

Highlights

- Faulk Central Library is hosting three SXSW performances; Mariachi Amor, Thursday, March 17; Echo and the Bats, Friday, March 18; and Austin Ukulele Society, Saturday, March 19. The concerts begin at 2 PM.
- On March 22, Neill-Cochran House Museum is opening the Austin History Center exhibit on the E. M. Pease Family and Collection.
- Austin Public Library's new Bookmobile arrives at the Milwood branch on March 31, ready to provide limited interim Library services to the area until construction is completed.
- The Milwood Branch will reopen to the public on Wednesday, June 1.
- Join us for a French afternoon, March 12, 1-4 PM, at the Hampton Branch at Oak Hill. We will have a storytime in French, a petanque demo, and live music by Danielle Reich and Swing Rendezvous. The Ecole Jean Jacques Rousseau will also be doing a French dictation for those interested in testing their French skills.
- The Health, Wellness and You series of workshops continues at the Faulk Central Library with The Secrets of Reading Labels, Sunday, March 6, at 3 PM.

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: Diverse and multiple building activities are underway at the New Central Library this month, with between 250 and 300 workers representing all construction trades employed at the site every day. Gypsum board walls and ceilings are rapidly being installed throughout the building as the ceramic tile installation is completed in restrooms, locker rooms and other potentially wet areas. Likewise, the raised access floors are nearly finished on all six levels of the library, allowing modular underfloor wiring to proceed. Rough-in and installation work continues for plumbing, electrical and mechanical equipment and devices in all the interior spaces. Fire protection piping installation is also a very important, ongoing activity at this time, and is an extensive, acoustic plaster system installation on the atrium ceiling. On the exteriors of the building, the stone veneer is still being installed on all four elevations as is the scrim support steel and curtain walls and windows. 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: After extended negotiations and efforts to fulfill the subcontractor requirements of the Department of Small and Minority Business Resources (DSMBR), Notice to Proceed was issued on December 15, to the Job Order Contractor, Jamail & Smith Construction, LP. Jamail & Smith is well experienced with the Library Department's building program as the firm served as the general contractor for both the

North Village and Twin Oaks branch library construction projects. Mobilization for construction began immediately as the branch library, except for the meeting room providing interim library services, was turned over to the contractor and subcontractors for their work activities. A pre-construction meeting was held at the site on December 21, to review contract responsibilities, schedules and any open issues. Attending personnel from the Library Department, the design team of Stanley-Salaiz Joint Venture, and Jamail & Smith all committed to responding quickly to construction administrative questions and product submittal approval requests in order to expedite completion of the project. The Milwood Branch pocket library is scheduled to remain open to the public through Saturday, February 20. After that date, it will be necessary to release the entire building to the contractor so that the public restrooms adjacent to the meeting room can be rebuilt to comply with the new 2012 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. Temporary library services will be provided to the Milwood area beginning in March by means of a newly purchased, state-of-the-art bookmobile stationed at the site. This high-tech bookmobile is essentially a standalone mini-library, complete with computer stations, WiFi connectivity capability, a select collection and is equipped with an exterior-mounted, fifty-inch display monitor for program presentations. The bookmobile will also allow Milwood customers to pick up materials placed on hold and to return library materials in their own service area. The manufacturers of the new furniture and equipment ordered for the Milwood Branch Library have all been advised to deliver their products in time for the renovated facility to reopen to the public by May 31.

Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement and HVAC Upgrade Project: Library Facilities Services completed its review of the Amendment to the Professional Services Proposal from the consultant engineers 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. After a minor correction to the Reimbursable Expenses section has been made by the consultants, the Amendment will be approved. Compensation methods for architectural and engineering services take varied forms; Reimbursable Expenses are charged at cost plus a reasonable administrative charge, and include reproduction costs applicable to the project, such as blueprinting, photographs, printing and binding.

The University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion Project: The Office of Real Estate Services is having the contracted appraisal firm reappraise the property needed since the original appraiser passed away recently. After the appraisal and land use plan are updated, a revised final offer will be sent to the property owners before setting a hearing. The final approval of sculptor,

Colin McIntyre, to create the Arts in Public Places portion of the project was granted by the Arts Commission on January 18. Once the artist's contract had been executed, design on the outdoor sculpture piece will begin, with installation targeted to coincide with site construction. The Library Department will support a successful art installation by providing for the artwork's landscaping and electrical needs. One of the goals of this commission is to reflect the character of the surrounding neighborhoods and the diverse population served by this branch library. The artist will be asked to collaborate with the community as well as project representatives to fully develop the artwork.

