San Antonio Public Library
Director’s Report June 2017

San Antonio Public Library at Alamo City Comic Con
May 26 – 28
DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

All San Antonio Public Library locations are participating as donation sites for the SAReads Summer Book Drive which began on Monday, June 5th and continues through Friday, August 18th. The community is invited to donate new or gently-used children’s books during the Summer Book Drive. The San Antonio Public Libraries were the main donation sites when this Summer Book Drive was originally started by Congressman Joaquín Castro during his tenure in the Texas House of Representatives. In coordination with Congressman Castro, SAReads has now assumed operation of the Summer Book Drive under their organization. In addition to Library locations as donation sites, other partners serve as donation sites: all Firstmark Credit Union locations, all area YMCAs, both Whole Foods Market stores and The Twig Book Shop.

San Antonio is the venue for the International Society for Technology in Education conference taking place on June 25 – 28, 2017. In a partnership with the San Antonio International Airport and the Library, attendees of the International Society for Technology in Education conference will be welcomed via digital signage at the airport by San Antonio Public Library. The welcome message will encourage attendees to try one of the three Digital Library Kiosks located at the San Antonio International Airport. This opportunity is an excellent way to experience one of the many ways the San Antonio Public Library uses technology to support learning in our community.

The Library kicked-off the Mayor’s Summer Reading Program on May 30, 2017. This media event is geared to not only to announce the start of the Mayor’s Summer Reading Program, but to also promote it City wide so as to encourage students to participate. The program is aimed at keeping readers engaged while out of school and also includes a program for adults to model positive reading habits to children. The whole family can take part of the Library’s Reading Program.

For the past twelve years (12) Library Teen Services has partnered with the San Antonio Food Bank to serve as a venue for free summer meals and afterschool snacks to children and teens in the community through the USDA’s Summer Food Service Program. The program, targeted at children and teens ages 1-18 years-old, is intended to fill a hunger gap. This hunger gap occurs when kids rely on free or reduced lunches during the school year and have to go without lunch during the summer when school is out. While the Central Library has participated each year, the branch locations change from year to year based on partnerships and other summer food sites. This is the second year SAPL has partnered with NEISD to provide meals during the summer months.

Participating locations for lunches or snacks include the following 10 library locations: Brook Hollow, Carver, McCreless, Pan American, Potranco, Pruitt, Semmes, Thousand Oaks, and Tobin branch libraries as well as the Central Library. The San Antonio Public Library is only one of many organizations that host summer food programs and there are 100s of summer food sites all around San Antonio.

As planned, on June 5, 2017, the Landa Branch Library will temporarily close to undergo external and internal improvements remain closed through September 20, 2017. Ramiro Salazar has briefed Councilman Trevino regarding the renovation and planned temporary closure and followed-up with a briefing memo to the City Manager with copies to Councilman Trevino and other COSA Stakeholders. In addition to meeting with stakeholders of the Landa Branch Library, such as the Landa Gardens Conservancy and the Mote Vista Historical Association, a communication plan to notify the community about the planned closure and provide information for nearby locations has been developed.
All work has been planned and designed through a professional architectural firm specializing in historic buildings. A Certificate of Appropriateness has been approved by the Office of Historic Preservation for this project. The Library Department is collaborating with TCI for the execution of this project. The construction contract was approved by City Council on June 1, 2017.

The Central Library is the venue for the Charter Review Commission Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Library Staff coordinated with the City Manager’s Office, ITSD and Parking Division regarding logistics for the meeting.

MARKETING

The Marketing team supported efforts to organize, publicize and staff several events during the reporting period including: Mayor’s Summer Reading Club for Children and Summer Reading Program for Teens and Adults kick off, Family Pride Fair at Market Square, and Aspergers101. The team has also been rolling out the Landa renovation closure communication plan.

Top media hits for the past month include - KSAT 12 filmed in the Texana/Genealogy department for a 1 hour documentary special on the history of the Canary Islanders in San Antonio that will air in late August; Local Community News interviewed Assistant Library Director Dale McNeill, Public Services Administrator Elma Nieto-Rodriguez and Pruitt Library Branch Manager Dee Dee Davenport about the Pruitt Branch Library partnership with NEISD; KSAT 12, News4 WOAI, KABB Fox 29 and KENS 5 covered the Mayor’s Summer Reading Club and Summer Reading Program kick off at Central Library on Tuesday, May 30; Express News published a story about summer reading and avoiding the summer slide on Friday, June 2; the Library was mentioned in an Express News story about our participation in the Family Pride Fair at Market Square on Saturday, June 3rd; News 4 WOAI announced the Library’s participation in the SA Reads Summer Book Drive; and an article by Jean Brady about the importance of libraries was published on the Rivard Report on Tuesday, June 13.

The design team has created materials to prepare for several programs, events and other design support as needed: July newsletter, FY2018 Budget, Digital Library rack card updates, SAPL bilingual user guide, Digital Library Wallpaper updates, Financial Wellness programming, Adult-Up programming, branch signage at several locations, Summer Reading, Live Homework Help, Comic Con, Landa Branch Library closure, Summer Art Exhibit, Chips and Salsa documentary series, new SAPL Mascot, and Potranco Self-Service kiosks.

The team is working on a communications plan for the rollout of a new SAPL mascot. We are also hosting a student from the City’s Student Ambassador Program. UT Austin sophomore and communications student David Ramirez will be working with the Marketing Department through the first week of August.

Social Media fun facts for the month:

SAPL received 3,400 incoming social media messages between May 20 and June 18.
75% of SAPL’s Facebook fans are women and 49% of those women are 35- 54 years old.
#mysapl was used 207 times on Instagram during the reporting period
#libraryfun was used 123 times on Instagram during the reporting period

Our most popular tweet of the month was the announcement of the Landa Branch Library closure.
Social Media statistics for the month:

1. Facebook: 13,470 page likes
2. Twitter: 3,732 followers
3. Pinterest: 90 followers
4. Instagram: 1,878 followers
5. Snapchat: 55 followers

DIGITAL SERVICES

Sarah Caralon and Tricia Masterson represented the Library at the 5th annual Alamo City Comic Con on May 26 – May 28, 2017. They helped out with the green screen photo booth, cosplay repair station, and light saber craft.

Digital Services, working with Innovative Interfaces Inc., performed a major cleanup of the Library’s ILS. The entire process took from June 7 to June 9, and affected over 400,000 records.

On June 14, 2017, Ms. Caralon conducted an Introduction to LibGuides class for staff. LibGuides is a system the library uses to provide customized information to both patrons and staff.

LITTLE READ WAGON

To close out the 2016-17 school year, Little Read Wagon visited Sun Valley Elementary, Bob Hope Elementary, Fox Run Elementary, Healy Murphy Early Head Start, Ella Austin Early Head Start, and YWCA at Castroville Early Head Start. Little Read Wagon also had the opportunity to speak at several Avance Early Head Start centers as part of their June parent meetings: Mirasol, SW 19th, RCC, Fenley, Morales, Good Samaritan, Frank Garrett, and Kelley. Parents decorated wooden teething rings by tying coordinating ribbons around them and discussed how the rings could be used to talk, sing, read, write, and play with their babies.

Julia Lazarin continued to build services at YMCA Head Start at Haven for Hope. Ms. Lazarin began by sharing a meal, funded by the Valero Foundation, with parents at their monthly meeting. The following day she brought an art activity for families to enjoy as they picked up their children. The next week Ms. Lazarin brought a reading tent and books for families to read together and keep. These outreach efforts will continue with weekly visits through July.

Workshops were presented to teen parents at O’Connor, Edgewood ISD Career Academy, and Navarro high schools. There were several programs cancelled by the host sites due to low enrollment, absences, or other scheduling conflicts.

Outreach story time programs were presented at the Navarro and Healy Murphy child development centers. A follow-up offering of family reading tents was presented at Knox Early Childhood Center.
The summer Play & Learn programs kicked off June 13 and 15 at Woodlawn Lake and South Side Lions parks. Woodlawn Lake had a very large group of approximately 50 children and their parents. South Side Lions was also well-attended but by a significantly smaller and calmer crowd. The Little Read Wagon team is grateful for the shade trees and pavilions at both locations.

Elizabeth Huber presented at Career Day at Benavides Elementary and also represented the team at Alamo City Comic Con. Ms. Huber was joined by Candace Rivera and Elvia Franco at Travis Park for the first Movies by Moonlight of the summer. The team brought cut up sections of pool noodles, craft foam “sails,” and drinking straw masts for children to make their own boats. The activity was designed to correspond to the showing of Moana.

The final “Reading from the Heart” workshop was presented May 20 at Central Library. Little Read Wagon is developing a new workshop for the 2017-18 school year.

CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

The 2017 version of Summer Reading is off to a swift start with over 11,000 children enrolled in the Reading and Read-To-Me Clubs as of Monday, June 19. Mayor Ivy Taylor participated in the opening press conference on Tuesday, May 30. Many of the branches began their summer programming season with local “kick off” events that featured a variety of activities all centered on the summer theme: Build a Better World. Details regarding Summer Reading can be found at http://guides.mysapl.org/summerreading.

With the support of library administration, five temporary employees have been hired to assist with children’s services this summer. The temps have been assigned to library branches that are usually very busy and/or are experiencing staffing shortages (Cody, Brook Hollow, Great Northwest, Parman, and Pan American). Three of the five temps are school librarians, one is a classroom teacher and one is an assistant principal who received her MLS as part of the Library Foundation’s IMLS Scholars program.

Viki will be attending the 2017 American Library Association Conference in Chicago June 23 – June 27 as part of her service on the 2018 Laura Ingalls Wilder Committee. This committee awards the Wilder Medal to an author or illustrator whose work has made a lasting and substantial contribution to children’s literature. The work of the committee culminates with the announcement of the 2018 Wilder Medalist in January 2018 at the American Library Association’s Midwinter Meeting.

On Friday, June 16, Viki attended a Pre-K 4 SA training on the use of poetry in language and literacy learning. The session was presented by Dr. Jesse Gainer, a faculty member in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Texas State University. Dr. Gainer offered ways to motivate children to be both readers and writers of poetry. His ideas will be very useful tools for promoting participation in SAPL’s annual Young Poetry Competition.

Viki also attended the COSA Head Start Speaker series on Wednesday, June 14. Three speakers shared their experiences with disability rights and acceptance in promoting inclusion for all people. The primary speaker, Micah Fialka-Feldman, is a graduate of Oakland University in Michigan where he worked diligently as a student with intellectual disabilities to be fully integrated into university life. His work resulted in the right of students with disabilities to live on campus in the dorms. The evening was quite inspiring and included ideas on how the entire community of San Antonio, including the library, can become more inclusive.
TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

A collaboration between SAPL’s Teen Services, Molly Pruitt Library, and Roosevelt High School, the first annual Smarter Fair provided an opportunity for teens to engage with summertime opportunities through community vendors, securing internships, volunteer opportunities, and jobs for the summertime. Leaders from Parks & Recreation, the YWCA, the DoSeum, UTSA, the Fire Department, Café College, and the Witte Museum (along with several other community partners) all pitched in to share their engagement opportunities for the summer, and received over 1,500 teens throughout the day.

Sponsored by Capital One, the initiative took a great deal of planning from all aspects of the Teen Services department, and was a great example of what a cross-sector collaboration can accomplish when intentionality couples with intelligence to make a well thought out initiative that impacts a large number of teens.

Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor played a distinct role in outreach to the various vendors, orchestrating logistics, and promoting the event amidst the student body the day of the event.

Adam Tutor joined Teen Service staff from several library branches to support a larger outreach event for the students of Luna Middle School. Edward Mayberry (Teen Liaison @ Guerra), Nicole Garza (Teen Liaison @ Johnston), Daniella Toll (Teen Service Librarian @ Potranco), and Kassandra Vela-Laosa (Librarian I PT @ Potranco) all participated in the outreach endeavor. In front of a full cafeteria of about 300, Adam helped emcee the event and support SAPL’s outreach for summertime – including the Teen Summer Program, Teen Time opportunities, and library card sign up. It was a dynamic day and the students showed great enthusiasm and interest in engagement with the library’s teen programs. Staff at the school was also very supportive and expressed sincere desire to work with the library more consistently in the future.

Adam closed out the year’s book club efforts at Jefferson High School, supporting the school’s librarian in direct outreach with students to promote summer reading opportunities at the branch and otherwise. Together they created a solidified game plan for the upcoming school year around Teen Services support.

Adam met with Community Center Leader Alejandro Charles, an employee of Parks & Recreation, to establish a partnership throughout the summertime with the Teen Center, offering library programs and opportunities through the lens of music, books, and arts and crafts.

Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor has engaged with Krier Probation Center in creating a Teen Book Club, as well as designing a program that will help students phasing out of the probation center’s program to enter society a healthy and active citizen. During the reporting period, the teens chose the book *After Tupac & D Foster*, a book about the issues facing young black girls in the mid-90s NYC ghetto. Over the course of the book club, the teens demonstrated openness and a thoughtful attention to dialogue that progressed their ideas. At the conclusion of the book, Adam offered a presentation to the teens on how to utilize the library’s resources, provided them with library cards, and helped them understand the value of the teen programming for their reintroduction into high school. A week later, the teens took a rare field trip to the Teen Library @ Central, a unique experience for them as they only leave their facility for home visits and very rarely interact with other teens during their probation period. The outing proved incredibly successful and showed the area’s teens happily and creatively interacting with library patrons. The individuals expressed great feedback to their supervisors, who will use this model for future partnership interactions.

Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor continued his work in supporting the Memorial Library Teen Time. He was able to bring unique arts and crafts, as well as continue a strong bond through video...
gaming time. A warm and friendly environment was created, wherein the teens and Adam created a bond that persisted throughout the course of their interaction.

Adam supported the Teen Time at Brook Hollow Library by setting up a cinema space for the teens to watch movies, preparing snacks and facilitating a relaxed environment for all of the teens to interact and enjoy their time together.

