San Antonio Public Library
Director’s Report October 2016

Mayor’s Book Club fall 2016 Press Conference
DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

Early Voting for the November 8, 2016 General Election begins on Monday, October 24, 2016. 17 branch Libraries will serve as Early Voting locations and 13 locations will serve as Election Day voting locations. In anticipation of a high voter-turnout, the Library is maximizing efficiency of staffing levels to ensure an increased staff presence on site at voting locations. Additionally, the Library will deploy additional security guards on days of anticipated high voter-turnout to provide assistance in the parking lots and other areas as needed. The Library will continue to follow the Board Policy regulating campaign signage which includes:

- Three single signs, per measure or candidate may be erected.
- Signs may be no larger than 48” wide and 24” tall affixed to a stake no taller than 3’.
- Signs may only be erected within the area designated by the Library location manager and may be adjusted from time to time.
- No sign may be erected prior to the day an Early Voting Period begins
- All signs must be removed the day following the Voting Period.
  - Signs may remain in place between the end of Early Voting and Election Day if the location is an Election Day voting site.
  - In the event of a Runoff, all signs will be removed for the interim period.

SA Reads has selected the Central Library as the venue for a press conference on October 13, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. The purpose of the conference was to share success stories of the summer book drive and announce the holiday book drive. SA Reads invited Congressman Joaquin Castro, Ramiro Salazar, a YMCA representative, and a FirstMark Credit Union representative to join Pamela Tolman to deliver remarks. The Library is a partner with SA Reads as book donation drop-off site during the annual SA Reads Book Drive.

Staff from the Library and Transportation and Capital Improvements Departments met with CM Lopez to suggest a vision for the grand opening of the Potranco Branch Library. The Councilman was supportive of the Library’s vision, which includes a formal program along with an array of activities inside the Library and YMCA and on the property as well as movie night. The grand opening is scheduled for Friday, November 4, 2016 and will begin at 4:00 p.m. with a Program.

On November 4, 2016, the Potranco Branch Library and the Mays Family YMCA will host a grand opening celebration. Festivities begin at 4:00 p.m. with a program to include Mayor Taylor (confirmed), Councilman Lopez (confirmed), representative from the YMCA along with the appropriate City representatives to include Library, Parks and TCI. An array of family oriented activities are planned for the evening, including an outdoor movie showing.

The opening of the District 7 Digital Field Office collocated at the Maverick Branch Library took place on October 21, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. The Library worked in close coordination with Councilman Medina’s Office as well as Chris Callanen, Assistant to City Council to plan the grand opening event. The brief program includes remarks by Councilman Medina; Paul Stahl, Library Board Chair and District 7 Library appointee and Kathy Donellan, Assistant Library Director. The Digital Field Office consists of three spaces, one secure space for Council Office Staff, another equipped with tables for staff to work collaboratively and a third as a conference room space equipped with tele/video-commute capability to allow video chats with constituents. The Digital Field Office will have limited hours thus allowing for two of the spaces to be available to the public when not in use by the Council Office.
Councilman Krier requested a meeting with Library Administration on Monday, September 26, 2016 to discuss the possible renaming of the Encino Branch Library, located in District 9. In Ramiro Salazar’s absence, Assistant Director Dale McNeill met with CM Krier. Councilman Krier is suggesting changing the name of the Encino Branch Library, located on Evans Road and 281, to Evans Branch Library to more accurately reflect the geographic area of the branch library. The Library Board of Trustees, who by Charter Article X, have oversight over Library facilities will consider this request within context of the Library Board’s policy on naming of Library facilities.

Congressman Hurd delivered a book donation from a collection of books from the Library of Congress to the Cortez Branch Library on Thursday, October 13, 2016. The Library reached out to the Government and Public Affairs Office as well as the City Attorney’s Office regarding this donation.

In coordination with the City’s International Relations Office, Library Director Ramiro Salazar traveled to Tel Aviv September 22 -27, 2016 to participate in a panel discussion during the seventh Tel Aviv Annual Cities Summit. The topic of the panel is *Breaking Boundaries in* Education and the Summit brings together city innovators, senior urban administrators, and visionaries from cities around the world in thoughtful discussions. The Summit took place on September 26, 2016.

Ramiro joined Hon. Jukka Makela Mayor of Esspoo; Eric Lavin, Founding Manager, Aspen Ventures; Tanel Keres, Head of Education Service Unit, Tallinn Education Department; and Shirley Rimon, Head of the Education Department, Municipality of Tel Aviv-Yafo on the panel.

The Library Department is proud to report it has exceeded its goal for the United Way Charitable Campaign by 12%. The Library’s team joined together to raise funds through the pledge forms, jeans day button, Fiesta medal, and kickoff luncheon. The Library’s goal was $38,750.00 and the Library raised $43,299.85.

**MARKETING**

The Marketing team hosted a successful Voter Registration Day press conference on September 27 attended and covered by Fox 29, KENS 5, KSAT 12, Univision, Spectrum News and Telemundo; including a live cut in by Darlene Dorsey from Fox 29. We also hosted a successful conference for the Mayor’s Book Club on October 11. The team also worked in partnership with SA Reads to host and organize a press conference in celebration of their summer reading drive on October 13. Congressman Castro spoke as well as other notable community leaders who have partnered with SA Reads. Children’s librarians attended.

Marketing offered event and promotional support of all Hispanic Heritage programs including the keynote with Hon. Charles Gonzales and Re. Diego Bernal at Bazan Branch Library that resulted in good community turnout and engaging discussion with the speakers; as well as a meaningful program in partnership with the Foundation to host author Tino Villanueva. The team has prepped materials for Native American Heritage Month, Texas Recycles Day, Rock the Plaza, Story Tellabration, Alamo City Comic Con, Chef Adan Medrano as well as many program across the system.
The Marketing team contributed to the organization and support of Bond meeting logistics and staffing as well as preparation of stakeholder information.

The team has been leading extensive preparation for a large celebration and event of the opening of Potranco Branch Library and Mays Family YMCA at Potranco on November 4. The team is also leading interior signage design and implementation at the branch as well as wrapping of technology equipment and liaising with the District 6 office and YMCA team in of the grand opening event.

The SAPL Street Team visited the community throughout the reporting period including National Night Out, The Big Brothers Big Sisters grand opening, and the District 1 Bond Block Party.

Overall, SAPL received 91 media mentions during the reporting period.

Social Media statistics for the month:

1. Facebook: 12,412 page likes
2. Twitter: 3,466 followers
3. Pinterest: 69 followers
4. Instagram: 1,325 followers
5. Youtube: 143 subscribers

DIGITAL SERVICES

Ignacio Albarracin submitted an article about the future of libraries that was published and syndicated through Zocalo Public Square. The article also appeared in the Houston Chronicle.

On September 17, Sarah Carolan assisted with Tobin’s Wizarding Wonders: Celebrating the Worlds of J.K. Rowling event.

On September 26, “Tech Duck” made her first appearance on the Library’s Staff Web. Tech Duck was designed by Andrea Silva to provide staff a forum to address various technology issues. So far Tech Duck has talked about filtering issues, adjusting image sizes, and password management.

The “If Wall Could Talk” display at the Kampmann Portal was completed. The display features oral histories and other information surrounding the San Antonio Missions.

The Kampmann portal has continued to grow its collection; now over 300 books and digital materials are available for use at the Portal.
On October 15, 2016, Digital Services welcomed Michael Sheehan to the unit. Michael joins the unit as a Digital Library Services Assistant

LITTLE READ WAGON

Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents
Little Read Wagon has a full calendar of workshops with more requests coming in every day. This month the team completed a series of visits to the Carvajal Early Learning Center, offering parents a different workshop on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Reading tents and other activities for families were available at dismissal time on Monday through Thursday. Another series will be offered at Tynan Early Childhood Center beginning October 16. Glenoaks, Elm Creek, Leon Springs, Olmos, Serna, Bellaire, Neal, and Wright Elementary Schools also hosted one-time early literacy workshops where parents made bedtime routine charts that incorporate the five early literacy practices of talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing.

Services to Teen Parents
Overall teen parent enrollment has decreased, but the requests for workshops continue. Workshops for teen parents were offered at Stevens, MacArthur, and Churchill High Schools. A student at Churchill High School shared that, when she was expecting her first two children and enrolled at Holmes High School, she made all of the activities offered to teen parents. Library Services Specialist Corinne Sanchez reminded the student that she might like to have new sets of these items for the baby she is currently expecting. The student agreed that the items had been heavily used by her older two children and should be replaced.

Outreach Story Time Programs
Story time visits resumed at the Ella Austin and Tynan Early Childhood Centers, and continued at Seton Home, Healy Murphy, Casa Milagros, Navarro, and Nurturing Hearts. The Healy Murphy center has been adding classrooms, therefore increasing the demand for story time programs at that site.

Play & Learn
The evening Play & Learn series at Millers Pond concluded on September 27. Families commented that it was good to offer parents employed outside the home the opportunity to participate. Stay at home parents also enjoyed being able to have a second adult participate in the evening programs. The Little Read Wagon team will keep this feedback in mind while planning future programs. Use of the parks does limit evening availability to late spring and early fall when there is enough daylight and it is not overwhelmingly hot.
A new Play & Learn series began at Northridge Park on October 11. This is the first time Little Read Wagon has offered Play & Learn in this neighborhood and there was a very good response. A few
neighborhood families joined in after seeing the sign posted at the park entrance. Several other families attended as part of a Meetup group.

Community Events

Cresencia Huff represented the library at three community events during this reporting period: Guns and Hoses Safety Fair on September 24 with Karla Vasquez (Marketing), Avance Dia de la Familia on October 1 with Gina Brudi (Collins Garden), and the Children’s Shelter – Nurse Family Partnership fun night on October 5. The Avance event was very well-attended and was a good opportunity to re-connect with the families served through this organization.

Professional Development

An abundance of webinars has supplied the Little Read Wagon team with a lot of professional development opportunities. The latest was "Word Wizardry: Vocabulary Enhancement in Early Childhood, Prek Through Grade 1, by Susan B. Neuman". Corinne Sanchez and Ms. Huff viewed this webinar on November 20.

Three Little Read Wagon team members plus three Children’s Librarians attended the 18th Congress on Children, September 30 at the Whitley Theological Center. This year’s gathering featured Andrew Solomon and Barbara Coloroso as keynote speakers. Dr. Solomon spoke about his book Far From the Tree: Parents, Children, and the Search for Identity. Ms. Coloroso spoke about bullying.

Ms. Sanchez presented cleaning guidelines to the Children’s Librarians at the monthly meeting held October 13. The guidelines are based on standard cleaning practices to prevent the spread of infectious disease through children’s toys.

CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Nothing reported.

TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Off-Site Service

Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor established a new partnership during the reporting period with the Boys and Girls Club Teen Center in order to encourage a great musical presence with their teen programming, leading up to a Jam Session at the end of October. Teens took part in making their own mix tape, learning about music through the ages, and then composing their own songs to perform before their fellow peers.

Adam co-facilitated outreach at a new high school – Veterans Memorial – with Pruitt Librarian/Teen Liaison Rae Downen, utilizing the brand new SAPL Teen Services Outreach video and a PowerPoint to
connect with classes. Students were able to see the dynamic environments provided through teen services system wide through the video, and gained a better understanding of what the SAPL has to offer them socially and academically. The visit also brought in over 500 applications for library cards.

