
Westfall	17,335	16,989	48	32	0	16	342	121	0	221	7,488	2,216	5,272
Library Portal	N/A	1,890	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	352	N/A	352
Interlibrary Loan Lending	1,130	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	78,229	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	67,607	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	539,142	416,288	1,288	303	252	733	24,030	3,721	4,202	16,107	188,640	56,953	131,687

Circulation includes Digital (Freegal, Overdrive, Hoopla, Zinio) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt

* Encino projected opening April 30,2015

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures

FY 15:

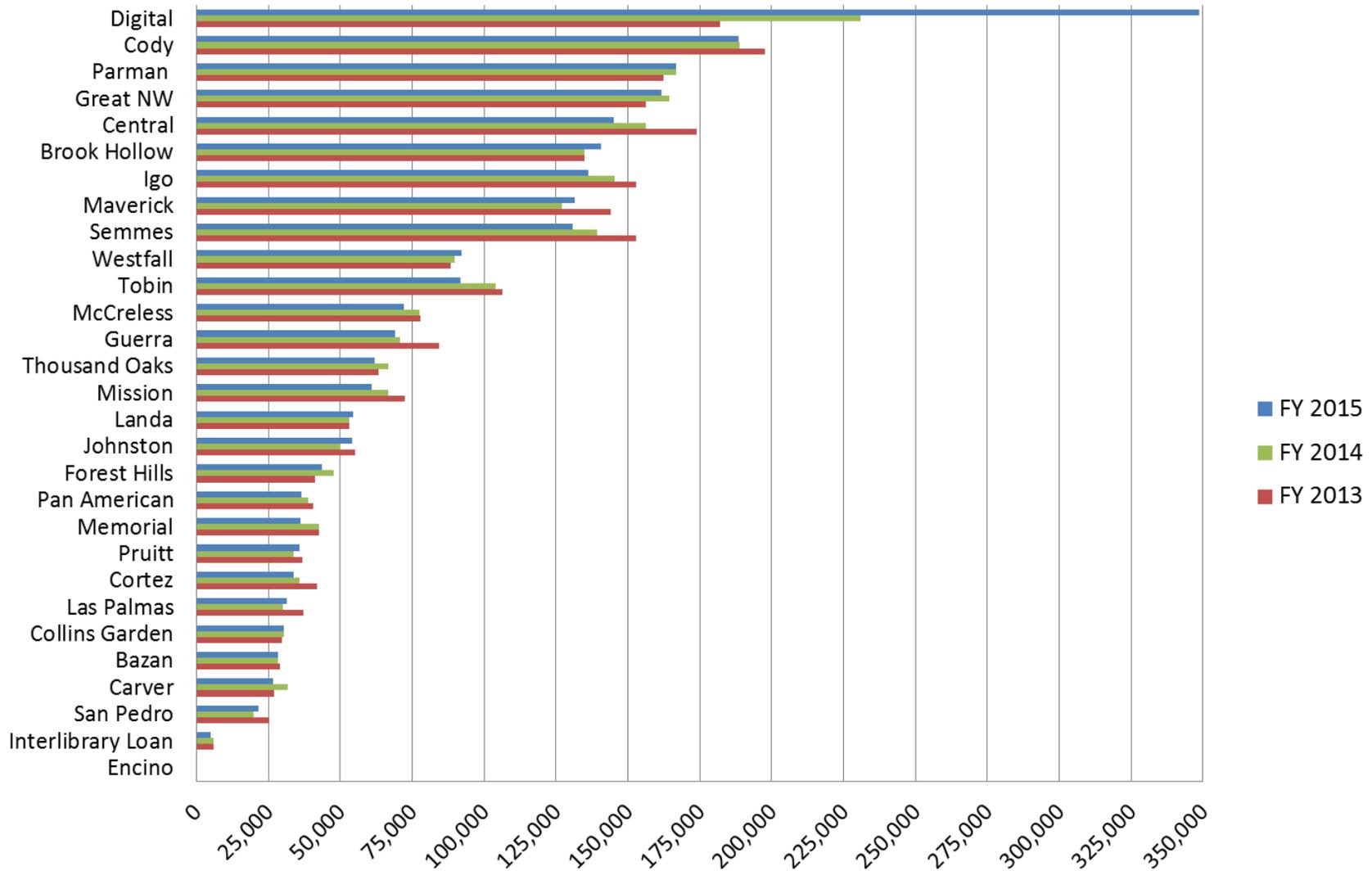
FY 14: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28–Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-Aug 31, Carver Sep 9-28

