

### **Highlights**

- The Texas Library Association Annual Conference will be April 17-20-15 in Houston at the Convention Center
- The New Fiction Confab will be April 21 at 2 p.m. at the John Henry Faulk Central Library
- The AHC's new exhibit, "The First Picture Shows: Historic Austin Movie Houses," opens March 20. The opening reception will be Tuesday, April 3, at 6:30 p.m.
- The AHC will host a special reception to highlight the history of South Asian Americans in Austin on Tuesday, April 17 from 6 to 8 p.m
- The 2012 Mayor's Book Club will feature the 2011 National Book Award-Winner, Salvage the Bones by Jesmyn Ward. The schedule of events:
  - The opening event is scheduled for Saturday, March 31, 1:00pm at the JHF Central Library.
  - Book Discussion with Dr. Helena Woodard, English Professor, University of Texas
  - Windsor Park Branch, Tuesday, April 10, 7:00pm – 8:30pm
  - Book Discussion with author Amanda Eyre Ward, Manchaca Branch Wednesday, April 18, 6:30pm – 8:00pm
  - Film Screening, Trouble the Water, Carver Library, Thursday, April 26, 7:00pm

### **Facilities Services**

**New Central Library Project:** On Thursday and Friday, March 1 and March 2, 2012, the core team for the New Central Library Project met all day to review and understand each design activity included in the Design Development phase, including quality control drawings, constructability review, and the level of completeness expected for the various layers behind the façade, or "skin details" – the materials such as steel, aluminum and/or glass that will make up the exterior walls of the building. An engineering coordination meeting for the chilled water pipe installation was conducted by Austin Energy on Tuesday, March 6, 2012, bringing together the engineering teams for the Green Water Treatment Plant Redevelopment Project, the Seaholm Power Plant Redevelopment Project, and the New Central Library Project in order to insure that the installation of chilled water piping – especially the pipe elevations in the ground in relationship to the other utilities – goes smoothly for the Lower Shoal Creek District. On Wednesday, March 7, 2012, Design Forum # 3 was held at Austin Energy's Town Lake Center for the Seaholm Substation AIPP Wall Project. Dan Gallagher of NADAAA reviewed the updated and Council approved Schematic Design, addressed issues raised during the approval process, and collaborated with attendees at the Design Forum to provide direction to the artists as they proceed through Design Development. On Monday, March 12, 2012, the New Central Library design team made a project presentation to the Waterfront Planning Advisory Board and requested a variance request for a slight encroachment within the Overlay setback. The Board voted 3–2 to

grant the variance, however, according to the Waterfront Planning Advisory Board bylaws, a 3-2 vote constitutes "no recommendation" rather than approval. Fortunately for the project, one of the negatively voting board members reversed his position the next day. The Contract Management Department will make a presentation to the New Central Library Executive Team on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 regarding the process used to gain Council's authorization for construction projects. Issues being addressed by the New Central Library project management team at this time include: West Avenue elevations and their interface with the building's loading dock elevations, site water quality requirements, the effect of floodplain elevations on library's subsurface structure, green roof construction research, and the development of parkland adjacent to the central library site. 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

December 2012 ~ Construction Cost Limitation approved by Council

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

August 2013 ~ Permits received

November 2013 ~ Groundbreaking Ceremony conducted

December 2013 ~ Construction begins

December 2015 ~ Construction completed

Spring 2016 ~ Grand Opening Ceremony celebrated.

