



## News from the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library

Volume 29, Number 5

September–October 2017



<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-the-San-Antonio-Public-Library/363234420407307>

### *From the President*

Dear Friends,

As “Hannibal,” the leader of “the A-Team,” used to say, “I love it when a plan comes together!” — especially when that plan is to acquire a healthy FY 2018 budget for the San Antonio Public Library. Thanks to all of you who contacted your current City Council representative to tell him or her that you love your library (and why!); thanks to the Board of Trustees for their communications strategy; thanks to the members of the Library Foundation board for their effective advocacy; and thanks to City Manager **Sheryl Sculley**, whose proposed budget included significant additional funding (nearly \$2.4M) for the library system. If approved by the City Council on Sept. 14, the budget would include:

- Additional funding for library books and materials – \$450K
- Computer replacements at some library locations – \$485K
- Cody Branch furniture and carpet replacement – \$100K
- Pan American Branch renovation – \$150K
- Thousand Oaks Branch renovation – \$112K
- Building and site improvements at Landa, Semmes, Tobin, and Bazan – \$1.1M

And while library staff is hoping that future projects are funded, there are construction projects currently underway (with completion dates scheduled for September):

- Expansion and relocation of the Latino Collection and Resource Center to the first floor of the Central Library, which will allow specialized programming, gallery, and study spaces
- Interior and exterior restoration and improvements to the Hannah Landa Memorial Library, with appropriate attention to the historical attributes of this 70-year-old building
- Installation of security cameras and card access systems for seven branches, and requisite staff training

So before you head back to school or to plant those Fall tomatoes in the backyard, send a “thank you!” note to the City Manager, Mayor, and City Council for their commitment—and Friendship—to the San Antonio Public Library.

Cheers,

*Nancy Gandara*



### Friends of San Antonio Public Library to honor three at Arts & Letters Awards

#### 2017 marks event's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary

The Friends of the San Antonio Public Library will recognize two visual artists and a musician at their 2017 Arts & Letters Awards ceremony, scheduled for **2:00 p.m., Sunday, October 22, at the Central Library**, 600 Soledad, San Antonio, Texas 78205.

The honorees are:

**Bill FitzGibbons**, a sculptor and light artist who creates large-scale installations for public spaces. His work has been shown from Alaska to San Antonio to Sweden to India. Mr. FitzGibbons has been an arts educator and served as executive director of the Blue Star Contemporary Art Museum.

**Henry Brun**, Jazz Latino musician. Mr. Brun has performed in Mexico, Cuba, and Puerto Rico, as well as across the U.S. He has served as chair of the City of San Antonio Cultural Advisory Board. Currently he is working on an Afro-Caribbean project, scheduled to debut at the Carver Cultural Center in 2018.

**Laurel Gibson**, multi-media artist. Ms. Gibson works in a variety of media, from ceramics to fabric art to paper. She is the 2016–2017 National Artist for the Old Spanish Trail Organization. She teaches classes for seniors at Bihl House Arts. Most recently, she has begun a series of works created on music rolls for player pianos.

The Friends of the Library Arts & Letters Awards were first presented in 1972 to “recognize and celebrate achievement by individuals who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in the arts and letters.” Past recipients have included **Janette Sebring Lowrey** (author of children’s classic *The Poky Little Puppy*), architect **O’Neil Ford**, actor **Tommy Lee Jones**, singer **Rosita Fernández**, **Lyn Belisle**, **Gini García**, **Jacques Barzun**, **Sandra Cisneros**, **Rick Riordan**, **Jay Brandon**, and **Naomi Shihab Nye**.

The event is free and open to the public. We request and encourage you RSVP at <https://form.jotform.us/72265489317162>.

### Call for BookCellar Volunteers

The BookCellar is in need of volunteers! We are short staffed on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays (p.m. shift), Fridays, and Sundays.

Come visit us in the basement of the Central Library, or call us at 210-227-9519.

# Friends of the San Antonio Public Library Board Meeting

Sunday, July 16, 2017

Submitted by **Beth Graham**, Secretary

The Board of the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL) met on Sunday, July 16, 2017, at the Landa Branch Library. President **Nancy Gandara** called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Secretary **Beth Graham** called the roll and declared that a quorum was present.

Board members present were: **Nancy Gandara**, **Kim Cauthon**, **Linda Cheatum**, **Beth Graham**, **Liz Alves**, **Beverly Duran**, **José Duran**, **Antoinette Franklin**, **Bruce Gill**, **Linda Janney**, **Yolanda Kirkpatrick**, **Robert Mason**, **Mary McAfee**, **Pat Mendiola**, **Delia Trimble**, and **Jill Zimmerman**.