Several library locations began their annual participation in the USDA's Summer Food Service Program in June. The SFSP provides free lunches to children and teens ages 1-18. The program is available to sites that are located in areas where many kids and teens receive free or reduced price lunches at school. When the school year ends, many of these kids and teens go without lunch, which is why the SAPL serves as a food site each year. The Teen Library @ Central has partnered with the San Antonio Food Bank for over a decade. Other library branches sponsored by the Food Bank this summer are Carver, McCreless, Pan American, and Potranco. Some branch libraries are participating for the second year in a SFSP partnership with NEISD, in which NEISD is the sponsor and provides their own staff to facilitate the program. These library locations are Brook Hollow, Pruitt, Semmes, Thousand Oaks, and Tobin. For information about the dates and times at each location, please visit the Teen Summer 2017 LibGuide: http://guides.mysapl.org/teensummer2017.

For several years, the San Antonio Public Library has participated in the Youth Career Opportunity Program coordinated by the Family Service Association (FSA). Kathleen Fordyce, manager of the Teen Library @ Central, has served as the contact for the FSA and has coordinated the implementation of the program at participating library locations. On June 13–15, Kathleen and several teen services librarians attended job fairs at three sites around the city to interview potential teen candidates for internship positions. Thanks to Rae Downen (Pruitt), Ana Menchaca (McCreless) and Stephanie Vazquez (Cody) for participating in the job fairs!

This year seven library locations are participating in the FSA’s program and include: Central, Carver, Forest Hills, Great Northwest, McCreless, Pruitt, and Semmes. This summer internship is often the teens’ first work experience and serves as valuable experience on their resume, as well as providing much needed help for library staff during the busy summer months.

The 2017 Teen Summer Program – Build a Better World – kicked off on June 1st. Teens earn chances to win a prize by reading books and attending library programs. This year there are several prizes available, including a Nintendo 3DS XL and game, a Fujifilm Instax Mini 8 camera with film, an HEB gift card, and tickets to San Japan. The end of summer party for teens will take place at the Central Library on Saturday, August 5th. Information about the program is available on the Teen Summer 2017 LibGuide: http://guides.mysapl.org/teensummer2017.

The Teen Library @ Central recently filled the Librarian II, Assistant Manager position. The Teen Library staff welcomed Megan Stanley, previously the Teen Services Librarian at Westfall Library, on June 7. Megan will begin Tuesday programming after talking with the teens in the area and discovering their interests.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

During the summer, five branch locations are hosting family STEM events about monarch butterflies and climate change. Groups participating in the events include the UTHSA Nursing School, UTHSCSA Garden & Health Interest Group (GHIG) and the UTSA Monarch and Milkweed Project. In support of the programs, Coordinator of Services to Adults Haley Holmes facilitated the purchase of butterfly pavilions and live caterpillars for each location. Patrons and staff have enjoyed watching the transformation process and butterfly release.
As part of the monthly adult services meeting, librarians assigned to do adult programming spent some of the June meeting practicing using a green screen to take photos. This year, all summer reading finishers will be given the opportunity to get a free photo emailed to them with the background of their choice at every location. Green screens can offer a fun simple addition to many programs and now that every location has one, they will be incorporated into more library events. In addition, the librarians spent some time brainstorming programming ideas and the group came up with over 200 innovative ideas to consider for the future.

Students from the LEARN English as a Second Language groups from Cortez, Bazan, and Westfall branch libraries went on their first field trip together to the Institute of Texan Cultures. Two of the groups took the bus together as well. The students were able to explore the museum, special exhibits and hands-on displays. This was an excellent choice as the museum is all about people who have immigrated to Texas, just like the LEARN students. They were able to see the diverse groups that came before them and appreciate their similarities and differences. The students were paired up to explore a specific nationality together, then watched a video projected in the center dome. Lastly, the students completed a scavenger hunt and the first three finishers received prizes. One participant took the day off from work to attend the field trip saying that the opportunity was the best thing that had happened to him in a long time. Another student stated, "I never thought I would come to a place like this." The trip was made possible through a grant from the Library Foundation, and more field trips are planned for the future.

As the lead for Operation Transformation, Ms. Holmes led an all day workshop for the initiative’s steering committee. The group spent the day creating the mission and vision of the project along with creating a plan of action. They identified six areas of need within the organization and will come together in July to share their proposals for change. Once revised, those will be shared with Library Administration to determine potential implementation. The group is very energetic and is looking forward to engaging all of the Library staff innovation and process improvement.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN’S

The Central Children’s Department reached full staffing level this month with two new additions to the team – Librarians Nicole Cubillas and Lea Ann McDonald. Since joining the team in May, they have hit the ground running and become assets to the department as the busy summer season began.

San Antonio Symphony Cellist Holgen Gjoni performed an array of classical music selections for families at the Central Library as part of the Symphony at SAPL programming initiative. He also handed out several tickets to the symphony, much to the delight of one lucky family.

In an example of exceptional teamwork, all members of the department worked together to decorate the Children’s Floor with “Build a Better World” imagery to usher in the Summer Reading Program. The team transformed the castle structure that greets visitors at the top of the escalator into a stack of oversized LEGO bricks using construction paper and recycled cardboard boxes. Library Assistant Ana Sandoval used her artistic talents to craft a bulletin board highlighting the program theme and Manager Kate Simpson created a LEGO themed bulletin board promoting the department’s programming offerings this summer.

The Central Children’s Department was thrilled to serve as the location for the press conference announcing the start of the Summer Reading Program. The “Build a Better World” décor made for a lovely backdrop to the event.
At the Summer Block Party, families celebrated the start of summer fun at Central Library with building-themed activities for all ages. Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin, Ms. Simpson, Ms. Cubillas and Ms. McDonald welcomed families to this well attended party that featured scavenger hunts, a LEGO mini-figure craft and a traffic cone ring toss game. Toddlers and infants enjoyed their construction zone full of toy toolkits, soft building blocks and pint-sized hardhats. Older children engaged in several STEM-based engineering activities: large scale building with cardboard boxes, complex structural design using newspaper tubes, and LEGO and DUPLO architecture. Families raved about the party and many have returned to enjoy weekly summer programs at the Central Library.

The Central Children’s Department has enjoyed having Jasmin Salinas, Children’s Librarian II from Landa Library, on Tuesday mornings when she has presented Baby Time. Due to Landa’s closure this summer, Ms. Salinas initiated moving her most popular program to the neighboring Central Library, where many of her regularly attending families have followed to participate in the high energy educational program she provides.

Ms. Seglin presented engaging programs for toddlers and preschoolers this month at Toddler Time & Play & Learn. During city themed programs, young children rode in a cardboard fire truck, played with community helper hand puppets, and designed cities with blocks and black felt “roads.” Summer was kicked off with a series of building themed programs at which children played in a sandbox with toy construction vehicles, explored a diverse array of building blocks and manipulatives, and crafted structures using play dough and dry pasta. Summer programs are not complete without some ocean themed play, so Ms. Seglin presented an imaginative play center with a cardboard boat and sea creature puppets, a water sensory play area, and a sandy beach experience, much to the delight of the toddlers.

Families were charmed by the Sandbanks Shadow Factory performance at Central Library. Children were mesmerized by the unusual shadow puppet style that featured a glowing stage in the darkened Story Room. The performer had the children and adults singing and laughing throughout the show.

Ms. Cubillas and Ms. McDonald took on LEGO Club as their first programming responsibility and had great success, with increasingly larger numbers of children attending their programs each week in June. They also spearheaded using a green screen during the program, which enriched the experience for the families in attendance.

Ms. Seglin took an innovative approach to Kids Time programming when she highlighted wellness and mindfulness. While she read poems about ocean creatures to the children, she led them in practicing yoga poses based on those animals. Children and parents delighted in mimicking dolphins, turtles and jellyfish, all while learning yoga!

Ms. Seglin visited Robert B. Green Elementary for their Parent’s Coffee meeting in May where she spoke to parents about the Summer Reading Program and all the summer fun for kids at the library. This was of great interest to the parents, who were looking for ways to keep their children learning this summer.

Department Librarians hosted several visits form Alamo Heights elementary school students as part of the Alamo Heights Independent School District’s summer program. The day before the tours, the Librarians held a virtual meeting with the students via Skype. They shared all the activities they had in store for the children, ramping up the excitement for the field trips and answering some of their questions. During the visits, the first and second graders enjoyed learning about the Fiesta Tower and the public library’s role in the community. They worked together to create an ocean scene mural from die cuts they decorated, and then explored the library’s picture book collection.
In partnership with the Teen Library, Ms. Seglin and Ms. Simpson hosted a visit from a large group of students from La Vernia Middle School. The tour of the Central Library was a special experience for the students from the rural area south east of San Antonio, none of whom had ever been to the Central Library before. After touring the building and learning about the public library’s offerings, the group participated in an activity focused in the “Build a Better World” theme. Each student contributed examples of acts of kindness written on pieces of paper which were then linked together to form a unified chain of positivity.

Ms. Seglin and Ms. Simpson welcomed students from Anson Jones Middle School to the Central Library for a tour of the art and architecture and an introduction to library services. The visit to the library was the highlight of their summer program and many students expressed interest in returning with the parents to enjoy the summer fun at library.

Ms. Seglin presented story times to two classes at Madison Square Child Development Center. Ms. Seglin’s ocean themed stories were a hit with the children who happened to be dressed in their swimsuits for their “splash day!” She also delivered an array of summer themed books to the Central Christian Childcare Center.

TEENS

Mondays with J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant): During the reporting period, J.D. facilitated Eclectic Electric music programming. J.D.—spurred on by the realization that at least two of Eclectic’s teen “regulars” travel from the far Northside (they attend Johnson High School) to attend each Monday’s program—has decided to fine-tune Eclectic programming based on these teens’ interest and dedication. While Eclectic has provided recording, jamming and learning opportunities for years now, J.D. is ensuring that that continues via the informal and fun “Jam Club,” in addition to a guitar and keyboard-based curriculum for more serious Eclectic attendees. Jam Club will consist of a repertoire developed by the teens, facilitated by J.D. The idea is that two or three teens will learn songs per instrument, increasing the likelihood of a group of teens being present to jam band-style, as opposed to the occasional session during Monday programming. J.D. will continue his teen-led approach to teaching, based on what teens are asking to learn – whether it be chords, music theory, etc. – but will also be using music reference books from the Eclectic Electric collection to teach in a more systematic way for teens that desire it.

Tuesdays with Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT): During the reporting period, Ciana hosted Science & Tech Tuesdays, during which teens designed 3D models to print and printed models found online.

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 and PS4 games, as well as board games like Chess, Jenga and Apples to Apples.

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Thursdays in June, teens engaged in creative, tasty, and experimental programs. In the past teens have made non-edible sugar skulls as part of Dia de los Muertos activities, so this time they asked if they could make them to eat. They did, decorating the skulls with frosting and sprinkles. Some teens realized they make better decorations than food. Incorporating some science into their crafts, teens figured out ratios of cornstarch, liquid soap, and food coloring to make squishy soap. Another option was to use glutinous rice flour instead of cornstarch and steamed them to create a solid squishy soap. Celebrating fandoms, with teens leading the way on what aspects to spotlight, has become a Teen Library favorite. While watching Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, teen volunteer Athena suggested making buttons, making Queenie’s strudel, and celebrating the Niffler using biscuits to shape into the cute character. Another teen suggested the Teen
Library should have another Dragon Ball Z party. A party was held on a Saturday, where teens shaped biscuit dough and topped it with cut out pepperoni stars to resemble the dragon ball, played video games, and made bead sprites. To mark the end of the school season and the start of Teen Summer 2017, teens made fancy chocolate cupcakes, using a hazelnut candy in its center. They also reused old cds by painting them in dark colors and then scratching off the paint in designs to create a sparkly effect. Using tomatoes, jalapeños, onions, limes and cilantro, teens made salsa. Though they used the same ingredients, each batch had a distinct tasty flavor. Teens also attempted to make corn tortillas. Teens got noisy in their craft time, hammering nails in a pattern on a block of wood and then creating string art. Pizza monkey bread with pepperoni and cheese was on the agenda and with the leftover biscuit dough. Teens were even able to make the standard monkey bread using cinnamon and sugar. Teens also used beads, keychains, bottle caps and string to create unique jewelry. In a nice coincidence, teens from the same theater camp met up at the craft table and sang snippets of songs from the night’s movie. After Thursday programs have concluded, in a non-competitive environment, teens played video games. Pictures from Thursday programs as well as other Teen Library and system-wide programs can be found at http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary. Some nights, photos and mini-videos are also posted to Teen Library’s Instagram account: https://instagram.com/210teenlibrary.

Several community centers brought groups of teens to the Teen Library to use computers and participate in teen library programming. Groups of teens from the George Gervin Center, Roy Maas, the Juvenile Detention Center, and the Selena Center made regular visits during the reporting period.

On May 15, over 100 students from La Vernia Junior High were provided with tours of the Central Library by the Children’s staff and Teen Library staff.

On June 15, a STEM class from Fox Tech High School visited the Central Library for a tour. J.D. Elizondo provided a tour of the building for the group, and Megan Stanley showed the teens around the Teen Library and provided catalog and database instruction.

REFERENCE

The celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage (APAHM) continued through the end of May. Pannaga Prasad facilitated programs at branches, as well as hosting programs at the Central Library. On May 23, Ms. Prasad hosted Korean Cultural Activity: Games. The presentation by the Korean American Cultural Center of San Antonio offered several activities including patron bookmarks with names written in Korean. Traditional games such as Gonggi and Jegi Chagi were also featured. Cynthia de Leon hosted Korean Traditional Dances on May 27. The dance troupe wore beautiful costumes and performed a traditional Fan Dance. Ms. de Leon and Lily Perez hosted Japanese Calligraphy Arts on May 27. The Vice President of Cultural Activities of the Japan-American Society of San Antonio Minako Miyamoto-Page presented a brief history of Shodo, a Japanese calligraphy art. Patrons enjoyed trying their own calligraphy using traditional ink and fude.

On June 6, Ms. de Leon and Sally Bauer hosted a showing of the documentary Chips and Salsa. The documentary film describes how three family owned restaurants located in older San Antonio neighborhoods stabilize and provide economic stimulus to their communities. After the showing, the filmmakers were on hand to answer questions, as were the owner of Viva Vegeria, one of the restaurants profiled in the film.