Adam led presentations at Jefferson High School alongside Bibliotech as part of Library Card Sign-Up Month. Adam presented information about SAPL’s resources and services for teens to over half of the students at Jefferson through outreach, processed over 200 applications for library cards, and recruited teens for Central Library and Westfall Library teen programming.

Adam led presentations at Wheatley Middle School alongside Teen Library @ Central Library Assistant J.D. Elizondo as part of Library Card Sign-Up Month. Adam and J.D. connected with students in a presentation consisting of part video and part musical presentation, utilizing the Eclectic Electric component of Central Library teen programing to showcase to students, playing with and teaching them guitar and piano basics.

Adam led a presentation at Southside High School as part of Teen Read Week, connecting with teens to encourage their attendance at Central Library teen programming and helping to establish a Teen Reading Program as a new partnership with the high school, aiming to impact over 500 students through its work.

Adam led a presentation at Sam Houston High School as part of Teen Read Week, connecting with teens to encourage their attendance at Central Library teen programming and Carver Branch Library.

System-wide Support
Teen Outreach Specialist Adam Tutor continued providing teen programming support for the Encino Library by leading arts and craft-based sessions with a musical element, a jam session, and a tea time full with cookies, tea and conversation about social issues. Although the branch is currently without a teen services librarian, the attendance has remained consistent during the transition, and teens feel comfortable and enjoy time with Adam.

On September 28, Teen Library @ Central Library Assistant J.D. Elizondo provided programming support at Brook Hollow Library. He brought musical instruments for teens to learn and play.

Teen Arts Fest
Teen Library @ Central Library Assistant J.D Elizondo planned and hosted the second annual Teen Arts Fest at the Central Library. J.D. was aided by Teen Arts Fest committee members Georgina Salinas (Librarian I, McCreless Library), Cynthia Cruz (Teen Services Librarian I, Mission Library), Ciana Flores (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), Adolph Lopez (Library Assistant, Central Reference), and Hondo Aguilar (Library Assistant, Central Reference). The event was a huge success, with over 1,000
people attending. This year’s Teen Arts Fest welcomed back the youth slam organization Fresh Ink, musicians from the San Antonio Music Academy and Eclectic Electric, and world renowned artist Alex Rubio. New organizations and artists this year were the Providence Progression, featuring a dance performance, artist Allison Valdivia, and The AM project doing DJ and Hip Hop Dance workshops. Providence High School and the Henry Ford Academy, along with other local schools and youth art organizations participated by featuring their short films on display, displaying artwork, and providing information and activity booths.

Inspire U

Staff involved in the Inspire U Workplace Mentoring Program (part of SA2020) met with their “littles” for the first lunch of the school year in the Teen Library @ Central on September 26. Bigs and Littles had lunch together and enjoyed catching up with each other. The teens are now in their senior year, so this is the last year they will be meeting monthly with their mentors.

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. Library Assistant Regina Almanza attends the lessons and incorporates what she learns into her weekly teen library programming on Thursdays.

Professional Development

Assistant Manager of the Teen Library @ Central Kathleen Fordyce attended the Assistant Manager’s Retreat at Phil Hardberger Park on October 11. Kathleen served as one of the “table leaders” during the morning’s discussion groups.

Program Promotion

Teen Library @ Central Library Assistant Regina Almanza appeared on SA Live on September 30 to promote teen programming at the Library for Hispanic Heritage Month. Regina demonstrated a craft on the show.

ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)

SAPL is wrapping up Hispanic Heritage Month and is gearing up for Native American Month in November.

September and October provided SAPL the opportunity to highlight several local, state, and national Latinos in Public Service.

SAPL also had the opportunity to host several programs that informed the San Antonio Community about candidates running for office at several branches.
SAPL also hosted a Voter Registration Day press conference on September 27th to remind residents of San Antonio to have their voices heard through their voting through the Feed Your Freedom Campaign. All SAPL locations have voter registration cards and several branches hosted certified registrars to help residents register.

SAPL also kicked off the Mayor’s Book Club on October 11th. The Fire This Time by Jesmyn Ward is the selected fall title.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN’S

Families enjoyed interactive learning experiences presented by Librarians Robin Alcorta and Julia Pouliot at weekly Play & Learn programs this month. One week dinosaurs were the focus and young children played in a sandy sensory bin, made dinosaur crafts, and explored a prehistoric imaginative play area with dinosaur puppets, a cave and dinosaur eggs. The highlight of this event was a chilly sensory experience of playing with frozen “ice fossils.” Children delighted in peering into the fossil to see a tiny dinosaur inside and learned scientific principals when they tried to melt it with their hands and breath. Outer space was the theme at the following Play & Learn, where children played in a cardboard space shuttle, traveled through the universe in a sparkly tunnel worm hole wearing a homemade jetpack, and enjoyed the gloriously messy sensory experience of paint-covered cooked pasta. Families contributed to a collaborative chalk solar system banner as well. Weather Play & Learn was an exceptional example of the innovative elements these librarians bring to their early childhood programming. The dramatic play area this time was a child-sized cardboard TV weather station. The librarians made television camera and microphone props so that families could take turns doing a weather forecast. They added weather symbols to a giant map of the U.S. and a chart with days of the week while making their weather predictions. Another innovative Play & Learn program centered on the theme of sound and music. Ms. Alcorta crafted a DJ turntable station from a pizza box and spare headphones. Toddlers spinning cardboard records on the turntable made for fantastic pictures, much to the delight of parents.

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin continued her tradition of presenting engaging Toddler Time programs this month to the regular group of enthusiastic families. Toddlers learned about marsupials one week with kangaroo songs and dances. She crafted a matching pocket game for this theme as well. Next time families had pretend picnics with plastic food and cozy blankets under the large tree decoration in the Story Room. Sensory bins full of beans and plastic ants, and play dough with insect stampers rounded out the picnic experience. Ms. Seglin’s art themed Toddler Time was especially innovative. She created an art gallery of black and white reproductions of famous paintings for toddlers to color in with
crayons, as well as cardboard palettes for art studio imaginative play. Toddlers enjoyed the sensation of dry paintbrushes and squares of soft tissue paper in the sensory bin as well. In advance of Halloween, *Toddler Time* was all about monsters! Young children crafted scary faces from play dough and played a toss game of throwing treats into the open mouths of cardboard monsters. Ms. Seglin also presented a version of her successful art program at the Forest Hills Library.

Ms. Alcorta and Ms. Pouliot facilitated fun, artistic activities at their *Family Fun* programs on Saturdays. In celebration of *World Octopus Day*, Ms. Pouliot led the group in a discussion and read stories about the fascinating mollusk, followed by an octopus art project using chalk pastels, markers, ribbon, and streamers. As a special sensory treat, families delighted in running their hands through tubs of glistening, soft water beads. Ms. Pouliot presented the “Mango, Abuela and Me” *Hispanic Heritage Month* program in which she read bilingual stories and children created colorful parrot collages inspired by the central book. Ms. Alcorta honored the Central Library’s *Fiesta Tower* by Dale Chihuly, in conjunction with the *Teen Arts Fest*. Families who had spent the day exploring art at the library expressed themselves in Chihuly fashion by crafting wild hats made from colorful twisted pipe cleaners and curled paper. Ms. Alcorta’s final program of the month encouraged children to stretch their imaginative muscles and create wacky “mixed up” animals. After sharing books with this theme, Ms. Alcorta inspired the group to make hybrid creature collages from animal magazine clippings.

Several groups of students, young and older, visited the Central Children’s Department for special tours and research trips this month. Manager Kate Simpson led 2nd grade students from St. Luke’s Episcopal School on their annual art and architecture tour of the Central Library. Each child picked a book to check out in what was for many of them their first experience with the public library. The children and teachers raved about the experience, mentioning how much they learned about the stories behind the art on display at the library. The Central Children’s team was thrilled to assist 4th and 5th grade students from the neighboring Advanced Learning Academy. Ms. Simpson, Ms. Seglin and Ms. Alcorta introduced non-fiction items to the groups of students and helped them find resources for their research projects. Adult students from the Family Services Association as well as San Antonio College used the children’s collections this month as part of their coursework. The Central Children’s team pulled a selection of books for each group covering the topics they were exploring.

Central Children’s Department staff visited schools this month in promotion of *Library Card Signup Month* and presented story times. Ms. Alcorta and Ms. Pouliot represented SAPL at the Kate Schenck Elementary School Literacy Fair. They signed up several parents and children for library cards, and shared information about library services in both English and Spanish. Ms. Simpson and Ms. Pouliot shared stories and songs with four preschool and kindergarten classes at Bowden Elementary School. Central Children’s Department staff continued their outreach visits to Green Acres Childcare Center Madison Square Child Development Center and Central Christian Church Childcare Center as well.
Ms. Seglin attended the Congress on Children, featuring nationally known authors Andrew Solomon and Barbara Coloroso. Ms. Seglin was particularly influenced by Solomon’s discussion of his book, *Far from the Tree: Parents, Children, and the Search for Identity*, which imparted the difference between love and acceptance and helped her to recognize that she is a role model for parents and children and can promote materials and programs that reflect these topics. Ms. Seglin also attended the SAPL Assistant Managers Retreat and came away with a new understanding of the common challenges and successes of colleagues across the system, and a strengthening of their networks of support.

Ms. Simpson led the October Children’s Librarians Meeting in partnership with Little Read Wagon Manager Cresencia Huff. Together they crafted a different kind of professional gathering that focused on sharing ideas and successes.

The Central Children’s team celebrated two staff birthdays this month with special potluck luncheons. Library Assistants Judith Slaughter, Mary Elizabeth Fernandez and Ana Sandoval participated in the *Staff Art and Talent Show*. Their work was admired by those in attendance and served as inspiration to the rest of the team. Ms. Seglin continued her participation in the *Staff Mentoring Program*, making connections with her mentee and beginning their project together.

**TEENS**

**Mondays with JD Elizondo (Library Assistant):** During the reporting period, JD facilitated Eclectic Electric music programming. In addition, the annual haunted house at Central will take place again this year, and JD is currently facilitating the planning and development of the program by teens.

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

**Wednesdays with Kathleen Fordyce (Librarian II):** On Wednesdays, teens pick their favorite video or board game and engage in friendly competition with their peers. During the reporting period, teens have enjoyed playing the WiiU and PS4 games, as well as board games like Chess, Jenga and Apples to Apples. Teens also brought out the ping pong table a few times to get some exercise and show their skills.

**Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant):** With celebration, creative expression, teamwork, art and skill, teens made Thursday nights at Teen Library a place where they could let their teen selves shine. With a nod to the Aztec and Maya who treated the cocoa bean as the sacred item it is, teens made Mexican chocolate truffles with a ganache containing semisweet chocolate morsels and cream, rolled them into spheres and then used cinnamon, cayenne pepper, coconut and cocoa powder as coatings. Afterwards, teens crafted with beads and yarn, made their own pencils using pencil leads,
origami paper and Mod-Podge, and watched a movie. After cutting a paper skull template, teens used the papier-mâché method of creating a glue with flour and water, dipping newspaper strips in the mixture and applying it the cut out skull to create skull masks. To kick off the Fall season, teens used pumpkin puree to amp up a pancake mixture, learning that pumpkin provides fiber and vitamin C. For the month of October, teens selected a variety of Halloween-themed craft to fill Thursday nights. The first: deviled eggs. Teens used a variety of condiments to create classic, funny and cute eggs. One teen created a deviled egg race and has edited the time-lapsed video using iMovie on Teen Library’s Macs and plans to narrate it soon. While watching the new release of Ghostbusters, teens fittingly made slime and ghosts. Using melted Starburst candies and confectioners’ sugar, teens made edible slime. Teens arranged marshmallows on skewers and drew ghost faces and images on them using food coloring. After Thursday programs have concluded, in a non-competitive environment, teens played video games. Pictures from Thursday programs as well as other Teen Library and system-wide programs can be found at http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary. Some nights, photos and mini-videos are also posted to Teen Library’s Instagram account: https://instagram.com/210teenlibrary.