Other Friends members in attendance included **Jean Brady**, member of the San Antonio Public Library Board of Trustees; and **Diana Sánchez**, Cody Branch Library.

## Approval of Minutes:

**Mary McAfee** moved acceptance of the minutes of the January 22, 2017, meeting of the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library. **José Durán** asked that the minutes be corrected to show him as having been present at the meeting and seconded the minutes with that correction; motion was approved.

**President's Report:** **Nancy Gandara** reported that tickets to *Matilda* at the Majestic had been donated to the Great Northwest Friends and put into a fundraising raffle. She was on hand to draw the winning entry. She attended the Brook Hollow Friends staff appreciation event and meetings of the Johnston and Landa Friends. She attended an organizational

meeting for a Friends group at the new Schaefer Branch Library, but there were not enough present to elect officers; a second meeting will be held in the fall. She attended a meeting of the Executive Committee to set the agenda for the July 16 meeting, and meetings of the Newsletter Committee and BookCellar Committee, which would be reported on separately.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer **Linda Cheatum** presented the Treasurer's Report for May and June 2017. **Mary McAfee** moved that the report be accepted; **José Durán** seconded; the motion passed without opposition. **Nancy Gandara** thanked **José Durán** for suggesting that a column be added to the Treasurer's Report to show actual expenditures vs. budget.

## LIAISON REPORTS

**Library Administration:** Assistant Library Director for Public Service **Dale McNeill** advised that the Library Board and management were working on the library proposal for the Fiscal Year 2018 City of San Antonio Budget. Priority is being placed on the materials budget and improvements to and expansion of outreach to children. The City Manager is expected to present the proposed budget to City Council in early August.

Dale noted that the 2017 bond issue had passed. Library projects that were approved included \$3 million for the first floor and children's department at the Central Library; \$700,000 for the Texana/ Genealogy Department (to be

matched by funds raised by the Library Foundation); \$900,000 for refurbishing the Forest Hills Branch Library; \$1.7 million for renovations to the Las Palmas Branch Library; \$2.5 million for McCreless Branch Library renovations; and \$3.3 million to upgrade the Memorial Branch Library. **Nancy Gandara** asked what the timeline was for work to begin on these projects. Dale replied that the first step was open selection of architects, a city-wide initiative that would cover all measures approved on the bond initiative, and that this would begin in the late fall. Architects would then be assigned to specific projects, and a timeline for each project developed. **Nancy** noted that the communities in the Forest Hills and Memorial areas were especially concerned to know when the library and/or the architects would request public input on those projects. Dale advised that the public comment period would begin when the selected architects had submitted preliminary design concepts, and that public input would be solicited through many different channels, including public meetings.

## Library Board of Trustees:

Board member **Jean Brady** thanked the Friends for their support. She asked that all Friends members present write notes to their council representatives supporting the library, and passed out postcards so that the meeting could take a few minutes to compose messages at that time. She also distributed T-shirts supporting the library to members who were interested.

*Minutes cont on p 3.*



The Friends, inaugurated March 23, 1964, promote

public use of the San Antonio Public Library and appreciation of its value as a cultural and educational asset to the community and encourage the extension and improvement of its services.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Nancy Gandara** .....President  
**Kim Cauthon** ..... Vice President  
**Beth Graham** ..... Secretary  
**Linda Cheatum** ..... Treasurer  
**Karen Matson** ..... Immediate Past Pres

## MEMBERSHIP

**SECRETARY** ..... Open

## BOARD MEMBERS

### 2016–2018 Term:

**Arline Braswell** • **Shirley Coleman**  
**Jose Duran** • **Antoinette Franklin**  
**Bruce Gill** • **Beverly Harris** • **Linda Janney** • **Mary McAfee** • **Rowena Rodgers** • **Veronica Rouse**  
**Sandra Wilkinson** • **Jill Zimmerman**

### 2017–2019 Term:

**Liz Alves** • **Linda Arronge**  
**Beverly Duran** • **Yolanda Kirkpatrick**  
**Pat Konstam** • **Robert Mason**  
**Pat Mendiola** • **Pat Peak**  
**Stephanie Serrata** • **Delia Trimble**

## SAPLINGS

Managing Editor ..... **Alana Woods**

Newsletter is published every two months and can also be seen at [www.friendsofsapl.org](http://www.friendsofsapl.org).

Deadlines for submitting articles and photos are February 10, April 10, June 10, August 10, October 10, and December 10.

Submittals should be a simple text or a Word file emailed to **Alana Woods**, [alana005@yahoo.com](mailto:alana005@yahoo.com), or mailed to her at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., San Antonio, TX 78238.

Article contributions for the newsletter are always welcome!

## NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

**Lyn Belisle** .....Chair  
**Beth Graham** • **Angela Ehrenfried**  
**David Parsons** • **Stephanie Serrata** • **Alana Woods**  
**Nancy Gandara** .....Ex Officio

**San Antonio Public Library Foundation:** No report.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**BookCellar:** **Linda Cheatum** reported for Richard Morales, who was out of town. She stated that the Book Cellar had year-to-date sales of \$43,946.65, and that the donation box had collected \$617.50. She said that the BookCellar badly needed volunteers. The commitment would be 4 hours once a week, and almost all shifts needed extra personnel. She advised that the BookCellar had received a new shipment of books donated by the *Express-News*, from books sent to the paper for reviews.

**Membership Secretary:** Acting Membership Secretary **Linda Cheatum** noted that current membership stood at 853. Five new members were added during the previous month. A total of 176 former members did not renew their membership. Linda reminded the meeting that there could be many reasons for non-renewal, including moving away or the decease of a member. Finally, she announced that **Kim Cauthon** had agreed to assume the duties of Membership Secretary.

**Arts & Letters Awards:** Committee Co-chair **Kim Cauthon** announced that nominations were being accepted for 2017 Arts & Letters Awards, and that submissions could be made online or by mail, with the deadline being August 1. She noted that six nominations had already been received.

**SAPLings Committee:** **Beth Graham** reported that a meeting of the *SAPLings* com-

mittee had been held on July 19. An editorial schedule was outlined. The publication needs contributors. One suggestion was that each branch Friends organization submit a monthly item, "Meet Your Friends," spotlighting outstanding volunteers. Beth noted that **Stephanie Serrata** had developed a format that could be used as a fill-in-the-blanks outline. Anyone interested in submitting articles was asked to contact Beth.

## OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Approval of the bylaws of the Friends of the Johnston Branch Library:** **Jill Zimmerman** moved approval of the bylaws; **Antoinette Franklin** seconded. Following some discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

## Calls for volunteers:

**Linda Cheatum**, Treasurer, asked for volunteers to serve on a task force to develop and propose the FOSAPL operating budget for FY 2018.

**Kim Cauthon**, Membership Secretary, asked for volunteers to plan a membership recruitment drive for 2018.

## ADJOURNMENT

After expressing her appreciation to branch manager **Jimmy Jiménez** and the Friends of the Bazan Branch Library for providing the refreshments, President **Nancy Gandara** requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Pat Mendiola** made the motion, **Antoinette Franklin** seconded, and it was passed without discussion.



## Bazan

The Bazan Branch Library hosted a successful Summer Reading kick-off party on June 3. The event included refreshments and featured two very popular clowns who did face painting, made balloon figures, and engaged children in lots of singing and dancing.

*Irene Chavez*

## Brook Hollow

In mid-May, the Brook Hollow Branch Library welcomed **Jennifer (Jenny) Borrero**, the new Adult Services Librarian. Jenny loves to read and enjoys history, some mysteries, and the occasional romance. She's involved in several book groups and anticipates calling on the Brook Hollow Friends in the future for assistance with several projects to benefit adult patrons.

We helped fund the Brook Hollow Branch Library's End of Summer Party on July 25. Approximately 226 children and adults attended the party and had their fill of cake, cookies, freshly popped popcorn, balloon animals/objects made by Daisy Bee, and magic acts performed by Spikey Mikey.

September is shaping up to be a busy and exciting month. In May, the San Antonio Public Library Board of Trustees voted to name the Brook Hollow Meeting Room after **Pat and Neal Bjornson** in recognition of their 20+ years of service to the Brook Hollow Library, Brook Hollow Friends, and the surrounding community. A naming ceremony will be held

in the Meeting Room on Tuesday, Sept. 26, at 1 p.m., a plaque honoring the Bjornsons will be hung, and a reception will follow. All friends of the Bjornsons (including all Brook Hollow Friends!) are invited to come recognize and celebrate Pat and Neal for all they have done for the Brook Hollow Branch Library and the Brook Hollow Friends.

The Brook Hollow Friends will hold their annual used book sale Saturday, Sept. 23, from 10 to 4. We'll have a great selection of about 10,000 books, CDs, and DVDs. If you have questions – or want to volunteer! – call **Pat Bjornson** at 210-497-3279.

We hope to see you at our regular membership meeting on the following Saturday, Sept. 30, at 1 p.m. in the Brook Hollow Branch Library Pat and Neal Bjornson Meeting Room.

*Pat Finley*

## Carver

Carver Friends had a very busy summer. Friends assisted with the children's reading program. The Friends also participated in the adult reading program along with other patrons in the community. Branch Manager **D.L. Grant** submitted his wish list for the Friends to purchase for the library. On his list was a shredder, laminator, and a screen for presentations. The Friends agreed to purchase these items.