On June 14, Ms. de Leon and Theresa Terrell hosted an installment of What are You Reading for Lunch?, a book talk presentation in support of the Summer Reading Program: “Build a Better World”. Attendees were served cookies and tea. Ms. Terrell discussed, Speak in the Sea, Mud Season, and Bizarre Competition: 101 Ways to Become a World Champion. She gave an engaging presentation about
the bizarre sports of “Bee Wearing” and “Speed Knitting.” Ms. de Leon reviewed the books *American Eclipse*, *Gizelle’s Bucket List*, and *The Yellow Envelope*. Ms. Terrell and Ms. de Leon used props and photographs to enhance the book presentations.

Enjoy the transformative power of dance this summer with Central’s *Cinema Film Series: Dance Off, Bro*. The series kicked off on June 4 with host Blanca Hernandez presenting the film *Take the Lead*. The Film series continued with presentations hosted by Dan Garcia of *Footloose* on June 11 and *Beat Street* on June 15.

On May 27, Cristine Mitchamore and Alexandria Martinez participated in the Alamo City Comic Con. Activities at the Library booth included creating “light sabers”, providing costume repair assistance, and providing a space to sit down and read graphic novels. Ms. Mitchamore noted that attendees were surprised to see a Library presence at the “Con”; she happily shared that SAPL has a substantial collection of graphic novels, fandom related programs, and at Central, regular “Geek Out” events.

**TEXANA/GENEALOGY**

Librarian Sylvia Reyna led a group on the *Central Within Reach: River Walk History Tour* on May 21. The tour began at the Central Library and concluded at the Kampmann Library Portal on W. Market Street. Along the way, Ms. Reyna pointed out the architectural style and discussed the history of notable buildings visible from the River Walk.

On May 27, Ms. Reyna conducted a tour of the historic east side cemeteries. Attendees were taken through City Cemetery #1, the Oddfellows Cemetery and Alamo Masonic Cemetery. The graves of notable historical figures Clara Driscoll, Dr. Ferdinand Herff, Col. T.C. Frost and Samuel Augustus Maverick were just a few of those visited that morning.

On June 7, Assistant Manager Deborah Countess used Texana resources to help a patron track down additional information on a Spanish land grant his ancestor received back in 1828. The gentleman had questions regarding property in Guadalupe County and was able to find answers in historical Texas Legislature volumes.

Librarian Andy Crews assisted a member of the Texas Historical Commission on June 14 who was in town researching school desegregation in San Marcos and San Antonio in 1955.

**BRANCH LOCATIONS**

**BAZAN**

The Bazan branch began hosting a weekly writing workshop for seniors taught by *Voces de La Luna* a Quarterly Poetry and Arts Journal. The workshop guides attendees in collecting, writing and sharing their unique stories.

Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen hosted a successful Summer Reading kick-off party on June 3. The event included refreshments and very popular clowns who did face painting and balloon figures. By far, the balloon swords proved to be the most popular item as the children engaged in mock battles with each other. Kids Time, LEGO’s, and Come & Go Crafts continued to be well attended and enjoyed.

Teen services librarian Georgina Salinas, who joined the Bazan team recently, started hosting weekly programs and established a presence with teens encouraging their growth in leadership. Towards that end, a few teens have gathered to create a monthly young adult comic book club.
In addition, Georgina assisted Teen Services Librarian Caroline Mossing from Brook Hollow with outreach at Eisenhower Middle School in late May. Georgina did an all-day presentation on library services for two of the middle school’s 8th grade English classes and introduced the students to Homework Help, online databases, volunteering at the library, and teen programming. Students were also informed about access to resources in the Learning Express Library database to help build resumes and cover letters, guidance on writing college admission essays, and how to access practice modules for STAAR testing, SAT, ACT, and AP exams. Georgina also encouraged students to visit their local branch library to participate in weekly teen programs and in annual teen programs hosted at the Central Teen Library (Teen Arts Fest, Mini Maker Faire, and Rock the Plaza).

Georgina visited Irving Middle School on June 1 to participate in the school’s field day. Georgina setup a booth for students to learn about library services, teen programs, and to give the students an opportunity to register for summer reading. Students left the booth with bookmarks, flyers, and pencils.

Bazan volunteer Mr. Daniel Gomez was the recipient of an Ella Award on May 19 at a reception at the Central Library. Mr. Gomez, who has generously volunteered his time over the past year and a half at the Bazan Library, was recognized for his work leading two book groups.

The Digital Inclusion Month classes held at the Bazan Library and taught by Emma Hernandez, Michelle Ricondo and Emily Flores were a success. Most classes had a waiting list of eager participants and feedback was overwhelmingly positive. A video covering the classes was filmed on location at Bazan and placed online.

The Bazan Library held a Job Fair on May 23. Fifteen employers from a diverse cross-section of industries participated and both job seekers and employers expressed great enthusiasm and appreciation for the event. Emma Hernandez worked tirelessly to promote the event and ensured it was a success.

The Bazan Library hosted the Lanier-Barrio Network Meeting on May 25. The organization works to strengthen neighborhood and community bonds and integrate and promote services on the West Side. Representatives from numerous community organizations on the West Side were in attendance.

Learn Training Officer Emily Flores and nearly 20 learners in her English as a Second Language (ESL) group visited the Institute of Texan Cultures on May 15. Mrs. Flores and students took public transportation together. Along with ESL students from the Westfall and Cortez Learn Centers, the group participated in both a group and self-guided tour, culminating in a scavenger hunt. The Institute explores the contributions of immigrant groups to Texas state history and students were surprised to learn of all the different cultural groups that have migrated to Texas over time. The field trip involved pre- and post-visit activities, including key vocabulary and concepts and historical background information. The students also explored the development of Hemisfair Park in the context of the 1968 World’s Fair.

Bazan hosted Coloring for Grown-Ups and it was a great success. Patrons who have been attending the monthly program have built relationships outside of the branch and now consider this their social hour to decompress. One of Bazan’s patrons enjoyed the last coloring for grown-ups so much that she made mole, rice and beans for the group to show her gratitude. To help promote the program the attendees’ work was displayed for all to admire.

Bazan welcomed teen volunteers from neighboring Lanier high school and two summer interns from the JOVEN youth services organization. Teen Librarian Gina Salinas and Library Assistant Dina Prater were excited to utilize their skills to help promote branch services and assist with summer activities. They will benefit the team tremendously by helping out with displays, programing and summer reading.
Bazan held its first Adult Summer Reading weekly drawing and a patron from our Learn center, Mario Martinez, won a t-shirt. He was thrilled. Mr. Martinez has been attending computer classes at the Learn Center to advance his skills.

The screening of the documentary *Chips and Salsa* was a success. Director James Sanders expressed appreciation for the setup and for the “first in class” attendance. He also complimented the friendliness of the staff. Several families who attended thanked us for hosting the documentary and stated that they love to attend library events during the summer.

**BROOK HOLLOW**

The Summer Reading Program is off to a great start! Brook Hollow team members are having fun helping patrons of all ages register for and complete the program. As an extra bonus this year, patrons who finish the *Summer Reading Program* can take souvenir photos in front of a green screen. Everyone is getting into the spirit of summer reading this year including the *Read to a Dog* therapy dogs. On June 17, therapy dogs Emmy and Sunny posed for a photo to help show off Brook Hollow’s new green screen.

This summer, Brook Hollow is partnering with the North East Independent School District to provide free lunches to children 18 and under. Lunches are served in the meeting room Monday to Friday from noon to 1 pm.

Brook Hollow welcomed a new staff member, Librarian I Jenny Borrero, at the end of May. Ms. Borrero joins the library after mostly recently working for West Florida Public Libraries in Pensacola, Florida as an Adult Services Librarian.

Ashley Aldana joined the staff this summer to provide extra assistance with leading programs and helping patrons participate in the Summer Reading Program. During the school year Ms. Aldana, is a fourth grade teacher at Redland Oaks Elementary.

On June 17, Circulation Attendant Kimberly King hosted the educational program *Hospice 101*. Representatives from Alamo Hospice provided valuable information on end of life care issues.

On June 13, the Children’s Librarian hosted the *Mad Science* program featuring live demonstrations of fascinating and often hilarious science experiments. Almost 200 people attended the program.

Brook Hollow’s weekly *Story Time, Baby Time* and *Toddler Time* programs continue to be extremely popular. This year, Brook Hollow added a new program, *Lego Club*, to the summer programming schedule. Each week at *Lego Club* children can build a creation of their choice or choose to accept the weekly challenge. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to bring a camera or phone to take a picture of their child’s Lego creations.

During the reporting period, teens at Brook Hollow enjoyed hosting visitors from the Central Teen Library. Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor stepped in to host a Teen Time in May. Teens enjoyed a screening of *Zoolander 2*. Teen Services Library Assistant J.D. Elizondo brought instruments and expertise out to Brook Hollow in June, and teens played guitar, bass, and keyboard, teaming up for duets and playing games while waiting for turns to play the instruments. Teens learned to play new games, exercised their creativity painting on rocks and paper, created glitter slime and slime-filled stress balls, and put together seed bombs to beautify their neighborhoods. Teen Time participants encouraged each other and competed to be the champion in *Super Smash Bros*, met and got to know other teens, discussing summer plans, music, and movies.
Teen Services Librarian II Caroline Mossing made outreach visits to Eisenhower Middle School with assistance from Bazan Teen Services Librarian II Georgina Salinas, together reaching over 500 tweens and teens to let them know about the library’s resources to help with school, the Summer Reading Program, and free activities for children and teens.

CARVER

On May 15, the branch treated 40 students in Bella Cameron Elementary School’s Read and Lead Program to an ice cream reading party. The students enjoyed stories and a presentation by the staff then headed out to the playground to enjoy their ice cream.

The Learn Center at Carver Branch launched started its high school diploma program in May headed by Training Officer Jeanne Johnson. She began with two students but enrollment grew steadily. Upon completion, those students will be ambassadors to the program. Word of mouth will help future students to realize their ambitions of completing high school and allow them to compete for opportunities previously out of reach. According to Ms. Johnson, the current students are excited about the program and are performing exceptionally well.

The branch hosted a Pop-Up art exhibit featuring the work of Guy Shepherd on June 3. The event coincided with a weekend of art that included the graduation ceremony of students attending the San Antonio Ethnic Arts Society’s art program.

On June 13, the Alamo City All-Stars, which offers a summer youth program for children up to 12, launched a partnership with Carver Branch. They will visit the branch once a week all summer long. Their first visit included a tour of the branch then DL Grant facilitated a scavenger hunt that taught them how to use the library. Dozens signed up for the library’s Summer Reading Program.

The Carver Library hosted Shadow Factory puppet show on June 9 with an attendance of 43 people. The Friends of the Library sponsored refreshments which were served afterward.

The Summer Food Program resumed at Carver on June 13. The meals are offered in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank. Youths one to 18 may participate. The program is expected to run through August 18.

CODY

Tweens at the Cody Library had a lot to celebrate during this reporting period. On May 15, tweens celebrated the end of the school year with a party. During the party, tweens played a dancing game and talked about their favorite tween time programs from the school year.

Tweens celebrated Wonder Woman on June 5 with a craft and a trivia contest. Tweens made Wonder Woman keychains using bottle caps and printed images of the Amazonian superhero. Several of the tweens came in costume and they all displayed their incredible knowledge of Wonder Woman.

Finally, tweens celebrated their knowledge of popular children’s novels during a life-sized board game program. In the game, tweens rolled giant dice and answered trivia questions about many popular children’s books in order to advance across the game spaces on the floor. The game generated a great discussion of the tweens’ favorite books.

During the programming pause, children’s librarian Kristin Yourdon visited eight elementary schools and a preschool to promote summer reading. One visit that was particularly successful was at Aue
Elementary school, where Kristin presented during two assemblies. Yourdon wrote a skit to promote summer reading and then chose volunteers from the audience to act out the skit in front of their peers. The actors showed off their brilliant reading skills and everyone learned a lot about the Summer Reading Program!

In June, Kristin visited the Pineapple School and the Stepping Stone Learning Academy to present a story time to the children and to talk about the Summer Reading Program. Kristin also provided a special story time to the Country Home Learning Center in the library.

The Lego Club remains a popular program at the Cody Library. This program meets every Friday during the summer. This activity helps children to practice the important skills of creative thinking and cooperation.

On June 7, the Cody Library hosted a Kid’s Time program entitled Paint a Better World. During this program, children learned about murals and talked about how murals can make the world a better place. Children and parents then joined in a guessing game where they guessed if the murals displayed on the wall were in San Antonio or if they were elsewhere in the world. Children then worked together to paint a mural of their own.

During Kid’s Time on June 14, children and parents learned geography. The group used Geoguesser to try to guess where in the world the images on the screen were located. Children glued images of animals on the continents where they live. Next, children made a paper plate diagram that teaches some important concepts of geography.

The Cody Library inaugurated the popular Thrilling Thursdays with a Summer Reading Kick-Off party on June 8. Kristin and library aide Olivia Bandalan-Islas built sets based on four popular children’s books in order to bring the books to life. They built a barn for Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White, Max’s boat for Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak, a green castle for the Emerald City in The Wizard of Oz by Frank L. Baum, and a giant caterpillar for The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle. During the program children played games, such as tossing fruit and vegetables into the hungry caterpillar’s mouth; made crafts, such as Charlotte’s spider web, where children drew spider webs, decorated them with markers, and then wrote words on their spider webs; and celebrated the beginning of summer!

During the second Thrilling Thursday, Richard Blake from Illusions by Blake put on a brilliant magic show that emphasized the importance of libraries. As Mr. Blake stated, he first was introduced to magic because he checked out a book on magic from the library. He has been practicing magic ever since.

Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez worked together with teens to create and develop after school Teen Time programs once a week that interest and engage teens in the community. Cody Teens helped develop a variety of arts, crafts, and cooking activities for teen programs. Teens celebrated Chocolate Chip Day by trying out new recipes for chocolate chips. They also created faux stained glass art using sharpie markers and wax paper. Cody Teens held a gaming event and competed against other teens playing a variety of video games, card games, and board games. For the last afterschool program of the school year Cody Teens learned how to make kawaii onigiri rice balls.

Stephanie visited Clark High School and Health Careers High School to provide information about the 2017 Teen Summer Program and the Cody Library Teen Time events for the summer. In June, teens began signing up and participating in the Teen Summer Program.

Teens kicked off summer programs with a D.I.Y. Decoupage Mini Container Garden program. Teens decorated mini terra cotta pots and planted seeds for a future garden.

Community Connections | STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) | Educational & Learning Opportunities
Employee CORE Values (Teamwork, Integrity, Innovation, Professionalism) | Workforce & Economic Prosperity
Cody Teens held a *Marshmallow Madness* program where they had the opportunity to participate in a marshmallow tower building project. Teens also made s’mores and watched the movie *Big Hero 6*.

On May 17, Adult Services Librarian Adam Spana attended the monthly meeting of the book club at Adante Senior Living where the group discussed *The Light Between Oceans* by M. L. Stedman.

The Friends of the Cody Library held their biannual book sale during the weekend of May 19.

The Cody Library was an early voting site for the local runoff elections on May 30 to June 6.

**COLLINS GARDEN**

Collins Garden hosted early voting April 24 – 27, April 29 & May 1, 2 with voting on Election Day May 6. Run-off Election for Mayor and Council Districts 1,2,6,8,9, and 10 was held May 30-June 10.

Collins Garden Library staff kicked off the 2017 SAPL Summer Reading Program: Build a Better World. The entire staff coordinated efforts to bling the library out to promote the program.

The Family Fun *Paint a Better World* Program featured a collaborative butcher paper mural made by Collins Garden Library children and is on display in the children’s area. *Chess Time All The Time!* Involves two chess sets in the library’s public areas and are occupied with patrons of all ages strategizing their moves; averaging 10 players daily. Collins Garden Library is hosting a weekly *Family Game Night* for the summer with various board games for all ages.

Digital Inclusion Month computer classes at Collins Garden Library were held May 9 (Basic Computers Class), May 16 (Email Basics), and May 23 (Microsoft Basics). The classes were popular with a waiting list. These classes fulfill a community need for patrons who need assistance with everyday computer functions. Nearly 50 people took advantage of these classes and staff would like to offer them again later in the year when we are fully staffed.

*Coffee and a Movie* is increasingly popular. Community citizens enjoy a featured movie once a month from the Golden Age of Mexican Cinema. Members of the Las Palmas Library Book Club attend regularly. Attendance is approximately 12 people each week.

Collins Garden hosted a class on essential oils and its benefits. On May 18, Collins Garden had a round table discussion on the founders of San Antonio, with a concentration on Navarro and Ruiz genealogy. Collins Garden hosted a mental health awareness class, focusing on treatments and services that assist individuals on recovery.

Artist Rosemary Perez, a member of the Collins Garden Library Friends Group, hosted a beading program to teach adults/teens the art of basic beading techniques. The June beading class featured a Father’s Day choker.

Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi presented 11 story times at Knox Early Childhood Education and Development Center and visited St. Anthony Learning Center where she read stories to two classrooms.

The *Dia Dance Party* at Collins Garden Library had children dancing to songs from around the world with a balloon drop as the finale with refreshments courtesy of the Friends of the Collins Garden Library. Fifty people attended the *Summer Reading Kickoff Party* at Collins Garden Library where kids made inventive and unique play dough creations and signed up for summer reading.
Naturalist Tom Kinsey brought his *Native Animals* program to the Collins Garden Branch with an enthusiastic group who got to see and touch a live snake, frog, dove, and two rats.

Mary Valdez and Foxie the dog continue to help kids become more comfortable with reading. Their bi-weekly visit has an average attendance of 20 people.

*Lego Club*, a bi-monthly event, continues to be popular with children and caregivers with more than 30 attendees during two programs during this reporting period.

*Teen Tuesdays*, a Teen program hosted by library assistant Carlos Loera, is holding steady, averaging 7-10 teens a week. Teens are partaking in the Summer Reading Program, making crafts, and exploring video gaming. Collins Garden teens are hosting a weekly movie time throughout the summer featuring animated movies for children with an average attendance of 30.

Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi attended the new Boys/Girls Mays Family Clubhouse Orientation which serves boys and girls from six to 18. Brudi spoke to 200 attendees about SAPL and the Summer Reading Program. Branch Manager Jeannette Davies attended the Boys/Girls ribbon cutting ceremony on June 20. Via a meeting with District 5 Representative Dora Galvan, the manager contacted Boys/Girls Club Director Josh Inguanzo to discuss programming. Inguanzo invited the Collins Garden Library children’s librarian to attend Parent Orientation Night for the first group of summer camp kids and to provide the staff a tour in the near future.

The branch manager attended the Friends of Collins Garden Library’s (FOCGL) May Meeting. The Friends discussed fundraising ideas including selling book bags, USB drives and headphones. FOCGL members are gearing up for a Used Book Sale in October 2017. The manager also met with FOCGL President Fred Garza to discuss a holiday wreath fundraiser and continues to work with the Friends to purchase items for the branch via the Friends Spending Plan.

**CORTEZ**

On Friday, June 9, the branch was visited by the Library Director who presented a CORE award to staff member Gustavo Nevarez to recognize his performance in the areas of customer service and professionalism. The branch staff is always looking for ways to show their teamwork and they did so on June 5 when everyone working that day wore their new “Build a Better World” t-shirts in support of Summer Reading.

*Story Time* took a short hiatus in late May but returns in June on Mondays at 10 a.m. and is held concurrently with the Adult *Getting Crafty* program. Three sessions were held during the reporting period. Summer Reading themes have included buildings and structures (a creative good time with marshmallows, gumdrops and toothpicks) and recycling art with stories and activities with recycled materials. Nineteen children and 12 adults have attended.

*Baby Time* follows the *Story Time* program on Mondays at 11:15 a.m. The sessions were also on a short break for the last two weeks of May. Three sessions were held during the reporting period with a program of rhymes, rhythm instruments, songs, and time for books and playing with blocks. It’s clear that a *Toddler Time* will need to be added to the Cortez roster as the babies grow and develop! Twenty six babies and 19 adults attended.

*Family Fun* sessions during the school year were held on Mondays at 3:30 p.m. This summer, *Family Fun* will alternate with *Read to a Dog* so that young Cortez visitors know that something is always happening on Thursdays at 2 p.m. During this reporting period, two sessions were offered featuring
LEGO play and games and puzzles. Cumulative attendance for both Monday and Thursday sessions was 21 children and 11 adults.

Summer time is Kids Time at Cortez! The usual Family Fun time slot converts to Kids Time during the Summer Reading Program. To date, two sessions — Engineer a Better World and Recycling and Repurposing for a Better World have been held. Children heard stories, created structures using rolled newspapers, and made wind socks and pictures using recycled materials. Attendance was 34 children and 13 adults.

Tween Time has the regular Wednesday at 4 p.m. slot at Cortez. Video games are always on offer and a craft or cooking activity has proven to be popular as well. Vicente Escobedo, a Community Health worker with COSA Metropolitan Health District led a session using healthy foods to make edible constructions. Tweens also ran a timed obstacle course and competed against each other for the fastest time through the challenges. Twenty three tweens and two adults attended.

Come & Go Crafts is offered on Saturdays from 2 to 4 p.m. This passive program was offered only once during the reporting period. Four children and one adult made rainbow necklaces during this program.

Pop Up Sessions will be offered when we have the following conditions — available staff to offer an activity and some children in need of a diversion! Since the close of school on June 1, games and puzzles have been offered with 16 children playing and learning in the children’s area of Cortez.

Twice each month, Mary Valdez brings her golden retriever Foxie to the Cortez library. Mary teaches children how to approach a dog for the first time and then helps them get comfortable reading stories to Foxie. They make new friends each time they visit.

Kathy Armbruster spoke with elementary students about careers in libraries at Benavidez Elementary students and returned for a school-wide visit to talk about the fun summer activities ahead at SAPL’s branches. She also visited Palo Alto Elementary to talk about the Summer Reading Program.

The Teen Time program met three times this reporting period with an attendance of 59. In years past, the summer Teen Time usually attracts only about one to five teens each session but this year 14 regulars returned for the first Teen Time in June! The Teen Summer Reading program is also off to a good start with 24 sign-ups on the first day.

While continuing the meditative aspects of Adult Coloring, Cortez adult programming has introduced Art Journaling to add another mindfulness component to the activity. Eighteen people have attended over the course of four sessions.

The Cortez Writers Group was restructured in order to allow for more participation amongst the community, with a focus on creative writing prompts and encouragement from fellow members. Twelve in the Cortez community have attended over four sessions.

Open mic night without the mic! Five local performers entertained their friends and fellow community members with pre-selected and original poetry.

There were four classes of Getting Crafty Night this reporting period with attendance of 39. The crafters were working on crocheted flower valances and stained glass projects using plexiglass, hot glue and paint.
On June 10, 17 ready-for-summer Monster Meet devotees enjoyed the blockbuster favorite Jaws. Monster Meet is a program developed and coordinated by Circulation attendant Madeline Vasquez who brings her love of the horror genre and her creativity to the community at Cortez.

May 20, six members of the Cortez Film Club enjoyed the comedy Uncle Buck. In a second meeting on June 17, four attendees switched from comedy to the gritty New York Irish mob drama State of Grace.

The documentary film Chips and Salsa by James Sanders was presented at various SAPL locations. The Cortez showing attracted three of the library’s regular film buffs as well as newcomers.

The Mobile Mercado has been positively received by the community. They have agreed to visit our branch every 4th Tuesday until summer.

COAST – Cortez Older Adult Social Time is held on Thursdays at 12:30 p.m. Anyone 50 or better is invited to attend a 90-minute session of board games, puzzles and stimulating conversation to help keep the mind active and engaged! Five sessions have been held during the reporting period with 26 adults enjoying the camaraderie of their neighborhood friends.

ENCINO

The final two weeks of May wrapped up Digital Inclusion Month and the series of computer classes hosted throughout the city. Nicki Weaver taught her final class at Thousand Oaks Library, Email Basics, to a full house of enthusiastic learners. Manager Keri Moczygemba traveled to Maverick and Las Palmas libraries to teach Computer Basics. Feedback from learners at all classes was overwhelmingly positive, with many requesting the class continue in the fall. Many who attended the advanced classes indicated the material would improve their job prospects.

Library Aide Ellen Leland hosted her final adult book club on May 24. The close-knit group wished her well after a lively discussion of La’s Orchestra Saves the World by Alexander McCall Smith. Ellen’s legacy will continue as her list of recommended titles will be used as incoming adult librarian Michelle Ricondo takes over the book club for June.

Library Aide Hope Cooksey began facilitating Lego Club in May, and her exuberant play-leadership will continue throughout June and July. After a small dip in attendance during late May, the room is now full each Monday at 4 p.m. for free-play and master challenges. Children who attend the weekly Lego Club work together to creatively solve three-dimensional building problems, and parents have expressed gratitude for the library providing a safe and fun environment.

In preparation for summer, Nicki Weaver visited Encino Park Elementary School to speak to the kindergarten students about the library’s summer reading challenge. Eighty children and four educators participated in Nicki’s presentation, and the school encouraged all students to participate. Encino’s Summer Reading Kickoff Party was held on June 10. Children’s librarians Nicki Weaver and Ashley Stubbs created crafts and activities to take advantage of Encino’s patio space, and Naturalist Tom Kinsey visited with his critters for two performances. Over 40 children and their families enjoyed the day of activities and signed up for the summer reading challenge.

The Friends of Encino held their first mini-book sale in the library’s lounge area in conjunction with the branch’s summer reading kickoff party. Three hundred people browsed the selections, and the Friends were pleased with the day’s profits. To support the Friends of Encino anytime, visitors can browse the book cart in the library’s entrance.
First Friday Art is taking a break during the summer, but Messy Fridays is back! Held each Friday from 2-3:30 p.m. on Encino’s patio, Messy Fridays provides art experiences for children of all ages who are ready to get messy. Projects include shaving cream color mixing, salt painting, bubble wrap flowers, sidewalk chalk, and Q-tip painting. Sensory bins are provided for younger children. Over 30 children and their families have visited Messy Fridays each week. Kids Time has also returned for summer, with the first program held on June 6. Kids Time happens each Tuesday at 4 p.m. and includes stories, science experiments, and activities for school aged children.

Encino Library hosted early voting for the local runoff election in half of the meeting room space from May 30 – June 6. Hundreds of citizens voted at Encino Library for this election, and many of those also visited the library for a new or updated library card.

Local paleo-nutritionist Beverly Meyer hosted the final lecture in a three part series about healthy eating. The June 10 talk on thyroid health had attendance of eight adults, with many commenting on the timeliness of the topic. Mrs. Meyer’s previous talks covered good fats for weight and energy and paleo nutrition.

Encino teens celebrated the end of the school year and the beginning of summer vacation at the library this month with every teen program seeing higher attendance numbers. One of our most popular events occurred on June 7 with the Teen Summer Reading Kickoff Party. After signing up for summer reading, teens munched on pizza and snacks while using our green screen to create wacky photos and playing a ninja balloon assassin game outside.

In Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot’s biggest program to date, twenty-one teens came to the inaugural Teen Gaming program where some participated in Super Smash Brothers on our WiiU, while even more played Jenga, Bananagrams, and Battleship from the teen closet.

Tuesdays at Encino now feature a new program just for teens entitled Teen Tuesdays. Teen Tuesdays are a program based on the idea of do-it-yourself (or DIY), with plans for teens to be cooking and creating throughout the summer. The first program held this month featured plant pot decoupage and homemade dirt pudding.

In addition to the new Teen Gaming and Teen Tuesdays programs, Ms. Pouliot has also begun a new passive program called the Art Box where teens can “check out” a box with a new art project each week of the summer from the reference desk. So far the box has featured scratch art and Spirograph drawing.

FOREST HILLS

The staff of Forest Hills Branch Library rounded out May by preparing for the busy summer season ahead. The branch was given a refresh to incorporate new displays and bulletin boards to welcome the upcoming Summer Program for all ages.

Children’s Librarian Gladis Martinez kept a busy schedule of school visits as she focused on spreading the news about the Summer Reading Program to school-aged children and their families. As summer kicked off it was evident that her efforts were paying off. Attendance at all programs is on the rise.

New this summer for Forest Hills is a regular weekly program held on Saturday afternoons. This Kids Time is geared toward working families who still want to take part in the summer fun!

On June 6 Children’s Librarian Gladis Martinez, along with Children’s Librarian Randi Jones from the Semmes Branch Library, presented The Paper Bag Princess puppet show. Ronald McDonald made a
stop at the branch to get kids excited about reading on June 13. He performed an exciting magic show and encouraged children to read all summer long.

Thanks to the Friends of the Forest Hills Branch Library, Ms. Martinez was able to purchase an entire kit of Legos to support the now weekly Lego Club. Lego creations go on display for the week following under the view of a paper San Antonio skyline created by Circulation Attendant Patricia Toledo and Manager Mary Naylor.

A new Teen program, K-Pop Club, held its second meeting on June 3. The group, which meets to discuss topics related to Korean pop music and other Asian culture elements, sampled Kimchi. Kimchi is a staple in Korean cuisine. It is a traditional side dish made from salted and fermented vegetables.

Teens created Perler bead crafts for the first Teen Summer program held on June 14. Teens are eagerly signing up for the program and are turning in chance cards for the chance to win some really great prizes.

Dr. Mary Jo Galindo, the lead archaeologist with the on-going Alamo project, was here to present Archaeology at the Alamo on June 7. Dr. Galindo is the great-granddaughter of Maria L. De Hernandez, the Mexican-American rights activist for whom the Forest Hills Branch Library meeting room is named.

A "mini-STEM" event was hosted on June 10. This event was designed for all ages with speakers from UTSA and UT Health Science presenting information about Monarch Butterflies and Climate Change. There were also plant and butterfly activities for everyone. The event here was one of five "mini-STEM" events organized by the Adult Librarian, Sandra Griffin, at SAPL branches across the city. In relation to this event, Forest Hills raised 8 caterpillars into monarch butterflies. The whole process took about 2 weeks. The butterflies were held on display and then were eventually released into the wild.

The Food Bank’s Mobile Mercado made its monthly stop at Forest Hills on June 13. The mobile grocery store offered fresh produce such as okra, apples, and potatoes. Also being sampled were watermelon and melon with lime juice.

A Pride Month event was held on June 14. Dr. Amy Stone discussed her new book, Cornyation: San Antonio's Outrageous Fiesta Tradition. Told through more than one hundred photographs and dozens of interviews, Cornyation is the first history of this major Fiesta San Antonio event, tracing how it has become one of Texas's iconic and longest-running celebrations, and one of the Southwest's first large-scale fundraisers for HIV-AIDS research, raising more than two million dollars since 1990.

Branch manager Mary Naylor made her monthly visit to the Dorris Griffin Senior Center. To fulfill a special request by center management, Ms. Naylor also provided training for seniors on the digital library cling. The seniors were excited about being able to quickly access the digital collection.

Currently on display at Forest Hills, an art exhibit by retired Judge Antonio G. Cantu. His acrylics have captured a lot of attention because of his focus on easily identified San Antonio landmarks, such as the Kiddie Park, Woodlawn Lake, San Fernando Cathedral, and Mi Tierra Café. A reception will be held for the artist on June 21. Everyone is encouraged to view the exhibit while it is on display through August 18.

GREAT NORTHWEST
Great Northwest Library welcomed Timberwilde Elementary School students in May. Several classes throughout the grades visited the branch and learned about the Summer Reading Program with Children's Librarian Cari Raley.

Summer has begun and the Great Northwest Library sees 400-500 excited children and adults attend the programs throughout the week. Tween patrons are involved in imagining and creating their own worlds in the World Builders program. They began by drawing a map of their world and are now describing the origins of their worlds in writing or in comic strip form.

Younger patrons in the World Explorers Club have begun traveling the world and learning about the different habitats, animals, and environments such as the ocean and the jungle. At the end of the program they will have a travel journal to document their journey.

During the Pretend Club, children learn through play with their parents as they hear stories, sing songs, and make special memories with each other.

Branch staff welcomes school librarian Roxanne Rodriguez this summer. Ms. Rodriguez has already brought new ideas and the branch has appreciated her help during the highly-attended summer programs.

Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez worked together with teens in the community to develop programs that interest and engage teens at Great Northwest Library. Teens celebrated Chocolate Chip Day by trying out a variety of new recipes for chocolate chips. Teens also watched the movie 9 and made bead sprite crafts.

Great Northwest Teens held a Creative Cooking program to celebrate Asian & Pacific American Heritage Month in May where teens learned how to make Spam Musubi. Creative Cooking empowers teens to learn a new skill and experiment and have fun with cooking. Many of the teens had never tried this dish and it was a new experience for them and they found out how easy it was to make on their own. Teens also had the opportunity to make paper leis and watched the movie Moana.

Library Assistant Christina Martinez visited Taft High School and Brennan High School to provide information about the 2017 Teen Summer Program at the library. In June teens began signing-up and participating in the Teen Summer Program.

The Great Northwest Library held a Teen Volunteer Information Session to inform teens about volunteer opportunities at the library. Teens learned about the different roles of teen volunteers and the value they add to the library and to teen programming.

Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez worked together with teens in the community to plan and create teen summer programs for Great Northwest Library. Teens kicked off summer programs with a Teen Craft Night D.I.Y. Stress Ball program. Teens used their science know-how to make slime-filled balloons they used as stress balls and watched the movie Kubo and the Two Strings.

Teens meet monthly for Anime Night to engage in a variety of activities and interact with other teens who share their interest in Anime and Manga culture. During the Anime Night Summer of Miyazaki the teens paid tribute to one of their favorite anime creators with fun crafts and themed food.

Great Northwest Teen Gamers meet every Wednesday afternoon for a Teen Video Game Program. Library Assistant Jose Jimenez works with teen video gamers to provide a space for them to
compete against other teens who share a common interest in gaming. Teen Gamers also learned to make D.I.Y paper bag popcorn and faux Kit-Kat candy bars to snack on while they competed.

On May 24, the branch hosted Intro to Excel, a computer class for customers. The class was highly anticipated and 10 patrons attended, and several patrons signed up on the waiting list. Adult Services librarian Michelle Ricondo instructed patrons on the basics of Microsoft Excel. Many customers are excited to learn computer skills and hope to have more classes in the future.

On June 10, patrons attended the Essential Oils 101 program to get tips for using essential oils during the summer.

The branch hosted a screening of the documentary Chips and Salsa by James Sanders on June 12. The documentary featured interviews with 3 local family-owned restaurants and explored the role and impact of the restaurants in their communities. The director answered questions from the audience following the screening.

The Alicia Trevino Senior Book & Movie Group met on May 15 to discuss A Beautiful Mind: A Biography of John Forbes Nash by Sylvia Nasar. Adult Services Librarian Cindy Moreno moderated the discussion and the group watched the movie after the discussion. The title was selected in observance of Mental Health Awareness Month. On June 12 the group met to discuss True Grit by Charles Portis and watched the newest version of the movie.

Ms. Moreno coordinated a series of programs with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) San Antonio’s Executive Director Liza Jensen which were held at Collins Garden Library, McCreless Library, and Central Library in observance of Mental Health Awareness Month.

The branch is hosting a summer art exhibit by local visual artist Allison C. Valdivia.

On May 31 Board of Trustees member Lora Eckler visited Great Northwest Library to meet branch staff and learn more about the programs and activities offered at the branch.

Volunteers from the community work together with Great Northwest Library in a variety of ways to ensure the best service is provided to the community. Volunteers help staff with daily library tasks and assist library staff with programs.

GUERRA

The Guerra Branch Chess Club is off to an impressive start. It met on May 19 and 26 and June 2, 9, and 16.

Branch Manager Dexter Katzman provided music and literature programs to the Careplex Adult Daycare Center on May 17, 24, and 31, and June 7 and 14. He attended the monthly meeting of Cable-Westwood Neighborhood Association (held at the branch) on June 6. He provided a resume workshop on June 8. He attended an Employee Management Committee on June 30.

Assistant Branch Manager Jernell Williams facilitated the Guerra Knits & Crochets program on May 2, 16, and 30 and June 13. She facilitated the Thursday Evening Book Group on June 8. She also facilitated the webcast program for Asperger Syndrome: Social Development on June 13. She designed and installed a display for Juneteenth.

Children’s Librarian Arlene Richardson Summer Reading programs started at Guerra on June 7. In preparation for Summer Reading, Arlene continued visits to elementary schools in the area and
promoted Summer Reading programs: Cable, Meadow Village Mary Hull, and John Glenn. She attended a parent meeting at J. B Passmore Elementary on May 26 and provided information about library services and summer reading to parents. On June 4, she attended an outreach event--RUNSAYOUTH--at Rodriguez Park where she, along with Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry, promoted library services and Summer Reading Programs. During the reporting period, she planned and presented three Toddler Times, three Story Times, one Lego Club, two Kids Times and one Movie Time. School age children read to Foxie on May 25 and June 8 during the bi-weekly Read to a Dog program. With the assistance of Library Aides, Chloe Parham, Leslie Tolentino and Roxanne Menchaca, Arlene designed and installed a Summer Reading display. On May 16, she hosted a teacher Read Aloud in collaboration with teachers from John Glenn Elementary School.


Teen Liaison held Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on May 15, June 1 and 8. The teens watched The Batman Lego Movie on June 15; refreshments were provided by the Friends of Guerra Library. Edward completed school and community outreach on May 17, 26, and 30 and June 4.

Library Assistant Iris Bobren facilitated in the *Knits & Crochets Program* on May 9 and 23 and June 6. Music was added to the June 6 program.

**IGO**

Children's Librarian Allison Michalek has seen to it that Summer Reading is off to a solid start at Igo. All of the children’s programs have been well attended. Parents have been very enthusiastic.

Branch Manager Tim Johnson has been overseeing Teen Time while Igo is without a Teen Librarian. Teens attending Wednesday Teen Time can choose from participating in board or video games, reading comics, or doing crafts.

On May 15 and June 5, the PoeTree Club met at Igo. This club welcomes new members who are interested in reading and/or writing poetry.

On May 16, James Taylor from the Sons of the American Revolution offered tips to the Genealogy Club about researching the links America’s earliest days.

On June 7, the Mystery Club discussed Rick Riordan’s *Last King of Texas*.

Beginning Hatha Yoga classes are still very popular. Yoga teacher Belinda Stallings-Kovach continues to instruct on such Yoga basics as breathing, relaxation, stretching, and progressive flexibility and strength.

Instructor and artist Barbara Coulter has continued the popular *Artful Aging* program, featuring discussion of art topics followed by individual and group activities.

On May 16, the *Adult Afternoon Book Club* met to discuss David Baldacci’s *Hell’s Corner*. All agreed that this was a great read!

On May 28, the *KC@Igo* adult club members spent an enjoyable afternoon learning new knitting/crocheting methods while greeting four new members.
On Sunday, June 11, the Igo Adult Coloring Club experienced leisurely afternoon coloring exotic designs from professional art catalogues.

JOHNSTON

Johnston Library prepared for the end of the school year by visiting numerous local schools, speaking at several neighborhood association groups and serving as a Run off Early Voting Site for 923 voters. Staff spread news about the upcoming Summer Reading Program in addition to many regular programs at Five Palms Elementary, Allen Elementary, Luna Middle School, Rayburn Middle School, Shepard Middle School and Big Country Elementary. Branch Manager Monica Bustillo spoke at the Springvale Neighborhood Association and Meadow Village Neighborhood Association on May 23 and Library Assistant Nicole Garza assisted with the library’s booth at the Alamo City Comic Con on May 25. Johnston Library hosted two neighborhood groups on May 22: the Stablewood Homeowners Association Annual Meeting and the Library Village executive meeting. The partnership with San Antonio Food Bank continues with the monthly Mobile Mercado visits the 4th Monday of every month with great success.

Johnston Library hosted the Kaveri Natya Yoga Centre for Performing Art’s Classical Bharatanatyam Dance in celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month on May 20. Johnston kicked off summer officially with a Wonder Woman themed celebration on June 3 that drew in almost one hundred patrons of all ages to sign up for the Summer Reading Program, watch a Wonder Woman cartoon, take pictures with Wonder Woman and enjoy a special Wonder Woman cake purchased by the Friends of the Johnston Library. On June 7 Johnston Library welcomed Board Trustee Andrea Sanchez for a morning “meet and greet” breakfast which allowed staff to share their activities and plans for Summer Reading events. Ms. Sanchez took a picture with Ms. Bustillo using the Green Screen technology that will be offered to all participants who finish the summer reading program.

Ms. Bustillo taught the last Digital Inclusion computer class at Johnston titled: Internet Basics & Cyber Safety on May 15 with the help of a Technology Volunteer Dacari Lambert. On May 17 Ms. Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion on Ann Patchett’s Commonwealth. During the reporting period, Ms. Bustillo held two Library Digital & eReader Help Sessions to be held the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. Ms. Bustillo hosted two Adult Summer Reading Programs in June. The first was the start of the Financial Wellness Series program titled: Build a Better Budget on June 8 and the second was Gold’s Gym partnership program titled: Build a Better You on June 16.

Adult Services Librarian Pat King and Library Aide Victoria Liendo organized the Friday Film screening of La La Land on May 19.

Baby Times continue to be well-attended. The final spring Story Time and Family Fun featured “Tea Party” stories, craft and refreshments. On June 1, Children’s Librarian Beverly Wrigglesworth visited the PCI, delivered books, and read to the toddlers.

The first two summer Story Times featured “Penguins” and “Father’s Day.” Tweens were treated to programs on “Captain Underpants” and “Diary of a Wimpy Kid.” For Kids Time, the children were introduced to “Animal Friends” and “Mad Science.”

On May 17 Library Assistant Nicole Garza assisted with an outreach event at Gregory Luna Middle School. Event took place in the school’s cafeteria and was attended by the entire school comprised of 1,300 students. During the event, San Antonio Summer Reading info was shared to the group. On May 25, Ms. Garza assisted with another outreach event held at the Alamo City Comic Convention. Ms. Garza help set up the San Antonio Public Library’s booth which provided attendees of the Convention with green screen pictures, a light saber craft as well as an area to repair attendees costumes. On May 30, Ms. Garza conducted an outreach event at the Rayburn Middle School. With the...
assistance of Edward Mayberry and Daniela Toll, the group was able to reach out and share summer reading information with over 50 students.

On May 21 and June 4, Ms. Garza continued to facilitate the Pokémon champions group. The group has surged to double its original core group size. The core group has now begun to teach new members how to play the Pokémon card game and continue to improve not only their skills but of the entire group as well. On May 27 and June 10, Ms. Garza with the assistance of Library Aide Cynthia Blancas facilitated the Teen Anime and Video Game time. Teens chose to watch several different anime that the library had to offer. Several of the teens brought their own gaming systems to challenge each other with their own games.

From June 13-June 16, San Antonio Food Bank held a Cooking around the World cooking class taught by Chef Roman Longoria and assisted by Ms. Garza. The class focused on information of several different countries around the world and their unique cuisine. During the four day class, Chef Longoria and Ms. Garza had over 50 participants. Each day of the class introduced the group to information about the country or region of world with healthy recipes to complement the information provided. Participants of the class learned basic knife and cutting skills, how to read and follow recipes and basic cooking skills. Altogether the participants of the cooking class prepared over 15 different dishes from 6 different countries. The group also learned about yoga, futbol, tai chi and how to set a table.

Library Assistant Elsy Jackson serves as a regular contributor to Telecuentos (Dial-a-Story in Spanish), and she recorded a children’s book for the week of June 12. The title of the book is: Cocorina en el jardín de los espejos by Mar Pavon. Ms. Jackson moderated the Club de Lectura “Café con Libro”, a book club in Spanish, on June 12. The participants discussed a historical fiction novel, En el país que amamos: una familia dividida (In the Country We Love: My Family Divided) by Diane Guerrero. Ms. Jackson presented the Bilingual Children’s Program on May 16, May 23, May 30, June 5 and June 12.

LANDA

Children’s early literacy programming ended the spring session with an outdoor Brown Bear, Brown Bear play and learn run by Children’s Librarian Jasmin Salinas and Library Assistant Rebekah Corley on May 16th. The children loved the playdough station with cinnamon smelling playdough they could touch and shape and the mesh painting sensory activity.

The Tweens, ages 9 to 12 years old, ended the spring session with a slime party. Ms. Salinas and Ms. Corley laid out all the ingredients for fluffy slime and helped the kids make their own various batches of slime in a variety of colors. The tweens had a blast getting messy.

In May, Landa branch hosted Howard Elementary kinder and pre-k classes for a visit to the playground and story times. Ms. Salinas celebrated reading with the kinder classes with funny stories and tales of summer reading club. Ms. Corley led the story time for the pre-k students outside with great stories, songs, and more!

The Mayor’s Summer Reading Club began just before Landa Library closed for renovation. Staff helped sign up over 60 kids and their families as they visited Landa in the final days before the closure.

Teens have shown themselves as industrious leaders, committed to their educations and their community by creating positive environments for themselves and their peers while at Landa.

Teens have constructed collaborative programs to meet their needs as students in various stages of high school, some preparing to graduate and some who will be entering high school in
their first year. Through their thrice weekly *Homework program*, they have maintained a dedicated study environment to collaborate and facilitate school successes.

An additional, weekly recreational program, *Teen Night*, led by a key group of teen volunteers, and facilitated by Library Assistant and Teen Liaison, Rebekah Corley, has provided a welcoming casual atmosphere of art and science focused activities. This time provides opportunity to explore life skill development and social competencies through engaging collaborations. Positive relationships and friendships have resulted, perhaps best exhibited by a recent Teen’s request to celebrate both her advancement to her senior year and her 17th birthday at “Teen Night with (her) best peeps!”.

The Mystery Book Club met for the last time before Landa’s closing for renovation. They discussed Greg Iles’ *Natchez Burning*, the first in a trilogy about racism in the contemporary South. It’s a gritty portrayal of the violence and political ties that link current times to the start of the Civil Rights era. Reader’s Ink members showed up strong as they traveled to Pan American Branch to continue their book club throughout Landa’s closing months. They read and discussed Carson McCuller’s classic, *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*. The Outreach Book Club at the Village at the Incarnate Word also discussed this title.

Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta traveled to the Kenwood Senior Center for her monthly outreach. In honor of the upcoming Memorial Day holiday, participants had adult coloring sheets with a theme for the holiday. Karen also prepared a Bingo-like trivia game on the subject of American History and Government. The participants did extremely well, exhibiting a knowledge of facts about America including information about the Constitution and the various branches of government.

**LAS PALMAS**

On June 5, Las Palmas kicked off the *Summer Reading Program* and *Kids Time* with a building centered kickoff party that featured Legos, large foam blocks, a shape building craft, and unusual building materials like plastic cups and straws/connectors. At the Las Palmas Kickoff, kids united to build the tallest tower with straws and connectors; stretching two people tall and eventually ending up on its side so that the kids could continue building together. While only ten families participated in the kickoff party, they all signed up for summer reading and learned about upcoming library programs.

On June 12, Las Palmas hosted *Mad Science!* with Dr. Brain. Dr. Brain did experiments with fire and dry ice that fascinated the children and adults. Dr. Brain explained about heat, pressure, and sublimation. At the end, the children voted that the flash paper that burned bright and fast and disappeared in a second was their favorite experiment. Las Palmas saw record attendance at the Mad Science Program with over fifty people attending the show.

Ms. Salinas began a summer *Art Club program* at Las Palmas for school age children that saw 18 children plus their parents attending. Art Club this week featured the book *Press Here* and focused on the artist Roy Lichtenstein. Then after looking at some of Lichtenstein’s paintings for inspiration, children had the chance to create their own dot painting with q-tips and tempera paint. The program focused on art as a process for children to take time to explore and realize that they could not make a mistake. Children were running up to Children’s Librarian Salinas with stories about their paintings, describing their color choices and artistic decisions.

Families enjoyed attending Las Palmas’ summer *Lego Club*. Lego bricks were placed on tables in the children’s area with Ms. Salinas monitoring the area. Families were given a Lego challenge to conquer, but also told that they were encouraged to have fun building anything they enjoyed. Thirty children participated in Lego Club, and the program actually went an hour longer than initially planned because everyone was having so much fun building. Ms. Salinas saw tons of cars and trains and space ships built, but one little girl actually created a library!
For the past eight months, Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez has facilitated all juvenile programming at Las Palmas. Ms. Perez continues to facilitate Bilingual Story Time. Attendance continues to increase as more families are visiting the library and learning about programming available for all ages.

The Las Palmas Teen Summer program got off to a slow start with 10 attendees but is expected to pick up when the YWCA teens start visiting. Teen summer registration is off to a good start with over 40 registrants.

Librarian Gina Brudi and Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez facilitated a successful skyping book club meeting with author Suzanne Chazin, author of No witness but the moon. The discussion focused on societal issues throughout the book. Book club members look forward to other author skyping opportunities in the future.

Las Palmas branch hosted two of the Digital Inclusion computer classes in May. Computer basics was led by Librarian Michelle Ricondo, on May 19; and MS Word was led by Keri Moczygemba on May 25. Librarian Stephen Jackson served as interpreter for one of the students. Branch staff is planning to offer an open computer lab beginning in August.

MAVERICK


Silverbook Homeowners’ Association met at Maverick Library on May 25.

Bharatanatyam, a classical dance, was held to celebrate Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month at Maverick Library on May 27.

Maverick staff welcomed part-time circulation attendant, April Garza, from Landa Library. Ms. Garza will be temporarily assigned to Maverick as Landa Library is under renovations during the summer.

Maverick Library was an Early Runoff and Runoff Election Day poll site for the Bexar County Election Department.

Children’s Librarian, Amy Roberts, visited 4 elementary schools in late May to promote the Summer Reading Program to 2,575 children. Many have come to the library and told her “I saw you at my school!” This makes it all worth it! On June 7, over 200 people attended Maverick’s Summer Reading Kick-Off party! Ms. Roberts appreciates the Maverick Friends and staff who assisted her with the party. As of June 12, 361 kids have signed up at Maverick for Summer Reading!

During this reporting period, Ms. Roberts also opened the branch numerous days for both the General Election and the Run-Off Elections at Maverick Library. She continued to prepare for the summer reading program and also was able to do some weeding in the children’s collection.

McCRELESS

McCreless Library celebrated the last day of school with a very popular Come and Go Craft of craft stick harmonicas.
For summer, Ms. Vance shook up the programming schedule with new programs for tweens and toddlers, as well as hosting an afternoon Story Time. The new time is proving to be quite popular with the customers. McCreless is offering nine programs for children each week (as compared to two programs weekly the previous summer).

Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales continues to offer Lego Club. As the attendance numbers have outgrown the Lego sets the branch was borrowing from the Central Children’s Department, branch manager Morgan Hansen requested that the branches Friend’s group purchase Legos. The Friends approved $175 to purchase several large sets of Legos, which arrived just in time for the first summer Lego Club on June 5.

Summer Reading is also in full swing with the entire staff getting young customers signed up for the Reading Clubs.

As part of the summer fun, Sandbanks Shadow Factory performed A Wild Goose Chase for a full, very appreciative audience.

McCreless Library is partnering with the San Antonio Food Bank to provide free lunches and snacks to minors through the Summer Feeding Program. Librarian Menchaca and Circulation Attendant Alma Bruno underwent training at the Food Bank. So far, attendance has exceeded expectations, attendance is being monitored closely so that an adequate number of lunches will be available. One little girl told Librarian Menchaca “I really like the muffin you got for us,” she then turned to her mother and said, “can we come back tomorrow!?"

The numbers for Teen Time programing continue to grow; at the beginning of the year Teen Time had zero participants, as of June 14, it had fifteen participants. Teens participated in making slime, playing monopoly, making stress balls, and playing video games. The teens are so excited about teen time, they have begun to bring snacks to share during teen time and have formed a “snack committee.”

Summer Reading for Teens is in full swing, as of mid-June, 22 teens have registered for Summer Reading.

Pride Month is being celebrated at McCreless Library with a LGTBQ book display in the Teen Area. Additionally, Librarian Menchaca is working on a partnership between McCreless and The Pride Center San Antonio. The hope is for McCreless library to become a safe space for the LGTBQ members of the community.

The Adult Summer Reading Program is off to a great start with nearly 50 individuals enrolled at McCreless to date. Feedback about the grand prizes and the opportunity to count civic engagements as part of the program has been very positive. McCreless patrons are also heavily checking out the staff summer reading picks.

In addition to the summer reading program, McCreless adult services has been very busy with additional programming. As part of Digital Inclusion month, McCreless offered two computer classes: Internet Basics (taught by Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales) and E-mail Basics (taught by Adult Services Librarian Tina Hudiec). Hudiec also held an adult coloring class and coordinated with Forester’s Financial Services for a Money Management Basics lecture at the branch. The branch book club held its monthly meeting and has had two new members join the club, bringing average attendance to eight to ten individuals each month.

Librarian Ana Menchaca attended the Smarter Summer Fair at Pruitt High school. She assisted teens with mock job interviews, creating business cards, and in order to get teens ready to enter
the workforce. The tips and information given to the teens will hopefully result in a productive summer filled with job experience.

Children’s Librarian Carrie Vance visited with aspiring authors at the Charles C Ball Academy on June 1. The kindergarten students shared their autobiographies with her and other community members before having their work shelved at their school library.

MEMORIAL

Memorial Branch Library was a voting site for local elections and runoff elections. The branch provided staff to open and secure building for election judges 1 hour prior to public voting and 1 hour after public voting ended.

Memorial Branch Library replaced all public computers with new Mac computers and has been training patrons on how to use Mac computers.

Memorial Branch Library hosted Make a Keychain workshop in celebration of Father’s Day.

Ms. Gonzales attended Managers Meeting at Bazan Branch Library.

Ms. Gonzales continued with Library Leadership Team workshop training during Managers Meeting at Central Library.

Ms. Gonzales served on interview committee to select Library Assistant.

Ms. Davila partnered with the Classical Bharatanatyam Dance Company to bring an East Indian culture program to Memorial Library. Several dancers in native colorful satin costumes performed accompanied by recorded East Indian music. Twenty-three patrons attended the event.

Ms. Davila is assisting with an on-going event, the San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition workshops on Sundays. This class teaches participants how to trap feral cats to prep them for surgery.

Ms. Davila is collaborating with local artist Julian Acosta in displaying his art work during the summer. Art themes are of famous persons and Pop fiction.

Ms. Davila has been promoting Summer Reading Programs by doing outreach activities with local businesses and churches.

Ms. Davila visited INS offices to invite them to visit Memorial Library and to request citizenship materials.

Ms. Deffendall performed outreach activities by visiting 4 elementary schools to promote the Summer Reading Program at Memorial Library.

Ms. Deffendall has hosted the Weekly Story Time and Kids Times with the Summer Reading Program theme of “Build a Better World.”

Ms. Deffendall attended the New Employee Experience Training Part 2.

Ms. Deffendall attended the Children’s Services Meeting.
Ms Deffendall read for Dial-a-Story the week of May 15. Her selection was *Let’s Get a Pup! Said Kate*, by Bob Graham.

**MISSION**

Mission Library continues the partnership with Mobile Mercado to promote healthy foods and giving out samples and recipes to the public.

The branch participated in the Digital Inclusion Month with two instructors from Mission Staff (Amanda Flores and Megan Feeley) and two classes at this location.

Mission Library continues its participation in the Mission Marquee Plaza Farmers and Artisan Market events promoting library services and providing STEM-related and fun activities for the public.

In the Month of July, Mission Library Hosted a week long *National Park Service Regional Managers meetings*. Manager Oscar Gonzalez had the opportunity to highlight what been happening at SAPL generally and Mission Library specifically. On the last day of the meetings as a sign of gratitude and future cooperation the branch manager was presented with a collection of books from the National Park Service that represent the park regions that the mangers where from.

The Library continues to partner with Metro Health for free health screenings for adults.

Mission staff member Marco De Leon participated in SAPL’s table at Alamo City Comicon.

Mission Library continues to provide activities for Teens that include weekly *Teen Time* and *Video Game Club*.

A highlight of the month’s activities was the *Brown Bear, Brown Bear Play and Learn Program*. The kids had so much fun with all the literacy-based activities. A favorite was fishing for a colored fish and dropping it in the matching colored pail. Another new program was *Toddler Play Time*. Every Mission Toddler Toy was brought into the meeting room. The toddlers enjoyed blocks, costumes, hats, cars, puzzles, our foam play scape, books and more. A large part of the month was spent preparing for a great summer reading program.

Mission Library in partnership with UTSA’s Center for Inquiry of Transformative Literacies started a *Summer Literacy Program* for children of District 3.

