



*From the  
President*



Dear Friends,

As I write this, San Antonio is in full Fiesta mode! Such fun! Spring is here, and the wild flowers are beginning to bloom. If you haven't done so already, plan to read *To Kill a Mockingbird* by **Harper Lee**. This is San Antonio's 2008 "Big Read" selection. The library has several copies of it and copies of the movie, too. You can reserve one at your nearest branch. You can also reserve a book online. Just go to [www.sanantonio.gov/library](http://www.sanantonio.gov/library).

At our last board meeting, we voted in our newest Friends group, the Friends of Igo. Their officers are: President **Kathleen McCloskey**, Vice-President **Jackie Fremming**, and Secretary/Treasurer **Beverly Duran**. We have a new Friends group starting at Collins Garden Branch Library. This branch is located just off Nogalitos Street, between North and South Park streets. The Collins Garden group had an organizational meeting in March, and they are busy forming their bylaws. Hopefully, they will be official after our May board meeting. If you are interested in being a part of either of these groups, just talk to the librarians and they can tell you when the next meeting will be held and/or pass your name on to the groups.

The library staff invited me to join them at a training session on Intellectual Freedom. The discussion was on public usage of the internet. So far, our library system has been fortunate that our patrons have not abused this service. Of course, San Antonio is known for its kind, polite citizens. But other cities have had situations arise, and our fine library staff wants to be prepared for any event that might occur.

Cathy Dean and I have just returned from the Texas Library Association's annual convention. It was held in Dallas this year. The theme was "Books, Bytes, and Beyond!" We came away with some great new ideas on advocacy and fundraising and promoting our San Antonio Public Library!

*Your Friend,  
Linda Nairn*

Arts and Letters Committee Seeks  
Nominations for Awards Ceremony

*Sheila Figueroa*

The Arts and Letters Committee has now been formed and is composed of **Sheila Figueroa**, Chairman; **Claudia Kohler**, **Judy Wilson**, and **Linda Nairn**. The committee is seeking nominations to honor members of the community who contribute to the cultural enrichment of San Antonio. They can be writers, musicians, artists, and the like. Please submit your nominations in writing by July 15 to **Sheila Figueroa**, Chair of the Arts and Letters Committee, 335 East Melrose Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78212. Please include any information you have to substantiate your nomination.

Mayor Hardberger to Sponsor SAPL  
Summer Reading Program

*Beth Graham*



*Left to right, Library Director **Ramiro Salazar**, Board Chair **Jean Brady**, Friends of SAPL President **Linda Nairn**, Mayor **Phil Hardberger** at the Big Read proclamation at City Council on March 6*

Mayor Phil Hardberger has enthusiastically agreed to sponsor the San Antonio Public Library 2008 Children's Summer Reading Program, "Read Across Texas." In his message to summer readers in the calendar of events, the Mayor said, "Welcome to the 2008 Summer Reading program! I'm glad you've chosen to spend part of your summer vacation doing one of the best things there is to do: read books. Although you spend much of the school year reading, it's important to make this a regular part of your life.

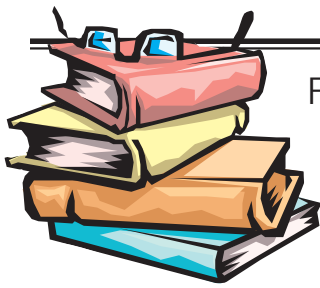
"Even smaller children who can't read on their own can listen as books are read to them. I encourage you to keep track of the books you read. *Continued on p 11.*

Book Cellar Summer Book Sale June 20-22  
with Members Only Sale June 19

*Pat Konstam*

It's time for another big weekend book sale to accelerate sales and clear out inventory at the Book Cellar. The Book Cellar Committee chose Friday, June 20, through Sunday, June 22, in the Book Cellar and adjoining patio in the Central Library basement at 600 Soledad. Sale hours will be 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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# Friends of the San Antonio Public Library BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 16, 2008

Submitted by *Sheila Figueroa, Secretary*

**Call to Order:** Linda Nairn, President, called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**Board of Directors and Officers present:** Linda Nairn, Bruce Gill, Sheila Figueroa, Nancy Gandara, Vera Banner, Pat Brown, Aaron Konstam, Claudia Kohler, Pat Mendiola, Judy Wilson, Robbie Ruppert, Pat Konstam, Delores Huber, Shirley Davis, Dorothy Smith, Josie Martinez

**Branch Representatives:** Cindy DeHoyos, Cissy Delaney, Chris Lopez, Rosie Castro, Alan Hildreth, Pat Cummins, Sue Ratliff

**Others Present:** Cathy Dean (Newsletter committee), Mary McAfee, Kathleen McCloskey, Andy Gordon, Special Event Coordinator for the San Antonio Public Library

**San Antonio Public Library Director present:** Ramiro Salazar

**San Antonio Public Library Trustee Chair present:** Jean Brady

**San Antonio Public Library Foundation present:** Sarah Swinney

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

## REPORTS:

**President's Report:** Linda Nairn introduced Andy Gordon, Special Event Coordinator for the San Antonio Public Library, who thanked the Friends for funding a new portable audio system. Mr. Gordon showed the Friends how the audio system works. This can address an audience of approximately

one thousand people. It was used for the first time at the "Southern Social" at the Kick Off for The Big Read. The system is compatible with speakers that the library has; it can support two microphones; it has a mixer system which can hook up iPods or computers to it. It is also battery operated (4 hours duration). The system came with two additional speakers and two wireless microphones.

Linda Nairn reported that she met with the John Igo Group and they have submitted their By-Laws for approval to begin a Friends Group. Linda also reported that she would be meeting with the Collins Gardens Friends to form a group there. In April, Linda and Cathy Dean will attend the Texas Library Association meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nancy Gandara distributed a report as of February 29, 2008. The Treasurer's Report was accepted and filed for audit.