### **Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Capital Improvement Program**

**Plan:** In order to maintain its inventory of property in acceptable condition to be used by the community, the Austin Public Library is requesting that three (3), critically needed facility improvement projects receive funding appropriations in upcoming Fiscal Year 2012-2013:

- RFID Installation Project for Three Branch Libraries (\$515,000) ~ The Austin Public Library, like most major urban library systems across the country, is in the process of converting its collection management/security system from an electromagnetic based system to more efficient Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology. RFID technology reduces the number of staff hours required to check-in, check-out and search for collection items, while RFID self-check units have proven to be far easier for customers to use. The new North Village and Twin Oaks branch libraries are both equipped with RFID systems, as will be the New Central Library at opening. For seamless management and tracking of the collections, all library

locations need to function with the same technology. The Austin Public Library proposes to upgrade the equipment at its facilities to RFID technology incrementally, beginning with our busiest branch locations: the Will Hampton Branch at Oak Hill, the Milwood Branch, and the Spicewood Springs Branch libraries. This project is a Business Priority of the Austin Public Library, will provide tangible improvement to service delivery and access, and increases the operational efficiency of infrastructure.

- Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement Project( \$240,442) ~ The existing roof of the 8,300 square foot Pleasant Hill Branch Library is original equipment dating from the time of construction in 1985. Its present deteriorated condition requires that it be replaced in its entirety with a new, modified-bitumen, highly reflective and sustainable roof to protect the building's interiors and contents.
- Pleasant Hill Branch Library HVAC Upgrade Project (\$998,400) ~ The failing HVAC (heating, ventilation and air-conditioning) system at the Pleasant Hill Branch Library is original equipment dating from the time of construction in 1985 and must be thoroughly retrofitted now. Completion of this pressing mechanical upgrade project will enable the Library Department to once again provide dependable interior climate control for customers at this busy community library.

**2012 Bond Development Process:** On Thursday, February 23, 2012, Library staff presented the City Facilities Committee of the Bond Election Advisory Task force with the capital needs assessment projects of the Library Department. Ranked in order of the number of Council-approved guiding principles criteria which applied to each specific project and totaling \$8,042,000, these projects for the Library Department are:

1. University Hills Branch Library Parking Lot Expansion (\$1,022,000)
2. Zaragoza Warehouse Fire Sprinkler System Upgrade (\$497,000)
3. Austin History Center Interior & Exterior Improvements (\$1,168,000)
4. Renovation of Will Hampton Branch Library at Oak Hill (\$1,340,000)
5. Milwood Branch Library Renovation (\$1,066,000)
6. Pleasant Hill Branch Library Roof Replacement & HVAC Upgrade (\$1,234,000)
7. Cepeda Branch Library Renovation (\$684,000)
8. Yarborough Branch Library Renovation (\$592,000)
9. Windsor Park Branch Library Renovation (\$439,000)

The City of Austin has opened an online survey at [SpeakUpAustin.org](http://SpeakUpAustin.org) so that the public might easily provide feedback to our municipal bond development process. Starting the third week of March, the City of Austin will go out into the community to host project-specific workshops in four locations around Austin. These workshops will provide Austin residents with the opportunity to learn more about the bond development program and potential bond projects, participate in a group exercise in which they are asked how they would spend potential bond funds, and interact one-on-one with staff from the various City departments. The four scheduled workshops will be held:

- Tuesday, March 20th, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the First Evangelical Free Church, 4220 Monterrey

- Oaks Blvd. (Southwest quadrant)
- Wednesday, March 21st, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Gus Garcia Recreation Center, 1201 East Rundberg Ln. (Northeast quadrant)
- Monday, March 26th, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Dove Springs Recreation Center, 5801 Ainez Dr. (Southeast quadrant)
- Saturday, March 31st, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at Anderson High School, 8403 Mesa Dr. (Northwest quadrant)

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

On Wednesday, March 14, 2012, the professional service agreement was terminated between the City of Austin and the consultant engineering firm for the Austin History Center Wastewater Line Retrofit Project. The consultant will be paid for acceptable services completed on the project prior to the effective date of termination. The consultant has been instructed to wind up business operations with respect to the project in an orderly fashion and to submit to the Library Department within seven (7) days all work and documents prepared for the project. The Library Department will continue the project and will acquire the necessary engineering services to complete the work. In that effort, the Library Department will have the existing engineering documents completed, corrected, revised or added to by another design professional as required.

