

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE



On March 15, 2016, Councilman Warrick, Assistant Library Director Dale McNeill, President of the Carver Branch Friends of the Library and others gathered to dedicate the shade structure at the Carver Branch Library. The San Antonio Public Library Foundation successfully fundraised for the installation of a shade structure for the playground at the Carver Branch Library. The Friends of the Carver Branch Library organized an event to celebrate this new amenity and extended an invitation to Councilman Warrick. The event was well attended with much excitement about the new amenity.

The donors included: Frost Bank, Harvey E. Najim Family Foundation and District 2 City Councilman Alan E. Warrick, II, District 1 City Councilman Roberto C. Treviño, District 4 City Councilman Rey Saldaña and District 10 City Councilman Mike Gallagher through the CCFP initiative.

In 2013, the Library Department partnered with the Parks Department to bring a KaBOOM! Playground build to the Carver Branch Library.



The Library hosted the 3rd Annual Texas Women of Influence panel discussion on March 29, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Library. The national theme is "Honoring women in public service and government". Mayor Ivy Taylor, City Manager Sheryl Sculley, Texas A&M SA President Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson, VIA Trustee and former Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade and Director UTSA Small Business Development Center Terri Williams participated in event. Texas Public Radio personality Eileen Pace moderated the discussion.

The Texas Women of Influence panel discussion furthers the Fosters Community Connection strategic focus of the Library's Strategic Plan.



The Nonprofit Technology Network is leveraging funding from Google Fiber to award Digital Inclusion Fellowship across the country. San Antonio Public Library is one of three awards in San Antonio (SAHA and Each One Teach One are the other two organizations). The Library's fellow will assist the Library to expand the Library's current efforts to provide digital literacy and public computer classes. The Fellow will develop a self-sustaining model to implement at the conclusion of the fellowship to support ongoing digital literacy efforts by the Library.

The fellowship award includes a \$59,836 for salary and benefit expenses for the Digital Inclusion Fellow. The Library Foundation will be matching \$5,000 in programming related expenses. San Antonio is one of seven cities nationwide selected for the fellowship (Atlanta, Charlottes, Kansas, Portland, Salt Lake, San Francisco).

The Nonprofit Technology Network and Google Fiber made a public announcement for the fellowships on Wednesday, April 20, 2016. Request for Council action to formally accept this aware is planned for May 12, 2016.



The Library is currently working and coordinating with ITSD on the implementation of a pilot service initiative which will enable the Library Department to checkout Wi-Fi Hotspots at designated Library locations. This innovative pilot project was conceived to help address the needs of adults who may not have equitable access to the Internet. This initiative, which is aligned with the citywide goal of bridging the digital divide by expanding access to broadband, will allow adult learners to checkout mobile

hotspots for home Internet access at the four Learn at SAPL locations (Westfall Branch Library, District 1; Carver Branch Library, District 2; Cortez Branch Library, District 4; and Bazan Branch Library, District 5).



The San Antonio Public Library staff delivered two presentations at the Public Library Association Conference, April 5 – 9, 2016. Corinne Sanchez, Library Services Specialist with the Library's Little Read Wagon initiative presented on Early Literacy Outreach for Teen Parents and Roberta Sparks, Special Projects Manager and Kate Gray, Public Services Administrator presented on Organizational Health: Capitalizing on your most important asset.

MARKETING



The Marketing Department, as a collaborative team, has been engaged with marketing and event support for two key events for the Library during this period: Mini Maker Faire (March 26) and San Antonio Book Festival (April 2) – helping to increase attendance at both since their prior occasion. In order to assist with the success of both events, comprehensive communication plans were fully engaged to include traditional PR and media outreach, design, social media, advertising, marketing collaterals and event coordination. The team continues also to support the branches in their preparation for anniversary events this year: Cortez (35 years); Mission and Parman (5 years); Memorial (35 years); McCreless (50 years); and Johnston (35 years). Support and preparation for other key events are underway as well: Holocaust Learn & Remember programs and commencement open house (May 2); Henry B. Gonzalez Centennial press event (May 3); Read to Red Carpet: A Mayor's Book Club Celebration (May 7), National Poetry Month, Small Business Week, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and Summer Reading Programs.

Marketing also launched the Library's new logo to staff with the offering of t-shirts and Fiesta medals that feature the new logo. This is the first step in the rollout of the logo, a soft launch that will continue to unveil to the public over the course of several months. The Library's new website, scheduled to be launched in late May, will be formally announced to the public as will the logo at that time. A comprehensive plan for the website rollout is scheduled to begin with finalization of the website.

New Digital Library wallpapers - with new design included - are scheduled to be installed at Haven for Hope, Office of City Clerk and Central Library in May.

Marketing was awarded a Texas Library Association Branding award for the Digital Library Community Project, which will be announced in a future edition of *Texas Library Journal*.

Overall, SAPL received **139** media mentions during the reporting period. The total value of broadcast coverage equals **\$73,610**.

Social Media statistics for the month:

1. Facebook: 11,096 page likes
2. Twitter: 3,296 followers
3. Pinterest: 49 followers
4. Instagram: 898 followers
5. Youtube: 132 subscribers

DIGITAL SERVICES



In preparation for migrating to the new LibGuides 2 platform, Sarah Carolan conducted over a dozen staff classes during late March and early April, including a webcast, to ensure that all staff LibGuide editors are ready for the upcoming transition. On March, 20, Rolf Laun successfully upgraded the Library's Millennium software to the latest available version.



On April 12, Sierra Mendez assisted in arranging the "Foreigners in Their Own Land" event at the Kampmann Library Portal. Attendees watched the landmark PBS documentary followed by author and historian Mr. Rudi Rodriguez who spoke about Texas' indigenous, Mexican, and Spanish roots.

LITTLE READ WAGON



Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents

The Little Read Wagon team presented one-time early literacy workshops at the following elementary schools with Head Start or Pre-K programs: Huppertz Elementary, DeZavala Elementary, Fenwick Elementary, Columbia Heights Elementary and Avance Early Beginnings. A series of Every Child Ready to Read workshops were presented at Pre-K 4 SA North, with a family activity on April 5 and the first workshop in the series of three on April 12.

The week of April 11-15, Little Read Wagon staff presented a family reading activity each afternoon at Knox Early Childhood Education Center. At dismissal time, parents had the opportunity to read with their children and do one other activity. Other activities included bubble play, play dough, and *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* alphabet play. On April 12-15, parents who arrived thirty minutes prior to dismissal attended a brief make-and-take workshop. Each day had high levels of participation, and staff was delighted to see families return each afternoon to spend some time reading together.



Services to Teen Parents

Corinne Sanchez and Clair Larkin were busy presenting workshops to teen parents at the following high schools: Kennedy, Memorial, Edison, Taft, and McCollum. Elizabeth Huber and Ms. Sanchez continued to offer story time and workshops for young mothers at Seton Home. Ms. Larkin and Ms. Sanchez also set up an activity area for a Spring Carnival for teen parents.



Outreach Story Time Programs

Ms. Huber and Ms. Larkin continue to provide monthly story time visits to the following early childhood centers: Nurturing Hearts, Tynan Early Childhood Education Center, Healy Murphy, Navarro Learning Center, and Ella Austin Child Development Center. At Ella Austin, additional classrooms are being served due to the opening of new rooms as part of the City of San Antonio Early Head Start partnership.



Workshops for Early Childhood Teachers

On March 9, Ms. Huber, Ms. Larkin, and Cresencia Huff presented "Smart Arts: Enhancing early literacy through creativity" to thirty-one early childhood teachers at the Central Library. Two San Antonio Public Library employees also participated in the workshop and found it informative for their work with children. Teachers earned a certificate for three training hours to be applied to their annual training requirements.

Julia Lazarin presented at Voices for Children's Early Childhood Training and Resource Fair on April 16. Teachers who attended her session made their own "Little Mouse" color and rhyme game.



Play & Learn

A Play & Learn series began at Acme Park on April 7. This is a new location for Play & Learn programs. The park is equipped with a shaded playscape and pavilion that the families have enjoyed. Head Start staff visited with families at Play & Learn on April 14, inviting them to consider enrolling their children for the coming school year. Attendance at the series has been very good so far, in spite of it being a new neighborhood. Little Read Wagon staff hope to see more participation from neighborhood families as the series continues.



Community Events

During spring break, KLRN hosted a series of community events. Central Children's staff joined Ms. Sanchez at Yanaguana Gardens on March 15 and Roosevelt Park on March 16. Julia Lazarin and Ms. Huber were at the March 17 event at McAllister Park, and Mrs. Huff and Ms. Huber were at the March 18 event at Woodlawn Lake Park. March 19 was University Health System's annual Spring Fest. Mrs. Huff brought a butterfly ring-making activity along with library information. Mrs. Huff participated in a resource fair for the DePaul Children's Center on March 22. Little Read Wagon also represented the Library at the three-day Head Start recruitment fair for Edgewood Independent School District. Little Read Wagon staff was at the Healthy Start Baby Shower on March 24.

The first April event was Siclovía, which Ms. Huber attended along with the Marketing department's Karla Vasquez. Their booth featured a hop scotch and balance activity along with digital library information. Ms. Lazarin represented the library at health fairs at the Knox and Carvajal Early Childhood Education Centers on April 1 and April 8. Also on April 8 was the annual Careers on Wheels event for South San Independent School District. Kathy Armbruster of the Cortez Branch Library joined Mrs. Huff in speaking to almost every student in second grade in the district!

April 14 was a special occasion for participants in the Children's Shelter's Nurse-Family Partnership. Thirty-four children and their families graduated from the program which provides pre-natal and parenting support to first-time mothers via bi-weekly home visits until the child reaches two years of age. Mrs. Huff distributed library and early literacy information to each family.



Professional Development

Ms. Sanchez attended the Public Library Association conference in Denver April 6-9. Ms. Sanchez was invited to present a regular session as well as a webinar about Little Read Wagon's services to teen parents. In addition to her own presentations, Ms. Sanchez attended several sessions, visited the exhibit hall and the Denver Public Library.

CHILDREN'S (SYSTEM-WIDE)



The spring 2016 Play & Learn program, *How Does Your Garden Grow?*, is now making its way around the branches. Twenty three library locations are presenting this program in support of SAPL's early literacy efforts. Early responses from the branches indicate that exploration of the sensory bin is a big hit as is the opportunity to actually plant a seed.



Planning for 2016 Summer Reading programming and the Mayor's Summer Reading Club are both well in hand. The theme this summer, *GREEN*, has brought children's staff and the marketing department many opportunities to express their creativity with program plans for frogs and toads, alligators and crocodiles, flowers and plants, financial literacy, knights and dragons and of course, recycling. Performers that will be visiting the branches this summer include: Sandbanks Shadow Factory (shadow puppetry), Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre (a more traditional take on puppetry), Dinosaur George,

Bouncing Ball Music (featuring Austin musician Joe McDermott) and TamboRhythms (interactive drumming). As usual, Summer Reading Club sign-up is slated to begin on June 1 with programming extending to the end of July while logging summer reading and listening goes on through August.



Children's Services Coordinator Viki Ash acted as moderator/interviewer for award-winning children's author Pam Muñoz Ryan at the Book Festival on April 2. Ms. Ryan spoke extensively about her most recent publication, **Echo**, which was named a Newbery Honor Book in 2016 and also won the Kirkus Prize for Young People's Literature. A number of the children's librarians were involved in the Book Festival, working not only the library booth but also in the Children's Activity Tent.



Viki's other community contacts included:

- Serving on the San Antonio Botanical Garden Science and Education Committee (April 1)
- Consulting with the DoSeum Education staff on their summer Mathletes program (April 5)
- Attending Kids Day in the Park sponsored by KLRN and San Antonio Association for the Education of Young Children (April 9)

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



Off-Site Service

On April 7, Kathleen Fordyce (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) and Victoria Tijerina (Library Assistant/Teen Liaison, Memorial) spoke to 8th grade students at Holy Cross of San Antonio. They gave a Tutor.com tutorial, showed the students how to access the Library's databases and downloadables, talked about teen library programs, and signed the teens up for library cards.



Inspire U

Staff involved in the Inspire U Workplace Mentoring Program (part of SA2020), met with their "littles" for their regularly scheduled meeting in the Teen Library @ Central on March 28. Bigs and Littles had lunch together and enjoyed catching up with each other.



San Antonio Food Bank

As a requirement of the Kids Café afterschool snack program, a Teen Library staff member must attend a monthly nutrition lesson at the Food Bank and provide at least one nutrition lesson for the teens per month. Regina Almanza (Library Assistant) attended the lesson in April.



Workgroup Meeting

The Teen Services Librarian/Liaison meeting was held at the Teen Library @ Central on April 13.



Mini Maker Faire

Teen Services' Caroline Mossing (Librarian I, Teen Library @ Central) organized the second annual San Antonio Mini Maker Faire, which took place at the Central Library on March 26 from 11-4. The Faire featured exhibits by more than thirty local Makers, as well as a live musical performance, a cosplay showcase, and a keynote presentation by Steve Wolf about the science of movie stunts. Teen Makers ran exhibits focused on robotics, 3D printing, and computer programming, as well as one showcasing the resources available at Teen Services at SAPL. 1,300 attendees visited the Faire. Exhibits and performances included a hands-on demonstration of music mixing and sampling, competitive FRC-league

robots (built by high school robotics teams), a LED pixel wall made in part with upcycled water bottles, amplified viola and cello with an 8 foot robotic drummer, a Rubik's cube-solving robot, a demonstration of a DIY drip irrigation system, and a laser-cut dinosaur sculpture.

This event came together with help from many others in the library system, especially the Marketing team and Regina Villalobos-Perez, Kristin Yourdon (Teen Services Librarian I, Cody), Georgina Salinas (Librarian I/Teen Liaison, McCreless), Laura Villanueva (Training Officer, Central), Jennifer De La Rosa (Circulation Attendant, Brook Hollow), and Jennifer Velásquez (Coordinator of Teen Services). Also active on the planning committee were community members with interest in the Maker movement, including Mark Barnett and Dale Bracey and representatives of Make San Antonio and Spare Parts. The DoSeum was also generous with staff time and supplies to help make the second Faire a success. More than 25 community volunteers worked (in total) more than 100 hours to set up, run, and break down the Faire.