**Library Administration:** Ramiro Salazar thanked the Friends for their support. Ramiro also thanked Mary McAfee who "championed" getting the audio system for the library. Ramiro announced that there would be an additional four hours of service per branch each week beginning March 31. This was made possible by the City Manager and City Council. This is part of a three-year staffing plan. By the end of the third year, it is hoped that all branches will be open on Sundays. Some efficiency measures have been implemented: receipt printers at the

circulation desks, and, very soon, an announcement will be made regarding the self-checkout stations. At Cody, sixty percent of circulation is done at the self check-out. The Landa Branch is opening for business on May 2. On May 1, the Landa Conservancy and library will have an open house. The Landa library has received a new roof, new carpet, and some new furniture.

**Staff news:** Mark Gretchen has retired. The interim assistant director for public services is Kendra Trachta. The library is actively recruiting to fill Mark's position. Ramiro will be attending the Public Library Association Conference in Minnesota in a couple of weeks. The Big Read initiative has had a lot of coverage. There have been various invitations for the public to read *To Kill a Mockingbird*. This was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Because of the 2009 capital campaign, Districts 3 and 9 will be getting new libraries. The District 3 library is going to be built at the former Mission Drive-In Theatre. District 9 is presently looking at different sites to build a library. There are eight branch improvement projects scheduled to begin in about two months. There are radio events scheduled to announce the promotion of all libraries as voter registration sites. The Tobin at Oakwell Library has a roof leak, which is being looked into for repair.

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The Friends, inaugurated March 23, 1964, promote public use of the San

Antonio Public Library, 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

Linda Nairn . . . . . President  
Bruce Gill . . . . . Vice President  
Nancy Gandara . . . . . Treasurer  
Sheila Figueroa . . . . . Secretary  
Mary McAfee . . . . . Immediate Past Pres

## BOARD MEMBERS

### 2007-2009 Term

Linda Arrange • Vera Banner  
Betty Kelly Berry • Pat Brown  
Lucy Gale • Lou Harris  
Claudia Kohler • Aaron Konstam  
Pat Mendiola • Rowena Rodgers  
Evanleen Schmueckle  
Judy Wilson

### 2008-2010 Term

Shirley Davis • Delores Huber  
Pat Konstam • Josie Martinez  
Robbie Rupert • Dorothy Smith

## SAPLINGS

Newsletter published every two months for the information of member Friends of the San Antonio Public Library and others supportive of our ideals and activities.

Managing Editor . . . . . Alana Woods  
FOSAPL Editor . . . . . Cathy Dean

Southwest Research Institute® provides partial funding for printing the newsletter.

## NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Lyn Belisle, Chair • Cathy Dean  
Nancy Gandara • Bruce Gill  
Rowena Rodgers  
Linda Nairn, *Ex Officio*  
Mary McAfee, *Distribution*

*Article contributions for publishing in the newsletter are always welcome!*

**The deadline for submitting articles and photos to SAPLings is the 15th of the following months:**

**February, April, June, August, October, and December.**

Articles to be submitted should be a simple text file or in Word or WordPerfect. Please email files and photos to Alana Woods at <awoods@swri.org> and Cathy Dean at <ca-dean@sbcglobal.net>. Hard copy articles and photos should be mailed to Alana Woods at Southwest Research Institute, 6220 Culebra Rd., 78238.



## Brook Hollow

**Ruth Chiego Turner** joined the staff at Brook Hollow as their new Librarian II/Children's Librarian. Ruth has been a librarian for 10 years and is very excited to be a part of the SAPL team. **Mary Margaret Smith** joined the staff as the branch's first Librarian I/ Teen Services Librarian. Mary just earned her library degree and was a Library Assistant at Brook Hollow prior to her promotion. Ruth and Mary have great programs in store for all ages, afterschool and during the summer months ahead. Be sure to see schedules for details!

**Barbara Scott-Gore** came to Brook Hollow Library in early March representing "Read Across America." She came dressed as The Cat in the Hat and read several Dr. Seuss tales to area children. This is her 12th year doing this at various libraries and organizations around San Antonio. "Have hat, will travel" is her motto as she feels "reading is very important in a child's life!"

The Brook Hollow Friends' spring used book sale is Saturday, May 17. We'll have our usual selection of great books; this time we have an unusually large assortment of cookbooks and CDs. Set-up for the sale begins at 9 a.m. Friday May 16. About 10 a.m. we'll take a break and enjoy brunch and getting to know one another. Call **Pat Bjornson**, 210-497-3279, for more information or if you want to help with the sale.

We celebrated Library Workers Day April 15 with cake, fresh fruit, and ice cream. We also put out our "Staff Appreciation" sign, which has photos of the entire staff on it, as a gentle reminder to the public of what a great staff we have.

Both the Brook Hollow staff and Friends are looking forward to May 21, when the remodeling of the library kitchen is scheduled to begin. Our kitchen committee – **Beverly Jackson, Sylvia Griffin, and Pat Bjornson** – has put in lots of time planning and made many visits to Home Depot, and we're all pleased with the plans that have been drawn up. Except for a new refrigerator some time ago, this is the first renovation of the kitchen since Brook Hollow opened in the early 1980s. We'll have photos of the current kitchen as well as computer drawings of the new kitchen on display at the May 17 book sale so everyone can see how the profits from this book sale will be spent.

Finally, our next meeting of the Brook Hollow Friends will be Tuesday, May 20, at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room.

*Pat Bjornson and Ruth Turner*

## Cody

We're pleased to have a full time custodian, **Mark Ruiz**, who comes from Semmes Library.

Our next Book Sale is Saturday, April 19, 9:00-3:00. And Texas author **Ben Rehder** will speak Saturday, May 17, at 1:00. He writes comic murder mysteries, set in the Hill Country. His latest novel, *Holy Moly*, is coming out this month. Finally, our student Summer Reading Program starts June 1. Students who read at least 15 books will get an incentive gift, and the theme will be Read Across Texas, having to do with our state parks. We'll also have

performers: a clown, a magician, a storyteller, and others.

