Community Activist Rosie Castro, Councilman Roberto Treviño, Dr. Tomas Ybarra y Frausto, Texas Poet Laureate Dr. Carmen Tafolla and Library Director Ramiro Salazar, at Viva Libro—Latino Collection and Resource Center First Year Anniversary Celebration, September 15, 2018.
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DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

The San Antonio Public Library partnered with the San Antonio Public Library Foundation to prepare an exhibit, *Winds and Words of War*, of World War I lithographic propaganda posters. The posters are from the San Antonio Public Library’s Texana Collection and over the past eighteen months have traveled across Germany, Belgium, the United Kingdom, and France as part of a traveling exhibit. The exhibit honors the legacy and leadership of San Antonio, Texas and Bexar County in World War I to train, supply and outfit over 200,000 troops and planes to support the front lines in France. As the eve of the 100 year anniversary of the end of World War I on November 11 is near, it is fitting for the lithographs to close their European tour in France. Library Director Ramiro Salazar traveled to France to represent the City of San Antonio and San Antonio Public Library during the closing reception for the exhibit. The international exhibit was funded through a grant to the Library Foundation by Bexar County Commissioners Court and all expenses related to travel to France are being paid by this grant.

The posters apart of the exhibit are part of a collection of 462 vintage propaganda prints and lithographs from World War I held in the San Antonio Public Library’s Texana Collection.

On September 24, 2018, the Pan American Branch Library will close for seven (7) days to undergo interior and exterior building improvements. The Library will reopen to the public on October 1, 2018. The Library has launched a communication strategy to inform customers and the neighborhood about the project, the temporary closure and information to access library resources while the Pan American Branch Library is closed. The Library has also engaged Councilwoman Viagran’s Office regarding the upcoming planned closure. A memo was sent to the City Manager with copies to Councilwoman Viagran that outlines the project scope of work to take place during the planned closure.

MARKETING

Top media hits for the past month:

- SAPL was mentioned in Washington Post story about WWI France and related exhibits to visit. This story was carried heavily by many media outlets.
- KENS-5 aired segment to challenge San Antonio to pick up a book and read. The segment was shot at Central and the public was encouraged to visit SAPL libraries.
- KSAT featured a story about the Library Foundation’s traveling exhibit of WWI posters and their final destination in France.
- American Libraries Magazine published a feature story about libraries and digital inclusion. SAPL staff and digital inclusion efforts were a large portion of article.
- Express News coverage of a new documentary chronicling the history of blacks in San Antonio includes DL Grant, Carver Library branch manager.

The design team has created materials to prepare for several programs, events and other design support as needed: Rock the Plaza, Uniform 300, LCRC First anniversary, Newsletter, Hispanic heritage Month, Library Card Sign-Up Month, Vote campaign, Forest Hills Anniversary, My Tejano roots, STEM for adults, Learn, Chuhily library card, YP materials, STEAM materials, Page Marker, Learn materials, van wraps, Forensic materials, Low-brary materials and Friends arts & letters.
The team is currently planning for Our Family Reads- District 8 edition, the Forest Hills Branch Library 30th Anniversary, National Library Card Sign Up Month is ongoing through September. Marketing is also working on the voting registration campaigns, Rock the Plaza the Lowbrary Car Show during Hispanic Heritage Month, Teen Arts Fest and, finally, designing and developing a plan to connect visiting dignitaries with Library cards.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:

- Videos on SAPL’s Facebook page were viewed over 5,000 times during the reporting period
- #mysapl was used 922 times on Instagram during the reporting period
- A photo of a book display at a SAPL branch received 267 likes on Instagram
- A tweet mentioning International Literacy Day and encouraging the public to listen SAPLs podcast was seen 22,000 times (topic~”What makes someone want to work in a library?”)

Social Media statistics for the month:

1. Facebook: 16,511 page likes
2. Twitter: 4,515 followers
3. Instagram: 2,707 followers
4. Snapchat: 280 followers

DIGITAL SERVICES

Digital Library Services Analyst Tricia Masterson and Digital Library Services Assistant Christina Hess worked with ITSD to establish profiles for the iPads being added to the Library. The iPads will be used to facilitate programming at Library locations.

The Digital Services teams began working with the Organizational Health Unit on defining the new Staff Web’s role in providing information in staff. A forthcoming Library Directive is being created to help staff understand and more effectively use Library channels of communication, such as the new website.

On August 28, 2018, photographer and author Michael Cirlos visited the Kampmann Portal. Mr. Cirlos’ book, “Humans of San Antonio” is a featured part of the Kampmann Display, “Centuries of immigration.”

Coordinator of Digital Services Ron Suszek and Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun being working with Innovative Interfaces to coordinate the annual removal of old fine data in accordance with Fiscal policy. The data is expected to be removed and archived on September 18, 2018.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents—School is back in session and the first every Every Child Ready to Read workshops are on the calendar. The Little Read Wagon team will soon be busy visiting pre-k and Head Start programs throughout Bexar County.
Outreach Story Time Programs—Story time programs were offered at Nurturing Hearts, La Petite Eckhert, Joys of Heaven, and King of Kings early childhood centers.

Play & Learn—The request to use city parks for Play & Learn was approved and the fall programs are on the library events calendar. In addition to the usual outdoor programs, Little Read Wagon will offer an indoor series at Harlandale Community Center in January, when it is relatively cold. This indoor series is at the request of the community center supervisor and will be presented in the late afternoon to accommodate facility hours and families who have children in preschool.

At the suggestion of a frequent Play & Learn participant, Little Read Wagon obtained permission to use a vacant retail space at Rolling Oaks Mall for a rare indoor series of events. The series began August 28 and will continue every Tuesday morning through September 25. Registration was required and the initial response was so great the Little Read Wagon team decided to break the group into two sessions: one at 9am and another at 10:15am. Given the very hot weather the first week and the rainy weather the following two weeks, an indoor venue was deeply appreciated.

Workshops for Professionals—Another “Early Literacy Basics” workshop was presented September 1. The second “Why? Using nonfiction books in early childhood settings” workshop was presented September 8. Both were well received and the team is pleased with the feedback provided by attendees.

Building Connections—Little Read Wagon staff represented the Library at the following community events:

- Palo Alto Elementary back to school night, August 17
- The Children’s Shelter Nurse Family Partnership back to school night, August 23
- Latched 1st Birthday Celebration, August 25
- Metro Health’s Healthy Start program South Community Baby Shower, August 29

Crescencia Huff met with an education coordinator for the San Antonio Water System to offer ideas and feedback on their new early childhood water saver initiative.

Ms. Huff and Julia Lazarin went to Brighton Center to meet with Early Childhood Intervention staff about Play & Learn collaborations that would enhance services provided to children with developmental delays and special needs. Brighton Center staff also came to two Play & Learn programs at Rolling Oaks Mall to observe Little Read Wagon strategies used in facilitating activities for children and their caregivers.

Elizabeth Huber, a volunteer deputy voter registrar, assisted with voter registration at all four Pre-K 4SA campuses.

Clair Larkin met with Communities in Schools staff at Excel Academy, a Northside Independent School District alternative campus, about providing services to pregnant and parenting teens.

CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Summer Reading 2018
The Mayor’s Summer Reading Club 2018, Adventures in Library Land, drew to a close on Friday, August 31 with a grand total of 26,675 children registering to participate. Reviewing past registration figures, the 2018 total is in keeping with the 10-year average of 26,628. Completion of the club requirement to read (or listen to) eight books in 2018 came in at 11,054 which is also on target for the 10-year average of 11,604.
The children’s librarians enthusiastically celebrated the close of Summer Reading at their monthly meeting in September. Summer Reading is a time of intense activity for all front-line library staff, but especially for the children’s librarians who jointly presented over 1600 programs in June and July. In addition to celebrating 2018’s successes, the staff reviewed this year’s challenges with an eye towards improvements in 2019 when the summer reading theme *Over the Moon* coincides with the 50th anniversary of the moon landing.

**TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

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**Partnership/San Japan—Teen Services continued its tradition of hosting a Manga Library & Reading Room at the 11th Annual San Japan Anime Convention. The Manga Library & Reading Room was a great success and a hit among attendees, allowing both local and visiting attendees to get a glimpse of the San Antonio Public Library’s extensive manga and graphic novel collections from Friday, August 31 through Sunday, September 2. Attendees also learned about the variety of teen programs and services offered by the San Antonio Public Library throughout the city. A special thanks goes to out to Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central), J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central), Adam Tutor (Teen Outreach Specialist), Daniella Toll (Teen Services Librarian I, Westfall), Julia Pouliot (Teen Services Librarian I, Encino), Georgina Salinas (Assistant Manager/Teen Services Librarian II, Bazan) Nicole Garza (Teen Services Liaison, Pan American), Leslie (Teen Library @ Central volunteer), and Esteban (Teen Library @ Central volunteer) for helping out with the Manga Library throughout the weekend of San Japan!**

**Partnership/Fiesta Youth and Project Worth/Metropolitan Health District—On Tuesday, August 28, over 55 teens visited the Teen Library @ Central for a Suicide Prevention Awareness event in partnership with Project Worth from the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District and Fiesta Youth, San Antonio’s premier LGBTQ youth support program. The American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions engaged with teens through a drum circle, and afterwards Project Worth led teens through a creation of a “Wall of Hope.” Jennifer Velasquez (Coordinator of Teen Services), Kathleen Fordyce (Manager, Teen Library @ Central), and Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) worked with Meredith Howe and Yvonne Herrera-Rendon (San Antonio Metropolitan Health District) as well as Erica Alcocer (Youth Facilitator, Fiesta Youth) to coordinate and plan the event.**

**Partnership/Fiesta Youth—Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) met with Erica Alcocer (Youth Coordinator, Fiesta Youth) to finalize upcoming partnership programming between**
Teen Services at the San Antonio Public Library and Fiesta Youth. Fiesta Youth will visit four library locations in the coming months: Pan American in September, Encino in October, Las Palmas in November, and Central in December. Fiesta Youth will interact with teens at each location through unique, thoughtful, and engaging programming. Alcocer is also planning to attend the Teen Services Librarians & Liaisons meeting in October to provide sensitivity training for Teen Services staff.

**Partnership/San Antonio Food Bank**—Teen Services resumed its partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank to provide after-school healthy snacks for teens during the school year. The Teen Library @ Central serves snacks Monday—Thursday from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM.

**Professional Workgroup Meeting**—On Wednesday, September 12, Teen Services Librarians met at the Encino Branch Library for the regularly scheduled Teen Services Professional Workgroup meeting. The group received a tour of the Encino Branch Library, discussed upcoming initiatives, presented new workgroup opportunities, and had a roundtable discussion about future summer programming.

**Professional Development**—During the reporting period, Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager) served on two interview panels for Teen Services Librarian positions. Loaiza also attended the Library Leadership Team meeting in August.

Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) attended a planning meeting for the 2019 Pop Con program. Loaiza is working on bringing a local Retro Game Museum to the event, as well as creating an exhibit for local independent game developers to showcase their newest and upcoming games.

**ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

**Game Night for Grownups** was held at the Central Library from 6-10pm on Saturday August 25th. Over 400 adults enjoyed games of all types on the 1st and 2nd floors. Laser tag was held in the stacks of the LCRC, and Pokemon Go crafts and games were available in the auditorium foyer. The auditorium was transformed into a life size gameboard where attendees enjoyed rounds of hungry hungry hippos. Carnival games were available on the 2nd floor near the Chihuly including bean bag toss, ring toss, spin the wheel, and knock down. Carnival prizes and Library swag prizes were awarded to winner. By the end of the night, most everyone had moved up to the second floor large tables to play board games. San Antonio Nerd Night was also there to teach people various games. Additionally, games of life size Sorry and giant Jenga were continuously throughout the night. Pizza, popcorn, cotton candy, and soda were served adding to the game night theme. Thanks to staff from across the system who came to Central to help make the night successful and to the Summer Reading Committee. Many attendees asked when the next game night would be.