Downtown Teen Arts Fest

J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) is currently planning the second annual Downtown Teen Arts Fest, which will take place at the Central Library, tentatively on September 17. J.D. is chairing a committee comprised of Georgina Salinas (Librarian I/Teen Liaison, McCreless) and Jennifer Martinez (Library Assistant/Teen Liaison, Bazan). Other library staff members will serve as advisors, pending the approval of their supervisors.



Barrio Writers

In partnership with the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, a free 8-week Youth Writers Workshop for teens began at the Teen Library @ Central on March 16. Each workshop is led by Andrea "Vocab" Sanderson, a local, active writer in the community. Andrea has the teens focus on social justice, empowerment, and making change. The workshops are meant to empower teens through creative writing.



Staffing

Adam Tutor, Library Services Specialist, began work at the Teen Library @ Central in March. Adam will focus his efforts on outreach to schools and youth-serving organizations in the community. Adam has contacted the Teen Services Librarians in the system to begin making connections and seeking information about outreach endeavors. He will soon begin work on a new outreach video, working with library branches, to use during outreach visits.



System-wide Support

Caroline Mossing (Librarian I, Teen Library @ Central) presented drone programs for teens at Guerra and Igo Branch Libraries in celebration of Teen Tech Week.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)



The library hosted the second of five job fairs scheduled for 2016 in partnership with Workforce Solutions Alamo (WSA) this month. WSA assists the library by recruiting employers whose needs are tailored to the needs that the library sees in the community and that WSA knows are trending employment factors. This partnership resulted in four job fairs in 2015, reaching hundreds of job seekers, and employing nearly 50 people. Over a dozen employers met with job seekers at the Cortez Library on March 29th. The next job fair is scheduled for Wednesday April 27th at the Westfall Library. WSA and SAPL look forward to finding new ways to develop this partnership for the benefit of our job seekers and small business owners.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN'S



Collection Development Collaboration:

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin worked closely with Collection Development Librarian Nohemi Lopez Rosdahl by assisting her in selecting picture and chapter books for the new Potranco Branch Juvenile Collection.



Semmes Foundation Visit: The Central Children's Department received a visit from donors Tom and Pat Semmes of The Semmes Family Foundation, for a tour of the Low Vision Reading Room. This unique space on the 3rd floor is full of resources for children with low vision and was made possible due to their generosity.



Early Literacy Programming:

Play & Learn, a collaborative effort between Ms. Seglin, and Librarians Robin Alcorta and Julia Pouliot, brought rich learning experiences to the babies, toddlers and preschoolers of the Central Library community. Children delighted in construction dramatic play, complete with hard hats, wooden nails and Styrofoam boards. Bedtime-themed activities included shadow play, and springtime was celebrated with play dough gardening. Toddler Time, led by Ms. Seglin, focused on similar themes and was enriched by her in-depth approach to early literacy, with more stories, songs, rhymes and dances that kept young ones engaged and learning.



Family Fun Programming:

Ms. Alcorta presented engaging learning experiences to children at her Saturday Family Fun programs this month. She focused on spring themes, pairing stories with activities such as watercolor egg decorating, a sponge art collaborative project, wearable butterfly wing construction, and caterpillar-to-butterfly play dough molding. Ms. Alcorta highlighted the Satellite Coral Reef exhibit in the Gallery with sea tales and a flying fish craft. As an added treat, she led the group down to the Gallery where the families explored the coral reef made entirely out of yarn.

The new STEAM Family Fun programs on Sundays, led by Ms. Pouliot, have been well received. Her Color Science event was featured in the *San Antonio Express News* article entitled "Families Mix Art, Science at the Library." During this program, the group participated in a chromatography experiment, after which families explored color mixing science and used their custom blends to create art pieces to display at home. The science of spring was explored when her group enjoyed stories about gardening and nature, examined the parts of a plant, what a plant needs to thrive, then planted lima beans to take home and watch grow.



Special Programming:

The Central Children's Department celebrated Spring Break with special programs and activities, making sure that the library was a destination for fun and learning during the break from school. Come & Go Crafts were offered throughout Spring Break, and the regularly-occurring LEGO Club was enhanced with LEGO art activities. Ms. Alcorta produced the highlight of the Spring Break festivities with the creation of the "Do Stuff Station!" This inviting, interactive area near the Fiction collection serves as a one-stop shop for fun activities such as scavenger hunts, words searches and challenge questions. She created three scavenger hunts in different areas of the collection. When searching for the hidden items, children learned their way around the children's floor. Children and parents raved about the new addition, reporting that it was just the thing they needed to enhance their Spring Break experience with the library. The Station was such a success that it will continue to be in place and updated each season.

Ms. Lopez Rosdahl and Children's Department Manager Kate Simpson continued their collaboration with Bilingual Story Times. In order to meet the needs of the community, they have re-envisioned the program as a monthly celebration, presenting the first one during Spring Break. Bilingual Story Time: Primavera! was a great success, paving the way for Bilingual Story Time: Fiesta! in early April. During those celebrations, Ms. Lopez Rosdahl shared stories and songs in Spanish and English, after which the families enjoyed bilingual imaginative play stations such as a mercado stand and play dough pizzeria.



Committee Participation & Professional Development:

During the April Children's Librarians Meeting, the Summer Reading Programming Committee, chaired by Ms. Simpson, presented the 10 program plans they developed. Ms. Seglin was an integral part of this team who produced exceptional work and assisted Ms. Simpson in the coordination of the entire process.



Outreach:

In addition to the department's long-standing outreach relationships with Madison Square Child Development Center, Central Christian Church Childcare Center, Green Acres Child Care Center, San Antonio College Early Childhood Center and the Center for New Communities at San Antonio College, the team made connections with the community at three very special events this month. Ms. Simpson and Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez partnered with Little Read Wagon Library Services Specialist Corinne Sanchez to represent the library at two KLRN Peg + Cat Spring Break festivals: one at Yanaguana Park and one at Roosevelt Park. These events were attended by several hundred families. Even more families were at attendance to the San Antonio Book Festival, where the Children's Department team worked together with the Reference Department team to staff the Central Library booth during the massive event. Together the two departments shared with festival goers the array of resources and activities available at the Central Library. Ms. Seglin also initiated a new relationship with the Discovery School, where visited with stories and puppet friends!

TEENS



Mondays with JD Elizondo (Library Assistant): JD continued with Eclectic Electric programming during the reporting period. The ever-popular recording studio in the Teen Library is attracting more new teens, each with different musical styles. To accommodate this influx, JD is segmenting the recording time on Mondays so that everyone will have a chance to perform and record. In addition, JD and few of the teens are dividing the studio into virtual and performance sides so that bands that want to rehearse can do so at the same time the studio is being used for recording.



Tuesdays with Caroline Mossing (Librarian I): During the reporting period, Caroline hosted Science & Tech Tuesdays, and teens explored aviation and videography using the library's quadcopter and designed and crafted stuffies with light-up LED elements connected to power by conductive thread. Others designed 3D models to print and printed models found online.



Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II): On Wednesdays, teens pick their favorite video or board game and engage in friendly competition with their peers. During the reporting period, teens have enjoyed playing the WiiU and PS4 games, as well as board games like Chess, Jenga and Apples to Apples. In addition, the Barrio Writers workshops for teens ran weekly through the reporting period. Several teens have taken an interest in the program and have produced writing that allows them to express themselves creatively.



Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): On Thursdays, teens participate in activities at their library that encourage peer-to-peer assistance, creativity and expressing themselves, all while helping plan or decide the day's program and the use of the teen space. Teens followed an easy cookie recipe for sugar cookies and decorated them with all green frostings in honor of St. Patrick's Day. During Spring Break, one teen expressed an interest in learning crochet, so a laptop, yarn, and crochet hook were brought out to learn the beginnings of crochet, as other teens were invited to join in. On an early school release day, one teen asked to borrow the space and decorate it to throw a birthday party for her friend. The DVD release *Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 2*, the last in the series, had teens planning out a special movie night, complete with a mini bow and arrow craft using popsicle sticks, floss and Q-tips, and having fiery snacks. Using polymer clay, teens sculpted mini figurines while waiting for the fruits they covered in melted chocolate to set. When one teen mentioned how easy it was to make Rey's Portion Bread from the new *Star Wars* movie and how Teen Library owned all the necessary equipment, plans formed for a *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* movie night. Along with the Jakku bread recipe, essentially combining all ingredients in a mug and microwaving the concoction, teens made *Star Wars* buttons using the buttonmaker. Also, to cap off Superhero Week, teens made bubble magnets using flat glass gems, tacky glue, a magnet strip and pictures from old comic books. Teens also requested fabric to use the sewing machines and improvised some clothing. After each teen Thursday program, teens request a certain video game console and engage in some friendly competition. Pictures from Thursday programs as well as system-wide programs can be found at <http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary>, as well as <http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary>.



Teens and mentors from Say Sí came to the Teen Library for a short introduction to library resources and to explore the Central Library on March 15. On March 23, students from Legacy Christian Academy received a tour of the building and catalog and database instruction. A group of middle school students received an impromptu tour of the Teen Library on March 24. On April 2, a high school group from Brownsville received an impromptu tour of the Teen Library. A group of students from the Henry Ford Academy reserved computers for research in the Teen Library on April 5.

REFERENCE



Central Reference & Texana staff are collaborating and starting free, guided culture tours called *Central within Reach* on select Sunday mornings starting in April and May. More information about the Art and Local History tour (including the registration links and forms) can be found on the LibGuide: <http://guides.mysapl.org/CentralWithinReachTour>



Reference Department Assistant Manager, Jim Laferla, attended the Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) annual training session March 21 through March 24. PTRC representatives gather each year to attend presentations and classes for current information about patents, trademarks and new trends in protecting intellectual property.



Several Reference staff assisted during the Book Festival on April 2nd, in the San Antonio Public Library booth and other key areas. The booth included directional help, adult coloring, and reader's advisory services. Several patrons specifically noted that they had never visited Central, and received dedicated service in Connect, 2nd and 5th Floors. One young girl picked up about ten books on a half dozen topics and said: "You'll see me here again!"



On March 19, Librarians Pannaga Prasad and Paula Davis organized a program entitled "Tax Planning & Small Business." This program was presented by a professor at Greehey School of Business,

St. Mary's University. The presenter also assisted the attendees one on one basis with their specific queries.



On April 10, "Prep Yourself to Score High on College Admission Test" was offered in Connect Training Center. In this class, the attendees are shown library resources that can help them prepare for college admissions testing.



In the Library's Virtual Reference service (LibAnswers), staff received an influx of questions from students in Iran, who had a school assignment to reach out to the SAPL Ask Us service. Over 30 questions from Iranian students were capably answered by Reference staff.

TEXANA/GENEALOGY



On March 22nd, the Texas Digital Library Awards Committee informed the Texana and Genealogy Division of the San Antonio Public Library that it would be awarding the library with the 2016 Texas Digital Library's Trailblazers Award for the African-American Funeral Program Collection, provided by the San Antonio Public Library through the Portal to Texas History. Formal presentation will be May 25th at the 2016 Texas Conference on Digital Libraries in Austin.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN



On March 26 the Bazan branch held an event celebrating the life and legacy of Cesar Chavez. The program included readings by poets Octavio Quintanilla and Esteban Flores, honoring the late labor leader and civil rights activist. The De Zavala Mariachis los Paisanos elementary mariachi school group performed several songs to the delight of the audience. There were also refreshments, face painting, sidewalk art and crafts for everyone to enjoy.



Children's Librarian Hope Sonnen continued weekly programs as well as outreach book clubs at several schools. Children continued to enjoy playing with Legos at the bi-weekly library program. Ms. Sonnen and Library Assistant Jennifer Martinez attended Port San Antonio's Fiesta de los Niños on April 16 where they shared a fun craft with children and promoted library services to families.



The Bazan Teen Time program saw an increase in attendance with its new time of Thursdays from 4-6 PM. With the help of Bazan's intern/work study student, a small group of regulars formed that attend weekly. Library Assistant Jennifer Martinez, who also serves as the Volunteer Liaison for the Bazan branch, actively recruited 1-2 new teen volunteers to assist during the Summer Reading Program.



Bazan Learn Training Officer Emily Sauer Flores participated in the San Antonio Military Hiring Fair on March 16 and promoted services available at the Learn Center in the Veterans Information Village section. Attendance at the fair was impressive and there was a great deal of interest from

community members and social service organizations participating in the event. Several businesses expressed interest in participating in the Bazan Branch Job Fair in September.



Mrs. Sauer Flores met with Nickol Gomez, Family Services Coordinator of Respite Care, on March 24. Mrs. Sauer Flores and Ms. Gomez discussed promoting and collaborating on Parent Education courses that the Center is considering opening to the community. With the exception of the emergency shelter, all of Respite Care's programs are preventative in nature and likely of interest to the parents the Learn Centers serve. On March 31, Mrs. Sauer Flores met with Pastors Lupina Villalpando and Abdon Garza of Northern Hills United Methodist Church. NHUMC offers English as a Second Language classes (with no more than three students per teacher) on a weekly basis and also is developing an outreach program designed to serve a Spanish-speaking population. On April 6, Mrs. Sauer Flores attended Dress for Success' (and Career Gear's) resource meeting. Topics covered include the referral process and wide range of services offered by DFS. The group accepted an invitation to participate in the Bazan Library Job Fair in September.

BROOK HOLLOW



Brook Hollow patrons were invited to participate in *Gumshoe Madness*, in which detectives from popular fiction faced off against each other in a March Madness style competition. Each week, participants voted to decide the winners of each match up, and the victors progressed to the next round of play. The competition was fierce but Sherlock Holmes won the title, beating out his own wife, Mary Russell (from Laurie R. King's Mary Russell series), in the final round.



On April 5, preschoolers enjoyed a *Barnyard Buddies* Play and Learn. Event activities included a barn-themed beanbag toss, collecting eggs in a basket and taking them to the farmhouse, play dough, decorating sheep with dot art painters, barnyard animal puppets, and a reading of *The Cow Loves Cookies* by Karma Wilson.



On April 11, Brook Hollow hosted a representative from the St. Bernard Project and the San Antonio Office of Emergency Management who was on hand to educate homeowners and small business owners about emergency weather and disaster preparedness.