We are now open until 9 p.m. on Wednesdays.

*Carol Van Cleave*

## Guerra

Guerra will hold a book sale on May 31 from 9-4 and June 1 from 1-4.

*Lora Devlon*

## Igo

The Friends of the Igo Branch (FIB) have hit the ground running. On March 16, the bylaws were approved by the Friends of the San Antonio Public Library. New officers are: President **Kathleen McCloskey**, Vice-President **Jackie Fremming**, Secretary/Treasurer **Beverly Duran**. We are delighted to report our membership stands at 23.

At the last meeting on April 12, we decided to have a paperback book sale on May 12 in conjunction with the library's National Pet Month program and activities. Volunteer and FIB member, **Nelda Kreuzsch**, has done an excellent job of sorting gifts as they come to the library. As a result, not much preparation and sorting time will be needed.

We had enough money in our budget to fund prizes and food for this summer's adult book program and an honorarium for a teacher who will present a writing workshop.

**John Igo** presented us with FIB badges – guaranteed to elicit questions and give us an opportunity to explain the work of FIB. We are so proud of the Igo Branch. Some of us attended a pot luck luncheon and got to meet the fabulous staff. We also had a demo of some of the fantastic new interactive music games – well, everything's new at Igo – and the games were definitely new to us. Branch Manager **Cheryl Sheehan**, reported that

circulation statistics are soaring. Of special interest is a write-up and picture of the library in the April issue of *American Libraries*, the American Library Association's journal. Every April, the journal focuses on design and construction of libraries throughout the United States and highlights special libraries. The Igo Branch is special indeed.

Celebrate Pet Week – bring a picture of your pet for a chance to win a prize:

- ☞ Sunday, May 4, 2 p.m., Basic Dog Care and Training
- ☞ Monday, May 5, 4 p.m., Movie and Popcorn: "Air Bud"
- ☞ Tuesday, May 6 and Wednesday, May 7 (regular times, call for more info), Pet-themed Storytimes
- ☞ Saturday, May 10, 10 a.m., Pet Origami
- ☞ Saturday, May 10, 10-2, Pet Adoptions, Vaccination, and Micro-chipping Clinic
- ☞ Saturday, May 10, 2 p.m., Scales, Feathers, Fur and More!

Passport to Reading! Summer Reading Club for Adults begins June 1 and continues through the beginning of August. Read or listen to audiobooks of your choice for a chance to win several different prizes. Club completers will be invited to a special end-of-the-summer program just for them!

*Kathleen McCloskey*

## Johnston

### Book Sale

On Mar. 28 and 29, we held an extremely successful book sale! A huge thank you goes out to our outstanding, dedicated volunteers! It takes a lot of energy to set up, sell

*Continued on p 4.*

our books, and then pack it all up! So, feel free to help us out on the next sale; we will post the dates and times.

### Membership Drive

If you are interested, or know of anyone who might be interested in becoming a "Friend of the San Antonio Public Library," we always welcome new members. Normally the membership fee is \$15; however, for those of you living in the 78227 or 78245 zip code area who would like to join, a special donor has offered to pay the first year's membership for any new member this year! We are happy to share our expertise with all. Please feel free to join us!! If you are interested in becoming part of our group, please call Lori at 210-675-6940. If there is no answer, please leave a message, and I will return your call.

### New Children's Librarian

Welcome Ms. Karen, our new children's librarian! She is very creative and our children are extremely lucky to have her. Preschool story time will be held on Thursdays, 11 a.m.; family story time will be held on Mondays, 4:30 p.m.

### Book Nook

We now have a "Book Nook" up and running, thanks to **Mr. Rich Fields** and **Ms. Cheryl Sheehan**! Way to go! In this area, there is conversational seating (like Starbucks-but no coffee!) along with a variety of books for sale and payment box. You can unwind and relax with a great magazine or book. We do ask you to be honest with your book purchases. Additionally, you may hold small meetings in this area. We can only keep this going if we have your support.

### Community Input

This is your library! We need your suggestions about possible classes, book selections, fundraising ideas, you would like. Please don't be afraid to speak out and provide your input. We don't know what you want unless you tell us.

*Lori A. Taylor*

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### McCreless

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The Board Members of the McCreless Friends met on February 7, 2008, to schedule membership meetings for the coming year. Four member meetings are scheduled for 2008: March 12, May 14, September 10, and November 19. All are on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. The next book sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 17, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed for set-up on the 16th and clean-up on Sunday the 18th. The book sales are important to meeting the mission of the Friends group. Money from dues and the three book sales held in 2007 allowed the Friends group to provide more than \$4,000 to enhance library resources and services. Money from this book sale will contribute toward the Friends group providing the clown, Donnabelle, for the summer reading program party. All McCreless Friends are asked to step up to the plate and help make this book sale a huge success. Please call **Evanlene Schmueckle** at 210-534-4732 to volunteer your help.

*Jill Zimmerman*

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### Memorial

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The Memorial Amigos hosted two special guests at their recent meetings. **Joel Bangilan**, Library Branch Coordinator, was a guest at the

March meeting. Mr. Bangilan discussed his role as Branch Coordinator and expressed his support for the group and library. He encouraged the Amigos to call him with any questions. **Michael Howdysshell**, the Library's Grants and Contracts Coordinator, visited the group at their April meeting and discussed his role to consolidate and coordinate requests for grants impacting the library and his role of managing contracts. The Memorial Amigos have applied for and have been awarded several grants to contribute to the library's success in the community.

Funds awarded to the Amigos paid for two recent programs. **Moises Hernandez** taught a basic guitar series with a final performance by his students (see photos on p. 9). A two-week series of painting classes called "One Stroke" was taught by **Mary Ellen Proscia**. Both programs were highly successful with positive comments from the participants.

Also purchased for the staff of the library was a microwave. The staff was thrilled and has used the oven constantly since receiving it.