**Faulk Central Library/Austin History Center Chiller and Cooling Tower Retrofit:**

The Austin Public Library and its project partner, Austin Energy, have accepted the contractor's change order proposal for exhaust system modifications needed to bring the Faulk Central Library basement chiller room within compliance to new Mechanical codes. The building permit for these modifications is currently being pulled by the contractor, and the Library anticipates that the work will be initiated as soon as the permit is issued. In the meantime, exhaust equipment is being researched to find models that will both meet the project's specifications and are readily available. The work required to enact the desired building engineering modifications is not expected to exceed six weeks from issuance of the permit, nor is the work expected to cause any interruption of normal business at the Faulk Central Library and Austin History Center complex.

**Exterior Security Cameras Installation Project:** Exterior camera installations for the Austin Public Library have been delayed to allow a review by the City of Austin of the need for grounding of exterior devices prior to the installation of new devices. On Thursday, March 22, 2012, the project management team will review draft specifications for grounding of exterior devices. The Communications Technology Management project manager is presently compiling additional data for City of Austin Legal's review of the liabilities of the lightning damages that occurred on January 25, 2012 at a Austin Water Utility building. The City of Austin will establish the jurisdictional responsibilities for system grounding, equipment grounding, isolated grounding and lightning protection grounding before moving forward with any exterior security camera installations. The Austin Public Library is anticipating an additional fee proposal this month from the contractor in response to these grounding issues.

### **Faulk Central Library Boilers and Flue Retrofit**

**Project:** Since Thursday, February 9, 2012, the Library Department has been in negotiation with a firm selected from the City of Austin M.E.P Rotation List to provide engineering services for the Faulk Central Library Boilers and Flue Retrofit Project. In addition to the Scope of Work Report provided by the Library Department and in order to refine their proposal, the consultant engineers sought detailed clarification on such critical items as the size of the existing boilers, access to the boilers, access and condition of the flue, pump sizes and the availability of "as-built" drawings. On Thursday, March 1, 2012, the Library Department received the consultants' proposal to provide engineering services for the project and are reviewing it to insure that such items as cost estimating, permitting, Quality Assurance/Quality Control, preliminary engineering report (PER), and pre-bid meeting attendance are included. The Library Department is also considering adding Commissioning for the project to the scope of this engineering services agreement.

### **Branch Libraries Photovoltaic System Installation**

**Project:** This joint Austin Energy/Austin Public Library project will accomplish installing solar panels on the roofs of the Carver, Spicewood Springs, Cepeda and Ruiz branch libraries, and a successful preconstruction meeting for the work was conducted at the Carver Branch on Thursday, February 2, 2012. The solar panel array planned for the Carver Branch Library will, incidentally, be the largest such installation in the Library's inventory of properties and one of the largest planned to date for any City of Austin facility. The Carver solar panel project will consist of a roof mounted system on stanchions and will take advantage of an existing chase for cabling to keep roof penetrations to a minimum. The construction permit was issued on Thursday, March 15, 2012, and work of laying out conduit paths has begun while equipment is being delivered to the site. March rains have slowed progress somewhat, but Austin Energy and the Austin Public Library remains confident that the contractor will meet the Federal grant deadline of April 30, 2012 for the work to be wrapped up. Work is planned to begin at the other three library sites within the next several weeks.

**Oak Springs Branch Library Name Change:** On Thursday, February 2, 2012, the Austin City Council approved an ordinance renaming the Oak Springs Branch Library, located at 3101 Oak Springs Drive, the Willie Mae Kirk Branch Library. To assist the Library Department with this Council directive, the Purchasing Office has issued an RQS (Request for Qualification Statements) for the replacement of the monument sign and the building sign at the former Oak Springs Branch Library. The due date for quotes for this RQS was extended from Thursday, February 23, 2012, to Wednesday, February 29, 2012 in an effort to secure proposals from more responders. However, only one complete quote was received, as most sign vendors could only provide signage and did not have the ability to remove the old signage. A purchase order for the work will be issued to the responsive vendor as soon as all the sub-contracting requirements of the Department of Small and Minority Business Resources has been met. A dedication ceremony for the renamed branch will be conducted by

the Library Department after the building's original signage has been deconstructed and replaced. Depending on how expeditiously work progresses, it may prove possible to schedule this Open House celebration as early as May, 2012.

## Austin History Center

### **Programming & Outreach**

- African American Liaison, Cynthia Evans, participated in extensive outreach in February. On February 7 she participated in a panel discussion at the Windsor Park Branch about Black History Month. On February 18, she had a booth at the Huston Tillotson African American Heritage Festival. On February 29, she gave a presentation to over 50 people at the Texas Department of Health and Human Services' African American Heritage event.
- On February 5, Manager Mike Miller presented "Historic Austin: A Landmark Tour" to the Austin Primetimers, with 40 people in attendance.
- Assistant Manager Nancy Toombs provided two tours of the AHC to outside groups. She played host to a group of Boy Scouts on February 9, helping them earn their history badge. On February 24, she gave a tour and orientation to 26 8th grade students from the Waldorf School.

### **Collections**

- Archives staff finished processing 5 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 Women's Symphony League of Austin Records, the Austin Parks and Recreation Department, Treaty Oak Collection, the International Women's Day Community Media Festival Records, the Arlene Youngblood Funeral Program Collection, and the James Mulkey Owens, Jr. 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).
- As part of its upcoming exhibit on historic theaters, the AHC has acquired some important collections and images related to movie theater history. Jay Podolnick donated the Trans Texas Theaters Inc Papers, which includes photos, clippings and printed material for theaters owned by Earl and Lena Podolnick including the Americana, the Chief and the Southwood. Also, John D. Stewart donated digital images of historic Austin movie theaters including behind the scenes images of projectionists and their work.
- Another significant acquisition this month was a collection about the Austin Equal Citizenship Corp, which was the precursor to the COA Human Relations Commission and investigated incidents of discrimination in Austin in the 1960s.

### **Publications**

- Photos from the AHC were purchased for use in two upcoming books: Racial Dynamics in Early 20th Century Austin, Texas (Lexington Books, 2012) and a history of the Supreme Court of Texas (UT Press, 2012). Additionally, images were purchased for display in Elaine's Pork & Pig Restaurant and the Wukash Company.

### **Exhibits**

- The AHC's new exhibit, "The First Picture Shows: Historic Austin Movie Houses," opens March 20. The exhibit explores the many film venues throughout Austin's

history, from the first motion picture screening in 1896 to the rise of the multiplexes. The exhibit will be on display from March 20 until August 19, 2012.

### **Staff News**

- Asian American liaison Esther Chung was appointed to the Asian Pacific American Historical Society Board of Directors. This is a new, national organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the history of Asians and Pacific Americans in the south.

## **Central Library Services**

### **Mayor's Book Club**

This year's book is *Salvage the Bones*, by Jesmyn Ward. The Faulk Central Library will host the opening event with Mayor Lee Leffingwell introducing Jesmyn Ward. In addition to a reading by the author, there will be a brief Q & A followed by a reception and book signing.

### **Reorganization at Central**

Central staff continued with the reorganization on the second floor of Central. Reference books, magazines and newspapers and Bound Periodicals have been weeded and moved. The most popular Bound Periodicals remain on the shelves, while others were either stored for the New Central Library or withdrawn. The empty ranges were moved to make more shelving space for the \$600,000 of CIP materials coming this year and the \$1 Million coming in FY 14 and the \$1 Million in FY15.