CARVER



Assistant Branch Manager Monty Holcomb hosted five Teen Time events with the Wii, as well as five chess activities. Mr. Holcomb also continued the Mayor's Book Club group at the District 2 Senior Center session and during this period facilitated five book club meetings. Mr. Holcomb also hosted two more visits from the George Gervin Youth Center, in which he gave tours of the library to several dozen youths and he continued to work with the teachers to ensure that all of the students had library cards. Mr. Holcomb also assisted the Office of Sustainability event, helping the group to set up the room so that then patrons could then discuss with the presenters the various issues about how the city can become more sustainable.



The Friends of Carver Library sponsored Happy Tails Entertainment on Saturday, March 19, showcasing an assortment of exotic animals. The event drew a crowd of nearly 30 people. Carver Branch Children's Librarian Jodi Miller represented the library at the Tynan Elementary School Health and Wellness Fair on March 29.



On March 15, the Carver Friends held a dedication ceremony to mark the installation of a playground canopy. District 2 Councilman Alan Warrick II and SAPL Foundation's Tracy Bennett were among the dignitaries on hand to say thanks to all of the supporters who made the playground covering possible. Chief funding came from Frost Bank, the Harvey Najim Family Foundation, and the San Antonio City Council Project Fund, Districts 1, 2, 4, 8, and 10.



In April, the branch recorded its highest attendance for Tai Chi class. The number surged to nearly 20. The sessions generally attract seniors. Facilitator Anita Rogers, a longtime practitioner of the art, says interest in the activity continues to mount.

CODY



Several families attended the *St. Patrick's Day Arts and Crafts* event on March 15. Children had fun creating rainbow mobiles, leprechaun hats, and shamrock necklaces.



Tweens met on March 16 for the *Tween Book Club* to discuss the book *The League of Unexceptional Children* by Gitty Daneshvari.



On March 17, the Hula Hooping event proved a fun program for all ages. Luna Islas, Youth Hooper of the Year, featured her talents with her LED hoops and presented a short video clip of her routine with her hoop of fire. After learning some hula hoop moves from Hooper Luna, both children and adults had opportunities to show off their hooping talents. Hula hoops were given away as prizes.



For *Tween Time* on March 21, the tweens learned how to create duct tape flowers and jelly bean holders out of plastic eggs. Many of the tweens were excited about presenting their creations to their parents for Easter.



The *Easter and Springtime Arts & Crafts* program was well-attended on March 22. Children and families enjoyed making Easter placemats, bunny baskets, baby chick mobiles, butterfly rings and Easter cards.



Rhodes Elementary art students exhibited their work in the children's area during the month of March. Fourth grade art students created imaginary monsters, and second grade art students created collages inspired by Christopher Myers' *Wings*. Andrew Fothergill is their art instructor.



In addition to presenting the children's programs at Cody, Children's Librarian Sheila Acosta visited the following sites for early literacy outreach during March: Chabad Gan-Gani School, Kids Campus Childcare, Discovery World Childcare, and the Pineapple School.



Tweens spent some of their Tween Time participating in STEM activities on March 28. Several boys and girls formed teams to build and form structures out of a variety of materials. Sheila took pictures of the students with their finished structures. Many of the students continued building with Legos, and some utilized iPads for *Minecraft*.



Lego Club proved challenging and fun for those who attended on March 29. Children worked in teams to create unique graphic novel characters. In addition to their creations, each team had to describe their characters. Sheila displayed these in the New Books area.



Country Home Childcare was back at Cody Library for another story time on March 30.



The *Middle Readers Book Club* met on March 30. Sheila welcomed new members and had each of the children “booktalk” their selections. One young reader presented an audio book to the group. Sheila invited each of them to select a book to recommend as a “Super Book” and the readers wrote their recommendations on superhero capes that are now posted in the Juvenile Fiction area.



Toddlers and pre-schoolers attended Cody's *Duplo Day* on April 1. Many new children attended this play and learn program. All of the children enjoyed the various play centers around the room. Sheila reported that two of the boys were especially interested in the floor puzzles.



For Poetry Month, tweens engaged in some Found Poetry, utilizing words and phrases cut out of magazines. Many of the students wanted to take their poems home, others wanted theirs displayed in the children's area.



On April 6, Minecraft enthusiasts were in attendance for the monthly *BYOD Minecraft Club*. In addition to their own devices, iPads were provided. Sheila reported that the children have no problem communicating ideas and suggestions to one another when it comes to Minecraft.



Tweens learned how to make decorative Fiesta wreaths for *Tween Time* on April 11. The tweens were eager to make Fiesta flowers to commemorate Fiesta Week. Some of the girls created Fiesta flowers to wear in their hair.



Hobby Middle School Art Instructor Jeremy Nemec brought over several of his art students' work to display in the juvenile area during the month of April. The artwork depicted cardboard assemblages inspired by artist Louise Nevelson.



Country Home Childcare visited Cody Library on April 13 for another story time.



Beginner Readers Club members had their monthly program on April 13. The young readers had an opportunity to select from several new beginning chapter books that Sheila presented to them for checkout. In addition, they were given a writing activity to take home and share with their family.



As a part of Teen Tech Week, Teens learned to create a pop-up effect card and a simple circuit by connecting a battery to an LED light. The teens then made *Batman v Superman* LED art cards with Superman shrinking from glowing green Kryptonite and Batman looming over Gotham City, highlighted by the bat signal. The teens worked together to solve circuitry issues.



To coincide with the *Batman v Superman* movie release, teens decorated Batman and Superman cookies and used intricate Perler Bead patterns to create the Batman and Superman symbols.



Throughout the month, teens also voted for who would be the winner in the upcoming *Batman v Superman* movie. With over 300 votes cast, Batman was the overwhelming winner.



For April Fool's Day, teens made dessert-imposter burger sliders, using cookies and other dessert items to create the illusion of a burger. The teens also played *Werewolf*, where they used deductive reasoning to figure out who was the werewolf!



To celebrate the Mayor's Book Club selection, *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, teens made books out of dominoes and paper. Teens used measuring skills to cut paper to the right size and learned to fold paper in accordion style. They then formed a book by using the dominoes as the cover and the accordion-folded paper as the pages. They then decorated their books with their favorite quotes from *The Book Thief* as well as with glitter, rhinestones, and paint.



Teens also learned to weave by wrapping ear buds with embroidery floss. They then brainstormed to select programs for May.



On April 2, Dr. Megan Wise de Valdez, Assistant Professor of Biology at Texas A&M-San Antonio, presented her research on the mosquitoes that transmit the Zika virus. The Cody audience had lots of questions related to this buzz-generating topic.



On April 6, Assistant Manager Adam Spana met with Betsy Kropp of the Center for Refugee Services. Adam issued library cards and provided an overview of library services, including ESL classes at Learn@SAPL, to Ms. Kropp's students. Plans for continued outreach services to the refugee community in the Cody neighborhood are underway.



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) concluded another successful tax season at Cody on April 16.

COLLINS GARDEN



Collins Garden Branch Library hosted Mayor Ivy Taylor on March 22, 2016. Memorial/Collins Garden Branch Library Manager Jeannette Davies welcomed Mayor Taylor and gave her a tour of the newly renovated branch. Approximately 30 citizens met with the mayor including many young adults who took selfies with the mayor in attempt to win a radio contest for tickets to a concert. Collins Garden Library staff took a picture with the mayor which was posted on SAPL's Facebook page.



The library started a health education / craft pilot program in partnership with the Family and Community Medicine at the UT Health Science Center of San Antonio.



Collins Garden Library, in partnership with a community poetry group Voces Cosmicas, hosted a series of writing workshops during National Poetry Month coordinated by local poet/educator Fernando Esteban Flores.



Conjunto Heritage Taller, presented by the Mayor's Book Club, performed traditional songs illustrating the history of accordion music in Texas at Collins Garden Library this month. The concert drew over 35 enthusiastic guests with performers from age 7 to 60.



Memorial Branch Library Children's Librarian Trina Smith has been filling in for Kids Time at Collins Garden Library until a permanent children's librarian is selected. Jeannette Davies filled in for Kids Time on several occasions and made crafts with children from Collins Garden Elementary School.



The Teen program, hosted by Carlos Loera, is averaging 7-10 teens weekly with teens making crafts and playing video games. Tween programming averages 11 children per week. A Saturday matinee movie series for teens and children was held over Spring Break.

CORTEZ



The Cortez Library hosted several Family Fun events including 2 sessions that featured “Play and Learn” kits created by Children’s Librarians from throughout the system. Family Fun is a regularly scheduled program at the Cortez Library, Tuesdays at 4pm.



Storytime has had some difficulty catching on at Cortez. The Wednesdays at 11am timeframe seldom sees participants. The Children’s Librarian is ready for children when they are physically present in the library and offers impromptu sessions as needed.



Tweens know that Wednesdays at 4pm is their time. Sessions have included vigorous dodgeball games, video games and craft activities. The most recent sessions have included Monopoly at its cut-throat best!



Children’s Librarian Kathy Armbruster visited the Palo Alto Elementary School to introduce herself and meet with the Principal and School Librarian. During this visit, she spoke to several Kindergarten students and paved the way for an end-of-school year meeting with parents about programs available at SAPL. (Scheduled for later in April) Mrs. Armbruster also accompanied Outreach Services (Crescencia Huff and Little Read Wagon) on a visit to Alan Shepard Middle School where area 2nd graders were bussed in to attend the event “Careers on Wheels”. Ms. Huff and Mrs. Armbruster spoke to well over 500 students and their teachers about careers in libraries and what it takes to be a librarian. Ms. Huff distributed pencils and Mrs. Armbruster distributed flyers with Cortez Library’s anniversary invitation and weekly programs.



Oboist Jennifer Berg came to Cortez with her English Horn and Oboe. Attendees learned how to create reeds and heard several selections from movie scores.



Sprucing up Cortez Library in preparation for the 35th Anniversary has been job #1 for branch staff, facilities crews and the Selrico staff. Cate Prazak, currently interim branch manager at Great Northwest, has continued planning the day’s festivities which will include musicians, guest speakers and a generous donation of food and craft supplies from H-E-B. Children’s Librarian Kathy Armbruster is planning make-and-take craft activities, face painting and a photo booth opportunity for attendees. Madeline Vasquez, Circulation Attendant, has been particularly helpful in preparing the photo booth as well as a display of key moments from the life of Raoul A. Cortez.



The crafting program is still going strong. On March 14 the class made flower pillows by hand sewing and using the sewing machines that were donated to us by the foundation. On March 28th, the class had a guest instructor that taught the crafters how to crochet coffee cup coasters. With fiesta approaching, the class has made tissue flowers to get in the mood.

ENCINO



Manager Keri Moczygemba and Assistant Manager Barbara Kwiatkowski attended the Stronger Together Wellness Fair on April 1, where they spoke with dozens of community members about library services. Encino Branch Library was invited to participate in the Encino Park HOA Open House on April 9, where Keri and Barbara visited with community leaders and neighbors to reinforce the library’s presence. Many regular library visitors approached the library’s table at both events to express their gratitude and enjoyment of library services. Children’s Librarians Nicki Weaver and Ashley Stubbs promoted library services at the Encino Park ES Kinder Roundup on April 4. Library Aide Chris Eubank graciously attended the event as Libro, much to the delight of the soon-to-be kindergarten students. Nicki

also continued her bi-weekly visits to the preschool classrooms at Country Kids Academy and Primrose, where the students join her in songs, fingerplays, and stories. Barbara Kwiatkowski's regular outreach visits also continued during the reporting period. She visited Emerald Oaks Retirement Community to conduct Overdrive tutoring sessions and Franklin Park Assisted Living Center for a book discussion.



#EncinoTech Week, designed by Teen Librarian Matthew Loaiza, rounded out with a Smash Brothers Gaming Tournament. The tournament brought 55 attendees with 10 teams of 2 players competing for the ultimate prize: bragging rights, as well as original artwork by one of our teens. Matthew set up a total of 4 Wii U consoles for the tournament, borrowed from other libraries, which made the tournament run smoothly in the meeting room and teen space. After 3 grueling hours of gameplay and elimination, one team emerged victorious. The lucky winners received portraits hand drawn by one of our talented teen artists.



Barbara Kwiatkowski organized two creative events in honor of the Mayor's Book Club selection, *The Book Thief*. The Power of Storytelling, sponsored by the Friends of Encino, featured three amateur storytellers who were guided through sharing their stories with the crowd. This emotional event drew praise from attendees and requests for repeat programs that include storytelling. Encino's Create University followed the storytelling event, and the attendees created miniature book pendants. Create University continues to be a popular event, with most weeks registered to capacity. At Barbara's invitation, Mission Branch Librarian Oscar Gonzalez enthusiastically hosted a bonsai lesson during a recent Create University program. Four bonsai trees were given as door prizes, and many attendees brought their own bonsai tree to follow along during Oscar's lesson.



Attendance is on the rise for Encino's children's programs! Children's Librarians Nicki Weaver and Ashley Stubbs create dynamic weekly programming for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, school age children, and tweens. Many families spend time on the library's patio space for picnics and play before leaving the library. Nicki and Ashley hosted a successful Play & Learn in March with a gardening theme, and the 56 attendees enjoyed activities in the meeting room and on the patio.



Encino welcomed field trips by 72 preschool students from Rainbow Station during the reporting period. The students were given a brief tour of the library and a lesson in how to select and check out books. To complete the library experience, the classroom teachers allowed each child to choose and check out a book to take back to the classroom.



Encino's successful partnership with Fitness in the Park expanded to include an American Tribal Style Bellydancing course, offered on Sundays at 5 p.m. The instructor has been a regular attendee of the Saturday morning Boot Camp course, and she wanted to join Fitness in the Park's efforts to promote health and movement. The first bellydancing class spawned numerous compliments from passersby, thanks to Encino's flexible meeting room space with glass doors.

FOREST HILLS



The Craft and Chat club created in- stamped tea towels on May 17. The crafting group has grown recently partly due to a change in time for the group to meet. The ladies enjoy getting together on a monthly basis to create unique crafts, discuss books, and discover new friends.



In anticipation of the Fiesta season, Make San Antonio presented a Fiesta medal workshop. Participants were supplied the materials to make their very own library themed Fiesta medal. This program was funded the Friends of the Forest Hills Library.



On Monday, April 11, a reading by Barbara Ras was held in honor of National Poetry Month.



