



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

Groundbreaking ceremony, future Schaefer Branch Library in District 2

# DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

## **Library Receives Proposal from the Monte Vista Historical Association**

The Monte Vista Historical Association submitted a proposal to the Library Board of Trustees on June 24, 2015 for consideration of a new agreement for the use of space at the Landa Branch Library. Library staff will assist the Library Board on their response in consultation with COSA Legal and City Management.

## **Bexar County Approves ILA with Library**

Commissioners Court approved the Interlocal Agreement with the City for Library services on June 23, 2015. The agreement was previously approved by City Council on May 7 and by the San Antonio Public Library Board of Trustees on April 22. The City and County agreement continues to make the services of the San Antonio Public Library and BiblioTech available to all residents of Bexar County. The City and County will continue to work together on digital services to provide a seamless, efficient experience for the entire community.

While Bexar County will be reducing its payment to the City of San Antonio for library services over a four year period starting FY 2016, Bexar County is committed to continued collaboration in reinvesting those dollars in digital resources for all residents.

## **Use of Library's Digital Materials on the Rise**

The San Antonio Public Library's circulation of digital materials continues to steadily rise and on Wednesday, July 8, 2015, the Library hit a record milestone with the highest-ever digital circulation for the Library system. This trajectory follows the national trend as OverDrive, the Library's primary provider for digital content, also set a new daily record (June 29, 2015) for lending materials. The record milestone is significant as the San Antonio Public Library leads the field in circulations from the over 34,000 libraries and schools worldwide that use Overdrive for eBooks, eAudiobooks, periodicals and streaming video.

## **American Library Association Annual Conference**

Library Director Ramiro Salazar and other members of the Library's Team attended the American Library Association annual conference June 27 through June 30, 2015.

While at the conference Library Director Ramiro Salazar met with the Steve Potash, CEO of OverDrive to discuss the San Antonio Public Library's (SAPL) priorities and opportunities to enhance the customer experience in partnership with OverDrive. Additionally, Ramiro Salazar met with co-founders of BiblioCommons (mobile app provider) Beth Jefferson and Patrick Kennedy to discuss a collaborative approach to achieve SAPL's technology vision.

Ramiro Salazar also met with the Executive Director of the American Library Association to advocate bringing future ALA Annual or Mid-Winter Conferences to San Antonio.

During the conference, Ramiro Salazar accepted an award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) /American Library Association (ALA) who selected the Mission Branch Library for the 2015 Building Award during the ALA Annual Conference. Henry Muñoz, III, representing project architects Muñoz and Co., was also in attendance to accept the award. A judge from the panel described the Mission Branch Library: "The building is intrinsically connected to its location through its use of local materials, and outstanding attention to detail executed by local artisans employing traditional design motifs and old-world craftsmanship."

Finally, the San Antonio Public Library was also recognized by Urban Libraries Council (ULC) for a 2015 Top Innovator Award for the Digital Library Community Project. ULC's Innovations Initiative showcases leading "best" and "next" practices that demonstrate the value and impact of public library service in the 21st century. These practices embody ideas, approaches and insights which other libraries can adapt.

### **Schaefer Branch Library Ground Breaking**

On Thursday, July 2, 2015, Transportation & Capital Improvements (TCI) and the Library held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Schaefer Branch Library (District 2) at 10:00 a.m. Councilman Warrick has confirmed his attendance at the event and is scheduled to deliver remarks during the program. The event will take place on site at Highway 87 and Foster Road.

### **Adjusting hours for Learn at SAPL**

Learn at SAPL, which has been serving adult learners through a partnership between the Library and Department of Human Services (DHS), has assisted thousands of San Antonians in reaching their learning goals since the first sites opened in September 2014. Beginning August 1, in order to assist more learners, the Learn Centers at the Carver Branch Library and Westfall Branch Library will be adjusting their hours. Learn at Carver Branch Library will now be open Monday – Friday, with two evenings a week, and Learn at Westfall Branch Library will move to Tuesday through Saturday to accommodate the busy Saturday hours. Despite already exceeding targets, these schedule changes will allow the libraries to serve even more adult learners.

### **In other news**

The Library will participate in Councilman Rey Saldaña's Back to School Fair on August 15, 2015 at the Centro Med – Palo Alto Clinic (9011 Poteet Jourdanton Fwy). Staff from the Cortez Branch Library will provide information about the Library and invite participants to visit the Cortez Branch Library located across the street from the site of the Fair. Additionally, the Councilman invited the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library to sell used books during the Fair.

Jennifer Velasquez, Teen Services Coordinator for the Library System recently published a book titled "Real World Teen Services". This book, published by the American Library Association, explores real-world challenges and obstacles to teen service that often present themselves, offering solutions and guidance for both new YA librarians and those wanting to freshen up their approach. Jennifer is also an adjunct instructor at San Jose State University- School of Information and has contributed her invaluable expertise on several other books and articles.

## **REFERENCE**

Reference staff is celebrating summer with the Central Cinema Summer Film series. Films are presented every Sunday during the summer months and this year's theme: "It Came From Another World." From June 14 through July 5, Blanca Hernandez, Maria Hernandez, Dan Garcia, and Tricia Masterson hosted films ranging from our favorite "Men in Black" to the tongue-in-cheek horror of "Tremors." The enthusiastic audiences enjoyed bringing their own snacks and having a good time while watching the escapist fare.

On June 28, in the "What's Cookin'?: South Asia" class, attendees learned how to prepare Tamarind Rice. Pannaga Prasad and Leticia Guerra presented demonstrational videos and an up-close look at ingredients for the popular dish; recipe handouts were also provided.

This year's 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Folklife Festival was a huge success for the Texana/Genealogy's "Heritage of Family Name" booth. Over 1000 surname certificates were researched and handed out over the June 13-14 weekend to people visiting from all over the world! Sylvia Reyna and Deborah Countess would like to thank their SAPL colleagues who volunteered and helped make this event such an enormous success: Clarissa Chavira (Central); Cherrie Gonzales (Mission); Blanca D. Hernandez (Central); Christina Hess (Parman); Stephen Jackson (Guerra); Valerie Juarez (Brook Hollow); Martha Loewen (Central); Ramona Lucius (Igo); Cristine Mitchamore (Central); Didi Morganti (Central); Tom Nemeth (Book Cellar); Debye Nicholl (Brook Hollow); Kate Simpson (Central); Judy Slaughter (Central); Roberta Sparks (Central).

Matt De Waelsche received the Sojourner Truth Advocacy Award from the San Antonio Juneteenth Association, June 17, for his work with the San Antonio African-American funeral program collection. This Texana collection began over ten years ago and currently contains close to 4500 programs, of which 3000 have been scanned and are available online through the University of North Texas' Portal to Texas History: (<http://texas.history.unt.edu/explore/collections/AAFP/browse>).

Ms. Countess presented a program entitled "Beginning Genealogy: Getting Started" at the inaugural meeting of the Encino Branch Library Genealogy Club on June 20. Attendees were introduced to family history research methodology and genealogy research materials, including several SAPL databases. On June 30, Texana received a small archival collection containing research materials on Jose Antonio Navarro, from a descendant, Carol Cieszinski. Ms. Cieszinski did much of her research using Texana's resources and wanted to make her collection available for use by future historians and Navarro descendants.

## MARKETING

The marketing department participated in events related to Pride Month and Summer Reading during the reporting period. Also, the department assisted in groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the future Schaefer Branch Library and participated in the SASpeak Up campaign.

### Graphic Design

The graphic designers continued their work on materials for Collins Garden extreme makeover, Illustrator series (Alamo Comic Con series), Schaefer groundbreaking, LEARN Centers, Every Child Ready, Young Pegasus, budget materials, and New Digital Library Wallpaper clings.

### Public Relations

Public Information Officer Marcie Hernandez assisted in the groundbreaking of the Schaefer Branch Library. Hernandez facilitated a live TV segment on SA Live featuring crafting activities for Teens at SAPL on Thursday, July 9.

Hernandez also provided outreach at the San Antonio Military Medical Center Family Day on July 11. In her continual media communications work, Hernandez produced and distributed press releases about: Collins Garden Extreme Library Makeover, D6 Library Naming Opportunities, San Antonio Mini Maker Faire Call for Makers, SAPL ALA Awards. Also, she produced and distributed Press Releases for Branch programs at: Carver, Central, Cody, Great Northwest, Igo, Memorial and Pruitt.

SAPL received **165** media mentions during the reporting period. Also, the total value of broadcast coverage equal **\$44,158**.

Public Information Officer Arturo Gallardo filmed segments for the TVSA show "Cover to Cover," featuring Summer Reading activities at Mission, Pruitt and Central Library. Gallardo continued producing blog entries for the mysapl website and attended the groundbreaking for the new Schaefer Branch Library. Also, Gallardo continued producing and developing articles for the July and August editions of eConnections, the ongoing email blasts of this Weekend at SAPL and the production of the News & Events newsletter for the department.

Additionally, Gallardo continues to work with the AV Team and Digital Services to keep the YouTube updated.

### **Marketing**

Marketing Specialist Karla Vasquez has represented the Library at various events:

On June 30, for Independence Day event at Lions Field Adult & Senior Center, Karla Vasquez set up a table at the center with Digital Library information, Adult Summer Reading information and handed out Digital library bags.

On July 7, Vasquez set up a table with Digital Library information, Summer Reading information and gave away Digital Library bags for the Movies by Moonlight at Travis Park. She also continued the Instagram Challenge to have people help the Library reach 1,000 followers.

On July 11, for the Family Day at SAMMC, Vasquez set up an information table with Summer Reading info, Digital Library info, and handed out Digital Library bags.

### **Social Media**

The department continues its focus on growing the number of Instagram followers. Now, Facebook has 8,910 likes, Twitter has 2,742 followers and Instagram has 531 followers, Pinterest has 44 followers, and YouTube 118 subscribers.

## **CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

Summer Reading and summer programming are in full swing across the library system. As of July 13, 7,165 listeners and 17,393 readers have registered for the Mayor's Summer Reading Club, bringing the grand total to just over 24,000. These figures are comparable to registration numbers last year at this time, so the children's staff remains optimistic that this year's final count will match the record 30,000 children that participated in 2014. Interestingly, the number of registered listeners is slightly down while the number of readers is up by almost 2000. Perhaps city-wide efforts to emphasize the importance of summer reading as an antidote to "summer slide" are being heard and heeded.

As always, the children's librarians extend a heart-felt "Thank You" to the Library Foundation for their support this summer. The Foundation has provided funding not only for the electronic version of summer reading, but for programming supplies, performer fees and replenishing the supply of give-away books. Patron response to this year's performers has been very positive with both the *Happy Tails* animal shows and the *Eulenspiegel* puppet shows being particularly popular.

Summer is not the only thing on the mind of the children's staffers, however. Fall 2015 is just around the corner and plans are underway for a number of special events, including National Playdough Day (September 16), World Octopus Day (October 8), Star Wars Reads Day (October 10) and International Games Day (November 11). In addition, staff is also hard at work preparing for Hispanic Heritage Month programming which will feature the children's books written by Juan Felipe Herrera, the recently named Poet Laureate of the United States.

Children's Coordinator Viki Ash is working with San Antonio Youth Literacy (SAYL) this summer to bring books and reading activities to school-age children at the Ella Austin Community Center and the Guadalupe Community Center. Ash's weekly readings to the children are followed up by activities

overseen by SAYL staff and volunteers, fostering reading fluency, comprehension and enjoyment. Robyn Meyers, Program Coordinator for SAYL, has been a particularly responsive and collaborative partner. From June 26 - 31, Ash was in Las San Francisco for the American Library Association's Annual Conference. A long-time and active member of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), Ash is continuing in her role as the priority consultant for ALSC's 2016 Award Committees. She is assisting the chairs of the Newbery, Caldecott, Wilder, Siebert, Geisel and Batchelder Award Committees with procedural matters as they work throughout 2015 to select the 2016 award winners.

## **TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

### **Partnerships**

#### **Teen Summer Interns**

For several years, the San Antonio Public Library has participated in the summer youth internship program coordinated by the Family Service Association (FSA). Kathleen Fordyce, Teen Library at Central Assistant Manager, has served as the contact for the FSA for years and has coordinated the implementation of the program at participating library locations. On June 15, Kathleen and Teen Services Librarian at Igo, Marco De Leon, spent the day at the FSA's Neighborhood Place location interviewing potential teen candidates for internship positions.

This year eight locations are participating and include: Central, Bazan, Forest Hills, Great Northwest, Igo, Johnston, Pruitt at Roosevelt and Westfall. This six-week 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.

In addition to the FSA, teen summer interns were hired from JOVEN at four library locations: Central, Bazan, Guerra and Pan American. Kathleen also helped to coordinate the placement of these interns.

#### **Teen Arts Festival**

J.D. Elizondo, Library Assistant in the Teen Library at Central, continued planning with partners in the Teen Arts Festival committee. The committee, which also consists of the Southwest School of Art and Artpace, is working on developing the event, scheduled for November 21, 2015.