The NAACP gave 200 free backpacks filled with school supplies to school students at Carver Library, August 10.

The San Antonio Public Library is undertaking an exterior improvement project to improve landscaping and drainage at the Carver Library. Carver Friends donated \$1,400 toward this project. This gift will pay for landscaping that

*Branch Leaves cont on p 4.*



will greatly enhance the outside area. Once this project is completed, a ceremony will be held. Carver Friends **John A. Coleman**, visual artist, and **Paul Hurd**, sculptor, exhibited their art works at the Carver Cultural Center, July 14, 2017. The exhibit was well attended by patrons, city dignitaries including former Mayor **Ivy Taylor** and her daughter, **Dr. Harmon & Harriet Kelley**, **Dr. Joe & Aaronetta Pierce**, **Nina McGrath**, **Terry Puckett**, **Nancy Gandara**, and **Mary McAfee**. There were also special guests from out of town. All patrons enjoyed the delicious food and wine.

The Carver Friends book sale will be Oct. 20–21, 2017.

*Shirley Coleman*

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## Encino

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The next Encino Friends book sale will be Oct. 14, from 10–4. The group voted to purchase a banner for the outside of the library to advertise book sales. The next Friends meeting will be Saturday, Sept. 16, at 1 p.m.

The Friends are happy to welcome Assistant Manager **Michelle Ricondo** and Circulation Attendant **Michelle Cisneros**. Mrs. Ricondo's promotion brought her from the Cortez Library and her career at SAPL is longstanding. Mrs. Cisneros brings years of customer service experience as well as two years of experience with SAPL.

The Encino Library's many programs for children, teens, and adults continue into the fall with the addition of three new adult programs. Sahaja Yoga Meditation will meet on Wednesdays at 6:30–7:30, Aug. 9–Sept. 13. Local artist **David Grinnell** will exhibit his abstract artworks at Encino branch and speak about his

artistic influences on Saturday, Sept. 16 from 2–4. On Mondays from Sept. 25–Oct. 23, the library will offer Art Journaling 101 at 6:30–7:30.

*Carla Pomager*

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## Great Northwest

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The Friends of Great Northwest Library expanded the Book Nook this spring under the management of Vice President **Cathy Abbott** and realized record-breaking Book Nook sales donations during the month of May (over \$700) and June (over \$1000!). Our busy summer programs get much support from the Book Nook sales, and they, in turn, bring lots of traffic to the library. We recently purchased three standing tilting desks for library patrons to use when filling out forms, and a new microwave for the community room kitchen.

FOSAPL President **Nancy Gandara** drew the winning entry for our *Matilda* tickets fundraiser on Saturday, May 27. **Lisa McGill** was the recipient of two tickets to see *Matilda* at the Majestic Theater. Friends of GNW President **Denise Barlow** and Vice President **Cathy** also enjoyed the show on Sunday evening. A nice part of the story is that verbally abused *Matilda* takes refuge in the library where she reads books as a way to educate herself and escape her dismal home life. It was an energetic show of talented children with a happy ending.

Our 8th Annual Staff and Volunteer Appreciation Party was held on Aug. 2. There were about 40 staff, volunteers, and Friends in attendance. We had good food and fun with the theme "Building a Better World." There were building sets at each table, and, after lunch, introductions and

gifts. We all lit up our new world with light sticks twirling in the darkened community room.

*Denise Barlow*

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## Igo

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Even though we had to reschedule our book sale from early June to July 29–30 with our theme of "Harry Potter's Birthday Celebration," it was a huge success! August is a slow month as far as activities go, so it gave us a chance to catch up.

Igo Elderberries will host **Dr. Kelly Miller**, Postdoctoral Researcher at Southwest Research Institute and a team member of the Cassini-Huygens Mission to Saturn, who will discuss the 20-year interstellar voyage of this unmanned, robotic spacecraft and all the fascinating information it has returned to earth, Thursday, Sept. 7, 2 p.m.

Our September meeting will be Sept. 9, 10:30.

Our next book sale will be Oct. 14–15; please mark your calendars. Our theme will be Halloween, plan to come in costume.

*Tom Hill*

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## Landa

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Activities at Landa have been on hold since the library's closure in early June for restoration and renovation work, scheduled to be completed by late September. The library is getting gussied up to prepare the building for the Landa 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, to be held Saturday, Oct. 14, from 10–4. The theme of the celebration is "Garden Party," and a variety of activities—from formal ribbon-cutting ceremonies to sack races—will take place during the event. A book sale, live music, games, come-and-go crafts, and refresh-

ments should make this a "can't miss" celebration for people of all ages.