The new Advanced Learning Academy at Fox Tech High School brought several classes to the Teen Library @ Central for tours and to acquaint the students with the resources the library offers for them. The classes will visit the Teen Library regularly during the school year to use computers, do research, and utilize other resources in the area.

A group of students in the Creative Writing class at Lanier High School visited the Teen Library @ Central on October 14. The teens enjoyed hanging out in the area, playing board games, using the computers, reading, and socializing.

Two community centers brought groups of teens to the Teen Library to use computers and participate in teen library programming. Group of teens from the Roy Maas’ Youth Alternatives and the George Gervin Center made regular visits during the reporting period.

THE REFERENCE

The ongoing movie program Central Cinema continued to garner positive feedback and attendance. On October 2, staff hosted a screening of the action comedy Central Intelligence starring Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson and Kevin Hart. Forty nine people attended and all spent the 2 hours of the movie laughing. On October 16, staff hosted a screening of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows starring Megan Fox and Will Arnett. Twenty five people attended this action-packed showing.

On October 7, Librarians Pannaga Prasad and Sally Bauer attended the 12th Annual Texas Health Literacy Conference in San Antonio. The conference helps doctors, health care workers, and others who
work in the public sector analyze and close the information gap between expert knowledge and public understanding of health issues. By attending these health literacy sessions, staff was able to learn new information on public understanding of health and safety, the Fotonovia, how health literacy is integrated in YMCAs and more. Staff attendance at the conference also made a variety of new contacts to help organize new health related library programs.

Central Reference’s partnership with SCORE continues to be successful and a workshop for the public was offered on September 24 focusing on Customer Service.

Central Reference staff provided a brief tour of Central for 25 COSA staff members from the Finance Department; they were based out of the Riverview Towers on Soledad. A Central Library Tour was requested in conjunction with a wellness activity; everyone walked from their office to the Library and took the stairs throughout the tour. All attendees who did not already have a library card had prearranged to pick one up during the tour. Matt De Waelsche in Texana showed off items from the Vault that were of potential interest to those involved in the field of Finance. Attendees very much enjoyed their tour of the library and expressed appreciation.

Library Assistant Daniel Gonzalez, brought over two classes from Mexican American Catholic College to get library cards on September 29 and learn about relevant library services and databases for their coursework.

TEXANNA/GENEALOGY

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, Sylvia Reyna presented Hispanic Genealogy classes at the following branches: Igo Library (September 20), Pan American Library (September 27) and Collins Garden Library (October 4). Ms. Reyna discussed the special resources and strategies that surround Hispanic Genealogy family history research.

On October 1 in the Central Library Auditorium, Ms. Reyna hosted a showing of the documentary film “The Irish Rebellion” for the San Antonio Harp and Shamrock Society.

Matt De Waelsche led a class on October 4 entitled “Beginning Genealogy Online Resources” for those folks just starting out with their family history research and curious about the resources available on the Internet.

Ms. Reyna was invited to present a class discussing genealogy research at the City’s Virginia Marie Granados Adult and Senior Center on October 12. Ms. Reyna walked the attendees through how to get started filling in their family tree and what information could be found here at the library.
Mr. De Waelsche attended a charrette sponsored by the Kronkosky Foundation to discuss the development of a community archive that would communicate the culture and history of San Antonio’s Black community. Representatives from the “Southern Historical Collection” at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, home to one of the largest collections of African-American materials in the country, organized discussion groups on how to proceed. Approximately 30 individuals from the community attended this October 13 event, organized by local architect Everett Fly.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month on September 28, the Bazan branch hosted the Honorable Charles Gonzalez and State Representative Diego Bernal as they discussed the life and legacy of public servant Henry B. Gonzalez for the anniversary of his centennial year. On October 3, Bazan hosted a presentation on how to make an altar for Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead). Adult Services Librarian Maria Gonzales assisted with both events.

Training Officer Emily Sauer Flores attended the Lanier High School “Big Blue” parent meeting on September 21 where she spoke to a group of parents, teachers and students about the learning opportunities available at the Learn Center and promoted the Teen Time program at the Bazan Branch. Mrs. Sauer Flores also had a chance to meet and speak with the new Lanier High School Principal Ms. Laura Cooper. Mrs. Sauer Flores attended the Barrio Network meeting at the Good Samaritan Center. The Barrio Network focuses on coordinating social service efforts to maximize community impact and respond to unmet community needs. On September 28, Mrs. Sauer Flores represented the Bazan Branch Library at the Lanier High School Open House.

On Saturday, October 8, San Antonio College Connection Outreach Representative Daniel Sustaita came to speak to learners in Mrs. Sauer Flores’ Learn Center ESL class. He responded to student inquiries regarding higher education programs in the United States, specifically those offered through Alamo Colleges.

Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen attended the Open House at Rodriguez Elementary School where she talked with parents and children about the different programs that are offered at the library. Ms. Sonnen also continued outreach programming at four San Antonio Independent School District elementary schools where she met with seven different book club groups.

Adult Services Librarian Maria Gonzales attended an Adult Services retreat, held at the Phil Hardberger Park Urban Ecology Center, which provided assistant managers the opportunity to meet
colleagues from other branches and share efforts as well as discuss concerns. Training Officer Emily Sauer Flores was invited to present an overview of the Learn Program and the services Learn provides.

Bazan staff attended two National Night events. Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen went to the National Night Out at La Trinidad United Methodist Church and talked with several area residents about the LEARN at SAPL as well as children’s programing offered at Bazan. Training Officer Emily Sauer Flores represented the Bazan Branch Library at the National Night Out celebration held at the Guadalupe Community Center. Mrs. Sauer Flores even had the opportunity to meet the mayor!

BROOK HOLLOW

On October 2, Brook Hollow hosted the first American Sign Language class of the fall semester. For the past few years, Brook Hollow has partnered with MacArthur High School to offer these classes, which are taught by MacArthur students. It wasn’t possible to offer the class in the spring of 2016, and there has been a great deal of interest in bringing the program back. This fall the classes are being offered at 3 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of October and November, and the first Sunday in December.

Teen Time programs and Teen Library Leadership Council meetings continued at the branch this month. The Teen Library Leadership Council takes an active role in planning each Teen Time. Teens at Teen Time played games, built electronic gadgets with the LittleBits modular electronics system, and learned new musical skills thanks to special guest JD Elizondo from the Central Teen Library and his traveling music program.

CARVER

Carver Branch Manager DL Grant Jr. was a co-presenter at the annual Library Resource Roundup, hosted by Region 20 Education Service Center on September 23. His topic was library and community collaborations. Mr. Grant represented Carver Branch at National Night Out at Wheatley Community School on October 4.

On October 3, State Rep. Laura Thompson held a town hall forum at the branch aimed at making schools better. In an online invitation she urged all to “come out, join the conversation and let your voice be heard.” She especially wanted to reach students to hear their thoughts on improving education.

Assistant Manager Monty Holcomb hosted five Teen Time events with the Wii, and four Chess Events. Mr. Holcomb also continued the Mayor’s Book Club group at the District 2 Senior Center session and during this period facilitated four book club meetings. Mr. Holcomb also has helped facilitate the
“Caring for Aging Parents” program series (four events thus far) and the “Finance Awareness” series (three events thus far).

Tai chi here continues to be a robust activity for seniors, attracting 14 to 16 participants each week. The Friends of Carver Branch held their annual fall book sale on October 14th and 15th.

Learn Center Training Officer Jeanne Johnson has been working adamantly with area colleges and universities to promote awareness for partnership opportunities with the Learn @ SAPL program. In addition, she expanded her outreach focus throughout District 2, visiting schools and community groups to discuss opportunities for continuing education and other services.

Jeanne participated in meetings at Northeast School and San Antonio School districts to promote Carver’s first-ever College Community Fair which will be held late in October.

**CODY**

To kick off Hispanic Heritage Month on September 19, children at Tween Time made Fiesta flowers, some of which were added to current library displays, and some were taken home. For the remainder of the hour, tweens enjoyed the challenge of team charades.

Country Home preschoolers attended a special Story Time with Children’s Librarian Sheila Acosta on September 17. They had been studying the topic of apples, so Sheila enriched their learning with several apple-themed stories.

The Middle Readers Club members met on September 22 for their first meeting of the school year. Each of the Middle Readers brought a book to talk about and recommend to others. Sheila showcased brand new titles for the Middle Readers to browse and check out. In addition, the members enjoyed teaming up to play the imaginative Rory’s Story Cubes - used for literacy development.

On September 26, children at Tween Time explored a variety of activities - one of which involved creating a Lunar flip book to note the moon in motion, and playing such quick-thinking games as ASAP and Can You Name Five?

The monthly Lego Club program was held on September 27. Lego players were tasked with building structures that began with the beginning letters of the alphabet. When Sheila exhibited these in the New Book section, one young boy was heard yelling for his mom to come see his on display.

The Tween Book Club met on September 28. A couple of new members joined to discuss the book selection, Under Their Skin, the first of a new series by Margaret Peterson Haddix. After an animated discussion, the tweens created anagrams of book titles they had read and/or recommendations for reading.
Several families attended Cody’s Hispanic Heritage Family Fun program on September 29. After Sheila read a story about Mango, a parrot, and shared some photographs of different kinds of parrots, the children created parrots of their own. Refreshments were served to all who attended.

**Tween Time** on October 3 involved creating mobile Lego structures and then testing them in races outside. Tweens considered speed, ease of mobility and balance when racing their Lego vehicles.

The **BYOD Minecraft Club** met on October 5. Some brand new members joined the group and took advantage of the iPads provided by Sheila. Everyone who attended was laser-focused on the task of creating new worlds.

**World Octopus Day** on October 6 was well attended by Cody patrons. Sheila read a couple of octopus-themed story books and then provided a couple of octopus crafts for the children to make. Everyone had fun showing off their octopus creations!

Several families attended **Duplo Day** on October 7. Sheila set up eight different stations around the room where children of various ages, from months to pre-kindergarten, could sit and play with soft blocks, Duplo blocks, floor puzzles, stacking toys and more.

Participants at the October 10 **Tween Time** created pumpkin-scapes and also worked on making Halloween spiders out of egg cartons and pipe cleaners.

The **Beginner Readers Club** met on October 12. After each one shared his or her book, they all participated in Halloween bingo. After the bingo, the young readers were challenged to a word-matching puzzle. Sheila also showcased several new beginner reader series for them to check out and read.

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

Teen Librarian Kristin Yourdon facilitated the September 20 **Teen Time** program where teens made Mini Element Jar Pendants by painting cotton balls different colors and mixing them with water and glitter inside the jars.