**The SAPL podcast group has resumed making episodes which are all available on iTunes and Soundcloud. In the latest episode, Librarian Romeo Rosales is interviewed about why he chose to become a librarian and what a librarian is today. Future episodes will continue to highlight members of library staff as well as focus on upcoming programs, events, and presenters.**

**Adult Services staff put together a two month series of events focusing on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math). Thirty-five programs will be presented on topics from cooking to 3D printing to quilling. Through a grant from USAA, equipment was purchased that will be rolled out during these programs. Staff will continue to be able to check out the equipment and various kits from now on.**
2nd Fridays with SAPL continues to be successful. Staff are invited to an after-hours event once a month. Members of administration are taking turns choosing the locations, and each month is in a different part of town. In September, 35 SAPL staff met at Willie’s Grill and Ice House for dinner, door prizes, and conversation.

CENTRAL LIBRARY

CHILDREN’S

Central Children’s department staff collaborated to produce a striking homage to *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle on the castle structure at the top of the escalator. Using the oversized caterpillar piñata donated by a generous parent as a centerpiece, the castle was decorated with images of the food eaten by the caterpillar in the classic picture book. Each staff member made gorgeous tissue paper collages of the caterpillar’s food.

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin presented the early childhood *Play & Learn* and *Toddler Time* programs this month. The first programs of the fall season were all about another favorite children’s book character, Pete the Cat. She read *Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes* and *Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons* and created activities based on the books. Children sorted colored buttons in the sensory bin, engaged in dramatic play with cat puppets and a veterinary station, and made impressions on play dough with a variety of buttons. The group then made a collaborative art piece on butcher paper from pictures of shoes and recycled crayons made by Ms. Seglin. Her next series of programs introduced yoga to young children with books that guided them in doing simple poses based on animals. She then set up puppets of those animals alongside images of the poses to reinforce the practice. Children then relaxed with a child-sized zen garden of sand and rocks and enjoyed the soothing effects of kneading lavender-scented play dough. *Play & Learn* and *Toddler Time* next focused on nocturnal animals and forest creatures. Children pretended it was nighttime using flashlights under a table draped in black butcher paper collaborative and played with black “night” play dough as well.

Librarian Nicole Cubillas presented *Bilingual Story Times*, kicking off the season with a “Back to School” theme. She created a teacher’s desk and blackboard for dramatic play, an art activity with colored chalk, and a sensory bin with letter blocks and beans. Families celebrated the Labor Day holiday with a “community helpers” themed *Bilingual Story Time*. Children dressed up in uniforms representing a variety of occupations and “drove” cardboard fire trucks and school buses after listening to bilingual *cuentos*. Ms. Cubillas crafted a program around “Dot Day” that combined learning about shapes with messages of positive thinking. Children wrote examples of things that made them happy on paper circles and added them to a collaborative dot mural.

*Family Fun* programming was a team effort this month. Manager Kate Simpson led a program featuring spooky stories and nocturnal animals that concluded with a giant collaborative art piece and play time. Families enjoyed using sidewalk chalk to create an epic spooky nighttime scene on a piece of black butcher paper the length of the Story Room! Children then played with nocturnal animal puppets with the lights dimmed for atmospheric effect. Ms. Seglin shared a yoga experience with the *Family Fun* crowd. In addition teaching them poses, she shared fun breathing exercises as well. Afterwards the group created sand mandalas with buttons and natural materials and contributed to a collaborative art piece, all while listening to relaxing “yoga music.” Librarian Lea Ann McDonald presented a STEM-based program all about animal vision and animal eyes. She shared an interactive slideshow she created that had children guessing which eye belonged to different animals and learning biology facts, including how human eyes are different from animal eyes.
Ms. Seglin and Library Assistant Mary Elizabeth Fernandez have introduced a new type of Come & Go Craft, a popular weekend program. They spearheaded the initiative to present “process art” crafts to visiting families. This type of open-ended artistic expression is encouraged by professionals in the childhood development field. Ms. Seglin’s inaugural process art Come & Go Craft program involved a bin of supplies like construction paper, magazine scraps, glue sticks, crayons and scissors and the direction to make whatever you want! Children made a wide range of different creations, letting their creativity run wild. Ms. Fernandez took this approach to her Come & Go Craft, providing similar supplies, a blank expanse of green butcher paper and the encouragement to fill it up to create a prehistoric dinosaur scene. This artistic prompt led to a dinosaur wonderland crafted over the course of a weekend by many families.

Ms. Cubillas made two engaging book displays for Hispanic Heritage Month. One focused on picture books and featured a gorgeous hand-lettered sign and the other promoted chapter books and non-fiction. The response to these extensive displays has been very positive, with books flying off the shelves and many compliments.

Library Assistant Judy Slaughter created an interactive book display highlighting the non-fiction collection. Amongst her book selections about animal migration she nestled a stack of butterfly die cuts with a sign encouraging patrons to take one and decorate it at the coloring table. Finished butterflies could be taken home or added to the Children’s Art Gallery display.

Central Children’s Department staff continued their monthly outreach visits. Ms. Seglin presented story times to students at Madison Square Child Development Center, where she delivered several bags of books in support of the school’s curriculum and read stories to two classes. Ms. Cubillas selected books and delivered them to Central Christian Childcare Center. Ms. McDonald started a new relationship with The Discovery School, delivering them their first set of specially selected books relating to their lesson plans this month.

TEENS

Mondays with J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant): J.D. continued to facilitate Eclectic Electric music programming in the Teen Library’s recording studio. Teens are invited to play instruments for fun and/or for school practice and record their music if they wish.

Tuesdays with Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager): With the end of summer and the start of school, gaming continues to be a common interest among teens. Aside from the traditionally popular games (such as Super Smash Bros. on the Wii U), the teens have taken a newfound interest in “indie games”—games from small independent gaming companies. The most popular indie game as of late has been a card game titled “Unstable Unicorns,” in which teens attempt to build an army of humorously-styled unicorns before their friends do.

Teens also played indie games on the Nintendo Switch, a new addition to the Teen Library @ Central. In a switch-up from the competitive nature of “Unstable Unicorns,” “Lovers in a Dangerous Spacetime” relies on teens working together to fly a spaceship while simultaneously protecting it from damage and attacking enemies. Loaiza intends to continue providing opportunities for teens to explore indie games in a variety of formats.

A group of teens have also requested to start a Dungeons & Dragons program at the Teen Library @ Central; Loaiza recently acquired the resources necessary to facilitate this program, and the teens are actively planning their first adventure by creating characters and building the story.
Wednesdays with Ciana Flores (Library Assistant PT): Every Wednesday evening, Ciana facilitates technology programming in the lab in the Teen Library to assist teens with designing 3D models to print and finding printed models online. She also facilitates use of the Oculus Rift, a Virtual Reality headset loaded with games for teens.

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Teens used Thursday to explore creativity in foods and crafts. In an environment of peer-to-peer (as well as staff) encouragement, teens take everyday items and turn them into useful, tasty and/or imaginative treats.

Teens used a corn tortilla mix to make quick tortillas that they turned into quesadillas, which made a nice, warm, comforting snack as they watched the new DVD release of Marvel’s *Infinity War*. The conversations and feels from the movie ran deep. Teens took inspiration from another favorite movie to make the Sugar Rush cars from *Wreck It Ralph* using graham crackers, assorted candies, marshmallows and frostings. Using perler beads, teens activated some hand-eye coordination, placing them carefully on grids, then fusing them together using an iron. Afterwards, teens took pretzels and chocolate to make a sweet and salty snack. A tried and true favorite, pudding parfaits, once again proved that a layered snack brings out moments of methodical genius in some teen food crafters. Introducing a new craft from a recent new craft book, teens attempted squishies using balloons and cornstarch or sponges and fabric paints. The balloon/cornstarch squishie craft proved to be messy as step one involved putting cornstarch into the balloon using a water bottle. Every crafter, even one unsuspecting non-crafter, got a little cornstarch dust on them. In what proved to be a moderate success, teens made a caramel coating for popcorn using the microwave. Needing to keep a watchful eye on the mixture proved challenging for some, producing some very stringy caramel popcorn, to interesting for others who accomplished the task tastefully. To make squishy soap, teens mixed glutinous rice flour with liquid hand soap, which they then steamed using a bamboo steamer. Teens also had some magic happening as they poured a carbonated white apple juice into a cup with cotton candy to create a different colored drink from the color in the pitcher. After most Thursday night food and craft times, teens request a gaming system, where they engage in some friendly competition. Pictures of Thursday night programs at Teen Library, as well as other fantastic system-wide teen programs, can be found at [http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary](http://www.flickr.com/210teenlibrary) and also [http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary](http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary).

A Saturday Thursday @ Teen Library: To officially cap off Teen Summer, one teen suggested having a cat party. Providing a list of cat-themed crafts, activities and snacks, she picked a day and time. For DIY crafts, teens went “old school” by carving out a design from a potato, coating it with fabric paint and stamping it on a mini tote bag. Using some custom 3D-printed cookie cutters, teens made and decorated cute cookies. A cat logic game puzzle was set out, and teens attempted an adorable cat doughnut. Teens also watched movies and ate some dinosaur nuggets. The Saturday was a sweet CATurday, a cute way to spend a Saturday at the Library, complete with some hand-drawn cat face balloons.

**REFERENCE**

This month the Reference Unit led entertaining film presentations, games and informational programs. In addition, patrons acknowledged several Reference staff for providing great customer service. Library Assistants Donna Borel and Yanel Cepeda along with Librarians Diana Starrett and Vicky Villalobos received EnC.O.R.E. Cards; patrons commented on the kindness, politeness, and patience displayed by staff.

Central Cinema screenings presented by Library Assistant Dan Garcia included the critically acclaimed science fiction film, *Annihilation* starring Natalie Portman. The Labor Day Holiday weekend did not discourage patrons from attending the 2018 production of *Tomb Raider* starring Alicia Vikander. The action-packed movie had viewers cheering aloud and clapping.
To celebrate the end of adult summer reading, Central Library was host to a *Game Night for Grown Ups*. Ms. Villalobos and colleague Cristine Mitchamore contributed by contacting community groups and organizations to provide carnival games, tabletop games, board games, video games, and life-sized games like Hungry Hungry Hippos. Attendees enjoyed a carnival atmosphere with treats such as pizza and cotton candy and activities such as Laser tag and a photo booth. The event inspired a phenomenal response with participants wondering when the next game night would be.

In August, *Our Family Reads: The Mayor’s Book Club* honored Black History. To celebrate African-American culture, Librarian Pannaga Prasad hosted a Healthy Cooking Class featuring Kiwano, a native African melon. A cooking expert from Metro Health demonstrated how to make fruit salad using the melon; participants received recipes as well as free samples.

Reference staff teamed up with Circulation and Special Collections staff to welcome another freshman class from the Southwest School of Art (SSA). During the August 24 Orientation, Circulation staff distributed Library Cards and shared the benefits of this free service. Librarian Cynthia de Leon introduced the art students to the resources and services available to support their research and studies. Martha Loewen, Assistant Reference Manager provided a Tour of the Library featuring the Marie Swartz Art Resource Center (MARC) and a visit to see Texana and Genealogy resources. Special Collections Manager, Heather Ferguson gave an introduction to the unique and inspiring collections housed on the sixth floor of the Central Library.

In the continuing effort to bridge the digital gap, Reference held another *Computer Basics Class*. Outreach at Commander's House Adult and Senior Center contributed to a wonderful turn out. Attendees learned the parts of a computer, how to navigate the desktop and how to access the internet. Time was also spent mastering mouse skills. After the class students received a completion certificate and a new flash drive.

**LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER**

On Saturday, September 15th the Latino Collection and Resource Center celebrated ‘Viva Libro’, the LCRC’s one-year anniversary. This event drew over 200 attendees throughout the day and featured a book fair, writing workshops, food and more. The event also featured remarks by Library Director Ramiro S. Salazar, Councilman Roberto Trevino, Dr. Tomas Ybarra Frausto and Dr. Carmen Tafolla. Author readings included Carolyn Dee Flores and Barbara Renaud Gonzalez. Writing workshops were led by Carolina Hinojosa-Cisneros, Leticia Urieta of Barrio Writers and St. Sucia Zine.