Five Story Times and five Bilingual Story Times were presented during this time period. Topics included dogs, elephants, pigs, rabbits, clouds, planes, the moon, the ocean, numbers, parts of the body, night and day and fiestas. Children listened to stories and rhymes, sang, danced and created projects. They also had the opportunity to play together with a variety of building materials and puzzles.



The Forest Hills community responded well to the new Bilingual Storytime introduced by Children's Librarian Kathleen Brown during the month of March. The response was so overwhelmingly positive that what was meant to be only a month long project has led to the addition of Bilingual Storytime to the Forest Hills weekly lineup of Children's programs. Parents were very encouraging and even offered to volunteer their own time in order to be able to continue the program. Mrs. Brown will work with bilingual volunteer Socorro Barker in order to develop and deliver the program.



Five Family Fun programs were held, including a special program presented by the San Antonio Needlework guild during which participants learned how to make a woven bookmark. Other events included building, flower painting and a Fiesta coloring party.



Children's Librarian Kathleen Brown visited two day care centers to share stories, rhymes, songs and books with the children and teachers.



The 2nd grade classes of Glen Oaks Elementary visited the library the first three Saturdays of April. Mrs. Brown delivered a story to the group and gave them a tour of the building. The students were very excited to come to the library with their parents and interact with their teacher on the weekend. Many of them had never had a library card before so this was an engaging activity for them.

GREAT NORTHWEST



Bexar County Master Gardeners presented their final presentation, *Pest Control Gardening*. The attendees enjoyed the informative sessions and requested future programs on this subject.



Cindy Moreno, Assistant Branch Manager, had an Adult Coloring Session at the Alicia Trevino Senior Center at the end of March. The seniors raved about the session and enjoyed listening to tranquil music while coloring their stress away. Participants requested more sessions!



Ms. Moreno discussed the novel *The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak with the Alicia Trevino seniors on March 11. They then stayed to watch the movie. *The Book Thief* is the Mayor's Book Club pick. Because of this lively discussion, Cindy has contacted a representative from the Holocaust Memorial Museum for a future tour. Cindy also had a book discussion at the branch for *The Book Thief*. The customers were excited to learn about a future trip to the Holocaust Memorial Museum.



During this time, interviews were conducted for a full-time Circulation Attendant. Robert Barba, a Library Aide, was selected for the role. Mr. Barba has been a part-time employee since 2008 and has shown dedication as well as enthusiasm for working at SAPL. Great Northwest Library is glad to take him on as a full-time employee! In addition, Cate Prazak, former branch manager of Cortez Library, has transferred permanently to Great Northwest as branch manager.



On April 6 the branch celebrated National Poetry month. Library Assistant Christina Martinez hosted a poetry reading for all ages with refreshments. The adults read some of their own personal poetry they had written and the children read poems out of poetry books and performed a song.



The Great Northwest Library hosted a Super Smash Bros Mini Tournament on March 26 where teens competed for first and second places. Teens used Challonge.com to register players for a double elimination tournament and tracked their progress using the website's online bracket system. A teen volunteer created the game rules and stage list for players to abide by. Afterward the group welcomed a speaker who discussed E-Sports and answered their questions about professional E-Sports competitions.



Teen Services librarian Stephanie Vazquez visited the school library at Brennan High School on March 23 to provide a teen program to the students during their lunch period. The monthly program drew 300 participants. This popular event is in collaboration with the Brennan High School librarian Hugues Cabby and is a way for the branch to reach out to teens in their environment.



During April the Teen Maker Space had an activity inspired by the Mayor's Book Club pick, *The Book Thief*. Teens used photo copied pages from the book to create Repurposed Page Art based on quotes from the book. The teens also had an Anime night at the branch on April 11. Teens made buttons and stickers to express their love of Anime and Manga.



Great Northwest Library hosted a Robotics workshop on March 18 during Teen Tech Week. The workshops provided kids and teens hands-on experience with robotics and technology. The branch's Teen Tech programs also included a Video Game Arcade where teens created their own arcade in the library.



On March 21 the branch's Teen Writer's Guild held their first meeting. Teens with an interest in writing meet once a month to create and share their work with other teen writers.



Computer Tutoring is held at the Great Northwest Library every other Monday evening. The branch has a volunteer tutor, Jacob, who provides basic computer instructions and answers computer and technology related questions.



The branch held 16 children's programs during this time. Two of the programs were rather special with an egg hunt throughout the juvenile stacks. Laughter and excitement was heard throughout the building. After those programs, all of Great Northwest bunny books had been checked out and relocated to children's homes throughout the city.



The library held a STEM event for the older homeschool kids in grades 4-8. They learned about the giant monoliths in the world. The students were challenged to build a model monolith while meeting a budget. The event was wildly popular and another will be held in April, this time exploring the Parthenon.

GUERRA



The branch hosted the VITA Program six hours daily--Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday; volunteers provided filing assistance to between 35 and 40 members of the community each day. Library Aide Celicia De Los Santos was selected to fill a Circulation Attendant vacancy at Maverick. The Circulation Team--Dave Alvarez, Abella Lazalde, Corinna Reed, and Allison Fink--created a display for Adult Coloring/Meditation program held on April 11. The event included books on display, music, drawing materials, coloring pages, snacks, and drinks. Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson, Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl, and Circulation Attendant Dave Alvarez, installed a Fiesta display.



Branch Manager Dexter Katzman provided music and literature outreach to the Careplex Senior Center on March 16 and 23 and April 6 and 13. He provided a computer class on April 14.



Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard hosted Classic Movies in the Library with a screening of the 1938 movie "The Adventures of Robin Hood" on April 5. The Clube do Livro (Portuguese language book club) discussed the books by Moacyr Scliar *Max e os Felinos* (Max and the Cats) on March 12. The Thursday Evening Club met on April 14 to discuss *Careless People: Murder, Mayhem, and the Invention of the Great Gatsby* by Sarah Bartlett Churchwell.



During the reporting period, Children's Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented four Toddler Times, four Story Times and ten Lego Club programs. On April 6, she presented a special Play and Learn event --How does your garden grow?--to children ages five and under and their caregivers. On March 19, families enjoyed an all-day Come & Go craft where they made Easter bunnies. On April 2, families made flowers during an all-day Come & Go craft event. Children read to therapy dog Foeie on March 17, March 31, and April 14. Arlene attended a spring festival hosted by J B Passmore Elementary on April 8 to publicize library programs. Children who visited the SAPL table enjoyed making a simple craft. On March 22, Arlene participated in a webinar facilitated by Holiday House Books/New books for young children. She visited Lil Dragon Den Daycare on March 24, Angelic Smiles Daycare on April 1, and Marbach Christian Church Daycare on April 15. At each location, she read stories. Arlene designed and installed a child abuse prevention display, a poetry month display, and a Dia de Los Ninos display, this last highlighting books from ALSC's booklist--Building STEAM with Día. The featured books identified resources to supplement science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics programming while reflecting a variety of cultures and languages. On April 16, San Antonio Symphony violist Allyson Dawkins shared her talents and her love of music with children of all ages at Guerra.



Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson attended the volunteer liaison meeting on March 22. He moderated the Club de Lectura (Spanish language book club) whose members discussed biographies of Nelson Mandela on March 24. He accompanied Ronnie Anderson, Volunteer Services Coordinator, to a volunteer fair at Lackland Air Force Base.



Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on March 24, April 7, and April 14. He participated in an outreach to Brennan High School with Stephanie Vazquez, Teen Librarian at Great Northwest on March 23. The program included a teen services video, information about upcoming workshops for college preparation and the opportunity for the students to play video games; over 150 students participated. He had an outreach at John Jay High School on March 23 for incoming students. The teens watched movies on March 31 and April 14. The Guerra Friends of the Library supplied snacks

for movie night. He hosted an “Attack of the Drones” event on March 17. Caroline Mossing, Librarian I/Teen Services came to Guerra to help with this successful program.



Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl and Library Aide Chloe Parham created a Staff Picks display featuring Disney artwork. A second display featured Cesar Chavez biographies and Bazan’s Chavez event.



Circulation Attendant Corinna Reed created a display for National Autism Awareness Month. She and Circulation Attendant Dave Alvarez created an Easter display.

IGO



On March 15, Igo’s bimonthly Lego Club hosted a special offering for Spring Break courtesy of the Clash of Coders Robotics Team made up of students from Basis and Garcia Middle School. Student coders talked to children and caregivers about their experience with coding and how they use smart phones and tablets to control and direct their Lego creations. During the hour-long demonstration, Lego Club attendees were invited to learn more about Lego Robotics and given hands-on experience with a variety of mini robots.



Igo families with preschoolers 0-5 yrs. participated in the spring early literacy Play and Learn program on April 1 entitled, *How Does Your Garden Grow?* During the hour-long session which focused on early nature science, 115 youngsters and their caregivers had the opportunity to experience hands-on learning through a first look at plants and vegetables. Favorite activities included celery printing, seed planting, and sensory bean tub. Parents were amazed at how much fun their little ones had raking, scooping, dumping, and sorting beans. The Duplo station and market place dramatic play center were popular as well, but it was especially gratifying to see enthusiasm for the simple do-it-yourself ideas that the library’s early literacy committee brought together to enrich the learning experience.



On April 15, Children’s Librarian Nancy Rodriguez visited children and teachers at the University of Texas at San Antonio’s Child Development Center to conduct story time sessions in celebration of the center’s annual observance of the Week of the Young Child. Infant, toddler, and preschool classes were entertained with a variety of favorite children’s books, finger plays, songs, and puppets. As is customary during the outreach, Mr. Bear, the Igo Library’s story time puppet mascot, gave bear hugs and high fives to all the engaged young listeners. Staff was invited to visit the San Antonio Public Library website for information about programs and services to enhance classroom activities as well as opportunities for professional development. Many of the classroom teachers were particularly interested in the early literacy workshops offered by SAPL’s early literacy team, Little Read Wagon.



Igo patrons were treated to a special performance by San Antonio Symphony’s extraordinary cellist, Ken Freudigman on April 16. Mr. Freudigman shared his talents and love of music with the multi-generational audience. Many thanks to this wonderful community partner for extending the opportunity for fine arts experience for children of all ages.



The Bimonthly Read to a Dog sessions offer area children opportunities for one-to-one reading support with Igo’s certified Canine Reading Team, Cinder and her trainer/handler Jan Potter. The sessions are held in the cozy reading corner in the children’s area of the library to allow for a unique, comforting read-aloud experience. The parents have shared with staff that their children have gained confidence in their overall reading and are overcoming pronunciation challenges as the result of their time

with this most patient and supportive literacy duo. Ms. Potter does a wonderful job in making each child feel special and at ease while employing various literacy techniques to aide readers in gaining fluency and reading comprehension.

For this reporting period at the Igo Library, children's service staff presented 42 programs and served 2,223 children and their caregivers.



On March 16, Teen Librarian Marco De Leon held a drone program for Teen Tech Week. Caroline Mossing, Teen Librarian at The Teen Library, was invited to give a bit of background on drones owned by The Teen Library. Ms. Mossing then allowed the teens who attended to fly the two drones she brought to Igo. One of the teens in attendance requested for the program to be repeated on a future date and arrangements are being made to do so over the summer.



Building on the success of the previous cooking class, Mr. De Leon communicated with the parent of one of the regular teens who had spent a few years working as a Chef Instructor for Le Cordon Bleu culinary school. Mr. De Leon provided the materials and she taught the teens how to make savory and sweet crepes. While the library temporarily smelled like a French bistro, many patrons enjoyed the scrumptious aroma.



In response to the Mayor's Book Club selection of *The Book Thief*, the Teen Library Leadership Council (TLLC) and Mr. De Leon created an event that would honor one of the central plot points of the book. The teens focused on the bravery and compassion shown by the book's German family when they hid a Jewish refugee from the Nazis and nursed him to health so he could escape persecution.

The event was titled "Igo Teens Present: Bravery and Compassion in *The Book Thief*." The event had three very special guest speakers: District 8 Councilman Ron Nirenberg speaking about the importance of showing compassion to refugees escaping the horrors and violence of their home countries; Vivian Kearney speaking about her experiences as one of the "Hidden Children" of the Holocaust and reading her original poetry; and Assadullah Amini speaking of his experiences as a refugee from Afghanistan and finally making it to America where he is currently awaiting his citizenship.

The teens followed the guest speakers by reading passages from diaries and memoirs of Holocaust victims and survivors to give sound to voices that have long been silent. The event was finalized by the last guest speaker, Rabbi David Komerofsky, who spoke about a hopeful future and closed the event by lighting six Yahrzeit candles, traditional Jewish memorial candles, in memory of the six million Jews that were lost to us in the Holocaust.



Mr. De Leon and the TLLC are also currently planning the upcoming Anime Fest!, a festival for Japanese culture and all things anime, which will be the last event for the majority of the TLLC as they will be graduating and moving on universities all across the country.



The first session of the Adult Coloring Club met on March 13 and was a great success! Both male and female participants enjoyed a leisurely afternoon of conversation while creating artful designs. The Club is scheduled to meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month.



On March 15, in celebration of Women's History Month, Debbie Countess of Texana provided the Igo Genealogy Club with advice for "Finding Female Ancestors."



Branch Manager Amanda Henderson and Adult Services Librarian Ramona Lucius visited UTSA on March 23 to meet with Assistant Dean Jan Kemp and Student Engagement and Information Commons

Librarian Ellen Blumberg. After a tour of the Peace Library, the librarians brainstormed ideas for UTSA-SAPL collaborations, including programs and outreach tables at student orientation events.



Igo's three book clubs continued to meet throughout the reporting period. The Afternoon Book Club's members spent an interesting afternoon discussing JoJo Moyes's *After You*. The discussion centered on the emotional consequences of the drastic choices taken by the main characters in the prequel, *Me Before You*. All agreed that the ambiguity by the main characters' choices hint at another sequel. The book club members are greatly looking forward to it. The Romance Readers Club discussed *Unveiled* by Courtney Milan and the Mystery Club read Elmore Leonard's *Djibouti*. Additionally, on April 4, patrons gathered to discuss the Mayor's Book Club selection, *The Book Thief*.



The Igo Elderberries held its monthly program meeting on April 7 with Narjis Pierre providing a presentation on *Islam and the Muslim Community*. The event was well received by the audience, with wonderful feedback including comments such as "wonderful, informative, enlightening, interesting, and excellent".



In addition to the successful adult programming, Ramona Lucius provided supplementary interim assistance at the Brook Hollow branch during March and April due to limited staffing.

