San Antonio Public Library Director’s Report
June 2019

The San Antonio Public Library hosted a Summer Reading Celebration event earlier this month. The Library welcomed over 100 visitors and celebrated with Summer Reading themed programs and activities during the event.
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DIRECTOR’S OFFICE

Ramiro Salazar served as the Grand Marshall of the Monte Vista Historical Association July 4 Parade. The Library has a long-standing partnership with the Monte Vista Historical Association as the Hannah Landa Memorial Branch Library is located within the association’s boundaries. The parade assembled at the intersection of Lynwood and Howard and proceeded to Landa Branch Library with a neighborhood picnic to follow.

On Wednesday, July 3, 2019, Library Director Ramiro Salazar was interviewed by Kansas City Public Ratio Affiliate, KCUR to discuss the movement in the public library sphere towards eliminating fines for library materials. As President of the Public Library Association, Ramiro provided a national perspective. Additionally, Ramiro spoke about the San Antonio Public Library’s recently launched pilot program, eliminating fines for children and young adult materials checked out after June 3. The interview was part of the Central Standard program, hosted by Gina Kaufmann, on KCUR’s Public Radio Station.

Ramiro Salazar was also interviewed by the The Wall Street Journal on Monday, July 8, 2019 on the topic of eliminating fines in public libraries.

MARKETING

Top media hits for the past month:

- Express News featured the Library for its partnership with UTSA on showcasing the Pride Exhibit at Central Library. This article made both the print and web news in addition to being featured on the home page of expressnews.com

- Spectrum News featured two very positive stories regarding the Library showcasing Pride representation. These stories ran 22 times throughout their July 5th and 6th newscasts.
  - Overview of Central Library’s & UTSA’s Pride Exhibit
  - SAPL – a library system for all

Photo: Kin Man Hui /Express News photographer
The design team completed a wide range of materials to continue to promote summer programs, including summer reading, author events with Carlos Flores and Richard Blanco, and our partnership programs with Opera SA. Materials are also being developed for the Digital Library kiosk at Children’s Hospital of San Antonio.

Social Media fun facts for the reporting period:
- The Library’s social media channels brought in 205,422 impressions to Library related activities, materials, and programs.
- Over 2,800 users engaged with our digital content

Social Media statistics for the month:
Altogether, the Library’s digital presence grew by 306 new followers
- New followers: Instagram: 110 | Twitter: 27 | Facebook: 169
- Facebook: 17,927 total followers
- Twitter: 4,720 total followers
- Instagram: 3,770 total followers

DIGITAL SERVICES

Library Services Administrator Ron Suszek announced on July 11 that Adam Spana, who had been acting as Interim Digital Services Coordinator since March 2019, was selected to fulfill the Digital Services’ leadership role on a permanent basis.

On July 2, Library Director Ramiro Salazar presented Digital Library Services Analyst Tricia Masterson with an enCORE award in recognition of her teamwork in support of the self-service machines at the Potranco library. This was Ms. Masterson's second enCORE award in her career.

On July 10, Mr. Spana and Digital Library Services Supervisor Rolf Laun, and other members of the ILS migration working group, attended the last of 4 policy profiling webinars with SirsiDynix consultant Sarah Murphy. The webinars informed work on laying the foundations for a successful data migration and improving staff user experience and statistical reporting.

Digital Services staff hosted a celebration for Library Assistant Robert Solis (Forest Hills) on June 27. Mr. Solis was honored as the grand prize winner of the BiblioThon contest, which was conducted to promote the new BiblioCore catalog and staff-contributed content.

LITTLE READ WAGON

Every Child Ready to Read Workshops for Parents
School is out for the summer. The Little Read Wagon team looks forward to putting lots of Every Child Ready to Read workshops on the calendar as teachers return to campus and starting requesting programs.

Services to Pregnant and Parenting Teens
While teens are most likely out of school for the summer, Little Read Wagon staff has been in touch with some of their child care providers. Early childhood teachers at the Navarro Learning Center will be the first to receive the new teacher workshop for the year. The workshop is in the final stages of development and will be presented to the group on August 8.

Outreach Story Time Programs
Outreach Story Time is in even more demand during the summer due to the inclusion of school age children and some more deliberate scheduling on the part of child care center staff. In addition to story time, staff also revisited centers served earlier in the year to coordinate group registration in the summer reading program.

Play & Learn
Play & Learn at McAllister Park has come to a close, and the series at Martin Luther King Park has begun. Little Read Wagon chose Martin Luther King Park for the July series because of the heavy tree cover that provides a significantly cooler and shady space for play. Children tend to traverse a larger area due to the location of the pavilion in relation to the playground. Parents appreciate the ability to spread out and give children more space in which to play.

Workshops for Professionals
The team is developing a new workshop for the 2019-20 school year. Dates have been confirmed and early childhood centers are already making requests for training.

Building Connections
Clair Larkin, Julia Lazarin, Cresencia Huff, and four volunteers set up a Library booth at the 4th of July celebration at Woodlawn Lake Park. The team was busy all day registering people for summer reading, distributing Library swag from the prize wheel, and encouraging people to build interesting structures with the Straws and Connectors.

System-wide Support
Ms. Larkin assisted staff at the Igo Branch Library by presenting children’s programs while the Children’s Librarian was out.

CHILDREN’S (SYSTEM-WIDE)

Children’s Programs
While summer may seem to be winding down with back to school sales popping up everywhere, summer reading is still going strong. As of Monday, July 14, registration was very close to 20,000. Summer reading program completion has already surpassed 2018. Several thousand more children are participating through Parks and Recreation’s Summer Youth Program.

Summer programming appearances by Magik Theatre, Dinosaur George, Happy Tails, and Will Parker have drawn substantial crowds. All locations will host SummerFest celebrations between July 27 and August 10. Opera San Antonio offered to make four child-friendly presentations of opera’s greatest hits. “Explore Opera!” will be presented in late July and early August at the Pruitt, Mission, Guerra, and Central libraries. While primary summer programming ends with SummerFest, summer reading registration and completion will continue through August 31.
Although Summer Reading is taking most of their energy, Children’s Librarians are also busy making plans for fall. The system-wide Hispanic Heritage program will feature beautiful *hojalata* folk art. A system-wide Play & Learn program will have a grocery store theme. More special performers are pending, along with Playdough Day and at least one additional system-wide program.

**Community Outreach**

Cresencia Huff, with assistance from Clair Larkin and Julia Lazarin (Little Read Wagon) and four volunteers, set up a Library booth at the 4th of July celebration at Woodlawn Lake Park. The team was busy all day registering people for summer reading, distributing Library swag from the prize wheel, and encouraging people to build interesting structures with the Straws and Connectors.

**Professional Development**

Haley Holmes, Central Public Services Administrator, made a presentation at the two July Children’s Services meetings about advocacy and elevator speeches. Children’s Librarians chose topics and practiced making elevator speeches in role playing scenarios. Ms. Holmes’ examples and encouragement to consider joining Toastmasters are deeply appreciated.

**TEENS (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

**Off-Site Service**—On Saturday, June 29, Teen Services hosted a San Antonio Public Library festival booth with the VROOM! Van during the Pride Bigger Than Texas Festival at Crockett Park. Attendees were able to participate in a DIY glitter glam up activity using aloe vera to help combat the sunny day. Attendees also spun a wheel to receive some library swag, including Pride-inspired buttons and @210teenlibrary drawstring backpacks. Teen Services’ Simple Booth setup was also a hit as festival goers took pictures that featured a unique rainbow San Antonio Public Library logo. Thank you to Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager, Teen Library @ Central) for coordinating this effort, as well as Ami Sarabia (SAPL Teen Outreach Specialist), Christian (Summer Youth Employee, Teen Library @ Central), Emily Young (Teen Services Librarian, Mission), Cassie Garza (Teen Services Liaison, Pan American), and Robin Alcorta (Children’s Librarian, Landa) for helping run the booth throughout the day.

That evening, 44 marchers (including library staff, teen volunteers, family, and friends) represented the San Antonio Public Library in the Pride Bigger Than Texas Parade. The group marched along the parade route with Teen Services’ VROOM! Van. A HUGE thank you goes out to the entire group of marchers!
System-wide Support—During the summer, Ami Sarabia (SAPL Teen Outreach Specialist) has filled in to facilitate teen summer programming at branch locations that have Teen Services Librarian vacancies. She has hosted teen weekly teen activities at Carver, Potranco, and Tobin Branch Libraries.

J.D. Elizondo (Library Assistant, Teen Library @ Central) continues to participate as a host on the SAPL podcast *Tuned in*. J.D. is working to arrange an interview with current SAPL gallery artist, Audreya Florist, to discuss her art exhibit, *Digging*.

Teen Summer Interns—Teens in the Family Service Association’s Youth Career Opportunity Program began working at participating SAPL library locations. This year ten library locations are participating in the FSA’s program and include: Central, Bazan, Cody, Cortez, Great Northwest, Johnston, Memorial, Potranco, Pruitt, and Westfall. This summer internship is often the teens’ first work experience and serves as valuable experience on their resume, as well as providing much needed help for library staff during the busy summer months.

**ADULTS (SYSTEM-WIDE)**

Adult Summer Reading continues through July. To date close to 6000 adults have signed up for the program. Staff has been hosting programs related to the Over the Moon theme throughout the system. Prizes for adults who read and attend programs include the chance to win a telescope, home planetarium, NASA messenger bags, binoculars, and tickets to Cosmic Mayhem indoor blacklight miniature golf. On August 3, Game Night for Grownups will be held at the Central Library from 6 to 10 pm including board games, video games, miniature golf in the stacks, and a spelling bee. Last year’s event had over 400 adult attendees.
Coordinator of Services to Adults Haley Holmes attended the American Library Association Annual Conference in Washington, DC. She participated in a poster session highlighting partnerships. Her poster was titled *The Holocaust Learn & Remember: A seven year collaboration*. Marketing graphic designer Maria Garza created a beautiful design for the poster using vintage photographs and photos from the last seven years of library programming from Learn and Remember.

Ms. Holmes was asked by Interim Children’s Services Coordinator Cresencia Huff to give a presentation about elevator speeches to the system’s children’s librarians at their July meetings. Ms. Holmes developed the presentation using Toastmasters resources and experiences to relate these short speeches to how staff advocate for library services, ideals and patrons through their work.

**CENTRAL LIBRARY**

**CHILDREN**

Dinosaur George made an uproarious visit to the Central Library this month. Many little dinosaur fans of all ages turned up for his hilarious and informative performance.

Assistant Manager Shannon Seglin presented the popular *Toddler Time* program at Central Library this month, starting with a summery beach-themed event. She read the popular stories, *I’m the Biggest Thing in the Ocean* and *I Spy Under the Sea*, which got kids in the mood for dramatic play with sea creature puppets and pretend fishing. Toddlers enjoyed a program about pets that featured an elaborate veterinarian center, among other engaging activities. Children provided tender care to dog and cat puppets using stethoscope toys and felt bandages. Ms. Seglin presented a special 4th of July experience for the group of regularly attending families. The toddlers marched in a parade around the Children’s Area, playing instruments and spreading patriotic cheer. This program was full of sensory delights, including a tub of cooked spaghetti noodles dyed red and blue and another full of fluffy white shaving cream and red and blue food coloring, which the children swirled around with their hands. The highlight of the month was the epic *Very Hungry Caterpillar Toddler Time* in honor of the 50th anniversary of the story’s publication. Toddlers delighted in retelling the classic tale using food props, playing with butterfly and caterpillar puppets, sorting foods by color and kneading green playdough. The experience was enhanced by a visit from the Very Hungry Caterpillar herself! Regina Villalobos Perez, Marketing Specialist, kindly dressed up in an elaborate costume and surprised the children with this special appearance. The families were thrilled to take pictures with this beloved character.

Librarian Ashley Stubbs has developed a devoted following of families with young children for her *Play & Learn* programs. The fun kicked off this month with a *Play & Learn* all about birthdays. Children played in a sensory bin full of confetti, and made party music with a variety of musical instruments. She created an elaborate dramatic play center where toddlers enacted the rituals of a birthday party with animal puppets as guests (each wearing a party hat). They served each other pretend cake and handing out gift bags. In a stellar example of teamwork, when Ms. Stubbs fell ill the
day of the program, Ms. Seglin stepped in to present it, and the birthday theme was a big hit with families. Next week Ms. Stubbs crafted a program around transportation. Children floated toy boats in a sensory bin full of water, raced matchbox cars down ramps made from pool noodles and “drove” the oversized cardboard fire truck and school bus. Ms. Stubbs put her own spin on the pet-themed program, giving children the sensory experience of washing plastic animals and digging for pet figurines in sensory bins full of loose material. Children were also able to take a pet home with them! They each decorated a pet rock and made it their own. Ms. Stubbs focused on the building blocks of early literacy - ABC/123 & shapes – for her final program of the month. Children played a bean bag toss game featuring different shapes, did a magnetic alphabet search and used letter stamps during playdough play.

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. J.D. has started working on short film recording with the teens on iPads to help them explore various roles in the process including directing, acting, script writing etc.

J.D. has met with several agencies to prepare for the next annual Teen Arts Fest, including South Texas Ballet Conservatory.

Tuesdays with Matthew Loaiza (Assistant Manager): As summer continues, newly released Nintendo Switch games are at the top of teen requests for new games. Teens are excited to try out “Super Mario Maker 2”, a game that encourages teens to tap into their creativity and create their own versions of the hit game’s levels. Teens collaborate to skillfully build unique levels while also trying out these levels to ensure they actually work. Because of the game’s popularity, teens are also requesting an electronic version of the game “Catch Phrase” to replace the much-loved original version at the Teen Library.

