



## San Antonio Public Library Director's Report November 2015

Low Vision Reading Room at Central Library

# DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

## **Library Director accepts invitation to American Library Association (ALA) Center for the Future of Libraries Working Group**

Library Director Ramiro Salazar accepted an invitation from ALA President Sari Feldman to join the American Library Association's Center for the Future of Libraries Working Group. As libraries confront a rapidly changing world and respond to current and emerging needs of users, the American Library Association saw a need for an Association-wide group of experts. This group will broadly represent the many constituencies within the library community and work with the Center in proactively identifying and addressing emerging trends; developing and promoting innovation and futuring techniques; and building connections with outside experts and innovators. This is a two-year appointment.

## **Wall Breaking for new Potranco Branch Library co-located with YMCA**

Together the YMCA and the Library participated in a *Wall Breaking Ceremony* for the new Mays YMCA co-located with the Potranco Branch Library on Monday November 2, 2015. Councilman Ray Lopez participated in the program and delivered remarks as well as Library Director Ramiro Salazar. The Potranco Branch Library is scheduled to open in September 2016.

## **ConnectHome Initiative**

Richard Milk, Director of Policy and Planning for the San Antonio Housing Authority, informed Ramiro Salazar about a local convening of the ConnectHome Initiative held on October 30. The Library participated in this local convening as the Library has been actively participating in a dialogue sharing ideas and plans (via conference calls and the private social network) with the other 27 selected ConnectHome communities. As part of this effort, the Library has been working on identifying strategies and initiatives that can be implemented now to advance the goals and objectives of the ConnectHome Initiative. Many of these initiatives are aligned with what other ConnectHome libraries throughout the country are currently doing.

## **ConnectED Initiative**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services recently advised the Library that San Antonio has been added to the list of over 50 designated communities for the ConnectED Library Challenge.

A national convening is scheduled for January 19, 2016, in Washington DC regarding the ConnectED Library Challenge. The convening will bring together Library CEOs, Mayors, County Executives, and School Superintendents and will focus on the three service areas: support student learning through programming that develops language, reading, and critical thinking; provide digital resources such as eBooks and online collections of traditional media; provide broadband connectivity and wireless access within library facilities. These are services the San Antonio Public Library is currently providing.

Representing San Antonio at the January 19, 2016 national convening will be Mayor Ivy Taylor; SAISD Superintendent Pedro Martinez and Library Director Ramiro Salazar.

By way of background, the initial goal of the ConnectED Library Challenge was for "more than 30 communities to put a library card into every student's hands so they will have access to the learning resources and books they can read for pleasure, all available in America's libraries." Since then the goal

has been expanded to “provide 99% of American students with access to next-generation broadband in the classroom and library by 2018.”

### **Library Celebrates State Poet Laureate**

On Tuesday November 10, the San Antonio Public Library held *#Poetry to the Pueblo*, a celebration of poetry and of the State Poet Laureate Carmen Tafolla. This event honored Dr. Tafolla and included a multi-performer event to excite and engage San Antonians in poetry as an accessible art form.

### **Local Publisher, Wings Press, holds anniversary celebration at Central Library**

Wings Press, a local publisher, celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary using Central Library as the backdrop for the celebration. It's a fitting setting for a publisher of multicultural literature. This celebration took place on Saturday, November 14, in the Central Library Gallery and Auditorium.

## **REFERENCE**

A group of reference staff collaborated to create a special program that celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *Back to the Future* on October 21. This included a free screening of *Back to the Future* and *Back to the Future II* as well as family-friendly craft activities, photo ops, trivia, the Code Up DeLorean on display, and free snacks! The event was very successful and enjoyed by all ages.

On October 25, Pamela Billings and Pannaga Prasad presented a class entitled *Prep Yourself Before You Test Yourself: Score High in College Admission Test* in the Connect Training Center. Attendees learned how to use several useful library databases and resources.

On October 31, Pannaga Prasad and Pat Rodriguez presented a program entitled *Scholarship: Leadership 101*. The audience received scholarship information and enjoyed the presenter's ability to answer questions based on the specific situations for scholarship seekers.

November 4 was *Star Wars Game Night*, where attendees enjoyed various games and crafts to celebrate the upcoming release of the new Star Wars movie.

On November 8, Paula Davis and Pannaga Prasad presented a program entitled *Small Business Law: Legal Requirements*. This program was presented by the *Small Business Institute*, Greehey School of Business, and St. Mary's University. Attendees (mostly small business owners/seekers) could gather information on legal matters related to small business operations.

Andy Crews guided Igo's Genealogy club through the uses and research strategies for the genealogy database Fold3 during their October 20 meeting.

Sylvia Reyna was interviewed October 27 by KENS5 reporter Eileen Teves for a story on the historic Eastside cemeteries and well-known people buried there. The story, which was shot on location in Texana and at the cemeteries, aired Monday, November 2, on “Great Day SA.”

After her jaunt through the cemeteries, Ms. Reyna hosted an evening genealogy program featuring Brother Ed Loch from the Catholic Archdiocese. October was *American Archives Month* and Brother Ed spoke about the Catholic Archives collection and the genealogical information that they contain.

Rogers Middles School (SAISD) invited archivist, Matt De Waelsche, to do a presentation on library and archival work for the school's Career Day held on October 30.

On November 3, Deborah Countess conducted a genealogy computer class entitled, *Local Online Genealogy Resources*, which focused on birth, death, marriage license and deed information available from the City of San Antonio and Bexar County Clerk websites.

That evening, Sylvia Reyna presented the program *Cemeteries: History and Preservation*, which discussed the rich history of cemeteries everywhere and different preservation techniques that can help to maintain them.

Texana's main display case is devoted this month to the life-long successes of author John Igo. Curated by Ms. Reyna, it showcases Mr. Igo's many published works as well as his latest labor of love, "A Stone for Plot Four, or, Mendez, a Quest," partially researched with the help of Ms. Reyna.

At the Beacon Hill Neighborhood Association's monthly meeting November 9, Matt De Waelsche was invited to speak about how he processed and organized the Association's archives which were donated to SAPL earlier this year.

## MARKETING

The marketing department has continued the promotion of the Mayor's Book Club, participated in the planning and production of events, such as the opening for the Low Vision Reading Room at Central Library. Also, the department continued promoting the events for *Native American Month*.

### Graphic Design

The graphic designers continued their work on materials for the Mayor's Book Club, *Native American Heritage Month*, holiday cards, Strategic Plan, December newsletter, presentations of Laurie Ann Guerrero and Jack Gantos, and included events such as the Downtown Teen Arts Fest.

### Public Relations

Public Information Officer Marcie Hernandez facilitated a partnership with The Color of Blind for the Low Vision Reading Room at Central – also planned and produced its corresponding press release. Also, Hernandez represented the Library at the United Way Campaign Kick Off. Hernandez facilitated and coordinated a segment on SA Live on KSAT 12 to promote the *Let's go Camping Play and Learn program* on Friday, October 30. Also, she participated in the planning and production of the Potranco Branch Library wall breaking ceremony on November 2.

In her continual media communications work, Hernandez produced and distributed press releases about: Low Vision Reading Room Grand Opening, Science Day at Forest Hills, Otherness Panel at Central Library, Poetry to the Pueblo. Also, she produced and distributed Press Releases for branch programs at: Pan American, Johnston, Mission, Cody, Central, Igo, Parman, Encino and Memorial.

SAPL received **126** media mentions during the reporting period. Also, the total value of broadcast coverage equal **\$46,270**.

Public Information Officer Arturo Gallardo wrote an article in Spanish about the collaboration with SCORE San Antonio for the AMEP newsletter and worked on other translation work to support the production of marketing materials. Also, Gallardo continues the ongoing production of articles for eConnections (December), email blasts of this Weekend at SAPL, and the production of the News & Events newsletter for the department. Additionally, Gallardo performed outreach at a Citizenship Workshop sponsored by NALEO and the office of Joaquin Castro at Sul Ross Middle School – Congressman Castro was in attendance.

### **Social Media**

The social media efforts during the reporting period have yielded the following results: Facebook has 9,940 likes, Twitter has 3,020 followers and Instagram has 688 followers, Pinterest has 45 followers, and YouTube 122 subscribers.

## **CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

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. She has started two new programs during this time period: a monthly Story Time for a preschool class at Laurel Heights Week Day School and a weekly Baby Time at the Library.

She is continuing to offer in- house programming which includes the popular Minecraft Monday club; Kids Time on Wednesdays; and Chess Club on Thursdays. Ms. Dalton is pleased to note that since the Mine Craft program started in June, forty-six different children have participated!

On October 18, families enjoyed a *Let’s Go Camping Play and Learn program*, and on October 25 they had fun decorating treat bags and making Halloween crafts at the Halloween Party.

On November 4, Ms. Dalton met with the children’s librarian at Cotton Elementary School to promote 4<sup>th</sup> and/or 5<sup>th</sup> club book clubs at the school. She also facilitates on-going monthly book clubs at Hawthorne Academy and Monte Vista Montessori.

Ms. Dalton serves on the Committee of Thinkers subcommittee, the iPad subcommittee and as chairman of the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) Committee of children’s librarians.

Wilson Plunkett represented the San Antonio Public Library at Senator José Menéndez’ Community Gathering, Saturday, October 24, at San Antonio College. He shared Library information with 48 attendees. The program had two parts, a community input session and a resource fair.

The Friends of the San Pedro Library Friends Group met on November 3, and approved their bylaws. They are to be approved at the “umbrella” Friends Group meeting on November 15. This will establish the official start of the San Pedro Friends Group. In the meantime, the group has been doing some brainstorming on ideas for fund raisers, and will be setting up an ongoing book sale space. There have been lots of great donations!

# TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

## **Off-Site Service**

Teen Services staff presented to hundreds of students at several school visits during the reporting period. During school visits, staff show students a video created by teen library volunteers, discuss resources available through the SAPL, such as Live Homework Help from Tutor.com and test prep from Learning Express Library, and give out library cards.

On November 3, Assistant Manager Kathleen Fordyce (Teen Library @ Central) and Teen Services Librarian Marco De Leon (Igo) spoke to high school students at Cornerstone Christian Schools and signed them up for library cards.

On November 4, 5, and 10, Fordyce, Library Assistant JD Elizondo (Teen Library @ Central), Teen Services Librarian I Caroline Mossing (Teen Library @ Central), and Teen Services Librarian I Cynthia Cruz (Mission) gave several presentations to middle and high school students at Providence Catholic School. The students also received library cards.

## **Partnerships**

### **Inspire U**

Staff involved in the *Inspire U Workplace Mentoring Program* (part of SA2020), met with their *littles* for their regularly scheduled meeting in the Teen Library @ Central on October 26. *Bigs and Littles* had lunch together and enjoyed catching up with each other.

### **San Antonio Food Bank**

As a requirement of the Kids Café afterschool snack program, a Teen Library staff member must attend a monthly nutrition lesson at the Food Bank and provide at least one nutrition lesson for the teens per month. Teen Services Librarian I Caroline Mossing (Central) attended the lesson in November.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Elizondo assisted Parks on two occasions: he served as one of the judges for Parks and Recreation's Take Note band guitar position, and he participated on the interview panel for the hiring of a full time music instructor.

## **Professional Development**

Kathleen Fordyce attended two of the City's SET (Supervisor Excellence Training) classes during the reporting period.

## **Programming**

The *annual haunted house* at the Central Library had its inaugural opening in the new Teen Library. The Henry Ford Academy made the haunted house a design challenge for some of its students, and Elizondo arranged for classes to visit and provide their design submissions. Elizondo helped to facilitate the redesign of the haunted house in a more presentable and sustainable way than last year. The teens that designed and built the haunted house were newcomers to the Teen Library and thoroughly enjoyed participating in this special event.

Elizondo completed the planning of the Downtown Teen Arts Fest (DTAF) that he co-founded with Patricia Morales from the Southwest School of Art and Taylor Browning of ArtPace. Elizondo met with teen singer Victoria Celestine, The San Antonio Music Academy, Parks and Recreation's Take Note band, and artist Alex Rubio to discuss the run of show. Elizondo has also been getting teens from his Monday Eclectic Electric music program to volunteer for the event, conducting musical and dance performances. The DTAF will take place on November 21. Other members of the DTAF committee are Teen Services Librarian I Marco De Leon (Igo), Library Assistant/Teen Liaison Victoria Tijerina (Memorial), and Library Assistant Jennifer Martinez (Bazan).