JOHNSTON



Children's Librarian Beverly Wigglesworth presented story times on several different topics, including St. Patrick's Day, Easter, spring and boats. For her Family Fun programs, the topics included Lego, Easter, spring and snap electronic circuits.



Ms. Wigglesworth read to babies and toddlers at the Southwest High School PCI on Thursday, April 7.



The Adult Coloring program at Johnston moved to a new date and time in March. Several regulars have been faithfully attending this coloring program.



Megan Stanley, Johnston's Library Assistant, was recently promoted to Teen Librarian I at the Westfall Branch. Ms. Stanley will continue to assist at Johnston until a new Library Assistant is hired. Ms. Stanley's Minecraft Monday programs continue to be very popular. In addition to playing Minecraft, children that attended the April 11 program also had the opportunity to assemble some paper craft Minecraft characters.



Circulation Attendant Margie Gutierrez hosted a Make Your Own Cascarones program on March 25. Over 40 people attended and enjoyed making cascarones for their Easter celebrations.



Librarian I Pat King, who is on loan from Maverick to Johnston, presented a program on making paper Fiesta flowers on April 15. Twelve people enjoyed creating their own Fiesta flowers out of tissue paper.



The San Antonio Symphony was on hand on Saturday, April 16 for the Symphony at SAPL event. Bassoonist Sharon Kuster shared her love of classical music with Johnston Library patrons. The children especially enjoyed when she blew her bassoon and they could feel the air with their hands.

LANDA



In March, Spring Break featured a few additional programs for kids at the Landa Library led by Librarian Jasmin Salinas. The branch kicked off Spring Break a showing of the movie *Aladdin*. While only a few families came, everyone had fun singing along to all the songs.



Also during Spring Break, Landa Library hosted the STEM Family Fun program focused on measurement. Families enjoyed seeing who could jump the farthest and which container could hold the most beans; two of the fun experiments designed to give the kid's a hands-on approach to science fun at the library. Spring Break ended on a high note with many families joining us for LEGO club, building amazing creations and using a multitude of mini-figures for decoration.



Baby Time, Toddler Time, and Story Time continue to be fun, engaging early literacy programs at Landa. In Baby Time we added new songs that the parents really enjoy, including one sung to the tune of the Bunny Hop! Ms. Salinas also did a story time that featured a single author, having the kids vote for their favorite story at the end. In April, Ms. Salinas also focused one of her story times on the library in honor of National Library Week. One Story Time parent commented that coming to Landa for children's programs was so much fun and felt like home to them.



The Little Explorers: A STEAM Storytime program focused on Measurement in March and Plants in April. Families continually enjoy the art projects and science play activities set up and run by Ms. Salinas. In April, Ms. Salinas hosted the science activity week outside, and the children loved sinking their hands into a "clean dirt" sensory bin made of baking soda and water. They also really enjoyed planting some lima bean seeds and decorating their pots. The STEAM focused early literacy programs continue to be a success at Landa with parents constantly asking for when the next monthly session will begin.



The Minecraft Builders Club at Landa Library also continues to be a success. Kids come regularly, eager to tackle the new challenge. One week we built secret passages and secret entrances into a house, and when the program ended one young lady asked me to write the challenge down so that she could continue to work on it at home. This is a highly engaging program that really has begun to build a strong sense of community for the kids that come each time.



The Come & Go craft time at Landa continues to be a family favorite. Over ten families stopped in one Friday afternoon to make paper bag kites. The kids loved coloring and decorating their bag and then getting to choose all the colors to go on as the kite tails.



Ms. Salinas also celebrated the Week of the Young Child with the University Presbyterian Childcare Center, reading stories and singing songs with each of the classes.



Adult Spring programming got into full swing at Landa. The Reverend Kelly Allen, Pastor of University United Methodist Church, presented "Wives, Widows, and Warriors of the Bible," an official Women's History Month event. Her program intertwined the stories of both little and well-known Bible women with their depiction in art and literature.



Shirley Morrison, noted for her beginning crochet classes at Landa, held a class on beginners' beading. It was well-attended and the participants enjoyed it so much they stayed an hour past the scheduled time! There are already requests for a repeat of this popular event.



Madalyn Blanchett, Professor of Music at San Antonio College, brought a group of eleven Early Music Makers who delighted a full-house audience with an hour-long program. These players (who take this course for credit), play replicas of authentic Medieval and Renaissance instruments and wear period costumes. Several young people in attendance stayed after the performance to talk with the players about their unique (and often weird) instruments.



Regular book clubs Reader's Ink and Landa Mystery Book Club, met with Reader's Ink celebrating National Poetry Month. This group's selection was *Fuel* by San Antonio poet Naomi Shihab Nye. The Mystery Club read the thriller *Windigo Island* by William Kent Krueger.



Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta has begun an outreach at The Village at Incarnate Word. April's meeting was an orientation for residents and those who are in the "Connections" list for The Village. Those in attendance were quite excited about the club and eagerly checked out the selection to be discussed at the next meeting, *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society*, by Mary Ann Shaffer. Karen took part in the 2016 Komen Race for the Cure again this year. Several thousand participants in costumes or running gear ran, walked, strolled with children and pets, and took ever so many photos!

LAS PALMAS



On March 31, Children's Librarian Gina Brudi heard a great story from a teacher that validated her efforts to restart outreach services to Avance Early Literacy Center located on 19th Street. A student who struggles in the classroom found success in his school day when he could pick up a library book about many types of vehicles. Every day he went straight to the closet and retrieved this favorite book, quietly sat and became calm. His story exemplifies the purpose and power of something as simple as a Children's Librarian reaching out through books to touch and encourage young minds in her community.



Children's Librarian Gina Brudi attended the Cesar Chavez Event at the Bazan Branch Library on March 26 with music, crafts and poetry readings to celebrate the life and legacy of a man who fought for social justice.



Librarian II Samantha Gordano hosted two spring break programs for local youth in collaboration with the Friends of the Library. There were 68 juvenile, 27 adult, and 3 teenage attendees.



Circulation attendant Patricia Perez conducted a Lego Club program on March 22. Children created buildings and vehicles. Lego creation titles included: The Places We Will Go, Traveling and El Tren De Daniel. After completing the Lego creations, all children enjoyed a juice drink courtesy of Las Palmas Friends of the Library.



Circulation Attendant Patricia Perez presented five Bilingual story times in the month of March. Print awareness and letter recognition were emphasized throughout the month with nursery rhymes and alphabet repetition. Creative shamrock bags were decorated highlighting St. Patrick's Day.



Teen Services Librarian Connie Hejl planned and implemented two Spring Break programs for Teen Tech Week. The perler bead program was on Tuesday March 15. The program on March 16 included experimentation with the 3D pen and the teens played video games.



The Library hosted Election Day in the Meeting Room on March 1. The judges appeared satisfied with the library's timeliness and efforts to ensure everything went smoothly.



Library Assistant Anne Schuette held weekly sessions of 'Computer Help Thursdays.' One regular student is now proficient in using the library computers on her own to open her Facebook account.



In partnership with Academia America, the library continued to host the second spring semester Citizenship classes in Spanish and English (April 15 – June 18).

MAVERICK



On March 26, the Ladies' Choice Book Club had 15 attendees at their event. On April 14, Manager Jef Martin, conducted a book discussion on "The Book Thief" which was the Spring Mayor's Book Club choice. On April 5, Mr. Martin traveled to Casa Helotes to talk to 57 seniors about what the library has to offer. A violin recital, geared toward all ages, was on April 16 and arranged by Librarian II, Ben Longoria.



On April 2, Library Aides Raina Oster and Laura Lopez took their "Elephant and Piggie" puppet show to Scobee Elementary School's carnival. Children loved the performances! On April 4, Children's Librarian Amy Roberts conducted a Play and Learn session on "How Does Your Garden Grow?" with 87 enthusiastic attendees! Lego Club continues to be popular. Each week, the participants can choose to have their creations in one of the branch display cases!



Other branch events included a Book Sale sponsored by the Maverick Friends on April 2 and April 3. The sale was successful, earning the Friends \$1,700! On March 28, the Maverick Branch began the process of getting a new roof. The branch remained open while the construction occurred.

McCRELESS



Spring weather has been absolutely beautiful this year and McCreless Library has celebrated with spring themed storytimes. Rain, butterflies and birds have been three of the themes and the others were royalty, frogs and ballet. Those last three were by request by the children who like to pretend to be royalty, hop like froggies and dance like ballerinas.



The branch has put up some really nice displays. A huge, colorful "Spring Into Reading" bulletin board has been created, using spring colors and adding glitter butterflies. Another display featured music. Display cubes were decorated with cutout musical notes and all the books featured either

biographies of famous musicians or books on how to learn an instrument. The display was to complement the presentation by SA Symphony bassist Nicholas Browne on April 2, who played his instrument. He even allowed the children to examine his bass and posed for selfies with families, who enjoyed the music and asked lots of interesting questions about music and the Symphony.



Most of the Texas Bluebonnet Award nominees for 2016-2017 have arrived and the staff identified them with stickers so patrons could quickly find the titles they want to read. Schools encourage the students to read these titles and it's helpful to make them easy to identify.



The teens at McCreless Library took part in a second round of Teen Tech Week programming. On March 16, teen liaison Georgina Salinas took McCreless library teenagers outside for an outdoor baking program. Teens baked s'mores using a solar oven made out of a shoe box, aluminum foil, and saran wrap. The program taught the teens an alternative to baking when access to a flame or electricity is inaccessible, and it was so well received that the teens suggested repeating the activity for summer programming. Photos of the activity were uploaded to the 210 Teen Flickr page.



In addition, McCreless library added an Xbox 360 to their gaming collection and has increased an interest in competitive gaming with new console. Teamwork has increased with video games and has encouraged non gamers to participate in team play. Teens have also shared summer programming ideas with their teen librarian, focusing more on future outdoor programming



The young adult section has seen many changes due to weeding. Young adult paperbacks are now easier to access, and the entire young adult fiction, young adult audiobooks, and young adult graphic novels have shifted to display a cohesive flow. Due to the expansion of the young adult graphic novels, McCreless now has an extra area to display comic books, manga, and graphic novels. The displays for both graphic novels and young adult fiction exhibited popular comic book titles and fiction titles.



The McCreless staff participated in some outreach events with Children's Librarian Leigh Bedford helping at the Book Festival and Librarian I Gina Salinas helping at the Mini-Maker Faire.

MEMORIAL



Memorial Branch Library continues its "Caught You Reading" program by providing free donated books to children caught learning to read with a family member or reading on their own in the library. Both parents and children appreciate the program, it builds goodwill in the community and supports early literacy efforts. A paper shamrock was attached to each book in honor of St. Patrick's Day.



The Amigos (Friends) of Memorial Branch Library held a book sale at the library March 19-20th with all proceeds benefiting the library. The Amigos continue to seek new ways to boost sales. Friday, April 15 - Sat, April 16, 2016, the Friends have their annual Fiesta Oyster Bake fundraiser by utilizing the library parking lot for public parking.



Memorial Library hosted a reception Saturday, April 16th, for UTSA students who exhibited their photo art pieces in the library. The exhibit has attracted and continues to attract many patrons; the artwork is thought-provoking and captures local sites in San Antonio, such as the Market Square.



April 18th, Memorial Library sponsored space for the San Antonio AIDS Foundation mobile testing unit to set-up shop in the parking lot. The program “Know Your Status” offers free and confidential HIV testing and is open to teens, adults and seniors.



In partnership with MetroHealth, Memorial Library has been holding ongoing diabetes workshops for the community. The workshop includes topics such as: setting goals, controlling symptoms and relaxation techniques. Participants receive a free bag of goodies that include tools for controlling diabetes, such as a pill container for each day of the week, a salad bowl container and helpful pamphlets. The six-week program runs through May 3rd.



As part of the Mayor's Book Club initiative, Librarian Rhonda Davila hosted Dr. Westermann of Texas A & M San Antonio on April 5th at Central library. Dr. Westermann is a German professor and a World War II scholar who teaches European history classes, the Holocaust, war and society. Mayor Taylor's book selection this quarter is *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, set in Nazi Germany. Dr. Westermann presented slides with photos and Nazi propaganda; Westermann discussed themes in the book and explained the realities of war in that era. The presentation was well received with 25 patrons attending the event. Photos have been posted on Flickr.



April is National Poetry Month and Memorial held an open mic poetry reading on April 7th. Twelve patrons attended the reading and Memorial had three readers. Patrons enjoyed listening to all the poems on a variety of heart-felt subjects, such as death and culture. Memorial plans to hold the event next year.



Memorial's Children's Librarian and chairperson for the 2016 Spring Play and Learn Committee, Trina Smith, received positive feedback from colleagues who hosted Play and Learn programs at their branches. Children and their families enjoyed listening to stories, performing finger plays and making crafts in celebration of St. Patrick's Day and Fiesta, along with themes of April showers, butterflies, and nursery rhymes. Trina has also presented Kids Time at Collins Garden Library in the absence of a children's librarian, along with serving as Librarian-in-Charge until a branch manager is hired.



During this reporting period, Memorial Teens had fun with pancake batter! They first prepared and added food coloring to their batter then used condiment dispensers to create cute designs on the skillet. The following weeks teens learned about the magic of Shrinky Dinks! They were able to draw their own designs and make cute charms to hang on their bags and backpacks. They had so much fun with these two things, that they requested waffles and Shrinky Dinks for the following week! New Teen Liason Victoria Tijerno is working to increase teen participation.



Memorial Branch Manager Jeannette Davies has been overseeing daily library operations at Memorial Branch and Collins Garden Libraries. The entire Memorial Branch Library Team assisted the Amigos, Friends of Memorial Library prepare signs and tickets, for the Fiesta Oyster Bake parking fundraiser.

MISSION



On March 19, a Words and Arts Festival was held at the Mission Marquee. The library hosted a table at the event. Make SA offered a popular “Make Your Own Fiesta Medal” program. Visitors enjoyed the

opportunity to be creative. The library also hosted a “Libro Picado” craft. Families used die-cuts of old book pages to make creative postcards. The community-created postcards were placed on display at the library.



Mission hosted Familias en Accion, an organization dedicated to educating families about college opportunities for their children. On March 15 and 16, 130 students visited the library and met with Familias en Accion instructors.