#### **Hands on Banking**

Through a partnership with Wells Fargo and the San Antonio Public Library Foundation, a series of workshops focusing on money skills for life will be presented to teens at the Teen Library at Central. Rachel Goolsby, the Wells at Work Program Manager, is coordinating the program and kicked off the series with a pizza party on June 30. There will be a session every Wednesday from July 1 to August 5, and teens who attend all sessions will qualify for an iPad raffle ticket. The sessions will cover the following topics: Earning, Spending Smart, Save & Invest, All about Credit, School & Financing, and the final session is a party!

#### **System-wide Support**

J.D. Elizondo assisted with Cody Branch Library's teen time on June 9, and then took his Eclectic Electric music program to Westfall Library on June 23.

# CENTRAL LIBRARY

## TEENS

### **Weekly Programs**

**Mondays with J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant):** Elizondo has continued Eclectic Electric music programming during the reporting period. The Teen Library studio is up and running and is immensely popular with teens. Elizondo facilitates the music recording teens create by showing them how to record, using the equipment in the studio. Elizondo has been adding more kinetic programming to summer Mondays, particularly ping pong games, and is currently contemplating other ways to get the teens moving. Elizondo makes sure to get input from the teens in planning Monday programs. Elizondo has been speaking with teens that have an interest in poetry to plan programming based on their interest. During the first meeting with these teens, they took immediate ownership of the group by naming it the Young Writer's Club. The teens discussed working on short stories and other forms of writing. The group is currently working on a zine for the Teen Library.

**Tuesdays with Caroline Mossing (Librarian I):** During the reporting period, Caroline hosted Science & Tech Tuesdays. Teens explored 3D printing, created original 3D models using the SketchUp software, and used 3D pens to create freehand 3D models. Teens also used the Cubelets modular robotics system to create simple robots and LittleBits modular electronics kits to create musical instruments and interactive electronic devices. During program time, teens explored circuitry with the MaKey MaKey invention kit and the Circuit Scribe system, drawing connections between modules with conductive ink. Teens worked together to learn how to use new tools and software, and shared successes and hurdles.

**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 Minecraft on the PlayStation 4, the Wii U games, as well as board games like Chess, Jenga and Monopoly. Teens have also asked to play Just Dance and ping pong, both of which gets them moving and is a fun way to exercise.

**Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant):** To finish out Summer Thursdays in June, teens engaged in creative, tasty, and instructive programs. Teens used YouTube videos displayed on the wall via projector and their phones during a polymer clay crafting session. Some used the step-by-step instructions; others used the images as inspiration to create one-of-a-kind objects, like earrings, charms and figurines. After sculpting, the clay items were baked in a toaster oven. Teens suggested continuing the Teen Library summer tradition of making ice cream, using Ziploc bags, rock salt, ice, milk, sugar, chocolate, and vanilla. This project allows teens to tailor their ice cream to suit their tastes and become engrossed in the task at hand of making sure the measurements and ingredients were on point to create a perfect ice cream mixture. A teen or two enjoyed pointing out the scientific aspects of the process, such as how the ice reacts to the salt and why the ice cream might taste a bit salty. July ushered in a month planned totally by teens, called Japanese July, outfitted to celebrate their love of all things Japan: manga books, recipes, crafts, and games. The first week of July teens made ichigo daifuku, a strawberry dessert they have come across in manga. Teens made mochi, a sweet floury concoction, then used it to wrap around a strawberry that had been covered with anko (red bean paste). Many teens experienced this distinct taste for the first time. Afterwards, they tested their hand-eye coordination playing a panda balancing game using chopsticks. The second week of July, teens made sushi rice, a quick and easy recipe. They shaped the rice into onigiri (rice ball), cats, pandas, and sushi roll shapes, using veggies as accessories as needed. The results were amazingly imaginative and tasty. While the rice cooked, teens

made origami. 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>.

**Special Friday event:** On July 3, the Teen Library at Central hosted a "Royal Game Tournament," with "royal game" being another name for ping pong or table tennis. A teen volunteer took charge by keeping score and facilitating the game. Snacks were served and the teens watched a movie afterward.

**Special Saturday event with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant):** On the last Saturday of June, teens made pretzels from scratch. It was a perfect Saturday project as it was a long process, involving a long wait time for the dough to rise. Teen Library volunteers Florencio and Noel took charge in making the yeast dough, a recipe that called for exact measurements, quick and easy mixing, and dough rising time. The dough was then divided, and each teen took a section, shaped it into pretzel and/or bread shapes, boiled it and then baked it. Teens devoured their pretzels, topping them with mustard or chocolate. Teens found the process interesting, if a bit long, and suggested that this particular dough recipe be used to make a pretzel pizza, quite possibly a future teen program.

### **Tours and Groups**

A group of Computer Animation students from Brackenridge High School came to visit the Teen Library with their teacher in June. They set up in the Lab, where Caroline Mossing assisted the group as they printed 3D models they had made in class using the Teen Library's Makerbot Replicator 2. Though some models ran into slight snags, the day was a successful one overall. Teen Library staff welcomes the opportunity to work with local schools in this way, and looks forward to more successful partnerships in the future.

On July 18, J.D. Elizondo and Coordinator of Teen Services Jennifer Velásquez provided a tour of the library to Brackenridge High School students. On July 19, a group of 50 teens from Mexico City visited the library and asked for a tour. Since the tour was unscheduled, Elizondo rushed to find assistance from staff members who are fluent in Spanish and was happy to enlist the help of Library Assistant Cynthia De Leon and Library Assistant Adolph Lopez. Elizondo and De Leon took the teens on a tour of the Central Library, while Kathleen Fordyce toured the teens around the Teen Library. Adolph took pictures during the tours, which are available on the 210teenlibrary Flickr page.

### **San Antonio Mini Maker Faire!**

Librarian I Caroline Mossing (Teen Library at Central) is spearheading the organization of the first annual San Antonio Mini Maker Faire! With this initiative Teen Services brings the City of San Antonio into a global community of more than 130 cities – including Sydney, Singapore, and Washington, D.C – celebrating their local maker culture through Maker Faires. The San Antonio Mini Maker Faire, taking place October 17, 2015, at the Central Library, will be a celebration and a showcase of the vibrant creative Maker community of San Antonio. All kinds of makers will be showing their stuff, providing a unique opportunity for learning and exploration for children, teens, and adults. Maker Faires are "a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity and resourcefulness, and a celebration of the Maker Movement. It's a place where people show what they are making, and share what they are learning." (makerfaire.com)

The Call for Makers opened July 7 and will remain open until August 24 and a number of local makers have already submitted applications to exhibit at the Mini Maker Faire.



# CHILDREN'S

The Children's Summer Reading Program at Central is off to a good start. Heroes of all kinds are emphasized through the Every Hero Has a Story theme. Each child who finished the program is cheered on by staff members as they applaud and shout out a loud "YAHOO!" Before children pick out a prize book and receive their certificate, they write their name on a yellow card and place it the superhero cityscape, lighting up one of the dark buildings with their "window" signifying reading success! The city scene has filled up so fast with finisher's names that the staff had to create an additional skyline to accommodate the many readers this summer. Children are also inspired to read through special book displays on the third floor. Librarian I Jasmin Salinas created displays based on the Jurassic World movie and in celebration of Shark Week to draw attention to these popular nonfiction topics for kids.

Toddler Time led by Ms. Salinas continues to celebrate hero stories focusing on firefighters, valiant dogs, and courageous children. Toddlers dressed up as a fire truck and an ambulance, ran through obstacle courses, and splashed in water beads this summer as the families enjoyed reading, moving, singing, and playing together!

Weekly LEGO Clubs at Central have been a great success, drawing children of all ages to stretch their engineering muscles, as they create structures out of LEGOs, DUPLOs, blocks, straws and connectors, and Magna-Tiles. Building challenge cards serve as inspiration, leading to elaborate collaborative creations. Families have also enjoyed playing board games during these programs.

Collection Development: Librarian II Nohemi Lopez Rosdahl continues to lead Bilingual Story Times. The group meets twice a month in the evening and is very popular, doubling in size over the last few months. Children enjoy simple stories that help familiarize them with the Spanish language in a relaxed and fun setting. Then, they spend more time socializing and making an arts and craft project while reflecting on their new words.

Children were able to become heroes during Kid's Times this month. Families worked together to create a colorful summer banner to give to a local organization. In this way, the children saw that they can also be heroes through a small act of kindness. Children were able to try their hand at saving the Earth as they got messy trying to clean water "polluted" by oil and trash in an important lesson.

Families enjoyed a lively puppet show presented by *Eulenspiegel Puppet Theater*. The experience was entertaining and educational, as puppetry techniques were demonstrated to the large audience and a lucky few got a chance to make the puppets dance and bow.

# LITTLE READ WAGON

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

With school out for the summer, Little Read Wagon rarely has opportunities to offer parent workshops. However, this summer the East Central Independent School District opened four elementary school libraries for one day each week as part of an initiative to help students return to school at or above their year-end levels of achievement. Little Read Wagon was invited to present informal workshops for parents and children with a simple make-and-take activity and an explanation of how it supports early literacy development. The come-and-go workshops were offered at John Glenn, Sinclair, Highland Forest, and

Harmony Elementary Schools. Children's Librarian Jodi Miller (Carver Branch) joined Cresencia Huff at Highland Forest and Harmony.

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

Corinne Sanchez and Xelena Gonzalez presented two workshops for parents and their children at Seton Home. Play dough was at the center of all the activity the evening of June 17. On June 24, parents made gel writing boards while their children engaged in other activities.

Other than Seton Home, presentations to teen parents are suspended until school begins again in the fall.

### **Staff Development**

Ms. Sanchez and Ms. Gonzalez presented "Early Literacy Outreach for Teen Parents: Engage & Inspire with ECRR 2.0" at the annual conference of the American Library Association in San Francisco. The program, sponsored by the Public Library Association, had an attendance well over the 60 participants Ms. Sanchez and Ms. Gonzalez expected. Attendees wrote glowing comments about the practicality of the ideas for reaching teen parents with early literacy information. Several participants asked about visiting San Antonio to shadow Little Read Wagon's work.

Julia Lazarin attended the webinar: "Engaging and Empowering Families of Young Children in the Digital Age" presented by Luisa Cotto. The webinar presented several ideas for establishing and maintaining relationships with parents. However, most of them seemed more appropriate for classroom teachers. Liliana Ornelas shared notes from the full-day workshop "Spanish Oral Language, Latino Children's Literature and Authors in the Classroom" she attended at Pre-K 4SA. Alma Flor Ada and Isabel Campoy presented ideas for book making, talking and classroom theatre that could be used in parent or teacher workshops and Play & Learn programs.

### **Youth Outreach Story Time**

Little Read Wagon was invited to present story time programs for Northside Independent School District's Bilingual/ESL Summer PreK program. Ms. Ornelas and Elizabeth Huber visited five summer program sites so that each child participating in the program could attend a special bilingual story time. Ms. Ornelas coordinated the visits to each site.

### **Play & Learn**

The first round of Play & Learn programs at McAllister and Martin Luther King Parks concluded June 30 and July 2. The programs at both locations were well-attended. At McAllister Park, Little Read Wagon was able to invite new participants who happened to be visiting the playground with their children. At Martin Luther King Park there was a consistent, though small, group of families that came to the park specifically for Play & Learn. A new series began at Woodlawn Community Room and Walker Ranch Park on July 7 and 9.

Ms. Lazarin developed several themed activities and related collections of books to share at this summer's Play & Learn programs. Little Read Wagon staff noticed that the children especially enjoyed an insect scavenger hunt which challenged them to look for large plastic bugs that staff had hidden in the park area. In response to their high level of interest, Ms. Huber created additional scavenger hunt activities for the remaining events.

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

Little Read Wagon presented another Music and More Early Literacy Moves workshop at Central Library on June 20. Jorge Ochoa once again led the last portion of the workshop by demonstrating ways to use

drumming with young children. Workshop participants each received a Book Cellar gift certificate for three children's books.

Also on June 20, Ms. Sanchez presented a one-hour workshop to early childhood teachers attending a conference at Our Lady of the Lake University.

## BRANCH LOCATIONS

### BAZAN

The children's Summer Reading programs were a hit at the Bazan Branch Library. *Happy Tails Entertainment* packed the meeting room with kids that were enthralled by the strange and exotic animals which included, among others, a lemur and a porcupine. *Naturalist Tom Kinsey* presented an informative and entertaining program on the native plants and animals of Texas. The interactive programs, which allowed kids to pet and observe animals up close, were enjoyed by all. Children also continued to enjoy the LEGO Club and the weekly Kids Time activities.

In June, Bazan welcomed interns, current and new high school students, from the Joven Youth Organization and Family Service Association. The interns assisted Bazan staff by greeting customers, signed up readers for SRP 2015, assisted the children's librarian with crafts and activities for programming, and helped maintain an organized appearance of the branch's collection. With the temporary closure of Collins Garden Library for renovations, Bazan received DVDs to absorb into the collection. Interns and volunteers helped to unpack and sort all of the DVDs received, and assisted with the task of shifting and shelving of materials.

