

More Than Books

Highlights

- Join friends and fans for trivia fun at the Library with the Author vs. Screenwriter Smackdown! Which was better, the book or the movie? Friday, March 24, 6:30 PM, Twin Oaks Branch.
- Celebrate International Francophonie Month with a French afternoon featuring a story time in French, a pétanque demo by Heart of Texas Pétanque Club, and live music by Danielle Reich and Swing Rendezvous. Saturday, March 25, 1-4 PM, Manchaca Road Branch.
- Latinitas and the Ruiz Branch welcome the whole family to participate in six weeks of workshops to explore media and technology to *Express Yourself*. This week: Express Yourself through Media and Technology, Saturday, March 25, 1-2:30 PM, Ruiz Branch.
- Ricardo Parra Ruiz, a Chilean song writer, guitarist and arranger, will perform various styles including Folk, Trova, Bossa Nova and Celtic. Sunday, 3-4 PM, Manchaca Road Branch.
- Each year the New Fiction Confab invites a handful of America's most prominent early- and mid-career authors to Austin. Hear Dan Chaon, Patty Yumi Cottrell, Alexandra Kleeman, John Pipkin, Deb Olin Unferth, and Yoojin Grace Wuertz read from their work. Presented by the Austin Library Foundation. Saturday, April 1, 2-5 PM, Faulk Central Library.
- Support the Austin Music Scene by attending the Two O'Clock Tunes series, a fun, free concert in an outdoor amphitheater. Hear The Southsiders featuring Marcus Tharpe, Saturday, April 1, 2-3 PM, Twin Oaks Branch.
- *Miles and Miles of Texas* book signing and author event, Saturday, April 1, 2 PM, Austin History Center.

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: Contractors, consultants and City staff all focused during March on bringing the New Central Library to the level of readiness required to achieve substantial completion, one of the more significant milestones in this construction project as it signifies that life safety systems are operable and that the owner may make use of the building for upfitting purposes. At this time, the owner and consultants are fully engaged in composing the interior punch list of items not conforming to contract specifications that the contractor must complete, including incomplete work, incorrect installations and incidental damages to finishes, materials and structures. Construction activities at the site presently include but are not limited to repairing West Avenue, finishing mesquite flooring on all levels, mechanical mezzanine testing, installation of trees, shrubbery and other landscaping elements, stairwell pressurization testing, underfloor HVAC corrections on the sixth level, and, of course, the various subcontractors "punching out", or completing the items on their issued punch lists. As the project approaches the end of the construction phase, the series of commissioning testing activities has intensified, aimed at ensuring that mechanical, electrical, plumbing and all other building equipment systems perform according to design intent and specifications. Also this month, factory-authorized service representatives are

training the owner's designated maintenance personnel to adjust, operate and maintain the boilers, variable air volume (VAV) terminals, fan-coil units, and other air-handling units. Other ongoing training for New Central Library equipment provided to the Owner's maintenance staff this month includes sessions for operating the low-voltage switch gears, the main utility power disconnection switchboard, panelboards, enclosed controllers and automatic capacitor bank. In other developments related to the New Central Library Project, the last details of the café lease agreement with the Elm Group are currently being finalized by the Law Department, and the updated drawings and specifications for the tenant build-out, or lease-hold improvements, are being reviewed by Library Facilities Services personnel to determine acceptability.

Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement and HVAC Upgrade Project: 90% complete construction documents for this project have been submitted to the Quality Management Division/Public Works Department for their review, comments and corrections. An Invitation for Bid (IFB) Number has been assigned to the project with a tentative date of April 24, 2017 as the first date of advertisement to prospective construction contractors. The Contract Procurement Division of the Capital Contracting Office will manage the procurement process for this Capital Improvement Project, including the competitive-bid construction solicitation from issuance to City Council award.

University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion Project: The owner of the property adjacent to the University Hills Branch Library, the acquisition of which is necessary for the expansion of the parking lot, has filed an objection to the award of the Special Commissioners at the hearing on October 5 as well as to the City of Austin's right to take the subject property through the exercise of its powers of Eminent Domain. The owner is therefore demanding a trial by jury to settle the matter. Subsequently, the City of Austin has supplied all appropriate documentation identified in the property owner's Request for Production of Documents. On October 24, Judge Herman filed an "Order Transferring the Condemnation Case to County Court at Law No. 1." As this case has yet to be assigned a trial date by the Travis County District Court, the project remains in a period of no progress or change.