## CENTRAL LIBRARY TEENS

### Weekly Programs

Mondays with JD Elizondo (Library Assistant): JD's Eclectic Electric program included mostly music and haunting during this reporting period. Teens began booking time in the studio so they could use it outside of the regular Monday/occasional weekend schedule. JD was present as a facilitator during these bookings. JD continued to seek ways to develop kinetic programming for teens, as well as take input from the teens for program suggestions. One suggestion that was implemented was a *dance program* led by members of the Fox Tech Pep Squad. The dance that was originally planned was changed to a different one, since the teen audience was interested in swing dancing instead.

Tuesdays with Caroline Mossier (Librarian I): During the reporting period, Caroline hosted Science & Tech Tuesdays. As always, 3D printing was a popular activity; some teens designed personalized items to print while others modified existing models to their specifications. A group of teens from a nearby high school have begun the process of creating a *Coding Club* at the Teen Library, with the ultimate goal of building a smartphone application.

Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II): On Wednesdays, teens pick their favorite video or board game and engage in friendly competition with their peers. During the reporting period, teens have enjoyed playing the WiiU games, as well as board games like Chess, Jenga and Apples to Apples.

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Teens enjoyed some activities they suggested and helped plan, engaging in some encouraging socialization and expressing themselves creatively. Teens made Halloween-themed cookies, using cookie cutters and decorating them with ominous colors of frosting. A *carving night* took place where teens practiced their knife skills using bell peppers and pumpkins. They stuffed the bell peppers with a nutritious rice and bean mixture. Lighting their jack-o-lanterns was a highlight. To celebrate *Día de los Muertos*, teens made sugar skulls they decorated with fabric paints, gems and sequins. One teen asked if there were aprons so that she could avoid getting sugar on her uniform. As there were none, she was informed that Teen Library had sewing machines and fabric and aprons could be made. Arrangements were made to sew aprons the following week. They also used a technique with foil to create skull cupcakes. Pictures from this and other system-wide teen programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>.

### Tours and Groups

Students from the Henry Ford Academy reserved the computers for research in the Teen Library on October 27 and 28. On October 28, Caroline Mossing provided a tour of the Teen Library to a group of NEISD librarians. On October 29, Caroline and Regina Almanza provided a tour of the Central Library to students from Providence Catholic School. Students were also given catalog and database instruction. On November 6, Regina gave an impromptu tour of the library to students from Southwest Preparatory School. On November 14, Kathleen Fordyce gave students in the Upward Bound program a tour of the library.

## CHILDREN'S

November has been an exciting month for the Central Children's Department, as new team members initiated fresh programming, new service areas were unveiled, and celebrations were enjoyed by all. Central Children's Department Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin led a joyful new Toddler Time program on Wednesdays in November, bringing her own set of ideas and expertise to early childhood programming at Central. Families have delighted in the boisterous energy Ms. Seglin adds to story times and have enjoyed the many dances, parades and silly songs she has shared. Ms. Seglin has also initiated a Thursday after school LEGO Club. Attendance has steadily increased each week, due to her welcoming manner. Librarian Julia Pouliot similarly brought a renewed spirit to the Family Fun program on Saturdays. Ms. Pouliot is new to Children's Services, but has an intuitive sense of great books to share and has already developed innovative programming in her short time with the department.

Special events were a big part of the department's activities this month. The Halloween party was planned and produced by Ms. Seglin and Ms. Pouliot, and saw over 150 visitors. The department received numerous compliments from families who enjoyed their time playing with pumpkin scented play dough, making paper monsters, trying their skill at toss games, and painting the spooky collaborative mural. Children snacked from treat bags and joined in a boisterous costume parade around the floor. In partnership with the Central Reference Department, Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez and Ms. Pouliot led families in science themed fun during the Back to the Future movie event. Ms. Fernandez and Ms. Pouliot invited families to share their ideas for the future on a collaborative art piece and astounded visitors with erupting science demonstrations. Another special event this month was the *Let's Go Camping Play & Learn program* presented by Ms. Pouliot and Ms. Seglin, who served on the committee which planned and developed the system-wide program. The parents and children got a taste of the outdoors with a camping play scene, marshmallow painting and a birdfeeder craft. MS. Seglin also promoted the system wide program with a special appearance on KSAT's SA Live TV show.

The highlight of the month was the *grand opening* of the Low Vision Reading Room on the Children's Floor. Due to the generosity of the Semmes Foundation and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation, a previously little used area has been transformed into a resource center for low vision patrons. Children's books in Braille, Large Print, and Read Along formats are now shelved together in the Low Vision Room, along with a magnifying machine and listening station. The grand opening celebration featured a performance by the *Lighthouse for the Blind Choir*, remarks by community representatives, and the Color of Blind art exhibit designed to make art accessible to those with low vision. Patrons have been delighted to discover this new resource area and the Children's Department is excited to increase the accessibility of the collection.

## LITTLE READ WAGON

This month the Little Read Wagon team bid farewell to Ronnie Webb, who will be teaching overseas, and welcomed Clair Larkin. Ms. Larkin has been observing team mates and preparing to deliver programs at area high schools and early childhood centers. The Little Read Wagon team is fortunate to have Ms. Larkin's years of experience as a San Antonio Public Library children's librarian.

### **Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents**

The Little Read Wagon team completed a series of Every Child Ready to Read workshops at the Burlison and Carvajal Head Start centers. A series began at the Stafford Head Start Center on November 3 and will be completed on November 17.

One-time visits were made to Meadow Village Head Start, Indian Creek Elementary, Avance Early Beginnings, Schulze Elementary, Walzem Elementary, Place for Life Early Head Start, Hutchins Head Start, and Cable Elementary. The Little Read Wagon team received an overwhelming number of requests for parent meeting presentations in November, when Parent Child Incorporated (PCI) focuses on literacy. In response to the high demand for presentations as part of November parent meetings at PCI Head Start and Early Head Start centers, Cresencia Huff met with Family Community Specialist Lydia Almares to develop a plan to provide materials to the Family Support Workers for each of the 15 locations. Mrs. Huff delivered materials to the sites the Little Read Wagon team or a children's librarian would not be able to visit. On November 23, Mrs. Huff will present training to the Family Support Workers so they can better assist parents with accessing library resources and supporting their children's early literacy development. In spring 2016, the Little Read Wagon team will make visits to interested Head Start sites to provide a parent/child activity.

### **Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Teen Parents**

Corinne Sanchez received again an invitation to present at the San Antonio Independent School District Teen Parent Summit in February 2016. Ms. Sanchez and Xelena Gonzalez were interviewed by phone for an article in School Library Journal about services to teen parents. The team made visits to the following high schools: Churchill, Jay, Stevens, Madison, MacArthur, Lee, Harlandale, Burbank, Highlands, Jefferson, Cooper, and Kennedy.

### **Play & Learn**

Play & Learn continued at Millers Pond where the final program of the series will be offered November 19. Not to be deterred by a little wet weather, participants played in the rain October 22. Carol Rodriguez, a representative from Brighton's Early Childhood Intervention program visited on November 5. Several parents spoke with Ms. Rodriguez who also distributed crayons, growth and development charts, and activity books.

### **Workshops for Early Childhood Teachers**

On November 14, Julia Lazarin presented a 90-minute workshop at the Early Childhood Training and Resource Fair at Texas A&M University. The workshop included some discussion of executive function in addition to the usual early literacy content.

### **Community Events**

Liz Huber and Julia Lazarin were prepared to represent the San Antonio Public Library at *Avance's Día de la Familia*. However, the event was cancelled due to severe thunderstorms, like many October 24 events.

Cresencia Huff shared a story, *Warning: Do not open this book*, and had a library information table at Ella Austin Community Center's November 12 Fall Fest. The festival had representatives from Head Start, WIC, and several community organizations that offer services to families.

## BRANCH LOCATIONS

### BAZAN

Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen continued facilitating book clubs at several elementary schools in the Bazan Branch Library service area where the young participants were enjoying their first book club selection. LEGO Fun, held every other Tuesday, and Come & Go Crafts held on Wednesdays continued to be popular at Bazan.

On October 28, the Bazan branch hosted the Library Board of Trustees meeting. Branch Manager Jim Jimenez provided a brief report on the Bazan branch's programs and activities.

On November 14, the Bazan Branch Library hosted *Memoir Writing Workshop: A Mayor's Book Club program*. The workshop, which was well attended, was led by author Barbara Renaud Gonzalez who guided students on how to share their own stories through memoir writing.

Teen Liaison Jennifer Martinez participated on the committee for the *Downtown Teen Arts Fest* that will host its inaugural event on Saturday, November 21, at Central Library. She also continued to actively recruit teen volunteers from the community to assist with the planning and implementing of the weekly teen programming for Teen Time.

During the month of October, ESL students at Bazan Learn began working on a writing project sponsored by a generous gift from the San Antonio Public Library Foundation. Students wrote their personal stories and childhood memories and are currently working on second and third drafts and re-writing strategies. The writing project will culminate in a reception at the Central Library where the students' work will be presented.

On October 15, Learn Officer Emily Sauer met with students from ESL and GED groups at the Margarita Huantes Center and explained the services offered by the Learn Center. On November 5, Mrs. Sauer met with Alma Ayala of East Central ISD to discuss the Library's agreement with ESC 20 that allows students to receive credit for time spent working in the Learn Center and to promote the Learn Center's services. As a result of the meeting, ECISD now displays the Learn brochure in both English and Spanish on their website. On November 5, Mrs. Sauer also promoted Learn services to a group of approximately 20 senior citizens at the Igo Branch Library's Veteran's Fair. Learn classes at Bazan continued to be very popular; three volunteers led weekly learning sessions in Computer Basics and ESL.

### BROOK HOLLOW

This month, in keeping with the themes of the Mayor's Book Club selection, Brook Hollow Library's Thursday Afternoon Book Group discussed John Phillip Santos's memoir and family chronicle, "The

Farthest Home is an Empire of Fire.” The discussion took place on November 12. Other books discussed this month include “The Black House” by Peter May and “La Ridícula Idea No Volver a Verte” by Rosa Montero.

The Brook Hollow Friends met at the branch on November 7, and librarians Charity Gallardo, Rachael Barrera and Tapley Trudell all gave brief presentations. Ms. Barrera and Ms. Trudell gave updates on items that the Friends approved for purchase at their last meeting and Ms. Gallardo briefed the attendees on the branch’s current needs and requests.

To create a more interesting browsing experience, Brook Hollow staff has created a variety of themed displays this month including a multi-media display in honor of *Native American Heritage Month* and a cookbook display focused on holiday cookery and comfort foods.

On October 27, Brook Hollow invited our young patrons to a *not-so-spooky* Halloween party. Over one hundred participants enjoyed stories, a Halloween-jack-o-lantern mask craft, pumpkin-orange play dough, and other activities, including an infant play area. The Friends of the Brook Hollow library provided those attending with refreshments, including a festive sheet cake. All of the participants were able to trick or treat with the children’s librarian on their way out and take a little treat home.

On November 3, the branch hosted a special system-wide Play and Learn event: *Let’s Go Camping!* The children enjoyed many activities, including a dramatic play area complete with a homemade tent, pretend campfire that kids could build and rebuild, and flashlights. Participants played with birdseed play dough that they could stamp with insect themed dough stampers, and they made birdfeeders out of cheerios. There were magnet board retellings of the picture books we read in the story time, and for art, there was a marshmallow print painting activity. Several other activities were offered, and all supported the five practices of early literacy: *talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing*. Over one hundred people enjoyed the program.

## CARVER

Carver Branch Library held its annual fall book sale on October 23 and 24, but much needed rain dampened the event. Friends of Carver Branch are hoping for more participation and better weather for the upcoming spring sale which President Shirley Coleman has yet to announce.

Wii gaming program for teens drew 26 participants for the current reporting period. Chess night attracted 11. Each event is a consistent staple with regard to programming at Carver. The branch initiated a new table game for customers – *Betjeco*, inspired by chess. Six people joined in the fun during a mini-tournament.

The Mayor’s Book Club at the District 2 Senior Center, moderated by Assistant Branch manager Monty Holcomb, had 20 people. A Write-in hosted by poet and writer Antoinette Franklin brought in six prospective writers who wanted to learn techniques for turning out better prose.

Carver Children’s Librarian Jodi Miller attended the UMAST (Urban Management Association of South Texas) leadership conference on October 23 at the Witte Museum. It included speakers and breakout sessions, two of which dealt with handling stress and the urban park walk.