The Amigos continue to be active in the community. Hosted by President **Dolores Zamarron**, the group provided refreshments at the March meeting of the West Side Resource Council. Amigos member **Martha Garcia** was host to Big Read author and historian **Dr. Claudia Johnson** for dinner after discussion of her works at the Memorial Library. Dr. Johnson, Children's Librarian **Sheila Acosta**, and other guests enjoyed informal conversation and a nice meal at Lisa's Restaurant.

Plaques were approved for purchase to attach to donations

from the Amigos. The tags will read, "Donated by the Memorial Amigos and Funded by JPMorganChase" or "Donated by the Memorial Amigos."

The Oyster Bake Parking Fundraiser was a huge success again this year. This is their third year to manage the event.

The Memorial Library added several new employees. They include **Adam Capelo**, Circulation; **Barbara Lujan** and **Susan Francis-Maldonado**, Library Assistants; and **Jimmy Jimenez**, Librarian III.

Upcoming events include a Flag Raising Ceremony. The flag pole has recently been restored, and the Memorial Branch Library and Memorial Amigos invite you to join them and the community to, once again, fly the United States and Texas flags at this City facility. The event will take place on Saturday, May 24, with the ceremony beginning at 10:00 a.m. and the flag raising at 10:30 a.m. **Manuel Reyes** and **Melva Ramirez**, Branch Manager, will coordinate the event.

The Amigos are supporting the summer programming at Memorial. There will be another basic guitar series, and the staff is considering other opportunities with funds set aside by the Amigos for additional events.

The Amigos look forward to another successful quarter.

*Melva Ramirez*

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### Semmes

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Semmes Friends have been busy. Spring has been full of new experiences! The April book sale challenged the Friends' and library staff's flexibility with 'split' set up for the April 5 sale. The sale was originally scheduled for March

*Continued on p 6.*

## Book Cellar Sale, from p. 1

on Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sunday.

Big sales are major fund raisers for the Friends, netting \$6,000 to \$8,000 in a weekend, and the publicity they generate attracts scores of new customers for the Book Cellar. Sales are organized by the Friends Book Cellar Committee but require a wider circle of workers than the regular Book Cellar volunteer staff alone.

***In addition to the three sale days, volunteers will be needed on Thursday, June 19, to put books on tables and on Monday, June 23, to pack away leftovers.***

If you can help during any of the following hours, please call the Book Cellar at 210-227-9519 and ask to be signed up:

- ❖ Thursday, June 19, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.
- ❖ Friday, June 20, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- ❖ Saturday, June 21, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- ❖ Sunday, June 22, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
- ❖ Monday, June 23, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Volunteers receive paid parking in the Central Library Garage, a 50 percent discount on purchases, and lunch on the three sale days.

Please tell your friends and neighbors about this great opportunity to stock up on summer reading material at super-bargain prices. And please come to help with the sale.

### Members Only Book Sale

Get first pick on Summer Sale books at a preview sale for FOSAPL members, Thursday, June 19, 4-7 p.m., at the Book Cellar, Central Library basement, 600 Soledad. Refreshments will be served.

New members can join at the door.

## Book Cellar News

*Pat Konstam*

**E**ven though monthly sales totals at the Book Cellar have been running a little ahead of last year's record, it's time for another big push in the form of a well-publicized weekend sale. The Book Cellar Committee has picked Friday through Sunday, June 20-22, for a major Summer book sale. Although the event is several weeks away, please begin planning to attend the sale and to help with the work if you can.

The buy-one-get-one-free special in May will be adult and children's books in the Dewey Decimal 300s. This broad category includes social issues, marriage and family life, parenting, politics, economics, personal finance, managing illness, law, true crime, wedding planning, etiquette, and folklore. The three-day Summer Sale will be June's special attraction.

## Book Cellar Committee

**Aaron Konstam**, chair  
**Linda Arronge**  
**Vera Banner**  
**Pat Brown**  
**Bruce Gill**  
**Pat Konstam**  
**Josie Martinez**  
**Richard Morales**  
**Jeanne Papa**  
**Rowena Rodgers**  
**Lucille Teeter**  
**Linda Nairn**, ex officio  
**Monica Hernandez**, ex officio

## Library Now Offering Book Club Kits

**H**ave you ever wanted to start a book club but wondered how it's done? Or do you belong to a book club, but have difficulty getting enough copies of a book for everyone in your group? The San Antonio Public Library is coming to your rescue with a new service: **book club kits** – everything you need to run a book discussion group!

Each kit will contain 10 copies of a book as well as a notebook with information about the book's author; its history; reviews it received; a list of major characters; "read-alikes," similar books for readers who would like to continue their reading enjoyment; and a list of suggested discussion questions – all packed in a library tote bag.

The kits will be available for checkout by a single library patron, for a period of six weeks, with no renewals. If a specific kit is not available, it can be placed on hold and the requestor will be notified when it can be checked out. If a kit is returned late, the fee will be \$2 per day. Brook Hollow Adult Services Librarian **Tapley Trudell**, who is coordinating the book club program, stressed that it would be important to return the kit intact – the bag, all ten copies of the book, and the notebook – at the end of the check-out period.

A list of books contained in the book club kits, as well as access to the information contained in the notebooks, is available at <http://www.sanantonio.gov/library/fiction/bookclubkits.asp>.

## Walking Through a Memory©

*June Fitzsimmons Esparza*  
*Printed with author's permission*

**W**here do I begin this memory walk? Reflecting back in time, I wonder, "Where did my love for books and going to the library begin?"

It was the early 50's and very few people had a television in our neighborhood, including my home. It wasn't until the early 60's or so that a T.V. was delivered into our house. Up until that time we would listen to "Gun-smoke" or "Have Gun Will Travel" on the radio. It was during those early years that I would travel down the hill to my local library. There were days when the books practically spilled out of my hands because they were so heavy to carry back up the hill to my home. I didn't care. I knew I would relish the time spent reading those books and the adventures I would go on. This was a tradition that I would keep throughout high school. Our family did get a television one day and although I enjoyed the movies and programs on T.V.—and still do—nothing stirs my imagination like a good book.

