



## **Highlights**

- The 2015 Mayor's Book Club features John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. Austin Opera will perform Carlisle Floyd's unique operatic adaptation of the novella in January of 2016.
- AHCA's annual Angelina Eberly Luncheon will be January 29, 2016, at noon, at the Driskill Hotel. The luncheon will present a distinguished panel of builders and developers who have made a significant impact on the Austin landscape while keeping in mind the history and culture that makes Austin what it is today.
- JHF Central will host a six month series of health and wellness workshops on the first Sunday of the month starting December 6, at 3 PM
- Starting January, all branches will open at 10 AM on Fridays.

## **Facilities Services**

**New Central Library Project:** The construction of the NCL is progressing rapidly at this time. A major benchmark for the project was achieved on December 10, with the provision of permanent electrical power to the building. Work on the interior of the building includes but is not limited to framing and gypsum board installation at walls on all floors, followed closely by taping, floating and painting. Spraying of acoustic insulation is now underway in the bookstore, and the installation of ceramic tile is expected to start shortly where called for in the specifications for a number of areas within the building. Meanwhile, the installation of stone is proceeding on all exterior elevations, as is the installation of standing seam, metal panels on the roof. On December 10, the various furniture and shelving bid packages for the project were due to the City of Austin, and Purchasing Office representatives are now reviewing the proposals that were submitted by qualified vendors. The key dates on the established project schedule are as follow:

- ~ Summer 2016 ~ Building Construction completed
- ~ November 2016 ~ Grand Opening Ceremony

**Milwood Branch Library Renovation Project:** Library Facilities Services is working very closely with the Office of Capital Contracting to have a Notice to Proceed with construction issued to the contractor as soon as may prove possible. Issuing Notice to Proceed has been delayed by negotiations with the contractor regarding the project's scope of work as well as by an effort to better meet the minority and woman-owned enterprise subcontractor participation goals sought by the Department of Small and Minority Business Resources Department (DSMBR).

**Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement and HVAC Upgrade Project:** Library Facilities Services has received and is now reviewing a proposal from the consultant engineers to amend their professional services agreement for this project. The amendment will allow the consultants to perform the additional scope of work requested by the Library Department. This additional scope

of work consists primarily of architectural modifications made possible by the planned relocation of the building's mechanical equipment from interior spaces to a new, rooftop location.

**The University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion Project:** Library Facilities Services has been advised by the Office of Real Estate Services that a new appraisal has been received for the property the City of Austin will need to acquire to make the expansion of the University Hills Branch Library parking lot possible. Library Facilities Services is now striving to coordinate the acquisition of the referenced property with the Office of Real Estate Services. In a separate development, an appointed Art in Public Places (AIPP) Selection Panel met on December 8, at the City of Austin Cultural Arts Divisions offices and selected three finalists from the ten artists who submitted proposals to create the AIPP component of this project. Those three finalists will be interviewed December 14, by the AIPP Selection Panel, allowing the panel to take a final vote and prepare a recommendation to the Arts Commission. The Arts Commission approval of the Selection Process Recommendation is anticipated on January 18. The installation of the resulting artwork will follow completion of the project's construction phase, tentatively scheduled for the end of October.

**Southeast Austin Community Branch Library Foundation/Flatwork Repairs Project:** 100% complete construction drawings and specifications were delivered by the consultant engineers last week to the City of Austin. Those drawings and specification manuals are now being reviewed by the Quality Management Division of the Public Works Department, the Office of Capital Contracting, and Library Facilities Services. The Office of Capital Contracting manages a Job Order Contract (JOC) program to provide minor construction, repairs, alterations, renovations and maintenance for City of Austin facilities. Through a competitive sealed proposal solicitation, the City of Austin has selected three JOC. Work is issued to JOC Contractors by Job Order Assignment, and the Assignments are administered by the JOC Administrator of the Office of Capital Contracting. The Southeast Austin Community Branch Library Foundation/Flatwork Repairs Project has been previously approved by the Office of Capital Contracting for a Job Order Assignment to one of the Job Order Contractors. In the meantime, APL and the Austin Independent School District staff have been working to craft an Inter-Local Agreement which will allow an interim municipal library to operate in a portable building on the Widen Elementary School campus while construction is in progress at the nearby Southeast Austin Branch Library. The construction phase of the project is tentatively anticipated to begin in April.

**Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade Project:** Once considered a candidate for the JOC program, this project is now being developed for the Invitation for Bid (IFB) construction delivery method. The IFB construction

delivery method requires that an owner, such as APL in this instance, provide very detailed project specifications and drawings to allow competing contractors to submit lump-sum proposals indicating how much the project will cost to complete. The project's consultant engineers were required to revise their design proposal to accommodate the more lengthy and demanding IFB construction delivery process. That revised proposal has now been received and reviewed by Library Facilities Services, and returned to the consultants with comments necessitating further revisions.

#### **Renovation of the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill Project:**

Library Facilities Services receive and reviewed cost estimates for the project from the consultant architects. Library Facilities Services is currently awaiting a service agreement proposal from the Quality Management Division/Public Works Department in order to set up a task order and proceed with review of 30% complete submittal documents from the consultant architects. The next design review meeting with the Oak Hill community was tentatively scheduled for January but may now need to be rescheduled for a date in February.

#### **Austin History Center Interior and Exterior Improvements Project:**

This restoration of this historical building remains in the design development phase at this time. Based on the consulting architect's report on the complexity of restoring the building, Library Facilities Services is anticipating at least sixteen months of design development, City of Austin quality reviews, landmark building commission hearings, contractor bidding and Council approval processes before the construction phase of the project can be initiated.

#### **Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library Foundation Repairs Project:**

The Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library Structural Evaluation Report has been delivered by the consultant engineers to Library Facilities Services for review and comments. This project has likewise been removed as a candidate for the JOC Program and is being reworked for the more lengthy and complex Invitation for Bid (IFB) construction delivery method.

#### **Little Walnut Creek Branch Library Accessibility Improvement Project:**

By the end of November, the consultant engineers had been issued official Notice to Proceed with the design of this accessibility improvements project.

### **Austin History Center**

#### **Programming & Outreach**

- On November 9, Assistant Manager Nancy Toombs gave a presentation to the Sherlock Holmes Society of Austin about the naming of the town of Waterloo.
- Processing Archivist Molly Hults gave a tour of the Making the Grade exhibit to 15 members of the AISD Public Relations team on November 3.
- Mexican American Community Archivist, Amanda Jasso, organized a book talk with four panel members/contributors to – *Invisible in Austin* on November 18 program.

#### **Collections**

- AHC staff finished processing 3 collections, the Robert

N. Simmons Photograph Collection, the Mark Goodman Collection of Student Photography Projects, and the Austin Independent School District Board of Education Records, and placed an EAD encoded finding aid for the collection on the Internet at the TARO website. Processing Archivist Molly Hults also added items and updated the EAD finding aids for the Performing Arts Collection, Abstracts of Title Collection, Pat Toth Papers, Blodgett Papers, Austin Lyric Opera Records, and the Paramount Theater Records. The finding aids are available online at:

[http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse\\_ahc1.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html).

- The AHC recently acquired an original and unpublished short story by O. Henry. Thanks to the generosity of the AHCA, the AHC was able to win this story, "A New Candidate for Sympathy," at auction and add it to the O. Henry collection. The story is handwritten and includes notations and corrections by O. Henry. Also included with the story is a 1919 letter from the treasurer at Doubleday, his publisher, authenticating the story as O. Henry's.
- African American Community Archivist, LaToya Devezin, set up a partnership with the database, Umbra: Search African American History to make AHC collections more accessible. Over 400 AHC items featured on the Portal to TX History and the Digital Public Library of America will be on the database, increasing the visibility interest in the African American materials in the AHC's collections.

#### **Publications and Reference**

- Research was conducted at the AHC and photos from the AHC were purchased for use in an upcoming episode of "Who Do You Think You Are?," a number of new and upcoming books such as *Indelible Austin* (Waterloo Press), *Austin in the Jazz Age* (The History Press), *Blue Texas* (University of North Carolina Press), *Lone Star Treasure: The Texas Capitol* (State Preservation Board), and *Retronaut Guide to Raising Children*, a cultural landscapes report on the commercial district at 12th and Chicon, articles in the *Austin Chronicle* about theater desegregation and *Austin Monthly* about the Trail of Lights, and for an exhibit by Crockett High School students to be held at the Manchaca Branch Library.