Southeast Austin Community Branch Library Foundation/Flatwork Repairs Project: The 100% complete construction drawings and specifications for this project remain under review by the Quality Management Division of the Public Works Department at this time. The City of Austin and the Austin Independent School District staff continue efforts to draft 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 underway at the nearby Southeast Austin Branch Library. The construction phase of this project is now tentatively scheduled to begin in May.

Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade Project: A Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for the project has been received from the consultants and is being reviewed by the Library Department prior to forwarding for review by the Quality Management Division of the Public Works Department. Once considered a candidate for the Job Order Contract (JOC) program, this project will be developed for the Invitation for Bid (IFB) construction delivery method. The IFB construction delivery method requires that an owner, such as the Library Department, provide precisely 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 are continuing to revise their design proposal to accommodate the lengthier and demanding IFB construction delivery process.

Renovation of the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill Project: The Quality Management Division/Public Works Department has received the project's 30% complete design documents, and the Library Department awaits their review comments to share with the consultant architects and engineers. In the meantime, the Library Department has met with the interior design consultant to review new flooring options and colorways proposed for the renovation. Scheduling the next project review meeting for the public will remain on hold until 60% complete design documents have been produced by the consultants. A previous Austin City Council passed a resolution that requires new municipal buildings and major renovations to achieve LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver rating certification if able to meet the scope and budget criteria. At the request of the Quality Management Division/Public Works Department, the Library Department reviewed the Will Hampton Branch Library Renovation Project and determined that it could achieve a LEED Silver rating certificate if the building's

existing HVAC (heating, ventilation and air-conditioning) system was replaced in its entirety. An additional services agreement has been added to the consultants' contract to allow the mechanical engineers to complete design for new HVAC equipment and controls.

Austin History Center Interior and Exterior Improvements Project: This restoration of a 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 (16) 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 reviewed by the Library Facilities Services Division and returned to the consultant engineers to make recommended revisions. The foundation behavior and issues with the structure unrelated to the foundation will be corrected and restored to their original condition. The corrective action will take place while the branch continues to operate.

Little Walnut Creek Branch Library Accessibility Improvement Project: A Preliminary Engineering Report for the project has been received from the consultant engineers and reviewed by the Library Department. Major corrective construction is being recommended as the structural integrity of the building appears to be compromised at its Northwest corner, perhaps due to settling. Along with replacing the existing ramp with a new and fully-compliant ramp, the consultants are also recommending the replacement of the existing stairs since these stairs are not compliant with current code. As the project is not presently funded at a level to accommodate major construction to correct structural concerns, additional appropriations will be sought while consideration is given to phasing the project to allow the safety and accessibility issues to be redressed as soon as may prove possible.

Yarborough Branch Library Renovation Project: The Library Department received a 2012 Bond Program appropriation for current Financial Year 2016 to fund the design phase of the Yarborough Branch Library Renovation Project. The Library Department has subsequently contacted the Capital Contracting Office (CCO) to initiate the process of hiring a consultant architect/engineer team for the planned renovation. The project goals include replacement of interior finishes for floors and walls, installation of motorized shades for storefront windows, reconfiguring interior furniture and shelving layouts to provide better flow, an upgrade of lighting and lighting controls, restoring the original Americana Theater exterior sign, upgrading the landscaping and cleaning and repainting exterior of the building where applicable. The architectural firm selected for the project from the 2015 Rotation List is Stanley Salaiz Joint Venture, previously responsible for the outstanding design of the Ruiz Branch Library and currently working on the Milwood Branch Library Renovation Project. Lars Stanley and Liz Salaiz

are now assembling their team of engineers and other consultants for the project and composing their professional services agreement proposal. The Library Department, meanwhile, has submitted requests for asbestos and lead reviews to be conducted by the Asbestos, Lead and Mold Management Group (Office of Building Services) for the building. On January 5, Yarborough Branch Library staff met with the Facilities Services project manager to contribute to the compilation of specific branch needs that might be redressed by the upcoming renovation project.

