

Valley Ranch Library Reopens with Additional 5,000 Square Feet

IRVING, TEXAS, *Feb. 21, 2014* — The walls are up, the books are back in place and excitement is in the air. After a two-month closure, the Valley Ranch Library is reopening bigger and better than before.

The public and media are invited to attend the Valley Ranch Library reopening at 9:30 a.m. March 1, 401 Cimarron Trail. The library will host a ribbon cutting ceremony and family activities throughout the morning to celebrate the completion of the library's expansion.

"We can't wait for our customers to see the renovations and added features that will enhance their experience at Valley Ranch Library, and to see the community fully use all the services we offer," said Branch Manager Patty Mount.

The renovations opened up an additional 5,000 square feet for community use. Visitors to the Valley Ranch Library will now enjoy:

- a digital and video creation lab
- a larger meeting room
- additional seating and tables for visitors, and more shelf space for books
- a designated teen area
- a sound-reducing wall around the Children's section
- an interactive floor that resembles a moving coral reef

Several state and city officials will speak at the event, including Irving Councilwoman Rose Cannady, council liaison to the Library Board; Matt Jack, communications and outreach for U.S. Rep. Kenny Marchant; and state Rep. Bennett Ratliff, District 115. Irving Mayor Beth Van Duynes will perform the ribbon cutting.

"The renovations at Valley Ranch Library are really about taking care of our residents," said Irving Councilman Brad LaMorgese. "There was a demand in the community for increased services and to create more space, and this ribbon-cutting demonstrates how the city is meeting those demands. Residents of all ages are benefiting from the renovation, from our youngest readers who now have more space for story-time, to our teens, who can use the cutting-edge digital creation lab for school projects. It's something positive for all of Irving."

More than 250,000 people visited the Valley Ranch Library in 2013. The 26,000 square foot facility opened in 2007. The space retrofitted for this project is part of the building's original construction, but had been used as a storage space until now.

About the City of Irving

Irving is the second city in the nation and the first in the State of Texas to receive the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award (2012) as well as the first municipality in Texas' history to receive the Texas Award for Performance Excellence (2011). Irving is the 13th largest city in the state with 217,000 residents and is home to the largest office park in North Texas, where a number of Fortune 1000 companies are headquartered.

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