All new Adult Fiction and Non-Fiction will be shelved on the second floor in the newly expanded and rearranged area behind the Reference Desk to the west windows. The New Immigrants Center was removed due to lack of use. The periodical indexes and index tables were also removed to make space for the new Events Area on the Northeast end of the 2nd floor. Removing the large periodical ranges opened up the area and people comment that they like the additional light. The study tables have also been rearranged and the grouping has made the Library a pleasant and quiet place to study. Next month, staff will be expanding the DVD and CD areas of the first floor into the former "Recent" Adult Fiction and Non-fiction areas. Central received its first Blu-Rays this month.

## **Youth Services**

### **Children's Services**

In February, Children's Services Librarians began laying the groundwork for a forthcoming Storytime Training that staff hopes to offer on an annual basis to all APL staff. This will inform how staff mentors and trains new ACYS librarians who take on storytime programming. Additionally, Children's Services Librarians continued their usual busy schedules throughout the Library system. Ann Minner, of AHO and AOK, reports that the NBTween Book Club she began in January is growing. In February, the group read "Nerd Camp," and made "nerd glasses" while discussing the book. At Debbie Keith's storytimes at AOQ and ASR in Early February, the participants were treated to timely "Souper Bowl" themes. Elizabeth Murphy reports that "The Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler" was a particular success for the NBTween Book Club at AYB, with the parents discussing their first encounters with the classic title and their memories of

early trips to New York, and the younger participants discussing their first impressions of this favorite title for generations. Celia Holm participated in a reading night hosted by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, then hosted a group from that event for a tour and library card signup at ALW shortly thereafter. One of the parents on the tour was so excited about the Library's services and resources that she registered her then-present preschooler for a card and came back after school was out that day with her seven-year-old to register him for a card as well!

### **Teen Services**

In February, the Teen Services Team ramped up its planning for YomiCon, the flagship Summer Reading Program event for Teens. Staff anticipates crowds of around 1,200 this year, and are arranging publicity, online registration, the blog, and much more in support of this event. Meanwhile, the finishing touches were put on the plan for a Hunger Games event for March. This event is the first that has been primarily planned by one of our Connected Youth Interns, Jen Zavaglia, with organizing assistance from Teen Services Librarian Michelle Beebower. And at the new Discovery Lab facility, computer hardware and furniture were installed in anticipation of a late March opening. Staff finalized offers for four new Connected Youth Interns to start in late March as well. These programs continue to drive innovation and activity within Teen Services' unique offerings. While they take significant time to execute, they also offer significant rewards for our team, our program, and young people across Austin.

### **Programming/Outreach Services**

Kathleen Houlihan contributed an article for the recently published authoritative book *Partnerships and Collaborations in Public Library Communities: Resources and Solutions*, edited by Karen Ellis. Her chapter outlines the creation of the Second Chance Books Program and evolution to the present day.

Although staff celebrates African American culture year round, the month of February always brings an intentional focus on African American Heritage Month. Literature LIVE! presented *Echoes of Africa* at multiple library locations and at Patton Elementary School's annual Arts Day Festival. Children and adults alike learned about African culture and elements of Africa that have influenced life in the United States of America. Close to 500 people attended these programs presented by Ambray Gonzales.

In addition, the Literature LIVE! troupe presented 15 shows in February of the Tortuga del Mar puppet show for 1161 audience members. The Austin Museum of Art, the Dougherty Arts Center, and Recycled Reads Book Store featured performances in their venues. Literature LIVE! continues to reach out to community members new to Austin and new to the library through the power of story.

Also on the roster for February was an adaptation of the puppet show *Rumpelstiltskin* for an all adult COA meeting. Here are comments by Director Branch regarding this presentation: I can't tell you how proud I

was watching Literature LIVE! perform at the Director's meeting. The directors were totally engaged and the City Manager thoroughly enjoyed the show. Mike Trimble was not exaggerating when he said that it was the first standing ovation anyone has ever received at a Director's meeting (and I have been attending for 20 years). You represented APL in an exemplary way. Thank you for being the exceptional employees that you are! So kudo's to Devo Carpenter and Ellen Scott, puppeteers.