# CODY

Tweens endeavored to create their versions of *Señor Calavera* on October 19 for *Hispanic Heritage Month* at Cody Branch Library. Library Assistant Debbie Bender appraised the creative Calavera and Children's Librarian Sheila Acosta displayed their art work in the Children's Area. Prizes were awarded to the top five winners.

Several families were on hand for *Read for the Record* on October 22. Acosta provided the national selection, *Not Norman: A Goldfish Story* by Kelly Bennett, asked the children in attendance to read parts of the book. All of the young readers enjoyed sharing the reading spotlight. Acosta also arranged for a goldfish craft for the children to make and take with them.

On October 26, babies and toddlers participated in Cody's annual *Boo! Parade*. After each of Cody's Story Times, the children dressed in costumes formed a parade and marched through the library, viewing special Halloween displays. Their final stop was at the Reference Desk, where they received a treat.

Tweens were anxious to create scary skeletons on October 23 for Tween Time. The skeletons were made out of q-tips, and were placed on exhibit for all to see. In addition the tweens made spiders out of food. Sheila said the tweens did a great job of making those spiders disappear.

*LEGO Club* fans were on hand for the Halloween version of Lego construction on October 27. Students gathered in the Children's area to build a Halloween-themed creation. The final designs were displayed in the New Book section. All participants received Halloween treats before they left.

The Tween Book Club met on October 28 to discuss this month's selection, "Mystery on Museum Mile" by Marcia Wells. Club members also created a character from the book on the children's iPads. Acosta also provided and booked talked newly arrived books. Several of the children checked some of them out.

The Halloween party held on October 29 for Cody families was a huge success. Sheila read some spooky tales. Afterwards the children were able to visit various activity centers which included a *witch's hat toss*, *feed-the-pumpkin bean bag toss*, a *photo corner*, and *various craft tables*. All children received Halloween goody bags before they left.

A Thanksgiving Family Fun event was held on November 5. About 50 people were in attendance to make both pilgrim and turkey hats, Thanksgiving bookmarks and cards. Even toddlers were busy stamping and coloring paper pumpkins.

Toddlers and preschoolers attended *DUPLO Day* on November 6. Over twenty children enjoyed socializing and playing with new friends as they visited various play centers around the room. Parents told Acosta that the children really enjoy the giant floor puzzles, building blocks, DUPLOs, and the manipulative story books when they come.

On November 9, tweens took on the challenge of using straws and connectors to attempt to recreate famous building structures like the Taj Mahal. Other tweens played a variety of table top games, one of which tested their knowledge on prehistoric animals. During the last half of Tween Time, Acosta provided iPads for the tweens to play Minecraft.

The Beginner Readers Club met on November 10. The children in attendance shared their favorite books, which included titles by Dr. Seuss and Mo Willems. After the book sharing, the children enjoyed a word building game which involved hats and turkeys. Acosta also provided Thanksgiving word tracing pages for the members to trace color and take home.

Acosta provided stories and books to Kids Campus Daycare, the Pineapple School, Discovery Daycare, and Chabad Gan-Gani Pre-school.

Art work from Rhodes Elementary School's kinder and first grade classes are currently on exhibit in the Children's Area through the end of November. Andrew Fothergill, the art specialist for Rhodes Elementary coordinated the exhibit with Acosta.

Hobby Middle School art students also have their unique art pieces displayed in the juvenile section during the month of November. Sheila reported that Art Teacher, Jeremy Nemeck, contacted Hobby Middle School parents informing them of the students' exhibit at Cody Library.

Library Assistant Kimberly Ammerman has been filling in for Teen Librarian Kristin Yourdon. Kimberly has been keeping the teens busy at *Teen Time* with several activities such as gaming, foods of the season, and crime solving.

In October, Cody said goodbye to one colleague, Library Aide David Perez, and welcomed a new one, Library Aide Iris Torres.

On October 27, the library kicked off the *Meet the Mayor* series of events. Mayor Ivy Taylor met with constituents from the Cody neighborhood as they shared their comments, questions and concerns.

On October 30, Librarian Adam Spana and Marketing Specialist Karla Vasquez staffed a table at Security Service Federal Credit Union's health and wellness fair. Adam and Karla met with over 200 SSFCU employees, who received information about digital media collections and library services for children and families.

On November 14, the library hosted the Kaveri Natya Yoga troupe, who performed music and dance in celebration of *Diwali*, the Hindu "Festival of Lights" traditionally celebrated in the fall. Several customers commented on how much they enjoyed the performance.

## CORTEZ

Cortez Branch Library staff said goodbye to Leigh Bedford as she transferred to McCreless.

Imelda Merino from Westfall and Hope Sonnen from Bazan are assisting with children's programming. Story Time continues at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays with Game Time at 3:30 p.m. Jo Ann Paredes has been assisting with Family Fun on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. Children and parents have enjoyed making *calavera* masks for *Día de los Muertos* and crafts celebrating *Native American Heritage Month*. The Halloween party was a great success with six activity tables: *Witches Brew*, *Pudding Grave*, *Pin the Bow on Mr. Bones*, *a snack table*, *face painting*, and *card games*.

Cortez has a new visitor: Foxie, the Golden Retriever is visiting the branch for the program *Read to a Dog*. Our younger patrons have enjoyed reading books to Foxie after school.

Cortez Library ushered in Halloween in a special way this year, hosting local psychic medium Spiritualist Joseph on October 22. Stories of psychic ability and channeling were shared with 36 mesmerized attendees. The next week, Bruce Anderson gave an informative presentation on the Catholic Church's views on the paranormal.

On October 20, the branch hosted a meet and greet with Kiran Bains, the City's new Diversity and Inclusion Officer. On October 28, the branch hosted a discussion for the Mayor's Book Club pick, "The Boy Kings of Texas." The meeting inspired a new program, a monthly afternoon book club. On November 6, help was available for Medicare and Medicaid Open Enrollment.

A new beginners quilting class began on November 13. Join the group on Fridays at 10:30 am to learn quilting basics.

In honor of *Native American Heritage Month*, the branch hosted the *Southern Winds Intertribal Group* on November 10 and again on November 14. The first visit was a *Share and Learn* session that was set up in the library proper. Miguel and Irene Sanchez and Jonathan Courts, representing the Comanche tribe, were on hand to show various artifacts of their Native American heritage and answer questions for 30 interested patrons. The second visit involved 10 members of the Intertribal Group and they demonstrated for the 27 captivated audience members the different types of *drumming and chants* use by different tribes. This was considered a social drum gathering and could be heard throughout the library.

Teen Time on Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. is still going strong. The teens hang out and play video games, board games, and do crafts. During a special *Halloween Teen Time*, the group watched a scary movie and enjoyed snacks.

*Monster Meet* with Madeline Vasquez was rescheduled to later this month on November 28. Join the group on the second Saturday of the month for monster survival tips, monster movies and games, horror book discussions, and special guests.

The Once Upon a Crime Book Club has a new approach this month: pick from two book club selections – "Charlie St. Cloud" or "The House Where Evil Lurks," or read both and share which one was your favorite!

## ENCINO

October was a month full of community outreach events for Encino's librarians. Children's Librarian Nicki Weaver visited Country Kids Academy as part of their community helpers program. She read stories and discussed how librarians benefit the community with 2 preschool classes. Librarian Robin Alcorta and Circulation Attendant Rebekah Corley participated in Driscoll Middle School's annual Literacy Night on October 28, where they visited with 139 students about library services. Teen Librarian Matthew Loaiza was invited to spend the day with over 300 eighth grade students at Tex Hill Middle School. This successful outreach resulted in 7 in-class presentations about library services and 122 new library card holders. Librarian Barbara Kwiatkowski visited the residents of Franklin Park at Stone Oak on November 4, where she hosted a series of book talks and invited participants to visit the branch later in the month to record an oral history of the area.

One half of the Encino Branch Library meeting room served as an early voting poll site from October 19-30. The flexibility of the space allowed voters to enter through the patio while maintaining the second half

of the room for patron and programming use. Encino's drive thru continues to be a successful service point, with families taking advantage of the convenient method of retrieving holds and returning items. Collaborate has increased in popularity with over 30 individual uses during the reporting period. Users of the space appreciate the professional environment and embedded technology.

Encino hosted a day full of activities on October 31 with a Halloween Family Fun and the *Overdrive Bookmobile* visit. Parents and children enjoyed Halloween-themed crafts and activities on the patio, and over 70 adults visited the Overdrive Bookmobile to explore the Digital Library. The entire staff participated in the *Halloween Family Fun* event, and four staff members received additional Overdrive training prior to the event to be fully prepared to assist patrons. Encino's teens celebrated Halloween with a week of activities. The teens participated in a *Teen Room Makeover* to prepare the space for Halloween, and the Teen Anime Club held a Spooky Edition while exploring Japanese urban legends.

Due to numerous patron requests, the Encino partnership with Fitness in Park was expanded to include two additional weekly fitness classes: Low Impact Circuit Training and Boot Camp. Both classes have been successful and received positive feedback from participants, and the original Martial Arts classes continue to be fully attended. Encino's monthly Farmers' Market was rescheduled from November 7 to November 21 due to weather conditions. The weekly Knight Club and Sunday Cinema continue to be successful both in attendance and patron feedback. Participants appreciate the variety of events offered at the branch.

## FOREST HILLS

Forest Hills Branch Library hosted its regularly occurring meetings of groups like the San Antonio Screenwriters, Project Linus, the Needlework Guild, and the Urban Sketching & Drawing group. The Screenwriters Guild and Project Linus meet twice a month at Forest Hills.

Forest Hills was excited to hold its annual STEM event on October 24. This year the focus was on engineering and the event was called, *We Built This City... with Engineers*. Despite the rain and flash flood warnings, approximately 100 people braved the poor weather to attend.

In a repeat event, the McNay Art Museum provided transportation for Forest Hill patrons to the Miro exhibit now showing at the McNay. The bus shuttles and admission to the Museum were free for the day.

Quilts crafted by the Greater San Antonio Quilting Guild are now on display in the Forest Hills meeting room. These beautiful works of art were part of their recent quilt making competition.

Four Story Times were presented during this time period. Autumn, hibernation and colors were themes during these programs. Children listened to stories, sang songs, acted out rhymes and played together with a variety of building blocks, puzzles and other items. They also created art projects, including a bear in a cave, a frog pond, a jack-o-lantern and a truck.

Four Family Fun crafting programs were held: fall leaf rubbings, scarecrow craft, paper plate masks and fall wreath decorations.

A *Let's Go Camping Play & Learn* program was hosted, too. Children played in a tent, made bird feeders and marshmallow paintings, and fished in a fish pond among other activities.

# GREAT NORTHWEST

Early voting was held at the Great Northwest Branch Library from October 19-30. During this time, the branch continued to prepare for the Enchanted Library program scheduled for November. Social groups, such as the Knitting and Sewing Guild, continued to meet at the library.

Cindy Moreno conducted an outreach at the Lopez Senior Center on November 9. She facilitated a book group and spoke to participants about library services. She also conducted two book groups at the branch for the regular book club title and one for the Mayor's Book Club selection.

A Senior Coffee program was hosted at the branch where participants were able to socialize and participate in activities such as adult coloring. Kiran Bains from City of San Antonio's Diversity and Inclusion Office also met with the group to discuss their perspective on diversity and what the group would like to see from the office.

The Friends of the Great Northwest Branch Library met on October 29 to discuss funding requests and to map out the future of the group for the next year.

## **Children's Services**

Children's Librarian Cari Raley held very successful costume parades during the last week of October. After Story Time, children paraded around the library in full costume to ask for treats. Staff members handed out the treats and then the group met in the children's area to participate in more activities.

Attendance during children's programs continues to increase and the branch is working together to ensure that parents and their children have a rewarding experience each time.

Ms. Raley also conducted an outreach at a literacy event hosted by Kay Franklin Elementary. She assembled a craft for participants and spoke to them about the many services the branch and the system provide to families.

## **Teen Services**

On October 3, the Great Northwest Library hosted a Super Smash Bros Mini Tournament where teens competed for first and second place. Teens used Challonge.com to register players for a double elimination tournament and tracked their progress using the websites online bracket system. A teen volunteer created the game rules and stage list for players to abide by and he also officiated the event. Teens celebrated Día de los Muertos by making sugar skulls. They learned how to make the sugar mixture for the skull molds. The teen volunteer mixed different color icing and filled piping bags to use for decorating. Teens decorated brightly colored sugar skulls with icing to display in the library and to take home.