Windsor Park Branch Library Renovation Project:

For current Financial Year 2016, the Library Department likewise received a 2012 Bond appropriation to fund the design phase of the Windsor Park Branch Library Renovation Project. As necessitated by internal City of Austin project development processes, the Library Department has initiated the hiring of architectural/engineering consultants for the planned renovation through the Capital Contracting Office (CCO). Windsor Park Renovation Project goals include repainting the building's interiors, replacing worn furniture and flooring finishes, reconfiguring staff and public areas to update and enliven library spaces and improve flow. Some exterior work is also required such as repainting plaster wall surfaces as appropriate, repairing the leaking building envelope at the staff entrance, and replacing the damaged security fence screening the outdoor mechanical (air conditioning) units. The Lawrence Group Architects, previously successful as the architects for the Carver Branch Library Expansion Project, the Terrazas Branch Library Expansion Project and the Manchaca Road Branch Library Renovation Project, were selected for the Windsor Park Branch Library Renovation project from the 2015 Rotation List. Earl Swisher, the principal architect for the group, is currently assembling his consultant team and compiling their professional services proposal. Asbestos and lead reviews for the Windsor Park Branch have been requested from the Asbestos, Lead and Mold Management Group (Office of Building Services) by the Library Department. An input session with Windsor Park Branch Library staff is now being planned by the Facilities Services project manager for February.

Austin History Center

Programming & Outreach

- African American Community Archivist LaToya Devezin participated in multiple outreach events in January. On January 17 she was the guest speaker at the New Covenant Fellowship of Austin. On the 18th she represented the AHC during the communitywide MLK Day Celebration, with over 500 people coming by her booth during the day. On January 23, she taught a workshop, "African American Genealogy Resources at the Austin History Center," at the Carver Genealogy Center. Lastly, she was filmed for the first 3 episodes of "Austin While Black," a YouTube video series about Austin's African American collective memory.
- On January 12, the AHC hosted an evening program, "Metz & Mathews: 100 Years and What's Old is New Again." More than 175 people attended the event, stressing the meeting room and hallway capacity, celebrating the 100th birthday of these Austin schools. The program included reminiscences of the history of the schools, a discussion of the future of education in Austin, and a

special musical presentation by students from both schools.

- Assistant Manager Nancy Toombs gave a couple presentations to community groups. On January 16th she presented to a group of students (10 students and 4 teachers) from Vandergriff High School, organized by Preservation Austin. They came into the Reading Room afterwards and worked on their projects, buildings on Red River. On January 20th she presented to the Old Timers from St. Catherine's Church, with 20 in attendance.
- The AHCA held an Oral History workshop on January 16. The event filled to capacity (35). William McWhorter from the Texas Historical Commission presented the half-day workshop about conducting oral histories. Attendees ranged from individuals wanting to record the stories of their family to groups wanting to conduct in-depth oral history projects. Plans are underway to offer this workshop again in the summer.

Collections

- AHC staff finished processing 3 collections, the Teleclip, Inc., Video Collection, the Timothy Hurst Dance Posters, and the Nettie More Papers, and placed EAD encoded finding aid for the collection on the Internet at the TARO website. Processing Archivist Molly Hulth and Curator of Archives Susan Rittereiser also added items and updated the EAD finding aids for the Oliver B. Street Papers, the Youngblood Papers, and the Performing Arts Collection. The finding aids are available online at: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html.
- The AHC recently acquired a small collection of materials related to Ed Knebel. He owned the local 7-Up Bottling Company and was also a part owner of the local minor league baseball team the Austin Pioneers. The donation included scrapbooks and photographs concerning the baseball team.

Collections

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- The AHC acquired the archives of Estilo Communications an ad agency that predominantly served Latino communities in Austin during 1980s-2013. The AHC also received the records of the chairman of the Austin Plan Section 12 Committee. This collection will provide insight in how individual neighborhood groups impacted the decisions made in formulating the Austin Plan in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Grants

- The AHC, through the AHCA, received a small grant from the Austin Foundation for Architecture to help fund an oral history project at the AHC to document the stories of noted Austin architects. The interviews are being conducted by an AHC volunteer, and the grant funds will be used to pay for transcribing the interviews. The AHCA also received a grant from Humanities Texas to help its oral history project to interview all the living former mayors of Austin, with the interviews and transcripts to be added to the AHC Oral History collections when completed.

Exhibits

- The AHC opened its newest exhibit in the David Earl

Holt Photo Gallery. Our Handcrafted History ~ The Art and Craft of Fortunat Weigl and Peter Mansbendel explores the craftwork by two of Austin's most prominent 20th century artisans. The exhibit is on display through June 26, 2016.

Publications and Reference

- Research was conducted at the AHC and photos from the AHC were purchased for use in an upcoming book about Texas women in the Civil War, an episode of the Travel Channel's series "Time Traveling with Brian Unger," and for stories in *Austin Monthly* and *Texas Water Journal*.