Southeast Branch Library Foundation/Flatwork Repairs Project: A Purchase Order has been issued to Kellogg Brown and Root (KBR LLC.), for their Job Order Assignment Proposal in the amount of \$681,918.40. A pre-construction meeting will now be scheduled to determine the date of Notice to Proceed issuance as well as the duration of the project. Concerning the placement of a portable building on the nearby Widen Elementary School campus to serve as a temporary library while the Southeast Branch is closed for renovations, it has been determined that 1,000 square feet of concrete sidewalk must be constructed, leading from the parking lot to the portable building and connecting the steps and ramped entrance of the portable building to existing sidewalks from the school. Construction of two ADA-

compliant ramps, one at the parking lot and the other at the street, will also be required. Due to the amount of site work required, the Purchasing office has determined that the Capital Contracting Office (CCO) will be the main point of contact for this interim library initiative, as the CCO oversees City of Austin construction contracts. The Public Works Quality Management Division has verified that signed and sealed engineering drawings and specifications will be required for these improvements on school property, and the Library Department has subsequently reached out to the Public Works Engineering Services Division for assistance, beginning with their compilation of a cost estimate for the construction.

Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade

Project: Library Facilities Services has received approval from the Capital Contracting Office to continue this project with the services of Stanley Consultants, the firm that produced the Professional Engineering Report (PER) for this fire sprinkler system retrofit. The necessary planning work for the project will now be resumed with the next goal being production of 30% complete design development drawings and specifications.

Renovation of the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill

Project: The 90% complete design documents - drawings, specifications manual, LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Checklist and the consultant's responses to comments from the Quality Management Division(QMD)/ Public Works Department for the 60% complete design documents – have been forwarded this month by the Library Facilities Services Division to QMD for their further review and comments. Interviews with the leading candidates for the vacant Project Coordinator position are currently being conducted, as it is of critical importance to bring this new staff member on board as soon as possible to oversee the implementation of this project.

Austin History Center Interior and Exterior Improvement Project

Project: Following research on the subject, a publication was found by one of the original painters of the loggia ceiling fresco at the Austin History Center, and it revealed that the artists had signed their work near one of the center archways and close to a Romanesque capital. This information will help the art conservator currently restoring the work to not paint over the signatures by accident. The loggia ceiling has been gently brushed clean and all mud dauber nests removed. Work progress has been challenging over the last several weeks as outdoor temperatures have dropped below 50 degrees. The special paints used by the art conservator cannot be applied for three days following such weather events as the paints will not adhere properly to the surfaces. However, as the cleaning of the ceiling has proceeded, the art conservator has been able to make some interesting observations regarding the fresco. It is now certain that the fresco painting was performed by two individuals, as indicated by brush stroke marks and color transitions at different points in the scrolled lines between the painted ceiling vaults. This is consistent with the records that both Harold E. (Bubba) Jessen and Swiss-born artist, Peter Allidi, painted the fresco. There are also indications from the specks of paint revealed under the fresco, that the initial colors included a more vibrant blue, but the artists apparently decided to change to a paler hue while the work was still in progress. Yet another interesting revelation is that there is a variance of colors in the fresco which the art conservator speculates may be the result

of the historical era in which the building was constructed, for it was during the Depression and the artists may have had to use whatever materials were available. The art conservator continues to make progress with his portion of the project, and with the extended daylight provided by Daylight Saving Time along with the warmer ambient temperatures of coming Spring weather, the Library Department is reasonably confident that the loggia fresco restoration will be completed by April 14 as per schedule. Normal business hours for the Austin History Center have not been affected by the art restoration project, although use of the Ninth Street doors to the facility have been restricted to serve only as a path of emergency egress.

Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library Foundation

Repairs Project: 60% complete design plans and specifications for the project have been submitted to the Quality Management Division (QMD) of the Public Works Department for their review and comments. Before QMD would agree to review the documents, they advised the Library Department to seek an exemption for a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for the project. Due to the limited amount of shallow excavation anticipated for the project and the resultant low risk of encountering unexpected hazardous materials, the requirement to conduct a Phase I Environmental Site assessment was waived by the City of Austin engineer with oversight authority.