Mission Library, in partnership with UT Health Science Center, presented a Recipe in a Box program on March 31. Participants decorated recipe boxes while learning about the benefits of nutritious eating, appropriate portion sizes, and ways to gradually incorporate a healthy lifestyle. The decorated boxes were to be used to collect healthy recipes.



The Mission Community Garden is doing well. Volunteers continue to water and care for the growing herbs, flowers, and vegetables. The group has also hosted several work sessions and programs. One program, titled “Eat Your Yard”, explored the many edible plants that can be found in the area.



As part of the Mayor’s book club programming, Mission Library hosted Conjunto Heritage Taller for a well-attended musical program in connection to the mayor’s book selection.



Mission hosted a YMCA public meeting on March 17. Information related to the facility, development, and proposed timeline were shared. Attendees were offered the opportunity to ask questions related to the project. The Parks and Rec Fitness in the Park initiative continues with yoga and cycle circuit classes every Saturday at 1:00 p.m.



Ongoing programs include Table Tennis for Adults, Coloring for Adults (new), Chess Club, Trivia Night, and Dungeons & Dragons.



Teen Tech Week brought new technology for Mission teens to try out. Teens tried out the 3doodler pen to create figures, jewelry, and even a pair of eyeglasses! Teen Time also found teens being creative through writing activities and creating “zines”- small booklets in honor of *The Book Thief*, the Mayor’s Book Club selection. Teen volunteers continue to contribute to the branch through help with the community garden and coordinating the Yu-Gi-Oh! Club.



It is springtime at Mission. The garden-themed Play and Learn on April 11 was a big success and appreciated by the kids and parents. They had a great time “planting” flowers, shopping in the vegetable market, and more. It’s springtime in Discovery Time also. One week the children took beans home to sprout in baggies and also in pots. The next week they brought back both. They were growing quickly and were transplanted into the Mission Community garden where they are thriving. The STEM initiative is in full swing with science/math programs such as the Play and Learn and Discovery Time here at Mission.

PAN AMERICAN



To celebrate National Poetry Month in April, the Pan American Branch hosted the Sun Poets Society on Saturday April 16th. The event featured local poets and gave anyone a chance to recite their works. During the program, attendees shared stories about the creative process and what inspires them.



To commemorate the 125th Fiesta in San Antonio, the branch hosted a DIY Fiesta Metals workshop in partnership with Make San Antonio. The program proved very popular and gave all participants an opportunity to take home a medal of their own making.



Children's Librarian Gladis Martinez continued to hold weekly activities for children and families such as Lego Club, Come & Go Crafts, and bilingual story time. Additionally, Ms. Martinez held programs for babies, toddlers and their care providers. Programming for tweens was also added at the branch in April. Ms. Martinez also continued to engage with the service area by visiting local daycare centers, Head Starts, and elementary schools to share the joy of reading to youth in the community.



As a special event at the branch, the San Antonio Public Library Foundation Literacy Caravan stopped by on March 18th. Children and their parents were invited to participate in fun art and reading activities that fostered a love of reading and lifelong learning.



Adult Services Librarian Cindy Pope continued to foster the branch's relationship with the Normoyle Community Center by hosting various activities such as coloring and book clubs. During the spring, trivia was added to the program which was enjoyed by all. In addition to sparking healthy competition, trivia stimulates the mind.



In partnership with University Health Systems A Sú Salud, the branch hosted a Colorectal Cancer Awareness program in March. The speaker gave attendees information on screening and early prevention.

PARMAN



Parman Library staff hid over 2,000 plastic eggs for the annual egg hunts. Babies and toddlers searched for eggs in the morning, and school-aged children had their chance in the afternoon. Patrons supplied most of the eggs and the Friends of the Parman Library bought treats to fill them. Staff always receive many compliments about the egg hunts from appreciative parents.



For National Library Workers Day, Branch Manager Haley Holmes planned a scavenger hunt for staff. Three teams had to solve clues and complete tasks which related to teamwork and silliness. For instance, they had to dress in hula gear and dance in front of a green screen. Ms. Holmes made a video of the hunt which was posted on the staff intranet for everyone to enjoy.



Spring DIY U continued with many more classes. Library Assistant Eva Banda taught participants how to make disco balls using recycled cds. Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow led a class on Creative Easter Egg Decorating where she showed students a variety of techniques for decorating eggs. Public Services Administrator Cheryl Sheehan taught wirewrapping. Students made a necklace in the class. Children's Librarian Carrie Vance taught two classes including Macramé Mason Jars. The jars could be used as planters or candle holders. Her Beginning Knitting: A Backwards Approach was a great introduction for people who have been unsuccessful in learning to knit in the past. Ms. Vance developed a method that shows students how to complete the easier parts of knitting first so they do not become frustrated so

30

easily. The Parman Library Friends President Linda Janney conducted a class on Mixed Media Decorated Tags. She provided all of the materials as well. Assistant Manager Tim Johnson offered a two-part class on Pyrography. Students learned the basics and safety aspects of wood burning and then completed a project on a wooden picture frame. Library Assistant Keith Kisser taught his first class as part of the DIY U series, self-publishing. Mr. Kisser took students through the ins and outs including editing to costs.



Children's Librarian Carrie Vance also planned a weeks' worth of art programming for school-aged kids for Spring Break. Kids Create was held each afternoon and taught by Parman staff. Classes included Embroidered Drawings (Carrie Vance), Pastel Drawings (Library Assistant Elissa Vura), Artbots and Pendulum Painting (Branch Manager Haley Holmes), Painting with Silhouettes (Circulation Attendant Melissa Moser), and Puppetry (Library Aide Allison Villarreal).



With the help of the Teen Librarian Marisa DeBow, Parman Teens (also members of the Reagan High School Robotics Team) presented 4 sessions of Fun with Robotics during Spring break. The popular workshops introduced the children to Lego Mindstorm Robotics.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS



Parents and children had a terrific time participating in Come & Go crafts as they made beaded Easter bunny necklaces.



Toddlers celebrated Easter with stories, songs, crafts, and the special event culminated with an Easter egg hunt.



The branch held their third annual Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party with great success. It was attended by over one hundred participants. Kids excitedly participated in a trivia game, testing their knowledge of all books in the popular series. Prizes were awarded, and everyone was treated to cupcakes and a movie.



During Kids' Time events, children took part in various activities as they celebrated National Poetry Month and Earth Day.



Children attending the monthly SPARK event had the opportunity to study the parts of the brain and were thrilled to create and wear colorful "brain caps" depicting the various parts.



Children and parents had such fun making homemade kites from recycled paper and then taking them outdoors for a test flight.



During the monthly meeting of the Family Circle Book Club, tweens and a parent discussed the popular title, *The Secret Hum of a Daisy* written by Tracy Holczer. Families are enjoying the shared-reading experience and interesting discussions.



Librarian Rachael Downen visited the community's IDEA School's Community Health Fair where she met with families and informed them about the many programs and resources of the San Antonio Public Library.



Toddlers and parents are looking forward to the “How Does Your Garden Grow?” Play and Learn event to take place at the end of the month.



A group of 10 teens joined the teen librarian, Rae Downen, on a field trip to the San Antonio Book Festival. The teens donated some time to help out and were rewarded with a free lunch, free books, and the chance to meet authors. A highlight of their trip was something so simple, but some of the teens were enthralled with the Book Cellar and one teen was rewarded with a marvelous find for 25 cents a book when she found 2 books by one the guests of the festival, Francisco X. Stork's books and got them signed by him. She described the experience like being in heaven.



The teens had the opportunity to meet Mayor Ivy Taylor at the festival and told her of the book club project for the Mayor's Book Club selection, *The Book Thief*.



The teens created transformative poetry. They created and transformed something good from something evil, like Max did with *Mein Kampf* in the book. We took pages from Hitler's book and created black-out poetry and transformed the evil into good. Mayor Taylor asked that we send her our creations.



Zumba for Adults classes meet weekly, and continues to be popular with repeated visits by an established group of participants.



We are fortunate to have volunteers who recognized a need for ESL classes and have volunteered their time to assist members of the community with second-language acquisition.



Librarian Cynthia Saenz provided SNAP (Special Needs Adult Program) to our excited patrons as they participated in a butterfly craft activity involving bow-tie pasta and paints. The participants are looking forward to the next monthly meeting where they will be preparing a jewelry craft and cards for Mother's Day.

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), Monte Vista Montessori (two classes), and one class at Laurel Heights Weekday School. Fifteen books were also delivered to each child care class for their use during the month. She also presented a monthly story time to two groups of children (each group was a combination of two classes) at Respite Care, a child care facility for developmentally disabled children. Books were left for each of five classes.



In-house programming included Baby Time on Monday mornings, the popular Mine craft Monday Club, and Kids Time on Wednesdays. Kids Time programming included LEGO club on the first Wednesday of the month, STEM activities on two Wednesdays, and an outdoor activity on one of the Wednesdays, weather permitting. During LEGO club the children enjoyed constructing catapults. Our focus was birds this month, so the children created birds out of damaged disks, wallpaper, and construction paper. Then, the children experimented with different beak-like tools to see how the shape of the beak determined what the bird ate.



The branch also presented its second sensory program for children on the autism spectrum and their families. Children and their families who attended the first one came, along with a new family. One of

the most enjoyable parts for the children was searching for bugs and frogs in the green Jell-O swamp! In connection with this new programming, Ms. Dalton has been collecting books on autism spectrum disorders and setting up an Autism Resource Center. One of the parents checked out two of the books at the program.



Ms. Dalton facilitated ongoing monthly book clubs at Hawthorne Academy (4th and 5th grade clubs), Monte Vista Montessori (a combined club) and the 4th and 5th grade clubs at Cotton Elementary School.



Ms. Dalton attended two trainings during this period: LibGuide2 training (in house) on March 31 and a Pre-K for SA program on the importance of block play in early literacy on April 2.



On Sunday, April 10, Ms. Dalton facilitated a Play and Learn for preschoolers and their families about gardening. There were many fun activities to choose from: planting (taking home) lima bean seeds, graphing favorite vegetables; and celery painting, among others. Ms. Dalton has been meeting regularly with the other members of the STEAM Committee to design a Fall Family Science Time about gravity.



The Friends of the Library's ongoing book sale nook received a large number of donations this month. So, many wonderful, gently used books and DVD's found new homes. The Friends appreciate the donations, and are looking forward to purchasing items on the "wishlist."



Library volunteer Rudy Lopez created outstanding Fiesta displays for the children's and teen bulletin Boards. Carmen Roja created several adult displays, one featuring great spring reading titles, and a bulletin board featuring Fiesta Medals.



During a staff meeting, Librarian Wilson Plunkett suggested that staff should fill out recommendation forms for books and movies they've read or watched. This would be a great way to start a conversation with customers, and of course, boost circulation.

SEMMES



Children's Programming continues to be the focus at the Semmes Branch. Children's Librarian Randi Jones presented a Play and Learn program on Thursday, April 7, entitled "How Does Your Garden Grow?". Fifty two children and adults came and enjoyed various activities focusing on gardening.



Ms. Jones is also continuing her monthly Saturday Story Time, "Growing Up Wild, Exploring Nature". In March, the group focused on birds and bird beaks. The group went into Comanche Lookout Park and did a little bit of bird watching, as well as enjoying stories and craft activities about birds.



As part of the Rolling Oaks Mall weekly Kidgits program, Ms. Jones visits the mall on two Saturdays each month and does an outreach story time. These programs help introduce the public library to families that might not normally visit the branch.



Library Assistant Melody Smith has been doing the Outreach Book Club at the Waterford Senior Apartments on Thousand Oaks. This month they discussed *Night Road* by Kristin Hannah. The group continues to have a nice turnout for each discussion.



Kirsten Lorenzen, Children's Librarian, has been focusing on Semmes' youngest patrons. She is presenting two weekly baby times for parents and their babies. She shares information about early literacy and shares songs and stories with the families.

THOUSAND OAKS



Many fun children's activities have taken place in the past month at Thousand Oaks. During Spring Break week, a special Come and Go Craft was offered to entertain kids out of school. Children's Librarian Leslie Elsasser presented three programs on March 23 and April 13 at the Little Engine Learning Center.



On April 7, nearly 20 kids plus adults attended Lego Time and had a blast building, reading books about Legos and magazines and playing a Lego matching game.



Toddler Time participants continue to enjoy building with foam blocks after the programs ends. Story Time themes have included green for St. Patrick's Day, rabbits, spring, food and birds. The kids participate in an activity or craft after the stories; activities can include a sensory experience, puzzles, or a bean bag toss to improve motor skills.



Teens at Thousand Oaks have enjoyed the new television provided by the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library for gaming. Teen Liaison, Steven Barrera, conducted the Thousand Oaks First Annual Cupcake Wars. Teens were given three cupcakes and told they needed to create their cupcakes to reflect a favorite book, television series, or movie. Betty Walker, treasurer of the Friends, Troy Lawrence, Branch Manager, and Steven were the judges. There were great creations. The winner was based on the book *Catching Fire* by Stephanie Collins. It featured orange, yellow, and red frosting to emulate the book cover. It was quite well done.



The Thousand Oaks Thursday book group discussed, *Still Life with Bread Crumbs* by Anna Quindlen for the month of March. All of the participants enjoyed the book, especially the part when the older woman finds love again with a considerably younger gentleman after being married to an unfaithful husband. A lively conversation was had by all, followed by some delicious and healthy treats.



Thousand Oaks celebrated Fiesta by hosting a Create your own Fiesta Medal Class on April 16 from 2 to 4 PM. Participants made a DIY-inspired Fiesta medal using laser cut, etched and 3D-printed materials. Each person created their own one-of-a-kind medal.



The library has hosted the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance since January 19. Each day the program has reached capacity for the number of people seeking assistance. The program concludes on April 18.

TOBIN AT OAKWELL



Special thanks go to Gladis Martinez from Pan American, Clair Larkin from Little Read Wagon, and Nancy Rodriguez from Igo, who have been preparing and hosting Toddler and Story Time on various Wednesdays so that children's programming has continued as scheduled. Similarly, Tobin's Teen Librarian Karen Barton and Library Assistant Terry Verner have been alternating to play and sing with babies at Baby Time each Friday.



Come & Go Crafts were offered every day during Spring Break with beach and spring themes like Plant a Flower Day, sand dollars, fish, a book worm, St. Paddy's Day, and garden snails. Other weekend crafts that have proved popular are National Pencil Day, Fiesta fans and crowns, and snakes.