Two teens began working at the Teen Library @ Central as summer interns. Matthew will work with both teens as a supervisor and mentor during their internship.

Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Thursdays with Regina Almanza (Library Assistant): Teen Summer continued with teens engaging in some encouraging socialization and positive activities, and expressing themselves creatively. As part of Spinning Wheel Thursdays, teens spun with the wheel landing on “Snacks!” which had teens attempting a Hot Cheeto Cookie, one of many Internet inspiration moments that teens come across and want to try. Afterward, teens used mini terra cotta pots and plates, a plastic ornament sphere, glue gun, paint, and glitter, arranging them to look like mini-gumball machines. They filled the spheres with mini-snack items as well.

Teen volunteer Esteban also held a crochet session, where he showed his peers how to begin a simple crochet project. Esteban intends to hold other sessions, and hopefully with his positive teaching skills, teens can gain the confidence to expand their crafting abilities.

Bringing some science into a fun summer treat, teens made ice cream. Using basic ingredients in a quart-sized bag and an ice salt solution in gallon-sized bag, teens place the small bag inside and shake to
create a rocking motion that freezes their dairy mixture. They poured their ice cream into a cup then topped it with fresh fruits and toppings.

Teens used cardboard, glue, yarn, aluminum foil, and Sharpies to create embossed yarn art. One teen was enthused, making an art piece for a staff member. The next Spinning Wheel category “Tie Dye Shirts!” found teens using a tie-dye kit provided by the Teen Summer Committee (thank you!). Covering the tables strategically, teens dipped their shirts in water, afterwards using rubber bands to create designs, then using the mixed dyes to create colorful designs. Most teens took their shirts home, but the following day, those left behind revealed the designs on shirts. One teen washed and dried his and wore it the next day. Teens also attempted a homemade marshmallow recipe, separating it and adding neon colors, which they then swirled together to make a tie dye effect.

After most craft and cooking sessions, teens engaged in some open play using Teen Library’s variety of games, including Twister, Uno, and Catchphrase. Teens also take the opportunity to spend independent time using the recording studio or the lab. Teens can also request video game systems to engage in some friendly competition. Pictures from Thursday craft times can be found at http://www.instagram.com/210teenlibrary.

Tours and Groups

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

REFERENCE

In June, the Library celebrated International Yoga Day with a program organized by Librarian Pannaga Prasad. Instructors from the IDOYoga Organization presented relaxation and breathing techniques along with soothing music. Participants appreciated the experience and expressed an interest in having more yoga classes at the Library.

In honor of Pride month and to celebrate San Antonio’s diversity, Central Library hosted Gender and Sexuality 101. Dr. Amy L. Stone from Trinity University discussed both the concepts and history regarding the debate and challenges that face people in the LGBTQ+ community. In addition to in-house attendees many digital patrons joined in. The lecture was broadcast live on Instagram at patron request consequently reaching a wider audience; it is currently on the San Antonio Public Library’s YouTube channel.

The Pride Display on the Second Floor was inspired by the Pride Flag used to symbolize the LGBTQ+ community. Each shelf bay is covered in a different color creating a rainbow effect. Each color is symbolic: Red – Life; Orange – Healing; Yellow – Sunlight;
Green – Nature; Blue – Harmony; Purple – Spirit; and Pink – Sexuality. At the top of the Display, flags representing some of the groups that identify under the LGBTQ+ banner are also included. Books and magazines selected explore the LGBTQ+ experience.

The Over the Moon Adult Summer Reading Kick-off event was held at the beginning of June. Dr. David Wood, an astronomy professor from San Antonio College lectured on the origins of the moon. The lecture was enhanced by animated scientific models, slides, and video. Dr. Wood received many questions from enthusiastic attendees.

To celebrate the Over the Moon theme of this summer’s Adult Summer Reading program, Central Cinema staff is presenting a series titled Movies Over the Moon. The initial offering in the series was the movie, Wall-e. After several lonely centuries, a waste management robot finds a new purpose in life. With only a cockroach for a friend, Wall-e finds true love in another robot sent on a mission to Earth to see if it safe for human life. Attendees appreciated the respite from the heat outside and enjoyed the film’s humorous and tender moments. The next film in the series, Apollo 13 is based on the true story of Apollo 13’s gripping drama that began with the famous phrase, “Houston, we have a problem.” Stranded 205,000 miles from Earth in a crippled spacecraft, astronauts Jim Lovell, Fred Haise and Jack Swigert fight a desperate battle to survive. Meanwhile, at Mission Control, astronaut Ken Mattingly, flight director Gene Kranz, and a heroic ground crew race against time and the odds to bring the stranded crew home. The audience was riveted by the action and the tension of the crew’s plight.

The collaboratively created Lobby Book Display continues the Over the Moon theme with multiple sides of the display decorated to promote Summer Reading. One side uses letters cut out from collages of rockets, space scenes, and rockets to spell out the Display’s name. The other side uses depictions of the moon’s phases to celebrate the Summer Reading theme. In addition, end panels were decorated with hand drawn stars and constellations.

LATINO COLLECTION & RESOURCE CENTER

On Saturday, June 22 the Latino Collection and Resource Center hosted an author talk with introducing the Book, “They Call Me Mix”, accompanied by a short with author Lourdes Rivas. Approximately 25 community members attended this Meet the Author program.
On Saturday, July 14, the Latino Collection and Resource Center partnered with the Texana/Genealogy Unit to present ‘Meet the Author: Gil Rodriguez’ who discussed San Antonio’s not-often-told history.

TEXANA / GENEALOGY

In celebration of Juneteenth, Librarian Sylvia Reyna did a presentation at the Antioch Community Center on June 18 entitled Discovering Your African American Genealogical Roots. Reyna used past-prominent local members of the African American community as research examples (e.g. Charles Bellinger and his son Valmo). Coincidentally, a descendant of the Bellingers happened to be in the audience, which made for a nice surprise and lively discussion.

On July 6 the Central Library’s Latino Collection and Resource Center and Texana/Genealogy Collections were the highlight of a tour conducted by Special Collections Manager Heather Ferguson for the Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin. The group engaged in researching information regarding their ancestors who came to Texas prior to 1800.

Assistant manager Deborah Countess presented an Introduction to Genealogy at the Cody Library on July 10. Attendees were given tools and information to help start them down the path to uncovering their family history. Special attention was given to the various San Antonio Public Library databases dealing with genealogy research.

Librarian Andy Crews presented a class at the Schaefer Branch on July 13 entitled Finding Your Ancestors with Ancestry.

Librarian Matt De Waelsche hosted author Gil Dominguez in the LCRC on July 13. Mr. Dominguez presented his recent book It Happened in San Antonio and discussed lesser known events in local history.

Ms. Reyna has continued volunteering at the Migrant Resource Center on Thursdays.

BRANCH LOCATIONS

BAZAN

On June 17 the Bazan branch and Children’s Librarian Hope Sonnen welcomed the Sandbank’s Shadow Factory for a performance that was enjoyed by both children and adults. On July 2 Ms. Sonnen visited the children at Immaculate Conception Kindergarten & Nursey where she read stories to a group of toddlers.

Bazan welcomed two teen summer interns from Family Service and one teen intern from Joven. The teens assisted with the San Antonio Food Bank summer lunch program, facilitated weekly teen
programs, and helped shift and straighten up the book collection. Teen librarian Georgina Salinas was busy in July offering two teen programs weekly, *Teen Tuesdays* and *Teen Hangout*. The teens who attended the programs enjoyed making ice cream, having fun with a ramen bar, playing games, and making various crafts including button making.

Training Officer Emily Flores attended the Barrio Network meeting on June 20 at the Neighborhood Place. The event was hosted by the San Antonio Fatherhood Campaign, an American Indians in Texas initiative.

LEARN at SAPL had its first individual complete the recently launched Digital Inclusion Certificate Program. Mr. Jose Rodriguez chose to pursue the Computer Basics certification track in order to reach his goal of being able to independently search and apply for jobs online. He received his certificate of completion on June 21.

The Bad Girls Romance Club met at the end of June for a PRIDE month celebration and discussion of the book *When Katie Met Cassidy* by Camille Perri.

The Summer Lovin' with Passion Flix-Bad Girls Romance Club event at Bazan was a very fun time for all who attended. The CEO of Passionflix, Tosca Musk, personally granted the book club public viewing permission to screen Passionflix films. The streaming service adapts romance books into movies, bringing favorite romance reads to the screen. The book group screened the film *After Burn/After Shock* which was adapted from two novellas of the same title by romance author Sylvia Day. This time last year the book club read and discussed the novellas.

The Alamo City Browncoats provided refreshments and hosted a summer movie event called Meet-N-Watch where they showed *Serenity* by Joss Wheaton. The group plans to host another Meet-N-Watch in July where they will be showing *Ready Player One*.

The *Button Making for Adults* program saw several customers attend to learn about the history of pin back buttons. Attendees also had the opportunity to make several buttons for themselves or someone special.

The *June Sushi Making with Chinatsu Oku* program was again well received. The Bazan branch worked with Ms. Oku for the last year and a half in which time she provided over a dozen free programs promoting Japanese arts and culture. Sadly, the grant from the East Asia Institute at UTSA, her sponsor, is ending and her last program at Bazan was in July. In August Ms. Oku will be returning home to Japan and the Bazan staff and customers will miss her and her educational and entertaining programming.

Mr. Jose Rodriguez proudly showing his Digital Inclusion Certificate of Completion.
This Summer Bazan displayed the beautiful and creative work of artist Lacey Bibiana Mills. Customers and staff alike have really enjoyed seeing her work which includes printmaking but also brilliantly incorporates other mediums of art.

**BROOK HOLLOW**

Brook Hollow Library patrons enthusiastically embraced the 2019 Summer Reading Program. Sign-ups for the teen and children’s Summer Reading Program as well as program attendance have increased significantly from the previous year. During June 2019 over 2200 people attended children’s programs at branch compared to 1209 in June 2018. Brook Hollow staff continue to engage patrons and encourage registration for the Summer Reading Program, helping the branch to exceed its goal of registering 850 children. As of July 14, 992 children registered for the Summer Reading Program, an increase over last year’s total registration of 788 participants. During June 74 teens registered for Teen Summer Reading Program compared to a total of 47 registrations last year.

During June Brook Hollow hosted 53 events for children and families including a weekly early literacy programs as well as activities for school age kids. In addition to Brook Hollow’s core early literacy schedule which includes weekly Toddler Time, Toddler Two, Story Time and two Baby Time programs, Children’s Librarian Jasmin Salinas added a weekly Family Story Time featuring activities that caregivers and children of all ages can enjoy together. Activities for school age children such as Lego Time, Read to a Dog, and Graphic Novel Book Club for Kids have been popular at the branch this summer as well.

On June 18 Brook Hollow Library hosted Illusions by Blake, a special program for families. Mr. Blake delighted his audience with magical feats during two performances sponsored by the Brook Hollow Friends of the Library. Following both performances, children eagerly asked for help with finding books on how to perform magic tricks.

On July 9, Dinosaur George visited Brook Hollow, captivating audiences during two back to back performances for children and families. Dinosaur George provided humorous and educational presentations on dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures featuring examples of fossils.

Teen programming continues to thrive at Brook Hollow. Teen Time participants engaged in a variety of activities this reporting period, including slime making, cooking baking, and the ever popular video gaming. The branch also hosted two Teen Summer Theme Nights: Galaxy Night, in which teens made galaxy jars and magnets, and Harry Potter Night, which drew 18 teens! Participants at Harry Potter Night made golden snitches from chocolate candies and wizard wands with hot glue, paint, and giant chop sticks. Several teens were also able to engage with the Oculus Go and game in virtual reality.

On June 22, Library Assistant Elissa Vura hosted Pyrography Picture Frame, a class on how to burn a decorative design into a wooden picture frame. Ms. Vura created a custom tree design and provided instruction on how to use the library’s pyrography equipment to decorate picture frames provided by the Brook Hollow Friends of the Library. Participants had fun following Ms. Vura’s design and customizing it to their skill level and interest.

On July 10 Brook Hollow kicked off Brook Hollow Crochet Series, organized by Ms. Vura. At the first crochet class Library Assistant Jennifer Olivarez taught patrons how to get started with chain and single crochet. Additional instructional assistance was provided by Library Circulation Attendant Teresa Smith,
Brook Hollow volunteer Carrie Simmons and Ms. Vura. Next month attendees will learn how to crochet doubles and trebles.

**CARVER**

Carver Branch Manager DL Grant Jr. was among the SAPL delegates attending Annual Assembly in Austin hosted by the Texas Library Association. Plans were made for programs and activities for TLA’s yearly annual conference slated for March 24-27, 2020 in Houston. Mr. Grant, a past chair of the Black Caucus Roundtable of TLA, was asked to serve as booth coordinator for the group and is charged with choosing a theme and recruiting volunteers to man it.

The July theme promoting the branch’s collection honored National Parks Service Month. Materials featured included titles about the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone and Yosemite. Texas parks, such as Big Bend and the San Antonio Missions, were added to infuse a more local flavor. Loop images of these American treasures flashed continuously on a digital board, complementing the display.

**CODY**

Sunday’s adult movie hour continues at our branch with the following films:

June 30 – Soap Dish  
July 7 – Bridge of Spies  
July 14 – The Prestige

Ms. McGowan continued to welcome Ms. Evelyn Green, from Texas A&M Agrilife Extension to present “Healthy Bites and Healthy Moves” for three sessions with a graduation class on July 5th. A total of seven (7) participated in a cap and gown ceremony.