*Judy Yaeger*

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## Las Palmas

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Las Palmas Friends recently welcomed **Barbaraella Frazier**, the new Children's Librarian, and will be saying farewell to **Jasmin Salinas**, Children's Librarian, who'll be returning to the renovated Landa Branch in September.

In July, we sponsored 4 special programs (**Tom Kinsey**, nature appreciation; **TamboRhythms**, drumming circle; **Happy Tails**, exotic animals; and the **Jolly Joeys Clowns**; face painting, and balloon sculpting), as supplemental activities for the Children's Summer Reading Program. We were recently informed that the Cody Library Friends voted to make a generous donation to the Las Palmas Friends account, to assist with this programming. We understand this transfer of funds transaction is the first of its kind between any Friends branch groups. Thank you again, Cody Friends, for your generosity.

Neighborhood associations represent a valuable network in the community, and we have reached out to several with information about library services and how to join our Friends group. Significantly, two new associations are being established nearby, and we plan to meet with their officers very soon.

A representative from the Las Palmas H-E-B has invited Friends to participate in their area National Night Out October 3. This is the 2nd year we'll attend and have the opportunity to meet and speak with our "neighbors," letting them know (or reminding

*Branch Leaves cont on p 5.*

some) what a great resource is just “down the block” at the Las Palmas Library.

The YWCA, adjacent to the Las Palmas Library, partners with the Library staff on different programs. Our Friends group is also collaborating with the YWCA to support their Breast Cancer Awareness Month initiative, “Think Pink,” scheduled for Oct. 12 when a number of businesses, agencies, and organizations will participate. We were offered a table where we can share information about resources and services available next door at the Las Palmas Library.

Planning for two Friends-sponsored programs in November, Dia de Los Muertos and the Veterans Day Observance, will start in the next few weeks.

*Delia Ramirez Trimble*

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## Maverick

One of the goals of the Maverick Friends is to introduce more folks, especially youngsters, to the wonders that await in the library. This summer has been especially gratifying for us.

In addition to funding refreshments and a few projects for the Teens and Tweens, we had the pleasure of helping with some extra programming for Summer Reading. Appearances by Happy Tails, Illusions by Blake, and Spikey Mikey helped round out Maverick’s program. Thanks to Children’s Librarian **Amy Beth Roberts** for managing the arrangements. **Elise Garcia** and the Maverick Puppeteers put together one last Summer Reading program activity, complete with a performance, crafts, and refreshments. The Friends love providing financial support for these pro-

grams, but it takes the Maverick staff to make them happen.

Plans are going full-speed ahead for our Fall book sale, Sept. 23, 10 to 6, and Sept. 24, noon to 4. If you happen to be in our area, please stop in to say “Hi!”

We meet at 7, in the library on the first Tuesday of each month except July and December. Please join us any time. Friends are always welcome at Maverick!

*Sue Ratliff*

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## McCreless

For our most recent sale (net \$320 plus \$40 in donations) we placed 10 election-campaign-style yard signs in strategic neighborhood locations. These are sturdy signs, easy to re-use and store.

Our group is small but dedicated (like so many others) and we thank our Secretary **Lucy Duncan**, President **Jill Zimmerman**, member **Jose Campos**, and especially our tireless Vice President **Christel Villarreal** for their hard work in the set-up, sale, and storage of that June sale.

We will be looking at other fundraising ideas at our next meeting on Sept. 18 at 6. We are in the process of ordering some permanent plates to be affixed to items such as furniture to show what has been “Purchased by the Friends of McCreless Library.” Our most recent gifts have been \$100 for the teen program and \$50 for the children’s program.

Big SHOUT OUT to all our librarians.

*Paula Massengale*

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## Mission

**Sally Fierros** from the organization Yanawana Herbolarios visited the Mission Library Community Garden Aug. 12.

She presented a workshop on herbal teas. Participants learned about respecting plants and offering thanks for their many beneficial offerings. All participants were able to test sniff and taste various herbs before building their individual tea-bags. A tea party culminated this fascinating presentation.

Yanawana Herbolarios is a chapter member of the Herbal Medics organization. They provide botanically based integrative medicine, as well as off-grid power and water solutions, to communities in need.

*Josie Martinez*

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## Potranco

Nine enthusiastic supporters of the Potranco Branch met July 29, to approve bylaws and elect officers for the Friends of the Potranco Library. Officers elected were: **Cheryl Whelan**, Pres.; **Laurie Grace**, V.P.; **Delia Canamar**, Treasurer; and **Leigh Bedford**, Secretary. The group will be meeting monthly, so please call the Potranco Branch (210-207-9280) for the dates to join us in September and October.