**TEXANA/ GENEALOGY**

Texana team members participated in a staff development day on August 13 to prepare for the upcoming White Glove Fundraising Event that will be hosted by the San Antonio Public Library Foundation in the Texana room. Group activities included curating collections for seven mini exhibits, testing computer equipment for the new Memory Preservation Labs, as well as conducting a wellness activity to promote the health benefits of drinking water. Texana used their Org. Heath funds to provide a catered lunch from Jason’s Deli.
On August 15 Librarian Andy Crews presented a training session for staff at the McCreless Library highlighting popular genealogy databases.

Librarian Matt DeWaelsche presented a Beginning Genealogy class on August 18 for patrons at the Brook Hollow Library.

On August 23 Mr. Crews provided a computer class in Central’s Connect Training Center that focused on the Access Newspaper Archive database. The training gave patrons an opportunity to search digitized newspapers from the United States and beyond to locate resources such as birth announcements, burial permits, marriage announcements, obituaries and more.

Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson provided a tour of Texana on Friday August 24 to freshmen students visiting from the Southwest School of Art.

Assistant manager Deborah Countess led a training session on August 28 for staff at the Carver Library that focused on Ancestry.com, Access Newspaper Archive, and Newsbank’s San Antonio Express-News database to highlight the usefulness for researching older news articles, obits and house histories.

Mr. Crews presented a training session for staff at the Westfall Library on August 29 that focused on locating Texas Death records in the Ancestry.com database and browsing the newspapers in the Access Newspaper Archive database.

On August 31 Texana welcomed graduate Intern Katherine Burright from Texas Woman’s University School of Library & Information Studies. Ms. Burright will spend the fall semester working approx. 9 hour per week in Texana as part of a professionally supervised work experience practicum.

Ms. Countess presented a class at Brook Hollow Library, September 12, on using the library database Ancestry.com. People in attendance were shown different ways to navigate and search this enormous genealogy website with over 10,000 database collections and over 16 billion historical records.

Librarians Sylvia Reyna and Andy Crews presented training sessions at the 17th Annual Family History Seminar hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on September 8. Their session topics covered researching military records and conducting Hispanic genealogy research.

Mr. DeWaelsche presented a training session on September 13 for staff at the Tobin Library that focused on Ancestry.com and Newsbank’s San Antonio Express-News database

Texana sponsored an exhibitors table at the 9th Annual Save Texas History Symposium hosted by the Texas General Land Office at the Menger Hotel on September 15. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Reyna attended the event to represent SAPL and promote Texana’s resources.

**BRANCH LOCATIONS**

**BAZAN**
The Teen Writing Workshops at Bazan in August and September were provided by Ms. Erica De La Rosa and Mr. Jim LaVilla-Havelin of Gemini Ink. Weekly fall Teen programming began mid-August and continued to deliver weekly programming Monday and Wednesday nights offering a variety of activities for teenagers. Teen librarian Georgina hosted trivia night on September 10, and challenged teens on Disney, Pixar, and Marvel topics using JeopardyLabs.

In addition, Teen Librarian Georgina Salinas assisted Teen Services at the San Japan convention managing the manga library on Labor Day weekend.

Children’s Librarian, Hope Sonnen, resumed outreach visits to both the Avance Morales and Frank Garrett centers for story time and to deliver books. On August 27 the branch hosted Master Naturalist Tom Kinsey who introduced children and adults to a number of his insect Friends in a fun and educational program. On September 12 children enjoyed playing with Playdough to celebrate National Playdough day.

Training Officer Emily Flores, of the Bazan Learn Center, continued presenting very successful weekly ESL classes, computer classes and the recently added citizenship classes.

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Bazan branch hosted a Papel Picado workshop. The workshop introduced attendees to the traditional Mexican craft of decorative paper cutting. The class was well attended and enjoyed by all.

The Alamo Browncoats fan group met at Bazan is going strong and had a high attendance in August. In additional to the usual fan club discussions, the group enjoyed a shrinky dink craft provided by Library Assistant, Dina Prater. The group was so impressed with this craft and enjoyed it so much that they encouraged the Bazan branch to buy our own shrinky dink kit so it could be accessible for future programming. The kit, which was borrowed from the adult services, has been a hit with customers.

The Bad Girls Romance Club met on August 25 to discuss Royally Screwed by Emma Chase. The book is the first of a series, and the majority book club members ended up checking out the rest of the books in the series since it was so good! Romance author Samantha Ortegon brought in her current work in progress to share with the group for critiquing, which they did while making shrinky dinks. Members loved the craft and Ms. Ortegon’s work!

The Bazan’s Journal and Planner club had a great response to its latest meeting. The purpose of the club is to provide a space for members to write, plan, swap stationery, and chat about it all things journal and planner related.

The USS Bexar Star Trek fan club met at Bazan on August 18, and is the second fan group to recently make the Bazan Branch Library their regular meeting location. With over 25 members strong, the group expressed their appreciation for the space and the flexibility of being allowed to bring drinks and snacks.

**BROOK HOLLOW**

Jasmin Salinas started as the Children’s Librarian at Brook Hollow on August 22, 2018. Children’s programming for the fall began the next week. Currently Brook Hollow is hosting *Story Time*,...
Baby Time, and Toddler Time programs for early literacy age children on a weekly basis. Ms. Salinas continued the fun play dough time after Story Time for families to enjoy, but also added a play time after Toddler Time to highlight another important early literacy practice according to the principles of Every Child Ready to Read.

Brook Hollow also hosts several afternoon programs for school age children including weekly Tween Time for children ages nine to twelve, a bi-monthly Lego Club, Come & Go Crafts, and a Read to a Dog program. On September 13 Brook Hollow hosted a program in honor of Play Dough Day where families could drop by and spend time together mixing, smashing, and rolling out three colors of play dough.

Ms. Salinas worked with Library Assistants Elissa Vura and Jennifer Olivarez and Library Aide Jillian Kimak to create a new fall décor for the children’s space at Brook Hollow. The design centers on a forest theme to incorporate the branch’s public art tree fixture, and adds some fun poster board cut outs of forest animals for the kids to enjoy like a fox, bear, and deer. The décor ties in to the new bulletin board display that highlights picture books in the collection for families to enjoy. Additionally Ms. Salinas and Ms. Olivarez put together a small display for every day heroes that also featured September 11, 2001 memorial books in honor of the 17th anniversary of the event.

During the reporting period, teens at Brook Hollow made healthy snacks and engaged in some friendly gaming competition. Teens used fruits, ice, vegetables, and flavorings to create healthy(ish) smoothie concoctions. The clear favorite was a chocolate/banana/peanut butter mixture, and a fruity spinach smoothie tasted better than expected! Participants also tried a new game, Unstable Unicorns, which sometimes perplexed players, but once they figured out the rules, friendly competition resulted in hilarity and a close game. Teens also enjoyed refining their hand-eye-coordination with Mario Kart on the Wii U and making strategic choices to create Dungeons & Dragons characters.

Teen Services Librarian Caroline Mossing and Branch Manager Heidi Novotny, with insight and assistance from Teen Services Coordinator Jennifer Velasquez, created a plan and a shopping list for a revamp of the Teen Space at Brook Hollow, along with an immediate rearrangement of existing furniture in the space and the debut of teen-only usage hours, which have been well received by the Brook Hollow community.

On August 18, Matt DeWaelsche from Texana presented Beginning Genealogy at Brook Hollow. The attendees were really appreciative of the class and found it helpful to begin their genealogy research.

On September 12, Debbie Countess from Texana presented Ancestry Library Edition. The attendees wanted more genealogy classes to help them with their research. They were very interested in having the Family History class. Adult Services Librarian Jenny Borrero is hoping to schedule more genealogy classes in the future.

CARVER

Carver branch children’s department created fabulous back-to-school displays. Fall programming began with reading about being back in class, the importance value of trees for the environment and grandparents. Craft times involved chalk and paints to color to add color to the trees. The children also fashioned pendants out of clay to gift their grandparents.

Programming for Hispanic Heritage Month and Halloween had everyone excited. Visitors were greeted by a display of famous and notable Hispanics. Also included were photos, books and artifacts. From now through then end of the celebration, Kids Time will immerse children in such activities as making tortillas, piñata games, loteria and celebrating the sun and its importance in Hispanic culture.
Assistant Branch Manager Monty Holcomb hosted five Chess Events which continue to be steadily attended by a variety of patrons. Mr. Holcomb also hosted five official Teen Time events with the Wii. He continued to facilitate both the weekly Tai Chi program and the new weekly Easy Yoga program, both of which consistently have high attendance rates. He also restarted the Book Club at the District 2 Senior Center, making four visits during this period. The book club took a two-month hiatus over the summer, and he was happy that every single person who belonged to the club returned when the club was resumed. He also helped facilitate the restarting of a weekly Crochet program.

For the Mayor's Book Club Committee's Black History movie event, Mr. Holcomb organized and coordinated the showing of “Hidden Figures,” which had an extremely high turnout. Along with several other SAPL employees, he conducted outreach to Sam Houston High School, where he presented details about the services of SAPL and the teen program at Carver Library to 50 teenagers.

Branch Manager DL Grant Jr. attended the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) Leadership Forum, an intensive one-day training in protecting and managing community archive collections, held in Hampton Va., in August. Carver Branch has a growing community archive collection and a partnership with the San Antonio African American Community Archive and Museum (SAAACAM). The workshop was offered by the NTHP and the Association of African American Museums. Facilitators included Brent Leggs, director of the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund, NTHP.

Branch Manager DL Grant, conducted outreach at BiblioTech East's Summer Fun in the Sun festival on Saturday, July 28, seizing the opportunity to connect with community residents and share information about services available by SAPL at nearby Carver Branch.

CODY

Summer Camp students from a local Kids Campus visited the library on August 15 for a special story time.

On August 23 Children’s Librarian Kristin Yourdon visited the Locke Hill Elementary School for their Meet the Teachers Night. Yourdon spoke with children and parents about the library’s homework help resources and passed out calendars of the library's programming.

Children’s programming at the Cody Library resumed on August 27 after a brief pause. During Tween Time on that day tweens learned how to make cookie sandwiches and played games.

Children were very excited for the first meeting of the Lego Club on September 5. Children worked cooperatively to build Lego houses.

During the Come & Go Crafts program on September 6 kids had the opportunity to make puzzle piece picture frames. Children made popsicle stick frames and then decorated recycled puzzle pieces to glue around the frames.

Tweens celebrated their love of all things Marvel during an Tween Avengers Assemble Challenge on September 10. Tweens traversed laser mazes, had a Mijolnir tossing contest, slung some silly string webs at Spiderman villains, took out Hydra with Captain America’s shield, and took part in a Hulk Smash contest.
Kid’s Time on September 12 was all about dinosaurs! Children hatched baking soda dinosaur eggs to find the dinosaurs inside, created their own trace fossils using clay, made a dinosaur mask, and used paint brushes to uncover some dinosaurs fossils that were hidden in sand. While they played and created the dinosaur crafts, they learned about several different dinosaurs and several different kinds of fossils.

The branch celebrated National Playdough Day with a playdough playing extravaganza. Children used cookie cutters and stampers to create their own playdough creations!

Teen Services Librarian Amy Rae Weaver worked with area teens to come up with Teen Time programs for the Cody Library.

Cody’s Writing Club wrapped up a successful summer with great discussions of plots and character development. While participants were sorry to see it end, all are looking forward to new writing-related programming this fall!

On August 14, Cody teens celebrated all things Unicorns, including a unicorn card game, from-scratch rainbow cereal treats, and unicorn coloring sheets.

For the last program of the summer, on August 21, Cody teens made Chocolate Dipped Bites, a multi-step treat featuring chocolate, peanut butter, pretzels, and cookies.

Cody’s teens have been vocal about their desire to game, leading to Teen Gaming every Tuesday from 4-5:30 p.m. Attendees play video games, board games, or card games, as well as coloring, to relax after a long day at school.

Teen Time has shifted later this school year, at the request of teens! For the first program of the year, on August 28, teens made their own trail mix and created new buttons, keychains, and magnets to deck out backpacks and lockers.

On September 11, Cody teens took a study break to try out flow painting, a form of artwork that creates sophisticated, beautiful canvases to take home!

The Cody Chess Club continues to bring players and observers into the library each Thursday for games and chess puzzles. Due to popular demand, it now runs 90 minutes instead of 60!

The digital display area at the Cody location is finished and looking beautiful! The Cody Friends of the Library invested heavily to provide all the features of the area, and customers are already noticing all of our new system advertisements.

On August 29, Samantha Gordano hosted an informative session on the basics of social media and the differences between the varieties to an enthralled audience of new computer users.

The Cody library is continuing its monthly partnership with the non-profit organization Isha Foundation to bring awareness of yoga to the community and host a beginner’s yoga class on a monthly basis.
In August, the Cody library hosted a three week educational series for children on the fall of Greece and rise of Rome in world history, including interactive activities such as making and firing a catapult! The series was hosted by one of the local community’s graduate students.

**COLLINS GARDEN**

Adult coloring, as a stress reliever is offered once a month with a small following of patrons. The Coffee and a Movie program which features Mexican classic and recent releases had five attendees. The Beading program hosted by Rosemary Nino on August 26 made key chains, zipper pulls and charms. There were 10 attendees.

Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi hosted three Lego Club programs. Lego creations are displayed on the shelves in the reference area for customers to view, 35 participants attended. She hosted four in-house Family Fun programs for the reporting period. After a summer hiatus, Ms. Brudi resumed here literacy outreach in September. She presented 13 story times at Knox Education Center and delivered classroom collection library books. Collins Garden celebrated Play Dough Day with lots or colorful creations by children of all ages.

The weekly Teen program, hosted by Library Assistant Carlos Loera, averages seven teens a week. Teens are playing Ping Pong, video games and doing crafts.

Collins Garden Library is continuing weekly Family Game Night with various board games and Ping Pong for all ages.

**CORTEZ**

Cortez Branch is happy to announce that due to their weekly enthusiastic participation in healthy activities in the form of “Thumbs Up Thursdays” the entire staff was treated to SAPL Strong t-shirts by the Organizational Health Unit.

On Friday, August 17, Ms. Brantley represented the Branch at the neighboring Palo Alto Elementary “Rock the Block” event to welcome students back to school. At the SAPL table information was shared about the Library system, pencils and paperbacks were given away, and parents and children were invited to attend Cortez programs.

Branch Manager Brantley wants to recognize the assistance of Ana Menchaca from Forest Hills and Carolyn Bradley from Central for filling in programming as the Branch gets back to school without a Children’s Librarian. Cortez staff have also stepped up in a variety of ways to make sure that everything gets done and their customers are not inconvenienced.

Bilingual Baby Time—(Esmeralda Staudt and Ana Menchaca/Carolyn Bradley)—Mrs. Staudt, along with Mrs. Menchaca or Mrs. Bradley, presented a series of songs and rhymes about letters and numbers in both English and Spanish. Board books focusing on zoo and farm animals were read aloud. Babies and their caregivers stayed for a few minutes to play with scarves and balls, and to visit with each other. As the only bilingual Baby Time in the city Cortez receives visitors from near and far.
Toddler Time—(Ana Menchaca, Carolyn Bradley, Esmeralda Staudt)—Toddlers have enjoyed learning the alphabet, counting with fun rhymes, and learning about animals and shapes. Shaking plush shakers has been a big hit while singing our preschool songs and stomping out the alphabet around the room. Afterward, it was playtime with plenty of blocks, ball rolling/tossing, and pretend play.

Family Fun—Family Fun resumed on August 27 and a number of staff have stepped in to help with the fun including Playdough Day, making paper turtles, paper hedgehogs, learning about friendship and listening to stories.

Adventures in Library Land—Cortez staff has actively promoted the Adventures in Library Land summer reading and wrapped up the summer with children finishing until the end of August. Overall numbers were down from last year but there were many successes and a lot of fun worth celebrating.

ENCINO

Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot and the Encino Teens ended their summer with a screening of Ready Player One in our monthly Teen Screen program. A post-movie discussion about living in virtual reality also got teens thinking about the pros and cons of the existence of a place like the Oasis. Encino’s weekly Anime Club is still going strong with teens watching a variety of anime and chowing down on some sweet treats throughout the reporting period. Finally, our one Teen Club this month highlighted the wackiness of YouTube, with tons of quirky videos and a cookie decorating party to help fuel our fun.

Ms. Pouliot joined fellow teen librarians to present SAPL’s manga library at the annual San Japan anime convention on September 1st. She handed out flyers for Encino’s Cosplay Con and talked with locals and travelers alike about the offerings for teens at Encino and the library as a whole.

Encino hosted the Teen Librarian Meeting for September with all of the teen librarians joining together for a review of summer and an update on fall programs and outreaches. Ms. Pouliot was happy to show the teen librarians the features of Encino’s teen room, as well as all of the teen made art on display throughout the space.

Branch manager Michelle Ricondo led a lively discussion of Manhattan Falls by Jennifer Egan in the Read It. Love It! Discuss It. Adult Book Club on August 29. This book brought in the largest number of participants that the book club has seen in the past two years.

The Friends of Encino Branch Library met on Sunday, August 26 to finalize plans for their October 13 book sale and to agree on a fiscal year 2019 donation plan amount for the branch. Friends President Carla Pomager did mention the upcoming election of officers for the Friends group in January. This Friends meeting had the most participation from new friends since the inception of the Encino Friends Group.

Encino Library hosted the Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, August 22 and Manager Michelle Ricondo gave a presentation of what Encino has to offer their unique community.
Thirty-six enthusiastic patrons chased the rainy day blues away while participating in Encino’s Play-Dough Day. Librarian Ashley Stubbs hosted the now annual event providing a much needed diversion to offset the rainy, housebound week. From there patrons took advantage of the children’s area to enjoy the afternoon. The library was the place to be this gloomy rainy week! Children’s programming resumed after the summer break.

FOREST HILLS

Forest Hills had the honor of hosting the District 7 Our Family Reads event on Saturday, September 8. The theme for the event was Environment/Sustainability, chosen by Councilwoman Ana Sandoval. Mayor Nirenberg was in attendance with his family. He was very complimentary of the branch and in his speech referred to Forest Hills Branch Library as the “epitome of a neighborhood library.” As Councilwoman Sandoval was not able to attend this event, Mayor Nirenberg read two stories to the children. The First Lady, Erica Nirenberg joined him in the second reading as they read a bilingual story titled *I Know the River Loves Me* by Maya Gonzalez. A number of engaging activities were planned including designing reusable water bottles, making seed balls, planting a container garden, and storytelling. Parks and Recreation hosted a tree adoption. Children were treated by a special reading of the book *All around us* by the author Xelena Gonzalez and illustrator Adriana Garcia. Ms. Gonzalez and Ms. Garcia also did a craft with the children, children made a rainbow out of different foods that were pictured in magazines. The children that participated in the reading had a wonderful time and Ms. Menchaca was delighted with Ms. Gonzalez and Ms. Garcia.

AARP offered a very popular Tech Workshop on August 22. These workshops are offered at least twice a year and always bring very large crowds of seniors eager to learn more about operating their technology such as smart phones and computers.

Adult Citizenship classes continued through the month of September. The last session for these classes will be held on September 17.

Branch Manager Mary Naylor visited the Dorris Griffin Senior Center to host the monthly book club. The book club discussed the book *All The Stars are Fire* by Anita Shreve.

Ms. Menchaca began autumn programs. She will host Story Time, Kids Time, Lego Builders, and La Hora de Cuentos. The first special program that Ms. Menchaca hosted was a special Kids Time that focused on homemade Play-Doh. Ms. Menchaca showed children and parents how to make play-doh with common kitchen ingredients. Children and parents then had the opportunity to use their imaginations and create with the Play-Doh. Children had fun picking and mixing the ingredients and colors to make their play-doh.

Forest Hills was thrilled to host the naturalist Tom Kinsey. Mr. Kinsey delighted patrons of all ages with his knowledge of local wild animals and with the animals he brought to the library. Mr. Kinsey brought several animals to the library and allowed all the patrons present at his program the opportunity to touch them. Patrons were able to touch the following: a rat, a pigeon, a snake, a rat, cockroaches, and a toad. Not wanting the children in the program to be scared of any of the animals Ms. Menchaca put on her brave face and touched all of the animals too.

Ms. Menchaca visited Woodlawn Hills Elementary for their literacy night. Ms. Menchaca spoke to children and parents about the services and resources that the San Antonio Public Library has to offer.
GREAT NORTHWEST

Great Northwest Branch Library welcomes Nicholas Blevins as part-time circulation attendant.

Great Northwest Branch Library’s younger patrons have had lots of fun this month. On Wednesdays during Library Adventures homeschool families have been exploring the five senses through hands-on activities such as an inner ear obstacle course and creating paper cup telephones.

On Thursdays the program Camp Library has been celebrating favorite books. All of the activities in the program center on the celebrated book of the week. Some of the activities have involved paint, glue, craft sticks, jumping, and laughing.

ABC Club on Fridays has the most kids and adults with over 150 attending each week so far. One of the programs was B is for Baby. Along with great books and songs during social group time, some of the individual learning stations included wrapping babies in blankets, sorting baby bottles, making a baby blanket, and painting the letter B.

Teen Services Librarian Stephanie Vazquez worked together with teens in the community to plan and create teen programs for Great Northwest Library. Great Northwest Teens planned Teen Craft and Movie Nights for the summer. On August 13 teens watched Jurassic Park and made bubble magnets. On August 20 teens watched E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial and made paper circuits. Great Northwest Teens planned Teen Craft and Movie Nights for the fall and on August 27 teens held a back to school party and watched The Karate Kid and made ramen and rice. Teens also had the opportunity to create their own buttons. On September 10 teens watched Thor: Ragnarok and made perler bead crafts.

Great Northwest teens meet every Wednesday afternoon for Teen Video Gaming and other stuff. Ms. Vazquez worked with teen gamers to provide a space for them to compete against other teens who share a common interest in gaming. Teens also had the opportunity to make a variety of crafts and art to display in the teen space of the library or to take home. In August and September teens made watercolor art, perler bead crafts, and acrylic art.

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

The Friends of Great Northwest Branch Library hosted a successful book sale on August 18. Local patrons eagerly searched for their new favorite books at great prices. Proceeds from the sale help support the branch and its programs.

Cindy Moreno, Adult Services Librarian, moderated the Alicia Trevino Senior Center Book & Movie group on September 10. The group discussed In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez and watched the movie.

To celebrate the Our Family Reads: The Mayor’s Book Club August topic of Black History, the branch featured the movie Hidden Figures on August 20. This family event also offered constellation related activities such as a word search, connect-the-dots, and yarn crafts.
Library Assistant Christina Martinez began a computer skills training series with *Computer Basics* on September 5. Patrons learned how to use the mouse and keyboard with “mousercise” and keyboarding practice tests online. On September 12 in *Introduction to Email*, patrons created an email account and learned how to compose, send, receive, and add attachments to an email. They also learned how to access their email accounts on their phones.

**GUERRA**

The Guerra Chess Club met on August 17, 24, and 31 and on September 7 and 14. Guerra reached 100%—all thirteen staff members—participation in the Charitable Campaign.

Assistant Branch Manager Jernell Williams held two adult coloring programs on August 25 and September 8. She held an outreach book group at the Virginia Gill Community Center on September 7. Participants discussed *Barely Legal* by Stuart Woods.

Children’s Librarian Arlene Richardson said farewell to summer with a presentation from Tom Kinsey: Learn Nature on August 23. Fall programming for children began on August 28. Arlene planned and presented nine early literacy programs (three toddler times, three story times, and three Duplo Clubs) and five programs for school-age children (three Lego Clubs and two Art Clubs). On September 14, Arlene planned and presented a story time to a group of 51 preschoolers and toddlers at Angelic Smiles Childcare. She repeated the program to a group of fifteen preschoolers at Greatest Gifts Childcare. She created and installed a display on weather.

Adult Services Librarian Stephen Jackson recorded *El monstruo de la Señora Mo* (*Mrs. Mo’s Monster*) by Paul Beavis for Dial-a-Story in Spanish on August 23.

**IGO**

Weekly story times continued as scheduled.

Lego Club continues to be a success, well attended by school aged kids.

Teen Time events took place every Wednesday evening.

The Dark Knights Chess Club met on August 13, August 27 and September 10.

The PoeTree Club met on August 20.

The Mottled Oysters Book Club met at Igo on September 1.

On September 5, the Mystery Club discussed *Rather Be the Devil*.

The Romance Club discussed *Games of Command* on September 8.

Every Sunday, the creative writing group Writers Block and the knitting/crocheting/embroidery group the Stitchery met at Igo.

An election kept one of Igo’s meeting rooms occupied through mid-September.
Beginning Hatha Yoga classes continued on Fridays when the meeting rooms were not being used for voting and other activities.

The ARTful Aging class for Acrylics was held on August 10, 17, and 24. The Igo Elderberries hosted a reception for the artists from ARTful Aging on September 6.

JOHNSTON

Johnston Library hosted Early Voting for State Senate District 19 the week of September 10 to 14.

Adult Services Librarian Davila facilitated a hand embroidery program entitled “Sassy Stitches” on Aug. 13. Johnston hosted Move Texas, a grassroots non-partisan group. The initiative took place on Aug. 22; the group consists of mostly UTSA students who are interested in promoting social justice issues. Johnston sponsored an information table from UT HealthSA to assist patrons will cancer information and resources. On Friday, Aug. 22, a representative from the school was available for patrons to ask questions.

On Wednesday evenings, Ms. Davila and Library Aide Cynthia Blancas organize Teen Time. The young adults played video games, enjoyed treats, colored and socialized.

To honor September 11, Johnston hosted a woodwind ensemble of the Air Force Band of the West called the Nightwatch. The event was well received by the community. The musicians are highly trained and played beautifully. Many patrons expressed their thanks for hosting the Air Force. The Friends group sponsored the event by providing an HEB food tray, beverages and snacks for the performers.

Library Assistant Elsy Jackson serves as a regular contributor to Telecuentos (Dial-a-Story in Spanish), and she recorded a children’s book for the week of August 13, 2018, La ballena en invierno by Benji Davies. She is also teaching a weekly class, Conversational Spanish for Beginner; On Monday, August 27 and September 9, members learned interactive lessons about Presentaciones (Introductions) and Aprendiendo Español (Learning Spanish) and La Familia (The Family). followed by sing-along Spanish songs.

LANDA

This month the Landa team said goodbye to children’s librarian Jasmin Salinas, who moved on to new adventures at the Brook Hollow Branch, and welcomed a new children’s librarian to the Landa team. Robin Alcorta moved from Potranco to Landa starting September 1.

Landa Children’s took a break after the end of the Summer Reading program to refresh and plan for the fall. Between August 4 and August 27, there were no children’s programs at Landa.

Starting August 28, Landa Children’s was back up and running full speed. Baby time, toddler time, and story time continue to have high attendance, even during the two weeks of rain in the middle of September. Storytime: Playdough Day was a big success with 20 children and their parents attending.
Librarian Robin Alcorta introduced a new series of program, STEAM Time, to the Landa lineup. The program is aimed at school age children. STEAM Time will alternate Tuesdays with Tween Time on the opposite Tuesdays.

Landa Children’s continues to have high attendance at Lego Club, every Thursday. Children come in to manipulate Legos into creations based on a challenge given by Librarian Robin. Some of the challenges include: build your own library, build your own plane, and build your own sea creature.

This month, Landa Teen Club welcomed several new teens who are new to the community and to the branch! Collaborating with Teen Liaison Rebekah Corley, teens new and familiar continued their weekly Teen Club, after-school Study Spot, and Drop-In Volunteering. A teen led Cooking Club introduced them to preparing Fresh Spring Rolls and Art Night gave inspiration from San Antonio’s own river walk mosaic murals. Experimenting with mixed media (including beans!), the group created personal versions of the iconic installations. Looking forward, the group is planning their bi-annual Movie Month theme and teen volunteers are brainstorming ideas for their part in the upcoming Landa Boo, a Halloween event that gives teens the chance to work with families and peers, and let loose their spooky creativity.

Adult programming is off to a good start at summer’s end. The Landa Mystery Book Club read a Janet Evanovich thriller, Curious Minds: A Knight and Moon Novel. It’s the first of a series that book club participants are interested in pursuing for the next in the series. The Village at the Incarnate Word also read the first book in a series—At Home in Mitford by Jan Karon. There are a number of sequels to this book which though many consider a “gentle read,” has its own share of mysteries. Reader’s Ink participants enjoyed Code Girls: The Untold Story of American Women Codebreakers by Liz Mundy. Although a little too detailed in the intricacies of World War II German and Japanese codes, the stories of these brilliant women appealed to club members.

Author Jim Denning gave a program based on his new book, Make It To Midnight: Learning to Live When You Want to Die. His work is about suicide and depression and the role of the brain in triggering responses to events in one’s life. The room was filled—this is a topic that generated much interest and the author is an excellent presenter.

Landa hosted another author event on Sunday, September 16 (Días y Seis). Gabriela Gonzalez, PhD., Associate Professor of History at UTSA, gave a presentation on her recent publication, Redeeming La Raza: Transborder Modernity, Race, Respectability, and Rights published by Oxford University Press.

**LAS PALMAS**

On Saturday September 8, Las Palmas hosted Jorge Ochoa and his program TamboRhythms. Children discovered their “inner percussionist” through the use of drums and shakers. Mr. Ochoa explained rhythms and drum beats, and in addition had each child practice leadership skills by taking turns leading the other children in drum based exercises.

On Monday September 10, Las Palmas had a STEM program for Family Fun. Children learned about caves in Texas and San Antonio. Using sugar cubes, children learned about erosion and
the formation of stalactites and stalagmites. In addition, children engaged in activities that helped them learn about the different zones for caves and the various types of animals that live in them.

![Image]
The Las Palmas Library finished their Summer Reading Program on August 31, 2018. In the children's category Las Palmas had 362 kid's register. Of those children, 105 finished their Summer Reading. Children received a certificate and book for finishing, and helped decorate the library by contributing to the “Paleta” themed artwork displayed throughout the Branch.

**MAVERICK**

![Image]
The Ladies Choice Book Club met on August 25 and Lady Mavs Book Club met on Tuesday, September 11. The South Texas Role Playing Games Group continues doing well and met every Sunday in August and September. Maverick welcomed Jorge and Nicole – Acoustic Guitar for another great Saturday performance on August 18.

![Image]

![Image]
The Maverick Chess Club met on Monday, August 20. Rather than meeting weekly, the Chess Club will begin meeting biweekly on Monday afternoon.

![Image]
Pat King launched a Crochet Social on Sunday, September 9. Mrs. King plans to provide the event weekly by popular demand.

![Image]
Children’s programming started up on August 27 and August 29. Ms. Roberts would like to thank Librarian Ana Menchaca from Forest Hills and Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl for substituting for some September programs while she was away on vacation.

![Image]
Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl facilitated five Teen Time programs during the reporting period, assisted by Library Aide Sarina Hackworth. Ms. Hackworth’s assistance at the program has been very well received by the Teens. The library’s relationship with the teens continues to grow. Ms. Bleichwehl and Ms. Hackworth continue to facilitate the programs as they listen to and interact with teens. The teens have enjoyed playing Mario Cart, Silent Library, making their own pizzas and fruit smoothies and making a Polaroid photo craft.

![Image]
The Maverick Teen Library Leadership Committee met several times and planned the August and September activities, including a Back-to-School Bash during which the TLLC handed out pre-assembled Back to School Bags containing a memo pad, pencil, pen, snacks and water. Many thanks to the Friends of Maverick Library for purchasing the supplies and making the TLLC’s plan come to fruition.

![Image]
Ms. Bleichwehl attended the Meet the Teacher event at Marshall High School and coordinated with the school librarian. Mrs. Bleichwehl handed out Homework Help bookmarks and fliers to about 100 families, encouraging them to use the services and databases at SAPL. As usual, Marshall High School Librarian, Pamela Walters, requested extra fliers and book marks so that she could off more information to Marshall Students.
Rozanna Bennett began as the Children’s Librarian at McCreless on August 20. Librarian Bennett has been doing a weekly Toddler Time that includes stories, songs and fun sensory and craft activities.

The Branch hosted National Playdough Day on September 12. Children and adults had great fun playing with playdough, using cookie cutters, rolling pins, and their imaginations.

On August 22, the Branch hosted a Learn Nature presentation by Tom Kinsey. Children and their families enjoyed learning about and interacting with a variety of animals including snakes, a toad, a rat, and a dove.

Librarian DeBow conducted two days of outreach at Highlands High School. She met with eight classes in the library as part of their orientation and was able to issue 124 new library cards. The school librarian, Mr. Decker, was enthusiastic and welcoming and DeBow is excited to form this new partnership.

McCreless teens enjoyed experimenting with smoothie recipes with the new blender this past month. They learned that just because they thought more sugar would be better, it wasn’t really. Straight fruit and ice actually made the best smoothies! Teens had fun making buttons with the new, awesome button maker borrowed from Teen Services. Teens also learned how to play a new card game, Unstable Unicorns. Right now, the teens have use of the Oculus Rift virtual reality game for a month and they have loved exploring the different games.

McCreless Walking Club regulars met at Southside Lions Park East on Monday August 20 for our regular walk. The group discussed extending the scheduled walks into the cooler Fall and Winter seasons. Library Assistant Al Chavez and Library Manager Morgan Hansen will schedule these upcoming walks soon.

During this reporting period, Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales has hosted a series of computer classes on Thursday afternoons. Sessions offered have included online job searching, computer basics, and a session entitled digital gateways which introduced participants to the Library’s Digital Resources including eBooks, eAudiobooks, magazines, and online training databases. The sessions have been well received and more sessions are planned for the remainder of September.

The branch’s Summer Movie series concluded with a showing of Paddington 2. Popcorn and drinks were served. Children and adults enjoyed the movie and snack.

A large number of children and adults came to see Tom Kinsey’s “Learn Nature” program to kick off the Children’s fall programming.

Deffendall’s LEGO® Club continues to draw in a large number of children as well as adults.
Interim teen liaison circulation attendant Michelangelo Sosa hosts Minecraft Play station games Star Wars Battlefront and X-Box games as well. Teens enjoy playing board games and creating crafts with pearly beads after school and enjoying a snack provided by the Friends of the branch.

CA Mr. Sosa attended outreach event at Longfellow Middle School to present and promote library programs for teens. Mr. Sosa also attended outreach events at Sam Houston High School and Sidney Lanier High School to promote teen program “Rock the Plaza.”

The branch created a display in support of Our Family Reads: The Mayor's Book Club. August’s theme was “Black History,” and the library displayed several related books and DVDs. Over ten patrons participated by either checking out or browsing the display.

The branch hosted the movie, Race. Patrons enjoyed watching the movie and learning about gold medal winner Jesse Owens and his confrontation with Hitler’s Aryan supremacy at the 1936 Olympics. Patrons commented on the film and they enjoyed the film.

To promote literature and an interest in authors that craft literature the branch has started promoting an honorary “Author of the Month” series. This month's selected author was Sandra Cisneros. A short biography and a photograph are on displayed accompanied with a collection of the author’s writings. The display has created an interest and patrons like to read about the authors’ publications.

Edgewood District military veterans held a meeting to recognize and award service members for their service.