Cody also hosted several HOAs:

July 20 – Cyprus Hollow  
July 25 – Orsinger Lane  
July 27 Onclave @ Elm Creek

Cody hosted its longstanding clubs: Friday Book, Cody Film, Friday Friends with Fiction, Friends of the Library and Tamil Book Club.

Adult Services Librarian partnered with Karen Meade for a meetup session.

Cody was very happy to welcome back the following programs:  
Ms. Chinatsu Oku presented Origami for Kids  
Ms. Debbie Countess presented Introduction to Genealogy
Ms. Kelly Wu presented ABC's of Medicare
Mr. Ramakrishnan Karunakaran presented International Yoga Day and Yoga for Beginners.

Karen Schaffenberger, loaned Cody her “Summer Days” collection. This exhibit is being displayed in the meeting room as well as several pieces are hanging in the body of the library. Thus far, we have a total of 56 guests that have signed the registration book. However, the actual foot traffic for viewing the exhibit has been outstanding.

Children’s Services

The Baby Time and Toddler Time programs on June 17th were all about the zoo. Children listened to stories, recited rhymes, and sang songs about the zoo.

During Tween Time later on the 17th tweens learned how to make solar ovens out of pizza boxes. Then tweens set their solar ovens out in the sun to make s’mores. Tweens experimented to see how long the boxes should be left out, how they should position their box, and which materials should be left out in the sun. Tweens found that they should put the marshmallow out of several minutes before they added the chocolate.

Children’s librarian Kristin Yourdon started a partnership with Howsman Elementary School’s Newcomer Summer School program to offer a Lego Club for the children who were attending this program. On June 18th children from the summer school worked in groups to build Lego houses. Though the children did not all speak the same language, it was incredible to witness them working together to build Lego scenes.

Children learned about the letter T during Toddler, Two and Story Time on June 19th. The word of the day for the toddlers was train. Toddlers read a book about trains, sang songs about trains, created train artwork with scrap paper, and played with toy trains during playtime. During Story Time children practiced the sound the letter T makes, read books about trucks, tools, and tigers, and pointed out the letter t words they sang in a song.

During Kid’s Time later that day, children learned about the surface of the moon, some key places on the moon, and made maps of the moon on cardboard cake rounds using puffy paint, sequins, and scrap paper.

Richard Blake of Illusions by Blake visited the Cody Library on June 20th to put on a magic show! His magic tricks wowed the audience. He also shared that the first magic book he read was one he checked out of his local library.

During Lego Club on June 21st children worked in groups to build Lego trains.
Later that day, Yourdon visited the USAA Child Development Center to read to the children enrolled in their Summer Camp. Yourdon read books about ice cream, pizza, French toast, and waffles. The children were glad that it was snack time at the end of the reading session, as they said the stories made them hungry.

Children crafted their own planets with paper plates and scrap paper during a *Come& Go Crafts* passive program on June 22nd.

The *Baby Time* and *Toddler Time* programs on June 24th were all about emotions. Babies sang songs and read a book about emotions. Toddlers read *Mad, Mad Bear* by Kimberly Gee and practiced taking deep breaths.

During *Tween Time* on June 24th tweens learned how to make galaxy slime. Tweens worked all together to make neon blue slime, and then they split up into groups to each make a different color of slime. After everyone was done mixing their slime, the colors were mixed together to make a galaxy of colors.

Librarian Yourdon visited Howsman Elementary School to read to the Preschool and Kindergarten students of their Newcomer Summer School program on June 25th. Yourdon shared some of her favorite books with the children, taught them some of her favorite songs, and talked to the students about how they could get library cards.

Later that afternoon the 4th and 5th grade students from the Newcomer program visited the library to participate in a Lego Club activity. During this program, children were able to decide what they wanted to build.

Children learned about the letter U during *Toddler, Two and Story Time* on June 26th. *Toddler, Two*’s word of the day was Umbrella. Children read a book about an umbrella, sang songs about rain, decorated paper umbrellas with tissue paper, and played in the sensory bin with animals, pom poms, and mini doll umbrellas. Children held the umbrellas over the animals while it rained pom poms. During *Story Time* children read books about umbrellas, animals that like to go upside down, and underwear. Children also sang a special song about umbrellas and used a parachute as their pretend umbrella.

During *Kid’s Time* on June 26th children walked quickly through an obstacle course designed to see if they are fit to be astronauts. They climbed through tunnels, moon walked across bubble wrap, weaved around moon craters, and tested their moon jumping skills. After they were finished competing in the challenge, children made their own mission complete badges.
Yourdon visited the USAA Child Development Center on June 27th to read to and sing with the Kindergarten Prep students. Yourdon brought a few of her favorite books, which the children loved as well.

Mad Science visited the library on June 27th to show off some incredible science experiments. During the performance children learned all about sound waves through many eye-catching experiments.

During the Lego Club on June 28th children worked in groups to build their bedroom out of Legos.

Later that afternoon, children from the Newcomer’s Summer School visited the Cody Library. Over the month of June these students worked hard to learn English read books at their school. On the 28th over 100 students received a free book from the San Antonio Public Library to reward them for their hard work.

The first meeting of the Tween Book Club was held on June 29th. Children met to discuss Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. Children conversed about the book and made their own chocolate spoons.

On that same day, children and families decorated flying saucers during a Come & Go Crafts program.

The theme for Baby Time and Toddler Time on July 1st was Dinosaurs. Children listened to books about dinosaurs and sang many songs.

During Tween Time on July 1st tweens made their own stained glass suncatchers using plastic plates and clear glue mixed with food coloring. Some tweens made their own planets, some made water scenes, and some made galaxies.

Yourdon visited the USAA Child Development Center on July 2nd to read to their Summer Camp students.

During Toddler, Two and Story Time on July 3rd children learned about the letter v through books, songs, and activities. The word of the day for Toddler, Two was vegetables. The special activities for both programs were sorting plastic vegetables from an assortment of plastic food and making vegetable stamp art.

During Kid’s Time on July 3rd children made castle creations with moon dough and created their own paper pizzas.
Children worked in teams to make Lego cities during Lego Club on July 5th.

In celebration of our Summer Reading program, children made moon phase headbands during a Come & Go Crafts program on July 6th.

The Theme for Baby Time on July 8th was animal noises and Toddler Time was dinosaurs.

Tweens built their own battle robots using Legos and Meeper Bots during Tween Time on July 8th. After they finished building their bots, they competed against each other to see if they could knock their opponent out of the ring.

Toddler, Two and Story Time were both about the letter W. The special activities for the programs were painting with watercolors and washing ducks in a water sensory bin.

During Kid’s Time on July 10th children learned about moon rovers. They then recycled materials to build their own moon rovers.

Yourdon visited the USAA Child Development Center to read to the Kinder Prep students on the morning of July 11th to read and sing with the students.

The Astonishing Mr. Pitts visited the library later that afternoon to put on a variety show. He performed a space-themed show that featured ventriloquism, comedy, and magic tricks.

The Lego Club met on July 12th to build Lego scenes of their favorite buildings.

On July 13th children made their own paper plate constellations during a Come & Go Crafts program.

Teens Services

The Cody Branch Library has opened its doors to two teen interns through the FSA summer internship program! The newest additions to the Cody team have provided invaluable help on multiple fronts, including planning teen programming, assisting with the Summer Reading Program, creating displays, shelving, and checking items in. As part of this program, they receive valuable work experience and a competitive wage for their hard work!

Teen Gaming provides teens with opportunities to hang out after school and play video, board, and card games! Uno has been serious business lately—teens have played several exciting, heated rounds of it, with a lot of laughter.

Teen Time, Cody’s evening programming for teens, draws dedicated attendees interested in creating delicious food, playing games, and doing light crafts and art projects. Recently, teens made rainbow donuts and decorations for Pride Month, had a Ramen Night featuring manga pencils and
bookmarks, made their own ice cream while watching a favorite Disney movie, and created awesome galaxy-themed crafts!

The Cody Chess Club continues to bring players and observers of all ages into the library each Tuesday for games and chess puzzles. Summer has brought two new volunteers to help keep the many games running smoothly!

COLLINS GARDEN

Adults

CGL hosts Adult Coloring monthly, as a stress reliever, with a regular following of patrons who enjoy coloring various patterns and CGL’s monthly Coffee & Movie features Mexican classic & recent cinema releases. Thursday evening, July 11, 2019, CGL featured Urban Storyteller Fred Garza who offered a San Antonio Cemetery History & Haunts Lecture exploring the history of burial in San Antonio highlighting the oldest Catholic cemetery San Fernando #1. This was a free, community event by Curious Twins Paranormal a ghost tour investigation team that explores the mysteries of San Antonio and the Lone Star State through history, science, and spirituality to explore the past, present and future. The popular program was featured on Facebook and attracted 120 people.

Children

During the summer, the Lego Club continues to be a popular program. Sixty-one participants attended 4 Lego programs. Lego building models are displayed for public enjoyment in the reference area. Children’s Librarian, Gina Brudi hosted three in-house Kids Time programs featuring the SAPL summer reading theme Over the Moon! In June, Matt Sandbanks from Sandbanks Shadow Factory visited the Collins Garden Library with his menagerie of cardboard cutouts and entertained 88 attendees. The Astonishing Mr. Pitts brought his show “An Alien Stole My Library Book” with puppets, magic and cartooning and entertained 36 attendees. In July, CGL hosted The McGruff Crime Dog Puppet show about stranger danger and Naturalist Tom Kinsey who brought snakes, cockroaches, rats, a dove and a toad for children and adults to touch and take photos. The Summer Movie for children is averaging between 20-25 attendees on Thursday afternoons. These children’s programs were funded by The Friends of Collins Garden Library.

Children’s Librarian Gina Brudi is gearing up to host the CGL End of Summer Reading Program featuring a space story time with moon pies, a space rocket and astronauts helmets for all.

Teens

Weekly Teen programs, hosted by Library Assistant Carlos Loera, has slowed down for the summer, yet CGL opens the meeting room for teens to play video games, movies and create crafts.

CGL Outreach/Manager Happenings

Collins Garden Library continues weekly Family Game Night with various board games. Two chess sets are located on the library floor and attract patrons to learn the game of chess. CGL Team continues to work with the Mays Boys and Girls Club of San Antonio. CGL Team is gearing up to host
COSA Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales Back-to-School Backpack Drive, Saturday, August 3, 2019, 10 am to 1 pm.

Collins Garden Library Branch Manager Jeannette Davies attended the Texas Library Association (TLA) Annual Assembly in Austin and participated as TLA D10 Past Chairperson and as a member of the TLA Public Relations Committee. The manager continues to be an active member in COSA Toastmasters and plans to continue in the newly formed SAPL Toastmasters. Manager is working the PSA to create workforce station with adult computer & children’s computer together plus a mini-reference station. CGL Manager continues to work with a new board of the Friends of Collins Garden Library (FOCGL) hosting the next meeting at the library this month. FOCGL Treasurer Gina Jimez and her husband, a carpenter, created a new money collection box to place on the Friends used book cart with used books available to the public for purchase.

CORTEZ

Planning continues for the big “Nature Smart Libraries” event on September 21 with more partners joining and more activities being planned for that day and for the months afterward. There were two meetings during this reporting period.

On July 3 the staff celebrated an early 4th of July with a hot dog party and on July 9 celebrated their Second Annual National Chocolate Day by sharing chocolate confections of all types from donuts to pudding.

Summer Intern Amri Chapa has returned to Cortez this summer as a Teen Intern through the Family Service Youth College and Career Opportunities Program. It is a pleasure having her join us for a second year to help with programming and shelving.

On July 28 Ms. Brantley met with representatives from TCI and SAPL Capital Projects to discuss the creation of a sidewalk to assist patrons in getting safely to the Branch along Hunter Boulevard. The project was initiated by and will be paid for by TCI.

The Branch staff have been brainstorming and spending the windfall amounts received from the Eduoard Foundation Equity Funds as well as the Organizational Health fund. So far the Branch has purchased new speakers and a projector for public film showings and a massager and toaster for the benefit of staff.

Children’s Programs

Toddler Time (Nicole Cubillas)

Toddlers and their caregivers heard stories and songs in the Children’s Area before marching to the Meeting Room to engage in crafts and activities around the week’s theme, play with a sensory bin, and build with soft blocks.

Family Fun and Kids Time (Nicole Cubillas)
Families heard a story before engaging in crafts and activities around the week’s theme. They were also invited to play card or board games.

**Mornings with Mr. Rogers** (Nicole Cubillas)

While the Crafting group meets in the back part of the meeting room Ms. Cubillas is showing Mr. Rogers episodes and also has coloring and foam blocks available as a passive program to keep the children entertained in the front of the room.

**Magik Theatre**

Families watched and engaged in a performance of “Jack and the Beanstalk” put on by the Magik Theatre group June 17.

**Dinosaur George**

Families attended a presentation by archaeologist Dinosaur George, who displayed casts made from dinosaur bones and engaged with children while teaching them about the history of dinosaurs.

**Teen Programs**

**Teen Time**

Teen Time has finally had a few attendees which is great! The teens mostly play the video games and just hang out in the nice air conditioned library to get out of the heat. As of the beginning of July, there are forty-three summer reading sign-ups and twelve finishers who were excited to get t-shirts.

**Adult Programs**

**Adult Coloring and Cortez Older Adult Social Time** (Madeline Vasquez)

Every Tuesday, staff member Madeline Vasquez leads the COAST program. This weekly community event features advanced coloring for adults, board games, puzzles and light refreshments.