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 300 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 Hugues Cabby and is a way for the branch to reach out to teens in their environment.

Great Northwest Teen volunteers held two craft nights at Great Northwest Library. Teens Created String Art using paper embroidery techniques to create awesome designs. Teens Created Mosaics and Beaded Jewelry using repurposed materials to make mosaic art and Native American inspired beaded jewelry. Computer Tutoring is held at the Great Northwest Library every other Monday evening. Our very knowledgeable volunteer tutor Jacob provides basic computer instructions and answers computer and technology related questions. Participants can either register or show up for individualized help. Attendance continues to increase as word of the service spreads to the community.

## GUERRA

Branch Manager Dexter Katzman provided Story Time, music, and craft outreach programs to the Careplex Adult Day Center on October 21 and 28 and November 4. On October 29, he met with Assistant Director for Public Services Dale McNeill to initiate his Management Team Partner Experience. These monthly meetings will be an opportunity for him to learn more about how senior management defines and works towards library goals. He attended the Safety/Security Work Group meeting on November 4 and the managers meeting at Thousand Oaks Branch the following day. He staffed a table at the Security Service Federal Credit Union Health fair on October 21. He presented two computer classes on November 12.

Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard hosted a *Coffee and a Movie screening* of the 1951 movie "Jim Thorpe-- All American" on November 6. The Thursday Evening Club met on November 12 to discuss "Mary, Mary" by James Patterson.

Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented eight in-house programs: two Toddler Times, two Story Times, one Play and Learn, two Come and Go crafts, and one LEGO Club. Children read to therapy dogs Foxie and Chiko on October 29 and November 12. Forty-four toddlers at the Angelic Smiles Daycare enjoyed Halloween stories presented by Arlene on October 30. On November 13, she presented a story time to 41 toddlers at Greatest Gifts and then to 77 toddlers at Marbach Church Christian Daycare. Richardson is currently enrolled in a Library Juice Academy professional development online course: *Building Relationships, Building Bridges – Library Outreach and Marketing to Latino and Spanish-Speaking Families*; the course runs from November 2 to 27. Richardson installed a juvenile display: *Native American History Month* display. She also created a display highlighting the New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Books of 2015.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on October 15 and November 5 and 12. He participated in an outreach to Brennan High School with Stephanie Vazquez, Teen Librarian at Great Northwest on October 15. 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 150 students participated.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl assisted Edward Mayberry with Teen Outreach on November 13. She set up and staffed an Outreach table in the library at John Jay High School, spoke with students about Guerra's Teen Time and Branch Location, Live Homework Help and Employment paperwork assistance, and informed students of the Artsfest at Central Library on November 21. Information was provided to approximately 100 students and 5 teachers. She also designed and installed a book and media display highlighting the life and accomplishments of Pedro Infante, based on material chosen by Circulation Attendant Abella Lazalde.

# IGO

## **Children's Services**

Area families were treated to a bounty of fall programs in October and November to provide both entertainment and enrichment to all in attendance at the Igo Branch Library. In addition to the branch's five weekly Story Times, afterschool family fun activities, such as LEGO Club, Tween Time, Read to a Dog, and weekly Friday Come and Go Crafts, youth services staff presented two notable special events. Offerings included the annual *Igo Family Halloween Party*, as well as an early literacy play and learn program entitled, *Let's Go Camping Play & Learn program* featuring two favorite children pictures books.

The *Igo Family Halloween Party*, presented on Wednesday, October 28 was a fall teen leadership project under the supervision of Teen Services Librarian Marco De Leon and supported by the Children's Services Librarian Nancy Rodriguez. Guests were treated to several crafts, teen-created piñatas, face painting, bobbing for apples, as well as, a variety of kid friendly games. At the conclusion of the party, attendees were invited to check out the Halloween themed story time favorites to share at home.

On Friday, November 6, Mrs. Rodriguez presented a special early literacy event entitled *Let's Go Camping Play & Learn program* for children 5 years old and younger. Guests gathered on the story time carpet for a reading of Lucy Cousin's book, "Maisy Goes Camping" and "Just Like Daddy" written by Frank Asch. Following the circle time stories, campers were encouraged to explore learning stations which included dramatic play with a camp site station complete with homemade canvas tent. Flash lights, woodland animal puppets, books with stories to read around the pool-noodle campfire added to the experience. Additionally, children fished for letters, examined pinecones and seeds, dot painted with marshmallows, sifted through the sandbox for insects, and created a variety of shapes with homemade birdseed play dough and cookie cutters. Camping at the library proved to be truly a multi-sensory experience for all.

Lastly, Mrs. Rodriguez represented the San Antonio Public Library – Igo Branch at Stinson Middle School's annual Career Fair. Students signed for public services careers were given the opportunity to learn more about the educational requirements for public service librarian, as well as, a glimpse into a day as a children's services librarian at San Antonio Public Library. It was truly inspiring to see the large number of students interested in public service related careers in San Antonio and the surrounding community.

For this reporting period the Igo Children's Services Department presented 34.5 programs which served 2,228 children and their caregivers.

## **Teen Services**

Teen Services Librarian Marco De Leon continued with his five weekly programs with attendance increasing in each one of them. Mr. De Leon and the Teen Library Leadership Council (TLLC) also produced the "Smash Bros. Tournament" where teens were invited to compete against each other in the ever popular game Smash Bros. The event was well attended and prizes were given to the top 3 competitors. There were door prizes given out every 30 minutes as well.

Mr. De Leon and the TLLC also collaborated with the Children's Librarian Ms. Rodriguez to host a fun-filled, interactive Halloween Party. The event saw approximately 200 attendees. There were various

games set up especially geared for the youngest patrons and the TLLC also made 4 piñatas filled with candies for the kids. The piñatas were a big hit with the kids as they kept asking for more.

Mr. De Leon also introduced a cooking class during the Teen DIY Day that proved to be a critical success. For the first cooking class, the Asian dish Beef & Broccoli was made along with some freshly steamed white rice. Seeing how this was a big success, more plans are being made to increase the frequency of the cooking class.

The TLLC and Mr. De Leon are now in the process of planning out the featured yearly event, Winterfest. While this year's Winterfest will continue the tradition of placing a spotlight on cultural foods and crafts, the TLLC and Mr. De Leon are planning to shake things up a bit for the upcoming Winterfest. It is their hope that this year's event will truly be memorable.

Mr. De Leon represented Igo at an outreach event at Cornerstone Christian High School on November 3.

### **Adult Services**

The Igo Branch had the pleasure of welcoming the library's namesake, John Igo on November 7. Mr. Igo was greeted by over 40 patrons eager to meet him. Mr. Igo signed copies of his latest book, "A Stone for Plot Four," posed for photos, and spoke about the writing of the book, his culmination of more than 40 years of research. Funding from the Friends of Igo Library provided refreshments.

On October 20, Andy Crews of Texana provided the Genealogy Club with a thorough presentation of the Fold 3 database. Patrons were enthused to learn more about the access to the historical documents available.

The Pharos computer registration and printing system for the public was set up at Igo on October 28.

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio provided an information table regarding cancer prevention on November 5. Additionally, Alamo Area Council of Governments provided patrons with Medicare/Medicaid enrollment information and assistance on November 9.

The San Antonio Writing Project taught a memoir writing workshop on November 14, in association with the Mayor's Book Club selection: "The Boy Kings of Texas." Throughout October and November, a display on South Texas was established to support reading of the book.

Igo's books clubs continued to meet as normal. The Afternoon Book Club discussed "Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Book Store" and the Mystery Club discussed "The Nightmare." The Mystery Club invited the public to celebrate Halloween and Mystery Month by taking part in an interactive murder mystery, based on a classic novel. Patrons were invited to walk in to a "crime scene" and determine what had happened, who did it, and from which book the scene was derived – Tony Hillerman's "A Thief of Time." When first entering the scene, visitors were given a list of suspects; the visitors then completed several activities to unravel the clues.

Plans are underway for a *Downton Abbey* Celebration in January. Cynthia Hawkins, professor of creative writing at UTSA, will discuss the elements that made the TV series an international success, and a light tea will be served.

The Igo Elderberries hosted a Veterans Resources Fair, *A Salute to our Veterans*, on November 5. Thirty-five attendees listened to six presenters briefly introduce topics of interest to Veterans and military families. The presenters were:

- Dwight Clark, Legislative Director for State Senator Jose Menendez, presented the latest Texas legislation passed in the 2015 legislative session, dealing with Veterans.
- Ed Scharf, speaking for Fred Bartel, a WWII Veteran who served on Admiral Nimitz staff, gave the background of WWII, both in Europe and in the Pacific. He also recognized a WWII Veteran in attendance.
- Jose Duran, award-winning Commander of VFW Post 7108 in Helotes, an All American Post (i.e. one of the 5 top posts in the nation in their division), described their multitude of activities.
- Beverly Duran, President of the VFW Auxiliary, District 20, explained that where the organization was originally only for women, now also accept men.
- Stephanie Manee-Lebens of the Nimitz Museum Foundation in Fredericksburg talked about their WWII oral history project.
- Rudy Purificato, Commander of the Airman Heritage Museum, Lackland AFB, explained their mission to preserve and honor the history and heritage of the enlisted airmen, and also talked about the future expansion plans for the museum.

After the presentations, guests were invited to talk with the exhibitors who had brought information about how their organizations serve veterans. These included the Vet Center, Department of Veteran Affairs, Alamo Area Council of Governments, South Texas Veterans Health Care System, Christian Senior Services, Bexar County Veterans Service Office, Family Endeavors, ASC (Alamo Service Connection), San Antonio Coalition for Veterans & Families, and the Bazan Learn Center. In conjunction with this fair, a display of military-themed materials in the Igo Branch Library was set up for Veterans Day.

As an additional final note, Amanda Henderson joined as Branch Manager on November 2.

## JOHNSTON

Johnston Branch Library served as an early voting site from October 19 through October 31. We estimate 549 voters came to Johnston during that time.

Johnston went live with Pharos and the new printing/copying machines on October 28.

During this period's Story Times, children were treated to stories and activities on the themes of monsters, Halloween, the five senses and teeth.

Family Fun time participants enjoyed LEGOs, Halloween Party, testing their five sense and snap electronic circuits.

Nov 5: Children's Librarian Beverly Wrigglesworth visited the Southwest High School's PCI to read books to babies and drop off books for the two classrooms.

L.A. Megan Stanley has also worked with the Children's Librarian and started up Tween Time on Tuesday evenings after Family Fun.

The first Minecraft Monday meetup for tweens was November 9. This is also a new weekly program for tweens.

Attendance at Wednesday night Teen Time at Johnston remains strong. Activities enjoyed by the teens were carving pumpkins, making zombie Barbies as well as other crafts and playing video games.

The Johnston teens have been working on starting up an Anime Club with Library Assistant Megan Stanley. The first meeting will be November. 15.

The Career/College Prep program on Monday nights has been steady and will continue until the end of December.

Library Assistant Elsy Jackson kicked off the Spanish reader's book club on November 9, Club de lectura. It is starting small and advertising for the club is just beginning.

Adult Services Librarian Monica Garza Bustillo accomplished the following tasks:

October 21: Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett's *Good Omens*.

October 27: She attended the Springvale and the Meadow Village Neighborhood Association Meetings.

November 5: Bustillo visited the Parks & Rec Department's Virginia Gill Community Center to promote the Mayor's Book Club discussion of *The Boy Kings of Texas* by Domingo Martinez.

November 14: She organized *Star Wars Day: The Library Awakens* to celebrate the upcoming release of the new Star Wars movie in December.

Display themes for the period were *Star Wars*, *Thanksgiving* and *Take Care of Texas*.

## LANDA

Ms. Jasmin Salinas started as the new children's librarian for the Landa Branch Library. She began by continuing to present the set weekly fall programs: Baby Time, Toddler Time, and Story Time.

To get ready for the Halloween holidays, Ms. Salinas created fun displays out of books to dress up the children's area in time for Halloween. She also put together three *spooky* Halloween come and go crafts for all ages to enjoy on Halloween weekend.

To increase circulation, Ms. Salinas also implemented book bundle displays. Book bundles are four picture books or easy nonfiction books grouped together around a theme. They are presented as a *story time in a stack* to make it easier for parents to quickly grab some great library books to check out.

In November, Ms. Salinas hosted the citywide *Let's Go Camping Play & Learn program* for children ages 0 to 5 years old. Ms. Salinas set the program up outside in front of the Landa Branch Library and let the kids go fishing, paint with marshmallows, and sink their hands into birdseed infused play dough. Everyone had a blast pretending to camp in the tent and made bird feeders to take home.