The branch hosted a graduation ceremony for the Savant Achievement Center. The program was well attended by teens and adults.

The branch hosted the Urban Soccer Leadership Academy. This program promotes the soccer sport and provides educational opportunities for students and coaches.

The branch hosted an information table set up by the UT Health Cancer Center. The Center provided information to the public about their programs in identifying and treatment for this disease.

To help control the stray cat population, the branch hosts the San Antonio Cat Coalition on Sundays. The group conducts Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR) workshops to teach patrons how to catch the cats so they can undergo low-cost spay/neuter surgeries. The program is held on a regular basis at Memorial and is well attended.

Catholic Charities provided educational classes on the benefits of enrolling in Medicaid, ACA and the CHIP program. Patrons come in asking for this class due to the counselors’ knowledge of these programs and their attention to their needs.

All branch staff attended in house the COSA sponsored Risk Management training.

The branch hosted paper flower creations and jewelry making classes on a rotating basis. Both classes draw patrons from all ages with an interest in learning the crafts.
Amigos Friends of the branch held their quarterly meeting at the branch. Topics of discussion were planning for National Night Out, recruitment efforts, their current budget and upcoming fundraisers. Branch manager Maria Gonzales presented a list of expenditures made possible by funding from the group.

MISSION

For the State Senate District 19, Special Election Runoff Early Voting occurring during the week of September 10 thru 14, Mission Branch Library served as a voting site for the community from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM the entire week, Monday thru Friday, ensuring an LIC was present during the entirety of those 60 hours.

On Saturday, August 18, Mission Library had its Summer Table Tennis Tournament, complete with trophy awards for all levels of players.

A highlight of the month was the last summer program, Learn Nature with Tom Kinsey. The kids had a fun time learning about, and seeing, some native Texas animals.

The fall story times welcomed old friends and many new families. All were happy to be back after a short break.

Teens at Mission Branch started off the school year with fun Outdoor Games like 4-square to get them back in the school spirit.

Teens enjoyed Cooking Class where they made pancakes and grilled cheese sandwiches.

Teens also came to the Teen Anime Club which has remained a favorite for K-Pop enthusiasts who come each month for the program.

PAN AMERICAN

Pan American Branch hosted a Saturday Morning Funhouse program for nostalgic adults interested in reliving Saturday mornings in the ‘80s. Classic ‘80s cartoons and commercials were shown. Those in attendance were invited to wear their pajamas. Sugary cereal, Pop-tarts, and milk were provided for everyone to enjoy.

Every month the Pan American Library hosts Pan Am Pix Flix, a movie screening where patrons decide which movie will be shown. This month, the theme was Back-to-School movies. Patrons voted for a screening of the movie Mean Girls. Pan Am staff provided popcorn, snacks and crafts related to the movie.

On August 22, library assistant and teen liaison Nicole Garza facilitated a food demonstration with Pan American teens. The teen group learned how to make their own bento box lunches. Teens created rice balls and decorated the rice balls with roasted seaweed and other food items.
On September 1, Ms. Garza hosted the first day of Hogwarts with the assistance of library assistant Elise Garcia, circulation attendant Stephanie Tapia and library aide Jennifer Huizar. The event began with the opportunity to be sorted into a Hogwarts house, then the ability to design and decorate your own wizard wand and learn how to create slime. The UTSA Quidditch team gathered the group for an outside demonstration on how to play Quidditch.

On August 26 and September 9, the Pokémon champions group gathered at Pan American library to showcase their Pokémon trading card skills. On August 26, the branch set up a live stream of the Pokémon world championship finals.

Pan American Branch Library continues to host a weekly Qigong and Yoga classes. These are put on in partnership with the San Antonio Parks and Recreation department and are a part of the Family Fit Pass Program.

Adult Services Librarian Steven Barrera spent a morning at the Elivra Cisneros Senior Community Center hosting an adult coloring program. The seniors spent their time coloring mandala designs while listening to relaxing new age music.

Pan American Branch continues to run demonstrations of the 3D printer. The interest in the technology is high. Patrons are interested in learning to create their own designs. Programs centered around the 3D printer are in the works and coming soon to the Pan American Branch.

Pan American Branch Library has a month full of exciting children’s programs. Jorge Ochoa came and taught the children and their parents how to use a drum and did rhythm patterns for them to follow. Children all had turns creating their own patterns for the others to follow.

Valerie Shelley, Children’s Librarian, has been working on promoting Toddler Time using various formats. Come & Go Crafts was fun for all attendees and Legos were a hit as well. Playdough Day had good attendance and they enjoyed being on the floor with a drop cloth to spell out their names.

PARMAN

This month Parman Library welcomed a new addition to its team – Katy Dillards – Children’s Librarian PT. We anticipate wonderful things from her and are so happy she has joined us.

Friends of the Parman Library held their meeting on September 8 in which fall plans and budget were discussed. The branch manager attended the meeting.

The month of August was great here at Parman. Highly successful, Harry Potter inspired Summer Festival to close out our Summer Reading Program was the highlight of this month. Hundreds of patrons came with Harry Potter memorabilia, costumes, props, T-shirts and an excited desire to play Quidditch, swish a wand, and do some witchy crafts. It was a big hit and all Parman staff stepped up to help when supplies ran low, patrons needed assistance while doing the scavenger hunts etc. Patrons continued to arrive to the last minute of the program despite the mass of people in and outside the library that attended the event. Children’s Librarian Katie Thonen with the help of volunteers and library aides prepared the most of the crafting for this event, which included a detailed four car Hogwarts Express train. While this was a challenge, strong teamwork resulted in beautiful train enjoyed and priced by all.
TamboRhythms and Jose Ochoa visited Parman on August 25 and offered group drumming to all. Big group of children and their adults participated in his loud and rowdy drum circle.

Parman Knights, has continued to have steady attendance and our LEGO club is always packed, with an average of 40+ people showing up each week.

Weekly children’s programing re-started in August (Baby Time, Toddler Time and Story Time). Parents/Care givers were saddened to have three weeks off, but many returned at the end of the month when programming started again. In the time off, children’s librarian II has been able to get ahead of her crafting projects for Fall Story time. The planning ahead at Parman is essential, since toddler and story time is attended on average by 30-50 young participants. Our children’s librarian seeing the demand would like to increase the number as the year progresses. She also used some of this time to connect with local schools and attended several compulsory training classes.

The Parman teen librarian Megan C., assisted Teen services in outreach event San Japan - anime and manga convention helping to market the SAPL programs and activities.

Teen Librarian Megan C. is implementing texting notification service “Through the Remind” where she can communicate directly with teens about current programs. Teen could also use this venue in choosing what they would like to do in the near future. Teen Librarian presented monthly plan in which weekly teen meetings will be equally divided as a craft day, movie day, cooking etc. We are looking forward to a year filled with creativity and amazing adventures.

Parman started tween programing at the end of August and is working to establish that program. The tweens enjoyed a crafts presented by Megan C. and Katie T. Programming has included making edible slime, as well as designing their own bookmarks, concocting and then using puffy paint and competing fiercely in the rounds of air hockey.

On September 16, Parman was celebrating National Playdough Day with homemade (by Katie and Katy) clay and lots of squishing, squashing, making and mashing! This project kept all 57 participants happily engaged for a very long time which is wonderful because of the skills the kids were developing. Playing with playdough makes child’s hand stronger. In the process of playing, children are building fine-motor muscle control – an important pre-writing skill. Rolling and cutting up playdough helps with hand coordination and fine motor skills. It also builds their cognitive skills by planning what they are building and carrying it out. This very successful event presented by our children librarians got several positive comments from parents.

POTRANCO

The Team at Potranco said goodbye this last month, to Children’s Librarian Robin Alcorta. Expect to see more on Alcorta’s professional growth on the Landa Branch Library’s Director Report! Children’s Services Librarian, Angela Bilbe, leaned on her knowledge and experience as the Children’s Services part-time librarian to gain a promotion to fill Alcorta’s place. During interviews, Bilbe shared ideas about Children’s programming for the Potranco community that were for fresh and exciting. Expect to hear more in upcoming Directors Reports!

The Potranco Branch Library hosted Our Family Reads: The Mayor’s Book Club for the month of August. The branch celebrated and gave emphasis to the rich and historical culture of African Americans.
The artistic explosion of the Harlem Renaissance inspired the branch to provide a creative program for the children, while also highlighting African American culture. Children’s librarian, Angela Bilbe, observed during the “Chalk the Block” program, children creating and expressing their imagination through coloring. Toddlers were copying shapes, numbers, images and school-aged children were inventing unique designs of their own. Not only were they constructing unique designs, but they were also formulating distinctive names for their creations, thus, building their vocabulary. Children’s librarian, Bilbe, observed young toddlers who lacked the verbal skills to communicate, convey themselves through drawing. Children love scribbling and drawing, and the sidewalk chalk let them have the experience of learning while playing. The Harlem Renaissance symbolizes innovation, and the children’s artistic creations embraced the concept.

Tween Time has been running successfully with a core group of five boys and girls. An example of one of the Branches weekly activities is exploring the world of Origami. The kids like folding the paper and making animals and such. Circulation Attendant, Raquel Reyes is in her element with the tween. Middle school age kids adore Reyes’ easy way of doing things and they like her fashion style too! Reyes has been told by the tweens that they enjoy learning Origami at the Library and then taking those new skills back to school to teach their friends.

On September 13, Reyes planned an engaging activity that would get the tweens working together on one project. Reyes engaged the children by having them engineer a marshmallow city. Once finished, was painted with water color. The children like to take this time to be creative and interact with each other. Reyes puts thought into identifying and using different tools allowing the kids to express their own identity. Whether the tools are art experimentation or simply playing games; Reyes has observed the core group of kids “come out of their shells”. Taking the programming role very seriously, but with that famous Raquel fun smile, Reyes has set the goal of inspiring the children to take their experience at the Potranco Branch Library Tween Time into more programming as they grow older and move into Teen activities at SAPL.

August brought the San Antonio Mayor’s Family Reads book club to Potranco kids. District Six Councilman Greg Brockhouse chose theme celebrating African American history. Reyes found a fun project online with instruction on making Red Tail Planes from Styrofoam cups. Reyes used this activity to teach tweens about the Tuskegee Airman. Also during Tween Time in the past reporting period, Reyes engaged the children with jazz music and jazz history. Tweens painted silhouettes of musical notes and trumps in water colors to match their mood. Reyes titles this activity, “Paint Your Feeling”. Reyes reports the children enjoyed being introspective, even though they did not know they were doing. Tweens were observed thoughtfully choosing bright colors, some choosing monotones, to represent their mood and the music together, much like the original Jazz musicians marrying the two for effect.

Potranco Teen Services has been working hard to identify outreach opportunities for the new school year. Brennan High School for example, who asked for Library Assistant and Teen Liaison, Lisa Leandro, to come as soon as late September. Expect to hear about that next month!

The Potranco community had to say goodbye to teen volunteer and Ukulele instructor Robbyn D. Needing to return focus to her studies, Robbyn D. put her volunteer hat on hold. Robbyn is adored by staff and patrons alike, Team Potranco intends to stay in touch with her, she’s too talented to loose permanently! Ukulele Meet Up will return to the calendar as soon as a new instructor can be identified.

Adult Services Librarian, Gamini Haluwana arranged a specialized library program for senior patrons of the Potranco community. The program was themed “Virtual Tour to Pisa Tower, Italy”. We had a spectacular presentation of a panoramic 360° virtual tour. Using a Mondopad, we showed High Definition Ariel photos of Pisa Tower to the attendees. They were able to see the subtle art work of
ceilings and walls of the cathedral right next Pisa tower. HD video was also played and we looked at satellite images and airdropped to the site to explore the tower and the surrounding cathedral and the dorm. Attendees were able to zoom in to the details of art work as if they see the building from the very vicinity.