On Saturday, June 27, the branch hosted an organizing meeting for the new Friends of Bazan group. Three current Friends members attended along with Branch Manager Jimmy Jimenez and Adult Services Librarian Patti Soderberg. The group elected Elaine Chavez as president, Lupe Ochoa as vice president and Imelda Castro as secretary/ treasurer. The branch is very excited about the opportunity to work with the Friends of Bazan group.

On Sunday, June 14, the branch hosted a showing of "The Dallas Buyer's Club" in support of Pride Month.

The branch hosted a Health Fair on Wednesday, July 8, sponsored by Metro Health and the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists. The Health Fair was part of the community outreach efforts during their International convention being held in San Antonio. There were 14 vendors offering services such as eye screening, chair massage, dental information for parents and their children, BMI screening, diabetes testing, and information on healthy lifestyle, exercising, etc. The event was well attended.

The job board continues to draw new patrons into the Learn Center at Bazan and there has been a shift in the services patrons tend to seek, with the majority of learners looking for assistance with job applications and resumes – ESL is a close second. Currently, Beginners ESL and Advanced ESL classes

are being held and a volunteer instructor has committed to begin teaching computer classes in Spanish next month.

Learn Center Training Office, Emily Sauer, attended several outreach events and training where she was able to promote Learn Center services including a visit to the Alamo STEM Workforce Coalition Conference at Education Service Center 20 where she learned about labor force trends for both degreed and non-degreed individuals; a meeting with Dr. Catherine Somody, Clinic Director and Clinical Assistant Professor at UTSA's Sarabia Family Counseling Center (downtown campus), where free family counseling services are provided in both English and Spanish; and meetings with University Health System CareLink Center; the Westside Family YMCA and the Frank Garrett Multi-Service Center where she was invited to participate in a community fair being held next month.

## BROOK HOLLOW

Patrons at the Brook Hollow Branch Library were treated to a performance of classical Indian dance on June 20. Bharatanatyam is dance form that originated in the temples of South India. This performance was part of the Library's celebration of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

On June 22 and July 6, Brook Hollow hosted diabetes management workshops presented by Metro Health. Attendees were offered information on managing the symptoms of diabetes as well as preventing complications. There will be four more of these programs at Brook Hollow in the next month.

Attendance at Teen Time has picked up during the latter part of the summer with teenagers regularly attending to play board games and learn about anime and manga. The teens have been enjoying refreshments funded by the Friends of the Brook Hollow Library and having a cool place to retreat and beat the heat at the library.

It has been an exciting month for children at Brook Hollow. At the *Happy Tails* program on June 16, children and their caregivers had a chance to meet and interact with a variety of animals including a lemur, a porcupine, and a ball python. Brook Hollow's toddlers got to bust a move at the Wee Wiggle Dance Party on June 26, where dance accessories, refreshments and balloons were generously funded by the Friends of the Brook Hollow Branch Library. Finally, on July 7 attendees enjoyed two performances of *The Monkey and the Crocodile by Eulenspiegel Puppets*, which was also funded by the Friends of the Brook Hollow Library.

## CARVER

The Carver Branch Library hosted a variety of children's activities, including *Tom the Naturalist*, *Spikey Mikey* and two Woodlawn theater presentations; all were well attended events. Children's Librarian Jodi Miller has been offering outreach story times at Miller Child Development Center on Tuesday mornings. Staff members have all taken a share in the Summer Reading Program, promoting it at every opportunity.

Carver Assistant Manager Monty Holcomb hosted three Teen Time events with the Wii or Board Games. Mr. Holcomb also hosted two Chess Events. A teen pizza party was held on July 2.

Carver's Juneteenth celebration drew substantial audiences. The theme was 150 Years of Emancipation. Events included a performance by the *St. Philip's College SAYWE* musicians and a provocative lecture by UTSA Professor Kinitra Brooks whose topic was What if Slavery Was Our Apocalypse? Only July 1,

the branch kicked off Buffalo Soldiers' Appreciation Month with a moving ceremony. The *Buffalo Soldiers of Bexar County* brought history alive as they regaled the audience with tales and exploits of the historic African American regiment. A display of artwork and artifacts were placed on display in honor of the occasion.

## CODY

On June 15, after viewing several segments of animal heroes, several tweens set out to test the importance of teamwork and observation for Tween Time. The various scenarios involved the "gummy worm rescue," a bridge-building exercise, and dog sense tests. Tweens enjoyed the idea of teamwork in these unfamiliar settings, and made new friends as a result.

Over 100 patrons stopped by the children's area on June 16 to make a crafts for Father's Day. Sheila Acosta, Children's Librarian, provided four different crafts for children to make.

On June 17, the Cody Branch Library treated several families to the hero-themed movie Big Hero 6. For Kids Time June 18, Jorge Ochoa of *Tamborhythms*, brought over 50 drums and percussion instruments for children and their parents to play and enjoy. The program focused on developing listening skills and following directions while getting into rhythmic tempos.

The LEGO Club has seen strong attendance this summer. Library Intern Anita Shaw, who hosts the LEGO Club, said the children really enjoyed the team aspect of the activity. All of the teams' LEGO creations were exhibited in the library's New Book Section.

On June 22, Tweens were eager to test out the new games recently installed on the children's iPads. Minecraft was by far the most popular of the available apps. In addition to the iPads, Acosta provided electronic Scrabble Flash and Simon.

The Tween Book Club met on June 24. Acosta book talked several new books recently received by Cody and invited the tweens to check them out. Copies of the next book selection, "Eggs" by Jerry Spinelli, were checked out.

*Happy Tails* visited Cody Branch Library and patrons on June 25. They brought five animals that originated from Africa. Details for each animal were discussed, including eating habits and natural habitats. Children were excited to be able to pet two of the animals at the end of the show.

The Kids Campus Child Care brought their school-aged children to the Cody Branch Library on June 26. Sheila treated the students to a special story time and a tour of the library. Sheila also made sure that they all signed up for Summer Reading. Many of the students were anxious to check out books before they left.

On June 29 during Tween Time, Tweens watched several short videos featuring firefighters saving lives and working as a team. Tweens were they challenged to demonstrate their own teamwork as they competed in fun relays, which included three-legged races and handing off plastic eggs. Tweens said they had a great time, and Acosta said she could tell they learned how it takes working together to succeed.

On June 30, Acosta hosted a Make-and-Take event to celebrate the Fourth of July. Children were excited about making and wearing festive hats and crowns to commemorate the Independence holiday. About 50 children and parents attended the event in the children's area.

For Kids Time on July 2, the Edwards Aquifer Authority presented *Aquifriends*, a multi-media interactive program that demonstrates the importance to San Antonio and its residents. Each child received a water conservation sticker after the program.

During Tween Time on July 6, Acosta presented several slides of the seniors living at the Adante Senior Living Center. As a special summer project to show that everyone can be a hero, the tweens decided to make several banners and posters for the Center. They were very excited and enthused and spent the entire program making the banners. One tween reported that his grandfather lived Adante and he made a special note on his poster.

*Bobby J and the Jumping Dragons* entertained Cody patrons for Family Fun Night on July 7. The jump rope team made up of young boys and girls demonstrated how parents and children can participate in a fun fitness program to stay active. Fox News, KENS 5 News and the San Antonio Express-News were also on site to report and interview the Dragon team members and families who participated that night.

For Kids Time on July 9, Ronald McDonald ignited children with his Going Active program. Over 80 people participated in the interactive show that promoted exercise, eating healthy and getting plenty of rest.

The San Antonio Police Department presented two performances of their *Mcgruff & Friends Puppet Show* on July 10 to educate kids on being safe. Several parents expressed their appreciation in the library hosting this informative show for their kids. Officers were available to speak to parents and children after each performance and each child was given a badge.

Acosta continued summer outreach to the following daycares and summer camps: Kids Campus I; Discovery Child Care; Chabad Gan-Gani camp; and the Pineapple School.

In June, Cody staff introduced tabletop gaming as a regular Saturday activity. Staff members are trained in the rules of such games as Ticket to Ride, Dixit, and many others in order to facilitate sessions. It's turning out to be an opportunity for the branch to be that crucial "third place" where the community may gather, interact and have fun.

The Cody Teen Library Leadership Council picked great programs for Teen Time for the reporting period. Teens hosted their second Scary Movie Viewing by screening "Ouija" on June 16.

On June 23, teens enjoyed a YouTube Clipathon. Teens selected their favorite YouTube clips to share with the group. Teens were able to watch some old favorites and made new favorites as well.

On June 30, the Cody Teen Library Leadership Council met to plan the upcoming programs for July. Afterward they were treated to an ice cream party to celebrate their hard work.

On July 7, teens participated in Edible Architecture. Teens were provided an assortment of edible materials which they then used to create their own architectural designs.

# COLLINS GARDEN

Despite the branch being closed for its major renovation, outreach continues in Collins Garden service area. Children were also registering for Summer Reading up until the building closed; however, finishers will need to redeem their logs at neighboring branches.

During the week before Collins Garden Branch Library closed and the week after closing, the building became a hive of activity due to the preparations needed to empty the building in time to turn it over to the contractor on Friday, June 26, 2015.

On behalf of the staff at Collins Garden, the Manager would like to thank everyone who helped to get the branch ready for closing – Facilities for picking up all of the deployment crates and for taking apart all of the furniture and putting it in the storage container; ITSD for quickly disassembling and removing the electronic equipment and for leaving us one telephone and computer to communicate easily with COSA; Shelving and Delivery – especially Driver Juan Sarabia - for sending crates and delivering some of the deployment requests; Mark Loiselle for all of the information and guidance about closing the branch; Ray Fraga for his help in compiling pertinent information on the branch's electronic equipment; Jim Davis for scrounging up lots of boxes; and to all of the locations who sent requests for materials which helped reduce the collection significantly.

And the branch manager would especially like to thank the Collins Garden staff for all of the work they have done to get the branch to this point – extensively weeding the collection and processing deselected items; packing up everything we will need when we reopen; pulling material on the deployment list, and especially their flexibility and willingness to do whatever was needed to quickly clear out the building.

# CORTEZ

On June 23, exotic animals including a lemur and hedgehog visited the branch at the Happy Tails program which was attended by over 80 patrons. During Story Time, Children's Librarian Connie Hejl entertains about 20 children with stories, songs and more. At Kids Time around 30 children and their parents enjoy crafts and other activities. Students at Alamo Academy and DePaul Center received visits from Ms. Hejl. The new summer schedule has begun. On Tuesdays, Kids Time takes place at 2 p.m., with a weekly movie to follow at 4 p.m. On Wednesdays, there is Story Time at 11 a.m. and Game Time at 3:30 p.m.

The Cortez Film Club met for a discussion of "Suddenly, Last Summer" and a viewing of "Dementia 13" on Saturday, June 27 with Adult Librarian Michelle Ricondo. All 12 attendees played film trivia games, enjoyed gourmet popcorn and agreed to disagree on the finer points of both films. The club saw a 50% increase in attendance from the May meeting. The next meeting is July 25.

Volunteer Liaison Michelle Ricondo reports that the Cortez Volunteer Group has increased 125% from May 2015. The dedicated volunteers have been helping shift the collection to make room for additional books and more.

The Gettin' Crafty Cortez Crafters' Group continues to be a popular program to make interesting creations and socialize. The group painted abstract art on canvas, and will move on to making projects out of tin cans and marbles.

The Once Upon a Crime Book Club is reading “Pretty Little Killers” by Daleen Berry and Geoffrey Fuller. The English as a Second Language continues weekly on Saturday mornings with loyal attendees. Over 70 teens have signed up for the summer reading program. Teen Time continues to offer a place for teens to hang out with friends, play video games, and grab some snacks at its new time on Thursdays at 2 p.m.

Zombie Meet with Madeline Vasquez will now be Monster Meet. Join the group on the second Saturday of the month to make new friends who share a love of all things horror.

## ENCINO

Encino’s community is continuously appreciative of the new branch library and its unique services. Service at the drive thru window has risen to over 40 vehicles each day, where Encino’s circulation attendants graciously assist patrons with returns and items on reserve. The Collaborate space is utilized by students, entrepreneurs, and job seekers, and the space was reserved 14 times during the reporting period. The flexible meeting room space is continuously changing to suit large programs, smaller reservations, and patrons seeking a quiet place.

Adult programming continues to flourish and receive generous compliments. Librarian Barbara Kwiatkowski developed the Encino Create University to take advantage of Encino’s Create space, and this small group has been feverishly working on quilted book bags every Monday evening. Barbara also developed a partnership with Rackspace to establish Encino’s Knight Club, an all-ages chess club that welcomes over 50 participants each Monday evening. As part of SAPL’s annual Holocaust Remembrance, Encino featured a presentation by Holocaust survivor Rose Williams. Rose’s emotional program was attended by 87 people, and many remained after her presentation to express their gratitude to her for sharing her experience.

Programming for teens is being further developed by Teen Librarian Matthew Loaiza in conjunction with the regular attendees. Recent activities have included Wii U and Playstation 3 gaming, crafts, and playing the Forbidden Island cooperative board game. Loaiza has also diligently arranged the collection among shelving and displays to ensure a broad range of materials is visible for browsing patrons. Outreach and a partnership with the Johnson High School librarian were also planned during the reporting period.