**PAN AMERICAN**

A couple of months ago, Pan American Branch Library circulation attendant Greg Rendon was chatting with a patron and the subject of ping pong arose. The patron happened to be UTSA ping pong pro John Trevino, who said he would be happy to donate a table and provide lessons to youngsters. Friends of Pan Am Library accepted the donation of the table and purchased paddles and balls. Some staff have already taken advantage of the table by trying their skills against Trevino, who has played competitively for many years.

*Qigong and yoga sessions* at Pan Am have a solid following, with as many as 18 attending each qigong session. Yoga lessons are included in Fit Pass 2017, an SAParksFitness initiative that provides fitness opportunities, nutrition education, wellness events and prizes for participating in healthy events around the city.
With the closure of Landa Branch Library for renovations, its Assistant Branch Manager Karen Sebesta has joined the Pan Am staff. She is continuing her many outreach events and has brought her Readers Inc. Book Discussion Group to Pan Am for the summer.

Pan Am is working to help combat child hunger by offering a free lunch on Tuesdays and a healthy snack option on Thursdays. Food is provided by the San Antonio Food Bank.

Food has been the theme for a number of programs at Pan Am. Pastries and Parents/Pan Dulce y Padres brought together parents and children for an afternoon of sweet treats and time to bond during quality family time. Ronald McDonald hosted a book time for more than 20 children. Pan Am also aired the James Sanders documentary Chips and Salsa, about how three small family-owned restaurants in the city’s older neighborhoods impact the community.

Pan Am also offers weekly chess instruction and has a strong teen program. As part of SAPL’s Digital Inclusion Month, Pan Am provided free computer classes.

PARMAN

Parman Library hosted early voting for the runoff elections in the meeting rooms. As always, voting staff was very complimentary and thanked staff for allowing them to use the facility.

Adventure and exploration is the focus of the Parman branch Story Time this summer! Inspired by Central’s Little Red Wagon team, Parman’s Summer Librarian, Carolyn Bradley, kicked off the summer Story Time with a Pirate Theme. Activities included walking the plank, searching for buried treasure, playing in a pirate ship, and molding things with gold colored playdough allowed the children to learn through play. Art activities included creating eye patches, pirate hats and spyglasses.

Children’s Librarian Katie Robinson hosted the first Summer Reading Kids Time of the Summer on June 8. Kids learned about building a better world by helping people without expecting anything in return. They made bookmarks to put in their favorite books in order to make other people happy. They also made thank you cards for the local fire and police departments. Ms. Robinson is taking the cards to the stations soon and hopes that representatives from the fire department and police department can come talk to the kids in the near future!

Ms. Robinson also hosted Parman Discovery Time on June 7. Over 20 kids learned about birds, their habitats, and what they can do to help local and migrating birds when they are in the area. Kids used recycled materials to make their own birds’ nests, just like birds do! At the second Discovery Time on June 14, kids learned about the skeletal system and x-rays, and made pictures of x-rays by tracing their hands and drawing and labeling the bones!

Parman Library hosted Spikey Mikey for Summer Reading Kids Time on June 15. Over 200 people attended the two shows, and kids learned about the importance of reading through magic, laughter, and fun! The kids love watching Spikey Mikey do his magic tricks and interacted with him excitedly.

Parman continues to host Lego Club and Chess Club on Tuesdays and Sundays respectively. These are well-attended programs where kids learn important skills such as critical thinking, spatial awareness, strategy, and coordination. These remain two of Parman’s most popular programs for school aged children.
In teen services, Seniors said goodbye to Parman and their librarian Marisa DeBow as they are starting their journey into post high school life.

In preparation for the Summer Reading Alisson Villarreal Parman circulation attendant created exquisite 3-dimensional bulletin board and a banner to recognize all the finishers.

Parman Library is growing in all aspects. Our Library Assistant Keith Kisses welcomed his second son to this world just on time for Father’s Day. All staff joined to send Keith and his family best wishes.

POTRANCO

Children’s Librarian Robin Alcorta promoted the 2017 Summer Reading Program through the end of May at Cole, Fisher, Galm, and Westwood Terrace Elementary Schools. Children’s programs remain popular with the community, and patrons continue to enjoy the stories, activities, and crafts put on by Children’s Librarian Robin Alcorta. Aside from the usual Toddler Time, Story Time, and Family Fun programs, patrons were treated to a special puppet show rendition of Robert Munsch’s book The Paper Bag Princess with Library Aide Alex Cantrell playing the lead roles. Afterwards, patrons had a blast creating their own paper bag crowns with Alcorta.

To celebrate the start of Summer Reading, Children’s Librarian Robin Alcorta organized a Summer Reading Kickoff Party. The entire Potranco Branch Library staff worked together to create a variety of activities and decorations for the party, using the theme of “Building a Better Underwater World.” Patrons had a wonderful time signing up for summer reading while participating in crafts, games, photos, and activities for all ages that taught them more about water conservation and our oceans.

Librarian Daniella Toll worked with the Great Northwest and Guerra branches to ensure schools in the surrounding areas were adequately covered for outreach. Toll promoted the 2017 Summer Reading Program at Luna Middle School with the help of Librarian Kassandra Vela-Laosa, and attended an outreach event at Rayburn Middle School. Toll also reached out to the San Antonio Food Bank to provide summer snacks to patrons aged 0-12 throughout the summer.

Teen Librarian Daniella Toll continues to provide various programs for teens at the branch: Teen Gaming, Manga Club, and Teen Time. Some activities included gaming, crafting with Perler beads, making marshmallow art, and having a Black Butler themed tea party. Through a partnership with Wells Fargo, Toll also began hosting a weekly Financial Literacy class for teens in June. After programs, Toll consistently stays with teens in the Teen Area and engages with them while listening to their ideas and opinions. Teen volunteers are very active within teen programming, as well as helping out with other programs and tasks at the branch.

Adult programming at Potranco offered a multitude of options throughout the reporting period. The first American Sign Language Meetup was held, where attendees began learning basic American Sign Language as well as discussed some of the history behind Deaf culture. On another day, patrons watched the Kaveri Natya Yoga organization perform classical Indian dances (Bharatanatyam). To recognize Mental Health Month in May, the adult monthly book club read and discussed The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon; and to recognize Pride Month in June, the monthly DOesday Nights program created colorful bookmarks to celebrate the diversity in our city. On June 13th, the second discussion of the Asperger Syndrome: Diagnosis series was livestreamed in the branch’s CREATE Room.

Interim Branch Manager Matthew Loaiza visited Lakeside Care Center to host a program that the residents have now excitedly dubbed Library Day. Loaiza brings a large selection of popular titles for
residents to browse through and potentially check out if anything piques their interests. Residents also offer their suggestions and recommendations of books they would like to see next month. Aside from bringing in books, Loaiza also engages in conversations with the residents in the dining hall once they have finished selecting books.

With the help of every single staff member at the branch, the Potranco Branch Library launched the LibBox at the end of May. Located inside the Mays Family YMCA at Potranco, the LibBox allows patrons to checkout a collection of popular and classic books and DVDs outside of regular library hours. Patrons have been thrilled to use this new technology and staff has been eager to show reluctant patrons how easy it is to use. Along with the Laptop Kiosk and the Holds Locker, the Potranco Branch Library is excited to launch these technologies and provide library services to patrons in innovative ways.

Several employees exemplified core values during the reporting period. Children’s Librarian Robin Alcorta invited her mentee, Children’s Librarian Lee Ann McDonald from Central, to observe a Build a Better Earth Story Time. Afterwards, Alcorta showed McDonald the unique technologies at the branch as well as gave her a tour of the YMCA facility. Teen Librarian Daniella Toll is working with a staff member from the Mays Family YMCA at Potranco to host some Creative Writing workshops for teens. Although the program is in its early planning stages, this program partnership between SAPL and the YMCA is an exciting opportunity and will hopefully lead to further joint programming opportunities. Library Assistant Elissa Vura worked on creating item records and barcoding bags to be checked out with the branch’s vinyl collection, as well as helped create a display for the bags. Patrons have commented on the quality and utility of the bags, and they are often all checked out.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

During Kids’ Time, children celebrated their “unique” qualities while focusing on the Summer Reading theme, “Building a Better World”. Attendees listened eagerly to the children’s book Spoon written by Amy Rosenthal. Kids had an opportunity to share qualities that make them unique and special. They participated in a craft project where they created an “I am Unique” sunflower.

The last “Character Clash” competition pitted Hank the Cowdog against Magic Treehouse books. Children visiting Pruitt Library throughout the month cast their ballot for the series they liked best. The overwhelming winner was Magic Treehouse. The election ended with a celebration of crafts and a drawing with winners receiving their very own brand-new copies of the books.

Children’s Librarian Cynthia Saenz attended outreach at Harmony School of Innovation and a Books and Barbers event at Roosevelt High School where she spoke to parents about the importance of summer reading. She also provided children with a summer calendar, and kids are really looking forward to attending the upcoming events.

Summer Reading is well underway with families bringing children to participate in the popular Lego camp, gaming and crafts, family matinee, and the free healthy meals program. The library staff looks forward to getting kids excited to participate in the Summer Reading Club.

The branch hosted a Smarter Summer Fair on May 15. The event gave Roosevelt High School students an opportunity to connect with their employment and community interests. More than half of the school’s 2,700 students met with potential employers and pertinent community members. They explored possibilities for not only their summers, but for their possible future vocations and careers in higher education, military, civil service, and other exciting career pathways. Students were excited to have the Smarter Summer Fair brought to their campus, and many students, teachers, and parents are hopeful that it will be an annual event. Teen Librarian Rae Downen is grateful that Citibank and Central Library’s Jenn Velasquez and Adam Tutor were able to provide this opportunity for the Roosevelt High School community.
San Antonio Metropolitan Health District specialists presented a six-week *Diabetes Self-Management* series at Pruitt in May and June. Attendees received a variety of educational materials and learned about healthy eating, goal setting, exercising to increase strength and energy, and controlling diabetes symptoms.

TGIF book group participants were unanimous in their praise for the May book selection *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Patrons lingered long after the meeting to continue discussing the book. Branch Manager Dee Dee Davenport tweeted about this observation and was pleased when the author replied to her tweet stating, “I hope that’s a good sign.”

**SAN PEDRO**

Children’s Librarian Betsy Dalton presented monthly *Story Times* to children at Educare Child Care Center (two classes), Monte Vista Montessori (two classes), Laurel Heights Weekday School (one class), and a new school Monticello Academy (three classes). Fifteen to twenty books were also delivered to each child care/preschool class for their use during the month. Monte Vista, Laurel Heights, and Monticello Academy request thematic books for topics they will be discussing in their respective classes and the teachers are very appreciative to this enrichment to their curriculum.

*Minecraft Monday* continues and *Kids Time* on Wednesdays has been converted to a weekly *Lego Club*. Attendance on Wednesdays has increased. Summer Programming began June 4 with a weekly Sunday *Kids Time* added to the schedule.

Toddler Time continued during this reporting time with a small but very loyal group.

During this period, Children’s Librarian Betsy Dalton visited the classes in the various neighborhood schools to promote the *Summer Reading Club*. She also attended principal-parent coffees and end-of-school parent/student lunches to promote the SRC.

Children’s Librarian Betsy Dalton serves on the Committee of Thinkers subcommittee, the iPad subcommittee and the Science Committee of children’s librarians. In addition, she serves as Interim Manager of San Pedro while Diane Backhus is assigned to Las Palmas.

**SCHAEFER**

Schaefer’s first summer has started off great! During the days leading up to summer, Children’s Librarian Leslie Elsasser and library assistant Sara Ramirez promoted the Summer Reading program at elementary schools in the East Central school district. On June 1, Schaefer had a *Summer Reading Kick-Off party* for kids, teens and adults. Besides signing up for the *Summer Reading Club*, there were games, video games, green screen photos and ice cream. So far, nearly 600 children have signed up for the *Summer Reading Club* at Schaefer!

Schaefer is offering a variety of weekly programs for all ages of children, and so far, they’ve all been popular. The weekly programs include *Toddler Time, Story Time, Tween Time, Lego Time, Kids Time, Mario Kart Cup, Science Time and Come & Go Crafts*. The first *Family Fun Movie* took place June 17. Circulation attendant Megan Cabrera presented *Sing* and before starting the movie, the kids made microphones out of toilet paper tubes so they could sing along with the movie.

More than 100 kids attending an East Central camp visited the library on June 6 and 7. Sara Ramirez, Leslie Elsasser and manager Jorge Chavez split the groups into three groups each day and provided fun activities for them. All the kids signed up for the *Summer Reading Club* as well.
Thursday afternoons this Summer, Schaefer Library is hosting the inaugural **Mario Kart Schaefer Cup**. Patrons of all ages gather in Mays Family Community Flex Space to play Mario Kart 8 on the Wii U. Patrons are given time to practice, then Schaefer Staff organize a playoff to determine the top four finishers for the day.

For the summer season, the Schaefer library implemented a biweekly STEAM program for kids: **Science Time**. This program, facilitated by Library Assistant Sara Ramirez, explores Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math through scientific demonstrations and hands-on exploration. During the reporting period, there were two **Science Time** programs. On June 2, children learned about different facets of the animal kingdom including habitats, diets, and adaptations, all through playing fun and interactive games. On June 16, children learned about the water cycle and the process of melting through a collaborative experiment in which the kids were challenged to rescue toy animals “trapped” in ice. The kids were given a limited tool supply and had to decide how best to free the animals from the ice. The budding scientists were very engaged and dedicated to their task. After the challenging experiment, kids enjoyed making beautiful art with ice chalk and eating ice cream outside near the playground.

Library Assistant and Tween Time Facilitator Sara Ramirez has continued to implement **Tween Time** for the summer. Tweens enjoyed making art through the process of marbling, a mixture of shaving cream and food coloring, to create beautiful and unique artwork. Tweens also enjoyed an ocean-themed Tween Time in which they were able to create their own ocean in a bottle to take home. The oceans were composed of water, blue food coloring, vegetable oil, glitter, and sea shells. Tweens concluded the program by creating shark cootie catchers.

Teen Services at Schaefer were busy during the reporting period. Nearing the end of the school year, Cindy Cruz, Teen Services Librarian, visited with students at East Central High School and STEM Early College High School for library card sign ups. While visiting campuses, she told students about the **Teen Summer Program**. She is happy to report that many of the teens she visited with at the outreaches have been to the library and have signed up for the summer program. Programs held a variety of projects for teens to participate in. Creating slime, photo magnets, and a model of the building are just a sampling of activities that took place in May.

Wells Fargo began holding **Financial Literacy** classes for teens at the beginning of June. From the beginning, instructors had a group of dedicated students eager to learn about topics such as budgeting and checking/savings accounts. Teens attending have been very appreciative of the classes, stating how they didn’t know how important budgeting was until they took the class. Wells Fargo also offered teens calculators and sunglasses for participating in the class.

**Adult Summer Reading** is on fire at the Schaefer branch! With 248 people already active in the program, the competition for the grand prizes is fierce.

The Schaefer branch outreach to the District 2 senior center continues to be a success, with nearly 50 seniors coming to color this past month and a very active group of device support students learning how to take selfies with the instructor.

Library Assistant Sheridan Richardson hosted the **Digital Inclusion Introduction to Excel** class on May 26. Five participants showed up, and commended Sheridan on her teaching ability.

The following Saturday, May 27, Sheridan hosted the Schaefer Silver Screen Movie: **A Dog’s Purpose** and invited PAWS for Service volunteer Leisa Parsons and her therapy dog Sasha to give a short talk before the film. Thirty patrons enjoyed learning about the work of a therapy dog and feeding
Sasha treats. May 31 was the second meeting of the *Sip ‘n Skimmers Book Club*; Sheridan created a short presentation about the book *Truevine* by Beth Macy that was highly enjoyed by the patrons.

Monday nights at Schaefer, patrons gather for *Chess Club*. From 6:00 to 7:30 children and adults play friendly games of chess in Schaefer’s H.E.B Collaborate space. Patrons solve chess puzzles, observe historic chess matches, and learn the basics of strategy with Library Assistant Mason Matthews. Chess materials generously provided by Librarian Monty Holcomb of the Carver Branch Library.

Beginning on June 4th, and continuing every other Sunday, Schaefer Library hosts *Family Board Games* in the Mays Family Community Flex Space. Local family’s bring their favorite age appropriate board games, or play those provided by the Schaefer Library. For two hours patrons have fun, build relationships, and enjoy a respite from the summer heat.

**SEMMES**

Children’s Librarian Randi Jones visited the Crestview Elementary *Family Literacy Night* to promote the *Summer Reading Program* and to talk about the importance of reading and sharing books together as a family.

Ms. Jones also held two *Summer Reading Kickoff Tea Parties* in late May and early June. Participants were invited to enjoy stories, activities and snacks on the Semmes Patio. Special thanks to the Friends of the Semmes Branch Library for providing the snacks and supplies for the parties.

Library Aide Christina Tiller assisted Ms. Jones in presenting the *Paper Bag Princess Puppet Show* on Monday, June 12 and Wednesday, June 14. Story time attendees were delighted by the fun and entertaining show.

On Thursday, June 15, the Sandbank Shadow Factory presented two performances of “Wild Goose Chase”. The meeting room was filled to capacity for both very entertaining performances.

The Semmes Branch started hosting Pruitt Library’s *Teen Dungeons and Dragons* group on Friday afternoons. The group will meet at Semmes until school starts and then they will resume meeting at Pruitt.

Early voting for the run-off election for Mayor and City Council District 10 was held at the branch from May 30 to June 6. Turnout was fairly steady throughout the election.

The Friends of the Semmes Branch Library held a book sale on Saturday, June 10. A great many people came out for the sale and the Friends made about $1,400.00.

Semmes staff hosted Board Member Linda Nairn for a Meet and Greet on Tuesday, June 13. Staff enjoyed meeting Ms. Nairn and learning more about the Library Board.

**THOUSAND OAKS**

*Summer Reading* is off to a great start at Thousand Oaks Library, with the *Summer Reading Kickoff Party* that was held on June 3. The Friends of the Library paid for the Kona Ice truck to come to the library and serve free snow cones. The library also provided a bubble machine, bubble wands, kinetic sand, and sidewalk chalk for the children to enjoy. Total attendance was about 75 patrons. Everyone that attended had a great time and the staff received several compliments.
Teens at the Thousand Oaks Branch Library had the opportunity to express their creativity through craft activities including Perler beads, animal masks, and paper crafts. Teens participated in the planning and development of each program, with the Teen Volunteers taking on the responsibilities of pulling together supplies and making prototypes of each project. Teens have especially appreciated the chance to make slime several times now, each time using different formulations for their creations. One of their activities was to create their own fidget spinners. These are all the rage right now!

With school out for the summer, Teens have been utilizing the Teen Space at Thousand Oaks. Teen Liaison Theresa Ybarra and Teen Volunteers are constantly replenishing displays and supplies. The new “Try Your Hand...” display featured drawing manga and many Teens have left their contribution to the shared art space, brightening the area with original Teen art.

Librarian Theresa Ybarra visited two NEISD campuses to promote Teen Services at SAPL. At the Academy for Creative Education’s New Student Orientation, two classes were introduced to services provided at Thousand Oaks on May 15. That afternoon, the Teen Library hosted the first Smarter Fair at Roosevelt High School, providing teens with opportunities to meet with potential summer employers.

Thousand Oaks Branch hosted representatives from UTHSC and UTSA to present a program on the effect of climate change on Monarch Butterflies. Families were presented with a discussion by various panel members and then engaged in hands-on activities. The Friends of the Library held their biannual book sale. The community came and supported their local branch library and left with some quality used books. The branch also began hosting the NEISD Student Feeding Program, which runs through the end of July.

The Light Between Oceans by M. L. Steadman was the subject of June’s Thursday Book Club. The group enjoyed the selection. The discussion centered on the moral dilemma of right vs. wrong in the light of a child’s wellbeing. There were refreshments provided.

The book club at the Northeast Senior Center delved in to the fascinating life of Cleopatra with their latest selection. Many readers appreciated the tremendous research work done by author Stacy Schiff, who used many sources to piece together the Egyptian Queen’s story. The book was filled with Greek, Roman, and Egyptian history, which proved to be quite interesting to readers. The discussion, facilitated by Librarian Theresa Ybarra, focused on the differences between the legacies of Cleopatra, Julius Caesar, and Mark Antony.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL

Children’s Librarian, Karen Braeuler, prepared and disseminated Summer Reading materials electronically to 16 area schools. On May 20, Ms. Braeuler attended a dual language event held at Churchill High School and shared summer programming and library services information with families.

On May 24, Ms.Braeuler handled the early morning announcements at Cambridge Elementary to encourage Summer Reading and the Build a Better World theme. Similarly, she provided summer program materials at George Gervin’s Festival held on May 26.

Teen Librarian, Megan Coker, organized and hosted Tobin’s End of School Year Party, on May 25 where a large number of teens enjoyed a waffle bar and started a group art activity that will continue to grow over the summer.
Many teens enjoyed measuring the ingredients and making lots of lime, strawberry, and orange-flavored edible slime. Kids enthusiastically debated whether it was slime, oobleck, or some other variation and generally had lots of fun.

Teens also got the inside scoop about the upcoming Summer Reading Program, and played building games as part of the theme of "Build a Better world" with pipe cleaners, neon straws, and Legos.

The branch hosted the San Antonio Public Library’s Board meeting on May 24. Ms. Braeuler presented photos and comments on some of Tobin’s unique programs and activities from recent months.


As part of Digital Inclusion month, the branch wrapped up its May series of computer classes with an Online Job Search class on May 19. Digital Inclusion Fellow, Emma Hernandez taught this class to a small but attentive group.

Adult Librarian, Rhonda Woolhouse was one of the lead librarians coordinating and hosting SAPL’s booth at Alamo City Comic Con May 25 – 28. The expo was held at the Convention Center downtown and celebrates comic and pop culture characters and motifs. SAPL’s booth featured making a craft with thousands of light sabers, hundreds of green screen photos with props, and a reading and trivia area. The Cosplay Repair Station was one of the most popular stops as folks dressed in Cosplay required repairs to their exotic and unusual costumes.

On June 3, the Summer Reading Kickoff was a smashing success with crafts and activities related to the better world theme. Thanks to the generosity of The Friends of the Tobin at Oakwell Library, The Fire on the Mountain Cloggers performed and even worked in some exuberant audience and staff participation.

A paper-based art activity by the nonprofit arts organization, Say Si, added to the summer theme by using recycled materials.

Ms. Woolhouse partnered with the City’s Parks and Recreation Department to have their Mobile Fit Van out in the parking lot for the duration of the event. Attendees received a thorough wellness check along with fitness tips.

The NEISD Free Lunch Program for kids began on June 12 and will continue weekdays through August 4. A sizeable crowd of kids, teens and their parents drop by to enjoy some yummy, healthy food. Kids 18 and under enjoy a free lunch while adults and some staff purchase the lunch because they are so tasty and fresh.

Tobin personnel have restructured programs so that everyone can go from a satisfying lunch straight into a program tailored for one of the different age groups each day, including Kids Time, Teen Time, and the Tween and Teen Tobin Tofu club.

WESTFALL

The LEARN @SAPL Center at the Westfall Branch Library was busy as usual during the reporting period. Training Officer, Michelle Rickman reported 346 one-on-one sessions completed, which included job searching, resume writing, and computer skills instruction. Additionally, Ms. Rickman held various classes that covered English as a Second Language, Beginning Computers, and Internet.
Finally, Ms. Rickman organized a field trip to the Institute of Texan Cultures for the ESL class students. The LEARN ESL groups at Bazan and Cortez also joined the Westfall members on the trip.

At the beginning of June branch staff was busy getting prepared for the Mayor’s Summer Book Club. This year’s theme of Make a Better World, challenged everyone to think of ways to positively impact your community and the planet. On June 3 Children’s Librarian, Imelda Merino held a SRP kickoff event that features various activities. A performer from All Things Balloons was on hand to make all different kinds of creations for the participants. Additionally, the children mad fans, crafts with paper cups, and pipe cleaner figures that showed ways to make a better world. Branch staff especially circulation promoted the program and got kids, teens, and adults to sign up.

In addition to organizing the Children’s Summer Reading Program, Children’s Librarian, Imelda Merino, held 19 programs at the branch as well as coordinated three sessions of the “Read to a Dog” program. Ms. Merino also attended the Dellview Elementary School’s Health Fair and continued her work with the Wilson Elementary Book Club. Besides going out into the community, Ms. Merino organized Family Fun on Saturdays, and Kids Time, Toddler Time, and Baby Time during the week days.

For Digital Inclusion Month both the Westfall interim branch manager, Nathaniel Laubner, and assistant manager Hayley Latshaw taught classes on beginning email and Microsoft Word. Mr. Laubner held his class at the Pan American Branch Library and Ms. Latshaw taught email lessons at the Maverick Branch Library. The goal of the Digital Inclusion initiative was to get more people connected to the internet as well as increase digital literacy through instruction and one-on-one assistance at the branches.

Adult Services Librarian, Hayley Latshaw continued to host two Westfall branch books clubs—Stanger than Fiction and The Third Thursdays. Both programs gave participants an opportunity to discuss an interesting book and connect with other readers with the same interests. Interim Branch Manager, Nathaniel Laubner, stopped by the Madonna Senior apartments to deliver books in English, Spanish, and Russian. The residents and staff enjoyed chatting with the librarian and offered suggestions for books to bring next month. The Russian readers are especially dedicated and always wanted more books to read.

The Westfall Branch Library staff said farewell and good luck to Megan Stanley who will be going to the Central Teens Department. During her time at Westfall, Ms. Stanley brought a passion for teen programming and services to the branch. In addition to programming, Ms. Stanley revitalized the young adult collection and created a space in the branch just for teens. Thank you Megan for all your hard work, you will be missed.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY
KEY INDICATORS

Presented below are key indicators that align with the Library’s Strategic Plan.

CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

- **4,636,203** ITEMS BORROWED (↓1%)

CIRCULATION: GOAL

- **7,340,000** TOTAL FY GOAL
  - FYTD GOAL: 98% OF FYTD GOAL MET

LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

- **3,689,886** VISITS (↑7%)

LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL

- **5,710,000** TOTAL FY GOAL
  - FYTD GOAL: 100% OF FYTD GOAL MET

DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

- **394,573** COMPUTER HOURS
- **1,273,587** HOURS OF WI-FI USE
- **1,668,160** TOTAL HOURS OF COMPUTER & WI-FI USE (↑9%)

DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL

- **2,450,000** TOTAL FY GOAL
  - FYTD GOAL: 118% OF FYTD GOAL MET
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS
MAY 2017 (continued)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

CIRCULATION BY TYPE
- DIGITAL: 17%
- PHYSICAL: 83%

CIRCULATION BY SERVICE AREA
- BEXAR COUNTY (OUTSIDE COSA): 21%
- COSA: 79%

VIRTUAL VISITS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

- MYSAPL.ORG VISITS: 1,967,325
- MYSAPL APP SESSIONS: 474,171
- SANANTONIO.OVERDRIVE.COM VISITS: 1,241,373

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

- TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 258,137
- ADULT PROGRAMS: 71,515
- TEEN PROGRAMS: 41,081
- CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS: 145,541

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

NEW DIGITAL LITERACY PROGRAMS

- DIGITAL INCLUSION MONTH: 43 SESSIONS, 18 LOCATIONS, 232 ATTENDEES

Libraries help bridge the Digital Divide.
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Circulation includes Digital (OneClick and Overdrive) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt

06/20/2017
## San Antonio Public Library
### May 2017 Programs and Attendance

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<tr>
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<th>Adult Program Attendance</th>
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San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures
FY 17: *
Opening: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

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

06/20/2017
San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures

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FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

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06/20/2017
San Antonio Public Library

Visits

Location Closures
FY 17: * Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, * Opening: Encino April 30

06/20/2017
San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures

FY 17: * Opening: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
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FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, * Opening: Encino April 30

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - May 2017

Central
Parman
Cody
Brook Hollow
Igo
Mission
Semmes
Tobin
Great NW
Pruitt
Encino
McCreless
Westfall
Maverick
Johnston
Guerra
Thousand Oaks
Potranco
Las Palmas
Landa
Memorial
Cortez
Collins Garden
Bazan
Carver
Forest Hills
Pan American
San Pedro
Schaefer
Library Portal

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<td>100,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
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</table>
San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures
FY 17: * Opening: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, * Opening: Encino April 30

Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use

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

* Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25

06/20/2017