During the reporting period August 13 – September 16, Potranco continued the Sunday morning I Heart Vinyl series, curated and deejayed by Paschal Booker. Although Booker has had assistance and suggestions from the entire Potranco staff which was welcome Teamwork! However, it has been due to Bookers focus that allows reports of growth of the revitalized program. Audio lineups included such themes as Jazz Giants, Neo-Soul, Voices, Pop/World Music, Club 28, and an entire morning dedicated to the career of the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin.

Awareness of the series in the Potranco Branch Library community is growing, as reflected by some regular attendees. Booker reports excited breathless comments from patrons such as, “Are we having I Heart Vinyl today?” and “What’s being served today?” as they come through the doors upon opening. It’s not unusual for patrons to ask to check out the very albums being played during the programs two hour spot. Booker has shared dialogues about the music and extended conversations about the careers of given musicians. The Potranco patrons have responded with interest and curiosity for Bookers classic deejay style that includes trivia and suggestions for albums by the same artists or similar artists. Booker is also gathering information about Potranco patrons’ own musical tastes. This information will be shared with SAPL Collection Development to support purchases to grow the vinyl collection. Interest in the series reflects the larger interest in the wonderful Potranco vinyl holdings. Collection Development Supervisor, Troy Hoyles has made excellent selections for vinyl album purchases. Staff and community alike look forward to unpacking Hoyes’ latest additions when delivered. Conversations ensue at all times about the excellence of the collection. Patrons’ old favorites reappearing in vinyl, the delight of finding new artists on vinyl, and new discoveries our patrons are making in their own musical explorations. One patron could not say enough about his discovery of Houston’s own Robert Glasper and his exemplary album entitled Covered.

On September 16th, Booker featured Michael Jackson and other pop singers. Although a few patrons tried to be inconspicuous, they were observed having a little fun practicing their best “Thriller” dance moves. In the near future, we will enlist our patrons themselves in developing their own Sunday morning lineups by engaging them in requests.

Adult Services Librarian and Branch Volunteer Liaison, Gamini Haluwana, innovated this past month by creating a webpage on volunteers and volunteer operations. This website enables volunteers to easily find their schedule, requested forms, and sign up for available volunteer activities in real time. Haluwana also introduced a web application for volunteers to track their time volunteering and email that information to persons that need it such as teachers, employers, and SAPL representatives. The App is tentatively called “Hours Tracker” and was original intended to use in-house at Potranco. However, it turned out to be too good a resource. Once shared with Volunteer Services Coordinator, Veronica Anderson, talks of all branches using the time saving tracker have begun.

PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS

Children attending a recent Kids’ Time event at Pruitt Library had the opportunity to listen to a reading of the magical book, Drawn Together, by author Minh Le. Parents and children enjoyed the story about an English-speaking boy who meets his grandfather who speaks Thai. At first, they are frustrated and confused but soon they are able to bond through their mutual love of art. Attendees used various materials to construct attractive Grandparents’ Day cards.
The Family Circle Tween Book Club met this month and discussed Ruth Behar’s Pura Belpre award-winning novel *Lucky Broken Girl*. Book club members were touched by eleven-year old Ruthie’s amazing courage and resilience when faced with a terrible tragedy. All agreed that the novel, based on the author’s own experiences growing up as an immigrant in New York City, is truly inspirational and unforgettable.

Pruitt staff members attended Back-to-School Night at Roosevelt High School where they informed teen students, parents, and teachers about all the terrific resources offered by the San Antonio Public Library. They especially expressed interest in using the databases and Homework Help.

Pruitt Library is looking forward to welcoming new Teen Librarian Sheri Watkins later this month. Ms. Watkins brings an abundance of experience as a former SAPL assistant at both Igo and Pruitt branches, as well as, a school librarian at nearby Montgomery Elementary School. Everyone is excited to see her expertise, knowledge, and dynamic personality.

The recent monthly meeting of the SNAP, Special Needs Adult Program, at Pruitt Library was a big hit. Attendees participated in an art activity as they incorporated fork painting with colorful tempera paints in constructing original, all-occasion cards.

Pruitt Library welcomed the Roosevelt High School teachers with a “Welcome Back to School” complimentary 15-minute back and neck massages on their last Friday before school started. While waiting for their massages, they enjoyed snacks and received an orientation of the services the library has to offer to enhance academics for students.

**SAN PEDRO**

*Kids Time Programs*—Fall Programming began on August 20 with Minecraft Monday and LEGO® Club on Wednesdays.

National Play dough Day was celebrated on September 16 with much squishing, squashing, making and mashing by young and old!

*Outreach School Age Programs*—During this period the Children’s Librarian contacted the neighborhood schools (both public and private) to resume or start new book clubs. This school year she will facilitate six books clubs, which includes one at a school which previously did not have book clubs. The librarian at one of the schools which had a book club last year has retired and she has been unsuccessful so far in reaching the new librarian to discuss a book club.

*Outreach Story Time Programs*—Fall Outreach began in late August with Children’s Librarian Betsy Dalton visiting classes at Educare Child Care Center and Laurel Heights United Methodist Weekday School. Fifteen to 20 books were also delivered to each child care/preschool class for their use during the month. She also contacted Respite Care of San Antonio which serves special needs children about coming and presenting story time to their classes. Ms. Dalton presented story time to four Respite Care classes of enthusiastic and appreciative children during this period. In addition, Ms. Dalton provides 15-20 books to teachers at several schools (this month: Advanced Learning Academy, Monte Vista Montessori) - thematic books for topics the teachers will be discussing in the month of September. She also reached out to the Will Rogers Zoo School which has several preschool classes to see if they would be interested in a monthly story time. The person I talked with was very enthusiastic and I should hear in a few weeks if we are going to give it a trial run.
Toddler Time Programs—This program started up again on August 21.

Committee Work—Children’s Librarian Betsy Dalton serves on the Committee of Thinkers subcommittee, the IPad subcommittee and the Science Committee of children’s librarians. She also represents San Pedro on the Wellness Committee.

The Friends of San Pedro Library held their bi-monthly meeting on September 11. They approved the 2019 Fiscal Year Spending plan. They plan to send representatives to the Alta Vista National Night out event. The staff really appreciates all of their support for general needs and for programming.

Adult Services Librarian Wilson Plunkett retired on August 31. Staff held a retirement potluck and presented him with a parting gift. He will be missed by staff and patrons.

SCHAEFER

In August, most of the children’s programs went on hiatus after Summer Reading ended. Tom Kinsey, a naturalist, presented a Learn Nature program at Schaefer on Aug. 20. More than 20 kids and their families had the opportunity to learn about and pet a variety of animals and insects including a dove, snakes, rats, and cockroaches named Fred and Wilma!

Schaefer had another successful Summer Reading with 932 children signing up for the Summer Reading Club and more than 200 kids completed the program to receive their free books.

Children’s programming began the fall session at the end of August. Story Time and Toddler Time crowds for the first few weeks had programs on ducks, jungle animals and camping. Baby Time will continue in the fall, and with the generosity of the Schaefer Friends, baby toys were purchased with money donated by the Friends for play time at the end of the Baby Time program. LEGO Time builders continue to demonstrate their creativity during the weekly program.

Children’s Librarian Leslie Elsasser went to Evelyn King PCI on Sept. 5 to read duck stories to a group of pre-k students. She will continue this outreach monthly.

Schaefer celebrated National Playdough Day on Sept. 15. Homemade playdough and toys were provided for kids and adults to play with all afternoon!

Library Assistant Sara Ramirez facilitated two Science Time programs during the reporting period. On August 28, Science Time explored coding with Bee Bots. Children created a colorful mural using Bee Bots and completed a color maze challenge. On September 11, Science Time slid into the slimy world of slugs. Children learned lots of interesting slug facts during slug story time and made “slug slime” to take home.

Library Assistant Sara Ramirez and Library Aides Susan Criado and Monica Macias created a colorful display for Hispanic Heritage Month to pay tribute to a sampling of the many authors, artists, and Hispanic figures throughout history.
Schaefer Library’s Robot Roundup program, facilitated by Circulation Attendant Reuben Duron, has continued its success into the school year! Every other Thursday, from 4:00-5:00 p.m., kids 12 and under have been using a variety of droids like BB-8, R2-D2, BB-9E, Ollie, and Sphero Minis. They’ve done activities like obstacle courses, races, and new things like tag and robot soccer. We also utilize our 3D printer to create small trophies and collectables for the winners. Robot Roundup allows the kids to learn more about these droid devices every time they attend the program, which is an important tool as these devices will become more and more prevalent in the future. Robot Roundup allows kids to become familiar with STEAM based devices and have fun at the same time.

Schaefer Library’s Fortnite Sunday program, facilitated by Circulation Attendant Reuben Duron, has stayed a popular program for kids/teens! On Sundays from 4:00-5:00 p.m., anyone 13 and older can come and play the most popular game in the world at Schaefer Library. Kids 12 and under are allowed to play with parent’s permission. We’ve gotten quite a few families to come in and give the game a try and they all loved it. Fortnite Sundays gives families a chance to do something different at the library and have fun while doing it!

Teen Services Librarian, Cindy Cruz, visited Sam Houston High School students for an all-day outreach with Monty Holcomb from Carver and J.D. Elizondo from the Teen Library. Teens and teachers were given information on library resources and programming. Cindy also led an interactive activity with the library’s Ollie robot. Teens navigated the robot with an app around the high school library.

Cindy gave a tour to teens from East Central’s Vocational Ed Department. The 16 teens and three teachers took a tour of the library. Cindy will work with these teens in the coming weeks to provide volunteer opportunities.

Cindy also hosted a Teen Volunteer Information Session for those interested in earning community service hours at the library. Cindy spoke to teens and parents about opportunities for helping out at the library as well as assisting them with volunteer applications. Three new teens were recruited to volunteer.

A Mayor’s Book Club program was held for teens at Schaefer Library with the theme of recycling and sustainability. Teens created dream catchers with recycled CDs.

Teen programs included a Virtual Reality/ Oculus Rift activity, a healthy snack challenge, and scratch art project. Teens also had the opportunity to attend 3D Lab before Teen Time to learn more about this technology and its applications.

The Schaefer branch is continuing their outreach efforts to the District 2 senior center. Librarian Maria Adams hosts a coloring program the second Tuesday of every month and also a device support program for seniors at the senior center the third Wednesday of every month. The library was invited to a District 2 senior center open house on Tuesday, September 18 to inform seniors about all the services the library has to offer.

Meet Libby the second Thursday of every month at Schaefer. From 2-3 p.m., Librarian Maria Adams hosts a class for patrons to learn about the downloadable collection available at the library.

August’s Learn Computer Class focused on hobby technology, and Schaefer pulled out all the stops! Library Assistant Sheridan Richardson brought in the new Adult Services DSLR cameras and...
the Teen Services Oculus VR headset, in addition to Schaefer’s robots, 3D printer, and button maker. Patrons had a blast riding roller coasters, taking high-resolution pictures, and printing cell phone holders.

August’s Saturday Movie was *Despicable Me 3* and September’s was *Zoo*; as always, patrons enjoyed camping out in Schaefer’s meeting room with their own snacks and blankets.

The Skimmers met in August to discuss *I Need a Lifeguard Everywhere but the Beach*, along with bonus read *I’ve Got Sand in All the Wrong Places* by Lisa Scottoline and Francesca Serritella. Although the books were not well received, it was discovered all the Skimmers love author Erma Bombeck and were thrilled to watch her interviews with Johnny Carson to end the meeting.

September’s Learn Computer Class was a virtual world tour using Google Earth. After learning the basics, patrons were able to visit childhood homes, theme parks, and the New 7 Wonders of the World. They then blasted off to outer space using Google Sky, visiting constellations, galaxies, and star clusters.

**SEMMES**

On Monday, August 13 and Wednesday, August 15, children listened to the story of *Bob the Artist* (Marion Deuchars), a bird who decorated his beak each day to imitate artists such as Matisse and Pollock after an inspiring trip to the art gallery. Then children imitated the artist Claude Monet by creating a water lily with tempura paint, a paper plate and mini cupcake liners.

