

### **Highlights**

- Effective February 1, all APL operated properties will become tobacco free.

### **Facilities Services**

**New Central Library Project:** On Wednesday, January 4, 2012, the Design Development Phase Kickoff Meeting for Austin's New Central Library Project was conducted from 10:00 AM Until 4:30 PM in the Twin Oaks Branch Library meeting room. Meeting Agenda topics included Service Model, Collections, Youth Services, Reading Room/Porch and Security/Experience. For the consultant design team, Austin Public Library staff were able to better confirm the essential elements of the service model for the library, locations and amounts of each collection in the building, location of the Teen and Children's areas in the building, new direction to the reading room and collection adjacency, and the overall approach to wayfinding elements and the customer experience. The New Central Library Executive Team met at City Hall on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 and upper management was briefed that Austin Energy was ready to initiate work on relocating the Seaholm District power lines to interface better with the New Central Library Project, the requisite Seaholm Wastewater Modifications Tunnel Project was progressing well, the design of Second Street and West Avenue is proceeding, and that Austin Energy has confirmed that the Shoal Creek Butterfly Arch Bridge design will not interfere with transmission lines in the area. On Thursday, January 12, 2012, the Austin City Council conducted a public hearing, the approved a resolution to permanently utilize approximately 1,517 square feet of land for construction, use, maintenance, repair and replacement of the existing electric transmission line for the Seaholm District Redevelopment and the New Central Library Project though dedicated parkland known as Town Lake Shoal Beach and the Shoal Creek Greenbelt, in accordance with Section 26.001 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code. At 9:00 AM on Wednesday, January 18, 2012, in the Boards and Commissions Room of City Hall, Public Works and Library staff members will provide an update on the New Central Library Project to the Bond Oversight Committee, and at 12:00 Noon that day in the same room, an Artist Information Meeting will be conducted regarding the Art In Public Places component for the Second Street Bridge Extension Project. It is the intention of the City to acquire for the New Central Library, through this particular Art In Public Places process, the interactive, outdoor structures for children recommended in the Family and Children's Task Force Report. On Monday, January 23, 2012, staff and consultants involved in the New Central Library Project will tour the AMD campus from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM to examine a raised floor similar to the type proposed for use in the New Central Library. Finally, the Austin City Council will be asked on Thursday, January 26, 2012, to authorize the negotiation and execution of an amendment to the Construction Manager at Risk (CM@R) contract with Hensel Phelps Construction Company for

additional preconstruction phase services for the New Central Library in an amount not to exceed \$450,000. It has been determined that to satisfy the intent for the New Central Library design to open onto and interface with Shoal Creek, it was necessary to include the Second Street Bridge and Extension/Shoal Creek to West Avenue scope as a key part of the Library development. The project schedule for the New Central Library is as follows:

Spring 2012 ~ Design Development Completed (60% Complete Design Package Delivered)

- Council briefed
- Library and Design Commissions briefed
- Council Approval of Schematic Design

Spring 2013 ~ Construction Document Phase completed (100% Complete Design Package Delivered)

Spring 2013 ~ Guaranteed Maximum Price Determined and Approved by Council

Summer 2013 ~ Permits received

Summer 2013 ~ Groundbreaking Ceremony conducted

Summer 2013 ~ Construction begins

Fall 2015 ~ Construction completed

Winter 2015 ~ Grand Opening Ceremony celebrated.

**Needs Assessment/2012 Bond Process:** The Capital Planning Office requested all City of Austin departments to process their needs assessment projects through a uniform and comprehensive prioritization/planning model by Friday, January 13, 2012. The Library Department's infrastructure renewal projects which remain included in this assessment/prioritization process at this time, and in a total amount of \$9,397,340, are:

1. Pleasant Hill Branch Library HVAC Upgrade (\$566,000)
2. Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement (\$152,000)
3. Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill Roof Replacement (\$342,000)
4. University Hills Branch Library (\$1,021,340)
5. Branch Libraries RFID Conversion (\$2,152,000)
6. Renovation of Will Hampton Branch at Oak Hill (\$944,000)
7. Milwood Branch Library Renovation (\$1,117,000)
8. Austin History Center Interior Improvements (\$652,000)
9. Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler Upgrade (\$484,000)
10. Austin History Center Exterior Restorations (\$278,000)
11. Cepeda Branch Library Renovation (\$674,000)
12. Yarborough Branch Library Renovation (\$585,000)
13. Windsor Park Branch Library (\$430,000)

As part of Austin's Bond Development process, the City will host informational Speak Week kiosks from January 23rd to February 5th at popular locations around the City of

Austin. The Speak Week activities are designed to inform the community about the Bond Development process, the Bond Election Advisory Task Force, and provide an initial opportunity for community feedback on the Bond Development Guiding Principles and other priorities when considering projects for potential bond funding.