#### **Upcoming Events**

- January 12, 6:30-8 PM. "Mathews & Metz: 100 Years and what's old is new again" – program celebrating the 100th birthday Mathews and Metz Elementary Schools.
- January 16, 1-4 PM, AHC. Oral History Workshop with the AHCA and Texas Historical Commission.
- January 29, 11:30 AM, Driskill Hotel. AHCA's annual Eberly Luncheon.
- March 22, Neill-Cochran House Museum. Opening of AHC exhibit on the E. M. Pease Family and Collection.
- April 3, AHC/Woolldridge Square Park. Time TBD. Spring Music Revue.

### **Branch Services**

The My Library Keeps Me Healthy grant funded campaign began this month at Terrazas with health screenings. Staff reported that several people have been screened for high cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure, and BMI. They also have on hand a "Library Ambassador" who will assist customers in finding additional health information using the resources of the library.

The Windsor Park Book Club had 6 readers at the meeting on the November 10, discussing Soldier Girls by Helen Thorpe.

**Youth Services**

Youth Services posted on the APL Blog its Favorite Youth books from 2015. The lists include 15 favorite books of Youth Services' librarians in each of the following categories: picture books, chapter books, early readers, youth fiction and nonfiction and graphic novels. Check it out at <https://aplcmdsraaft.austintexas.gov/blog-entry/easy-gifts-kids-all-ages-336506>

The Youth Services division hosted the program, Kaiju Attack, at the University Hills Branch. Guest presenter, Jason Champion, provided the audience with wonderful information about the subject and displayed his collectibles and books on the topic. There were also crafts and face painting. The program had over 100 people in attendance, and folks were able to have their picture taken with Godzilla.

**Recycled Reads**

November revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$14,000. Over 3500 people visited the store, including over 120 attending the 14 scheduled events. Donations were received from approximately 250 people. More than twenty volunteers donated over 200 hours of their time to the bookstore.

Goodwill Industries picked up 20 gaylords of discarded materials from Recycled Reads. Staff received 116 pallets of materials from the warehouse, branches and donations and sorted approximately 31 pallets of materials representing approximately 63,200 items at the bookstore. Approximately 20 tons of materials were kept out of the landfill. Between sales, donations and weeded material from APL, over 63,000 items were processed.

ARR 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 12 pallets.

Staff attended the Reverse Pitch event co-sponsored by Austin Materials Marketplace and Austin Resource Recovery Reverse and pitched two commodities: VHS tapes and books. The examples provided to attendees reuse possibilities for these items and how they could be purchased from Recycled Reads. Stage two of the event is December 9.

**Volunteer Services**

November 2015 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers	230
Volunteer - Volunteer hours	1665.12
Volunteer Hourly Value	\$ 23.07*
	<b>\$38,414.32</b>

(\*rate change in May 2015 from \$22.55)

**Policy Violations**

26 Disturbing others using the Library

- 23 Theft of Library, staff or customer property
- 16 Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
- 14 Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials or equipment
- 13 Sleeping in the Library
- 13 Using obscene language
- 13 Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
- 11 Disorderly conduct
- 9 Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
- 7 Destruction of Library property
- 6 Leaving personal belongings unattended
- 4 Violating Internet Policy
- 4 Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
- 3 Fighting
- 3 Smoking in the Library
- 3 Public Lewdness
- 2 Indecent exposure
- 2 No outside food or beverage allowed in the Library
- 2 Appropriate clothing is required
- 2 Strong odor
- 2 Unlawfully carrying or displaying weapons
- 2 Unintended use of restrooms
- 1 Abandoning children or failing to supervise children in the Library
- 1 Entering unauthorized areas
- 1 Bringing in bedrolls, blankets or sleeping bags
- 184 Total**

**Locations # of Incidents**

- ATB 26
- ARZ 21
- ACE 19
- ALW 15
- ANV 9
- APH 6
- AYB 6
- ASE 5
- AWK 5
- AWP 5
- AOK 4
- AMR 4
- ACP 3
- AHO 3
- AOQ 3
- AUH 3
- ATO 2
- AHC 1
- ACB 1
- ARR 1
- ASR 1
- ASJ 1

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

Brenda Branch,  
Director of Libraries