FY 13: Forest Hills Dec 3–16, Thousand Oaks Jan 21–Feb 3, Brook Hollow Feb 25-Mar 15, Guerra Aug 5-25, Johnston Aug 5-Sep 22

03/20/2015

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Feb



Location Closures

FY 15:

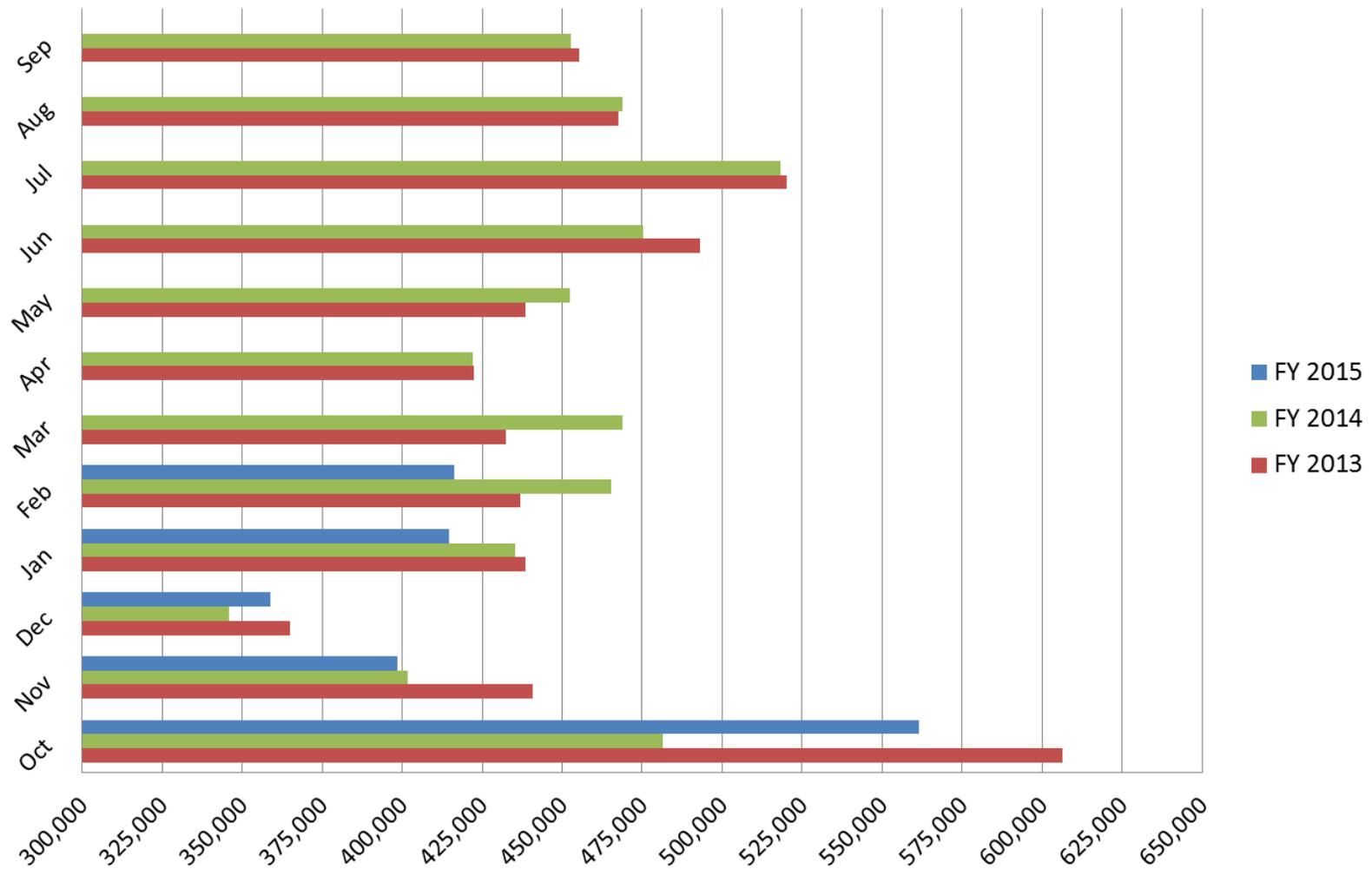
FY 14: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28–Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-Aug 31, Carver Sep 9-28

FY 13: Forest Hills Dec 3–16, Thousand Oaks Jan 21–Feb 3, Brook Hollow Feb 25-Mar 15, Guerra Aug 5-25, Johnston Aug 5-Sep 22