The monthly Play and Learn was hosted by Library Assistant Elvia Ramos on April 1. Parents, caregivers and children under age 5 got to sing, play and learn "How does your Garden Grow?" Attractive centers encompassed math and creative play with "What is your favorite vegetable?" and pretending to shop with pretend money and selecting fruits and veggies from a market.



Senior outreach monthly visits to Northeast Service Center for trivia time continue and now an adult coloring time has been added. Ms. Barton attends Bexar County Juvenile Detention Center twice a month now where teens gravitate to the activities and donated books Ms. Barton has provided. Ms. Ramos and Circulation Attendant April Martinez attended Regency Place's Kinder Round Up with many bilingual families on April 5 sharing library services information and making a little craft.



The Mayor's Book Club title, *The Book Thief*, was discussed with Ms. Barton and April Martinez on April 7. Thirty eight teens enjoyed making, and of course eating, the apple snack related to stealing apples in the book.



Thanks to SAPL's Adult Programming Committee, a successful Fiesta Medal workshop was held on March 19. Other regular adult programs that are coordinated by Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse each month have solid attendance. These comprise The Interesting and Drama, Death and Daring Book Clubs, Writer's Group, creative coloring and adult play.



Thanks to the generosity of Tobin at Oakwell Friends group, a ping pong table was purchased for monthly games day, tween and teen times and when staff get a chance to play before work. In addition, the permanent white boards purchased and installed in the teen room make that space available for other groups when teen time is not being held, like a UTSA study group on April 3. Again, the Friends held a very successful Book Sale on April 8-9. Proceeds exceeded \$2,300 which is comparable to spring sales in the past.



New Library Aide Adam Hawkins began working in March and has quickly learned the collection and branch operations. Mr. Hawkins is a welcome member as part of the Tobin Team and SAPL. Manager Tracey Knouse completed her partnership with Public Service Administrator Kate Gray in April which included multiple meetings at or about Schaefer Library being built in District 2. This experience has been quite beneficial and enlightening to the many details and decisions involved in new construction of a library.

WESTFALL



Westfall added Megan Stanley to the team as Teen Librarian I. Megan brings with her a wealth of experience and an enthusiasm for working with teens. She is coming from Johnston, where she was a library assistant. Megan has been with SAPL since March 2012 when she started as an aide at Central. From there she became a circulation attendant at Oakwell and then senior circulation attendant at Parman. Until vacancies are filled at Johnson, Megan will divide her talents between Westfall and Johnston for a few weeks.



On April 4, the library was the place to purchase fresh produce when the San Antonio Food Bank set up shop in the parking lot. This was the inauguration of the First Monday Mobile Mercado Farmers Market. SA Food Bank will be at Westfall the first Monday of each month through October to operate a farmers market featuring cooking demonstrations, nutritional information and lots of just-picked produce. The Food Bank has commissioned a one-of-a-kind truck to use as the farmers market travels around the city. It is hoped the truck will be ready in time for the May event.



Library Assistant Christina Cardenas hid plastic Easter eggs throughout the library (mostly in the Children's Department). When someone found an egg they turned it in at the reference desk in exchange for a goodie bag of sweets and small trinkets. A number of children made certain they searched the shelves during every visit.



Librarian II Jernell Williams talked with a few adults at a rally event at Edison High School. She explained what services are available at the library. Training Officer Michelle Dangler assisted with the Job Fair at Cortez Branch Library and spoke with about 30 people during an outreach event for parents of Wilson Elementary School students. Children's Librarian Imelda Merino visited with 80 people during an event at Colonial Hills Elementary School.



Branch Manager Sherrie Hardin started the Just Reading Book Club on April 1 – no fooling. Multiple copies and multiple formats of a single title – the first being *The Paying Guests* by Sarah Waters – were put out for anyone to check out. Included with the title are a copy of discussion questions and a brief bio of the author. Readers can ponder the questions as they read or wait to look over them when they've finished. There are no deadlines and no meetings ... just reading. The idea came from the Laid-Back Book Club, which operated for many years at the Reuben Hoar Library in Massachusetts.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

San Antonio Public Library
Fiscal Year-to-Date Comparisons
Mar 2016 (50% of FY Completed)

Performance Measures	FYTD 16	FYTD 15	% Chg	FY 16 Goal	% of Goal Achieved	FY 16 Status
Total Circulation	3,536,859	3,476,045	1.7%	7,455,000	47.4%	✓
- Physical Circulation	2,988,932	3,043,484	-1.8%	6,395,065	46.7%	✓
- Digital Circulation	547,927	432,561	26.7%	1,059,935	51.7%	✓
Visits	2,605,861	2,597,091	0.3%	5,493,000	47.4%	✓
Program Attendance	162,372	149,390	8.7%	350,890	46.3%	✓
- Adult's Program Attendance	32,319	22,730	42.2%	57,000	56.7%	✓
- Teen's Program Attendance	20,230	24,703	-18.1%	43,890	46.1%	⬜
- Children's Program Attendance	109,823	101,957	7.7%	250,000	43.9%	✓
Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use	1,150,734	1,151,675	-0.1%	2,410,000	47.7%	✓
Website and App Visits	1,614,479	1,636,662	-1.4%	3,658,000	44.1%	⬜
Bexar County (Outside the City of San Antonio)			Customer Satisfaction*			
% of Circulation	FYTD 16	FYTD 15	2014	2012		
Total Circulation	20.4%	19.3%				
- Physical Circulation	19.2%	18.4%	96%	94%		
- Digital Circulation	27.0%	25.3%				

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

FY 16 Renovations/Closures: Collins Garden Oct 1 - Jan 12

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

FY 15 Openings: Encino opened April 30

* From the Biennial City of San Antonio Community Survey

San Antonio Public Library

March 2016 Usage

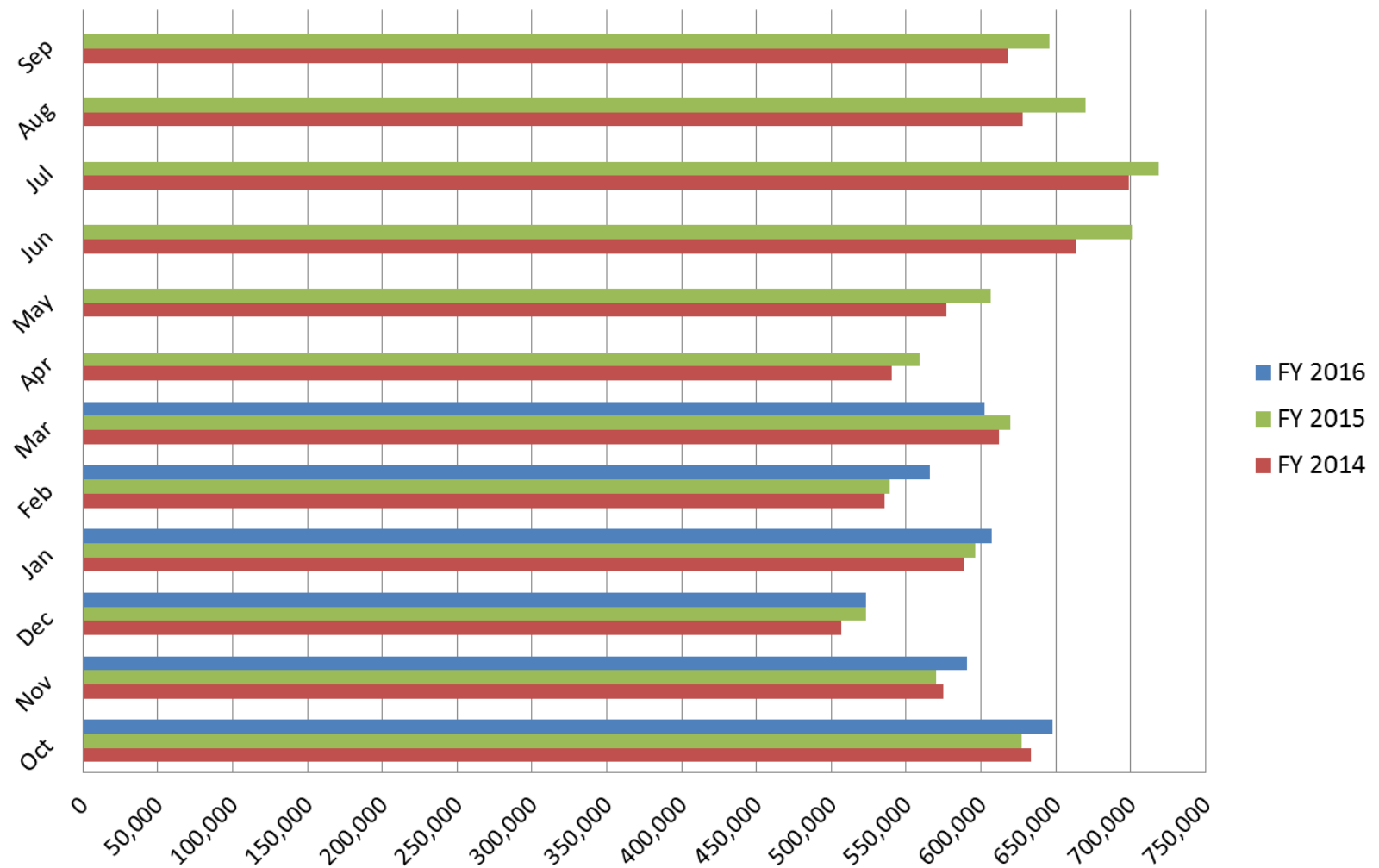
Location	Total Circulation	Visits	Total Programs	Number of Programs			Total Program Attendance	Adult Programs	Attendance Teen Programs	Children's Programs	Hours of Computer / Wi-Fi Use*	Computers - Hours of Use*	Wi-Fi - Hours of Use
Bazan	5,268	10,290	56	36	6	14	610	403	41	166	6,662	1,782	4,879
Brook Hollow	26,078	19,047	34	8	0	26	950	77	0	873	5,725	1,596	4,128
Carver	5,270	10,206	57	18	8	31	813	212	79	522	4,538	1,889	2,650
Central	29,576	63,129	212	33	61	118	5,073	267	1,785	3,021	45,445	13,119	32,326
Cody	38,032	24,341	53	7	5	41	1,561	145	59	1,357	7,760	1,642	6,118
Collins Garden	6,878	9,215	15	3	4	8	151	41	24	86	7,561	1,620	5,942
Cortez	6,688	10,722	98	77	5	16	347	186	47	114	4,170	1,424	2,746
Encino	20,009	11,828	100	36	14	50	1,864	539	223	1,102	3,685	453	3,232
Forest Hills	7,596	8,982	43	13	5	25	423	63	1	359	4,553	1,255	3,298
Great Northwest	31,637	19,685	42	17	8	17	1,582	180	223	1,179	6,523	1,922	4,601
Guerra	13,447	15,598	49	10	8	31	981	126	229	626	6,834	2,081	4,753
Igo	27,830	23,381	60	10	16	34	2,158	96	124	1,938	4,882	1,043	3,840
Johnston	11,763	11,664	41	10	9	22	529	90	109	330	5,978	1,433	4,545
Landa	11,501	11,957	40	4	5	31	1,003	35	17	951	2,449	733	1,716
Las Palmas	5,916	11,673	51	9	5	37	557	111	8	438	5,202	1,840	3,362
Maverick	24,983	14,565	32	4	5	23	790	71	31	688	6,162	2,107	4,055
McCreless	12,336	15,659	17	2	5	10	123	16	34	73	5,915	1,582	4,333
Memorial	6,531	15,445	26	3	2	21	308	55	20	233	6,578	1,807	4,771
Mission	12,367	23,400	74	25	17	32	1,060	304	208	548	10,085	2,394	7,691
Pan American	7,460	9,040	59	15	7	37	605	175	16	414	4,689	1,529	3,161
Parman	29,204	23,780	117	36	5	76	2,006	336	70	1,600	5,473	739	4,734
Pruitt	6,403	12,308	75	25	22	28	1,337	188	429	720	5,115	1,423	3,692
San Pedro	4,239	7,426	29	1	0	28	238	0	0	238	2,686	675	2,011
Semmes	24,734	20,108	51	4	7	40	955	21	34	900	6,549	1,899	4,650
Thousand Oaks	11,999	15,187	40	10	6	24	522	43	65	414	5,614	1,347	4,267
Tobin	18,803	16,484	53	14	6	33	809	94	47	668	5,582	1,751	3,831
Westfall	16,843	17,180	40	23	0	17	438	156	0	282	8,311	2,497	5,814
Kampmann Library Portal	N/A	1,906	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	1,410	N/A	1,410
Interlibrary Loan Lending	1,099	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	81,541	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	96,605	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	602,636	454,206	1,564	452	242	870	29,093	4,030	5,223	19,840	196,135	53,578	142,557

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

* Library introduced new print management system. Hours of Computer Use partially estimated during transition (Oct 15-Feb 16)