Children’s Librarian Nicki Weaver has been warmly welcomed by Encino’s juvenile patrons, and programming continues to be successful. Weaver added a LEGO Club in July, and over 20 children attended the first two meetings. Librarian Robin Alcorta created a puppet theater and hosted a super hero puppet show during Kids Time, and the response from both children and parents was enthusiastically positive. In response to numerous requests and utilizing her extensive experience, Weaver created a very popular display of reading materials for tweens that incorporates both juvenile fiction and young adult fiction titles. Check outs of juvenile materials account for over 50% of Encino’s total circulation, and the Children’s space remains active and engaging through the summer months.

## FOREST HILLS

Forest Hills Branch Library continues to host several on-going groups. These include Qi Gong classes, an easy exercise program; Project Linus, a group that creates homemade blankets for traumatized or



seriously ill children; the San Antonio Screenwriters Guild; and a new group, Mah Jongg. The newly minted Mah Jongg players are planning to keep coming to the library to play twice a month.

Summertime has been packed with children in the library. The numbers for the Mayor's Summer Reading Club have increased by almost 5% from last year. Three neighborhood child care centers that the Children's Librarian Valerie Shelley visits are regularly attending along with two local learning centers.

Ms. Shelley also provides the tweens programs that they enjoy apart from the younger children.

Teens continued their volunteer services at Forest Hills. They assist in a variety of ways that benefit the Library's Sumer Reading Program and the day-to-day work of the Library. In addition, they created a poster for the Neighborhood Place that was signed by them and the children.

A new book club for teens and younger adults had its first meeting this month and Forest Hills expects that The Ollie Book Club to do well.

## **GREAT NORTHWEST**

The Great Northwest Branch Library continued to be the place to be for Summer Reading. Adults, teens and children attended programs and continued to register for the Summer Reading Program.

On June 17, a nutrition class was held for families. Pamela Parker, a nutritionist that has helped with programs with other organizations, led a nutrition class that focused on balanced diets and portions. Ms. Parker provided samples for customers and showed them the benefits of healthy eating.

On June 24, the branch hosted the Cry OUT event. Andrez Y'Barbo from Project Embrace discussed the grieving process that some parents experience when their children come out to them. At the event, a participant shared her own personal experience with a teenage son that had just come out to her. She realized she was going through the grieving process and shared stories about her son and family situation. She received advice and support from Mr. Y'Barbo and one of the MetroHealth staff members. She also received resources and was told about meetings where she could meet others who have gone through similar issues. The participant was extremely thankful that the library offered this program.

Partnerships and programs continued with the Children's Shelter. Staff from the shelter conducted various outreaches to promote their services in-branch and to register families for the iParent SA program held here.

### **Adults**

Cindy Moreno moderates a book discussion monthly at the Alicia Trevino Senior Center. The attendees informed her of their new expansion and now they have a theatre. They suggested that it would be great to watch a movie after the book is discussed. That is how the book to movie program was created for both book discussions. This month they will be discussing "Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café" by Fannie Flagg and then watching the movie.

The Great Northwest Thursday Book Group will be meeting to discuss the novel "Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café" and watch the movie.

On June 15, a news story about the popular Hula Dance Class was featured on Time Warner Cable News. The report highlighted the benefits of the class for seniors and the difference exercise and movement makes to a person's health.

### **Children's Services**

Great Northwest Branch Library has had many little visitors this summer very excited about their library. The littlest visitors have been arriving on Thursday mornings, all decked out in their color of the week. They have dressed up in yellow, orange, blue and green. There have been over 100 in attendance in these programs. There was a total of 1080 in the 8 programs. The children enjoy the interactive stories about the colors and love playing with their families in the colored rice bins. Their eyes lighted up when they mixed the yellow and red water and saw orange. They were so excited when they took out the speckles in the green and speckled play dough and made a smiley face. The strong concentration on their faces was a delight as they tried to blow their blue noodle sailboats across the blue sea.

The Story Time crew arrives on Tuesday mornings and right after lunch. They have been having wonderful time learning about characters, scenes and plots. The theme each week has been favorite stories. There has been: Three Billy Goats Gruff, The Wizard, the Fairy and the Magic Chicken, Tortoise and the Hare and The Three Little Pigs. The children become characters in the story; they see a puppet show of the story and they hear the telling of the story. After they become totally familiar with the story, the whole family makes their own puppets and their own story. The rice bins are available to be used as puppet stages. In 10 programs, there have been 981 in attendance.

Kids Time this summer has been so exciting. Many of the kids wear their super hero outfits every week, zooming around looking for awesome books to take home and read. *Spikey Mikey* came and inspired the kids to take every magic book there was off the shelves and into their homes. There were a total of 618 in the two shows.

### **Teen Services**

During Teen Summer Reading, the Great Northwest Branch Library has a Teens Create maker space program on Monday afternoons. Teens can create different crafts every week, learn some easy techniques to make jewelry, or just learn something new.

A Teen Summer Reading book club will be meeting during the summer to discuss popular Young Adult fiction authors. The June book club met to discuss "Paper Towns" by John Green. The group watched the upcoming trailer for the movie version and made John Green buttons to wear.

Great Northwest Branch Library has a teen video gaming program every Wednesday afternoon where teens can bring their own controllers and games and play the Wii U and Play Station 3. During this period, four events were held on Wednesday afternoon. Teens interested in gaming played games with each other and exchanged techniques and other pieces of useful gaming information in a fun environment.

Great Northwest Branch Library had a Knitting 101: How to Knit for Beginners' class. Adults and teens learned the basics of knitting and how to get started. The library provided knitting needles and yarn for the students to practice their skills.

### **Staff**

Part-Time Circulation Attendant Andres Valencia conducted basic and conversational French in an interactive and informational presentation. The class was an introductory class to the language and culture of France. Librarian I Stephanie Vazquez also conducted a knitting class for adults as part of the

Summer Fun @ GNW series. She provided guidance and instruction for adults looking to learn how to knit. Denise Johansson, Circulation Attendant, conducted a Tarantino Night. She screened a movie and provided snacks based on the movie as well.

## GUERRA

A staff meeting was held on July 6. The branch hosted the monthly meeting of the Cable Westwood Neighborhood Association on July 7 and the Library Board Naming Committee on July 11.

Branch Manager Dexter Katzman planned and presented computer classes on June 18, 19 and 24. He provided outreach programs to the adults at the Careplex center on June 17 and 24 and July 1 and 8; at the second July program, he added a craft activity designed by Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson-Gibbs. He attended the COLS meeting on June 28 and the Safety Security Work Group meeting on July 1.

Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard facilitated the Clube do Livro (Portuguese book club) discussing the "Spilt Milk" by Chico Buarque on June 27.

During the reporting period, Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson-Gibbs planned and presented seventeen in-house programs – three Kids Times, four Toddler Times, four Story Times, four Movie Times, and two Come & Go Crafts – "4th of July" and "A cool Place on a Hot Day." On July 17, children and adults enjoyed a presentation by *Happy Tails Entertainment*, interacting with a number of animals. Children got the opportunity to read to *Foxie and Chico* during two Read to a Dog programs on June 25 and July 9. On June 24, Arlene visited Careplex adult daycare center and delivered summer banners and cards made by the children of Guerra. This exercise was a part of the every child a hero Summer Reading Program, where children got the opportunity to send some summer cheer to the community. On June 25, Richardson-Gibbs attended a webinar – best practices for apps in story time. On June 26, she attended another webinar – young children and media: libraries in the multi-screen, multi touch digital world. During the reporting period she mounted a "Shark Week" and a "Let's Visit the Ocean" displays.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson recorded a dial-a-story in Spanish "En la Cima del Mundo" (On the Top of the World) by Holly Hobby on June 15. The next day, Stephen moderated the Club de Lectura (Spanish book club). The group discussed "El Chino" ("The Man from Beijing") by Henning Mankell. On July 6, he moderated the Cortez Senior Center Book Club that discussed "TheTime Traveler's Wife" by Audrey Niffenegger. He represented the branch and SAPL at the health fair held at the Willie Cortez Senior Center on July 10.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on July 6, 17, and 25 and July 9. With the participation of Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl, the teens attempted Star Wars origami on July 7. After two hours of folding, the result resembled Yoda if looked at from the right angle. New teens were welcomed for pizza and soda on July 25.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl collaborated with Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson-Gibbs and created a "Many Moods of June" materials display, including materials on Adopt-A-Shelter-Cat Month, African-American Music Appreciation Month, Audiobook Appreciation Month, Birthday of the Buddha, Cancer from the Sun Month, Caribbean American-Heritage Month, Cataract Awareness Month, Dairy and Dairy Alternative Month, and LGBT Pride Month.

Librarian Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl assisted Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson with a *Balloon Animal craft* for the Kids Time program on June 24.

Circulation Attendant David Alvarez updated his display highlighting books for younger readers about automobiles, featuring a number of miniature cars and trucks.

Library Aides Beatrice Leal and Iris Bobren designed and installed an Independence Day display.

## IGO

### **Children's Services**

The Igo Children's Services Librarian Nancy Rodriguez with assistance from Team Igo presented 37 children's programs serving 2,086 children and their caregivers. The summer program schedule included five weekly early literacy Story Times, weekly LEGO Club, Kids Time, and Come & Go Crafts, the bi-monthly Tween Time, as well as a special system-wide summer reading program event featuring *Happy Tails Entertainment*.

Capitalizing on the popularity of LEGO building, weekly LEGO Club has been added to the summer program schedule on Tuesday afternoons at 4:30pm. LEGO enthusiasts of all ages are invited to participate in a weekly "LEGO Challenge" with themes including "build your own" robot, dinosaur, transportation, etc. Once guests finish their creations, they are encouraged to display their projects and write a few sentences describing what they have produced. Staff photographs each builder's amazing creations to be added to the branch's electronic display at the circulation desk for library visitors to enjoy. Special thanks to Igo's Senior Circulation Attendant Joseph Gonzales for his enthusiastic support organizing and supervising the program.

On June 24, *Happy Tails Entertainment* brought five animals to the branch for children and caregivers to learn more about various animals of Africa. The 156 guests in attendance got a close up look at a ball python, African porcupine, lemur, tortoise, and hedgehog. Discussion included habitat, eating habits, and how these animals thrive and survive in the wild.

Young crafters have found Igo Branch Library the place to meet for creative expression and family fun. This month's projects included a colorful tissue paper mosaic snail craft, make your own owl craft, patriotic 4<sup>th</sup> of July door hanger, and color your own dinosaur. This family fun Come & Go Craft is offered all day to allow for drop-in visitors every Friday in the children's area of the library.

This year's Summer Reading Club theme, Every Hero Has a Story, with its focus on every day heroes, community helpers, and super heroes has proven to be extremely popular with the children and caregivers attending Wednesday Kids Time programming. Children were given the opportunity to learn more how they can be every day heroes through acts of kindness (Every Kid a Hero), environmental conscience activities (Save the Earth Hero), as well as, learning more about our local community heroes (Fire Fighter Heroes). With three weeks of summer activities planned, branch staff is eager to share more exciting programs and great books with children of all ages.

### **Teen Services**

Teen Librarian Marco De Leon, who has been providing assistance to Igo for teen program coverage

during the branch's Teen Librarian vacancy, was officially transferred to the Igo staff from Las Palmas. The Igo teens are incredibly excited that he is now a permanent member of the staff at Igo.

Teen Librarian Marco De Leon applied for a grant from the Silver & Black Give Back, an offshoot organization of the San Antonio Spurs, which focused on creating programming that celebrates world culture and heritage. In early June, Mr. De Leon was notified that the Igo Branch Library was selected to participate in the Silver & Black Give Back initiative and would receive funding for summer programming as well as funding to purchase items that the library will use year-round for all programming. The Igo Teen Library Leadership Council (TLLC) then decided what programming they were going to create with the funds provided by the Silver & Black Give Back initiative.

The TLLC decided that they wanted to focus on one particular region/country/cultural group per Continent. As such, each week there would be a craft program based on a cultural tradition from the Continent being featured. As of this date, the TLLC has created the following programming: North America – Dreamcatchers (Native Americans), Australia – Aboriginal Painting (Aborigines), Europe – Faberge Eggs (Russia) & Palachinka crepes (Serbia), and Central & South America – Tin Foil Art (Mexico). While the programs invite people of all ages to participate, it is the TLLC that is conducting the programming and leading the way. The Silver & Black Give Back initiative continues for the rest of the summer and the TLLC is busy planning the programming for the next few weeks.

Mr. De Leon took part in an outreach event at Lanier High School where approximately 30 students were signed up for new library cards and he also took part in the Family Service Association (FSA) teen intern outreach event where up to 100 teens were interviewed for intern positions in participating libraries.

### **Adult Services**

The Igo Branch Library was extremely thankful to have hosted the special event, *Survivor Stories* in recognition of the Holocaust Remembrance Month, which included Holocaust Survivor Rose Williams who spoke about her experience and memories of the Holocaust. Library Director Ramiro Salazar and District 8 Councilmember Ron Nirenberg both provided special introductions and comments at the beginning of the event. In the audience of 180 attendees, many were emotionally affected by Ms. Williams' story and stayed after to take pictures with Ms. Williams and ask her further about her story.

