

# PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



## Charleston Air Force Base Library

Streamlined Space Serves a Committed Military Community

### CHALLENGE

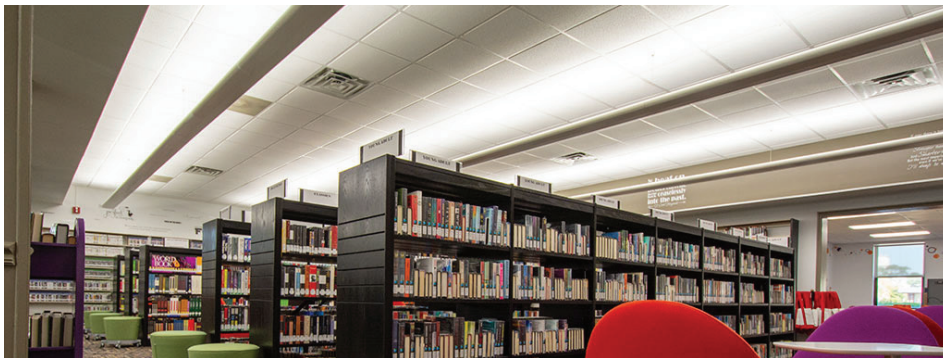
The United States Air Force took it upon itself to respond to the changing ways in which today's libraries are being used. They are going from places designed solely to house books and media to being more modern and multi-purpose – with larger, more flexible meeting space, better seating and sightlines. The Charleston Air Base Library was one such project. Opening up its design became an imperative; as a result, it might open up opportunity and access.

### SOLUTION

Culling the collection by about 15 percent was first on the agenda. This process was made somewhat easier by the fact that many items could be relocated to a sister library on the base, which is shared with the United States Naval Weapons Station. Secondly, following the Air Force's set parameters, the maximum height of new wooden bookshelves was lowered from 82" to 60". Even some repurposed Spacesaver cantilever shelving was augmented with wooden end panels to ensure visual cohesion. A new, custom-designed circulation desk anchored the space, helping to create a more modern, open, "bookstore" feel for the environment.

### ACHIEVEMENT

*"We opened the newly renovated library just after Thanksgiving, 2018, and it's been a wonderful transformation,"* said Library Director Angela Aschenbrenner. *"We serve about 25,000 people throughout the year, and it's been wonderful to play such an active role in life on the base. I've worked with Patterson Pope before, and they've always been great. They care about their customers. They're available and helpful. They answer your questions and if there were ever any problems, they were quick to respond. I never had a worry about something not being addressed or not being done to my satisfaction."*



*"With projects of this size, there are always issues. But I had the confidence to know that things would be taken care of quickly, efficiently and completely."*

Angela Aschenbrenner  
Library Director  
Charleston Air Force Base