**Getting Crafty Program** (JoAnn Paredes)

The crafting class made colorful art with aluminum cans and learned how to fix damaged clothing with a few sewing hacks.

**Quilter’s Corner** (Jo Ann Paredes)

Quilting class resumed in June and the participants are working on a Charming Circles quilt. The class meets every other Sunday and is getting more attention and having more patrons drop in to see what the class is all about.

**Monster Meet** (Madeline Vasquez)
A good-sized crowd was treated to the film “Dark Skies” on July 13. This popular monthly movie showing brings regulars as well as new attendees who enjoy anything spooky, scary, or mysterious.

**Art Therapy** (Madeline Vasquez)

On July 11, Ms. Vasquez taught patrons how to make moon pendant jewelry to celebrate the Library’s Summer Reading Theme “Over the Moon”.

**Learn Origami** (Chinatsu Oku)

Ms. Oku from the East Asia Institute at UTSA led a fun program about learning origami on July 2. She taught patrons to make crane, samurai hat, sumo wrestler and frog designs.

**Healthy Cooking Class** (Vince Escobedo, Metro Health)

On June 27, Mr. Escobedo led the group in making homemade ranch and orange vinaigrette dressing with fresh chef salad. Patrons helped prepare all the ingredients. After, Mr. Escobedo made the recipe and passed out free samples to all attendees.

**Astrology 101** (Kimberly Williams)

Ms. Williams from Cosmic Compass led an Astrology 101 program and taught patrons how their zodiac signs affect their personality, which element their zodiac is associated with, how the planets and stars affect their daily life, and more.

**Community Programs**

**Cortez Chess Club**

David Pacheco continues to lead our weekly chess club. He enthusiastically teaches attendees of all ages about chess.

**Summer Art Exhibit** (Sabrina Alfaro)

Local artist Sabrina Alfaro will display her work at Cortez Library from June 15-August 15. There are five pieces on display throughout the building.

**LEARN Center Activities** (Daniel Gomez)

The LEARN Center patronage continues to rise. The average for this report period is seven patrons per day. The LEARN Center now has ten patrons enrolled in the Digital Inclusion Certificate Program, four more than the previous reporting period and the patrons are attending regularly. Patrons who complete the five required courses by Aug 15 will be entered in a drawing for a free Kindle.

ESL Level 1 classes are being held regularly on Sunday mornings at 10 am.

Michael, who struggles with using technology, searched for a job using the Cortez LEARN Center. After weeks of online searching and submitting applications, he was happy to report that he had been hired by
Insight Global. He filled out his online enrollment forms at LEARN. Michael’s struggle for work was more difficult than most as he is an ex-convict. He showed great perseverance as he searched for work while learning to use a computer at the same time. He expressed many times how grateful he was for the LEARN Center.

ENCINO

Summer is in full swing at Encino! The Read It. Love It! Discuss It Book Club continues to have solid attendance each month, as do the weekly Chess Club, Hand Bee, and Fitness in the Park Classes.

Libraries and Labyrinths, the Dungeons & Dragons group that meets at the Encino Library on Wednesday nights, has maintained an intergenerational popularity, and continues through our summer campaign.

July 14 sees the beginning of another intergenerational program at Encino, Cosplay Sundays, which has a great deal of excitement building about it.

Eighty-six adults have signed up at Encino for Summer Reading, and most of the t-shirts have been delivered to the winners of the weekly drawings.

Encino Teens have been having a blast in the Encino teen room this summer with both of our weekly programs seeing high attendance. Anime Club teens got a special treat this month with the opening of our Japan Epic Candy box funded by the Encino Friends. Teens munched on all kinds of different candies and snacks all the way from Japan and voted on their favorites. Teen Club was a crafty affair this month with teens making shrinky dink plastic keychains and upcycled painted book crafts. Our Teen Screen program took us to the magical realm of Harry Potter with a screening of Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald. Teens got into the action with lots of commentary and a post-movie discussion about hopes for the future movies in the Fantastic Beasts series. We can’t wait to see what happens next!

Teen Librarian Julia Pouliot would like to thank Mrs. Katy Dillard, Encino’s PT children’s librarian, for helping cover two of her programs while she was away on vacation in July. The teens had such a fun time meeting Katy and Ms. Pouliot really appreciates her stepping in to help out.

Summer has blasted off at the Encino Branch Library! Children’s Summer Reading registration numbers have already exceeded last year’s total with over 600 children registered. Also, over 100 children have already turned in their reading logs.

Children’s Librarian Ann Laird introduced a new program for the Summer, Bedtime Stories, at 7pm on Monday evenings. This program features bedtime books and quiet songs, and children are encouraged to come dressed in their pajamas.

On June 19 the Encino Library hosted Sandbanks Shadow Factory as our first Summer Reading performer. Over 60 patrons enjoyed the show Matt Sandbanks put on with his amazing shadow puppets. Families also enjoyed the opportunity to touch one of the puppets and ask questions after the show.
On June 26 Encino hosted our first “Splash Day” program on the library’s patio. The program was one hour long and featured a splash pad, water balloons, sponge balls, water pistols, and water beads. The program started out a bit rainy, but all the families that attended had a great time. We are looking forward to repeating this program in July.

On June 24 Ann Laird went to Bulverde Springs Elementary School to talk to their Summer Camp kids about Summer Reading at the Encino Library. Ms. Laird encouraged the kids to come to the library and participate in the various programs offered, but also did a group registration for the campers to be able to participate in the Summer Reading program.

LEGO Time has had a very successful reboot at Encino, hosted by Librarian Katy Dillard. At each program she has had over 20 participants. The program has been so successful there is a plan to buy more LEGO's for even more building fun!

Magik Theatre brought their production of Jack and the Beanstalk to the Encino Library on July 9. Unfortunately, they had a flat tire on the way to the library, which delayed the program – but most of our patrons were understanding about the late start, and there was still an attendance of over 100 people.

Summer Kids Time has had a great weekly attendance at Encino. Children enjoyed writing their name in binary code for “space engineers”; making astronauts and rockets for “man on the moon”; and making moon phases out of cookies and frosting to learn about the “lunar cycle.”

Tweens Create continues to be a popular program, with several tweens even mentioning that they come to the library weekly just for the Tweens Create program. This month the tweens have made painted tiles, done soap carving, created salt painted fireworks, and made no-sew t-shirt tote bags. Several of the tweens left the tote bag program with their library books in their newly fashioned bags!

The Summer Kids Movie series has also been well attended at Encino. The series features a different animated movie each week. Over the last month families have enjoyed watching The Lego Movie 2, Ratatouille, and How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World.

On July 9, Children’s Librarian Ann Laird was presented an EnCORE quarterly award for Community Service and Innovation by Director Ramiro Salazar. Michelle Ricondo nominated Ms. Laird for the award because of her innovation of new programming for Encino, growth of the tween program by over 100%, and partnering with the community for library programs.

FOREST HILLS

Summer is in full swing at Forest Hills and Children’s Services is seeing a lot more kids this summer than last summer. Forest Hills is on the precipice of surpassing the number of summer reading registrations from last year. A lot of young patrons have been very interested in the summer reading club and it’s a delight when a patron gets their prize. Storytime, Kids Time, Lego Time, Toddler Time and Movie Time have been well attended and some now faces have now become regulars.
To celebrate Pride Month, Ms. Menchaca put together an LGTBQ display for the children’s areas. The books were picked for various reading levels and were about topics related to celebrating LGTBQ children and families.

Ms. Menchaca hosted her monthly bilingual story time and it was very well attended with 14 children. The children and their adults enjoyed reading books in English and Spanish and singing songs in those languages too.

Happy Tails came to Forest Hills with a Bearded Dragon, African Porcupine, Black-Tailed Prairie Dog, a Patagonian Cavy, and an Australian Wallaby. The families who attended this program were thrilled with the animals and they had a lot of questions. Anita, the animal handler, allowed everyone to pet the African Porcupine.

Teen programming has been a popular offering this summer. The teens participated in crafty projects such as tie-dye t-shirts, galaxy jars, and dream catchers. The participants wore their tie-dye shirts to the latest program and were very excited with the bright colors and designs they created.

Forest Hills hosted a well-attended ASR Program “Book Talk”. Book Talk is a book group meeting for three months (June, July and August). The group reads books provided by the National Library of Medicine. The NLM provides 8 hardback books to give away, literature and book bags for the participants. The Adult Librarian registered for access to the “Book Kits” that the NLM provides and so far it is working well! The books for July have been given out to everyone who turned up for the June discussion.

Forest Hills currently offers a number of programs that are of special interest to senior aged patrons. The MahJong group meets every Monday to play this tile-based game that was developed in China during the Qing dynasty. On Saturdays, Natalie Enevold offers QiGong, an ancient Chinese practice of moving meditations include standing and balancing. An actor’s workshop titled Seniors In Play will be offered at Forest Hills every Monday and Wednesday afternoon. The workshop, which offers acting lessons to senior aged patrons, is supported by well-known actor Tony Plana. Mr. Plana recently visited the branch to speak to the group and to encourage them in their pursuit of drama. The seniors involved in the project are very enthusiastic about the program and hope to see its continued success at Forest Hills.

On July 13, “Rocket Man, Mike Epperly” of the Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) offered a presentation on space, building for space and the satellites that the SwRI have built for NASA.

GREAT NORTHWEST

In the Toddler Time program, Color Club, the kids familiarized themselves with more colors: blue, yellow, green and orange. The library was decorated in the color of the day and kids arrived dressed in that same color. The children in the preschool Story Time program Pretend Time pretended their way through the month with educational games and a pretend room that matched the theme. The themes for the last month were camping, bakery, and construction.
In June and early July in Kids Time program the Magic Tree House Club, school age kids explored the first eight books in the series together. On Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoon kids attended and found six different stations connected to the themed book of the day, which included hearing the audiobook read by series author Mary Pope Osborne. It was great to watch the kids get excited about their collection of medallions for each program they attended.

In the Tween Time program Wacky Wednesdays tweens had fun with activities like Minute-to-Win-It games. From shaving cream to cracking secret codes, each Wednesday succeeded in being truly wacky. One of the kids shared that it had been helpful to make new friends at the library and to practice not taking life so seriously. They shared that sometimes this summer, home life was not easy, and Wacky Wednesday was a good outlet for fun. They considered the library to be a safe place to be during the week instead of staying home alone.

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 & Movie Night events for the Teen Summer Program in June and July. In June teens watched Zathura and recreated the phase of the moon using Oreo cookies. On June 24 teens held a Star Wars theme night and made perler bead crafts and rice crispy moon models. On July 1 teens hosted an Open Mic Night where they could perform their favorite music, poetry or stories. Teens also made crafts and mini moon pies. On July 8 teens watched The Hitch Hikers Guide to the Galaxy and made DIY towel stencil art.

Great Northwest Teens meet every Wednesday afternoon during the summer for Teen Video Gaming. Teens have the opportunity during the summer to meet other teens who share a common interest in gaming and e-sports. Teens engage in some friendly competition on the Nintendo Switch, WiiU, or PS4.

Great Northwest Library partnered with the San Antonio Food Bank to provide a Teen Cooking Class on July 3. Teens learned about healthy alternatives and basic cooking skills.

The Great Northwest Library hosted a summer youth intern through a partnership with Family Services Association. While at Great Northwest Library they have gained work experience and learned about library services with hands on experience serving the public.

Library Assistant Christina Martinez presented moon-themed summer reading programs for adults and families. On June 17, patrons created colorful moon designs on black t-shirts during Paint the Moon. On July 8, patrons had a selection of telescopes to view the quarter moon from inside the building. Staff and patrons shared their tips on how to set up the telescopes for a good view. The Gardening Volunteers of South Texas provided a moon garden flower arrangement to advertise their upcoming program.

GUERRA

The Guerra Chess Club met on Fridays—June 21 and 28 and July 5 and 12.

Branch Manager Dexter Katzman provided music and literature outreach to the Careplex Adult Daycare Center on Wednesdays—June 19 and 26 and July 3 and 10. He gave a presentation on the Employee Management Committee to 68 COSA employees at a New Employee Experience at Stinson Airport on June 25. He worked the afternoon/evening shift at the Migrant Resource Center July 12. On
July 14, with refreshments provided by the Friends, he planned and presented an event marking the branch’s 15th anniversary--2004-2019.

Assistant Branch Manager Jernell Williams held an adult coloring program on June 29. She held an outreach book group at the Virginia Gill Community Center on July 5. Participants discussed An Easy Death by Charlaine Harris.

Children’s Librarian Arlene Richardson planned and presented four toddler times, four story times, and three Kids Times. Arlene hosted Family Movie times on June 18 and 25 and July 2 and 9 with popcorn served courtesy of the Guerra Friends. Families enjoyed Come and Go crafts on June 18, 22, 23, and 25 and July 2, 6, 7, and 9. Children created and decorated moons, stars, robots, aliens, spaceships, and astronauts as part of the Summer Reading Program theme. On June 19, she attended Jubilee Academy Westwood’s Fun and Family Day where she spoke to families about library services and the Summer Reading Programs. On July 10, Happy Tails entertainment entertained children and their grownups during a Kids Time program; participants learned about a bearded dragon, an African porcupine, a wallaby, a kinkajou, and a coatimundi. On Friday July 12, Arlene visited the collected SRP logs from and delivered certificates to Temple of Praise Early Childhood Development Center, La Petite Academy, Angelic Smiles Childcare, Lil Dragon Den Childcare, Silverspoons Childcare, Greatest Gifts Childcare, and Marbach Christian Church Childcare.