I remember some days when the snow was falling and the wind was harshly blowing. I would wrap up in

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## Memorials and Donations

<i>In Memory of:</i>	<i>By:</i>
<b>Jim Balogh</b>	<b>Aaron and Pat Konstam</b>
<b>Norma Carmack</b>	<b>Janette and David Prichard, Mary McVicker, Sweepers &amp; Rakers</b>
<b>William Test</b>	<b>Jo and Andy Thompson</b>

*Sheila Figueroa*

but was rescheduled because of the early voting held at the library. Because of a run-off election, also being voted on at the library and which concluded with library closing on April 4, partial set up was done the week before the sale and completed very early on the 5th before the library opened. Thanks to all the Friends and head librarian, **Kate Gray**, who arrived at Semmes at 6 a.m. on the 5th to complete set up. **Judy Wilson's** presort and display organization of books really contributed to a speedy set-up. Some of the display stands borrowed from the Book Cellar helped draw attention to the over- and under-sized treasures we had for sale. We had a steady flow of customers during the entire sale, and by days end, we were mighty tired but pleased with the proceeds.

The highlight of our Spring, however, was our opportunity to support the SAPL participation in the National Endowment for the Arts partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest on *The Big Read* initiative with *To Kill a Mockingbird* being the book of our attention. On Tuesday, April 15, Semmes was the location for "An Afternoon with Scout." **Mary Badham**, who performed the role of Scout in the 1962 movie of the book, gave a rich and engaging 90-minute presentation and discussion about the making of the movie to include her life experiences impacted by her role. Following the presentation, the standing-room-only crowd moved to the patio for food and conversation. We were honored to host the reception. We received so much more when we saw the impact our library system is

having in San Antonio and neighboring communities. Youth from KIPP Aspire Academy and Tejada Middle School attended Mary's presentation and visited with her during the reception, and all recited the Pledge of Allegiance and provided a community comment to KONO radio 101.1 for broadcast on April 16. Mary (she is more a "Mary" person than a "Ms. Badham" person) was as engaging during the reception as she was during her presentation – genuinely interested in each young person – their aspirations and thoughts. She graciously and sincerely socialized with the crowd for a full hour following her presentation. The reception provided the Friends with opportunity to promote the library system and all it offers Semmes, and other outlying library branches to our neighbors (e.g. attendees from Boerne). It was clear that the presentation attendees appreciated the program and the reception, and we even gained a few new Semmes Friends from the event!

It is events like this one where during the support of our branches and the library system in general that we see the impact we all make collectively and that make us treasure our opportunities to serve. Words cannot describe it. You have to experience it.

*Christie Smith*

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### Thousand Oaks

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The Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library held the annual staff appreciation luncheon on Monday, April 13. Eighteen members of the staff were joined by eleven Friends members for a time of food and fellowship.

The group is now preparing for the Spring Book Sale to be held on May 3 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. As always a wide variety of quality used books will be offered.

*Leila Hileman*

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### Tobin Library at Oakwell

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We are saddened by the loss of another longtime friend of our library. **Jim Balogh** died February 18 in his eighty-sixth year. Jim was an outstanding human being who generously shared his time, energies, and talents with many charities. He was a devoted member of the Friends and chaired our book sales at one time.

Our next book sale will be held Saturday, May 17, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There will be a preview sale for members of all branches of FOSAPL on Friday, May 16, from 1 to 4 p.m.

We hope to see you there.

*Joan Hildreth*

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### Westfall

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Westfall Friends met Tuesday, March 11, for a regular meeting. Guest speaker was **Scott Huddleston** who covers military issues for the *San Antonio Express-News*. Mr. Huddleston presented an interesting talk about the journalistic process in preparing articles for the newspaper.

Coming up: Saturday, June 6, book sale, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contributions of books are happily accepted. New volunteers are always welcome to help set up on Friday, June 5, and at the sale. Call **Pat Cummins**, 210-320-9797.

*Pat Cummins*

my heavy coat, pull on my boots, gather my mittens, and start walking toward the library. Nothing could keep me away from the Saturday morning storytelling sessions. I remember listening intently to the men and women who would tell the stories. They would draw pictures with chalk on a huge manila paper pad that was sitting on an easel. At the end of the stories they would have a drawing for each picture. Every weekend I would go, crossing my fingers and hoping that they would call out the number on the little piece of paper I had clutched in my hands.

I still remember the excitement I had when one Saturday they called out one of the winning numbers. I looked down and saw that it was mine! I stood up with my little heart racing and went forward as the "Storyteller" tore the drawing off of the huge pad, rolled it up, and handed it to me. Who would have thought that one day that little girl with the winning number would become an artist, photographer, writer, and storyteller . . . but more about that later.