Igo's three Book Clubs continued to meet as normal, including the Mystery Book Club, Romance Readers Book Club and the Afternoon Book Club. In recognition of Holocaust Remembrance Month, Igo showed the Academy Award-winning "Schindler's List" over two nights. The Monday Night Film Fights series continued with showings of *Iron Man*. The Friends of the Igo Library also hosted a two day book sale which was greatly enjoyed by members of the public.

The Igo Elderberries held its monthly program meeting on Thursday, July 2. Dr. Philip Valek, Principle Scientist in Space Science at Southwest Research Institute and UTSA Adjunct Professor, presented a slide/video presentation on four of the upcoming space missions — Pluto, Jupiter, the sun, and the magnetic reconnection between earth and sun. 43 seniors, including a few grandchildren, enjoyed this space journey, and there was a lively Q & A for over an hour with Dr. Valek.

Lastly, the American Association of Retired Persons offered in partnership with Igo Library two tablet learning courses for seniors as part of their AARP Tek Workshops. There were two sessions – one focusing on *Introduction to Tablets* and *Tablets – Beyond the Basics*. These two workshops let over 80 seniors use an iPad during the class to learn more about how to use a tablet and had eight instructors present so that attendees could learn at their pace in smaller groups.

# JOHNSTON

The Johnston Branch Library welcomes the new Manager Marcia Spaulding as well as Megan Stanley, formerly at Parman Branch Library, as the full-time library assistant.

Adult Services Librarian Monica Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of Anne Sebba's "That Woman: the life of Wallis Simpson Duchess of Windsor" on June 17.

On June 19 Ms. Bustillo showed the film "Into the Woods," which was repeated by patron demand on June 20. On July 3, Ms. Bustillo showed the film "National Treasure."

Ms. Bustillo attended the Volunteer Liaison Meeting at Central on July 7. Also, Ms. Bustillo attended the Texas Library Association Annual Assembly in Austin on July 9 and 10.

On July 10, Ms. Bustillo organized the second Yoga Yoda and You event.

Baby Time has been well-attended this summer, with infants as young as 2 months and toddlers up to 2 years old.

Themes for pre-school Story Times were Father's Day, Airplanes, Dogs, and Firefighters.

Themes for Kids Time included Mechanical Heroes, Dog Heroes, and Firefighter Heroes.

The tweens had a variety of activities, including playing with LEGOs, decorating canvas totes, creating their own sidekicks, and learning about Braille from Heather Bailey of the Texas State Library.

On June 9, Tracy Tapia, a teacher from Valley High Elementary School, read "Where the Wild Things Are" to children and their parents.

On June 17, *Happy Tails Entertainment* wowed the Johnston crowd with an African porcupine, Madagascar lemur, and a tortoise. Everyone, children and adults, were fascinated with the presentation.

Library Aide and new Teen Liaison Sheridan Richardson has started providing teen programming during the summer. She started with a Make Your Own Ice Cream Party, where the teens made ice cream from scratch and then topped them with items from a sundae bar. The event was a major success, with a good turnout, and only one bag of ice cream on the floor. The next week the teens recognized Father's Day by making their dads collages using recycled magazines. Although the turnout was small, the teens enjoyed cutting up the magazines and socializing. After that was the Paper Airplane Contest & Origami Making event. Competition got pretty intense for the farthest-flying airplane, but the library staff was pleased to see the camaraderie forming between our "new regulars." The last week in June was the Making Candy Sushi event, which experienced a large turnout. The branch saw a lot of new faces at the event, witnessed a lot of creative sushi-making and is happy to report that everyone had a great time.

# LANDA

## Children's Services

Turnout for special summer performers was strong at the Landa Branch Library. Children and adults especially loved touching all of the animals that *Tom Kinsey* brought along, among them a snake, rats and a huge cockroach. This was the first year of hosting ticketed events based on fire code occupancy numbers and it was structured so that nearly all who wanted to attend were able to get into the room. Landa Friends funded a performance by *The Astonishing Mr. Pitts*, who entertained the audience with drawing and a little magic to go along with the summer theme of Every Hero Has a Story. *The Eulenspiegel Puppet Theater* production was enjoyed by all.

The Summer Reading Program is going well. Landa staff is enthusiastically encouraging all family members to sign up for the program. The display of superhero stars with finisher's names lining the bookshelves in the Juvenile Fiction room is providing incentive for those children who haven't signed up or finished.

Weekly Story Times continue to be well attended and featured themes like the ocean, silly stories, and creating a thunderstorm with hands and feet. Children's Librarian Clair Larkin hosted two groups of Alamo Heights summer school students for stories. Southside Independent School District's summer gifted and talented attendees visited Landa, too. Larkin introduced the library's summer reading program and many of the children told her that a librarian had visited their school in May.

Monthly programs are popular, too. LEGO Club had one of the highest turnouts yet and LEGO creations fill the mantel and the tops of two bookshelves. Children love to return to the library and point out their own creation. Come & Go Crafts this month featured make your own superhero puppets from paper bags. Clair was pleased to see them flying around the park afterward. Play & Learn Build It! was set-up on the Terrace where attendees and Clair delighted in the near perfect summer morning.

Landa staff undertook the charge to weed all of the juvenile nonfiction in an effort to add some much needed seating to the first floor. The collection looks fantastic and the weeding is nearly complete.

### **Teen Services**

This summer, teens are striving to make their programming at Landa. For the Cool Teens Club, teens created a Heroes Versus Villains game in the playground. A blog post was created by J.C., 16 years, <https://goo.gl/NHOkRB>. "Prepping for Read-a-thon." As part of the Landa Teen Library Leadership Council's exercise in increasing summer reading participation, the teens, led by Ale Young, 16 years, created a three-part series called a "Teen Read-a-thon" starting on July 12. This is a challenge for teens to read whatever they want in a span of six hours over the course of three days. Teens will sign up for summer reading prize drawings and receive buttons (made by teens for teens) for each hour (level) they complete. The planning of these events was done by numerous teens over the course of June and early July 2015. See Ale's blog post <https://goo.gl/AHUDIb>. On June 25, Library Assistant Bea Canales visited St. Anthony's High School for outreach to their incoming freshmen orientation activities. Landa Teen Volunteer Juan Carlos joined Canales at his high school and made a wonderful speech about SAPL and teen participation. He created the natural bridge for high schools teens to view how city libraries create opportunities for teens to make a difference. See Juan Carlos' blog post <https://goo.gl/F9Kb6D>.

### **Adult Services**

Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta reports that sign-up for Adult Summer Reading is looking good with numbers over 200 at a little short of mid-point. Landa's adults are readers and the staff members encourage all adults to sign up for a chance at the goodie bag. Another reason for good sign-up rate is the enthusiasm over this branch's Read Our Book selection, "The Day of Atonement," by David Liss. Check-out of this author's books has spiked this summer. Sebesta is proud to announce that Mr. Liss will

be a guest presenter on Monday, August 31, capping off Landa's August Monday Summer Reading Program series.

The regular monthly adult book clubs continue to draw both new and returning members. The Senior Mystery Book Club read "Live Wire," a thriller by Harlan Coben as its July selection. Reader's Ink read "The Double Comfort Safari Club" by Alexander McCall Smith. Both book clubs have such dedicated members that even if one knows they cannot attend a particular month, they check out the book to read, anyway. And one Reader's Ink member is so devoted that when he realized he was unable to attend July's meeting, he sent Sebesta a written (and carefully researched) book report!

Landa was proud to host "Break Out!" an official SAPL program for June Pride Month. Over twenty people attended. A big "thank you" goes to Public Services Administrator Joel Bangilan and the Diversity Committee for selecting Landa for this successful event.

## LAS PALMAS

Citizenship classes are being offered in both English and Spanish at the Las Palmas Branch Library. The program has been met favorably.

On June 30, Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez presented a bilingual firefighter Story Time. Children had a great time listening to stories about firefighters. Children made paper firefighter hats.

The Las Palmas Branch Library hosted naturalist *Tom Kinsey* featuring several live native animals in Texas, which the children were able to touch. In July, over 100 children and adults enjoyed the puppet presentation of *The Monkey and the Crocodile*. Ms. Brudi continues to present Kids Time and LEGO Club programs. Her outreach efforts continue with visits to Avance, Madonna, and Good Samaritan early literacy centers. Children are provided with story times and outreach collections.

Library Assistant Carlos Loera and Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez presented 4 teen programs. From decoupage love craft, bead bracelets, and superhero bookmarks, Las Palmas teens enjoyed making crafts using mixed media. The program has been averaging 7-8 teens, a recent increase. The success of the Teen Summer programs is the result of team effort. Credit is also due to circulation staff. Their proactive efforts to draw attention to library programs during check out transactions have worked well.

## MAVERICK

Summer Reading is in full force at the Maverick Branch Library! As of July 6, 775 children are registered for the program and 135 children have claimed their prizes. The weekly LEGO Club has had 100 or more children/adults in attendance each week in June! On July 1, 91 people attended the *Happy Tails Entertainment* program. Children were thrilled to see (and touch) a porcupine and a python. In addition, a lemur and hedgehog rounded out this exciting program!

Some adult programming took place during the reporting period. On June 27, the branch had an informal ice tea tasting program. Library Aides Laura Lopez and Cetta Dae Poore had 25 people attend the program. On July 11, a crochet class was conducted by Library Assistant Lucy Villa and Librarian I Pat King. Ben Longoria, Librarian II, organized the Fiesta Flutes group to play patriotic tunes and more on



the 11<sup>th</sup> as well. In addition, teen programs included Book Club, Teen Fit Night and creating paracord bracelets.

In other news, the branch welcomed new Part-Time Circulation Attendant Eranni Perez. Mr. Longoria also attended Advanced Overdrive Training in late June.

## McCRELESS

Four Story Times were held during this time period. Children learned about summer, boats, turtles and otters. Children were very enthusiastic about the projects they created: a fan to keep cool, a cork sailboat, a baby otter and a pet turtle.

Four Kids Time programs were also held. Kids learned about recycling and decomposition as well as renewable and non-renewable resources. They also learned about fire fighters, fire safety, working dogs and the special abilities of dogs.

The *Happy Tails Entertainment's* presentation of unusual animals was a huge hit, with 127 people attending. Children especially liked watching the ring-tailed lemur and touching the porcupine.

McCreless Branch Library's Teen Time is going strong over the summer with our Wednesday night gaming events. We have averaged 10-15 teens each week for the program.

On July 6, we hosted veteran Audubon birders, Tom and Patsy Inglet, for an informative Introduction to Birding Program.

Adult Services Librarian Tina Hudec visited the Billa Learning Center to try and establish training partnerships and Children's Librarian Katy Brown visited with the University Health Clinic to share information about programs.

The Library hosted a "Remember the River" information table in partnership with COSA Transportation Department to inform customers about proper disposal of waste to protect our water supply.

## MEMORIAL

The summer got off to a great start at the Memorial Branch Library with many families visiting the branch and children registering for the Mayor's Summer Reading Club. Naturalist *Tom Kinsey* presented an entertaining and educational program about the native plants and animals of Texas during the Family Fun program on June 9. Kids of all ages enjoyed hands-on experiments, making crafts, and listening to stories during Memorial's Kids Time program titled, *Fantasy Heroes*. Kids also enjoyed listening to stories during our Impromptu Read-Aloud story time. Family-friendly movies were shown in the cool environment of the meeting room during our Movie Time program.

Memorial Branch Library Children's Librarian Trina Smith was invited to speak to families about the Summer Reading Program at Fenwick Elementary School during their Parent Teacher Association Meeting. She also attended the webinar on *Public Libraries and Hispanics*, which was sponsored by the Urban Libraries Council and The Pew Research Center.

Memorial has hosted a UTSA photo exhibit that features works from intermediate and advanced photography students. The students selected their favorite work they completed over the spring semester. The images include black and white darkroom pictures and digital photography. Exhibit dates run from May 10- July 6.

In addition to the UTSA wall exhibit, Memorial hosted a mini exhibit by St. Mary's University Marianist Brother Andrew Brian Zampier. Brother Zampier, who signs his works as ABZ, displayed works which included needle felting and art sketchbooks. His felt creations are vibrant with color and his sketches are infused with a bit of humor with clever sayings. In his spare time, ABZ teaches sketchbook journaling and has a blog at <http://abrianzamp.wordpress.com>. The display case exhibit runs through the end of July.

## MISSION

Table Tennis for adults continues its popular run. Cult and Classic movies at Mission featured "Poltergeist" and "Airplane!" Visitors had the opportunity to enjoy the Chess Club and Dungeons and Dragons.

Continuing partnerships includes Fitness in the Park with yoga and cycle circuit classes, Familias en Acción, and an embroidery and craft group.

The San Antonio Wind Ensemble from St. Philips College performed a selection of songs in celebration of Juneteenth on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

On June 30, Mission Branch Library had a very successful and well attended Holocaust Learn and Remember program.