**Austin History Center Wastewater Line Retrofit Project:**

The Austin History Center Wastewater Line Retrofit Project was first advertised for bids on Monday, January 9, 2012, and a Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference was held at the Austin History Center site on Tuesday, January 17, 2012, beginning at 10:15 AM. The project involves replacing the existing 4 inch wastewater line servicing the Austin History Center, as it has partially collapsed under the weight of the parking lot shared with the Faulk Central Library, with a new 6 inch PVC wastewater line of approximately 200 linear feet. The new line will tie into the main sewer line under San Antonio Street, located on the west side of the Austin History Center. Bids are due to the City of Austin prior to 11:00 AM on Thursday, February 2, 2012. Minority/Woman-owned Business Enterprise Ordinance Compliance Plans are due prior to 3:00 PM on February 2, 2012, and bids will be opened and read publically at 3:00 PM on February 2, 2012.

**Faulk Central Library/Austin History Center Chiller and Cooling Tower Retrofit:** This project is in the final stages of completion. There are several new piping and venting requirements which the City inspectors are asking the contractor to address under the newest building code. The Library Department has agreed to make these utility modifications rather than asking that the replacement equipment be "grandfathered in" – i.e., seeking an exemption based on previously existing circumstances. The Library Department is expecting a change order proposal from its contractor for this deviation from the scope of work defined in the plans and specifications. Once written authorization is provided to the contractor for the change from the original contract, as well as the change in cost, the work can be implemented and the project closed out.

**Exterior Security Cameras Installation Project:** The installation of cabling needed for exterior cameras at all library locations has been initiated and, indeed, has been completed at the Carver and Terrazas branch libraries. The necessary asbestos abatement at the Terrazas Branch to allow penetrations of the exterior walls also was completed without incident. The cable installers will continue to pull and run cable at the remaining branches in the weeks to come. Exterior cameras are currently on order and are expected to be delivered by early February for mounting, testing and programming. The Library security team and the Communication Technology Management Department (CTM) are presently meeting weekly to provide the close collaboration that this complex, inter-departmental project requires.

**Faulk Central Library Boilers and Flue Retrofit Project:**

The Contract Management Department has been asked by the Purchasing Office to review the Owner's Project Requirements for this mechanical retrofit, including its professional engineering needs. Upon completion of their

review, the Contract Management Department will advise the Library Department if procuring design/build services for the project is appropriate to seek by means of an existing State or Federal contract to which the City of Austin has access. Design/build is a method of construction in which the contractor provides both design and construction services to an owner. If a design/build approach is not deemed suitable for this project, the Library Department will be forced to adopt the traditional and far more time-consuming process of hiring an engineer, completing the design, bidding the project to general contractors, and then awarding the contract to the low bidder to build.

**Carver Branch Library Photovoltaic System Installation Project:** On November 10, 2011, the Austin City Council authorized the negotiation and execution of a contract through the Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN) with Kellogg Brown & Root, Inc. for the installation of a solar photovoltaic system at the George Washington Carver Library and Museum site in an estimated amount not to exceed \$346,410. Funding is available through a grant awarded to the Austin Energy Department from the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO). The project team, which includes staff representatives from the Library, Austin Energy and Parks and Recreation departments, conducted a preconstruction meeting at the campus site for the contractor on Thursday, January 12, 2012. This project will result in a photovoltaic (PV) array capable of producing 66.24 kW, far greater than the production capability of the Library's current largest PV array found at the Twin Oaks Branch Library site. Project planning and coordination is now underway and the installation work is expected to commence on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 and continue into April. The Library Department anticipates full completion of the project in April, as stipulated by the funding grant, and no interruption of Library services at the site is expected.