Staff

- The AHC welcomed its new Asian American Community Archivist Phonshia Nie in January. Phonshia comes to the AHC from the University of Georgia, and she has hit the ground running, setting up AHC information booths at 2 community events within her first few weeks on the job.

Upcoming Events

- March 22, Neill-Cochran House Museum. Opening of AHC exhibit on the E. M. Pease Family and Collection.
- April 3, AHC/Wooldridge Square Park. Time TBD. Spring Music Revue.

Central Library Services

Programming

The Faulk Central Library held a return performance of *Ivy and the Wicker Suitcase*. The six-part *Health, Wellness, and You* workshop continues through May and will feature a Body Movement Challenge program. The Travis Audubon Society will present a program titled *Waterbirds of Lady Bird Lake* Sunday, February 28 at 2 PM

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Collection

All of Faulk Central's collection is now RFID tagged and all of Faulk Central's check out and self-check stations are RFID. There are 6 total with 1 on first floor in youth, 2 in the DVD/Music corral, 2 on the circulation desk and 1 in the holds area. There will no longer be one on the 2nd floor. The 3rd floor has one near the elevators, replacing the standing catalogue which moved to the high table across the floor. The exit gate has also changes. The entrance gate has been removed and the exit is now RFID sensitive. The old 3M security strips are no longer valid. The interface on the new machines will also have a different look. The options are presented visually on the touch display screen.

Approximately 33,300 books were shelved in January and the Mystery section was shifted to make room for youth DVD's. Current volunteer count is 17. They had a tremendous impact on customer service by focusing a group on the music CDs.

Branch Services

AMR partnered with Crockett High School's Entrepreneurship program to hang banners and end-stack info posters as a culmination of their project on the 10 most influential people in Austin. The students researched candidates and developed the graphics that are now on display in the library and hosted a kick-off party on January

9 in the meeting room. The exhibit will be on display for the spring semester, until May.

Citizenship classes remain popular at branches: 20 participants at ALW's classes, and 15 at ARZ.

ASE has seen an influx of participants attending their Talk Time sessions, with an average of 11 participants per class.

ACB is planning to host a number of programs this past month; they include a workshop on goal setting, clothing entrepreneurship, writing workshops, and several lectures and films centered around the African American experience in the US.

Youth Services

In February, Youth Services held a special training called Circuit Break Training and it was really eye-opening! The training provided information about circuits and will be valuable for the upcoming Circuit Break event at Ruiz Branch on Friday, March 11 from 7-9 PM.

Recycled Reads

January revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$16,600. Over 4950 people visited the store, including over 845 attending the 19 scheduled events. Donations were received from approximately 260 people. More than twenty volunteers donated over 200 hours of their time to the bookstore.

Goodwill Industries picked up 24 gaylords of discarded materials from Recycled Reads. Staff received 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 26 tons of materials were kept out of the landfill. Between sales, donations and weeded material from APL, over 65,000 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.

Volunteer Services

January 2016 - STATISTICS	
Number of Volunteers	261
January - Volunteer hours	1888.73
Volunteer Hourly Value	\$ 23.07*
	\$ 45,573.99

Policy Violations

- 22 Disturbing others using the Library
- 21 Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
- 15 Disorderly conduct
- 12 Using obscene language
- 11 Theft of Library, staff, or customer property
- 8 Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials or equipment
- 7 Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
- 4 Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources

- 4 Strong odor
 - 3 Bringing in bedrolls, blankets or sleeping bags
 - 3 Smoking in the Library
 - 3 Unintended use of restrooms
 - 3 Leaving personal belongings unattended
 - 3 Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
 - 2 Entering unauthorized areas
 - 2 Destruction of Library property
 - 1 Bringing animals into the Library
 - 1 Fighting
 - 1 Indecent exposure
 - 1 Violating Internet Policy
 - 1 Soliciting and panhandling
 - 1 No outside food or beverage allowed in the Library
 - 1 Sexual harassment of Library staff or customers
- 135 Total**

Locations # of Incidents

Faulk Central	26
Ruiz	15
Cepeda	12
Terrazas	12
Carver	10
Twin Oaks	7
Yarborough	6
Little Walnut	5
Southeast	5
Spicewood	5
Pleasant Hill	4
History Center	3
Manchaca	3
North Village	3
Willie Mae Kirk	3
Windsor Park	2
Hampton	2
Milwood	2
Old Quarry	1
University Hills	1

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

Brenda Branch,
 Director of Libraries