### **Teen Programming**

The Teen Library Leadership Council, led by dedicated Landa teen volunteers Sophia and Juan Carlos, put together a successful program on October 21. *The Clash of the Titles* competition, held in observance of *Teen Read Week*, was a “guess the book quote source” contest and included two adult guest judges and six two-member teams. Three winners received gift cards to Half-Price Books donated by the Landa Friends’ group. The teen’s saw their efforts come to fruition as it was enjoyed by all and will be repeated again next year.

### **Adult Programming**

The adult book clubs have gained new members, no doubt due to the exciting titles on the agenda for this coming year. In late October, the Landa Mystery Book Club discussed “The Art of Detection” by Laurie King, a book in the Detective Kate Martinell series set in San Francisco. This book gives a nod to Sherlock Holmes fans as a group of eccentric “Sherlockians” are at the center of a murder case. Another parallel story in the Martinelli series is the detective’s relationship with her life partner and their young daughter. Reader’s Ink read and discussed “The Train to Crystal City,” Jan Jarboe Russell’s mesmerizing account of Franklin D. Roosevelt’s internment program during World War II.

## **LAS PALMAS**

Citizenship classes continue to be held at Las Palmas Branch Library. Organizations and city departments utilized Las Palma’s meetings space. Las Palmas was an Early Voting site as well as a Voting Site.

On October 19, Library Assistant Anne Schuette participated in the TVSA October recording of “Cover to Cover” to talk about *Native American Heritage*.

On October 21, The Las Palmas Book Club discussed "A Prayer for Owen Meany" by John Irving: Las Palmas Branch Library welcomed a new member who greatly enjoyed the fellowship. Participants also shared a preview of the Mayor's book club selection from those who had read ahead for the November meeting.

The Family Fun Halloween Party on October 26 was joined by district 5 councilwoman, Shirley Gonzalez who read spooky books to the children. The children decorated pumpkins with all kinds of scary and funny facing courtesy of the Friends of the Las Palmas Library. Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi continued to provide classroom collections and story times to local early literacy sites in her service area. The Bilingual Story Time program presented by Las Palmas Staff member Patricia Perez, celebrated Halloween listening to stories about ghosts and a Hunted House. Preschoolers enjoyed decorating pumpkins donated by the Friends of Las Palmas.

Teen Librarian Connie Hejl provided Teen Halloween program on October 28 as we as Teen Time and Video Game Club weekly programs.

For November 7, Las Palmas developed and presented a *Native American Heritage Month* event, *White Shaman Panel: the Coahuiltecan Creation Journey* at the Central auditorium from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. with Dr. Mario Garza from the Indigenous Cultures Institute in San Marcos who educated 65 people about his ancestors who painted their creation story on a large rock panel that is carbon dated to 4,000 years

ago. Several students from the University of Texas at San Antonio received course credit for attending from their Texas history professor. Also, a group of Cole High School students from the Ft. Sam ISD who enjoyed learning a side of history not revealed in most textbooks. The Las Palmas team appreciates the marketing department efforts for reaching more people of the community by featuring an interview with Dr. Garza on TVSA.

Las Palmas hosted the Christian Senior Services on November 9 in which the president of the organization and an experienced volunteer explained their work with the elderly to bring friendship and food. One participant signed up to volunteer with the Elder Friends program. She will receive 40 hours training and be assigned to an elder in our neighborhood to visit several times a week.

On November 14, the San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition gave a workshop, *Trap-Neuter-Return* with 11 people attending. This coalition visits many branches across San Antonio helping neighborhoods rid themselves of the pesky critters, which lowers the overpopulation of wild animals, as well as helps control the spread of rabies and other diseases.

## MAVERICK

Early Voting and Election Day were major parts of this reporting period at Maverick Branch Library. Thanks to the staff that came early to open and stayed late to close the branch.

Programs were abundant during the reporting period. The Chess Club that meets on Fridays averaged about 10 patrons per program. On October 31, students of Erin Rushworth performed on violins and violas for 93 people. Children's Librarian Amy Roberts dressed up as a pink crayon and a Seahawks fan respectively for Story Times during the week of Halloween. The kids and parents had a great time parading around the library in their costumes. LEGO Time on Mondays continues to have large groups of kids and caregivers. Thank you to the Maverick Friends for providing funding to purchase additional LEGOs! On November 10, Ms. Roberts traveled to Nichols Elementary to meet with the Bluebonnet Bloggers. She is collaborating with the school librarian to expose children to the Bluebonnet books and to write book reviews on-line.

On October 13, Librarian Benjamin Longoria went to training to learn the new Pharos system. The staff received the new MDF (Multi-Functional Device) for copying and printing on Friday, October 23. Thank you to Ashlee Chavez, Adolph Lopez and Mike Howdysshell for training Maverick staff on October 23. Library Assistant, Lucy Villa, attended Adobe Acrobat training on October 22.

## McCRELESS

McCreless Branch Library has a new Children's Librarian, Leigh Bedford. She has begun her Story Times, which include stories, songs, fingerplays and a craft. She is also creating *book bundles* in the hope of increasing circulation of children's books. *Book bundles* have three books in each, and every book bundle has a theme. Additionally, she is working on an inventory of the craft supplies and creating new displays.

This fall brought an array of displays and programs for young adults at McCreless.

McCreless Branch Library hosted a total of 6 teen programs with an attendance total of 38. Furthermore, the library continues to host their weekly Teen Time program and its monthly comic book/manga/graphic novel club titled *Pictures With Words Are Nice!* along with a few new programs.

Displays that were featured at the latter half of October were teen read, Halloween scary stories, and poetry reading. The poetry display exhibited books that encouraged young adults to participate in the Annual Young Pegasus Poetry Competition. It was then followed by a series of poetry programs geared towards teaching the elements of poetry and ended with a poetry slam.

McCreless kicked off the month of November with a *Day of the Dead* arts and crafts program on November 1. Participants got their faces painted and worked on decorating paper candy skulls while they waited for their face painting turn. At the end, the paper skulls were posted up on the young adult display board that was decorated as a shrine. Their artwork was then left for display for the remainder of the week.

Currently, the display for the month of November is a mustachioed board themed no-shave November. All books featured have an attachable mustache to entice teens to read the featured books. Books with faces are on rotation with funky mustaches as each item is checked out.

Branch Manager Cammie Brantley hosted her monthly book club on November 7 with a discussion of "Buck Fever" as a tie-in with the Mayor's Book Club.

Ms. Brantley is also working on a review of 100's of donated items in preparation for the Friend's Book Sale in December. Using her experience and the Internet she has identified many items of value including a rare copy of "Mein Kampf" printed in 1939.

## MEMORIAL

Using the Halloween theme for October activities, Memorial Branch Library teens first sewed *spooky plushies*, using felt and buttons to create bats, voodoo dolls, eyeballs, and many other cute and creepy things. And then the teens finished off the Halloween season by making caramel apples and creepy perler bead creations.

In celebration of *Día de los Muertos*, teens made real sugar skulls. They made creative use of paint, rhinestones, and sequins to decorate their skulls.

Most recently teens watched a film while creating charms out of polymer clay. Among the items they created were Pokémon figures, bunnies, and even a large Jack Skellington. Teens also began planning holiday themed activities for the month of December.

The children of Memorial Branch Library participated in Jumpstart's national campaign, *Read for the Record*, where children across the country read or listened to the same book *Not Norman: A Goldfish Story* by Kelly Bennett. And participants also enjoyed making goldfish crafts during Kids Time to celebrate the campaign.

Families enjoyed STEM-themed activities – science, technology, engineering, and math – such as opposites and bridges during Story Time and Come and Go Craft.

Kids of all ages had a spooky good time at Memorial's Halloween Party where families came dressed in costumes, made crafts, enjoyed snacks and the fabulous balloon sculptures by *AlmaPaints*.

Families are also really enjoying our *Read to a Dog* program with Chiko the therapy dog and his handler, Arlene.

LEGOs Time has become very popular with kids of all ages, who are always encouraged to use their imaginations to create wonderful masterpieces.

Memorial's Children's Librarian Trina Smith attended the morning session workshop with children's author Jack Gantos, who is famous for the *Rotten Ralph* book series, as well as books for young adults. And she also gave a presentation on Bilingual Story Time at Your Biblioteca during the November Children's meeting.

On Thursday, October 29, the *Lighthouse for the Blind Choir* came to Memorial to sing. The concert was for Disabilities Month. The members of the choir sang beautifully. With funds received from the Diversity Committee, the library provided a reception for the singers, which included two H-E-B food trays and punch. Although Pharos was being installed on the same day, several people visited the branch just for the concert. A cameraman from Time Warner News arrived to film the group and a clip from the performance was aired on the evening news. Here is the link: <http://bit.ly/1Mt3kbl> to the performance.

Memorial hosted a *Medicaid/Medicare open enrollment session* on November 5 from 12:00 - 8:00 p.m. The Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) came to the library to enroll patrons. The group served several customers throughout the day. Participants were so pleased to receive guidance in applying for the medical care service.

## MISSION

*Star Wars-The Library Awakens* program was held on Saturday, Nov 14. Visitors enjoyed a reenactment of a *Star Wars battle by the Sith Council of Texas*. The group showed attendees battle stances and held a question and answer session. Visitors were also offered the opportunity to stand in front of a green screen to create their own Star Wars scenes. The event was featured on Kens5.com.

Teens celebrated Halloween with a celebration that included games, a pumpkin carving craft, and lots of food! The Halloween party at Mission saw 60 teens and tweens participate. Teen Time programs included a movie night and an autumn pinecone craft. Anime Club participants had the opportunity to translate their names into Japanese and to watch anime videos. Teens in the Video Game Club were very excited to receive the Wii U game console for their programs. This generous gift was made possible by the Mission Friends group.

The highlight of October was the Kids' Halloween Party. Over 110 exuberant and costumed kids and their adults had a blast parading around the library, playing *Jack-o-Lantern bean bag toss*, making *bat hats* and ghosts and much more, including lots of candy, of course.

Baby Time and Toddler Time numbers are soaring, filling the both meeting rooms. Baby Time has seen up to 42 attendees and Toddler Time up to 52. Three Harlandale schools brought parents and toddlers to

visit and tour the library as part of a Harlandale Grant. Tween Time is also going well, with a loyal group of participants playing games and socializing.

A large number kindergartners, 74 kids plus 15 adults from Pierce ES, had a special story time, tour and book browsing. They were very excited about browsing the collection and playing on the playground. Mission served as an early voting site. Table Tennis, Fitness in the Park Yoga and Circuit Cycling classes continue to be offered at Mission. An affordable Care Act navigator is now offering enrollment assistance on Fridays.

## PAN AMERICAN

To coincide with Veteran's Day, the Pan American Branch Library hosted a *Quilts of Honor* event on November 10. The mission of *Quilts of Honor* is to bestow a universal symbol and token of gratitude, solace, and remembrance to those who have served in harm's way to protect and defend our lives and freedoms. The *Quilts of Honor* were made by local volunteers who wish to thank those who have served so that they know their sacrifices are appreciated. Library Aide Patricia Severson helped bring the event to the branch. The Harlandale Junior ROTC cadets presented the colors and Dorothy Brett from the Quilts of Honor organization spoke. Six quilts were given to veterans and many were touch by the ceremony.

In October, Pan American hosted a *Navigating College Enrollment* program presented by College Authority. The branch also held a three part computer basics series that covered computer basics, the World Wide Web, and creating email accounts.

Adult Services Librarian Cindy Pope visited the Normoyle Community Center and held an adult coloring session for senior citizens. Studies have shown that coloring helps reduce stress and can be therapeutic.

Ms. Jodi Miller from the Carver Branch Library helped with Story Time while the branch awaits the arrival of the new Children's Librarian in December. Foxy the READ dog also visited Pan American twice to promote literacy to reluctant readers.

Teen Liaison Angela Olivarez held a variety of fun and interactive activities for the teens at the Pan American Branch Library. The young adults got to take part in gaming, button making, a Halloween craft, and a movie night.

## PARMAN

Parman patrons participated in the *McNay Family Day* again this year. The McNay Museum provided a shuttle bus from Parman Branch Library and from Forest Hills Branch Library to their free event highlighting the *Miro exhibit*. Patrons enjoy the convenience of parking at the branch, closer to their homes, and riding the shuttle to the museum.