03/20/2015

San Antonio Public Library

Visits



Location Closures

FY 15:

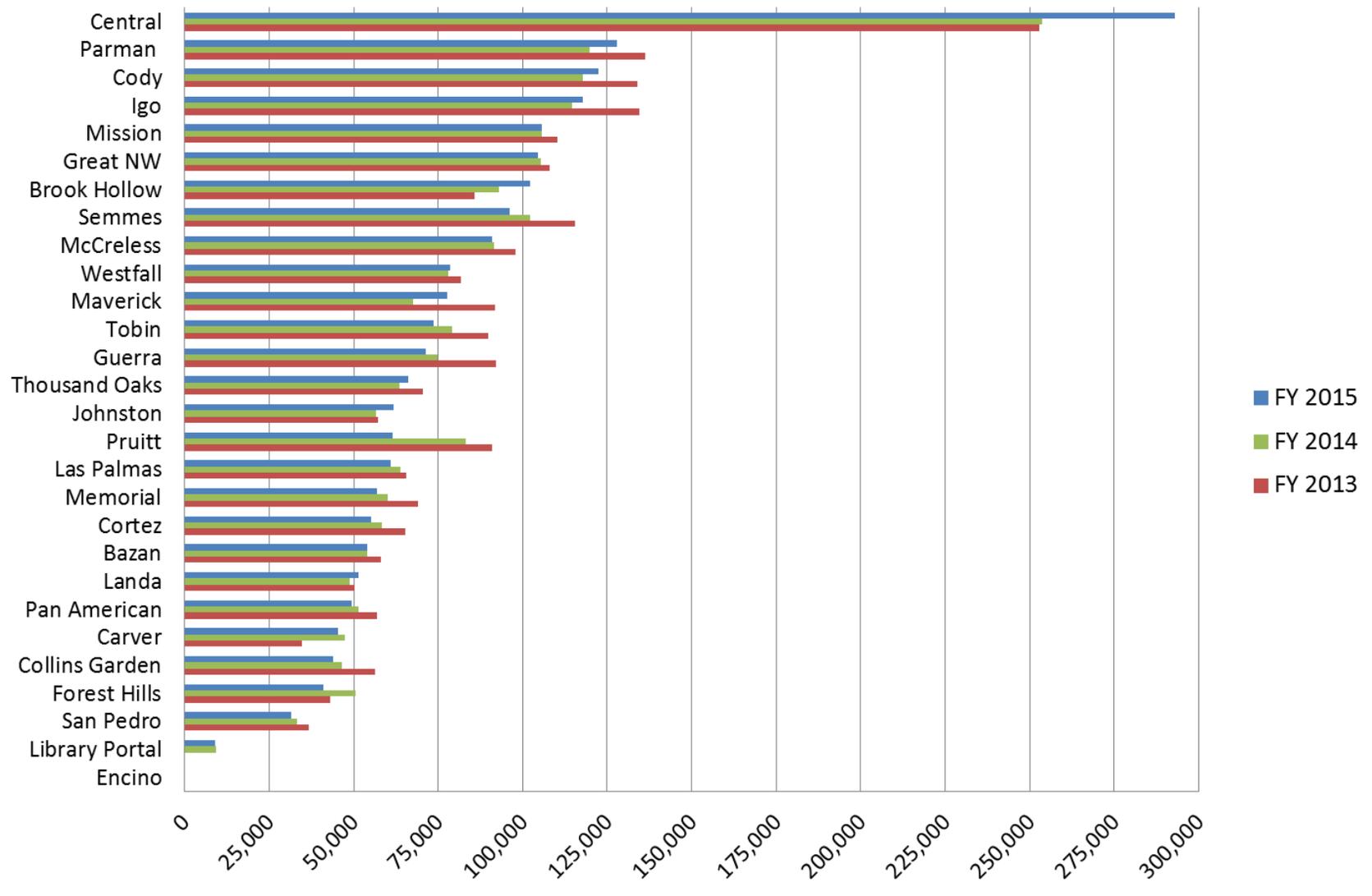
FY 14: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28–Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-Aug 31, Carver Sep 9-28

FY 13: Forest Hills Dec 3–16, Thousand Oaks Jan 21–Feb 3, Brook Hollow Feb 25-Mar 15, Guerra Aug 5-25, Johnston Aug 5-Sep 22

03/20/2015

San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Feb



Location Closures

FY 15:

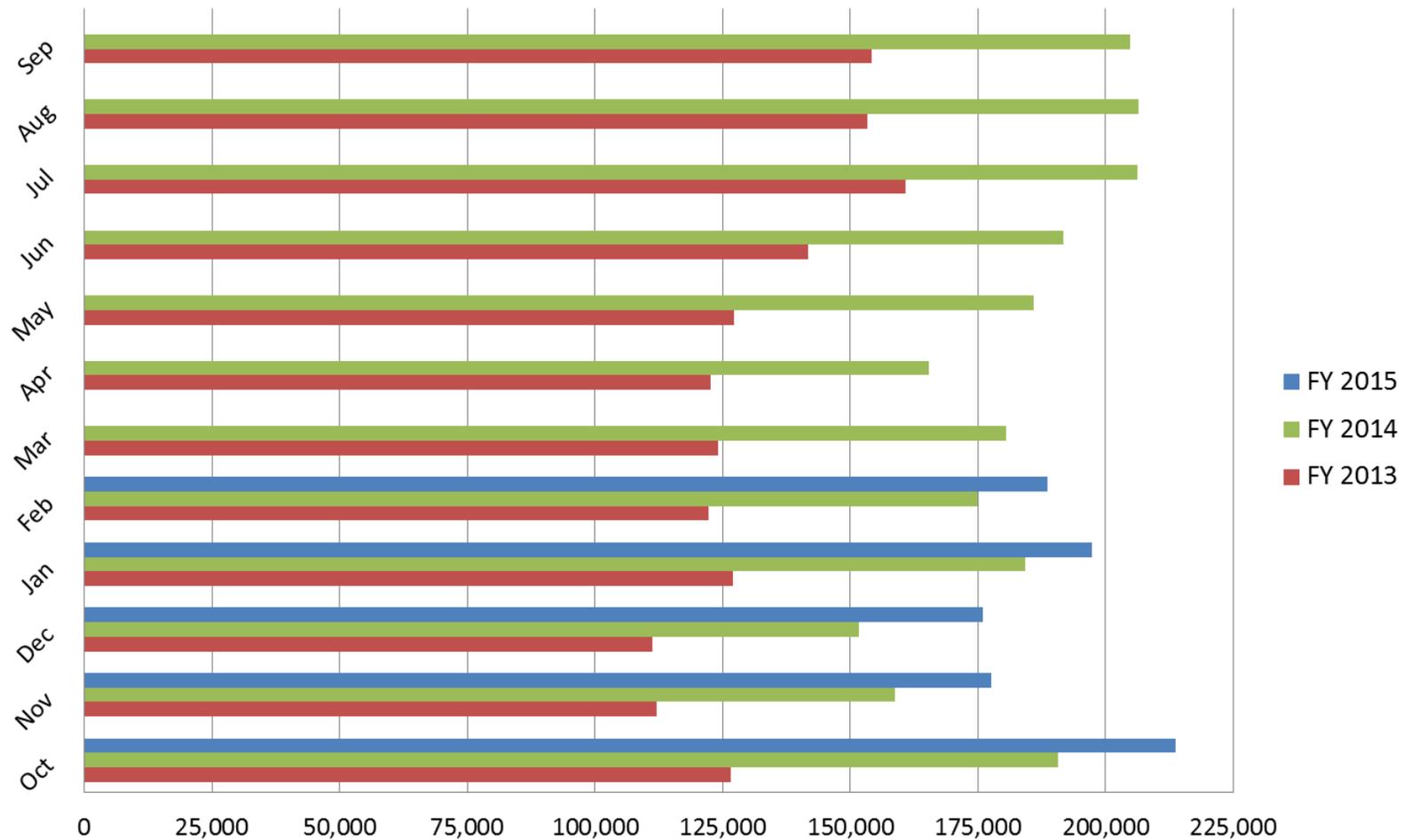
FY 14: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28–Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-Aug 31, Carver Sep 9-28

FY 13: Forest Hills Dec 3–16, Thousand Oaks Jan 21–Feb 3, Brook Hollow Feb 25-Mar 15, Guerra Aug 5-25, Johnston Aug 5-Sep 22

03/20/2015

San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use



*Combined measure of Public Computers Hours of Use and Wi-Fi Hours of Use

Location Closures

FY 15:

FY 14: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28–Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-Aug 31, Carver Sep 9-28

FY 13: Forest Hills Dec 3–16, Thousand Oaks Jan 21–Feb 3, Brook Hollow Feb 25-Mar 15, Guerra Aug 5-25, Johnston Aug 5-Sep 22

03/20/2015