Mission teens had the opportunity to take part in a free PSAT practice test sponsored by Kaplan testing on June 14. Teens were able to become familiarized with the new version of the PSAT and to prepare for success in taking this very important exam.

A variety of craft and gaming activities took place during the reporting period. An added gaming program during the week increased the number of in-house teen activities to 11 programs.

Mission Branch Library utilized the VROOM van for festive outreach activities. Teen Librarian Cindy Cruz and Library Assistant Kristian Alonzo signed up teens and kids for the Summer Reading program at the Mission Marquee's Viva Poesia program, an event celebrating poetry and local poets. The VROOM van also made an appearance at the Library's STEMtastic Saturday event organized by District 3 and Girls Inc. The Teen Librarian was assisted by Miss Azuli Rodriguez who demonstrated the Cubelets robotics kit to visitors of the VROOM van.

Summer is in full swing and things are hopping in the Mission Children's Department. Summer Reading signup is still proceeding briskly and finishers have started claiming their rewards. The two special Kids Time programs, Happy Tails and Eulenspiegel, were very successful. The combined attendance was over 300 and families came from as far as the far north side of San Antonio to attend. All kids programs are experiencing record attendance and kids are becoming interested in and participating in new activities at Mission, such as table tennis and chess.

## PAN AMERICAN

On June 27, the Pan American Branch hosted Dr. Don Fraser from the Alamo Area Beekeepers Association for a Benefits of Bee Keeping program. Participants learned how to start backyard beehives and how crucial bees are to food production. Patrons traveled from as far as the Moore/Devine area to attend. Many attendees came prepared to ask questions and ended up staying 2 hours for an extended session. During the presentation, Dr. Don Fraser showed portions of a documentary on the commercial beekeeping industry before transitioning to hobby beekeeping. The film also highlighted the wide spread problem of hive collapse and health problems bees suffer. Dr. Fraser displayed and discussed beehive equipment and the cost of the materials. A portion of the presentation also revolved around flora that could be planted to help bees survive. The discussion also included benefits bees bring to fruit trees and better blooms on flowers. One of the attendees was awarded a small bottle of AABA honey given away as a raffle for attending.

Children's Services Librarian Carol Collins presented 20 in-house programs for 381 people. 87 people enjoyed seeing several exotic animals from Happy Tails Entertainment on June 23.

On June 20, Ms. Collins and Branch Manager Nathaniel Laubner held an outreach event at a neighborhood HEB to promote various library services offered by the Pan American Branch. Additionally, Ms. Collins had a story time and signed up children for the Mayor's Summer Book Club.

On June 23, J.T. Street from KABB Fox News stopped by during Teen Time to film a segment for "Street's Corner." Pan American Branch teens used iPads to take selfies and other creative pictures which will be entered into a contest later in the summer. J.T. Street also interviewed some of the teens to find out why they like going to the library. The short aired that evening on KABB Fox News.

## PARMAN

Over 200 Parman Branch Library patrons enjoyed learning about and seeing a variety of exotic animals, during the *Happy Tails Entertainment* program in June. Most of the participants stuck around after the program to see some of the animals up close and to pet the very large snake.

Library Assistant Eva Banda was recently promoted to full time. She will continue to lead the weekly Bilingual Story Time which will soon require registration due to increased participation. In addition, a bilingual Story Time for toddlers will be added in the fall.

Ariel Photographer Justin Moore currently has a display of his photographs in the Parman Gallery. He uses a drone to take photographs from the air. Photos on display include images of Parman, Igo, and Semmes branch libraries.

Parman patron Christina Reyna started a monthly Scrapbooking Club in June. The group will meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month. Ms. Reyna will give a short demonstration of a papercrafting technique followed by free time for the participants to work on their own compositions.

Branch Manager Haley Holmes and Library Assistant Elissa Vura are offering a DIY U Summer Art Series. Ms. Vura taught the first class of the series, Drawing 101. The participants practiced basic drawing techniques including the use of line, value, shape, and proportion. Ms. Holmes' first class of the summer session was Miniature Book Jewelry where students made bound books small enough to be worn as earrings and pendants.

## PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Children visiting the Pruitt Branch Library this summer have been enjoying a wide multitude of exciting activities. Kids and parents especially enjoyed the performance by *Naturalist Tom Kinsey*. They eagerly listened to his presentation and learned some interesting information about plants and animals native to Texas. Kids were delighted and "squealed" at the chance to carry live animals, such as a rat and a cockroach. The superhero-themed Summer Reading has been very popular. Kids have had fun pretending to be superheroes as they construct their own masks and cuffs, participate in marble runs using pool noodles, investigate about heroes who "save the earth" taking care of natural resources, and construct their own "mechanical" helicopter heroes followed by a competition to see who can land their helicopter closest to the target. Families have had a fabulous time during Thursday's Superheroes Cartoon Matinee. Over 160 attendees viewed movies such as "Wreck-it Ralph," "Batman & Robin," "Ratatouille," and "Bolt" and were provided with free popcorn and a drink. About 280 children and parents attended June's four-day LEGO Camp. Children had a great time building all kinds of creations from dinosaurs, spaceships, and buildings to castles. The library's goal for LEGO Camp is to provide an opportunity for kids to participate in teamwork, make new friends, and just have fun. Patrons and staff look forward to July's camp where parents can also join in on the fun.

The children's librarian's end-of-school outreach to an area middle school has paid off in an influx of tweens visiting the library this summer. Tweens have enjoyed building their own robots using LEGO Mindstorm, playing video games, and participating in the Beat the Heat with Indoor Games event. The Family Circle Book Club tweens and a parent read and discussed "The False Prince" by Jennifer Nielson. Members look forward to seeing the movie once it is released in theaters.

The participation of children in the Mayor's Summer Reading continues to grow. Families continue to sign up, and those who have completed their reading are excited to receive their certificate and free book. Teens are really enjoying the Superhero-themed Summer Reading Program. During the Teen Time, they have made superhero print duct tape coin wallets, glow-in-the dark perler bead superhero logos, superhero masks and back story creation (the best back story won a pair of caped Super Man socks), and designed a superhero using Sculpey clay. The teens have enjoyed popcorn and sodas on Wednesdays and so far have watched "Man of Steel," "The Incredibles," "The Amazing Spider-Man," "Batman," and "Iron Man." On Thursdays, the teens enjoy playing chess and eating pizza. The Pruitt Branch has lots of teens volunteering and interning. Pruitt has 15 teen interns and volunteers. Six are interns from the Joven program and one is from the Family Service Association. The teen interns and volunteers help out with all types of programming, but also get to enjoy the teen programming at the same time. Rae Downen, Teen Librarian, went to Churchill Summer School for outreach and signed up 43 teens for the summer reading program.

The first soap making class was held on Saturday, July 11, and all 15 slots for the class were filled. Mrs. Bailey demonstrated how to make soap and made sure all participants learned how to safely use lye, and had a bubbly great time. To scent their soap, patrons had a choice of eucalyptus, peppermint, sweet orange, or lavender.

To date, the Adult Summer Readers at Pruitt number 51. There is an incentive to sign up 300 adults before the end of the program on August 31. Branch Manager Troy Lawrence will provide lunch for staff if the goal is attained. Staff is on the ball and will achieve their goals.

## SAN PEDRO

Children's Librarian Betsy Dalton presented monthly story times to children at Educare Child Care Center (two classes), Study Hall Learning Center (two classes), and Monte Vista Montessori (two classes). Fifteen books were also delivered to each child care class for their use during the month. In addition, a bag of books for elementary students was delivered to each group for the older students who are at the centers during the summer months. She also presented a monthly story time to two groups of children (each group was a combination of two classes) at Respite Care, a child care facility for developmentally disabled children. Books were left for each of five classes. In addition, she presents a special bimonthly story time at the library for some of the children who live at Respite Care's shelter facility.

The new summer programs have been successful at attracting children who have not normally come to the library. Monday Minecraft Club; Crazy 8's Math Club for Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade on Tuesdays; Kids Time for Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade with an emphasis on science experiments on Wednesdays; Beginning Readers Club and LEGO Club on Thursdays have all been popular. Summer Reading Program registrations are at a record high at 1528! Only Central and Great Northwest have more registrations! In addition, Manager Diane Backhus and Library Assistant Carmen Roja have been presenting a special story time at the San Pedro Park Pool two or three afternoons a week, which has also been popular. They also encourage the families to drop by the library! Ms. Roja has also been talking to the teens at the Skateboard Park in the San Pedro Springs Park, and has been able to register several teens for the Teen Summer Reading Program.

There were birds in the air on Saturday, June 20. Audubon birders and Master Naturalists Tom and Patsy Inglet did an Introduction to Birding class. It had been planned as an outdoor event, but due to the rains, it was moved mostly indoors. The participants did have an opportunity to take their newly learned skills and binoculars outdoors. The Inglets would like to come back to the branch next spring.

## SEMME

On Tuesday, June 16, the Semmes Branch Library hosted the first meeting of the new LEGO Time program. 38 children and 18 adult came out to build and create at the branch. Special thanks to The Friends of the Semmes Branch Library for purchasing the LEGOs. Staff looks forward to having fun at July's meeting.

The Summer Reading program is going well at Semmes. As of July 13, 769 children have signed up to be part of "Every Hero has a Story." Semmes also has 48 adults signed up to participate. Teen sign-ups are also going well, the box for the teen drawing is stuffed full of entries. Many staff members have been especially helpful in signing people up for Summer Reading, including Children's Librarians Randi Jones and Shannon Seglin, Library Assistant Melody Smith and Circulation Attendant Mary Pena.

For the second summer in a row, Semmes is hosting the local Dual Language Book Group for a group of local elementary school students and their parents. Each month, they read the same book in both English and Spanish. This month they are reading “The Lightning Thief” by Rick Riordan. There are about 10 students participating in the book group.

## THOUSAND OAKS

Summer Reading continues to be busy and fun! Many kids have turned in their completed reading logs to receive their free book, and kids continue to sign up for the Summer Reading Club! Here are some highlights from the past month of summer programming. The programs for children have been a blast! LEGO Time has had big crowds of excited builders. Story Time participants have had bubble stories and blew bubbles outside; they’ve explored their artistic side with ice chalk; and have been busy builders with foam blocks, wood blocks and cups! Come and Go Crafts on Fridays have allowed kids to explore their artistic and creative sides: they made fireworks out of coffee filters to celebrate July 4; roller coasters out of Styrofoam packing peanuts, strips of paper and glue; and creepy crawly bug fingerprint art with stamp pads, markers and their fingertips! *Spikey Mikey* performed July 8 to a packed house! More than 200 people laughed out loud at *Spikey Mikey*’s humorous magic!

Teens enjoyed a night of Wii games featuring dancing and racing on July 17. A variety of Sharpie crafts were ready to go on July 24, with Teens decorating outlet covers and creating tile coasters. July 1, had Teens creating chocolate covered Oreo treats. Prize drawing entries for the Teen Summer Reading program have been flooding in, with many Teens earning several entries for reading entire manga series! The Thursday Afternoon Book Club enjoyed discussing “The Language of Flowers” by Vanessa Diffenbaugh. The book group really liked this book and enjoyed learning about the symbolism that is associated with different flowers. The book also led to an in depth discussion about the foster care system and the difference social workers can do in a child’s life. The discussion was led by Circulation Attendant Brenda Ramos.

Vital Records sales at the Thousand Oaks branch continue on their high and steady pace. Parents are making sure that they have their paperwork in order as the first day of school is fast approaching. The Thousand Oaks Staff is working diligently and parents appreciate the convenience and efficiency.

## TOBIN AT OAKWELL

Tobin Branch Library has been busy with Summer Reading and programming as well as all the new staff learning the collection and branch services. Tobin gladly welcomes Library Aide Alma Trevino on June 16 as the aides are fully staffed. Ms. Trevino comes to SAPL having retired as a school librarian and teacher for 30 years.

On June 18, all personnel enjoyed a special recognition luncheon from Jimmy Johns courtesy of San Antonio Public Library’s Organizational Health unit. Staff correctly identified photographs throughout the library system in an I-Spy contest. With so many locations completing the contest correctly, Tobin Library at Oakwell was one of the fortunate drawing winners.

Adult Services Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse has been an active participant in the Strategic Planning Community Connections committee as the group updates that aspect of the library's services and changes since the last plan.

Summer Reading for all ages is quite popular this year, in particular adults at Tobin Library, have large numbers both signing up and finishing to select a free book. Children's Librarian Elvira Sanchez Kisser has a great group of toddlers attending toddler time each week as tots and parents get to enjoy her lively programs. Kids Time every Thursday and LEGO Club once a month have devoted strong attendance as well. *Spikey Mikey* performed to a large crowd on July 9, where both kids and adults were entertained with his magic tricks and humor.

The Writers' Group has seen attendance grow recently as each attendee shares ideas on their writing style, current creation and provides a forum for valuable feedback. The Interesting Book Club's continues meeting with recent selections of Andy Weir's, "The Martian and Transatlantic" by Colum McCann. Displays this period highlight heroes as part of the Every Hero Has a Story summer theme, building and architects, outer space, love of fruits and veggies and new cookbooks.