Karen Carlson was at the helm to bring APL's presence to Austin Energy Regional Science Festival 2012. Assisting staff included Sarah Cronin, Lela Ellison, Debbie Keith, Kathleen Loglisci, Raquel Merlo, Suzan Nyfeler and featured guest presenter Chief Meteorologist from YNN, Burton Fitzsimmons! Reaching over 600 participants, information about the solar system and elements of space weather were shared with a direct link back to APL for future science reference and resource gathering.

Karen Carlson was also on board to finish out another successful Leaf for a Leaf year of programs, classes, and special events. With funding from Austin Energy and in collaboration with the Urban Forestry Division of the Austin Parks and Recreation Department, APL joined in the activities designed to celebrate trees and libraries. Community members were encouraged to borrow library books as a way to reduce the number of trees used to manufacture paper. Approximately 50 participants joined in the finale event at the Ricky Guerrero Park.

Literature LIVE! has also been working behind the scenes on the upcoming storytelling production of Mother Goose on the Loose and a puppet show production of an Asian tale from the book Tiger Woman authored by Laurence Yep. Stay tuned, more stories are on their way!

### Grant Services

Kathleen Houlihan, Youth Program Librarian, received a shipment of 92 books to catalog and add to the Second Chance book collection from the Distribution to Underserved Communities Library Program.

This program distributes contemporary art and culture-related materials free of charge to libraries serving underserved populations in order to enrich and diversify library collections available to the underserved. Over ninety publishers participate in providing free materials to libraries who apply for the program. DUC operates under the program Art Resources Transfer, Inc., a non-profit organization with a commitment to document and support artists' voices and work, making these voices accessible to the broadest possible audience.

### Recycled Reads

February revenue for Recycled Reads was approximately \$14,800 and over 4,400 people visited the store.

More than twenty volunteers on average donate over 200 hours of their time to the bookstore. More than 30 pallets of materials from the warehouse were processed and over 260 individual donations from the public were received. Approximately 15 pallets of materials were sorted representing over 55,000 items. Good Will picked up over 27 gaylords of material, and approximately 10.5

tons of materials were diverted from the landfill. Image Microsystems picked-up 4 pallets of materials.

Manager Mindy Reed began acting Branch Manager responsibilities at AOQ.

### Volunteer Services

#### FEBRUARY 2012 - STATISTICS

Number of Volunteers	174
JANUARY - Volunteer hours	1674.03
Volunteer Value*	\$ 21.36
	<b>\$35,757.28</b>

### February Incidents

31	Disturbing others using the Library
29	Harassment of Library staff or customers (Not Sexual)
15	Using obscene language
14	Disorderly conduct
12	Mistreatment or vandalism of Library facilities, materials, or equipment
12	No hat policy
9	Violating Internet Policy
9	Intoxication resulting from alcohol or drugs
9	Theft of Library, staff, or customer property
7	Sleeping in the Library
7	No outside food or beverages allowed in the Library
6	Blocking access to Library entrances, passageways or resources
6	Leaving personal belongings unattended
6	Destruction of Library property
5	Abandoning children or failing to supervise children at the Library
5	Sexual harassment of Library staff or customers
4	Physically attack or threaten to attack another person
3	Bringing in bedrolls, blankets or sleeping bags.
3	Fighting
3	Entering unauthorized areas
3	Unintended use of restrooms
2	Unlawfully carrying or displaying weapons
1	Bringing animals into the Library
1	Smoking in the Library
1	Appropriate clothing is required
1	Strong Odor

**204 Total**

### Locations # of Incidents

ACE	39
ARZ	16
AWP	13
ATB	12
ACB	12
AOK	10
ALW	10
ASR	7
ASE	7
ACP	7
ASJ	6
APH	6
AMR	6
AUH	5
ATO	4

ARR 2  
AOS 2  
AYB 1  
AOQ 1  
ANV 1  
AHO 1

To see the complete up to date listing of events visit

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

Brenda Branch, Director of Libraries