Little Walnut Creek Branch Library ADA Ramp

Improvements Project: Library Facilities Services has successfully retained the design and construction management services of MWM Consultants, the engineering firm responsible for creating the Professional Engineering Report (PER) for this project. After the initial review of the PER, structural deterioration in the area of the building near the accessible ramp was discovered. As a consequence, the project's scope of work will be revised to include repairing the structural damage, modifying the standing-seam metal roof, renovating the fixed-glass storefront and enclosing the accessible ramp within the building envelope. MWM is presently working to produce 30% complete project drawings and specifications, but due to the increased scope of the project, completion of this phase of design development is expected to be lengthy.

Yarborough Branch Library Renovation Project:

Revised 100% complete construction documents, now including the site modifications called for by the Americans with Disabilities Act/Texas Accessibility Standards study performed by the Registered Accessibility Specialist (RAS), are now in production. Upon completion, these drawings and specifications will be submitted to the Planning and Development Review Department for building code compliance prior to the issuance of a building permit. At this time, it is anticipated that the Invitation for Bids (IFB) will be advertised to prospective construction contractors during mid-April, following all the project documents being approved by the Planning and Development Review Department.

Windsor Park Branch Library Renovation Project:

The consultant architects have submitted 90% complete design documents for the renovation of the Windsor Park Branch Library. The City of Austin's comments on the 90% complete design documents will be returned to the consultant architects as soon as they are received from the Quality

Management Division (QMD) so that the process to acquire a construction contractor for the project may be initiated. A Project Coordinator is presently being hired by the Library Department to manage the implementation of this project.

Cepeda Branch Library Renovation Project:

A proposal from the architectural consultant team of Stanley Salaiz Joint Venture to perform the design work required for the project has been submitted to the Library Department and the Capital Contracting Office for evaluation. A preliminary report exploring the existing condition of the branch library and its site, including architecture, structure, mechanical and landscaping features, will be conducted to determine if there are any significant building and grounds issues requiring corrective actions. This preliminary report will allow the Library Department to prioritize and commit funding towards solving the most pressing needs of this nineteen year old community library.

Faulk Central Library Roof Replacement: The Library Department, in liaison with the Capital Contracting Office, is presently engaged in negotiating a professional service agreement with Building Exterior Solutions, the roofing consultants assigned to the Faulk Central Library Roof Replacement Project from the City of Austin Roofing and Waterproofing Consultant Rotation List. A number of issues have been clarified for the roofing consultants including the Lightning Protection requirements, the future historical designation anticipated for the building, work hour requirements, and the fire and flame restrictions to be maintained during roofing construction. Metal coping will not be allowed due to the Library's desire to match the existing appearance of the building, but selective "bird wire" installation may be permitted to help with the bird issues at this downtown location.

Austin History Center Programming & Outreach

- LaToya Devezin had a busy Black History Month. She was a guest speaker at the February 7 CapMetro Community Feedback meeting, the February 8 Austin Black Lawyers Association program, the February 22 Texas Gas Service program, and the February 25 Interfaith Small group. She also presented "I AM the Change" at Dessau Middle School for their Black History month program on February 18 and a genealogy workshop on February 25 at the Carver Genealogy Center.
- Phonshia Nie presented "Asian American History in Austin" for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UT on February 1.
- Nancy Toombs gave a presentation about the Treaty Oak for a local Boy Scout troop on February 5, with about 20 in attendance.
- The AHC hosted a program, "Celebrating The Rag," on February 21 about the 50th anniversary of the underground newspaper, *The Rag*, started at UT in 1966. The program included a panel discussion with the editors of the 50th anniversary book about the newspaper and a screening of part of an upcoming documentary film about *The Rag*. Over 75 people attended the event and were regaled with stories of the underground newspaper movement and the counterculture in Austin.

Collections

- AHC staff finished processing 8 collections, the Mark Goodman "Capital Improvements" Photographs; the Austin (Tex.) Mayor's Office. Jeffrey M. Friedman Records; the William Robert King Drawings; the Texas Wesleyan Foundation Records; the Pauline A. Pinckney Papers; the Mark Goodman "Capital Improvements" Photographs; the Gloria and Mel Pennington Papers; the Tellez Family Papers; and the Tommy Vasquez Papers. The finding aids are available online at: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html.
- The AHC recently acquired records of the Austin Kwill Klub, a women's literary and social club from the 1920s and 1930s. The acquisition included early meeting minutes and membership rosters of the club and other ephemeral pieces. This acquisition joins an earlier donation of the club's early scrapbooks.