DIY U students learned many new things in classes taught by a variety of staff. Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow and Senior Circulation Attendant Cara Garcia helped participants make homemade dog and cat treats. They also learned what people foods are okay for pets and which ones are not. Public Services Administrator Cheryl Sheehan led a class on making *Quilted Mug Rugs*, which was a great introduction

for beginning sewers. Library Assistant Eva Banda and Circulation Attendant Carmen Zarate are in the middle of a four part Spanish 101 class. They are introducing beginners to the language through vocabulary, song, and basic grammar.

Parman Branch Library's 4<sup>th</sup> *Annual Halloween Carnival and Spooky Walk* was held on October 29 with over 2000 people attending the event. Many new features were added this year including a DJ, puppet show, cakewalk, green screen photo ops and food vendors. Staff is already planning more games for 2016 to accommodate the number of children. The *Spooky Walk* rooms this year included *glow in the dark skeletons* planned by Assistant Manager Tim Johnson, *Hansel and Gretel – and the witch* – planned by Manager Haley Holmes, and *black widow's den* planned by Senior Circulation Attendant Cara Garcia. About 50 volunteers from community groups including Rotary, UTSA, and Reagan High School helped with the event. Also many SAPL staff from other locations came to help, which allowed Parman staff to work the outside events. The event would not be possible without all of these wonderful volunteers.

Children's Librarian Carrie Vance arranged up the branch's first outdoor movie showing. *The Geocaching International Film Festival* was projected onto the inflatable screen and 75 people showed up to enjoy the event.

The Parman Friends had a very busy month in November with a Book Sale and 1st Market Fair. The Friends sold tables to local artists who showcased their goods in the Parman meeting rooms. Patrons enjoyed holiday shopping at the branch. Several of the vendors were regular patrons. One shopper was heard saying, "I just love how this library is such a community place."

## PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

The Molly Pruitt Branch Library has provided patrons with a number of exciting events during this past month. Children's Librarian Cynthia Saenz hosted a *Toddler's Halloween Party*. The children came dressed in various costumes and participated in singing, marching, and Story Time. Afterwards, they decorated their own trick-or-treating bags and took part in games such as *ghost bowling* and *witch's hat ring toss*. For the finale, the children participated in a *trick-or-treating parade* throughout the library. Patrons were delighted with the show of *monsters, goblins, and princesses*. Parents had many positive comments about the event, and the library hopes to make this an annual event. The Family Circle Book Club, comprised of tweens and parents, had a terrific time when they met recently and discussed "The Homework Machine" written by Dan Gutman. Parents and children are certainly enjoying the monthly opportunity for this shared-reading experience, in-depth discussions, and a chance to make new friends who share a love for reading. Pruitt's recent *Let's Go Camping Play & Learn program* was a big hit with small children and their parents. Everyone participated in singing campfire songs, story time, fishing, roasting marshmallows around the campfire, and story time by flashlight from inside a tent. Ms. Saenz, together with the high school librarian, Ms. McClendon, provided an English and Spanish presentation during Roosevelt High School's ESL Night. They informed parents and students about the valuable SAPL resources available to help ensure students' academic success such as Homework Help, electronic databases, Learning Express, print and eBooks containing helpful information about colleges, careers, entrance exam preparation, scholarships, and financial aid.

The teens were busy celebrating *Hispanic Heritage Month*. In October, teens created *Panamanian molas*. They hosted artist, Kathleen Trenchard, who gave a history lecture, demonstration, and instruction on crafting *Papel Picado*. Mrs. Trenchard helped the teens make cut paper "Día de los Muertos" masks and tissue paper banners.

Adult Services Librarian Dr. Nancy Hartman joined on October 21. She has met with other SAPL adult services librarians, and has shadowed several to gain knowledge on how to conduct several types of weekly events. On November 4, Dr. Hartman partnered with the North East ISD Library Services Department and conducted outreach for district-level personnel during an *Overdrive Setup & Orientation Chat & Chew* event, resulting in 15 new and renewed SAPL patrons. Working with other SAPL adult services librarians, Hartman is planning several holiday workshops including soap-making and paper-craft gifts.

## 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. She has started two new programs during this time period: a monthly Story Time for a preschool class at Laurel Heights Week Day School and a weekly Baby Time at the Library.

She is continuing to offer in-house programming which includes the popular Minecraft Monday club; Kids Time on Wednesdays; and Chess Club on Thursdays. Ms. Dalton is pleased to note that since the Minecraft program started in June, forty-six different children have participated!

On October 18, families enjoyed a *Let's Go Camping Play & Learn program*, and on October 25 they had fun decorating treat bags and making Halloween crafts at the Halloween Party.

On November 4, Ms. Dalton met with the children's librarian at Cotton Elementary School to promote 4<sup>th</sup> and/or 5<sup>th</sup> club book clubs at the school. She also facilitates on-going monthly book clubs at Hawthorne Academy and Monte Vista Montessori.

Ms. Dalton serves on the Committee of Thinkers subcommittee, the iPad subcommittee and as chairman of the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) Committee of children's librarians.

Wilson Plunkett represented the San Antonio Public Library at Senator José Menéndez' Community Gathering, Saturday, October 24, at San Antonio College. He shared library information with 48 attendees. The program had two parts, a community input session and a resource fair.

The Friends of the San Pedro Library Friends Group met on November 3, and approved their bylaws. They are to be approved at the "umbrella" Friends Group meeting on November 15. This will establish the official start of the San Pedro Friends Group. In the meantime, the group has been doing some brainstorming on ideas for fund raisers, and will be setting up on ongoing book sale space. There have been lots of great donations!

## SEMMES

The Semmes Branch Library hosted Bexar County Early Voting from October 19 through October 30. The branch was one of the busier sites for early voting. The branch will host Early Voting again in early January 2016 for the District 118 runoff election.

Library Assistant Melody Smith led the branch's Outreach Book Club at the Waterford Senior Living Apartments on October 27. The group discussed "The Aviator's Wife" by Melanie Benjamin. As usual, the group had a lively, fun discussion.

A host of costumed children came to the branch for the Halloween Party hosted by Children's Librarian Randi Jones on October 28. With assistance from Central Children's Librarian Shannon Seglin, the children were treated to games, stories and fun Halloween activities. 88 people attended the party, including The Wicked Witch of the West, Dorothy, The Scarecrow and the Cowardly Lion.

The Semmes Branch Library turned 10 on Thursday, November 5. To honor the day the Friends of the Semmes Branch Library provided sandwiches and snacks for the staff. On Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, the Friends group provided a cake that was shared with the branch's customers.

The Semmes Classic Book Group continues to meet monthly at the branch. On November 14, the group met to discuss "Naked Lunch" by William S. Burroughs.

## THOUSAND OAKS

On Thursday, October 5, librarians Leslie Elsasser and Steven Barrera attended the *Pre-K 4 SA East's Fall Festival*. They provided information about the library for the parents and kids attending the festival. On October 14, Leslie Elsasser presented her monthly outreach to three groups of children at the Little Engine Learning Center. She read books about fish and the ocean to each group.

Other fun programs for kids the past month have included LEGO Time, Toddler Time, Story Time and Come and Go Crafts. For the month of October, children were able to decorate an orange construction paper pumpkin to hang on the pumpkin patch (a long, green sheet of butcher paper painted with vines!)

Thousand Oaks Branch Library hosted a *memoir writing seminar* featuring local author Nicole Martinez. The Thousand Oaks Teens learned the concept of memoirs and how to create their own. In the writing exercise presented by Mrs. Martinez, the teens created six word memoirs and posted them on a bulletin board. The following week Thousand Oaks held *Escape the Oaks!* a riddle filled escape room. The teens had to solve a series of riddles to find the key that unlocks the door. They had fifteen minutes to get out before the "terror" took place. The following week the teens enjoyed their time playing in front of the branch's green screen and created silly *Presidential Campaign* videos.

The Thursday Book Club discussed the classic, "Wuthering Heights" by Emily Bronte. All the ladies came to the consensus that the character, Heathcliff was a dastardly fellow. Although many commented that they had loved watching the movie version, which portrayed the protagonist as a debonair heartthrob; Heathcliff of the classic novel did not score any points with the crowd on Thursday. Still, many loved the gloomy, gothic scenery that Bronte emanated in her writings. This captivated everyone's interest imagining Bronte penning her novels while strolling through England's cold, dark moors. The conversation was followed by light refreshments and a healthy fruit tray.

Library Assistant Theresa Ybarra spent time with some of the seniors at the Northeast Senior Center discussing the Mayor's Book Club selection, "The Boy Kings of Texas." A discussion about the book and many of the senior's experiences made the discussion a lively, fun-filled time. The group is looking forward to the next book group meeting.

Branch Manager Troy Lawrence spoke to Victory Outreach to highlight the educational resources available from the San Antonio Public Library on Saturday, November 7. The participants were excited to learn about the homework help provided through Tutor.com. Mr. Lawrence also pointed out the Learning Express Library's database of test preparation materials, access to many print materials available, as well as the TexShare and Inter Library Loan programs.

On November 9, Jorge Chavez, Tina Reid, and Rhonda Woolhouse from the Tobin at Oakwell Branch Library presented a trivia program at the new Northeast Senior Center. The seniors who attended were very pleased and had fun competing against each other. They really enjoyed the Thanksgiving themed questions. They commented on how much they are looking forward to next month's trivia program. Sugar free candy and chocolates were given out as prizes at the end of the program.

On Saturday, November 14, the Thousand Oaks staff held a *make your own greeting card program*. Participants were shown fun and creative ways to design their own greeting card for any occasion.

## TOBIN AT OAKWELL

The Tobin Branch Library at Oakwell welcomed new Library Aide, Giovanni Occhiuzzi, in October. With the addition of Giovanni, Tobin shelvers and the branch are now fully staffed. Tobin Branch Library at Oakwell saw solid turnout for Early Voting from October 19 – 30, as well as on Election Day, November 3. Halloween programming included a party for toddlers and story time kids on Wednesday, October 28. On Saturday, *October A Halloween – Dark and Grimm* was held where guests received Grimm posters and enjoyed ghoulish snacks and games.

The Star Wars theme continued through November with a special program on November 7, *The Library Awakens*. Jose Medina, from *Central Texas Droid Builders*, brought his *R2D2* that he built in his garage. *R2D2* was great entertainment with funny messages and lots of photos taken by many of the 270 people that attended. Folks savored on *Jedi food* like *Princess Leia buns*, *Wookiee cookies*, *droid parts* and *Java punch* and watched The Sith Shadow Council of Texas demonstrated their light saber skills in full costume.

Children's Librarian Elvira Sanchez Kisser continues a once a month Play and Learn event on the first Friday, for children under five, in addition to her weekly Baby Time. This program is geared to build literacy skills through creative play. The November theme was *Let's go Camping* as kids fished, tracked wild animals and gathered around the campfire to sing and dance.

Karen Barton Teen Librarian led a tour of the branch and talk in Spanish to a group of adult ESL learners that came over from Garner Middle School on November 4. Ms. Barton continues hosting teen programs and helping with tween time once a month and outreach to NEISD students at The Academy of Creative Education (ACE).

Librarian Tracey Knouse went to Stonebrook Manor on October 19 and quizzed senior residents on Halloween trivia and horror movies. Manager Knouse also gave a presentation on library services and updates on digital options to North Star Mall's walking group early on October 22. The branch employees met the 100% participation goal for the City's Charitable Campaign and received healthy snacks of cheese, crackers and fruit bars from the Organizational Health Unit of the library as a result.

The Tobin Library at Oakwell Friends group held a very successful book sale November 13-14. The sale included vinyl LP's, DVD's and lots of books for all ages. This location continues to receive generous donations of all types of materials from visitors and patrons throughout the year. These items generate funds for the Friends group with book sales held twice a year and on-going purchases from a cart and rack in the entry foyer.

## WESTFALL

A miniature Optimus Prime, a toddler SWAT team, princesses, ladybugs, warriors, Ninja Turtles and lots more costumed characters strolled around the Westfall Branch Library parking lot October 25 in search of treats. The library hosted the 3rd Annual Trunk or Treat co-sponsored by Human Rights Council of San Antonio, Pride Center of San Antonio, PFLAG San Antonio, San Antonio Gender Association, Fiesta Youth, San Antonio LGBT Chamber of Commerce and SAPL. Participants backed their vehicles into parking slots, decorated car trunks, pickup truck beds and SUVs and passed out candy to approximately 300 children and adults. Free hot dogs, chips and water were available and a rocking DJ mixed tunes. After a costume contest ended the outdoor activities, Westfall staff screened *Tomorrowland* in the meeting room.