*Leigh Bedford*

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## Texana/Genealogy

The Friends of the Texana/Genealogy Department believes that its funds should not only be used for the enhancement of the Department but also for the enrichment of San Antonians’ understanding of history. One of the ways to impact this understanding is contributing to the San Antonio Regional History Day. This past spring, the Friends donated \$2,000 toward this endeavor.

History Day is an event for middle and high schoolers to showcase their understanding of historical topics. A variety

of formats such as websites, plays, and papers allow the flexibility of interpretation. The History Day organizers used the money in two ways, \$1,000 was used for students to offset entry fees. These middle school and high school students came from a variety of districts and private schools across the city. The other \$1,000 was spent on operational costs such as supplies, ribbons, and awards for the students.

One success story this year was a documentary entry from Brandeis High School, *Desegregated yet Separate: Standing Together for Integration*. It competed at National History Day. This entry was selected to be shown at the National Museum of African American History and Culture June 14.

*Jacob Sherman*

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## Tobin

The Tobin Friends contributed supplies for the Cosplay Confab that Tobin Library hosted. It was our second Cosplay Confab, a gathering of costume makers ranging from beginner to expert, with a grand total of 22 very enthusiastic attendees who had fun watching classic manga programs, learning tricks of the trade from a gracious representative of the Lords of Cosplay San Antonio, enthusing over common interests with one another, and working on their cosplay costumes for upcoming fandom conventions in their various stages of design and construction. Despite dealing with challenges like a persnickety air conditioning unit, all of the participants enjoyed getting to work on their respective projects as well as meeting new friends with similar interests.

*Branch Leaves cont on p 7.*



Greetings Friends,

It's time to head back to school, and we're reminding everyone that the most important item on any back to school list is a San Antonio Public Library card. Help us spread the word about our school resources like online homework help, access to practice tests, study guides,

and research databases, and our print and digital books that are available for check out. Remember, September is Library Card Sign-up Month. Take a minute to encourage your family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors to visit [mysapl.org](http://mysapl.org) for more information about these and other services and to check the status of their account. If they need to renew their card or sign up for a new card, they can visit their local library and our staff will be happy to help.

This month we will also celebrate the reopening of Landa Branch Library. The location has been closed since early June for restoration and renovation. We are proud to reveal the fully restored exterior doors, windows and walls; new roof; new carpet and paint; the repaired ceiling fresco and more. You're sure to love the reimagined space, new public service area, dedicated teen space, and other exciting changes. On Saturday, October 14, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., we celebrate the renovations and the library's 70th anniversary with a family-friendly celebration of music, food, and fun. We hope you can join us.

Central Library is excited to introduce the new Latino Collection and Resource Center. The state-of-the-art approximately 6,000 square foot center on the first floor of Central Library will be home to the Library's Latino Collection and will celebrate Latinos and their literary contributions. Keep an eye out for an official opening date during Hispanic Heritage Month, September 15 – October 15.

In closing, I want to thank you again for your continued support of the San Antonio Public Library. Your contributions of time, talent, and resources are greatly appreciated by the Library staff and the entire San Antonio community.

Sincerely,  
**Ramiro Salazar**

## Donations & Memorials

Sheila Figueroa

In Memory of

by

Jim Matson

Karen Matson

## Getting to Know Your Friends Pat & Neal Bjornson

Nancy Gandara & Pat Finley

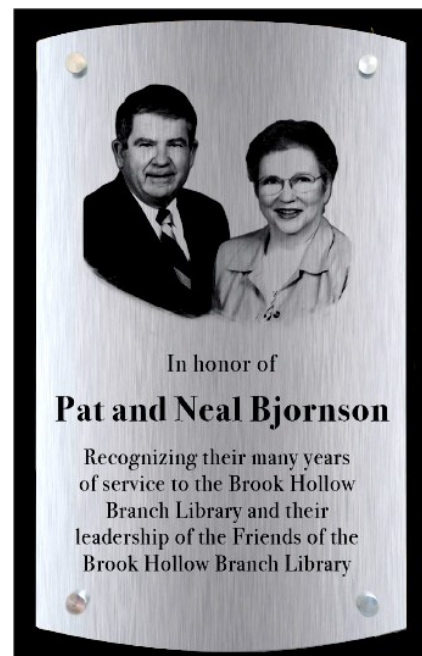
When **Pat and Neal Bjornson** started house hunting in San Antonio in mid-1984 (after having moved here from Virginia for Neal's job), one of the things on their "must-have" list was proximity to a good library, and Pat began volunteering at the Brook Hollow Branch almost as soon as the moving boxes were unpacked.

She helped with the children's story hour, checked items in and out, and helped shelve books. Soon, both the Bjornsons joined the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library, and Pat served as FOSAPL's Membership Chairman from 1995 until 2001.

Neal and Pat were among the founding members of the Friends of the Brook Hollow Branch Library, helping to write the Bylaws (adopted April 9, 1997) and attending the first meeting on June 16, 1997. Both served as officers of the group: Pat served as the Brook Hollow Friends' President from 2002–2005, and Neal as Vice President in 2001, acting Secretary as needed, and several terms as Treasurer (during 2002, from 2006–2009, and from 2014 to the present).

Their initiative, energy, and conscientious "follow-through" have been a trademark of the Bjornsons' contributions to the Brook Hollow Branch. Neal helped install shelving units for donated books, while Pat developed instructions for sorting those books. Pat began writing and sending newsletters to the membership twice per year, advising them of events at the library, upcoming book sales, and the need to renew their Friends' membership. Neal organized other Friends to help with a major landscaping project on the grounds of the Branch in 2006–2008, and helped secure the Branch's outdoor picnic table (purchased by the Friends) so it wouldn't "walk off" after hours. Additionally, Neal and Pat both played a part in guiding the remodeling of the staff kitchen in 2008.

While living in Virginia, Pat had been involved in the used book sale held by her local library: with this experience, she enthusiastically vol-



unteered to coordinate the Brook Hollow Branch Library book sales. She has overseen (with valuable assistance from Neal and their daughter, Becky) every annual, semi-annual, or on-going book sale held by the Branch since its first one, in October 1997. In describing the Bjornsons' leadership style, **Ronnie Retzloff** said, "...Pat and Neal exceed all possible expectations of making every friend of any age feel welcomed and needed. They both model graciously a servant kind of leadership that does not call attention to itself but is recognized by all. No work is beneath them: if it helps the library, they are all in."

In mid-2017, the Trustees approved a request by the Friends of the Brook Hollow Branch that the meeting room be named in their honor: please join us on Tues., Sept. 26 at 1 to celebrate this recognition of the contributions of our friends, Pat and Neal Bjornson.

## Looking for Photos from Your Friends Activities?

Visit [friendsofsapl.org](http://friendsofsapl.org) for photos and the latest announcements.



## Branch Leaves, from p 5.

We celebrated a successful and fun summer of reading on July 29 as we were wrapping up our teen and adult summer reading program (the children's program continues through August). Our celebration of a summer filled with literacy and "Building a Better World" (this year's theme!) included a plethora of activities and happy moments, including a visit from the Literacy Van, a performance by Luna the Hula Hoop Girl, which the Friends helped to fund, collaborative community art (including a paper quilt of self-portraits made by patrons and staff). The Friends also provided funds for the Fiesta Farm Animals, all sorts of amazingly cute animals, as well as some sweets and healthy treats for all to enjoy.

*Megan Coker*

## Honoring Roberto Anguiano



Joining Roberto Anguiano are members of the executive board of the Friends of Mission Library, (L-R) Vice President **Terry Ybanez**, Treasurer **Blanca Wilkins**, and Branch Manager **Oscar Gonzalez**.

Mission Library Friends President **Roberto Anguiano** was honored by several organizations, including the San Jose Mission Homeowners' Association, Los Bexarenos, and Friends of Mission Library for his years of dedicated service.

## San Antonio Public Library Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month

September 15–October 15

Visit [mysapl.org](http://mysapl.org) for details.

## BookCellar News

Stephanie Serrata

**The BookCellar  
Central Library Basement  
Open 11–3 every day  
plus 3–7 Thursdays  
(210) 227-9519**

This is a report from the BookCellar news desk. Our Back to School (expanded inventory) Sale was a huge blockbuster. Teachers from all across the city took advantage of this annual event and purchased boxes of books and other educational resources for their classrooms. Young adult and juvenile fiction and nonfiction books were popular items. Teachers requested books on various topics, such as insects, anatomy, and Greek and Roman mythology. History teachers enjoyed a wide selection of juvenile biographies and an array of U.S. and world maps. There were also several requests for classic authors, such as Mark Twain, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and Jane Austen. High school students were interested in college prep materials to help them study for upcoming SAT and ACT exams. Several college professors stopped by in search of books on literary criticism and poetry. Kudos to the mathematics professor from Trinity University who bought almost every algebra text book in the education section. Many thanks to our volunteers who assisted customers in finding everything they needed for a successful school year.

August began our adult nonfiction sale (000s–900s). These books are flying off our shelves, and new items are being put out for sale daily. Popular subjects are life after death, cooking, true crime, and the Civil War. Our manager and volunteers are constantly working to replenish inventory and assist customers.