Adult Services Librarian, Stephen Jackson, recorded En este cuento no hay ningún dragón (There Is No Dragon in this Story) by Lou Carter for Dial-a-Story in Spanish on June 25. He presented a trivia game at the Willie Cortez Senior Center on July 5 highlighting and celebrating Independence Day.

Teen Liaison Edward Mayberry held Game-Ra sessions on June 20 and July 11. Guerra held a movie night on June 27 (Captain Marvel) with snacks provided by the Guerra Friends.

Library Assistant Roxanne Menchaca continued to work on patron contested returns. She planned and presented a Knit and Crochet programs on June 18 and July 2 and a Quilting Bee on June 22.

IGO

Children’s Services

IGO Branch Library is currently registering childrens for summer reading program. It has registered more than 1500 children by the 14th of July leading the children’s summer reading registration.

IGO Library has been buzzing with activity since summer started. Teen Librarian Laura Herman has been overseeing a Chinese Language program series with guest presenter Sara Hu from UTSA. Attendance for the series has been strong and steady garnering positive feedback from attendees. Participants are learning common words and phrases as well as learning about Chinese culture and traditions. There is also a small art component that the children enjoy which reinforces concepts learned that day. The series continues through the end of July.

The Igo community also enjoyed visits from two popular outside performers for Summer Reading. Dinosaur George made a visit on June 20, providing two fun-filled performances to over 300 people. Children and adults enjoyed the program and the fossils he brings. The Magik Theatre arrived on July 11.
with their version of Jack and the Beanstalk for two showings, both drawing full rooms and happy audiences.

Children’s librarian Carrie Vance partnered with Helotes Elementary School librarian Cynthia Elizondo to host a book group for second through fifth graders at the branch. Over 20 students along with their parents and some regular Igo patrons who attend other elementary schools joined Ms. Elizondo to discuss The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate and sign up for the Mayor’s Reading Club. The group will return in August.

**Teen Services**

Igo Branch Library is currently registering teens for summer reading program. It has registered more than 200 teens by the 14th of July leading the teen’s summer reading program.

The teen summer program was a Fright Night. The teens could make monster bookmarks, have a nerf gun battle, use zombie makeup, and make creepy prefer bead creations. They also made Oreo pudding dirt cups for a snack. They also watched the cartoon *Coraline*.

Another summer program for teens was Tokyo-inspired. The teens could watch a *Godzilla* movie; play a few board games like Sushi Go! They were also able to make ramen noodles with an assortment of toppings.

**Adult Services**

Igo Branch Library is currently registering adults for summer reading program. It has registered more than 600 adults by the 14th of July leading the adult summer reading program.

Igo Branch Library is currently registering childrens for summer reading program. It has registered more than 1500 children by the 14th of July.

On the 10th of July, Igo Mystery Club met to discuss the book “Midnight at the Bright Ideas Bookstore” by Matthew Sullivan. 22 readers participated in this book discussion. Author Sullivan joined the club through Skype Technology. The Live Discussion and Question and Answer session with the author was eccentric. Participants really enjoyed the book discussion.

**Senior Services**

Level I Hatha Yoga continues to meet every Friday, when the meeting rooms are available.

**JOHNSTON**

The Johnston Branch Library bid farewell to Teen Librarian Donnishia Raishell Williams at the end of June and welcomed a Summer Intern Deborah Blancas.

Branch Manager Monica Bustillo facilitated the Athena Readers Book Club discussion Peter Swanson’s *Before She Knew Him* on June 19. Ms. Bustillo participated in the International Day of Yoga.
event on Friday June 21. Ms. Bustillo attended the Texas Library Association Annual Assembly to serve on the Awards Committee on July 9 and July 10.

Adult Librarian Cristine Mitchamore planned the “Movies Over the Moon” series. Each Monday, beginning on June 10, Ms. Mitchamore and Library Aide Victoria Liendo have hosted movies featuring the moon including “Armageddon” and “E.T.” On June 24 Ms. Mitchamore helped patrons create artwork—moons made of buttons of all shapes and colors. On July 13 Ms. Mitchamore assisted patrons in painting scenes featuring the moon on rocks.

The Children’s Librarian Tiffany Durham hosted four Toddler Times and four Story Times based on the early learning concept; opposites. Victoria Liendo, Library Aide, worked with Miss Tiffany to use books, songs, play and crafts to engage the children and caregivers. Miss Tiffany and Ms. Liendo hosted four Lego Clubs building, playing and creating unique Lego masterpieces. Kids Time had three space-themed events with a wide variety of out-of-this-world arts and crafts and energetic STEM based activities. Also, special guest Happy Tails brought animals to the delight of a full house of awe-inspired children. The Summer Tween Time kicked off in June with tweens learning about the different usage and aspects on space satellites. Tweens created their own satellites using recycled materials and had an opportunity to use varies robots; Wonder Dash, Sphero and Meeperbots. Miss Tiffany’s Summer Reading Program Outreach included a visit to Adams Hill Elementary reading books about the moon and providing SPR materials to the NISD ESL and Bi-Lingual Pre-K and Kindergarten Students.

Ms. Mitchamore, Library Aide Cynthia Blancas and Summer Intern Ms. Blancas coordinated the weekly Teen Time programs and the Teen’s Thursday Gaming events. Teens created birdfeeders on June 17 and dreamcatchers on June 26. On July 10 Teens conducted a luau.

Ms. Mitchamore and Ms. Durham, with Ms. Liendo’s assistance, have continued to provide the Free Summer Snack Program in partnership with San Antonio Food Bank. Free snacks are offered to youth (ages 0-18) Monday – Friday 4:00-5:00pm from June 3-August 23, 2019.

Library Assistant Elsy Jackson serves as a regular contributor to Telecuentos (Dial-a-Story in English), she recorded a children’s book for the week of June 17, 2019: La araña muy ocupada by Eric Carle. She decorated the Spanish area with posters and flags celebrating the 4th of July and created a display highlighting the library’s collection of books and DVDs about soccer. Mrs. Jackson began Bilingual Children’s Summer Reading Program on June 17 presenting interactive books, bilingual songs and crafts.

LANDA

Branch Manager Kiyanna Stephens attended an incredible equity workshop/training program presented by Cultures Connecting and the Office of Equity. Ms. Stephens was accepted to be an equity trainer for the City of San Antonio. The week-long training she attended was the first step into the equity work she will be doing.

CHILDREN

Families gathered in the heat at Landa for Happy Tails. The group brought a variety of animals with them, including a porcupine. Over 60 people were in attendance for this favorite summer program.
Baby Time and Toddler Time continue to bring in large crowds. Children’s Librarian Robin Alcorta has been working with a few parents by giving them suggestions for rhymes to help with getting dressed, or ways to assist children who struggle with being in groups. Ms. Alcorta was told by one parent that her Baby Time is the best one in the City.

TEENS

Landa Teens collaborated with Library Assistant and Teen Liaison, Rebekah Corley, to hold several Teen Club sessions which included gaming, DIY Keychains, testing out their new popcorn maker, and an impromptu napkin folding session led by one of Teen Club’s volunteers and Landa’s Children’s Librarian, Robin Alcorta. Ms. Alcorta generously helped facilitate one of the weekly sessions while Ms. Corley attended SAPL’s monthly board meeting.

Landa also welcomed 6 new teen volunteers this month! They helped plan teen clubs, promote summer reading to families and kept the library in tip-top shape.

Ms. Corley worked with Landa’s Assistant Manager, Karen Sebesta, to promote summer reading and SAPL activities at Monta Vista’s annual 4th of July celebration. They shared information with dozens of families and young adults.

ADULTS

Landa adults have jumped headlong into the Adult Summer Reading Program. Registration is excellent and the t-shirts are popular. Winners have included Landa regular customers as well as some new faces who registered and entered the drawing here. Everyone seems to be hoping to win that fantastic telescope at summer’s end.

As Ms. Corley reported, she and Adult Program Services Librarian Karen Sebesta promoted Landa and Summer Reading at Monte Vista’s July 4th event on the Landa grounds. The library was closed but at least 200 people marched in the parade through Monte Vista and came to Landa grounds afterward for food and entertainment. Library Director Ramiro Salazar was Grand Marshal of this year’s parade. The Signing Choir of San Antonio performed The Star Spangled Banner in ASL (American Sign Language). They were invited by long-time Monte Vista member, Melody Hull.

Ms. Corley’s table had a steady stream of visitors to sign up for Summer Reading and to play with the magnetic blocks that she had available. Meanwhile, children and adults gathered nearby as Ms. Karen read favorite books and played the keyboard to accompany favorite children’s songs.


Many thanks to Ms. Rebekah Corley for the terrific job she is doing with the teen volunteers. They are engaged with duties that help keep the library running (such as cleaning toys and marking...
Karen has also enlisted some additional adult volunteers for the summer. The Landa staff is particularly glad to welcome Kyra White back from college to volunteer for the summer. She was one of Landa’s most valuable volunteers during her teen years at Incarnate Word High School. The staff was sad to bid farewell to Mary Rittgers who recently resigned her role as volunteer at Landa. She remains a regular volunteer at the Book Cellar.

Karen wishes to extend her thanks to Alma Jimenez, Deanna Sutton, Paul Hernandez, Michele Huth, and Jeanne Johnson of the Carver staff who helped make her day as LIC run smoothly!

LAS PALMAS

Las Palmas is “Over the Moon” and has embraced Summer Reading. In addition to having 350 children sign up for Summer Reading and giving away over 40 books to finishers of the Summer Reading Program, the Las Palmas Branch has welcomed scientists and artists for programs and performances.

On Monday, June 17, the Las Palmas Branch Library welcomed Matt Sandbanks, also known as the Shadow Man. Mr. Sandbanks performed and entertained families using poems, puppets, and shadows. The Sandbanks Shadow Factory magic emerged with just a bright light, a white screen, and a menagerie of cardboard cutouts.

On Monday, June 24, Children and their families came to a Space themed Kid’s Time. Children could make space slime with glitter and colors inspired by the planets in our solar system or just following their own imagination. Using straws and markers, children created rockets which where powered by the children’s own breath.

On the Monday, July 1st, the Las Palmas Library welcomed Fiesta Farms to Kid’s Time, through the generous support of the Friends of the Las Palmas Library. Children were able to touch, feed, pet, and interact with chickens, bunny rabbits, goats, ducks, and llamas. More than 100 people came to the event.

On Monday, July 8, the Las Palmas Library welcomed the Literacy Caravan RV, where children and their families engaged in literacy and art activities. The Literacy Caravan has spaces for story time, STEM pursuits and learning, creative exploration, and an infant area for motor skill development and play. In addition, every child who visited the Caravan left with a new book and families could come into the Branch to a craft station to make a bookmark to go with their new book.

To promote Adult Summer Reading, Adult Librarian Rhonda Davila visited the Commander’s House on June 19 and July 3. The Commander’s House is a COSA senior center run by Parks and Recreation. She discussed Summer Reading, as well as library wide events. She signed up several adults for the program. The Commander’s House draws in many seniors and area patrons to the location. Ms. Davila was well received by all.

Many patrons at Las Palmas have associations with the military, so to celebrate the 4th of July Ms. Davila created a Craft Program where patrons could make a red, white and blue patriotic garland out
As part of Adult Summer Reading, Ms. Davila presented a Phases of the Moon T-shirt craft program on July 3. After the shirt was completed, adults commented on how much fun it was and liked the idea of wearing their new t-shirt.

On July 10, Ms. Davila presented a Blue Moon Jar craft program. Supported by The Friends of Las Palmas, the craft activity involved laminating the jar with a tea light and blue glass pieces to give it variations of blue colors. Patrons were proud of their finished crafts.

MAVERICK

The Ladies Choice Book Club met on June 29 and the Lady Mavs Book Club met on July 9. The South Texas Role Playing Games Group met on Sundays in June and July. The Maverick Writer’s Group met on July 13 for its monthly meeting. By early July, Maverick staff had enrolled over 150 adults for the Summer Reading program. A few adults have completed the program and have expressed excitement of becoming winners of the summer reading prizes. Maverick has already given away half its t-shirts to weekly winners.

Maverick welcomed artist, Barbara Coulter for another great Summer Art Series for seniors. The students met every Friday for 2 hours for each class. The first class began on June 21 and concluded on July 12. Maverick Library would like to thank the Maverick Friends Group for supporting this well attended program! The Maverick Chess Club met on June 24 and July 8.

Summer programming is in full swing at the Maverick Library! On June 19, paleontologist extraordinaire Dinosaur George had 112 attendees at his 2 pm performance and 88 attendees at his 4 pm performance. On June 26, Spikey Mikey had 110 attendees at his incredible magic show! The Children’s Librarian wishes to thank the Friends of the Maverick Library for funding Spikey Mikey. Ms. Roberts gave out over 220 tickets to the Magik Theatre performances that took place at 2 and 4 pm on July 10. Children’s Librarian, Amy Roberts, continues to see lots of new faces at Lego Time and her Story Times, in addition to some of her regular attendees. It has been a great summer so far!

Ms. Roberts wishes to thank the Maverick staff for their incredible teamwork with the summer reading program for children. As of July 8, Maverick had 903 children registered for the program! Also, 244 children have finished the program!

On July 9, Ms. Roberts went to the TLA Annual Assembly to meet with her Children’s Round Table committee, the 2x2 Committee. The committee discussed nearly 100 books that they had already nominated for consideration to be on a list that they will whittle down to 20 in January. They have already received over 450 books from publishers to read and consider. Ms. Roberts attended the July 11th Children’s Librarian meeting at Central.