Outreach continues with Library Assistants Elvia Ramos at Stoneybrook Outreach Center and Terry Verner at Northeast Senior Center each month. These visits utilize trivia memory games for a fun connection with seniors in the Tobin community.

## WESTFALL

More than 300 children and adults have attended Westfall Branch Library's Kids' Time events this summer. Animals from *Happy Tails* were the most popular offering. Trainers brought a lemur, a spiny shelled tortoise, a hedgehog, a snake and a very large African porcupine.

Westfall staff members have registered from than 1,000 children, teens and adults for the Summer Reading Program.

Teen Tuesdays have allowed local teenagers to learn how to play an electric guitar, to make Cubees and to create FrankenBeanies (a new stuffed animal made from parts of other stuffed animals.)

Manager Sherrie Hardin spoke at the July meeting of the Dellview Area Neighborhood Association. Ms. Hardin talked about the branch's Learn Center and urged adults to sign up for Summer Reading Program.

Westfall is partnering with BCFS Health and Human Services to offer free parenting classes that focus on problematic behavior parents have to deal with on a daily basis. The classes use Parenting Wisely, an evidence based curriculum that is video based.

Department of Human Services Social Worker Lindsay Minarovic has started offering financial counseling in the Learn Center. Ms. Minarovic is a certified financial empowerment counselor.

The Pride Center used Westfall's meeting room to hold Safe Zone Training.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

San Antonio Public Library  
Fiscal Year-to-Date Comparisons  
Jun 2015 (75% of FY Completed)

Performance Measures	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	% Chg	FY 15 Goal	% of Goal Achieved	FY 15 Status
Total Circulation	5,342,059	5,232,528	2.1%	7,313,500	73.0%	✓
- Physical Circulation	4,662,563	4,771,250	-2.3%	6,471,500	72.0%	✓
- Digital Circulation	679,496	461,278	47.3%	842,000	80.7%	✓
Visits	4,008,273	3,948,428	1.5%	5,390,000	74.4%	✓
Program Attendance	267,453	241,471	10.8%	302,450	88.4%	✓
- Adult's Program Attendance	40,562	32,439	25.0%	39,000	104.0%	✓
- Teen's Program Attendance	33,380	31,156	7.1%	43,450	76.8%	✓
- Children's Program Attendance	193,511	177,876	8.8%	219,000	88.4%	✓
Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use	1,735,412	1,584,287	9.5%	2,202,000	78.8%	✓
Website and App Visits	2,571,669	2,660,955	-3.4%	3,400,000	75.6%	✓
Bexar County (Outside the City of San Antonio)			Customer Satisfaction*			
% of Circulation	FYTD 15	FYTD 14	2014	2012		
Total Circulation	19.5%	18.9%				
- Physical Circulation	18.7%	18.3%	96%	94%		
- Digital Circulation	25.4%	24.6%				

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

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

FY 15 Openings: Encino opened April 30

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

\* From the Biennial City of San Antonio Community Survey



# San Antonio Public Library

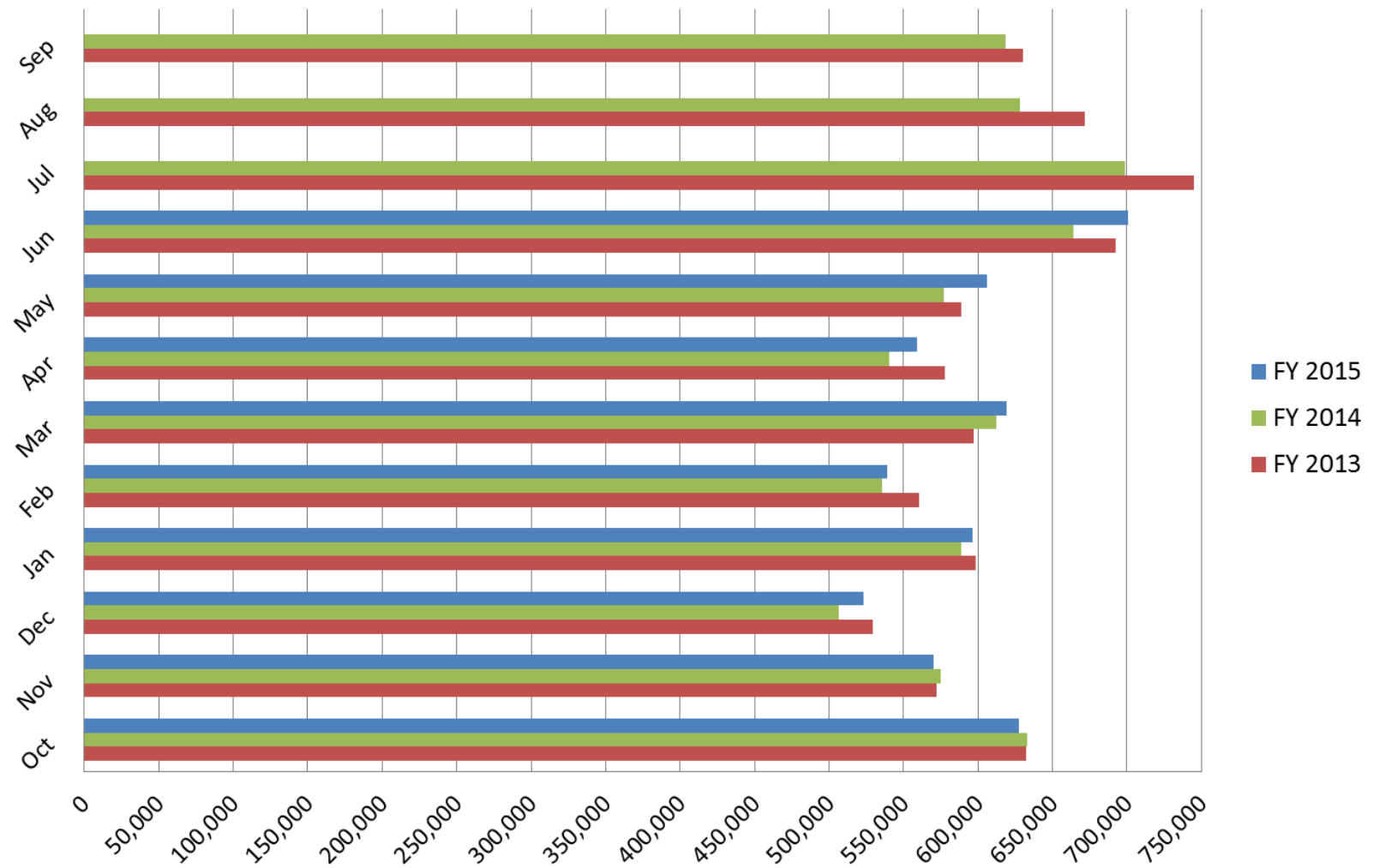
## June 2015 Usage

Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Total Programs	Number of Programs			Total Program Attendance	Adult Programs	Teen Programs	Children's Programs	Hours of Computer / Wi-Fi Use	Computers - Hours of Use	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	6,521	12,296	28	9	4	15	496	148	12	336	7,126	2,247	4,880
Brook Hollow	31,502	27,245	48	15	5	28	1,325	96	5	1,224	5,681	1,473	4,208
Carver	5,937	12,885	47	14	5	28	589	224	30	335	5,652	2,256	3,397
Central	33,938	66,736	196	28	78	90	4,887	1,349	762	2,776	50,509	15,862	34,648
Cody	43,216	31,027	69	11	5	53	3,578	149	31	3,398	5,916	1,594	4,322
Collins Garden	4,418	7,882	10	0	0	10	194	0	0	194	3,847	1,040	2,807
Cortez	9,243	8,390	122	85	4	33	913	234	36	643	6,026	2,136	3,890
Encino	31,886	22,643	73	26	10	37	3,048	678	73	2,297	3,522	658	2,865
Forest Hills	9,930	9,877	58	20	4	34	1,450	160	10	1,280	3,485	1,283	2,202
Great Northwest	40,643	26,148	57	14	8	35	5,062	162	59	4,841	8,328	2,160	6,168
Guerra	16,606	17,154	30	11	4	15	735	152	23	560	7,448	2,271	5,177
Igo	34,575	30,693	75	21	10	44	3,357	450	163	2,744	5,236	1,758	3,479
Johnston	13,979	16,164	27	5	3	19	654	105	22	527	6,919	1,754	5,165
Landa	13,501	11,989	40	3	9	28	1,113	31	77	1,005	2,428	908	1,520
Las Palmas	8,551	16,140	38	4	4	30	539	34	16	489	7,515	2,142	5,374
Maverick	32,775	20,951	38	6	8	24	1,585	100	51	1,434	6,622	2,304	4,318
McCreless	17,209	21,495	15	1	3	11	436	5	25	406	6,981	1,836	5,146
Memorial	8,748	15,128	24	4	3	17	614	76	19	519	7,481	2,201	5,280
Mission	16,323	23,976	66	25	13	28	1,647	345	358	944	12,043	3,787	8,256
Pan American	10,100	12,163	59	17	5	37	1,251	177	26	1,048	7,199	2,484	4,714
Parman	37,948	32,386	76	22	5	49	1,825	250	63	1,512	5,421	903	4,519
Pruitt	8,176	10,210	73	15	20	38	1,782	213	235	1,334	3,565	1,492	2,074
San Pedro	5,262	5,798	34	2	0	32	547	14	0	533	2,981	659	2,322
Semmes	30,270	28,151	57	4	4	49	1,652	14	42	1,596	7,817	2,719	5,097
Thousand Oaks	13,810	10,489	30	5	4	21	904	17	23	864	4,885	1,447	3,438
Tobin	22,445	10,698	25	10	3	12	768	69	12	687	5,261	1,694	3,568
Westfall	21,059	17,602	28	9	5	14	467	40	13	414	7,891	2,326	5,565
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	1,637	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	2,195	N/A	2,195
Interlibrary Loan Lending	976	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Online/Phone Renewal	86,939	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Digital	84,278	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>700,764</b>	<b>527,953</b>	<b>1,443</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>831</b>	<b>41,418</b>	<b>5,292</b>	<b>2,186</b>	<b>33,940</b>	<b>209,982</b>	<b>63,392</b>	<b>146,590</b>

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

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation



### Location Closures

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

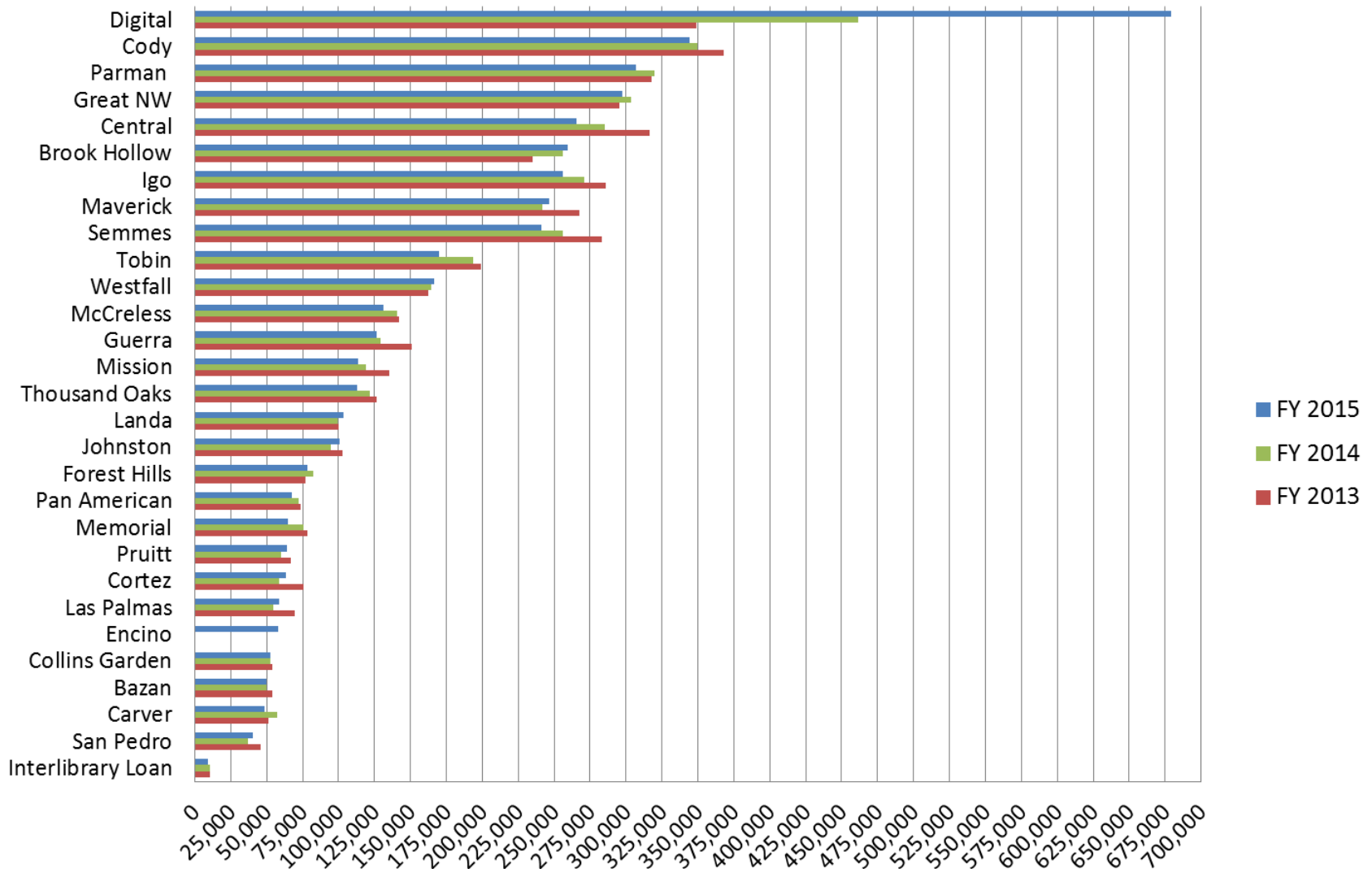
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FY 13: Forest Hills Dec 3–16, Thousand Oaks Jan 21–Feb 3, Brook Hollow Feb 25-Mar 15, Guerra Aug 5-25, Johnston Aug 5-Sep 22