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

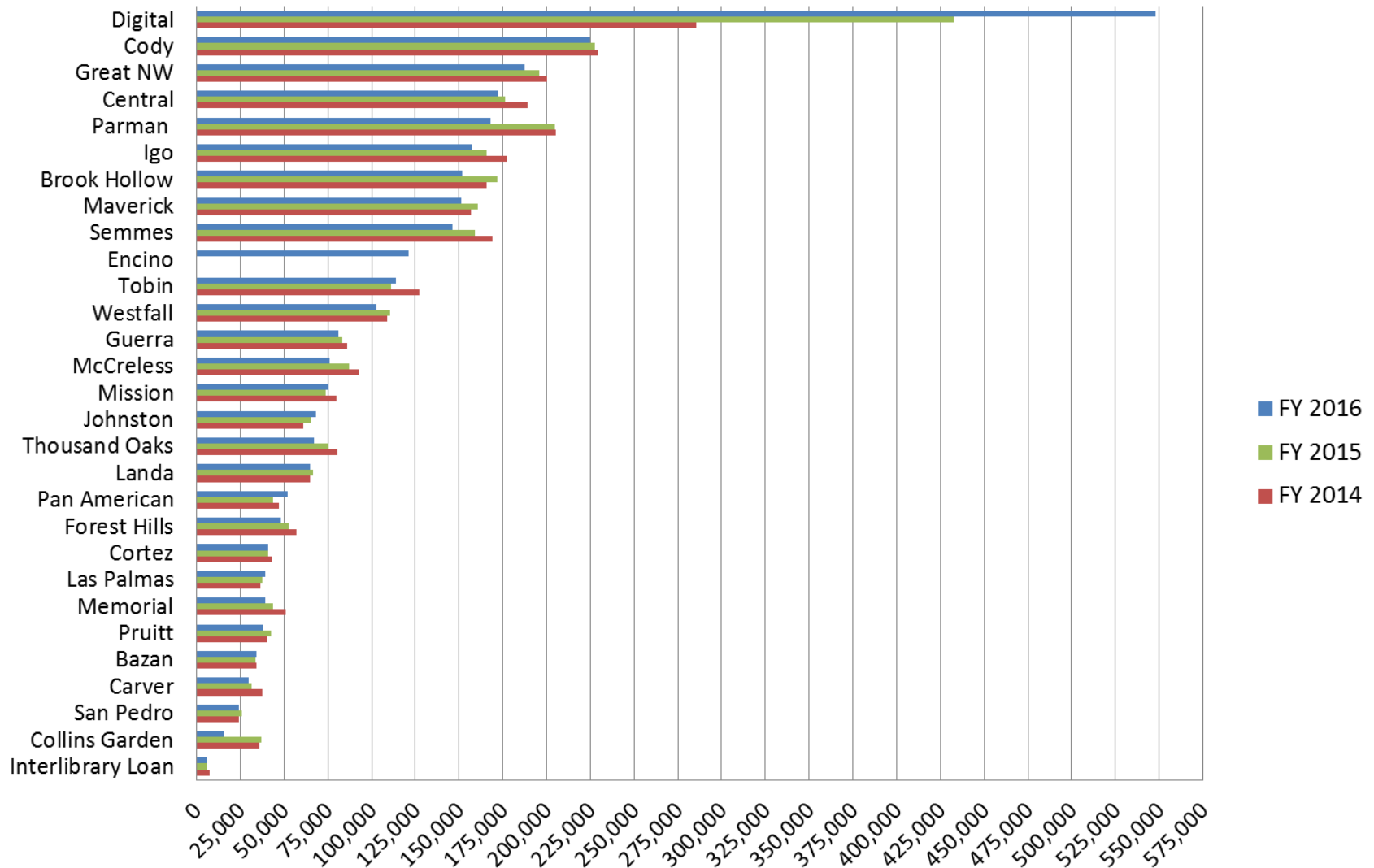
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, * Opening: Encino April 30

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

04/14/2016

San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Mar



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

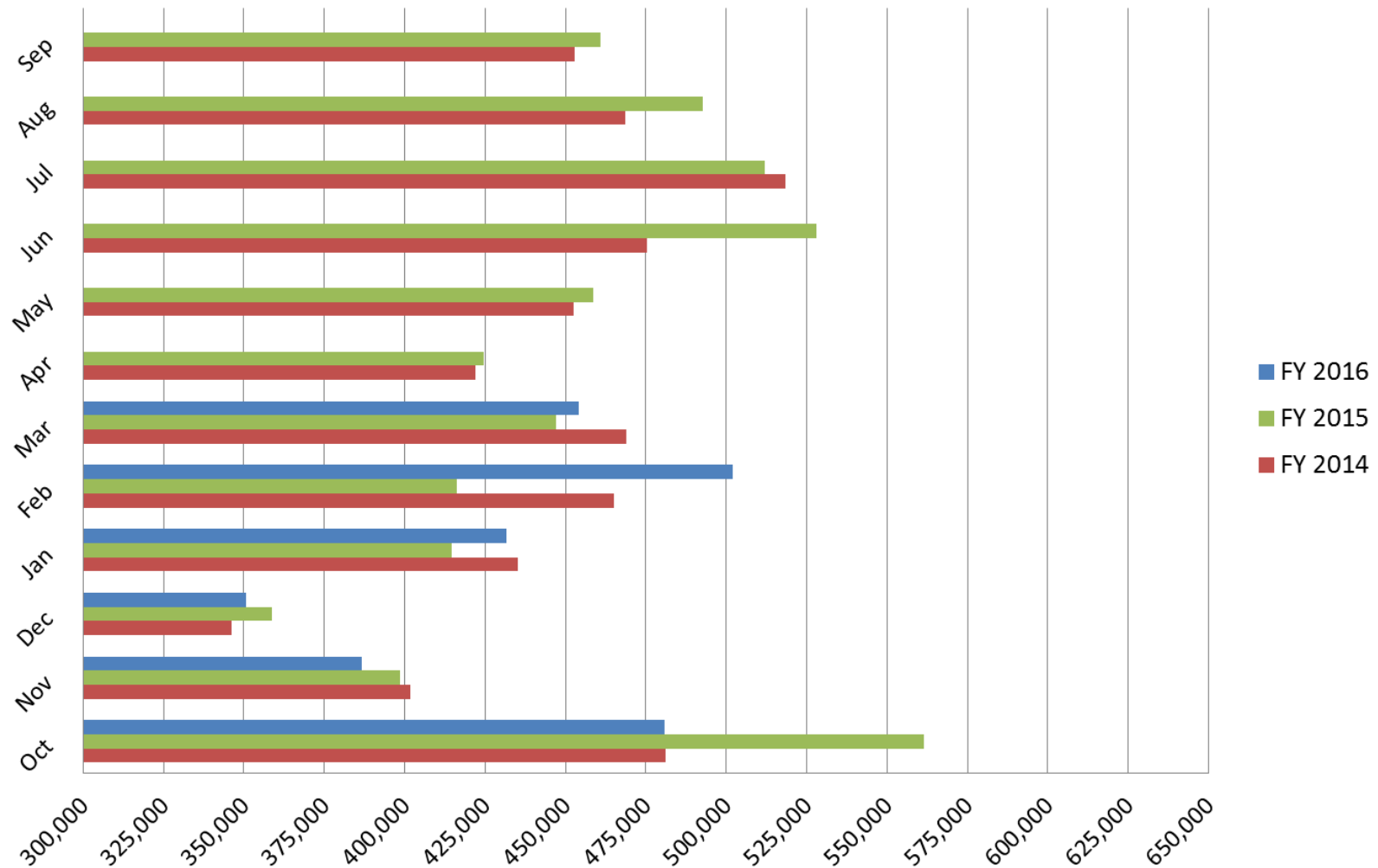
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, * Opening: Encino April 30

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

04/14/2016

San Antonio Public Library

Visits



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

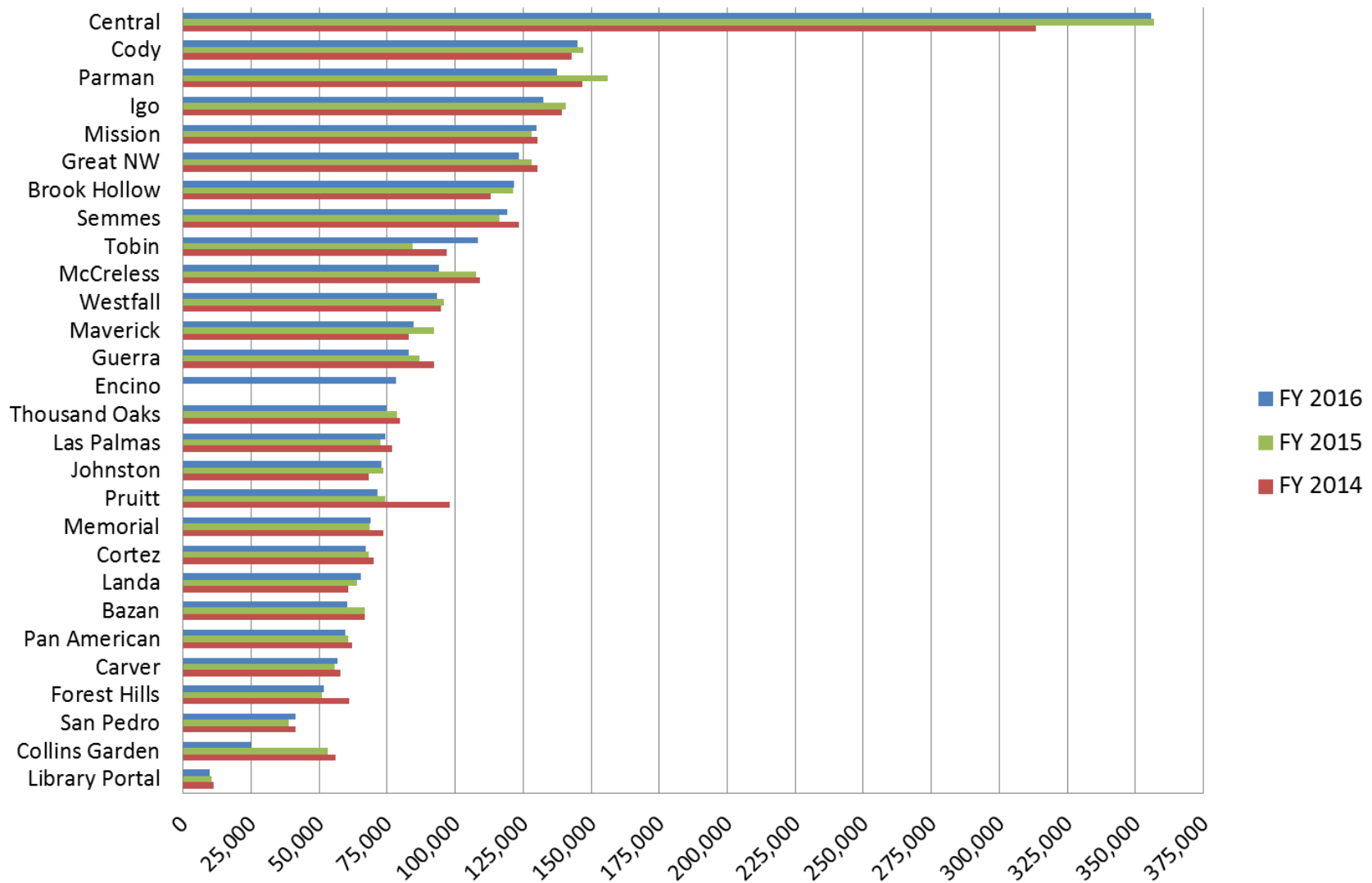
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, * Opening: Encino April 30

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

04/14/2016

San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Mar



Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

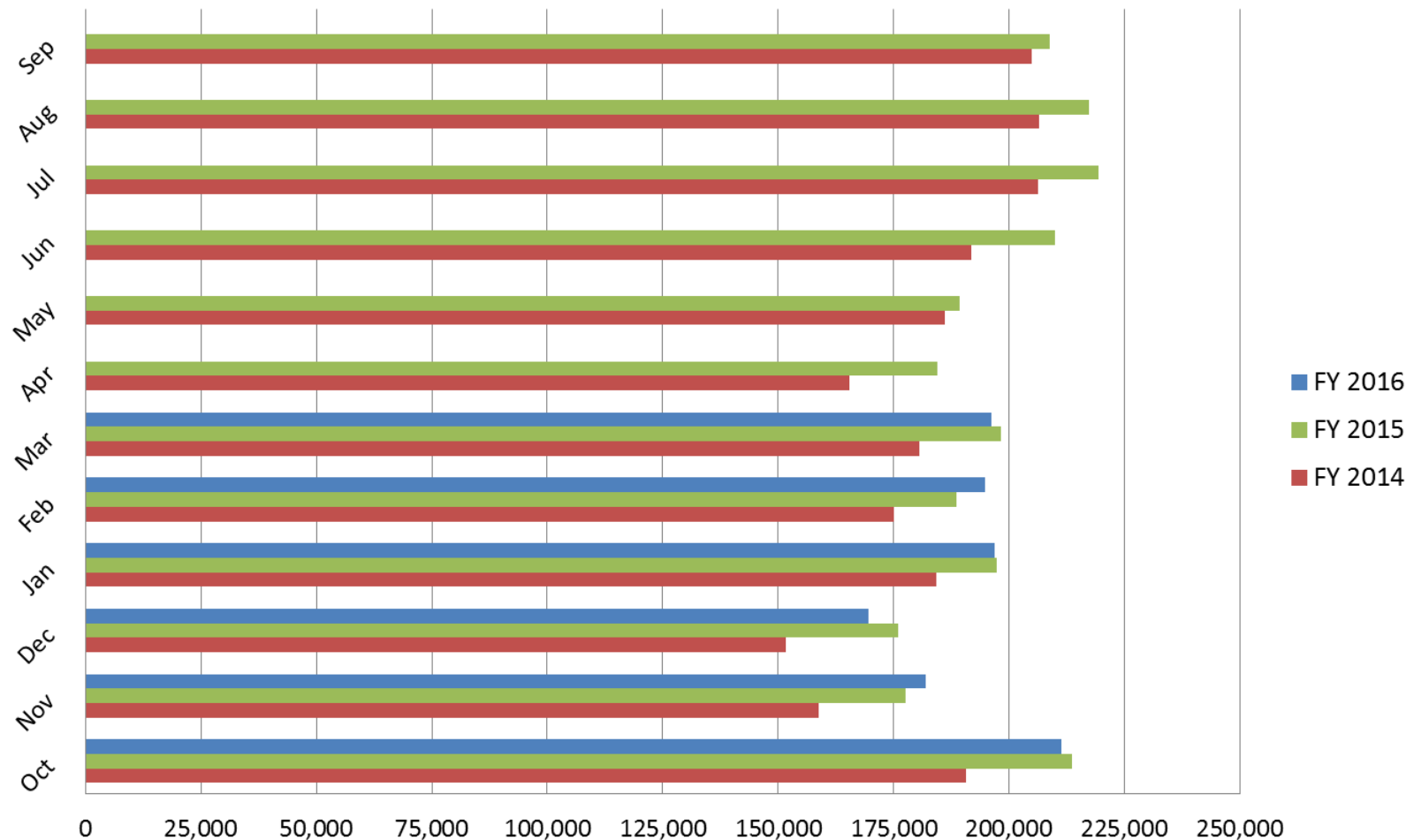
FY 15: Central May 15, Collins Garden Jun 22-Sep 30, * Opening: Encino April 30

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

04/14/2016

San Antonio Public Library

Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use



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

Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

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

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

04/14/2016