Exhibits

The AHC opened its newest exhibit "Finding Refuge in Austin, 1848-1980" on February 21. Over 150 people attended the opening event and were treated to a specially designed menu, designed by Chef Uyen Pham of the Escoffier School of Culinary Arts, with foods from the refugee communities featured in the exhibit.

Publications & Reference

- Research was conducted at the AHC and photos from the AHC were purchased for use in television news stories on KXAN and KEYE; a *People's History in Texas* documentary and one other documentary; an interpretive plan for the downtown public squares; an *Austin Chronicle* story about the Big Boys; a story in *Authentic Texas* about Scholz Garten; and upcoming Texas A&M UP books *On the Edge of Nothing* and the autobiography of William Trenckmann.
- The critically acclaimed documentary *I Am Not Your Negro* made use of the AHC's collections, licensing the use of the iconic picture of Mandy, the mammy to Eula Amelia (Caldwell) Nagle.
- The AHC recently signed a contract with Arcadia Publishing to support the publication of another book in their series Images of America. This new book will tell the story of the Austin Dam and its impact on the history and development of Austin. More than 100 images were provided for the publication (as well as research support for the author), and this is the fifth book the AHC has partnered with a local author and Arcadia to share the story of Austin with a broader audience.

Upcoming Events

- April 1, 2 PM, AHC. *Miles and Miles of Texas* book signing and author event
- April 29, 3-5 PM, AHC. AHCA Open House and Art Sale.
- May 9, 6:30 PM, AHC. Book talk with Eddie Wilson about his new memoirs, with a guest musical performance by Jesse Sublett.
- May 13, 2:30 PM, AHC. AHCA Annual Meeting.

Central Library Services

Five reference librarians completed a project for the City of Austin's Economic Development Department. We were asked to research ten individuals to locate any media/film

companies they may be affiliated with and then provide financial information about those companies. The research required in-depth searching of our online databases and other online resources.

Two fiction displays on the first floor highlighted national current events and celebrated diversity and inclusion in the Library and community. The first, The Immigrant Experience, included novels with stories of immigration to United States. The second, Black History Month, featured acclaimed novels with historical and recent themes in the lives of African Americans written by African American authors. Both displays circulated well and were restocked with new titles almost daily.

The Faulk Central Library hosts the Austin Chinese Book Club the first and third Thursday of each month 7-8 PM. The book club reads books written in Chinese and the ensuing discussion is in Chinese.

Friday, March 10, The APL unbound: sin fronteras bookbike, Texas State Library and Archives Commission and the Texas Library Association kicked off SXSW with books, beats and libations at Flat Track Coffee (1619 E. Cesar Chavez) for WAX FROM THE STACKS, a soulful celebration featuring vintage vinyl and other tunes spun from the archival collections of the Austin Public Library.

Programs

The Library Foundation announced the New Fiction Confab lineup. The Faulk Central Library will host the eighth annual New Fiction Confab Saturday, April 1. The Confab brings early to mid-career authors to town for a day of writing workshops, readings, and discussions. This year's authors include Dan Chaon, Patty Yumi Cottrell, Alexandra Kleeman, John Pipkin, Deb Olin Unferth, and Yoojin Grace Wuertz. Workshops will take place Saturday morning at branch libraries. The six participating authors will convene at the Faulk Central Library at 2 PM for an afternoon of readings and discussion about their writing. The Austin Lit Fair will run concurrently at the Faulk Central Library and will feature local publications, including *American Short Fiction*, *The Austin Review*, *Bat City Review*, and *fields* magazine, as well as local organizations: Books Are Not a Luxury, Old Books for New Teachers, and the Writing Barn.

Branch Services

Milwood's Classic Hits Book Club was on February 27 and had 5 people attend. The February book was *The Secret Agent* by Joseph Conrad. The March 27 book will be *Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys. Milwood's Civil Discussion Book Club was held on February 16. The book was *The Short and Tragic Life of Robert Peace* by Jeff Hobbs. Three people attended this meeting and more people are taking an interest. The March 16 book will be *The Liar's Club* by Mary Karr.

University Hills hosted four food centric programs this month, with customers sampling different foods each Saturday. They had dozens of comment cards submitted that praised the work staff did and the quality of each program. Staff worked with local vendors to get high quality food and are already planning for next year and what program they might put on. AARP also started their tax help this month at University Hills, with 140 customers coming to have their taxes prepared.

Talk Time at Southeast saw 31 participants at four sessions in March.

In conjunction with Humanities Texas, St. John Branch held four afternoon story times, with total monthly attendance of 140.

Pleasant Hill presented the second of their "Evening with Your Councilmember" series. 36 adults attended for the chance to meet and ask questions of CM Ann Kitchen.

Youth Services

Mindy Reed stepped in as interim Youth Services Division Manager after David Spradling's retirement.

Suzan Nyfler organized a benchmarking visit with youth staff at San Antonio Public Library's main library. This was in addition to our morning attendance at a Texas State Library & Archives Commission training session on TeachingBooks, one of our databases. The entire Faulk Central Youth Team attended. They learned a great deal about San Antonio's services to children and teens and got great ideas on how to use TeachingBooks content on the New Central Library technology screens.

Youth services continues to provide excellent programming both internally and externally through outreach such as Literature Live's production of *Little Peep* which began in February, and the Art Smart event *Echos of Africa* presented at the Little Walnut Creek Branch and as an outreach program at Ortega Elementary School.

Recycled Reads

February revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$12,000. Approximately 4,050 people visited the store, including 574 attending the 19 scheduled events. Donations were received from over 240 people. More than fifteen volunteers donated over 180 hours of their time to the bookstore.

Goodwill Industries picked up 30 gaylords of discarded materials from Recycled Reads. Staff received 24 pallets of materials from the warehouse, branches and donations and sorted approximately 30 pallets of materials representing approximately 61,000 items at the bookstore. Approximately 21 tons of materials were kept out of the landfill. Between sales, donations and weeded material from APL, over 65,000 items were processed.

Recycled Reads is continuing the price per pound program with Thrift Books in Dallas. They pay 12 cents per pound on the books sent to them. They picked up 9 pallets.

Recycled Reads celebrated our 8-year anniversary with a Literature Live Puppet Show, live music, and a pop-up boutique. The store received a large estate donation of books and bookcases which will be used to pilot ARR's online bookstore initiative. Larry Goode installed his art display as part of our 8-year anniversary and the upcoming West Austin Studio Tour.

Volunteer Services

February 2017 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers 234
Total Volunteer hours 1578.58

Volunteer Services welcomed 13 new volunteers to APL this month. Volunteer Services attended the Austin History Center Volunteer Recognition Event. AHC volunteers and APL staff shared stories and refreshments while enjoying a sneak preview of the newest exhibit *Finding Refuge in Austin*. The new adult volunteer onboarding process began on February 13, 2017. APL will now accept volunteer applications only for open volunteer positions.

Manchaca Rd	3
Milwood	3
Yarborough	3
Hampton	2
History Center	1
Recycled Reads	1

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit <http://library.austintexas.gov/events>

Toni Lambert
Interim Director of Libraries

Policy Violations

35	Disrupting use of Library services or property
32	Abusive, indecent, profane, or vulgar language
26	Sleeping
25	Vandalize, steal or damage property (Library or another person)
24	Harass, sexually harass, abuse, threaten or fight with a person
23	Block access to an entrance, passageway, or resource
12	Entering a non-public area
10	Consuming food or beverages in the Library
8	Intoxicated by drug or alcohol
8	Offensive gesture or display
8	Bringing animals into the Library
7	Leaving personal belongings unattended
6	Violating Internet Policy
5	Improper use of restrooms
5	Bringing in a bedroll, blanket or sleeping bag
4	Incite a breach of the peace
4	Smoking & tobacco use; burning materials
4	Soliciting money or valuables
2	Possession of illegal drug or alcohol
2	Access sexually explicit material
2	Appropriate clothing is required
1	Strong odor
1	Threatens Library property
1	Perform a criminal act
1	Distributing literature or soliciting customers on Library property

256 Total

Locations # of Incidents

Faulk Central	62
Little Walnut	36
Terrazas	20
Twin Oaks	18
Ruiz	17
Southeast	14
Old Quarry	12
Cepeda	9
Pleasant Hill	8
St. John	7
University Hills	7
Carver	6
Willie Mae Kirk	6
Spicewood	5
Howson	4
North Village	4
Windsor Park	4