## Austin History Center

### **Programming & Outreach**

- The AHC, in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department, offered a program, Living in Zilker Park, on Saturday, December 10. The program was a moderated "oral history" panel consisting of the last three caretakers of Zilker Park who lived in the Caretaker's Cabin on the park grounds.

### **Collections**

- Archives staff finished processing 6 collections and placed EAD encoded finding aids for these collections on the Internet at the TARO (Texas Archival Resources Online) website. These collections include the Natural Science Guild of Austin, Inc. Records, the Maria Teresa Rabago Papers, the Lucile Edna Frazier L. C. Anderson High School Photograph Collection, the Austin (Tex.). Board and Commissions. Resource Management Commission Records, the Hornberger Family Photograph Album, and the Austin Pre-School Hearing Center Records. The AHC also processed additions and updates to 2 collections: the Rebecca Fisher Papers and the Ernest Gammage Papers. 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 acquired two interesting photograph collections in December. The Lucille Edna Frazier L.

C. Anderson High School Photograph Collection was purchased from a person who salvaged them from a condemned home in East Austin. Ms. Frazier was a well known and beloved teacher at Anderson and served as the yearbook editor for many years. This collection contains hundreds of 1940s and 1950s images of students, athletic events, and school activities. The other collection is the Royce Studios Photograph Collection. Royce Studios was an Austin studio operating from the 1950s to the 1970s.

### **Publications**

- Photos from the AHC were purchased for use in the magazines *The Alcalde* (January/February 2012 issue) and *United Daughters of the Confederacy Magazine* (December 2011 issue), in the Austin360 website, and for permanent display at the Old Bakery & Emporium.

### **Exhibits**

- The Sounding Together exhibit will be open for about one more month, closing on Sunday, February 12, 2012. Work is well underway for the next exhibit, "The First Picture Shows: Historic Austin Movie Houses," scheduled to open on March 20.

## **Youth Services**

### **Children's Services**

In December, Children's Services librarians finished the Fall weekly programming season, and hosted a series of holiday parties and other special events. Heather Valdez, who worked with staff at the Pleasant Hill Branch to bring off the annual Holiday Open House at that location, writes that (APL Security Guard) John Salazar as Santa was the best part of the party: "The kids all loved it, the parents were patient about waiting to see him, and we had that warm fuzzy feeling you get when everything works out." Santa's visits to many APL programs and events in December are always popular with customers, and staff are particularly grateful to John and the other APL staff who play the role so well.

In addition to prepping for and presenting programming in December, Children's Services librarians took advantage of the light programming schedule to get ready themselves for a full slate of spring programs and events. They pulled books for storytime, chose themes, organized plans for book clubs and after school Book Circle programs, and made requests for flyers and other publicity to support their efforts. Also, Children's Services Librarians made use of the slower weeks in December to tend to youth materials collections in their assorted locations. Throughout the system, they selected overused or outdated materials to discard, and made requests of centralized selectors for particular items or classes of materials that need to be replaced or restocked in their locations.

### **Teen Services**

In December, Teen Services continued a very busy hiring schedule aimed at starting new staff early in 2012. Staff concluded the hiring process for Teen Services Librarian at the Carver Branch Library, selecting Lela Ellison to join the team from a prior position at the Millwood Branch Library. This position will assist with the grant work which is a cornerstone of Teen Services efforts, and of the Connected

Youth Project. Soleil Kibodeaux-Posey will start as our first Discovery Lab Intern in January 2012. The Discovery Lab Intern will assist with the program at Oak Springs, in a new computer lab separate from the Connected Youth project. The Discovery Lab will be devoted to science and technology literacy. Kids will undertake a variety of activities there when it is finally able to open its doors early in 2012. The Teen Services Team also continues to prepare for the holiday season, offering innovative activities and programs such as drawing clubs and book discussion groups.

### **Programming/Outreach Services**

In December, Program Services presented the last of the Beauty and the Beast puppet shows in library and at outreach locations that included the Bob Bullock Texas History Museum and the Dougherty Arts Center. Puppet presentations for November and December 2011 reached over 1900 audience members. Production for next season's show *Tortuga del Mar* was also in rehearsal during December and will roll out January 13th.

Program Services joined with Highland Mall for a holiday presentation – Storytime with Santa. 250 participants learned about storytime and other library services during this outreach event.