Library Assistant Mary Lou Bleichwehl facilitated four Teen Time programs during the reporting period, assisted by Library Aide Sarina Hackworth. Attendance had increased dramatically due in part to
a group of teens who will be attending different high schools this fall. They and their parents were seeking
a place that the group could congregate on a weekly basis in a Teen friendly environment. They actively
participate in activities and - like some of the regular attendees - slip out of the meeting room and into the
“stacks” to gather fresh reading material for the week. It’s very rewarding to see them come back in to the
room with a pile of books and resume their game of Clue or Uno, to finish their craft or grab a snack.

Ms. Bleichwehl facilitated the TLLC meetings on Thursday afternoons. The ideas originating
from this evolving group are being executed every week during this summer. We hope to keep the
momentum going once school starts back up this fall! The TLLC is proactive; they arrive half an hour
early on Tuesday evenings to set up and implement their ideas. The complexity of creating an indoor
“campfire” out of battery powered LED lights, giant Jenga blocks and tissue paper required even more
preparation time, but the results were impressive. Most impressive though was the creative young mind
that imagined camping as a theme and made it happen.

Maverick Tweens have enjoyed the weekly Minute to Win It games. As fun and silly as some of
the challenges may be, Ms. Bleichwehl actively encourages the Tweens to work as a team and to
problem solve. If the teams do not have an even number of individuals, how can we keep the
competitions fair? If the scoring method for the challenge does not reflect how tough (or easy) the
challenge is, they are asked to come up with a method that more accurately reflects the level of difficulty.
During the Black Hole challenge, the teens discovered that they were standing too close to the “black
Hole” and it was extremely difficult to throw their Frisbees into it. Ms. Bleichwehl encouraged them to help
her restructure the challenge. Results were somewhat more successful, however one more readjustment
was needed for them to decide that success was achievable.

McCRELESS

McCreless Children’s Department has been having a blast with summer reading! Tweens
have been having particular amount of fun! They did galaxy jars, and most recently a fantastic Minute to
Win it program! Storytime has been going really well, Librarian Rozanna has been doing various crafts
along with the summer reading theme including mini rockets and tie-dye wipes! Kid’s time has also been
going really well, Dinosaur George and Magik Theatre both brought in a really great attendance! They
were big hits! Summer reading signups are up this year for children as well!

The McCreless teens really enjoy their Teen Time on Wednesdays. Recently the Oculus Rift
has been a big hit. Teens love diving into the alternate reality! They also did a very exciting Harry Potter
night that included wand & snitch making. Teens are excited about this year’s summer reading program
as their opinions were valued and taken into consideration while choosing the theme for the events. A
couple of the most popular nights were Unicorn night where they made unicorn popcorn. The most recent
Tie-dye night, they were able to tie-dye canvas bags! Teen Summer Reading is going great! McCreless
has had an increase in finishers from last year!

Library Assistant Joseph Gonzales leads the McCreless Lego Club. Attendance has been up
during this summer. An average of 20 kids and their parents have been coming. Kids are able to build all
kinds of imaginative creations. In addition to building their own creations, kids can play with the Lego
Dimensions. Kids are able to interact with an online portal with several popular Lego characters. A
movie and popcorn complete the fun activities.
The McCreless Book Club read *American Pop* by Snowden Wright. The story centers on the fictitious Forster family. It chronicles the rise and fall of the family business, Panola Cola. The story is interesting however the story is a jumble of anecdotes about each of the family members. It makes for a confusing reading experience. Readers found they needed to refer back to the family tree at the front of the book often to keep the character's relationships straight.

The McCreless Walking Club met on June 17 and July 1 as part of our ongoing program to promote health and wellness. Patrons braved the warm weather and enjoyed a 2 ½ mile hike along the Southeast Salado Creek portion of the Howard Peak Greenway Trail System. This program will continue throughout the summer on the first and third Monday of each month.

The McCreless Scrapbooking and Art Journaling Class met on July 6 for the monthly program for adults. Patrons enjoyed a variety of arts and crafts including custom made scrapbook pages and free form art journaling projects. Hand cut stencils and silicon stamps were used in this month’s meeting to promote creative journaling.

MEMORIAL

Children’s’ Services

Children’s Librarian Christine Deffendall was invited to speak with groups of parents and students at elementary schools hosting summer programs in conjunction with the SA All Stars ([http://saallstars.org/](http://saallstars.org/)). She visited H.B. Gonzales Elementary and Roosevelt Elementary as part of the Summer Reading Program and with the landing of the moon theme, Mrs. Deffendall invited all children to the screening of the Saturday movie matinee. Films screened have been: *Zathura: Monsters vs Aliens, Space Buddies and Planet 51*.

Over 60 excited children and parents attended the program “Happy Tails.” All were excited to see and at times feel real live animals. Some of the animals included a large African porcupine, a prairie dog, a ball python, a bearded dragon and a coatimundi.

Mrs. Deffendall contributed to the Children’s Services Blog with a review of *The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus*, by Jennifer Bryant.

Mrs. Deffendall recorded the Dial-A-Story for June 17. Her selection was *Where’s My Teddy?*, by Jez Alborough.

Teen Services

Circulation attendant and teen liaison Michelangelo Sosa has maintained the Minecraft Club as a regular Friday venue that encourages independent suggestions from teens where different multiplayer video games enter the space and compete with other teens.

Mr. Sosa started the Memorial Pencil Art Competition. His competition has been designed for teens to have a designated place to draw for a limited amount of time using only library materials and library time. This program was a suggestion by one of the teens and has been a part of the planning process. The competition has been accepting registrants since the July 8, and will last for 3 weeks and 6 sessions. The conclusion will be an art show where judges can decide who has the best work.

Adult Services
The branch hosted a display on trafficked teens in June/July. It brought awareness to this important issue, where Texas has the second most cases in the country. The display is a project of the San Antonio chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women.

In celebration of Summer Reading the branch screened *First Man*. The movie recounts the life of astronaut Neil Armstrong and the legendary space mission that led him to become the first man to walk on the Moon on July 20, 1969.

Patrons made moon rocks on June 20th. The craft is supposed to resemble actual rocks from the moon. These neat creations consisted simply of baking soda and water, along with glitter and food coloring. The program was popular with kids.

Adult services librarian Freddy Hudson reached out to two local senior centers, Bob Ross and Commanders House. He shared information about the library and its resources and programs.

Mr. Hudson attended the anti-harassment training at Central on July 11, which aims to foster a work environment free from employment discrimination, harassment, and sexual harassment.

**Branch Services**

Author of the month selected is Dagoberto Gilb, executive director of Centro Victoria from the University of Houston-Victoria. He was born in Los Angeles from a Mexican immigrant mother and a father of German descent. Making his home in El Paso, he enrolled in junior college and he states, "When I got to college, I loved it. It changed my life I just went nuts over books." (Publishers Weekly, 1/15/2001)." Despite earning a masters’ degree he was unable to get a decent white collar job. Construction jobs came easy but he didn’t want construction to be his career. While working in Los Angeles and returning to El Paso he met writer Raymond Carver who influenced him in crafting his writing career. His writings reflect the Mexican American experience from the Mexican American point of view.

Ladies from the San Antonio Needlework Guild Stitch-In meet every monthly on Saturdays to work on their individual projects and to spend time catching up on their projects. Patrons freely walk up and engage in conversation regarding their latest projects.

Summer is baseball season and Library Assistant Rene Leija took the opportunity to screen the movie “*Angels in the Outfield*” on July 7th. Patrons enjoyed the movie along with refreshments.

Utilizing his skills earned while working in the local media industry Mr. Leija continued screening movies with the baseball theme. On July 14th Mr. Leija screened “*Field of Dreams*.”

Patrons of all ages are attracted to a large carton cutout of a shadowed adolescent display titled “Trafficked Teens” courtesy of National Council of Jewish Women.
Librarians Christine Deffendall and Maria Gonzales joined in the webex meeting with other librarians and Assistant Director of Public Services Dale McNeill to further explore and plan for the “Wash and Learn” program.

The branch is currently exhibiting artist Juvencio S Ytuarti artwork. His exhibit is titled “Tribute Art.” His works include acrylic, airbrush and other types of mediums. Patrons enjoy the different personas he selected to display.

**MISSION**

*Community*

Representatives from the Census Bureau have been coming to recruit for workers for the 2020 Census.

NXT Level, a non-profit support organization for young adults that has been created by collaboration between the Department Human Services, has been coming to showcase its services throughout the month.

Mission continues to have a presence offering its library services in the monthly Farmer’s and Artesian Market at the Mission Marquee.

*Adult Services*

Mission hosted a Health Fest that was organized by the Well Women Community Action Board of the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District’s Healthy Start Program. They had speakers, door prizes, screenings, and resources for health, wellness, and self-care.

A partnership with Metropolitan Health resulted in a 6-week Health & Wellness Workshop focusing on the prevention of diabetes. It consists of a 2-hour weekly session each Monday morning.

*Teen Services*

Summer is in full swing at Mission Branch and the teens are enjoying participating in a variety of Teen Time activities. Teens participated in a Tie Dye Night in which they made their own colorful totes. Teens also had a Board Game Night and enjoyed watching a shark movie and eating themed snacks during our Shark Movie Night.

Teen librarian Emily Young participated in Teen Night at the nearby YMCA where she facilitated button-making, board games, and virtual reality while encouraging teens to participate in library programming and providing summer reading signups for teens.

*Children’s Services*
The first month of summer has been very busy with lots of Summer Reading Program participants. In addition to the many children visiting with their adults, groups from The YMCA summer program and the summer program “Joven” visit every week.

Dinosaur George presented a rousing program that had the kids howling. They learned a lot about dinosaurs that lived in Texas, saw their skulls, and around 120 kids and adults thoroughly enjoyed the presentation.

The weekly Pokémon club continues to be a popular and well-attended program.

Mission has begun offering a 4-week Table Tennis for Beginners session for the summer. This session is in addition to the Table Tennis sessions that are offered 3 times a week.

PAN AMERICAN

Legos have been added to the set the children have been using. The children were exited to have more pieces for their projects. There have even been some group projects lately that were built.

Come and Go Crafts has a variety of activities to capture the interest of the children. Valerie Shelley, the Children’s Librarian, has put out material for the children to design their own star, create an astronaut patch and provided oreos for the children to create the phases of the moon.

Toddler Time in June continued with Over the Moon themes. The children explored going into space to visit the moon and Mars. They trained to be astronauts and played in the cardboard rocketship made by our Teens.

Summer registration continues and programs are in full swing. Toddler Time, Come and Go Crafts and Lego Club all continue throughout the summer. Additionally there are Kids Time and Tween Time for the children.

Tween Time was planned for June and the first week of July. The largest group of Tweens was for the last program, Space Escape Room. It was so much fun the youth wanted to do it twice.

Pan American has provided summer cold lunches since the first week of June three days a week. The attendance is very fluid. One day we will run out of food, the next day we have food left over.

On June 29, Ms. Garza assisted at the Pride Festival with Teen Services. Matthew Loaiza and Ami Sarabia had set up the Teen Services Vroom Van with activities and freebies. Participants at the event were able to use the library’s glitter station to use as body paint.

On July 3, Ms. Garza dug up some classic spooky movies to showcase during Pan American’s Fright Night teen time. Several of the teen had not watched Beetlejuice so that was the first movie the group watched. The group was shown how to make pudding dirt cups with crushed oreo cookies and gummy worms.
On July 10, Ms. Garza conjured up several magical crafts for teens during Pan American’s Magical night teen time. Teens were shown Harry Potter clips, were sorted into their Hogwarts house, decorated their own golden snitch and designed their own magical wands. Ms. Garza showed the teen how to make Butterbeer using cream soda, vanilla ice cream and butterscotch.

On July 14, Ms. Garza incorporated crafts during this Pokémon Champions meeting. The group was shown how to make their favorite Pokémon out of a yarn poof ball. The group was really creative when designing and replicating their favorite Pokémon.

Library Assistant Stephanie Perez hosted the Sketchbook Club on June 7th 2019. She brings in art books, books with photographs, and items for participants to draw. Stephanie discusses ideas, feedback on work, and creativity with participants. The program is open to teens and adults.

Library Assistant Stephanie Perez hosted the Graphic Novel Reading Club on June 23rd 2019. They discuss the two chosen graphic novels, related media, and she revealed the next books. This is a once a month meet up. This program is adult only.

On June 26th, the Pan American Branch Library hosted the monthly Adult Services meeting.

On June 20th, Library Assistant Stephanie Perez and Librarian II Adrian Leal, took the Pan American Branch mobile to the Elvira Cisneros Senior Center. With the mobile library, members are able to register for a library card as well as check out an assortment of books. Patron’s are very appreciative of this service, even suggesting titles and authors that they would enjoy seeing. Many of the center’s members were very appreciated that this service was being brought to them.

Librarian II, Adrian Leal, held an adult coloring class at the Elvira Cisneros Senior Center. The center’s members are able to enjoy a relaxing and stress-free environment while coloring and listening to some good music.

On July 8th, the Pan American Branch held a Japanese Calligraphy Program, presented by Japan Outreach Initiative Coordinator Chinatsu Oku of the East Asia Institute at UTSA. Patrons learned the history of Japanese Calligraphy and they were also given the opportunity to practice writing in the style.

On July 13th, Mr. Leal presented “A Nacho Libre Afternoon”. Participants watched the movie Nacho Libre and also had an opportunity to show off their crafting abilities by creating their own lucha libre mask.

Educational & Learning Opportunities

Employee CORE Values (Teamwork, Integrity, Innovation, Professionalism)

Community Connections
Parman library welcomes Chris Castillo, the long awaited Teen Librarian. Chris is adapting to his new role quickly. Both the staff and community are already recognizing his many unique talents and excellent customer service skills. We are very happy to have him on our team.

Our own Maria Trevino took the Spanish test with the city so she can officially be our first fluently Spanish Speaking Parman staff member. Her set of skills helps build relations with a whole new segment of the community.

Friends of the Library had a meeting in July and they discussed their current agendas concerning Parman Library. They approved the motion that in addition to the yearly book sale a one day special book sale will be added to help reduce the large numbers of donations in stock at Parman. The Parman manager and the volunteer coordinator will arrange help in setting up and taking down for this event.

In a tribute to the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon Mission, Parman Library hosted a Sky Viewing Party. Fortunately, the weather co-operated and, even during the day, we were able to see the moon. The San Antonio Astronomical Association returned to Parman to help staff host the event, providing their expertise in using not only their own telescopes, but assisting Parman staff to understand how to use the library’s own telescope. The Association was also kind enough to help a few patrons understand how to use their own telescopes more efficiently. The event was very successful and well received by the community participants. With the help of the members of SAAA, patrons and staff, using their smart phones, were able to take digital photographs of the views of the moon that could be seen through the telescope. The most dedicated participant waited for Jupiter to appear. Their patience has been awarded, as they could see Jupiter, its four moons and its cloud rings. Definitely more programs with our fantastic telescope will be coming to Parman in the near future.

The Literacy Caravan came to Parman for their annual visit and provided patrons with a play and learn experience in their mobile library. They passed out a free book to all of the kids that participated and families are looking to see them again next year.

Mr. Holcomb hosted four Chess Events which continue to be steadily attended by a large number of enthusiastic kids and their supporting parents. With every event, the program now includes a 5 to 10 minute group instruction by Mr. Holcomb to cover basic concepts. This instruction happens in the middle of the event to give the eager participants an opportunity to then practice these concepts in their games.
The Magic Theatre presented two performances of Jack and the Beanstalk to a full house. The families of Parman enjoyed experiencing the fun and magic of live theatre.

Another exciting program for the children happened when the Happy Tails Exotic Animals Group, sponsored by the Friends of the Parman Library, came with a collection of wild animals giving community members an up close look and interaction with some of the animals. Thank you, Friends for supporting Parman Library events.

Parman’s Tween/Pre-Teen Program offers fun indoor games to help keep cool during the hot summer. Foosball, air hockey, ping-pong, Connect Four, and Jenga are offered weekly. Background music that was selected by the tweens added to their enjoyment of the event. Kids enjoy “hanging out” and making up their own games as well. Each week, there is a notable increase in the numbers of participant. The tween program is presented and prepared by Krystal Owen who just recently has been admitted to the Master program of the Library Sciences. The tween program is held at the same time as our Kid’s Discovery Time (for ages 5-8), so that families with different aged kids can all attend age-appropriate programming. This arrangement is highly appreciated by parents!

POTRANCO

The Children’s department at Potranco has been having a lot of fun with summer reading. Librarian, Rozanna Bennett, from McCreless Library has been doing a story time, and kid’s time each Tuesday. Story times consist of fun stories, songs and themed crafts, such as little aliens, and robots. Kid’s time has been made up of fun crafts that align with the summer reading program. For the 4th of July there was a firework craft that was particularly enjoyed! Also every Tuesday is Lego Club. It’s also a good time, and somehow each week the branch survives yet another Zombie apocalypse that the group is so fond of playing out.

On June 13, 20 and 27 and July 11, babies and their caregivers enjoyed Ms. Randi Jones’s leading of some lap riding, clapping and action rhymes at Potranco Branch library at 9:30 am. That portion of Baby Time lasts for about 15 minutes. Ms. Randi also read a board book and called caregivers’ attention to that section of the library. After these activities, everyone was invited to stay for socializing and play time.

Ms. Randi Jones from Semmes Branch also lead Toddler Time on June 13th, 20th, 27th and July 11th at 11 am. Ms. Randi offered a variety of themes and activities during the weekly program. Highlights include: songs (accompanied by Ms. Randi on the guitar) and poems set to music about clouds, a reading of the newest Mem Fox book, Ducks Away, a felt board rendition of I’m the Biggest Thing in the Ocean by Kevin Sherry, and a stick puppet re-telling of Butterfly, Butterfly by Petr Horacek Each session ended with a stay and play featuring early learning materials including Mad Matter, bowling, and Giant Star Builder manipulatives.

The Potranco Writers Group moderated by Paschal Booker continued its twice monthly meetings on the second and fourth Thursdays. They have averaged 5-6 attendees for each meeting, though the last meeting (on June 27th), drew an astounding 11 participants. The wide variety of writings—poetry, flash fiction, novel excerpts, historical fiction—continues, as does the level of commitment from both...
regular and infrequent members. The writers feel both deeply supported and encouraged by the feedback to challenge themselves with ever new and compelling writing. During this past reporting period, the I Love Vinyl has continued Sunday all-day, themeless, and now (due to the temporary inability to play from the vinyl collection, due to the turntable’s inoperability) “virtual vinyl” musicology program accessed from internet music sources. While this avenue greatly increases the musical choices for patrons, hoping for an upcoming purchase of a new turntable the better to preserve the quality of our wonderfully expanding collection.

During the reporting period June 17, 2019 – July 14, 2019, Potranco continued its monthly meetings of the Potranco Book Club (PBC) moderated by Pat Booker. The July book selection was yet another dystopian novel by Margaret Atwood, entitled *The Heart Goes Last*. While the staff facilitator abhorred the novel (he has no excuses, however; he chose the book), the group members had little difficulty connecting with the narrative and its characters. None of the characters were beloved by the readers, but members were sufficiently interested in how the narrative progressed and resolved itself. While the staff facilitator found the quality of the writing to be atrocious (in pointed contrast to Atwood’s usually stellar and compelling prose), the novel’s prose was no impediment to other readers’ experiences.

The Potranco Book Club book selection for August is Lisa Brennan-Jobs’ *Small Fry*, her memoir of life with (and without) her father Steve Jobs. Esmeralda Santiago’s books will be a choice for either the September or November book selection, but choices are currently somewhat limited; we know, however, that the collections godfather, Troy Hoyles, is as always in hot pursuit of taking care of the shortages.

*An American Marriage* was discussed by the Alicia Trevino Senior Center book club members.

Cindy Moreno moderated the discussion. The attendees spoke about upcoming suggestions to read and possible titles with movies. Moreno reminded the group that she has to check to make sure there are enough copies in the SAPL system to check out and also suggested to continue having some titles that have no movies. The group was open to that and suggested various titles like Warlight, The Shack, etc. Moreno also brought up the Adult Summer Reading program and gave them their punches to their reading logs as well as raffle entries.

**PRUITT at ROOSEVELT HS**

Pruitt Library has incorporated some popular summer activities for children and families. Children’s librarian Cynthia Saenz has facilitated a variety of events with the “Over the Moon” summer theme.

Performers Dinosaur George and Happy Tails were certainly a big hit. Attendees had a blast laughing and learning all about prehistoric animals through hands-on activities provided by the popular paleontologist. The live exotic animal show Happy Tails delighted children and kept them on their toes with a variety of interesting animals many of the kids had never seen before.

Lego Camp and STEM Building has turned out to be a popular event as children compete to see who can build all kinds of creations using a variety of mediums such as brain flakes, connecting straws, magnetic shapes, and Legos. The weekly event has provided children an opportunity to take part in teambuilding, forming friendships, and practicing good sportsmanship.
Staff members continue to share information about the Summer Reading Club and the importance of reading during the summer. As children complete their summer reading requirements, they are thrilled to receive their free book and certificate of completion. They are especially proud when their name is announced and other library patrons join in congratulating them.

In concert with this summer’s theme, Pruitt Teens enjoyed *Guardians of the Galaxy* as midweek matinee. We popped popcorn and beat the heat while enjoying an out of this world afternoon.

Building on the previous week’s Guardians of the Galaxy activity, Pruitt Teens built galaxy jars. This was a super fun crafting experience for the participants.

Because we are Over the Moon for Reading, Pruitt Teens used the magic of green screen technology to project themselves into multiple lunar locations.

Citizenship Classes (English) for Adults have been a great success with two students successfully passing the USCIS Civics Test and naturalization interviews in July. Classes are taught by Branch Manager Rae Downen, and no registration is needed. The purpose of the class is to prepare students for the naturalization process and test and to teach about the rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship.

Adult Patrons enjoyed International Yoga Day interactive activities. Several patrons did yoga in the pit and entered a drawing for yoga supplies.

During Adult ESL Mini Classes, students used a combination of technology applications, hands-on activities, media, and written activities to practice listening, speaking, reading and writing in English.

Come and Go Puzzle was enjoyed the week of July 8 as adult patrons dropped in to work on a large 1000 piece jigsaw puzzle.

Quilting Bee, led by awesome LA Rae Garcia, was a great opportunity for experts and novices to work together in an informal setting. Participants brought their own materials and machines and Pruitt provided refreshments.

**SAN PEDRO**

**Kids Time Programs**

Dinosaur George brought his bones and fossils to San Pedro on Sunday June 23. The audience of sixty-six children and adults learned a lot from him. Children’s Librarian Betsy Dalton retired on June 30. So, during the rest of this reporting period, Cresencia Huff has hosted Summer Reading Kids Time programs on Sunday afternoons. Happy Tails entertained thirty-four adults and children on Sunday, July 14. The handlers brought a macaw, a snake, a bearded dragon, a prairie dog and a wallaby.

San Pedro participated in a program for International Yoga Day on Saturday, June 22. Instructor Melissa Backhus led a class in beginning yoga. The attendees appreciated the chance to stretch, relax, and develop mindfulness techniques.
Raíces (Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services) had an outreach table here on Tuesday, June 25. Raíces is a nonprofit agency that promotes justice by providing free and low-cost legal services to underserved immigrant children, families, and refugees.

Librarian Diana Starrett and Library Assistant Carmen Roja visited Park View Apartments for their monthly SAHA outreach. They brought a few more books for their onsite library.

San Pedro Library said farewell to Children’s Librarian Elizabeth (Betsy) Dalton on Sunday, June 30. Her hard work and dedication to the San Pedro community will be missed. She does plan to visit San Pedro and check out library materials. The branch is very pleased to announce that Karen Braeuler, currently Children’s Librarian at the Tobin at Oakwell Library will join the San Pedro team the week of August 5.

SCHAEFER

More than 600 kids signed up for the Mayor’s Summer Reading Club by the end of June at Schaefer, and more than 100 kids have returned their completed reading logs to choose a free book, receive a reading certificate, take a green screen photo and add their names to the outer space display.

Magik Theatre performed Jack and the Beanstalk on June 20. More than 100 kids and adults attended the show. Dinosaur George came to Schaefer on July 11 and spoke to a very enthusiastic crowd about dinosaurs.

All summer Schaefer has been offering a variety of programs for children of all ages. Baby Time, Toddler Time and Story Time are all offered on a weekly basis for young children. Programs have been well-attended so far this summer!

For the first time, Schaefer is having a Read to a Dog program for children to practice their reading skills. Molly, a Westie and a certified therapy dog, is coming to Schaefer most Mondays in July with her handler, Sandy. Children choose a book, and they take turns reading to Molly.

LEGO Time, Art Time, Science Time, Pokémon Time, Kids Time, Mario Kart Cup and Come & Go Crafts are programs at Schaefer for school-age kids. Each program has a different focus to appeal to a variety of interests.

Library Assistant Sara Ramirez hosted two Science Time programs during the reporting period. On June 18, Science Time explored the three states of water and included a hands on ice cream experiment. On July 2, Robot Science Time explored cars and ramps. Children used iPads to maneuver mini Sphero robots through various ramps situated around the room and created their own cars using recycled materials.

As part of Summer Programing, Monday afternoons at 1pm - Schaefer Library hosts the patron requested Pokemon Time. School age patrons gather in the Mays Family Community Flex Space to share their love of Pokemon, Play Pokemon games and enjoy Pokemon related activities.
Monday evenings at Schaefer, patrons gather for Chess Club. From 1800 to 1930 hours children and adults play friendly games of chess in Schaefer’s Community Flex Space. Patrons solve chess puzzles, observe historic chess matches, and learn the basics of strategy with Library Assistant Mason Matthews. Tournament Style Chess Sets provided by a generous donation from our friends at Dollar General.

Every other Thursday afternoon, Schaefer hosts the Kid’s Gaming Program. School age children gather in the Mays Family Community Flex Space to play Wii U, and Nintendo Switch games in an environment which promotes teamwork, friendly competition, and social interaction. This Summer Schaefer Library is hosting a Mario Kart Cup! School age children jockey for position in four player heats, culminating in a tournament grand champion for each week.

Two Saturdays each month at Schaefer Branch Library, Patrons gather for Zumba! Zumba Instructor, Angelica Guzman, leads an hour long session of enthusiastic dancercise to a lively soundtrack. Patrons shed stress and calories in the air conditioned comfort of the Mays Family Community Flex Space.

On July 7th 2019 at 1400 hours, patrons gathered at Schaefer Library’s H-E-B Collaborate Room to participate in a cooperative storytelling experience. For three hours, patrons designed characters and participated in a fantasy roleplaying game led by Library Assistant Mason Matthews.

Schaefer teens participated in several theme nights throughout the reporting period. Teen Time activities included a Harry Potter night, Super Hero night, and a Book Café event.

At the Harry Potter night, teens made wands, golden snitches, and Hogwarts house pennants. Teens created super hero Shrinky Dink keychains and snacks for the Super Hero program. During Book Café, teens enjoyed coffeehouse style beverages and created a large scale reading scroll that they displayed in the teen room. The reading scroll detailed a timeline of favorite books read in childhood up into young adulthood. During these activities, teens used creative skills and worked collaboratively to reach their shared goals and complete their projects.

Teens also enjoyed an additional summer gaming program during Bonus Game Hour where teens played a Minute to Win It block stacking game and Smash Brothers on the Wii U.

More than 300 adults have signed up for the Mayor’s Summer Reading Club as of mid-July at Schaefer. There are 31 adults that have received a complimentary book and are will be included in the grand prize drawing for adult finishers.

Yoga in the Park continues every Friday at the Schaefer Library. Patrons are supplied with yoga mats to use during the class and program attendance has been growing with each class.

Schaefer’s monthly Zumba program continues in the flex space at Schaefer. Classes are held twice a month and are led by a certified Zumba instructor.
An outreach event was held at the District 2 Senior Center. Adult Services Librarian Maria Adams hosts a monthly hour of tech help. Topics discussed this month included using the camera on an iPad and different apps available for streaming television programs.

The month of June ended with the monthly craft program for adults: Night Crafters @ Schaefer. This month, a string art project was completed by the crafters. Each participant was given a picture frame to display their finished project.

The branch hosted a sock hop in July. Library staff Dominique Preyor-Johnson and Susie Criado demonstrated popular dances from the 50’s. Staff joined in on the fun by dressing up in popular fashion styles from the 50’s.

Adult Summer Reading activities continued with a program on the sun and the moon. Local amateur sky watching group, San Antonio Astronomical Association, was on hand with telescopes for patron to view the afternoon moon and sun. They also discussed the first moon landing and geography of the moon.

Schaefer hosted a live viewing of a total solar eclipse over Chile. A monitor was set up in the library for patrons to view. The eclipse event lasted over a three hour period.

Teen Services Librarian Cynthia Cruz assisted with the coloring program at the District 2 Senior Center.


The Skimmers met on July 24th to discuss “The Flight Attendant” by Chris Bohjalian.

SEMMES

Almost all of the themes for Ms. Randi’s preschool story times this summer are based on the traditional full moon names from Native American culture. On June 17 and 19, for example, children and their grownup enjoyed stories, songs and rhymes about worms and made a pipe cleaner earthworm for a craft project. The Worm Moon is the full moon in March.

On June 24 and 26, story time’s theme was rabbits as in many Asian cultures; people don’t see a man in the moon, but a rabbit in the moon. The story of the day was The Rabbit, the Dark and the Cookie Tin by Nicola O’Byrne. Children also enjoyed several songs about rabbits and some action rhymes, too. For an art project, Ms Randi applied clear contact paper in the shape of a rabbit onto paper plates. The children applied tempera paints (with pompoms clipped onto clothespins) all over the plate and then removed the contact paper, keeping the shape of the rabbit there. The pompom was then glued on for the rabbit’s tail.
On July 1 and 3, children and their grownups enjoyed stories and songs about beavers. The Beaver Moon is the full moon in November. Ms. Randi read aloud Glen Rounds’ non-fiction book, Beavers, which is a great introduction to these fascinating animals. She set three beaver-themed poems to music as well. Children were invited to make a paper beaver from recycled materials.

On July 6, 8 and 10, children and their grownups celebrated the Buck moon which is in July by listening to a reading of Deer Dancer by Mary Lyn Ray and by making a deer puppet from construction paper and a jumbo craft stick. Ms. Randi set several deer-themed poems to music for her guitar as well.

The Friends of the Semmes Branch Library met on Wednesday, June 19th. They shared information about the June book sale and then had a lengthy discussion about sales tax and whether or not they would like to do a year round book sale cart. The Friends also set dates for the next Friends meeting and Fall book sale.

Semmes staff members are getting back into the groove of their regular programs, after the closure for the renovation. The Busy Writer’s Society, Semmes Sunday Stitchers, Build It!, Yu-Gi-Oh! Dueling Club, and Yoga/Circuit Training have all resumed meeting.

THOUSAND OAKS

On June 19, children and families enjoyed Kids Time Astronauts in Training program. They hopped, crawled and ran through the obstacle course and also created NASA patches. Children’s Librarian Lea Ann McDonald included stories and a video of a real International space station astronaut talking about her unique training.

The theme for Toddler Time and Story Time programs on June 20 was Building! This interactive program encourages children and their adults to actively participate through music, movement and rhymes.

Toddler time and Story Time Themes for June 27 were numbers and Patterns in Nature. Children and their caregivers learned about counting, numbers and patterns in nature –sequencing.

The Kids Time theme for July 3– If I Lived on the Moon, had children and their adults creating a moon base and lunar vehicles with recycled materials.

On July 9 Ms. McDonald gave a tour for Nite Owl Daycare to 15 children aged 4-5. The tour included a tour of Children’s department, a story time and collaborative craft activity creating an outer space poster and a brief talk about summer reading. A second tour group aged 6-12 from Nite Owl summer day care group was hosted on July 12. The 15 children brought back their Summer Reading logs and received their certificates and books, listened to stories and participated in a collaborative planetary poster.

July 11 both Toddler and Story Time themed programs were about Robots! Children and their adults enjoyed stories, movement and music as well as specially-themed robot crafts and activities.
Saturday July 13 was the second Saturday for Lego Time; this program is going strong. Adults enjoy the side by side opportunity for creativity.

Summer is in full swing at Teen Time at the Thousand Oaks Branch! Librarian Kimberly King hosted the weekly event. Creativity was at a high point when the participants did the ever-popular craft of jewelry making on June 19. Teens continued to stretch their creativity throughout the month by decorating celestial wind chimes and making snitches from chocolate candy, making their own wands, and watching Harry Potter and The Sorcerer’s Stone from the Harry Potter Theme Night craft provided by Teen Services. They also enjoyed board games with a rousing game of Headbandz, YouTube videos, and Wii games.

The Thursday Book Group read *American Pop* by Snowden Wright for the June meeting on June 20. It is the story of the Forster family’s rise and fall in the soda pop industry. The book club members felt the story’s timeline was disjointed, thus making the book’s characters difficult to track. Even though the book wasn’t to many of the group’s liking there was plenty to discuss. Refreshments were delicious.

Readers of the Northeast Senior Center book club dove right in to the June selection, *Taken*, by Robert Crais. Librarian Theresa Garza selected this title based on reader suggestions. Many readers enjoyed the detective duo of Joe Pike and Elvis Cole and felt the story was very on-topic, despite being published in 2012. Some readers went on to read other books by Crais, featuring one or the other detective.

Library Assistant Lucy Villa and Librarian Theresa Garza host a weekly Learn to Crochet class, to introduce the craft to new people. Learners are provided yarn, hooks, patterns, and instruction, and are encouraged to try the craft out with the branch supplies, before purchasing their own supplies.

On Sunday, July 14 participants of all ages engaged in a book folding craft, led by Librarian Kimberly King, where they made a vase sculpture by folding a discarded book. Fun was had by all who participated!

**TOBIN LIBRARY AT OAKWELL**

Summer reading for adults is very popular this year with over 300 signed up to date as part of the “Over the Moon” theme. A good number have read four books or attended library activities and received punches on the moon phase card for a free book.

Children’s programs continue with weekly Toddler, Toddler Two, Story and Baby Times with sizeable attendance each week. Weekend Come and Go Crafts are being planned by Library Assistants, Terry Verner and Andrew Charltonjones.

Assistant Manager, Rhonda Woolhouse, hosted several moon crafts for adults this period. On June 25 attendees created moon jars with tea lights glowing inside. On July 9, nifty moons were made using buttons and gluing them on painted wood for an unusual art piece.

A new book club has formed and meets one Sunday a month, named appropriately, The Sunday
Afternoon Contemporary Fiction Book Club. One of the first titles the small group has read was *The Corrections*, winner of the National Book Award by Jonathan Franzen.

The ever popular Dinosaur George visited Tobin on June 18. A large crowd of over 200 enjoyed the entertaining paleontologist’s interactive presentation on fossils with dinosaur bones, skulls and footprints with prehistoric world history.

Ms. Braeuler, and Part Time Children’s Librarian, Julie Ford, have hosted large crowds at the twice monthly programs like Read to a Dog and Lego Tim this summer. Kids Time held weekly on Tuesday afternoons incorporates moon related crafts and interactive demonstrations with school age children.

Many kids, ages 18 and under, are enjoying the free lunches held Monday through Friday at the branch. This partnership is with Northeast Independent School District and Texas’ Department of Agriculture.

Friends of the Tobin Library at Oakwell funded a special performance of Mad Science on July 11. Both kids and adults enjoyed watching neat demonstrations on science themes like electricity, magnetism, optics, and biology.

Librarian, Mark Hall joined the branch on July 2. Mr. Hall, serves as Assistant Manager at Encino Branch. In addition, Library Assistant, Elvia Ramos from Las Palmas, generously volunteered to work one day a week at Tobin at Oakwell to help with Holding Editor and collection updates due to our staffing levels. The professionalism and teamwork that both of these employees have demonstrated is admirable and appreciated.

**WESTFALL**

In June and July, 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.

On Wednesday, June 19th, Westfall Library welcomed Matt Sandbanks of the Sandbanks Shadow Factory as he came to perform his wonderfully creative and interactive shadow puppet plays. Both children and adults had a marvelous time. Afterwards, the kids had fun during Kids Time, making alien spacecraft with little aliens inside.

Teen Librarian, Daniella Toll continued to host math tutoring on Saturdays from 1-3pm at Westfall. Three 10th and 11th grade volunteers from Health Careers help mostly middle school students with math up to algebra II. During the summer months, the branch held Teen Time every Tuesday from 1-3pm, where young adults participated in fun activities and games.

Ms. Toll reported that teens had a great time making tie-dye bags at Teen Time. A very enthusiastic teen volunteer came and helped out as well. Afterwards, she wrote a thank you note for the opportunity to volunteer.

The Westfall Teens demonstrated developing interpersonal skills during fun activities such as Uno, teens supported each other in making wise decisions, forgiving family members and walking
through difficult circumstances in their personal lives. Teens displayed non-judgmental attitudes and that there was hope for their future. These conversations reflected the goal of SAPL Teen Services to help young adults transition from adolescents into healthy, productive adults. The 40 Developmental Assets are building blocks of healthy social and emotional development identified by the Search Institute as necessary for stable, caring and responsible adults.

The Westfall Branch Library continued to host the “Stranger than Fiction” and “Third Thursday” book clubs. Books read this month included “Manhattan Beach” by Jennifer Egan and “Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher” by Timothy Egan. 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 June, the Westfall LEARN@SAPL Center had its first finishers for the Digital Inclusion Certificate Program. Upon completing five steps of a chosen track, students received an official certificate and SAPL branded ear phones. As a bonus, all finishers so far at Westfall have immediately begun another track! The program allows for learning at each individual’s unique pace, and lets the Training Officer provide extra guidance and exercises based on patron interests. In part because of the certificate program, the Westfall LEARN@SAPL had its highest attendance since January, at just over 380 visits!

PERFORMANCE MEASURES
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY
KEY INDICATORS

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

**CIRCULATION: GOAL**

- **7,383,981**
  - Total FY Goal
- **111% OF FYTD GOAL MET**

**CIRCULATION: FISCAL YEAR 2019**

- **5,853,923**
  - Items Borrowed

**LIBRARY VISITS: GOAL**

- **5,353,581**
  - Total FY Goal
- **100% OF FYTD GOAL MET**

**LIBRARY VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2019**

- **3,972,317**
  - Visits

**DIGITAL ACCESS: GOAL**

- **2,353,104**
  - Total FY Goal
- **100% OF FYTD GOAL MET**

**DIGITAL ACCESS: FISCAL YEAR 2019**

- **421,832**
  - Computer Hours
- **1,285,063**
  - Hours of Wi-Fi Use
- **1,706,895**
  - Total Hours of Computer & Wi-Fi Use
SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL INDICATORS
JUNE 2019 (CONTINUED)

USE OF COLLECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2019

- **Circulation by Type**
  - 77% Physical
  - 23% Digital

- **Circulation by Service Area**
  - 77% COSA
  - 23% Bexar County (Outside COSA)

VIRTUAL VISITS: FISCAL YEAR 2019

- 1,818,100 Mysapl.org visits
- 830,498 Mysapl app sessions
- 1,126,131 Overdrive site visits
- 1,079,222 Facebook reach

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE: FISCAL YEAR 2019

- 290,112 Total attendance
- 50,513 Adult programs
- 51,069 Teen programs
- 188,530 Children's programs

JUNE MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

- Pride Bigger Than Texas Festival
- Summer Reading at Carver
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Circulation includes Digital (OneClick and Overdrive) and NEISD materials to SAPL patrons at Pruitt.
## San Antonio Public Library
### June 2019 Programs and Attendance

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San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures

FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr 15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26
FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16 * Openings: Potranco Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25
San Antonio Public Library

Circulation - Fiscal Year to Date - Jun 2019

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

FY 2019
FY 2018
FY 2017

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San Antonio Public Library

Visits

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Visits - Fiscal Year to Date - Jun 2019

Central
Igo
Parman
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Mission
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San Antonio Public Library

Location Closures

New: FY 19: Central Oct 27 at 2pm, Great Northwest Apr 15-May 5, Semmes May 1-26
FY 17: Landa Jun 5-Sep 20, SAPL System Aug 26-27, Cortez Sep 16 * Openings: Poetrance Nov 4, Schaefer Mar 25

* Combined measure of Public Computers Hours of Use and Wi-Fi Hours of Use
* Beginning December 12, 2018 - unlimited time on public computers when no one is waiting