

More Than Books

Highlights

- Join us for six weeks of storytellers, snacks and Texas tales at Texas Family Storytime. This program was developed in partnership with Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Thursday, February 2, 2-3 PM, St. John Branch
- Visit with film director Deborah Esquenazi at a screening of her documentary *Southwest of Salem*. Controversy & Conversation: A Difficult Dialogues Program presented in partnership with The University of Texas Humanities Institute. Thursday, February 2, 6:30 PM, informal conversation; 7 PM, screening, Terrazas Branch.
- Taste a variety of cheeses and learn how to pair them with fruits, nuts, drinks and more at Eat! A Feast in Four Courses. Saturday, February 4, 6-9 PM, University Hills Branch.
- Uke out to the melodious strains of the Austin Ukestra - Ukulele Group conducted by Kevin Carroll. Sunday, February 12, 1-2 PM, Recycled Reads Bookstore.
- You are invited to enjoy an evening with Council Member Ora Houston. Wednesday, February 15, 6-8 PM, Windsor Park Branch.
- *Celebrating The Rag: Austin's Iconic Underground Newspaper*. Noted for its unique blend of New Left politics and '60s alternative culture – presented with a hearty dose of irreverent Texas humor and psychedelic art – *The Rag* was one of the earliest and most influential of the 1960s-1970s underground papers. Sunday, February 19, 2-4 PM, Austin History Center.
- Opening Reception for the exhibit *Finding Refuge in Austin, 1848 to 1980*. Tuesday, February 21, 6:30 PM, Austin History Center

Facilities Services

New Central Library Project: The New Central Library remains a busy construction site this month as contractors, consultants and City of Austin personnel focus on pushing the project through to completion. Ongoing work at the moment includes but is not limited to construction of the Roof Garden guardrail, putting the finishing touches to the building's life safety equipment systems, resolving a grade conflict at the Electrical Switch Room on W. 2nd Street, providing the ventilation for the boilers and emergency generators required by building code, better supporting the scrim screening the building's windows from sunlight, fine-tuning the installation of security cameras, correcting the static pressure of the underfloor mechanical system on the sixth floor, and sanding and sealing the mesquite flooring on all levels. In other developments, a permit is now being sought to allow the installation of the rooftop photovoltaic array to proceed; and the contractor, consultants and City of Austin personnel are composing a comprehensive punch list for the exterior of the building. Punch lists, of course, are documents prepared near the end of a construction project listing work not conforming to contract specifications that the contractor must complete prior to final payment. The contract specifications also call for the contractor and his sub-contractors to provide training to Library Facilities Services staff members on operating all the

myriad building systems installed in the New Central Library. The first segment of this extensive training regimen will be initiated on January 26 and January 27, with automated lighting controls instructions to be provided by Encelium Technologies, Inc. over the course of both the day and the following night. Library Facilities Services and Public Works staff members have reviewed the 90% complete Cookbook Café construction documents submitted by the future tenant's architects and provided comments and corrections. The Library Department's Facilities Process Manager is currently working with the Office of Real Estate Services and the Law Department to finalize the New Central Library café lease agreement with the Elm Group so that their representatives may secure a construction permit for tenant improvements and complete the finish out work by the time Austin's new main library is ready to throw open its doors to the public.

Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement and HVAC Upgrade Project: The Commissioning consultant engineer assigned to this project from the City of Austin Rotation List for such services has declined to submit a proposal to the Library Department due to the reduced scope of work. The Library Facilities Services Division has rarely asked a project's design engineers or contractors to commission their own work, due to conflict of interest concerns, but in this instance, the process of acquiring the commissioning services of the design engineers for the project has been initiated. The Quality Management Division (QMD) of the Public Works Department has completed the review of the project's 60% Complete Plans, and the consultant engineers are now reviewing the comments and corrections provided. Library Facilities Services will then check to make sure that all comments were addressed and corrections made before resubmitting the plans to QMD for the 90% Complete Plans Review. A Solicitation Request has been submitted by Library Facilities Services in order to acquire a general contractor for the work at hand, and the Capital Contracting Office is in the process of assigning an Invitation for Bid (IFB) number to the project. The tentative date to initiate advertising the project for submittal of construction contractor bids is March 13, 2017.

University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion Project: The owner of the property adjacent to the University Hills Branch Library that 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". In early November, the Travis County Tax Assessor/Collector filed requests for the owner to pay taxes due on the subject property. In other project developments, the sculptor, Colin McIntyre, selected to create the Art in Public Places (AIPP)

portion of the project, and his community outreach partner, Carla Nickerson, have been conducting outreach over the last couple of months with limited success. A revised plan of action is presently being worked out with the marketing manager of the City of Austin Cultural Arts Division. In the meantime, Colin is preparing to present his mid-design concept to the AIPP panel on February 6, and if all goes well with the mid-design review, he will likely present the final design in April, with fabrication starting shortly thereafter. An installation date has not been established, but it is believed that the installation will be completed by the end of the calendar year.

Southeast Austin Community Branch Library Foundation/Flatwork Repairs Project: The Final Proposal from Kellogg Brown and Root (KBR LLC.), assigned to this project from the City's Job Order Contract Rotation List, is in the total amount of \$681,918.40. A Funding Affirmation Form, in the amount of \$700,000, has been completed by Library Facilities Services and submitted to the Capital Contracting Office for processing. It is anticipated that the Capital Contracting Office will proceed to execute the Job Order Contract and issue Notice to Proceed to KBR LLC. A pre-construction meeting at the site will then be organized by Library Facilities Services. Following Notice to Proceed being issued and while KBR LLC is mobilizing for construction, Library Facilities Services will take two months to inform the public of the upcoming renovation and to open a temporary library on the nearby Widen Elementary School campus. It is estimated that the foundation and flatwork repairs will take six (6) months to complete, and during this time, the Southeast Austin Community Branch Library will need to close to the public for safety reasons.

Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade Project: Due to staff's spending authority being exhausted for the original Mechanical Engineers Rotation List under which consultants were assigned to this project, Library Facilities Services is currently waiting for a new assignment to be made. The Capital Contracting Office has indicated that, if all goes well, they should be able to start again assigning consultant engineers to projects by February 15. Library Facilities Services is ready to initiate the Design Phase of the project as the requisite Professional Engineering Report (PER) was completed by the consultant engineers prior to spending authority for the Rotation List being exhausted.

Renovation of the Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill: 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/Public Works Department for the 60% complete design documents - remain under review by the Library's Facility Process Manager prior to submittal to the Quality Management Division for their continuing review and comments. The Library Department is currently seeking to hire a Project Coordinator to assist in the development and implementation of this project.

Austin History Center Interior and Exterior Improvement Project: Facilities Services' project manager will meet with the consultant architects on Monday, January 23, to review questions regarding the security fence alignment, survey information, and layouts prior to the fence design being folded into the landscape architect's work on the overall

project. In the meantime, the temporary fence protecting the restoration conservator's work on the loggia's fresco has been reinforced with concertina wire to ensure that vandals do not gain access to the scaffolding and damage the original artwork painted on the loggia's vaulted ceiling. We anticipate the art conservator will start his restoration work on the fresco in earnest in February, weather permitting.

Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library Foundation Repairs Project: The Quality Management Division (QMD) of the Public Works Department has completed the re-review of the project's 30% Complete Plans requested by Library Facilities Services. The comments and corrections provided by QMD are now being studied by the consultant engineers and Library Facilities Services prior to the requested modifications being incorporated into the construction drawings and specification manuals.

Little Walnut Creek Branch Library ADA Ramp Improvements Project: Library Facilities Services has successfully acquired the design and construction management services of the engineering firm responsible for the Professional Engineering Report (PER) conducted for this project. That PER will need to be revised since the project's scope of work was expanded to include enclosing the library's front entrance and accessible ramp within the building envelope.

Yarborough Branch Library Renovation Project: A second round of comments for the 90% complete design documents for this remodel project were generated by the Quality Management Division/Public Works Department and discussed in detail with Facilities Services' project manager. These comments have been shared with the consultant architects so that all necessary corrections may be incorporated in the 100% Complete Construction plans and specifications prior to the services of a contractor being sought for the project.

Windsor Park Branch Library Renovation Project: The consultant architects have submitted 90% complete design documents for the renovation of the Windsor Park Branch Library. Upon completion of review, the City of Austin's comments will be returned to the consultant architects so that the selection process to acquire a construction contractor for the project may be initiated. A Project Coordinator will be hired shortly by the Library to assist in the development and implementation of this project.

Austin History Center Programming & Outreach

- On December 3, the AHC held a book signing and presentation for *Historic Movie Houses of Austin*, the AHC's newest publication. The authors, Susan Rittereiser and Mike Miller, spoke about the book and how it came to be. One attendee of the event wrote: "I wanted to let you guys know that I enjoyed the gathering Tuesday night. My friend Lori was thrilled with the book as was I. Thanks again for your efforts." Michael Barnes wrote a nice piece about the book in his "Old Austin" feature, appearing both online and in the print version of the *Austin American-Statesman*. Susan and Mike had a second book signing event at Monkey Wrench Books on December 20.
- African American Community Archivist LaToya Devezin

represented the AHC at the NAACP Dewitty/Overton Banquet on December 3. She created a mini-exhibit and video presentation of Austin NAACP history for the event. Over 600 people were in attendance.

- On December 13, the AHC hosted Texas Monthly Executive Editor Skip Hollandsworth to talk about his recent book, *Midnight Assassin*. The book chronicles the Servant Girl murders that occurred in Austin in 1884-85. Seventy-five people attended the program and book signing and were entertained with stories, some gruesome and some comical, about this period of Austin's history.

Collections

- AHC staff finished processing 3 collections, the Ethel Brydson Berkley Photograph Collection, the Roger A. Griffin Papers, and the John T. Bowman Papers. The finding aids are available online at: http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/browse/browse_ahc1.html.
- The AHC received many interesting donations in the last month. Of interest this month was a photo collection from Mark Goodman of 81 photos of the original square mile of Austin taken in the 1980s for a book called *Capital Improvements*. Asian American Community Archivist Phonsia Nie collected organizational documents and images from Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce (to add to their collection) and Indonesian Diaspora Network Chapter Austin (new collection).

Publications & Reference

- Research was conducted at the AHC and photos from the AHC were purchased for use in upcoming books *Making the Past Less Foreign* (Routledge Press) and a planned book on mass shootings; a video documentary on the 110th anniversary of the YWCA; annual reports for McGinnis Lochridge and the Texas Department of Transportation; a story in *Curbed* magazine; and exhibitions at the Rosenberg Library, Capitol Grill, and the Warfield Center for African American Studies.
- Processing Archivist Molly Hulst had one of the more interesting reference encounters. She was working with Rowena Dasch from Neill Cochran House on research about the cost of building materials in Austin in the 1850s. She managed to find a contract for the first Travis County Courthouse that listed out the price of stone, but she needed help reading the cursive writing because the unit of measurement made no sense to her. Molly figured out the document was referring to a "perch" which was a traditional unit of measurement. Ms. Dasch was excited: "Thank you! You're amazing!"

Upcoming Events

- January 27. Driskill Hotel. AHCA's annual Angelina Eberly Luncheon.
- February 11, TSLAC. 2nd Annual Black Family History Day program.
- February 19, 2 PM, AHC. "Celebrating the Rag" – panel discussion on the 50th anniversary of The Rag.
- February 21, 6:30 PM, AHC. Opening Reception for "Finding Refuge in Austin" – new exhibit at the AHC.

Central Library Services

Social Media Success

Librarians Meg Holle, Cesar Garza, and Amy Mullin are getting the word out about APL's Facebook Live efforts.

The Texas State Library featured our efforts in its Library Developments blog and WebJunction picked up on it for its Social Library (Vol. 75) Newsletter. We have streamed eight videos so far, covering Virtual Library topics, health and craft programs, the Austin History Center archives, and general print collections. They've had nearly 7,000 combined views so far. Besides the numbers, patrons tell us that these videos have helped them use the Virtual Library. There are one or two scheduled each month far into 2017, including more hands-on technology demos. We plan to produce Spanish-language videos about our Biblioteca Virtual.

We've identified several advantages to this format. Q&APL Live is interactive, not static. Viewers type their questions in the video's Comment box, and we answer them on the spot. The video is posted on APL's Facebook page after the broadcast, allowing people to view it at any time. We link to relevant Q&APL Live videos from our Virtual Library pages and FAQs, such as the video about borrowing Kindle eBooks on our OverDrive page.

Health Grant

APL's My Library Keeps Me Healthy Grant was given a free advertisement in the Challenger Newspaper this month. The ad publicized APL's One-Stop Assistance for Social Services, Health Screening and Computer Help at Faulk Central, Little Walnut and Terrazas.

New Library Rules

February 1, Austin Public Library will implement new library rules that will allow us to evict those who are a threat, disruptive, violent, vandalize our property or are non-compliant to staff and customers. We will be able to issue a Library Criminal Trespass Notice for a year for all our locations. The new system allows us to support our staff and customers in incidents where safety or security are violated. January is a grace period to give people an opportunity to become accustomed with our new policies. New signage is up notifying customers of the changes to policy and public services staff are currently going through training on the rules including training on Criminal Trespass Notice. (CTN)

Programs

The Craft Crawl: Holiday Edition 2016 at Carver was a huge success with over 100 in attendance. The event was held at the Carver Branch Library on Friday, December 9, 2016, 7-10 PM (after hours). There were seven craft stations positioned all around the building. The stations were: succulent planters made from upcycled tin cans with paper decorations, carve-your-own rubber stamp, beautiful quilled cards and ornaments, adorable polymer clay ornaments, fun air-dry clay tags, quirky bottle cap ornaments, and beard oil. There was also a wide array of gorgeous desserts and drinks which lent a festive and cozy air to the event. This year, Lucky Lab Coffee was hired to serve hot coffee and cocoa with all the fixings! To add to the atmosphere, Doreen Boyd, Carver's Managing Librarian hired DJ Jason Farmer to play music during the event.

Branch Services

Southeast's Magical Holiday Party saw about 155 participants, along with the magic show lead by Gusto the Great. Attendees also participated in craft activities, took pictures with Santa, and received a free book as a holiday gift.

Pleasant Hill staff very actively promoted their annual Family Holiday Program on December 10, and it paid off as they had a large and enthusiastic turnout. Along with their traditional Santa visit (played by APL's St. John Requejo!), they had arts and crafts with youth librarian Heather Valdez, a scavenger hunt, and live music with the Requejo Family Caroling Team. After a couple of hours, the crowd moved to the meeting room for the puppet show of the Nutcracker, presented by Literature Live.

The St John's Branch Manager did a Library Presentation and storytime for a group of 49 Webb College Prep Elementary School 2nd-grade students, parents and teachers.

St John Branch marketed their Literature Live puppet show and Holiday Celebration event by sending mini-flyers home to all Pickle Elementary students a week ahead of time, mentioning it to all customers, displaying flyers, coordinating with the recreation center's afterschool program and by handing out mini-flyers in front of the school on the day of the event. 121 people attended the 3:30 PM Literature Live "Nutcracker" puppet show on December 13, and 184 people attended the Holiday Celebration, 4-6 PM. Four volunteers, all staff members, a Youth Services intern, and a security officer helped round out the cast.

Hampton Branch at Oak Hill held a Holiday Open House, with Hill Country Harpers playing holiday music in the main reading room. In the meeting room, they had crafts and refreshments for all ages. Over 100 people enjoyed the program.

Youth Services

In December, several members of the Youth Services division participated in the Trail of Lights programming at Zilker Park. The librarians provided storytimes, songs and much fun to an average of 30 people per performance. The Parks and Recreation department invited Youth Services to participate in this fabulous holiday tradition and it was a successful outreach for the Library.

Grants

The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation continues its support of the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation in the amount of \$141,000 for years nine and ten of the Connected Youth Program at the Austin Public Library. This program features Teen Centers where teens and tweens are encouraged to use technology and develop skills valuable in navigating the digital world.

Goals for the program include providing activities and after school programs for youth that encourage new ways of thinking, exercising creativity, practicing collaboration, developing critical thinking skills, and building communication skills. The Austin Public Library, the Austin Public Library Friends Foundation, and the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation work together to provide the up-to-date equipment, software, and resources for youth to use in the libraries. Skilled staff provided by the Connected Youth program guide youth in developing the skills they need to be successful in school, work, and life.

Recycled Reads

December revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$13,500. Over 4,100 people visited the store, including 644 attending the 12 scheduled events. Donations were received from over 200 people. More than fifteen volunteers donated over 200 hours of their time to the bookstore.

Goodwill Industries picked up 40 gaylords of discarded materials from Recycled Reads. Staff received 55 pallets of materials from the warehouse, branches and donations and sorted approximately 30 pallets of materials representing approximately 72,000 items at the bookstore. Approximately 26 tons of materials were kept out of the landfill. Between sales, donations and weeded material from APL, over 75,000 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 was featured in Shop Zero Waste videos airing on City View.

Along with music performances by Folkwine, Violet Crown Flute Choir, Peacock Recorder Ensemble, and Pecan Street Brass at our annual open house, Recycled Reads featured a pop-up boutique of items that will be for sale at the Recycled Reads Boutique in the New Central Library.

Volunteer Services

December 2016 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers	195
Total Volunteer hours	1114.68

Policy Violations

35	Disturbing others using the Library
30	Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
27	Disorderly conduct
24	Theft of Library, staff, or customer property
22	Using obscene language
19	Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials or equipment
16	Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
14	Leaving personal belongings unattended
12	Sleeping in the Library
11	Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
9	Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
7	Destruction of Library property
6	Fighting
5	No outside food or beverage allowed in the Library
5	Violating Internet Policy
4	Entering unauthorized areas
4	Unintended use of restrooms
4	Bringing in bedrolls, blankets or sleeping bags
3	Indecent exposure
3	Strong odor
3	Unlawfully carrying or displaying weapons
3	Sexual harassment of Library staff or customers
2	Public Lewdness
1	Bringing animals into the Library
1	Abandoning children or failing to supervise children at the Library

- 1 Voyeurism and peeping
- 1 Smoking in the Library
- 1 Soliciting and panhandling
- 1 Appropriate clothing is required

274 Total

Locations # of Incidents

Faulk Central	43
Terrazas	20
Ruiz	12
Twin Oaks	11
Willie Mae Kirk	11
Carver	10
Little Walnut	9
University Hills	9
St. John	8
North Village	7
Yarborough	7
Cepeda	6
Hampton	5
Pleasant Hill	5
Southeast	5
Manchaca Rd	4
Spicewood	4
History Center	3
Old Quarry	3
Windsor Park	3
Milwood	1

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

Toni Lambert
Interim Director of Libraries