Kids in Space programs continued into December featuring Burton Fitzsimmons, Chief Meteorologist for YNN. The Kids in Space series served 412 participants. Planning is underway for the February 2012 Austin Energy Annual Regional Science Fest to culminate the Kids in Space series.

Planning for the Leaf for a Leaf Family Library Day continued in December and the program will take place, January 14th featuring the "green" puppet show Mr. Tamarin's Trees.

Annex staff took part in the Library's annual Mock Newbery and Mock Caldecott discussion and selection meetings. Staff assisted with the Mario Kart Family Gaming Tournament at Cepeda Branch. Planning is underway for the upcoming AVANCE Early Literacy training sessions for Spanish speaking parents and for the Seedling Foundation mentor volunteers. These sessions will be underway in January.

Program Services continues to collaborate with PARD through the Dougherty Arts Center Artsreach events and the Tuesday Tales @ the DAC Literature LIVE! events. Final calendar dates are in process for confirmation to roll out in February. Planning for the annual Summer Reading Program is already underway selecting presenters for the summer roster.

## **Central Branch Services**

In December, Ben Sorrels, long-time Branch Manager for Pleasant Hill retired, he was replaced by Kathleen Kanarski former manager of North Village.

Branch Services' Best Managed Plan – involving the introduction of unique service models for APL branches –



was shared with both the Library Management and Bert Lumberras, Assistant City Manager. The presentation consisted of a brief history of each location, a diagram indicating the changes to the organizational structure after regionalizing, six guiding principles to which ACBR will adhere as we move forward, the possible implementation of service models in the branches, moving forward and the best way to do that as we consider the challenges that lie ahead.

## **Central Library Services**

ACLS Reference Librarians: researched other libraries' use of PayPal for Brenda Branch; answered questions about downloadables and OverDrive; wrote procedures and assisted customers with the new Nooks and Kindles they received at Christmas. Reference Librarians Carolyn Rogers, Rachel Cummins, Lisa Hamilton, and Blair Parsons assisted Brazos Price with the launch of the new APL website.

ACLS staff taught classes at the Carver Computer and Job Search Lab.

## **Recycled Reads**

December revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$18,000 and over 5,000 people visited the store.

More than twenty volunteers on average donate over 200 hours of their time to the bookstore. More than 15 pallets of materials from the warehouse were processed and over 350 individual donations from the public were received. Approximately 18 pallets of materials were sorted representing over 36,000 items. Good Will picked up over 25 gaylords of material, and approximately 11 tons of materials were diverted from the landfill. Media is now being picked up by Image Microsystems, who increased their pick-up to 6 pallets of materials.

ARR participated in this year's Austin Corps intern program with AISD. Four High School students will be participating with the bookstore on Wednesdays and Fridays to create how-to training videos that can be post on the website and Facebook on upcycling crafts.

## **Volunteer Services**

### **OCTOBER 2011 - STATISTICS**

Number of Volunteers	161
OCTOBER - Volunteer hours	1587.70
Volunteer Value*	\$ 21.36
	<b>\$33,913.27</b>

## **December Incidents**

- 36 Disturbing others using the Library
- 20 Harassment/Sexual harassment of Library staff or customers
- 17 Disorderly conduct
- 16 Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials, or equipment
- 12 Violating Internet Policy
- 12 Using obscene language

- 11 Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
- 11 Sleeping in the Library
- 11 Leaving personal belongings unattended
- 10 Entering unauthorized areas
- 8 Appropriate clothing is required
- 8 Bringing food or drink into the Library
- 7 Theft of Library, staff, or customer property
- 6 Destruction of Library property
- 5 Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
- 5 Unintended use of restrooms
- 3 Abandoning children or failing to supervise children at the Library
- 3 Bringing in bedrolls, blankets or sleeping bags.
- 3 Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
- 2 Bringing animals into the Library
- 2 Strong Odor
- 1 Fighting
- 1 Indecent exposure
- 1 Voyeurism and peeping
- 1 Public Lewdness

## **212 Total**

### **Locations # of Incidents**

ACE	58
ASJ	11
ACB	10
ATB	10
AUH	9
AWP	8
AMR	7
ARZ	7
ASE	6
ATO	6
AHC	3
ALW	3
ANV	3
AOS	3
ASR	3
AOK	2
AMI	2
APH	2
ACP	1
AHO	1
AOQ	1

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit

**<http://library.austintexas.gov/events>**

Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries