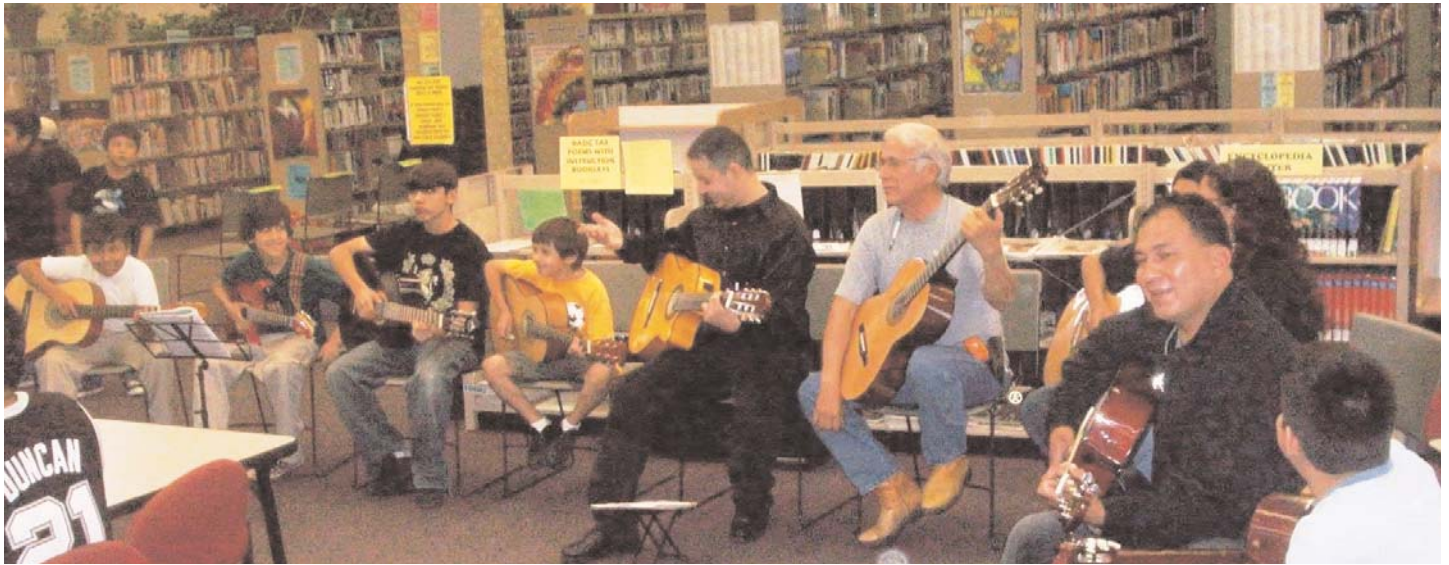
I kept that picture for a long, long time. Almost every weekend and sometimes during the week in the evenings, I would continue to frequent the library, losing myself in many of them. I could lie for hours on the floor by my favorite sections and read the prefaces on the inside covers of each book to see what they were about. First there were the fairytales, then the favorite dog/horse stories like *Black Beauty* and others. Then I graduated to the teenage romance books, those more innocent books that spoke of shyness when one was asked to go to a party and politeness within the relationships that were made. Those were the books that taught you respect for your elders.

As I grew, I became interested in the *Nancy Drew* books. She was constantly trying to solve a mystery and the books held a little bit of danger and intrigue, but always ended with a solution. I once had a whole collection of them and somehow they all disappeared. Presently I am in the process of rebuilding

*Continued on p 8.*

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Recital following Basic Guitar series taught by Moises Hernandez  
at Memorial Library



Friends of the Igo Branch



Left Photo (left to right): Beverly Duran, Jose Duran, Nelda Kreusch, Jackie Freeming, Kathleen McCloskey, Pat Brown. Right Photo (left to right): Beverly Duran, Jose Duran, John Igo, Nelda Kreusch, Kathleen McCloskey, Pat Brown

**Library Board:** **Jean Brady** thanked the Friends for their support in funding the new audio system. The landscaping at Brookhollow looks wonderful. A new branch office was opened in District 1 and Councilwoman Cisneros talked about The Big Read program. Landa is looking quite wonderful. The advocacy group is meeting. Talks are already on-going regarding the budget for 2009. They are discussing priorities and have already met with Council members Rowe and Clamp. Spread the word with your council people – libraries make a difference.

**Library Foundation:** **Sarah Swinney** reiterated The Big Read program. The Magic Theatre performances have had low attendance. The Foundation has already applied for next year's Big Read, which will be Fahrenheit 451. The technology initiative is moving along – they received a \$1 million contribution from the Mary H. Butt Foundation. The library has received the Caballo sculpture. The Foundation is winding up the literary feasts. Neiman Marcus and Grand Hyatt have hosted two of these events. Sarah asked us to attend if we were able. The foundation offices are adjacent to the Landa Library. It needs more landscaping and other improvements and funds are being raised for those purposes.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Book Cellar:** **Aaron Konstam** reported that the new shelves have not been installed yet, but after they are installed the paperback books will be moved to those shelves. A work day will be scheduled to move the books. Book sale will be scheduled for either June 13-15 or June 20-22.

This will be decided at the end of March. Valero has committed volunteers for this event.

A dinner honoring volunteers was given and 10 aprons and numerous medallions were given out to volunteers.

United Way is hosting a seminar on how to work with volunteers. Monica and others will be attending this seminar.

**Membership:** **Claudia Kohler** reported that there are 919 paid memberships and the membership is growing. We currently have 142 members that have not yet renewed their membership.

**Memorials/Honorariums:** **Sheila Figueroa** had no report.

**Newsletter:** **Cathy Dean** thanked everyone for the many photographs submitted for the newsletter. She was sorry not all of them could be printed. Cathy stated that the Book Cellar volunteers deserved the write-up they got. There were 828 newsletters mailed out.

**Linda Nairn** remarked she was still overwhelmed by how much money the Friends gave the library this past year.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

#### NEW BUSINESS:

**Linda Nairn** reported that the Igo Branch Friends Group was ready to go. A copy of their proposed by-laws was read by everyone, and a unanimous vote was taken to accept the John Igo Branch Friends Group. Their president, **Kathleen McCloskey**, was in attendance and was happy to accept our applause.

**Arts and Letters Committee:** **Linda Nairn** stated that the Arts and Letters committee would be formed now so that work could begin. Committee members are **Sheila Figueroa**,

**Linda Nairn, Judy Wilson, Claudia Kohler.** Linda also stated that we all needed to be on a committee this year, whether it be the Arts and Letters, Audit, Budget or Nominating committees.

#### Branch News and Announcements:

**Brook Hollow** will have a book sale on May 17. **Cody** will have a book sale on April 19. **Carver** will have a book sale on April 19, and they just funded the Black History Month. **Guerra** will have a book sale at the end of May and first of June. **Maverick** will have a book sale on May 17. On March 29, there will be a discussion and reception for *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

**McCreless** had a meeting this past Wednesday evening and decided to have more one-day events with a book sale scheduled for Monday, March 17, from 1:30 to 7:30 p.m. It will also begin to show movies.

**Tobin at Oakwell:** Their February book sale made over \$2,800; a book sale is scheduled for May. **Semmes:** There will be a book sale April 5 from 9-3. On April 15, a reception will be held honoring the actress who played Scout in the movie *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and the movie will be shown from 4 to 6 p.m. **Texana/Genealogy's** book sale in January netted them approximately \$2,300.

**Thousand Oaks** will have a book sale the first weekend in May, and will also host book discussions. **Westfall** had **Charles J. Shields**, biographer of Harper Lee, speak on March 4, and there will be a discussion group on March 19. A book sale is scheduled for the first weekend in June.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

that collection with the original tweed green/blue hard covers and Nancy in a silhouette bending over with a magnifying glass.

The library was a place where I felt I could dream and imagine. It was a place where I could learn about anything I wanted to learn about. No one could stop me from learning. No one could stop me from dreaming. It was a place where I could travel without having to get a plane ticket. Going to my library is one of my most treasured memories. The roads I traveled within my library experiences were—unbeknownst to me—roads that would help to pave the way into my future.

Now—today I am a writer, photographer, storyteller, and artist. I have also taught in elementary schools and in colleges over the years. I design, write, and sell greeting cards and storytelling cards. I designed a website where people can hear some of the stories read to them by me. Many peoples' lives have been changed through some of my stories and cards. That gives me great joy. I am presently completing my novel, *Tiny Seedlings-their journey*, a book for all ages. I also help out at the library book sales whenever I can. I continue to collect books of all kinds. I probably have enough to open a small store. I have taught in the community, churches, and colleges—often using all kinds of children's books and have seen people impacted through them.

The library has had a huge impact on my life as a young girl growing up in a small town. It is still one of my favorite places to frequent. As I am writing this, I am also preparing to take a trip and visit the same library where I spent much of my childhood. I will walk through a few more memories and I will build new ones to bring back home with me. I am so very thankful to all of the librarians who helped me discover worlds I didn't know existed. I am very thankful for all of the people who help to keep the library a place where people can come from all walks of life to search, discover, and dream.



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Semmes hosted "An Afternoon with Scout" featuring Mary Badham, who played Scout in the 1962 Movie version of *To Kill a Mockingbird*.



Scout - during her presentation



Scout's reception



Semmes Friends (Rt to left) **Ivy Durnell, Tom Anderson, Carole Anderson** (note sign on table informing that Friends of Semmes are sponsoring the reception - our latest advertising attempt!)



**Mary Badham** chatting with KIPP Aspire Academy students. Friend **Ivy Durnell** in forefront.



Scout and students from KIPP Aspire Academy



Scout with Semmes Head Librarian **Kate Gray**

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## Form for Gifts, Donations, and Memorials

Honor a loved one with a remembrance for birthdays, anniversaries, or "just because." It can also be a wonderful, thoughtful, and lasting way to honor the memory of a relative or friend.

If you do not want to make a contribution at this time, clip this form and save it for the appropriate occasion.

I would like to make the following donation:

- In honor of     In memory of
- Special event (birthday, graduation, etc.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (All donations are tax deductible.)

### Acknowledgement to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### My Name and Address:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out in full, make your check payable to:

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library  
and mail to: **Sheila Figueroa**, Chair, Gifts, Donations,  
& Memorials

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)  
P.O. Box 461523, San Antonio, Texas 78246



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## FRIENDS of the SAN ANTONIO PUBLIC LIBRARY

### Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Individual (Adult)            \$ 15

\_\_\_\_ Dual (Adult)                 \$ 25

\_\_\_\_ Individual (Teen, Ages 13-18)    \$ 5

\_\_\_\_ Patron (Per Person)            \$ 50

\_\_\_\_ Contributing (Per Person)       \$100

\_\_\_\_ Life (Per Person)               \$250

\_\_\_\_ New Member

\_\_\_\_ Renewal

Branch Group \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Do not include my phone number in the Friends' directory.

\_\_\_\_ I'd like to volunteer at the Book Cellar (used book store).

\_\_\_\_ Please call me: I'd like to be an active participant.

**MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (or FOSAPL).**  
**Your contribution is tax deductible.**

and mail to:

Friends of the San Antonio Public Library (FOSAPL)

P.O. Box 461523

San Antonio, Texas 78246

(Note: Membership is from Jan. 1—Dec. 31. Members receive a renewal notice in early Dec.)

# INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS

**February 29, 2008**

*Submitted by Nancy Gandara*

	Budget	Jan/Feb 08	FOSAPL YTD	Groups YTD
<b>Income</b>				
Book Cellar Sales/Group Book Sales	\$73,000	\$25,741.77	\$8,973.95	\$16,767.82
Donations	\$3,500	\$2,250.60	\$55.00	\$2,195.60
Interest	\$6,450	\$757.53	\$757.53	
Membership	\$10,000	\$11,918.00	\$8,993.00	\$2,925.00
FOSAPL Income	\$92,950	\$40,667.90	\$18,779.48	
Branch/Groups Income				\$21,888.42
Transfer from Savings	\$33,431			
Assets to be Used During 2008	\$126,381			
<b>Expenses</b>				
Accounting	\$2,250	\$150.00	\$150.00	
Arts and Letters	\$400			
Bank Charges	\$150			
<b>Book Cellar Expenses</b>				
Advertising	\$2,000			
Booksale(s) Expenses	\$500			\$213.93
Commodities for resale	\$600			
Equipment and Maintenance	\$2,500	\$1,995.29	\$1,995.29	
Internet & software	\$100			
Printing / copying	\$300			
Recruitment of volunteer workers	\$250			
Salary & benefits	\$7,200	\$1,180.00	\$1,180.00	
Volunteer Appreciation	\$500	\$73.50	\$73.50	
Water service	\$456			
Branch / Group Operating Expenses				\$61.97
Bulk Mail	\$1,000	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$106.78
FOLUSA Membership	\$100	\$100.00	\$100.00	
FOSAPL Committee Expenses	\$300	\$317.52	\$317.52	
FOSAPL Donor Recognition	\$1,000			
Friends recognition	\$300			
Insurance (bonding)	\$125			
<b>Library Support</b>				
Equipment To Be Determined	\$5,000	\$3,647.90	\$3,647.90	
Programming for public [all year, all ages]	\$40,000			\$357.62
Staff development & training	\$40,000			
Memorial gifts for FOSAPL Life Members	no funding amt.	\$100.00	\$100.00	
Various Branch / Group Purchases				\$3,808.23
Mail Box	\$100			
Newsletter Prep/Editing	\$1,800	\$300.00	\$300.00	
Newsletter Printing	\$2,800	\$1,286.18	\$1,286.18	
Office Supplies	\$1,500			
Parking	\$4,000	\$1,005.50	\$1,005.50	
Postage	\$400	\$123.00	\$123.00	
President's Expenses	\$350	\$70.00	\$70.00	
Sales Tax (Book Cellar & Branches)	\$10,000	\$1,275.45	\$1,275.45	
Seed Money for New Groups	\$400			
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$126,381</b>	<b>\$11,799.34</b>	<b>\$11,799.34</b>	<b>\$4,548.53</b>

## Branch & Special Interest Group Funds

**February 29, 2008**

<b>Accounts</b>	<b>Balance</b>
CompassBank Money Market Account	\$42,801.54
Money Market Gold Account	\$140,799.49
Checking Account	\$34,778.31
Total Assets	\$218,379.34
Branch-designated Funds	\$96,174.65
Total Liabilities	\$96,174.65
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$122,204.69</b>

## Branch & Special-Interest Group Funds Feb. 29, 2008

Bazan	\$1,484.06
Brook Hollow	\$17,340.20
Carver	\$1,765.31
Cody	\$5,200.41
Forest Hills	\$2,361.21
Guerra	\$2,745.59
Igo (pending official formation & approval)	\$315.00
Johnston	\$898.62
Landa (pending official formation & approval)	\$135.00
Maverick	\$3,699.89
McCreless	\$4,154.58
Memorial	\$10,255.67
Tobin-at-Oakwell	\$12,670.12
Semmes	\$2,181.15
Texana/Genealogy	\$17,991.96
Thousand Oaks	\$4,022.19
Westfall	\$5,447.85
Writer Friends	\$3,505.84
<b>Total Group Funds</b>	<b>\$96,174.65</b>

### Summer Reading, from p. 1

If you read 15 books or more, you'll receive a certificate with my signature, and a book to keep for your own. Books open our eyes, tease our imaginations and take us places we may never visit in person. I hope you 'travel' to many places this summer."

The library has a lively summer planned for readers. Once children sign up (online at [www.sanantonio.gov/library](http://www.sanantonio.gov/library), or in person at any library), they will receive reading logs to keep track of the books they read or listen to. Any child who reads at least fifteen books may return his or her reading log to the library to receive a special certificate signed by Mayor Hardberger, and a book to take home and keep.

Some libraries have lots of activities for summer. Besides regular storytimes, special programs will include Magik Theatre, The Kingdom of Texas, Ranger Tom, Texas Tunes, Spikey Mikey, Go Wild! and Reading in the Rainforest

For more information on Summer Reading, ask at any San Antonio Public Library location, or visit our website, [www.sanantonio.gov](http://www.sanantonio.gov).



P.O. Box 461523  
San Antonio, Texas 78246

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## CALENDAR OF BOOK SALES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

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

- May 1 Landa Gardens ribbon cutting, 10 a.m., Library Open House until 2 p.m.
- May 2 Landa Library reopens, 9 a.m.
- May 3 Thousand Oaks Book Sale, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- May 4-10 Igo Library will celebrate Pet Week with activities. See Branch Leaves for more info.
- May 12 Igo Library Paperback Book Sale
- May 17 Brook Hollow Spring Book Sale
- May 17 Cody Branch Library presents **Ben Rehder**, author of *Holy Moly*, *Buck Fever*, and other hilarious mysteries set in the Hill Country. Copies of his books will be available for purchase, 1-2 p.m.
- May 17 McCreless Book Sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- May 17 Tobin at Oakwell Book Sale, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- May 18 Friends Board Meeting, Guerra Library, 2 p.m.**
- May 20 Brook Hollow Friends meeting, 7 p.m. in the library meeting room
- May 24 Memorial Library and Amigos Flag Raising Ceremony, 10 a.m.
- May 31 Guerra will hold a book sale on May 31 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and June 1 from 1-4 p.m.
- June 6 Westfall Book Sale, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- June 19 Summer Book Sale preview for FOSAPL members, Book Cellar, 4-7 p.m.
- June 20-22 Book Cellar Big Summer Book Sale, Central Library (See page 5 for more info)

**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  
210-496-6315

Central Library  
600 Soledad Street, 78205  
210-207-2500

Cody Library  
11441 Vance Jackson, 78230  
210-696-6396

Guerra Library  
7978 Military Drive W, 78227  
210-673-1492

Igo Library  
13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy, 78249  
210-561-6113 (also TTY)

Landa Library  
233 Bushnell, 78212  
210-732-8369

McCreless Library  
1023 Ada Street, 78223  
210-532-4254

Memorial Library  
3222 Culebra, 78228  
210-432-6783

Semmes Library  
15060 Judson Rd., 78247  
210-650-9540

Thousand Oaks Library  
4618 Thousand Oaks, 78233  
210-657-5205

Tobin Library at Oakwell  
4134 Harry Wurzbach Rd, 78209  
210-828-2569

Westfall Library  
6111 Rosedale Court, 78201  
210-344-2373