**BookCellar Specials\*:** September—regularly priced paperback fiction will be 50% off. The BookCellar will be giving away one free reusable black tote bag (one bag per day) with a \$3 (or more) purchase. Soft drinks and water do not qualify for this pro-



motion. All adult music CDs will be 50% off. October—regularly priced adult biographies will be 50¢ or 3 for \$1.00. There will also be a special display of reduced price audio books (25¢ each). Regularly priced hardback young adult fiction will be 25¢ each, and regularly priced paper-back young adult fiction will be 10¢ each.

### Bookmarks

We regret to announce that BookCellar volunteer and committee member, **Jesse Valdez**, resigned on July 18. Jesse has been a volunteer since 2012 and recently joined the BookCellar committee. Jesse has served on several important committees and has prepared numerous feasibility reports on promoting our antique/vintage books and on an online sales venture. Jesse will be greatly missed, and this is a major setback for the BookCellar. Thank you, Jesse, for your years of service and your many contributions to our organization. Please don't forget about us.

BookCellar volunteer numbers are dropping quickly. We are looking for people to join the BookCellar family. If you love books, love to read, or want to assist us in promoting literacy, come take a short tour and learn about our mission. The Book-Cellar is always happy to answer questions about our organization.

Finally, a huge and heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers for working extra shifts and for coming in early to clean up and restock shelves. Your efforts do not go unnoticed.

This concludes another edition of the BookCellar news. Join us again for the November–December edition. Until then, happy reading ...

\*BC specials are courtesy of **Andrea Mason**.



[www.facebook.com/BookCellarSA](http://www.facebook.com/BookCellarSA)



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## CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

*Because dates and times change occasionally, please call to verify information.*

- Sept. 4 Libraries closed for the holiday  
Sept. 5 Friends of Maverick Branch meeting, 7 p.m.  
Sept. 9 Friends of Igo Branch meeting, 10:30 a.m.  
Sept. 9 Organizational meeting of the Schaefer Friends, 2 p.m.  
Sept. 16 Friends of Encino Branch meeting, 1 p.m.  
Sept. 18 Friends of McCreless Branch meeting, 6 p.m.  
**Sept. 17 Friends Board Meeting, Great Northwest Branch, 2 p.m.**  
Sept. 23 Brook Hollow Friends book sale, 10–4  
Sept. 23–24 Maverick Friends book sale, Saturday, 10–6; Sunday, noon–4  
Sept. 26 Ceremony naming the Brook Hollow meeting room in honor of Pat and Neal Bjornson, 1 p.m. A plaque honoring the Bjornsons will be hung.  
Sept. 30 Friends of Brook Hollow Branch meeting, 1 p.m.  
Oct. 3 Friends of Maverick Branch meeting, 7 p.m.  
Oct. 6–8 Cody Friends book sale Friday, preview sale, 2–4; Saturday, 10–4; Sunday, 1–3  
Oct. 7 Semmes book sale, Friday preview sale, 10–11:30; Saturday, sale begins at 10 a.m.  
Oct. 12 Memorial Library Amigos meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
Oct. 14 Encino Friends book sale, 10–4.  
Oct. 14 Landa Branch Library 70th anniversary celebration, 10–2  
Oct. 14–15 Igo Friends book sale; Saturday, 10–5; Sunday, 1–4  
Oct. 15 Parman Friends craft show, 10–4  
Oct. 20–21 Carver Friends book sale  
Oct. 21 San Pedro Friends book sale, 10–4  
Oct. 22 Arts & Letters Awards Ceremony, 2 p.m., Central Library, 600 Soledad  
Dec. 2 Thousand Oaks book sale, 10–3

Note: Each branch Friends group has a designated representative to the Board. However, these Board meetings are open to the general membership. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

**Brook Hollow Library**  
530 Heimer Road, 78232  
210-207-9030  
**Carver Library**  
3350 E. Commerce St, 78220  
210-207-9180  
**Central Library**  
600 Soledad Street, 78205  
210-207-2500  
**Cody Library**  
11441 Vance Jackson, 78230  
210-207-9100  
**Encino Library**  
2515 East Evans Road  
(210) 207-9250  
**Great Northwest**  
9050 Wellwood, 78250  
210-207-9210  
**Igo Library**  
13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy, 78249  
210-207-9080 (also TTY)  
**Landa Library**  
233 Bushnell, 78212  
210-207-9090  
**Maverick Library**  
8700 Mystic Park, 78254  
210-207-9060  
**McCreless Library**  
1023 Ada Street, 78223  
210-207-9170  
**Memorial Library**  
3222 Culebra, 78228  
210-207-9140  
**Parman Library**  
20735 Wilderness Oak  
210-207-2703  
**San Pedro Library**  
1315 San Pedro, 78212  
210-207-9050  
**Schaefer Library**  
6322 US Hwy 87 E, 78222  
210-207-9300  
**Semmes Library**  
15060 Judson Rd., 78247  
210-207-9110