The children (and their grownups, too) were fascinated by the animals, birds and insects in the Learn Nature program presented my naturalist Tom Kinsey on Thursday, August 16. While Mr. Kinsey spoke about their habitats and diets, Elvis the one-eyed toad, Fred and Wilma the Madagascar hissing cockroaches, Rosie and Racket the pink corn snakes as well as two gray rats and a white dove were very happy to be petted by the children.

On Thursday, August 23, children and their grownups learned about many Latin American percussion instruments and made their own paper güiro to play.

On Saturday, September 1, families celebrated going back-to-school with a reading of Pete the Cat’s version of *Wheels on the Bus* by James Dean and *The Seals on the Bus* by Lenny Hort. Then, they created a school bus picture frame from craft sticks.

On Wednesday, September 5, preschool children played percussion instruments to lullabies from several different countries, listened to the story of Boss Baby (*Starring the Boss Baby as Himself* by Marla Frazee) and then made a paper papoose like the Native Americans used for their babies.

On Monday, September 10 and Wednesday September 12, preschool children used their imagination to create yarn art à la Harold from *Harold and the Purple Crayon*.

A new weekly chess club began meeting on August 23. The club is open to anyone interested in learning the game or sharpening their chess playing strategy.
The San Antonio Literary Social Alliance (SALSA) is now meeting monthly at the branch. This is a book club for adults in the area who either already love to read, want to read more or are just looking to meet new people who share their love of books. They will be meeting on the third Thursday of every month.

**THOUSAND OAKS**

Toddler Time and Storytime resumed at Thousand Oaks on Thursday, August 30. Over the last few weeks children have enjoyed a variety of themes at storytime, including hats, back to school, and breakfast time.

Wacky Wednesdays, Thousand Oaks’ afternoon school aged program, resumed on September 12. A dozen kids came to Thousand Oaks to create their own slime to take home. Future themes include edible science, and clay creations.

On September 20 children’s librarian Ann Laird attended a community open house at Nite Owl childcare. Ann shared information about SAPL, how to get a library card, and programs at Thousand Oaks.

Teens at Thousand Oaks continue to enjoy their recently renovated Teen Space and have been using their new TV just about every week. Teens enjoy watching movies, playing You Tube guess-the-song games, playing WiiU games, and watching music videos. Hosted by Librarian Theresa Garza, the Wednesday night Teen group has also explored their creative side with clay, drawing, and watercolors. Teens have also begun creating works to decorate their new space, claiming ownership of the space.

Let’s Pretend This Never Happened by Jenny Lawson was the Thursday Book Club’s selection for August. The author shared her unusual childhood in a small rural Texas town. She shares many funny anecdotes scattered amongst some tragedies in her life. The author’s attempt at humor was lost among the crude language and references to her anatomy throughout the book. Members agreed this book was not for them. A good discussion about the author and her anecdotes to tell her story was beneficial.

The Northeast Senior Center hosted the largest group of readers to date, to discuss the raciest title the group has read together. Facilitated by Librarian Theresa Garza, the group of 16 seniors enjoyed the latest Linda Howard book, The Woman Left Behind. Discussion ranged from privacy and surveillance, to paramilitary groups and other civilian contractors, to romance in the workplace. While some parts of the story were a bit hard to believe, readers enjoyed the dynamics between the two main characters, Levi and Jina, and many were interested in reading the first book in the Go-Team Series.

Librarian Theresa Garza hosted a STEAM for Adults program on September 16, where attendees created simple motors and circuits using magnets, batteries, and copper wiring. Patrons were also able to experiment with the Snap Circuits sets provided by Adult Services.

**TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL**

Yoga classes started for ages 13 and up on September 5 and will continue weekly through October. The sessions are taught by Renae Cane, M.Ed., certified Personal Trainer, and co-author of Dynamic Body Response, a rehabilitative exercise book. The class is based on YogaFit principles and techniques and helps individuals modify movements for their personal needs.
The branch’s long established Interesting Book Club meets the first Wednesday of each month with a sizeable group of steady members. September’s selection was *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. The title delves into Count Alexander Rostov’s house arrest then confinement to a luxury hotel room across from the Kreimlin in 1922. Attendees really enjoyed this book and had a lively discussion on September 5.

Other adult program groups that meet at the branch are the poetry group, Voices De La Luna and Tobin’s Writers group that has grown to nearly 20 authors with several published members. In addition, a small group of avid Joss Whedon fans meet monthly to explore and watch his TV series and movies.

Assistant Manager, Rhonda Woolhouse, hosted a STEAM Quilling class on September 11. Participants use strips of paper that are rolled, shaped and glued together to create decorative designs which included a cat and flowers at the event.

Ms. Woolhouse initiated outreach at North East Rehab Center for seniors on September 4 to provide activities for residents at this nearby facility to Tobin at Oakwell.

Most programs took a hiatus for much of August until NEISD schools started on August 27. Children’s programs encompass a wide range of offerings. The popular Toddler Time and Story Time are held each Wednesday by Children’s Librarian, Karen Braeuler. On the third Wednesday of the month, Ms. Braeuler and Circulation Attendant, Carmen Zarate, host a Bilingual Story Time. Twice a month, Angel, a gentle therapy dog, comes with her trainer (animal handler) and lets beginner readers and pre-readers read aloud to her. These type sessions have been shown to help develop literacy skills when children read aloud individually.

Ms. Braeuler started up Baby Time on Friday’s with the first program on September 7. She also hosts Baby Time on the first Saturday of the month to accommodate working parents bringing in their wee little ones. Babies experience the sounds and structure of language through various songs and rhymes.

Librarian, Kimberly Wygant, and Library Assistant Auriel Pinales, are the main creators for the clever come and go crafts offered all day each Saturday and Sunday. Children and parents or caregivers make similar crafts to a sample that’s displayed with all materials provided with some instructions.

A new pilot program launched on the first day of school on August 27. After School Fun Time is hosted by a rotation of staff for kids who want to come and hang out in Tobin’s meeting room for one hour on most school days. Simultaneously, multiple activities happen: ping pong, crafts like duct tape pencil holders, the WII or Xbox gaming and board games. Many kids want to just use their phones with WI-FI and enjoy refreshments or snacks. Initial attendance has been very high with lots of compliments from parents and visitors.

WESTFALL

While parents and students alike were getting ready for back to school, the Westfall Branch Library provided a variety of programs and services to the community. There were weekly programs for all
ages and a wide range of topics. In addition to many events hosted at the branch, the staff was also able to offer off site services as well as outreach.

In August and September children, teens and adults were busy finishing the summer reading program and turning in their logs. This summer many people participated in the program and win some great prizes and the children got a free book. In addition to the summer reading program, children, teen and adults all had the opportunity to attend programs at the branch. Some of these included story time, kids time, teen time, and book clubs.

During September, Ms. Merino visited the Kinder Care Learning Center and brought the children a variety of books to read. Additionally, Ms. Merino held weekly children’s programs such as story time, kids and toddler times. The programs consisted of some stories and fun activities to wrap up the day.

Continuing in August and September, teens at Westfall learned valuable skills at the San Antonio Food Bank’s presentation of “Cooking Around the World”. The session started off with a lesson on the geography and culture of another country, and then proper kitchen safety, knife skills, and how to follow a recipe. Teen Librarian, Daniella Toll, also hosted a monthly dungeons and dragons program for the Westfall teen. Additionally, starting in September the branch will be offering free math tutoring to teens.

The Westfall Branch Library continued to host the “Stranger than Fiction” and “Third Thursday” book clubs. Books read this month included A Judgment in Stone by Ruth Rendell and A Long Way Home: A True Story by Lily Koppe. Both book clubs draw small but dedicated groups that enjoy discussing the themes of the books as well as other issues of the day.

In August and September, the Westfall Branch library continued to host the Central Texas Werewolves (CTW) for a night of the social deception game “Are You a Werewolf?” where people try to deduce who is a werewolf preying on innocent villagers. After playing several rounds of Werewolf, they broke out the board games. One group played Black Orchestra, a group of World War II conspirators who try to defeat Hitler before being caught by the Gestapo. Another group tried to win the heart of the Princess Annette in Love Letter. Others attempted to vie for power of Waterdeep, the City of Splendors in The Lords of Waterdeep The CTW will be at the Westfall library every other Friday night throughout the end of summer and into the fall playing Werewolf and other board games.

The Westfall LEARN @ SAPL Center continued to be busy throughout the month of September. Over 200 people have stopped by the center for assistance with resume writing, online job applications, and educational support. The English as a Second Language (ESL) class held every Saturday afternoon continued to be popular with the community and well attended. In August, the Westfall LEARN @ SAPL offered a variety of computer classes and one-one-one coaching that included: Microsoft Word, Excel, online searching, social media and email basics.

At the beginning of September, the staff at Westfall wished part time library assistant Mike Barrett farewell and good luck. Mr. Barrett transferred to the Thousand Oak Branch where he’ll continue to be a library assistant. The staff at Westfall will miss him and all his insight into all different types of film. Mike was our go to guy when patrons only knew the plot or an actor in movie. He always seem to know exactly what customer where looking for.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

- Community Connections
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
- Educational & Learning Opportunities
- Employee CORE Values (Teamwork, Integrity, Innovation, Professionalism)
- Workforce & Economic Prosperity
Presented below are key indicators that align with the Library’s Strategic Plan, with a comparison to FY 2017.

**CIRCULATION:**
- **Goal:** 7,340,000 TOTAL FY GOAL
- **FYTD Goal:** 100% OF FYTD GOAL MET
- **Fiscal Year to Date:** 6,698,130 ITEMS BORROWED, ↑0.4%

**LIBRARY VISITS:**
- **Goal:** 5,600,000 TOTAL FY GOAL
- **FYTD Goal:** 90% OF FYTD GOAL MET
- **Fiscal Year to Date:** 4,648,785 VISITS, ↓9%
  - **Contributing Factor:** Election Cycle

**DIGITAL ACCESS:**
- **Goal:** 2,500,000 TOTAL FY GOAL
- **FYTD Goal:** 91% OF FYTD GOAL MET
- **Fiscal Year to Date:**
  - **Computer Hours:** 517,936
  - **Hours of Wi-Fi Use:** 1,581,181
  - **Total Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use:** 2,099,117, ↓9%
## USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Use of Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Physical</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bexar County (Outside COSA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>COSA</td>
<td>78%</td>
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## VIRTUAL VISITS: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

- **MYSAPL.ORG VISITS**: 2,395,129
- **MYSAPL APP SESSIONS**: 836,418
- **SANANTONIO.OVERDRIVE.COM VISITS**: 1,621,779

## PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR TO DATE

- **Total Attendance**: 369,193
- **Adult Programs**: 66,784
- **Teen Programs**: 45,373
- **Children’s Programs**: 219,566

## MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

**August 2018**

- Harry Potter Summer Fest, Parman Branch Library
- Adult Game Night at Central Library
## San Antonio Public Library
### Aug 2018 Key Indicators

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<th>Visits</th>
<th>Hours of Computer &amp; Wi-Fi Use</th>
<th>Computers - Hours of Use</th>
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Circulation includes Digital (OneClick and Overdrive) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt.
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<th>Number of Programs</th>
<th>Total Program Attendance</th>
<th>Adult Program Attendance</th>
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<td><strong>9,231</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,767</strong></td>
<td><strong>12,584</strong></td>
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</table>
San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures

FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16  * Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Aug 2018

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

[Bar chart showing circulation data for different locations with bars for FY 2018, FY 2017, and FY 2016]
San Antonio Public Library

Visits

Location Closures
FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16 * Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12
San Antonio Public Library

Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Aug 2018

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

Location Closures
FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16  * Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12
San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures

2018/09/17

FY 18:
- Central Oct 28 at 3pm
- SAPL System Jan 16
- Weather Feb 19
- Staff Transformation Day, Cody May 3-13
- Pan American Jun 18-Jul 3

FY 17:
- Landa Jun 5-Sep 20
- SAPL System Aug 26-27
- Cortez Sep 16

FY 16:
- Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

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

Location Closures
FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16
FY 16: Collins Garden Oct 1-Jan 12

* Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25