Teens created various Halloween crafts, including “haunted lanterns”, a paper crafted haunted house and colored Halloween scenes at **Teen Time** on September 27.

Teens learned about the properties of polymers while making glitter slime at **Teen Time** on October 4.

Teens had the chance to display their math skills during a Life-Sized Game of Life at **Teen Time** on October 11. Teens had to count out the money they were owed and had to pay during the game. At the end of the game they added up their money to see who won.
Teens celebrated *Teen Read Week* on October 13 by gathering to read ghost stories out loud to each other.

Librarian Adam Spana continued his monthly outreach to residents of the Adante Senior Living community on September 21, where the book club discussed Nora Ephron’s *I Remember Nothing*.

On September 24, members of the Cody community attended the lecture "Latinos in Public Service and the Legacy of Henry B. Gonzalez" to commemorate the centennial of the birth of Henry B. Gonzalez. Eugene Rodriguez, one-time staffer for the late congressman, recounted Gonzalez’s political legacy and influence in shaping San Antonio.

The Friends of the Cody Library’s fall *Book Sale* was held from October 14 to October 16. The Friends reported that the Friday opening was their biggest ever in terms of sales.

## COLLINS GARDEN

Collins Garden Library Staff received **EnCORE** cards from patrons during this reporting period for being helpful, courteous and patient. Patrons Tommy G. Hernandez and Angela Giron complemented the entire staff for providing quality customer service and gave a shout out to the circulation staff for their friendly smiles and knowing when patrons need assistance. A student named David simply said, “Thank you for being awesome.”

**Hispanic Heritage Month**: Collins Garden Library hosted a variety of events for Hispanic Heritage Month including a genealogy program presented by Librarian Sylvia Reyna from Texana. Reyna presented basic research principles and techniques for conducting Hispanic genealogical research to five engaged attendees. *Mango, Abuela and Me* was read to 19 patrons during the library’s Family Fun Hispanic Heritage celebration. In addition, Circulation Attendant Enedina Prater researched and created a Hispanic Heritage Month display featuring photographs of local Latinos, some from the Collins Garden neighborhood, who achieved firsts in their careers including Ramiro Salazar who serves as SAPL’s first Hispanic library director. The exhibit was viewed and appreciated by patrons who tried to recognize the people in the photos.

**Collins Garden Library Partnerships**: The library participated in **National Voter Registration Day** by partnering with Mi Familia Vota and 10 voters were registered and 14 applications were handed-out. On October 11th, the last day of registration for the Presidential election, Mi Familia registered 31 voters and distributed 5 registration cards. The following day librarian Jerry Madrigal delivered 12 completed voter registration applications to the Bexar County Elections Department.

**Voces Cosmicas**, the community poetry group that partners with the library and conducts writing workshops averaging 7-10 people per week, hosted by local poet/educator Fernando
Esteban Flores, featured Hispanic poetry/prose during Hispanic Heritage Month. The group’s most recent event was a live poetry reading Saturday, October 15 with 50 attendees including Dr. Quintilla from Our Lady of the Lake MFA in English program as well as students from San Antonio College.

UTHSCSA, in partnership with the branch library, continues its bi-monthly chronic pain study in an effort to address individuals seeking alternatives to medication in dealing with pain stemming from illness or injury. UTHSCSA’s pain study addresses the country’s Opioid Epidemic. Vitas Healthcare offered Life after Loss that is designed to help people learn to understand grieving and how to live through the healing process.

Children’s: Lego Club this period drew quite a crowd. Lego creations are displayed on a shelf in the reference area with nameplates for each. I-Cycle in partnership with the library offers a monthly bicycle repair class for all ages. After completing the program, the 17 class attendants received a certificate and a small gift. Mary Valdez and her beautiful Golden retriever Foxie continue to help kids become more comfortable with reading. Their bi-weekly visit has an attendance average of 20 people. On World Octopus Day children learned facts about octopuses and created a paper version to take home. Eight children and two parents were in attendance and enjoyed listening to octopus books. During Family Fun, children decorated drums with sticks and listened to stories about music. Attendance was 6 children and 6 adults.

Outreach: In October, Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi attended the Avance Dia de la Familia annual celebration at Rosedale Park. Along with Cresencia Huff from little Read Wagon, Brudi spoke to more than 200 adults and children about library services.

Teens: Collins Garden Library Library Assistant Carlos Loera represented the library during National Night Out at the community Shepherds Grace United Methodist Church across from the library. Teen Tuesday programs are holding steady with students making crafts, watching movies and snacking together. In addition, Collins Garden Library also hosts a monthly matinee movie series for teens and children averaging an attendance of 35.

Staff: Gerald Madrigal attended SAPL assistant manager retreat; Circulation Attendant Enedina Prater attended SAPL Mentoring meetings and the entire staff is working on a Dia de los Muertos, Day of the Dead altar/display honoring San Antonio Community Activist Choco Meza. Manager Jeannette Davies attended the SAPL Board of Trustees September meeting; UMAST luncheon; SAPL LibGuide Training; National Night Out; SAPL Tri-Centennial Committee meeting; and participated in the SAPL art show. The Collins Garden Library Team is prepping for the Friends of the Collins Garden
Library organizational meeting Tuesday, October 18th at 7 p.m. in the library’s meeting room during National Friends of the Library Week, October 18-24.

CORTEZ

Branch Manager Cammie Brantley was very happy to be accepted in the SAPL Mentoring Program as a mentor. She hopes to use her experience to help her assigned partner to grow personally and professionally.

Cammie was on hand to represent the Library for an information open house about the impact of the City South Annexation on City services October 3 at Palo Alto College.

Story Time (Kathy Armbruster) Story Time continues on Mondays at 10 a.m. Sessions included themes on dinosaurs, talk like a pirate day, Hispanic Heritage month and Octopus stories. Fourteen children and five adults attended.

Baby Time (Kathy Armbruster) Baby Time began on October 3. It follows the Story Time program on Mondays at 11:15 a.m. To date, two sessions have been held with a program of rhymes, songs and time for books and toys. Twelve children and six adults have attended.

Family Fun (Kathy Armbruster) Family Fun sessions were held on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. during September but have moved to Mondays at 4 p.m. in October and going forward. Four sessions were offered during the reporting period and included sessions on pirates, games, a Hispanic Heritage month activity and stories and facts about octopuses. Total attendance was 11 children and 10 adults.

Tween Time (Kathy Armbruster) Tween Time has had its ups and downs but attracts a core group who live nearby. Each session is held on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Video games are always offered but lately board games and craft activities have proven to be a hit. The food challenge for the month was eating a bowl of Jello without benefit of a spoon or using one’s hands to get to the gummy worm on the bottom of the bowl! One clever tween managed to flip the bowl using his mouth and neck and turned the Jello out onto the table and ate the gummy worm in record time! Four sessions were held during the reporting period with a total attendance of 43 tweens and 4 adults. (Adults usually stop in with new tweens to see what’s going on!)

Come and Go Crafts (Kathy Armbruster) Offered on Saturdays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Come and Go Crafts is catching on at Cortez. This passive program has been offered four times during the reporting period and has been enjoyed by 40 children and 16 adults. We offered craft activities for World Octopus Day, papercraft dinosaurs, an extra day of playdough play and an origami pets activity.

Outreach Event – Literacy Night – Bob Hope Elementary School (Kathy Armbruster) Invited by Literacy Teacher Allison Vidales, Kathy Armbruster attended a literacy night on September 29 from 5:30
to 6:30 p.m. Four parents and four students attended the meeting to hear about the use of iStation and how parents and students can use lexile levels to help students find titles and access e-editions of books in their own reading ability range. Kathy presented information about the library, how to obtain a library card, and assured parents that library staff is ready to help find titles suitable for all new readers.

**Assistant Managers Retreat** (Kathy Armbruster) Kathy attended the Assistant Managers Retreat at Phil Hardberger Park Urban Ecology Center Tuesday on October 11. Sessions on differing personalities in the workplace and opportunities offered by the LEARN Centers were highlighted in the afternoon following a morning of round table discussions on various themes encountered by L2s at SAPL. This retreat not only helped build connections between coworkers but will serve as a bridge for further discussions at the Managers Retreat to be held in November.

**Teen Time** (JoAnn Paredes) The Cortez Teen Time has been experiencing great participation this school year! On September 29, the teens made decorated mason jars for Halloween that can be illuminated with a tea light. On October 6, they made a scary hand out of masking tape and glow sticks. The teens were receptive to Vicente Escobedo’s (Community Health) presentation on healthy eating and how to make delicious aquas frescas. He brought in watermelon and gave them some health tips that the teens enjoyed very much. This reporting period covered four programs with a total attendance of 83.

**Staff Art Show at Central** – Michelle Ricondo was on hand at Central to assist with the installation of the staff art show at Central on October 5.

**Adult Coloring** (Michelle Ricondo) Adult Coloring @ Cortez continues to be popular at Cortez and the numbers continue to grow. Four sessions were held during this reporting period with a total attendance of 40.

**Creative Writing Group** (Michelle Ricondo) The Cortez Writers Group has continued to attract a small cadre of dedicated writers since its inception in July 2016. There were three sessions held during this reporting period with total attendance of 10.

**Getting Crafty Program** (JoAnn Paredes) During this reporting period, there were five classes with a total attendance of 29. On both September 19 and 26, the class made felt coasters in the shape of cats. On October 3, they decorated mason jars with tissue paper for Halloween and on October 10 it was a free day to work on any unfinished crafts from previous classes. On October 17, the class worked on a Dia de los Muertos craft which was taught by one of our regular attendees.

**Monster Meet** (Madeline Vasquez) On October 8, 15 horror fans got together to scream through the horror thriller “Halloween” (1978). Monster Meet is a program developed and coordinated by Circulation Attendant Madeline Vasquez who brings her love of the horror genre to the community at Cortez.
**Cortez Film Club** (Derek Austin, Volunteer with assistance from Madeline Vasquez) The Cortez Film Club met on September 24 and enjoyed “Young Frankenstein” to remember the life and works of recently departed actor Gene Wilder. Nineteen Wilder fans attended the event.

**Community Partnerships** Cortez played host to several community groups offering workshops and information tables over this reporting period.

**Voter registration** was held in the Cortez lobby on October 3.

**AARP** held three TEK workshop sessions on September 27 for seniors wanting to learn how to use smartphones, laptops, and tablets.

The **Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio** provide information twice each week during the month of October to help navigate the enrollment process for the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid/CHIP.

**ENCINO**

Encino’s Collaborate space was used by outside groups 38 times during the reporting period.

The Mondopads in the space were used just over 50% of the time, and use of the room included federal interviews, graduate study groups, HOA Board of Directors meetings, continuing education webinars, author-editor collaboration, group tutoring sessions, and online Dungeons and Dragons meetings. Create has been used as a multi-purpose space, with patrons using the space for employment screenings and Skype interviews when other spaces are occupied. Encino’s patio space was utilized often by groups needing a meeting space before/after library hours, and several library programs have been moved outdoors to take advantage of the cooler weather.

**Create University** included an exploration of the Chinese culture thanks to special guests from UTSA, Professor Ying Li and Christopher Brown. Professor Li led three educational sessions for Create University where she guided students through a Chinese Calligraphy workshop. Lessons included details about holding the brush, the type of ink and paper required, and the meaning of each brushstroke. The final session was held on October 3 and included brushstroke lessons for basic calligraphy lettering. Lecturer Christopher Brown is an East Asian tea master and researcher at UTSA. He was invited by Librarian Barbara Kwiatkowski to Create University to demonstrate how Chinese tea culture has influenced the economics of the west and vice versa. His presentation and sampling of tea was well-received, and attendees requested a future presentation on his other areas of expertise.

**The Alamo Area Wood Carvers**, regular features at Parman Library, visited Encino for a two-part lesson in basic wood carving techniques. Robert Rangel, president of the group, taught attendees how to carve soft balsa wood into an apple shape on October 8. Most of the students were amazed they were able to complete the project, and the apple with a worm took its final shape on October 15.
Librarian Nicki Weaver continues to host successful programs for children at Encino. Read to a Dog, a partnership program with Alliance of Therapy Dogs, has become a welcome regular program for young readers. Thanks to volunteers Ricki and Raina, Encino’s children’s space transforms into a furry reading room on Wednesday afternoons. Murphy and Hannah, the two certified therapy dogs, teach the children how to interact safely with animals while patiently listening to the beginning readers. Lego Club is another successful program on Wednesday afternoons. Mrs. Weaver leads the children through building challenges and provides time for free-play. The creations are displayed on the meeting room counter until the end of the program.

Librarian Ashley Stubbs and Library Services Specialist Adam Tutor have kept teen programming alive at Encino in the absence of a Teen Librarian. Ms. Stubbs facilitates the Monday evening Encino Anime Club, where she shows various anime movies and leads discussions. Mr. Tutor visits Encino each Wednesday evening for Teen Club, where he facilitates a variety of teen-led activities. In honor of Teen Read Week, the October 12 program included story time and book discussions in addition to gaming and marshmallow desserts.

FOREST HILLS

Artpace hosted the third annual Chalk-It-Up Warm-Up at Forest Hills. This annual event is a precursor to Artpace’s big Chalk-It-Up event in October by hosting a chalk drawing “warm up”. Many people enjoyed creating beautiful temporary art on sidewalks surrounding the Forest Hills entrance.

Mi Familia provided voter registration services for two days during October. Staff also promoted registration by providing registration cards to any individual receiving a new library card as well as to those who requested them. At least 12 individual registrations were mailed off on the last day to register, October 11.

Mr. Henry Munoz III was a special guest of the library on October 3 in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. Mr. Munoz’ presentation about Latino Culture and Identity was well attended and included Charlie Gonzalez, son of Henry B. Gonzalez, for whom the month was celebrating.

Katy Brown, Children’s Librarian, retired at the end of September. Despite her departure being a sad event for staff and public alike, Children services continue to thrive at Forest Hills. Thanks to a number of volunteers from other libraries, regular Story Time and Family Fun events continue to be hosted on a weekly basis.

GREAT NORTHWEST
The Great Northwest Branch Library welcomes new part-time library assistant Veronica Buendia to the team, and congratulates Kimberly Wygant, former part-time circulation attendant, on her promotion to part-time library assistant! The branch has also enjoyed hosting staff from Schaefer Branch Library: Sheridan Richardson, newly promoted to part-time library assistant, and library aide Paige Riggs. The branch is also hosting a student from the University of North Texas who is completing her practicum for her Master of Science in Information Science at the branch.

Henderson Elementary asked Great Northwest Library to take part in their “Camp Literacy” program on October 11. The families visited the San Antonio Public Library table to make book character puppets and learn more about the library. Several families were very interested in the new Potranco Branch Library and received information and directions.

Great Northwest Library celebrated Hispanic Heritage during the children’s programs featuring the book Mango, Abuela and Me. The children made bilingual parrots to take home with them. One hundred and fifteen were in attendance for this program.

The children’s program Color Club has been very well attended, averaging 117 attendees per program. One of our volunteers, Sue Caywood, has made colored bean and rice bags to add to the program’s activities. The children in this program are 2-3 years old.

The ABC Explorers have learned about Mexico and Brazil this month. The children had fun learning about fiestas, soccer, and the rainforest.

To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month the Great Northwest Library offered a Día de los Muertos Ofrenda Workshop on October 12 for those interested in learning how to celebrate the Day of the Dead. Dan Garcia from Central Library Reference gave a presentation and afterward attendees were given the opportunity to decorate sugar skulls and create a miniature altar. Library Assistant Christina Martinez created a display recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month with lively decorations and books by celebrated Hispanic authors and poets.

Branch staff assisted many patrons in registering to vote before the registration deadline. Staff created a one-stop shop display for patrons to register to vote and receive information about early voting. Seventy-two patrons submitted voter registration applications on the last day for registration on October 11.

The branch has been hosting staff from the Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio to let patrons know about the services they can provide as Certified Navigators. The group will provide information about the Affordable Care Act during open enrollment which begins in November.
The Bexar County Master Gardeners presented a popular series of gardening programs. Interested patrons learned about different plants and how to care for them during the following programs: Vines on September 19, Perennials that Thrive on September 28, and Texas Superstars on October 5. The Master Gardeners brought samples for the customers and answered questions on how to care for the specific plants.

The book Mom and Me and Mom by Maya Angelou was discussed on September 29 with a group of book club enthusiasts. The House of the Spirits was discussed on October 13.

Great Northwest Teen Writer’s Guild met on September 19th for their monthly meeting. Teens with an interest in writing meet once a month to create and share their work with other teen writers.

The Great Northwest Library hosted a Super Smash Bros Mini Tournament on September 24, where teens could compete for first place. Teens used Challonge.com to register players for a double elimination tournament and tracked their progress using the websites online bracket system. Teens also created the game rules and stage list for players to abide by.

Great Northwest Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez visited the school library at Brennan High School on September 28 to provide a teen program to the students during their lunch period. This popular event is in collaboration with the Brennan High School Librarian Hugues Caby and is a way for the branch to reach out to teens in their environment. Ms. Vazquez also accompanied a group of Teen Services Librarians who visited the Health Careers High School during their Student Success Day. They were invited to speak to freshman students about library services and sign them up for library cards.

Teens celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with a Yummy and Creative Cooking class on September 26 where they learned to make homemade tortillas and rice. Teen Craft Night was held on October 3 and teens were invited to decorate calaveras. Teens prepared a variety of colored icing to decorate their sugar skulls and learned how to use piping bags to apply the icing decoration. A monthly Teen Anime Night was held on October 10 and celebrates love of Anime and Manga. During Anime Night teens got creative and used a variety of candy to make some delicious candy sushi.

Computer Tutoring is held at the Great Northwest Library. A very knowledgeable volunteer tutor provides basic computer instructions and answers computer and technology related questions.

GUERRA

Branch Manager Dexter Katzman presented music and literature outreach programs to the Careplex Adult Day Care Center on September 21 and October 5 and 12. He attended a Mentor/Mentee
meeting on September 20. He attended a UMAST luncheon on September 22; the speaker covered the ins and outs of LinkedIn. On September 30, he met with staff at the Harmony Science Academy. He spent time each week updating the Lost and Found Database.

Assistant Branch Manager Cristiane Yamada-Lokensgard attended the Assistant Branch Managers Retreat on October 11 at Phil Hardberger Park. She presented the Hispanic Heritage Month Project on October 9. Participants were invited to make stencils on woodblocks choosing between images of Henry B. Gonzalez or the Hemisfair Park. She designed and installed a display with horror fiction books and other titles related to Halloween.

Children’s Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented four toddler times, four story times, three kids’ times and one Lego Club. School age children read to Foxie on September 29 during the bi-weekly Read to a Dog program. On September 23, she visited Lil Dragon Den Daycare and presented stories to three groups of toddlers and their caregivers. On September 24, she visited Marbach Christian Church Daycare and read stories to a group of 41 toddlers and six adults. Arlene celebrated Hispanic Heritage with a weekend Come & Go craft where families enjoyed a craft activity based on the book Mango, Abuela & Me by Meg Medina. She presented a kids time Hispanic Heritage program designed around the same book. This program was chosen by the Children’s Librarians Celebration Committee on which Arlene serves. She installed an October Staff Picks display highlighting ALA’s 2016 Notable Children’s books.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson served on an interview committee for hiring a Library Aide at Great Northwest Library on September 19. The next day, he set up a display on Mexican Independence through which he promoted books on that topic and planned, led, and reported on a quarterly branch staff meeting. He moderated the Spanish language book club, Club de Lectura on September 29. Members of the group read The Martian (El marciano) by Andy Weir. On October 7, Stephen presented a trivia game program at the Willie Cortez Senior Center. He recorded El Globo Aventurero (The Hot Air Balloon Adventurer) by Margaret Wise Brown for Tele-Cuento on October 10. He accepted a temporary assignment to Forest Hills on October 3; he will be providing LIC assistance for the next six to eight weeks.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on September 22 and 29 and October 6. The Teens watched the movie Now You See Me on October 6 and had refreshments supplied by the Friends of the Guerra Library. He participated in an outreach to Brennan High School with Stephanie Vazquez, Teen Librarian/Great Northwest on September 28. 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 also was invited and participated in Cable Neighborhood Association’s National Night Out on October 4.
Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl installed an updated Staff Picks Display, and Children’s Librarian Arlene Gibbs selected 2016 Notable Children’s Books for a separate display that she installed. Arlene also held her Knits & Crochets! Program on September 20 and 27 and October 4 and 11. In honor of Bob Dylan’s Nobel Prize, she installed a display highlighting his music and writing.

**IGO**

Igo presented its normally scheduled story times. During the reporting period, two specially-themed story times were presented: Octopus and a Hispanic Heritage story time.

Igo also offered two **LEGO Clubs** which were very well received. Staff took pictures of their creations and put them on display on Igo’s digital TV.

The Teen programs at Igo continued its upward trend in participation as a whole new generation of teens has made their way to Igo. The Teen Library Leadership Council (TLLC) is expanding its membership as well, having only had 3 members after the majority of the last TLLC group graduated last school year.

Teen Services Librarian Marco De Leon spent quite a bit of time visiting three high schools to recruit a new group of teens to the Igo Branch library. Mr. De Leon led a group of Teen Services Librarians to represent SAPL in the yearly Student Success Day at Health Careers High School where students were informed of the valuable resources that SAPL offers for teens.

Mr. De Leon also spent the day showing refugee students at O’Connor High School what resources SAPL has available for them to be successful in school and was able to issue library cards to many of the students in attendance.

The members of Igo’s poetry club, PoeTree, met on September 19, October 3 and October 17, while the Mystery Club discussed *Dance of the Bones* on October 5.

On September 20, in recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month, Sylvia Reyna of Texana presented “Researching Hispanic Ancestors” to the Igo Genealogy Club.

On October 4, in celebration of Texas Night Out, Ramona Lucius issued library cards and program information to residents of Babcock North Apartments.

For National Archaeology Month, the Igo Elderberries hosted Whitney Lytle, Legacy Education Director at the UTSA Center for Archaeological Research, on October 6. Her presentation was on the ongoing UTSA “dig” at Xunantunich, Belize, a classic Mayan site. Guests were delighted to hear about...
the wonderful new finds from the summer 2016 research, in which one Elderberry participated, thereby fulfilling a lifetime dream.

The Hula Dance classes for seniors by Al and Tina Negrete continued on September 26 and October 3.

Numerous Elderberries volunteered for the Friends of Igo Book sale, held on October 1 and 2.

**JOHNSTON**

Adult Services Librarian Monica Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion of *We Could Be Beautiful We Could Be Beautiful* by Swan Huntley on September 21. On September 22 Monica hosted a presentation by the Alzheimer Association titled *Know the 10 Signs*. Monica attended the Springvale Neighborhood Association National Night Out October 5. On October 11 Monica joined the other Adult Services Librarians at an Assistant Manager’s Retreat held at Phil Hardberger Park. Monica held a reoccurring Adult Coloring program on October 13. On October 15 Monica organized a Pumpkin Carving event for the 3rd year at Johnston. Pumpkins were donated by the Pumpkin Patch of San Antonio and the Friends of Johnston Library.

Children’s Librarian Beverly Wrigglesworth’s story time themes included “Deer,” “Dogs,” “Elephants,” and “Farm Animals” and Family Fun themes included “Deer,” “Dogs,” “Hispanic Heritage-Parrots,” and “Farm Animals.” Beverly also posted a blog entry for the Kids Page: “Recommended Reading: The Hollow Boy.”

Library Assistant and Teen Liaison Nicole Garza’s weekly programs for teens are growing exponentially. She recently had a “cook out” for the teens and 25 participated. A group has asked that Johnston start hosting an Anime/Manga Club. The first meeting was held in October, and they will continue to meet every other Saturday morning. Another popular Teen event was “Cupcake Wars.” The Teens decorated cupcakes and members of the Johnston Friends group judged their creations.

Interim Manager Haley Holmes met with the Johnston Friends and presented the annual budget. The Friends agreed to sponsor all of the upcoming events including Star Wars Day, Halloween for kids, a snake presentation, and the purchase of a green screen and associated equipment.

**LANDA**

In September, the Teen Liaison Rebekah Corely and Children’s Librarian Jasmin Salinas began a Homework Hangout program for children over 8 years who come to Landa after school on their
own to do schoolwork. The program is not designed in any way to be a tutoring program. Instead, Ms. Corely and Ms. Salinas decided to just create a space where tweens (ages 9 to 12) and teens could work on homework together or individually in the library. During the week, Ms. Corely and Ms. Salinas take turns setting up the program that runs on Monday and Wednesday afternoons for about 2 hours. The meeting room is set up with tables and basic school supplies like pencils, erasers, and notebook paper provided by the branch. Ms. Corely and Ms. Salinas also frequently enter the room to interact with the kids doing work and offer normal library reference services to assist them in their work. The program has consistently been well attended. The tweens and teens that attend have been very positive in their feedback; appreciating the fact that Landa staff had set aside a space just for them.

Ms. Salinas continues to host Baby Time and Toddler Time on Tuesday mornings and Story Time on Thursday mornings; focusing on the importance of Early Literacy for our youngest patrons. Ms. Salinas also began to use her ukulele as an additional musical component in Baby Time with great success and a lot of positive feedback. One highlight during Baby Time recently was that one of the babies attending took their first steps during the middle of the program. The mom was ecstatic and the other caregivers present were extremely supportive and cheerful as we all took several minutes to cheer and applaud such a wonderful milestone. Due to such high attendance at Baby Time on Tuesday mornings, Ms. Salinas in October began offering an additional Baby Time program on Friday mornings.

Lego Club continues to be one of Landa’s most popular programs each month. One of the favorite challenges over the last month was one in which the kids were challenged to build an individual building (or two) to add to a city that could be displayed in the Landa branch. Many kids that attended choose to work together to tackle the project. The city they built is currently on display at Landa and has a police station, a park, a zoo, a superhero tower, an airport, and even a UFO landing station.

Landa’s Minecraft Builder’s Club also continues to bring the same patrons in each week who love seeing the new challenge and showing their creations and worlds to other kids who love Minecraft. At Landa’s last Minecraft Club, hosted by Ms. Salinas, the challenge was for those in attendance to build a rollercoaster.

Tween Time at Landa, subtitled “a mid-kid club”, by the Landa tweens that attend continues to have the same handful of families return for each program. The kids that come regularly bring their friends, so attendance continues to be steady. In September, Library Assistant Rebekah Corely had the tweens create an emoji pillow out of felt, and the program was a hit! The tweens came up to Ms. Salinas later and told her it was their favorite program yet. Since then the Tweens have made some socktopuses (or octopus out of a sock), built with straws and connectors, and chosen their next tween read.

In October, Landa was one of the San Antonio Public Library (SAPL) branches that celebrated World Octopus Day as a come and go craft. The meeting room was filled with the supplies
needed and families that came in on Friday, October 7th, had an extra treat as they got to make an
octopus together before heading home.

Landa branch was also the first of many SAPL locations to host the Fall Play & Learn
program: All About Pets. Ms. Salinas chaired the committee that designed the kit traveling to multiple
branch locations. The play and learn program about pets at Landa was a success. Over 40 young
children attended the program with their caregivers. Parents loved the messy play dough station, the
baby zone, the fun art project, and the dramatic play area where their children could pretend to be a vet.
Ms. Salinas received a lot of positive feedback about the program, and parents repeatedly came up to her
to tell her that these activities were something they were excited to duplicate at home.

October also saw a new challenge for Ms. Salinas when she taped a session for the TV
show SA Live to talk about library services and upcoming Halloween events. She took a craft for the
presenter to do while they chatted about the library. The presenter also loved the books she chose and
helped her to promote the wonderful resources and programs available at the public library for families.
Later in the month, Ms. Salinas also hosted SA Live at the Landa branch when their producer came out to
film one of her Lego Club families and talk to them about Lego Club at the San Antonio Public Libraries.

Ms. Salinas reconnected with the University Presbyterian Childcare Center for monthly story
times, and began visiting the site again in October. She presented three story times to almost 50 children
at their center; receiving a great deal of thanks from the teachers. The students in the 4 and 5 year old
classroom remembered her from last year and asked for more very silly stories.

Ms. Salinas also partnered with Library Assistant Rebekah Corley to attend an outreach for
6th graders at St. Anthony’s Middle School. Ms. Corely and Ms. Salinas spoke to two 6th grade classrooms
about library resources, focusing a great deal of attention on our online Homework Help services through
Tutor.com.

Adult fall programming is in full swing at Landa. The Mystery Book club enjoyed the
southwestern thriller The Spider Woman's Daughter by Anne Hillerman. This author is continuing the Joe
Leaphorn series begun by her late father, Tony Hillerman. The group agreed that she is following in his
footsteps and look forward to new titles by her. Adult Services Librarian Karen Sebesta challenged
members of the Reader's Ink book group to recommend titles and volunteer to lead the discussion. Ked
Mullins took her up on the challenge and recommended the complex classic by Water Prescott Webb,
The Texas Rangers: A Century of Frontier Defense. He led the discussion, assisted by new member
Jane Cavazos, who was so involved in the book that she went down to Texana for additional information!
[Thank you, Sylvia Reyna for assisting her!]

Karen's outreach at Kenwood Senior Center attracts a good-sized group who enjoy adult
coloring and doing a seasonal craft. In late September, she brought in a butterfly craft and used it as an
opportunity to talk about the monarch butterfly migration. The book club outreach at The Village at the Incarnate Word read the popular *No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith.

The October programming series at Landa began on Oct 10 with a presentation by veteran financial advisor Paul Darr who spoke on the topic of wealth management in preparation for retirement.

Karen enjoyed the Assistant Manager’s Retreat at Hardberger Park in early October. Many thanks to Roberta Sparks for organizing this very informative and pleasurable event.

Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley and Karen Sebesta represented Landa Library at the Monte Vista National Night Out held at Laurel Heights United Methodist Church. They visited with and shared information about library programming with over fifty adults, teens, and children. The younger ones (and some of the older ones!) enjoyed a “leaf-rubbing” craft to help kick off that “fall feeling.”

As a former Children’s Services Librarian, Karen volunteered to assist at Forest Hills Branch, filling in at their Kid’s Time. She took along her keyboard and a craft to go with the fall-themed stories she read.

Landa Teens are maintaining their fierce momentum in their contributions towards programming and branch services. Eight programs were facilitated by Library Assistant and Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley, which were led by teens and included an Emoji pillow maker night, an informative and collaborative chalk art project inspired by San Antonio’s Art Pace Chalk It Up festival, and the first of many recurring meetings of the Teens’ Cooking Club.

Ms. Corley and her colleague Melissa Carroll visited Alamo Heights Junior School to help promote library services and meet the community students, many who are Landa regulars!

A brand new library service - Homework Hangout – in collaboration with children’s librarian Jasmin Salinas, has built a strong foundation and has become a staple of the library’s day to day services to students. As a dedicated homework space for students seeking independent study environments, it has received enthusiastic feedback and attendance from the committee students.

**LAS PALMAS**

Squirrels, squirrels and more squirrels! On September 27th, preschoolers enjoyed listening to stories about squirrels and learning fun facts during Bilingual Story Time. Ms. Patricia Perez introduced new vocabulary words about autumn, increasing phonetic awareness. The squirrel hat craft was a big hit!

Family Fun continues to go strong at Las Palmas. On October 3rd, families played with colors making layered tissue paper rainbows, tie-dye baby wipes, and discovering the science of skittles by
making color pinwheels on plates with skittles and hot water. On October 10th the branch celebrated its Hispanic heritage with a parrot craft and story session.

On September 24th, the Las Palmas library hosted a celebration to honor those members of the ongoing citizenship classes at the branch. In conjunction with Hispanic Heritage Month, the program aimed to get new citizens and family members of those who were not yet citizens registered to vote in time for this year’s very important presidential election. This event was sponsored by the Friends of the Las Palmas Library and in conjunction with Mi Familia Vota and Academia America.

On September 21st, the Adult Book Club discussed *Train to Crystal City: FDR’s Secret Prisoner Exchange Program & America’s Only Family Internment Camp During WWII*, by Jan Jarboe Russell (2015). Nine people learned new aspects of American History such as the FBI wiretapping President Roosevelt's wife because she opposed the internment of immigrants that many in the country feared must be spies after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

**MAVERICK**

Maverick staff had the opportunity to host a Chinese Culture presentation as well as a drone safety program during the reporting period. Maverick also welcomed a representative from the Elections Office to help register voters and a representative from the Daughters of Charity promoting the upcoming open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act. Additionally Maverick provided space for an ongoing Chronic Illness support group and one HOA.

During the reporting period, Lego Time continued to be popular, averaging around 50 kids and parents. A patron kindly donated some brand new green Lego base pieces which will help with the kids’ projects.

On October 11, Children’s Librarian Amy Roberts met with the Bluebonnet Bloggers afterschool club at Nichols Elementary. The group had a lively discussion about the book *Mesmerized* which is the second out of the five books they will read before voting for their favorite book in January.

**McCRELESS**

McCreless had a busy month with adult programming. The League of Women Voters offered an informative nonpartisan program on how to select a candidate at the local, state and national levels. The branch, in conjunction with a representative from the Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union, offered a Basic Financial Services course, which discussed financial service providers, explained how checking and savings accounts work, reviews the benefits of a debit card and explores the features of financial services. Finally, the branch’s popular Movie Time showing was Poltergeist.
McCreless Library held College Night on September 21st and provided information on how to evaluate colleges and college entrance requirements using library resources. Teens were encouraged to discuss their college plans and expectations with other teens. Teen programming at McCreless Library included a Cranium board game night for some friendly competition and in October, teens created some Halloween inspired crafts. On October 12th teens were invited to try their hand at making Sushi with a twist. Teens used a variety of candy and sweet treats to create some delicious dessert sushi.

McCreless staff attended two National Night Out events on Tuesday, October 4th. Library Assistant Ana Menchaca attended the Highland Hills Neighborhood Association National Night Out. She spoke with around 25 to 30 people, including 10-15 Spanish speakers about the services the library offers. She handed out library brochures and voter registration cards. She explained how voting works to several people.

Branch Manager Morgan Hansen attended the Harlandale ISD National Night Out event with Gladis Martinez and Nathan Laubner from the Pan American Branch. These three library staff spoke with 135 children and 90 adults. They highlighted upcoming programs and distributed library card applications.

On September 27th, McCreless Branch Library hosted voter registrar Liliana Mireles of NALEO as part of National Voter Registration Day and several people were registered to vote. McCreless staff were very busy on October 11 (deadline to register to vote for the upcoming election) assisting the public with voter registration questions and mailed in 22 voter registration forms on behalf of patrons.

MEMORIAL

Memorial Branch Children’s Department introduced two new programs in October. One is a Preschool Story Time on Wednesdays at 11 a.m., and the other is a Family Fun Time on Thursdays at 6 PM. The children’s librarian conducted visits to three elementary schools to speak to the librarians, resulting in visits with the second grade children at Fenwick Elementary and Loma Park Elementary. The children’s librarian was also a guest at two open house events at Madison Elementary and spoke to the PTA at Fenwick Elementary. A Pre-K 4 SA group made a Saturday visit to the branch. They listened to a story, did a craft, and explored the Children’s area.

Memorial Teens started this reporting period with upcycled magazine art. Teens rolled up pages from discarded magazines and created awesome 3-D silhouettes. The following week teens used molds, scents and dyes to craft their own unique soaps. October 4th was National Night Out. JD from Central Library brought guitars for Memorial teens to try out. Teen volunteers helped younger kids with the bean bag toss and horse shoe games. The following Tuesday teens made Halloween snow globes. Teens
used polymer clay to create scenes such as a spooky graveyard with a pumpkin and tombstone. They added glitter and water to jars in order to create fun glitter globes.

Memorial hosted our partners, the Bibliotech, on October 6th. An information table was set up so patrons could walk up and find out about their services and resources. At least 19 customers visited their table; some brought their mobile devices to learn how to use their library system. The Bibliotech staff enjoyed visiting Memorial and would like to visit our other locations too.

Memorial Branch Library in partnership with Memorial Heights Neighborhood Association, the Loma Park Neighborhood Association, the Loma Vista Neighborhood Association and the Memorial Amigos-Friends Group hosted National Night Out on October 4th. The Baptist Health Systems Mobile Health Screening van attended and conducted free health checks. The screening included blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar test. The St. Mary’s University Code Blue Dance Team performed for the audience. The H-E-B on Culebra donated soft drinks, water, buns, chips and hotdogs for the event. The Memorial Friends used funds to purchase “paletas” and condiments for the hotdogs. The children were really excited to see Mcgruff the Crime Dog! We had over 100 people in attendance.

MISSION

Libros and Legos returned this month, alternating Mondays with Read to a Dog. Both programs continue to grow and attract a wide range of ages. The Libros and Legos program has more people every time. This week, a new family to the library was very enthusiastic and happy with the variety of programs Mission offers for her family. The mom of 6 loves the library now and brings her children often to sit and read and attend programs such as Libros and Legos. Next, she plans to attend Toddler Time with her 3 year old.

The Tweens have been enjoying the new Mondo Pad, playing video games on it. The Mondo Pad has also been used for Toddler Time programming, especially the white board feature. The children’s Halloween party is coming up and preparations are being made for a fun event, which will include the Mondo Pad.

Mission teens celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month in many culturally creative ways. Teens created clay calaveras with air dry clay that were reminiscent of Dia de los Muertos. Teens also embossed small metal tiles to create floral decorations that resembled artisan metal tiles from Mexico. Teens also participated in ink printing with wood blocks created by Make San Antonio. These wooden blocks featured San Antonio’s Tower of the Americas. Teens enjoyed creating multi-colored prints with the wood blocks.

Mission library in Partnership with the Mission Marquee had a Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration, the Vitrina Latino Music and Culture Festival, with events throughout the day. Mission
Library hosted two panel discussions one called *Trovadores- San Antonio Trios: Exploring the Rich Stories of the People and Sounds of the Alamo city*. The other one was a Mariachi workshop presentation with Guzman Mariachi Academy. Both Panel discussions were popular and well attended.

Mission Library hosted a National Night Out organized by a group of Home Owners Associations from the area providing food and entertainment for all. This event is growing year by year and everybody has a great time. Councilwoman Viagran and Representative Roland Gutierrez were among the attendees.

Mission Library partnered with the City Employee Sportsfest Program and hosted a Table Tennis Tournament for city employees.

The Friends of the Mission library had their second annual book sale.

**PAN AMERICAN**

In observance of Hispanic Heritage month, the Pan American Branch held a variety of programs. The artwork of Ashley Mireles was on display for all to enjoy. Additionally, a reception for the artist was held on October 5th that included refreshments such as Mexican pastries and empanadas. Families also had the opportunity to build a shadow box craft featuring prominent Hispanic Civic Leaders.

Earlier in the day the Children’s Librarian Gladis Martinez held a kid’s time for Hispanic Heritage Month.

Ben Longoria, Adult Services Librarian, continued to visit the Normoyle Senior Center located in district 3. His twice monthly visits have proven to be very popular with an average of 40 people in attendance. Mr. Longoria had a variety of games for the seniors and everyone got a prize at the end.

On October 4th, Branch Manager Nathaniel Laubner along with Children’s Librarian Gladis Martinez and the new Branch Manager from the McCreless Library Morgan Hansen attended the Harlandale National Night at the Hardlandale Memorial Stadium. The event was a great opportunity to promote SAPL and the Southside branches in particular. Over 200 people stopped by the Library’s table to learn more about all the resources available to the community. It was a night of great entertainment and community information.

To celebrate “Star Wars Reads” days, Gladis Martinez had fun activities for all ages as well as a showing of one of the Star Wars movies. The Literacy Caravan also stopped by to provide educational activities for early readers. Teen Liaison Lisa Leandro also held a variety of programs for Pan American Teens. One program in particular, the Pokemon Hunt where teens searched for a different character throughout the library, proved to be very popular. The teens and families enjoyed the challenge of finding the different Pokemon. Additionally, the Pan American Branch held a Hobbit Days program where teens got the chance to watch as many Hobbit movies as they liked.
Finally, the six week Diabetes Prevention and Control Workshop held at the Pan American Branch in partnership with Metro Health proved to be very successful. Over the course of the six week period 75 people from around the city attended. Those participants that attended at least 4 weeks of the workshop received a goody bag filled with items to help manage their diabetes and adopt a healthier lifestyle.

**PARMAN**

Teen Services Librarian I Marisa Debow teamed up with Parman Friends for National Night Out on October 4th. Friends members served hotdogs to the public while the School of Rock house band played. The Parman Friends also relied heavily on Mrs. Debow for support with their second annual craft show. Mrs. Debow also did presentations on Library Services at both Lopez Middle School and Reagan High School.

Children Services Librarian II Carrie Vance continued with all of her regular programs including Baby Time, Toddler Time, and Story Time. Ms. Vance also hosted a DIY U program where participants made birds out of yarn. It was very popular.

Adult Services Librarian II Tim Johnson coordinated book groups for both Independence Village retirement community and for the Laurels assisted living facility. Parman’s science fiction book group Escape the Earth has been reading Kim Stanley Robinson’s Mars Trilogy. Parman hosted the San Antonio Astronomical Association towards the end of September. Approximately 40 adults and children got the opportunity to view Venus, Mars, and Saturn through telescopes. Mr. Johnson also teamed up with Cresencia Huff and Gamini Haluwana from Central to bring the Ukulele club to Parman. The program attracted more than 20 participants.

**PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS**

Children attending Kids’ Time at Pruitt took part in the September 21st worldwide event “Pinwheels for Peace”. Along with parents, they listened intently to the touching selection *The Peace Book*, written by Todd Parr. Afterwards, they made colorful pinwheels and had a great time outside as they held their creations and watched them spin.

Kids recognized Hispanic Heritage Month with a reading of *Mango, Abuela and Me* by author Meg Medina. They also made a parrot craft, incorporating some of the translations from the book on the wings and tail feathers. They used translations such as “dough” and “masa” and “abuela” and “grandmother”.
The science SPARK kids’ program kicked off its third year at Pruitt Library. Led by Roosevelt science teacher Misty Belmontez, students were delighted as they listened to a reading of *Amazing Magnetism* and took part in experiments involving magnetism. Several regular attendees from last year returned and are looking forward to some new, exciting lessons!

Teens at Pruitt continue to impress the library staff with their work ethic. Volunteers are working on a variety of projects including prepping Kids’ Time crafts, organizing supplies, assisting staff members with programming, and planning teen events.

Mindful Mondays sessions continue to draw teens into the library. The concept of mindfulness is intriguing because it exposes teens to new ideas and helps them develop practical strategies. Carrie Edmond, the facilitator of Mindful Mondays at Pruitt, is a school counselor at White Middle School. Mrs. Edmond is certified to teach mindfulness to students, and after the session on Monday, October 3rd, she remarked about how impressed she was with the teens’ ability and willingness to stretch the time that they spend in silence and practice mindfulness techniques on their own.

Teen Read Week offered a great opportunity for Pruitt teen librarian Rae Downen and Roosevelt High School librarian Lynnette Perez to collaborate. They joined forces to encourage teens to check out and read more books by focusing on this year’s Teen Read Week theme, *Read for the Fun of It!* For each SAPL or Roosevelt High School book checked out, students received a ticket. When tickets were drawn, lucky teens got to choose from an assortment of prizes: an Amy’s Ice Cream gift certificate, a book tote, flash drives, ear buds and more.

The teen librarian and Teen Library Leadership Committee focused on the Core values of teamwork and innovation when they met on Wednesday, October 5th to plan upcoming teen activities. They selected the next two books for the teen book club and planned a fun maker space activity. When suggesting books to be read by the club, the committee members practiced their skills in using the online catalog to make sure sufficient copies would be available.

For the past year, English as a Second Language (ESL) Tutoring for Adults has been a popular class at Pruitt. The class meets on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm and is facilitated by community volunteers. Pruitt staff recently collaborated with a Roosevelt High School family specialist to add another weekly ESL tutoring class to the schedule. This new class meets on Thursdays from noon to 1:30 pm.

During October, Special Needs Adult Programming (SNAP) focused on fall. Attendees laughed out loud while listening to the book *Sophie’s Squash* by Pat Zietlow Miller and enjoyed making fall wreaths using paper, foam and fabric leaves.
TGIF Adult Book Club members participated in a lively discussion of Kent Haruf’s final novel *Our Souls at Night*. Next month the club is reading the Nebula and Hugo Award-winning science fiction novel *Ender’s Game* by Orson Scott Card.

Families continue to flock to Family Chess Nights, held on Thursdays from 5:45 to 7:30 p.m. Teen volunteers help serve dinner, sponsored by Rackspace, to over 50 patrons each week. After dinner and chess play, Chess Master Alex teaches an advanced chess lesson to patrons ranging from elementary-aged children to adults.

Tuesday night Zumba class is a favorite and longstanding adult program at Pruitt. Patrons exercise to upbeat routines led by a certified Zumba instructor. This dynamic class meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**SAN PEDRO**

In response to the changing demographics in the San Pedro Library service area, Children’s Fall Programming was modified. The popular Minecraft Monday Club is continuing throughout the school year. Kids Time is on Wednesday (with the first Wednesday of the month being the very popular LEGO Club). Baby Time is held on Mondays, with the new Toddler Time following immediately afterwards, allowing parents the time to socialize and chat between the programs.

Ms. Dalton presented monthly story times to children at Educare Child Care Center (two classes) and Monte Vista Montessori (two classes). Fifteen to twenty books were also delivered to each child care/preschool class for their use during the month. She also presented a monthly story time to a new group of children at Respite Care’s shelter and story times to two combined classes at Respite Care Child Care.

Bags of books on various themes requested by teachers at Bonham Academy, Kipp Poder, and Monte Vista Montessori were also delivered. These included books on Hispanic Heritage, historical fiction, the human body, weather, and animal habitats.

On September 28, a new 5th grade book club met at Beacon Hill Academy during their “Power” period. The book selected to read for next month is *Haunted Histories*. The Monte Vista Montessori book club met on September 29 and selected *The Trouble with Chickens* to discuss next month.

On September 28, Ms. Dalton represented SAPL at the Hawthorne Academy Family Literacy Night. She talked about how easy it is to get a library card, and what SAPL can do for families. Manager Backhus did the same at Green Elementary School’s Literacy Night on September 30. Hispanic Heritage was celebrated at a Family Fun event held on October 2.
World Octopus Day was celebrated on October 8. The children watched octopuses in action on the iPad and made an octopus to take home.

On October 16, a Play and Learn early literacy event was held at San Pedro for young children and their parents. The topic was gravity and one of the very popular stations was anticipating which inclined plane surface would allow matchbox-type cars to go the fastest.

Wilson Plunkett and Greg Cruz attended the Alta Vista Neighborhood Association’s National Night Out event on October 4. The event was held at a home on Gramercy Place. Mr. Plunkett and Mr. Cruz set up an information table, and many of the people attending stopped by to pick up information about the library, to register to vote; or to reminisce about their wonderful experiences at the San Pedro Library. Many of the Alta Vista residents grew up in the neighborhood, and remembered the branch as the library of their younger years. The beautiful weather and great company made for a delightful evening. This is sure to become a traditional event for the library and neighborhood.

City Councilman Roberto Trevino (District 1) hosted his first Bond Block Party at San Pedro Park on October 15. Robert Briseno and Karla Vasquez (Marketing) represented the Library. The event was small, but many attendees came by the library table and were informed about Library services; digital services seemed to be the most popular. Visitors to the library table received a bag with the new logo, a pencil and various informational book marks.

SEMMES

The Semmes Branch Library hosted the Friends of Comanche Lookout Park’s National Night Out on Tuesday, October 4th. The Friends of the Semmes Branch Library provided some refreshments for the event. The Comanche Friends provided roasted marshmallows and a white elephant giveaway table, as well as providing a lot of information on community partners and events.

The Semmes Friends group held their Fall Book Sale on Saturday, October 8th, with a Preview Sale for Friends members on Friday, October 7th. Many of the Friends came out to help run the sale. Friends President Judy Wilson reported that after paying sales tax, the sale made about $1,300.00 with an extra $45.00 in donations. The staff of the branch is extremely grateful to have such an outstanding Friends group.

World Octopus Day was on Saturday, October 8th. Randi Jones, Children’s Librarian, celebrated this event with an octopus themed Family Fun. Families were treated to octopus themed stories and crafts.

September and October were both busy with people picking up Voter’s Registration cards at the branch. Tuesday, October 11th, the last day to register to vote before the November election was especially busy. For people who would be unable to have their registration postmarked by 5:00 PM, the
libraries were a designated spot to drop off voter’s registration cards. Branch Manager Jamie Flowers drove 18 applications to the Bexar County Elections Office on Tuesday, October 12th. It was gratifying for staff to know that they helped people have the chance to vote in the upcoming elections.

THOUSAND OAKS

Children at the Thousand Oaks library have been very busy. On October 6, Toddler Time and Storytime featured the theme of World Octopus Day. Stories, songs, and an octopus craft delighted attendees. Branch Manager Troy Lawrence attended Northern Hills Elementary’s October PTA meeting on October 4. Eighteen families learned about the library’s educational resources such as Live Homework Help, Learning Express Library database, and how to get library cards. Many parents took advantage of the voter’s registration cards available at the table.

Voter’s registration was very active on October 11. Many neighborhood customers stopped by for information concerning their eligibility to vote, to gather voter’s registration cards, or to inquire as to when early voting will occur. Thousand Oaks will be an early voting site this upcoming election season. Early voting will begin on October 24 and run through November 4. The branch anticipates a larger voter turnout.

Tie dyed t-shirts was one activity in which the teens participated during the month of October. Teens learned about hypothesizing when they decided how to tie their shirt to produce their desired results. Besides producing a shirt that they could wear, they learned about color saturation and color mixing. Teens at Thousand Oaks determined what types of activities in which they would like to participate. This is a challenging and fun way to keep Teens involved in the programs at the branch.

A good discussion was had by all at the Thousand Oaks Thursday Book Group on September 15. The Little Paris Bookshop by Nina George was our read for the month of September. Monsieur Perdu calls his floating bookshop the “literary apothecary” which is moored to the banks of the Seine River in Paris. All book lovers who enter this Little Paris Bookshop are treated with a book, which Monsieur Perdu deems appropriate for the reader. All the ladies who attended the discussion enjoyed the book. An animated discussion ensued, and the hour was completed by the group enjoying some delicious refreshments.

September’s Northeast Senior Center Book Club’s selection was Kate Atkinson’s Life After Life. Many readers felt that the ability to live a life over and over again was a curse, and did not wish Ursula’s fate on anyone. The story did lead many to consider choices made in their own lives that brought them to where they are now, and the group discussed decisions that could have led to other paths.

TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL
George Gervin Academy continues its partnership with Tobin at Oakwell by busing their students to the branch to check out books. Attendance ranged from 29 children to 70 children each day October 3 – 7. Children’s Librarian Karen Braeuler shares information on a subject usually with songs while the classes visit.

Children’s Librarian Karen Braeuler incorporated National Playdough Day at Tween time on September 20 where kids and some adults got to squish and squash with this popular play activity. Tween time on October 4 blended STEM theory with fun when kids collaborated and were challenged to build monsters with straws and connectors on tables near the teen room so everyone could check out the unique creatures.

On September 19, Librarian Rhonda Woolhouse trained eight staff at the City’s Northeast Senior Center on how to use the mobile digital library. They in turn will help seniors visiting the center utilize this unique digital resource. Ms. Woolhouse was one of six SAPL staff that was selected to participate on the Library’s Tri-Centennial Steering Committee for the City of San Antonio’s 300th Anniversary in 2018. The two year commitment by Ms. Woolhouse is commendable and important working with Library Services Administrator Candelaria Mendoza to offer programs to enhance the celebration.

The Alamo Area Wood Carvers held a wood carving session on September 24 where registrants were able to learn different basic techniques and create a take home project. Adult coloring and craft programs continued with solid attendance at each monthly program. On October 8, as part of Hispanic Heritage month, the branch presented Latinos in Public Service and the Legacy of Henry B. Gonzalez. Eugene Rodriguez shared the political legacy of H. B. Gonzalez and his influence in shaping San Antonio.

Library Assistant Elvia Ramos, hosted two unique programs in September with teens. Thaumatropes were created using images on cardstock and straws. When twirled these are creative optical toys. Teens created special art by painting withdrawn and damaged CD’s with acrylic paint then etching them with their own drawings. Excited for Halloween, teens decorated the entrance and glass wall of their room with spiders and trees and a small cemetery.

Special congratulations to Tobin at Oakwell’s five year employee, Library Assistant Elvia Ramos and 20 year employee, Circulation Attendant April Martinez. Both were recognized for their years of service with the City of San Antonio, along with other library and city employees, and treated to a Pre-Season Spurs game on October 8 at the ATT center. Manager Tracey Knouse continues participation on a committee of managers creating an on-line Library Guide for managers. In addition, Ms. Knouse is serving in the library’s pilot program of mentors and mentees with Circulation Attendant Robert Barba at Great Northwest branch through January.
Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell held a successful book sale on October 14 -15. Funds generated will help fulfill the annual plan for spending on special programs, supplies and additional furniture both inside and outside the branch.

The branch’s main entrance featured a Voter Registration display to sign up by October 11 and ended up having 365 folks register during the three week display. Other collection highlights this period include October Breast Cancer Awareness month, VIA’s Poetry on the Move contest, and for horror – “I wouldn’t be caught dead without a book”.

WESTFALL

Voter registrars set up a table in the foyer on three days to help potential voters get ready for the Nov. 8 election. The first day they registered 25 voters.

Teen Librarian Megan Stanley spent several days at Jefferson High School talking about library services and teen programming. During the course of her visits she spoke with more than 1,700 students and has been invited to participate in the school’s book discussion group, which includes more than 50 students.

Manager Sherrie Hardin set up a table at Dellview Park on National Night Out. The Dellview Area Neighborhood Association’s annual event drew a large crowd for hot dogs, paletas, sodas, balloon animals and face painting. Ms. Hardin talked about what Westfall Branch Library has to offer, and one teenager she talked to showed up for Teen Time the next day.

Children’s Librarian Imelda Merino attended the Maverick Neighborhood Association’s National Night Out activities. Mrs. Merino had a craft for children and handed out library literature. The evening’s activities included a cake walk and lots of vendors giving away lots of prizes.

Mrs. Merino also talked with a few students at Longfellow Middle School.

The Friends of the Westfall Branch Library brought in sandwiches, lemonade, salad and desserts in September to show staff how much they are appreciated.

Westfall’s Learn Center hosted a series of painting classes taught by Ukwanni Warumbe. The classes were designed to teach a new way to release stress while making a nice painting for the home or office. The Learn Center also celebrated its second anniversary by treating patrons to a sandwich, fresh fruit or cupcakes from Bird Bakery.

Ms. Stanley has been working on rearranging shelving and finding furniture to create a place where teens can gather and utilize the library’s resources.
October marked the final visit of the season for the San Antonio Food Bank’s Mobile Mercado food truck.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES
## San Antonio Public Library
**Fiscal Year-to-Date Comparisons**
September 2016 (100% of FY Completed)

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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

10/18/16
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Circulation includes Digital (Freegal, OneClick, Overdrive) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt.
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<th>Hours of Computer / Wi-Fi Use*</th>
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Circulation includes Digital (Freegal, OneClick, Overdrive) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt
San Antonio Public Library

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

10/18/2016
San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures

FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

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San Antonio Public Library

Visits

Location Closures
FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12
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Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Sep

- FY 2016
- FY 2015
- FY 2014

Location Closures

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10/18/2016
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*Combined measure of Public Computers Hours of Use and Wi-Fi Hours of Use

Hours of Computer/Wi-Fi Use

FY 2016
FY 2015
FY 2014

10/18/2016