07/16/2015

# San Antonio Public Library

## Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Jun



### Location Closures

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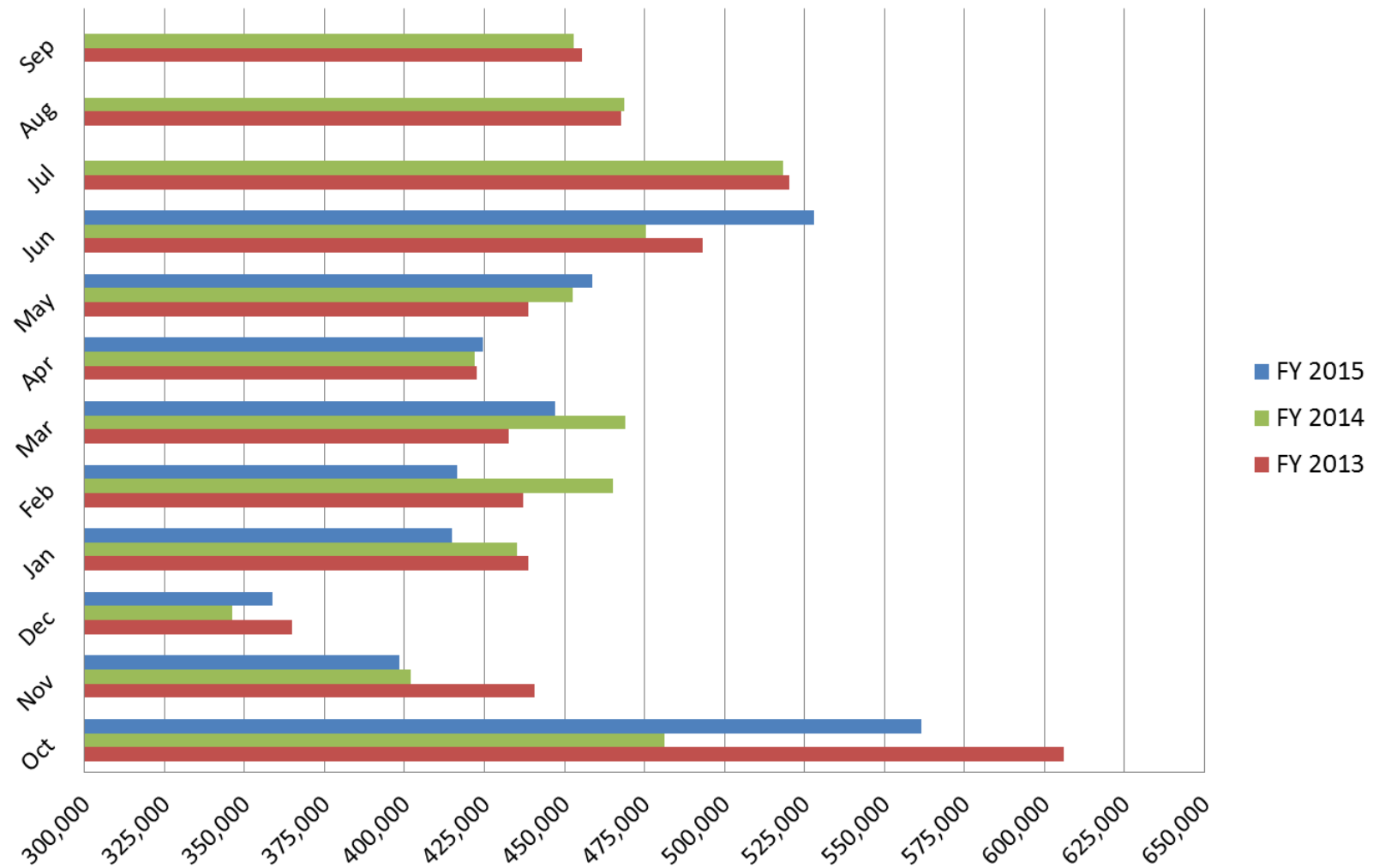
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07/16/2015

# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits



### Location Closures

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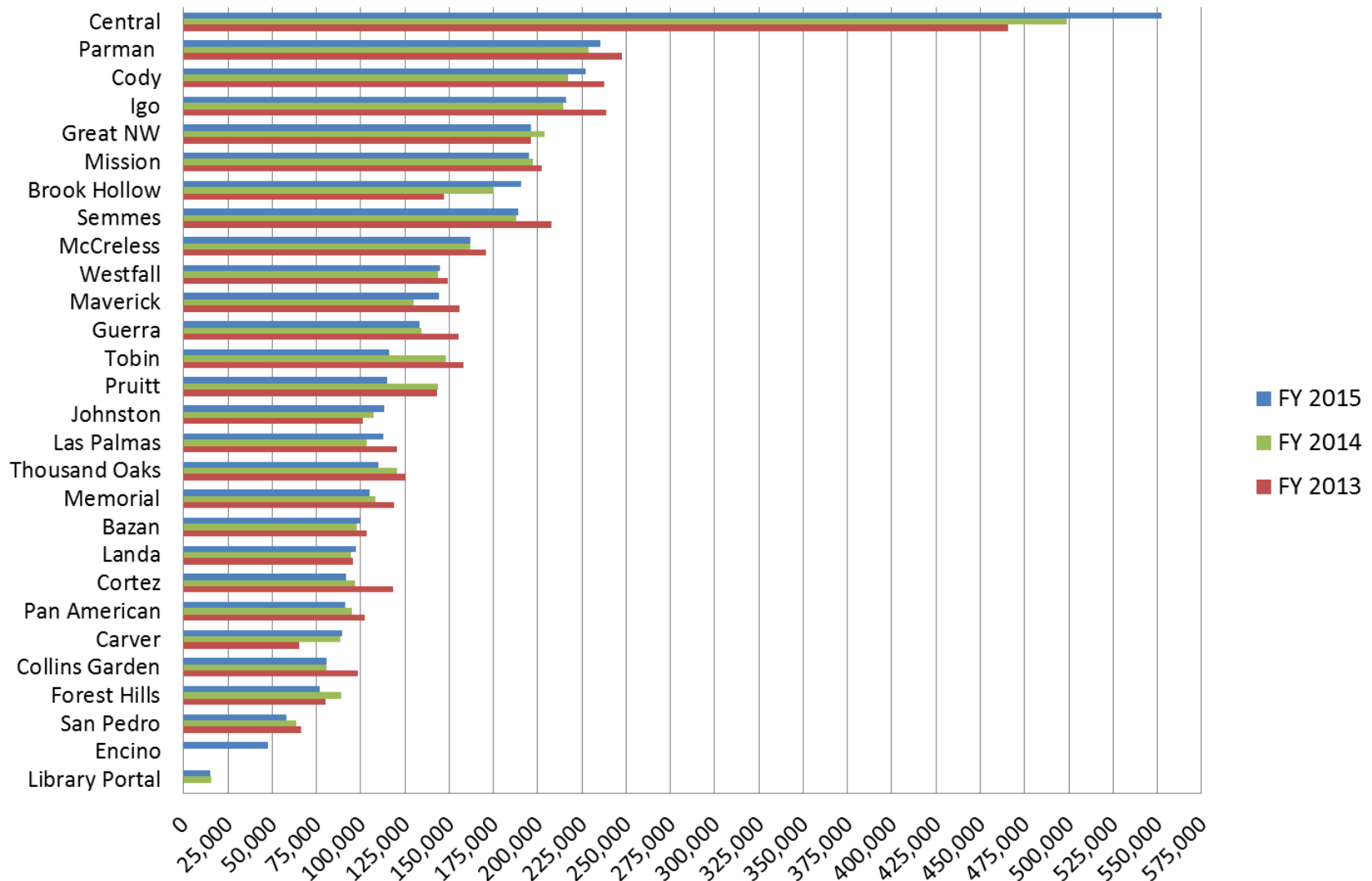
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07/16/2015

# San Antonio Public Library

## Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - June



### Location Closures

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

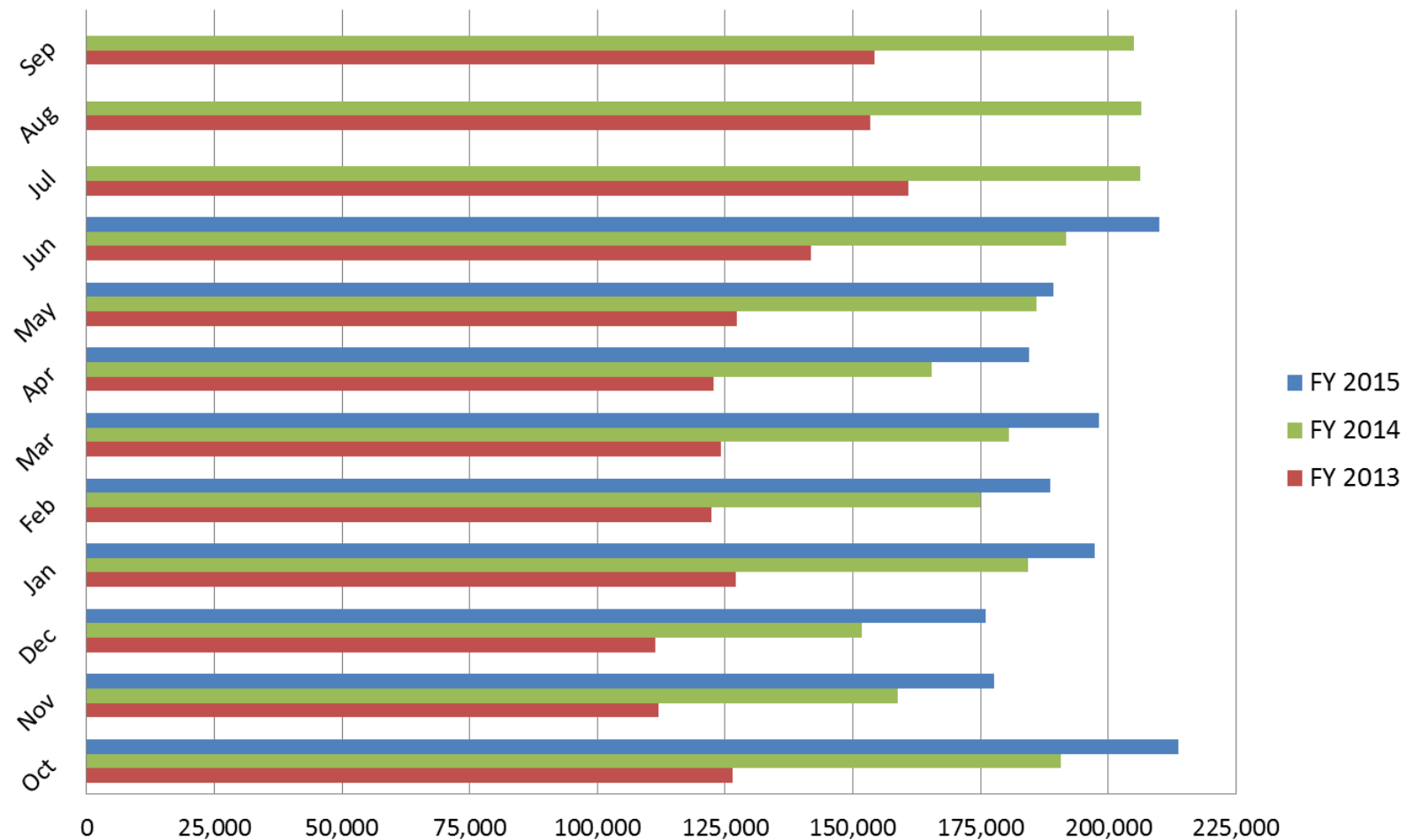
FY 14: Cortez Jun 9-29, Westfall Jul 28–Aug 3, Tobin Aug 4-Aug 31, Carver Sep 9-28

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

07/16/2015

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## Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use



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

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