Children's Librarian Imelda Merino spoke with a number of parents and students when she participated in Woodlawn Academy's Literacy Night. Miss Merino also talked with 22 adults at Pilgrim Head Start and 13 adults and 33 students at KinderCare Learning Center.

Librarian I Karen Sagun visited with 20 teen-agers at Jefferson High School and told them about activities and services available at the library.

Department of Human Services Family Support Supervisor for Westfall's Learn Center participated in Veterans Day Stand Down sponsored by National Veterans Outreach Program, Inc. Training Officer Michelle Dangler, Lindsay Minarovic and several volunteers worked one-on-one with 502 patrons during the month of October and saw 68 people attend 18 classes.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

San Antonio Public Library  
Fiscal Year-to-Date Comparisons  
Oct 2016 (8.3% of FY Completed)

Performance Measures	FYTD 16	FYTD 15	% Chg	FY 16 Goal	% of Goal Achieved	FY 16 Status
Total Circulation	648,025	627,464	3.3%	7,455,000	8.7%	✓
- Physical Circulation	559,635	558,085	0.3%	6,395,065	8.8%	✓
- Digital Circulation	88,390	69,379	27.4%	1,059,935	8.3%	✓
Visits	480,704	561,640	-14.4%	5,493,000	8.8%	✓
Program Attendance	34,351	32,852	4.6%	350,890	9.8%	✓
- Adult's Program Attendance	7,193	5,042	42.7%	57,000	12.6%	✓
- Teen's Program Attendance	4,646	5,647	-17.7%	43,890	10.6%	✓
- Children's Program Attendance	22,512	22,163	1.6%	250,000	9.0%	✓
Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use	201,329	213,705	-5.8%	2,410,000	8.4%	✓
Website and App Visits	315,114	291,681	8.0%	3,658,000	8.6%	✓
Bexar County (Outside the City of San Antonio)			Customer Satisfaction*			
% of Circulation	FYTD 16	FYTD 15	2014	2012		
Total Circulation	20.4%	19.0%	96%	94%		
- Physical Circulation	19.3%	18.1%				
- Digital Circulation	27.0%	25.6%				

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

FY 16 Renovations/Closures: Collins Garden Oct 1 - Dec

FY 15 Renovations/Closures: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22 - Sep 30

FY 15 Openings: Encino opened April 30

\* From the Biennial City of San Antonio Community Survey

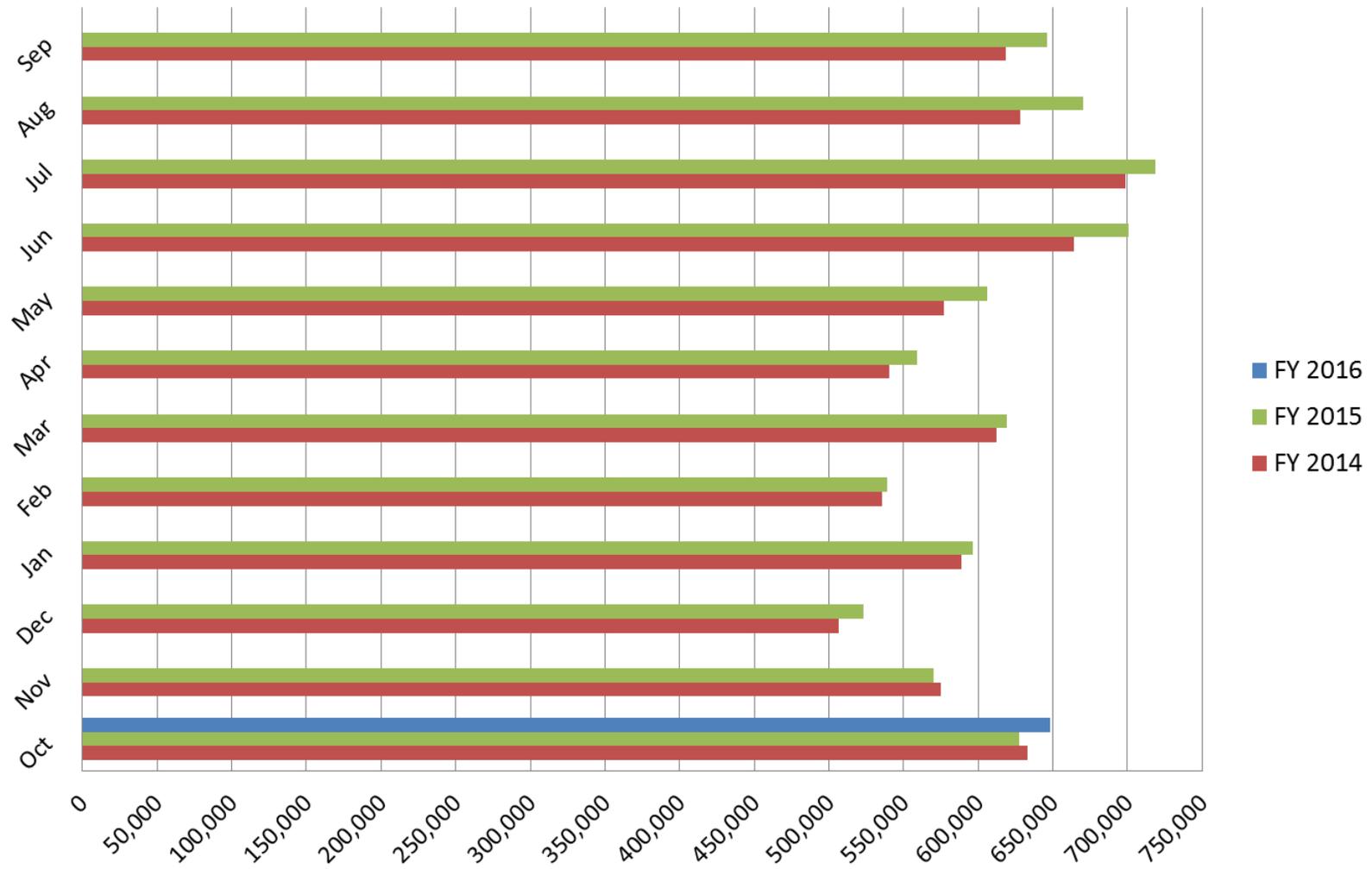
# San Antonio Public Library October 2015 Usage

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	6,207	11,282	45	23	4	18	398	231	8	159	6,963	1,644	5,320
Brook Hollow	27,632	23,296	48	16	4	28	1,383	218	2	1,163	6,121	1,518	4,604
Carver	5,681	9,751	54	21	5	28	713	253	22	438	5,434	1,946	3,488
Central	31,505	65,911	230	31	73	126	6,366	1,674	1,875	2,817	49,384	15,480	33,904
Cody	41,339	27,330	50	6	7	37	1,640	73	129	1,438	6,568	1,648	4,920
Collins Garden		0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	350	0	350
Cortez	7,720	12,746	111	91	8	12	583	370	85	128	5,558	2,015	3,543
Encino	24,003	17,042	88	25	11	52	2,958	570	418	1,970	4,174	487	3,688
Forest Hills	9,196	9,356	23	15	0	8	808	542	0	266	3,809	1,043	2,766
Great Northwest	35,455	22,178	35	12	6	17	1,682	146	150	1,386	7,498	1,713	5,784
Guerra	15,285	15,606	38	12	5	21	1,108	221	190	697	7,577	1,894	5,684
Igo	29,089	24,968	74	12	23	40	2,489	153	358	1,978	5,575	1,341	4,234
Johnston	12,516	13,645	26	7	8	11	766	383	163	220	5,746	1,568	4,178
Landa	11,764	11,306	24	3	4	17	626	52	28	546	1,928	811	1,117
Las Palmas	7,680	15,856	48	9	8	31	481	107	33	341	5,911	1,485	4,426
Maverick	29,338	16,721	41	12	8	21	950	221	66	663	6,613	2,102	4,510
McCreless	14,479	19,501	18	5	4	9	151	88	35	28	7,318	1,527	5,791
Memorial	7,097	11,941	45	6	3	36	846	257	50	539	7,070	1,933	5,136
Mission	14,715	22,196	59	24	9	26	1,115	299	237	579	11,189	3,254	7,935
Pan American	10,070	11,363	40	31	4	5	297	283	0	14	5,278	1,809	3,469
Parman	31,214	26,220	90	27	8	55	3,780	428	45	3,307	5,477	956	4,521
Pruitt	7,356	13,220	63	18	20	25	1,109	84	493	532	5,748	1,576	4,172
San Pedro	4,186	7,636	34	2	0	32	408	90	0	318	2,645	545	2,100
Semmes	27,302	20,123	45	3	7	35	967	11	47	909	7,130	1,804	5,327
Thousand Oaks	12,121	11,996	28	4	5	19	469	63	86	320	5,046	1,016	4,030
Tobin	20,720	21,037	59	14	7	38	1,334	118	84	1,132	5,526	1,727	3,799
Westfall	18,893	16,678	50	26	3	21	924	258	42	624	7,379	2,026	5,353
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	1,799	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	2,313	N/A	2,313
Interlibrary Loan Lending	935	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	96,137	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	88,390	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>648,025</b>	<b>480,704</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>34,351</b>	<b>7,193</b>	<b>4,646</b>	<b>22,512</b>	<b>201,329</b>	<b>54,867</b>	<b>146,463</b>

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

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation



**Location Closures**

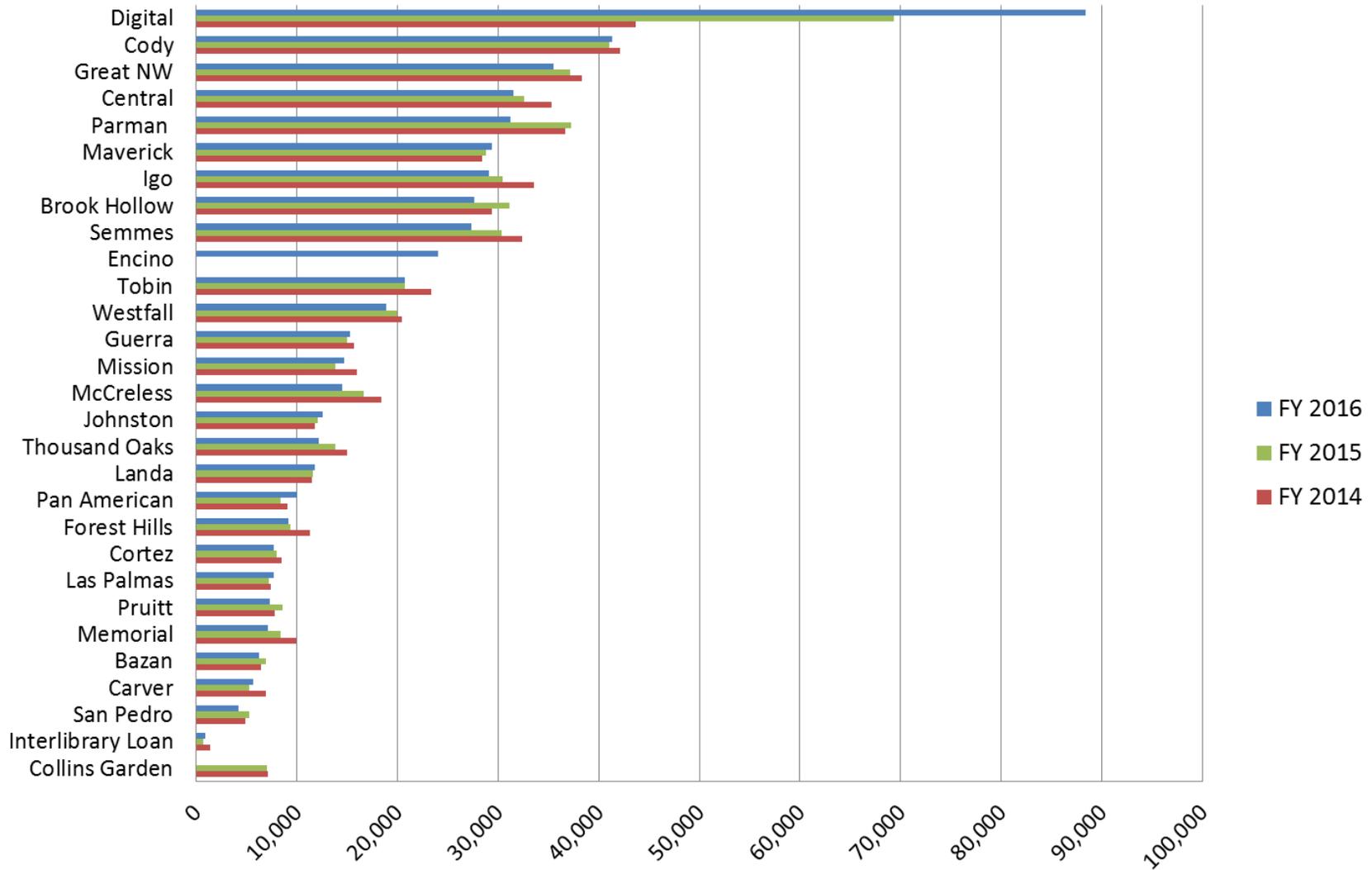
FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Dec

FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, \* Opening: Encino April 30

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

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Oct



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Dec

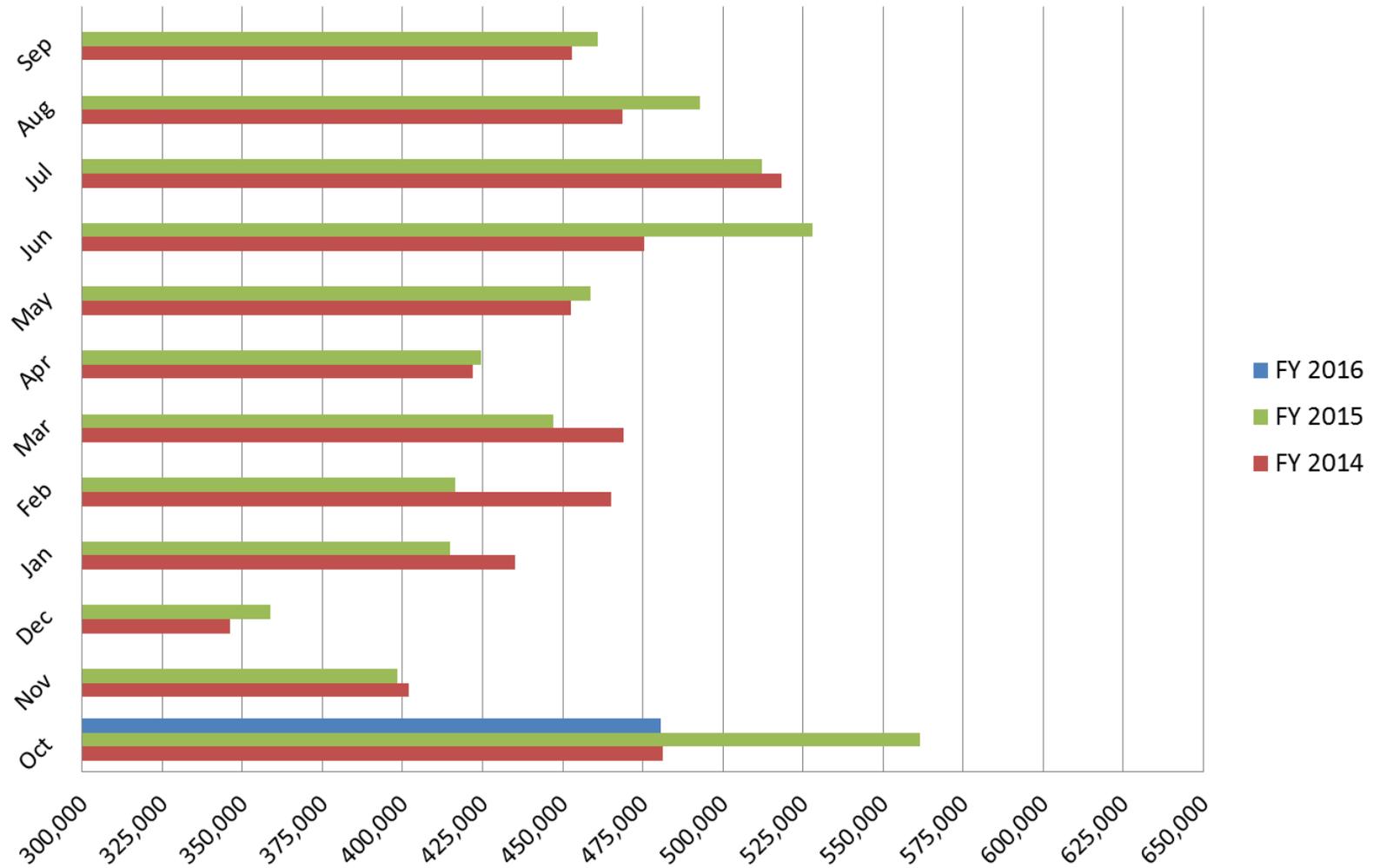
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11/23/2015

# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Dec

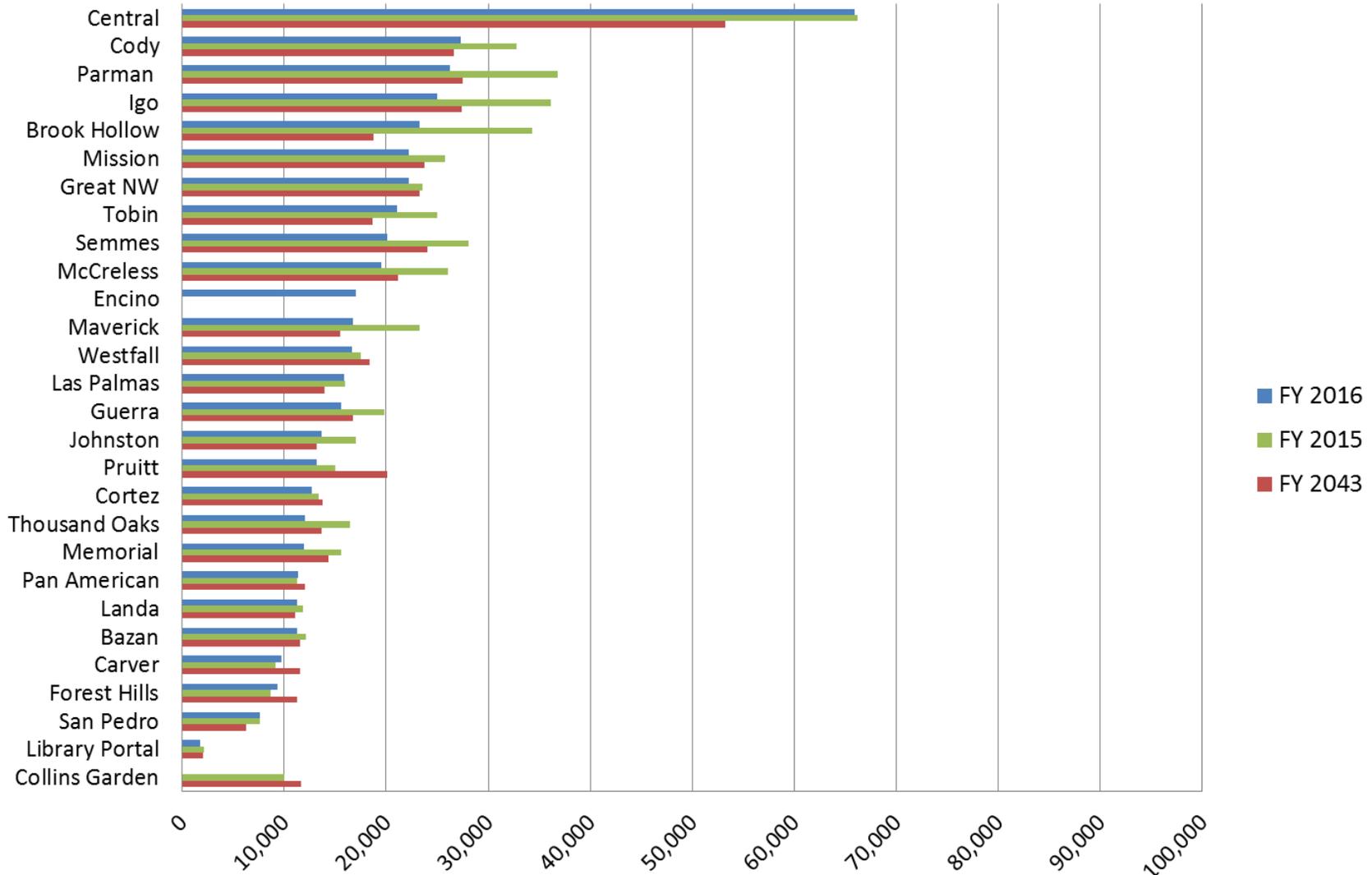
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11/23/2015

# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Oct



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Dec

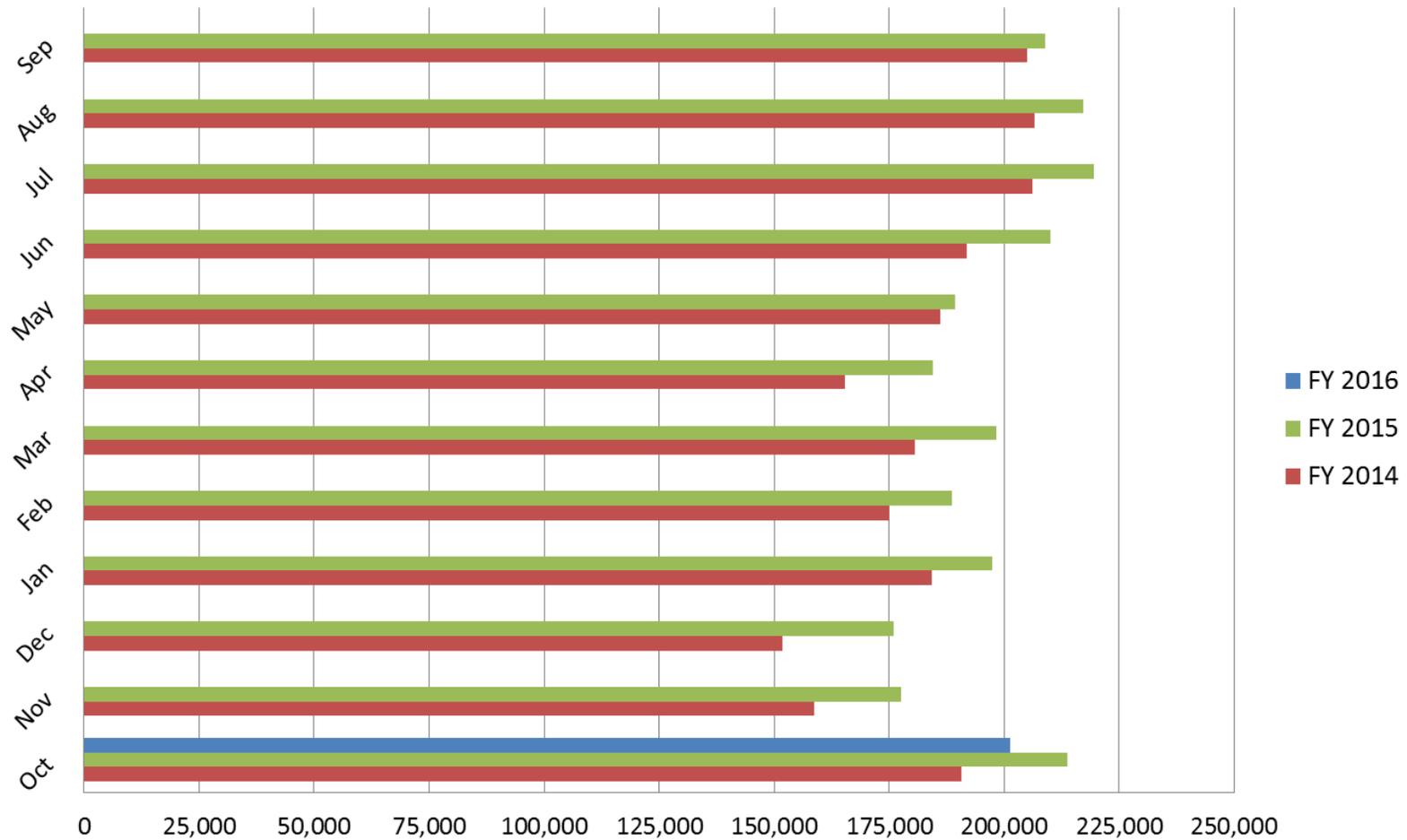
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11/23/2015

# San Antonio Public Library

## Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use



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

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