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## BOOKMOBILE APPRECIATION



*State Librarian Susan Oberlander, Sen. Michael Sanchez, and  
DCA Department Secretary Stuart Ashman in Veguita*

On Tuesday, August 18, an assortment of people came together in a vacant field, underneath a large old cottonwood tree in the rural community of Veguita, New Mexico. This location, just down from the Veguita Volunteer Fire Department, is a regularly scheduled stop of the library bus from the Bookmobile East Office in Los Lunas. The occasion was to recognize the support that Sen. Michael Sanchez, Rep. Andrew Barreras, and Rep. Henry Kiki Saavedra have given to the thousands of citizens in communities throughout New Mexico who rely on their public libraries and bookmobiles.

On hand to give awards of appreciation to these three key legislators was Stuart Ashman, Cabinet Secretary of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and State Librarian Susan Oberlander. The New Mexico State Library's newest bookmobile, purchased through the support of the State Legislature, was on hand to serve as a fitting backdrop to the simple ceremony. Bookmobile patrons and State Library staffers were also there to thank the lawmakers.

Connie Ott, a bookmobile patron and supporter from Veguita, said a few words to tell just how personal bookmobile service has been to her.

“A few years ago, I lost about half my nose to skin cancer. Vanity did take its toll [and I stayed] out of public during the five reconstructive surgeries, [going out] mostly for doctor’s visits, and ‘have to’ appointments. Extended family members who were bookmobile patrons suggested I go to the bookmobile when I felt I wanted to venture out to get out of the house and for my own ‘vanity test drive.’ They told me about the wonderful staff and services (even though I had been a recipient of their books monthly). Long story short...with a bandaged blood vessel on the outside of my nose leading to my eyebrow...not being able to wear my glasses...I went to meet the bookmobile. I was greeted warmly and treated respectfully and was shown the LARGE print book area and the audio book selections: lot easier than using a page magnifier to read. I have appreciated getting books and sharing them with my extended family who are elderly and/or disabled and who can no longer meet the bus on a monthly basis themselves, so every book I check out... three others read them also. A real bang for the buck here! To wrap things up...I am an avid reader and bookmobile supporter and have appreciated the services they have provided for many years and appreciate the support others have given to make this valuable community resource possible. Thank you.”

There are three bookmobiles that travel the state and cover more than 80,000 miles a year, and serve thousands of rural residents who otherwise would not have any library service.

## BRIEFINGS

*Send your news or stories that you would like to share with the library community to the HH editor, Robert Upton, at [robert.upton@state.nm.us](mailto:robert.upton@state.nm.us)*

**Juan the Bear at the National Book Festival.** Juan the Bear and the Water of Life: La Acequia de Juan del Oso by Enrique Lamadrid, Juan Estevan Arellano, and with illustrations by Amy Córdova, has been selected by the New Mexico State Library to represent New Mexico at this year’s National Book Festival in Washington, DC, on September 26.

Organized and sponsored by the Library of Congress, the National Book Festival is an annual event that celebrates the joys of reading and lifelong literacy. The New Mexico State Library has been participating in the festival since 2002 with a booth in the Pavilion of the States which represents reading and literacy promotion programs as well as literary traditions from the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories. Each year the festival’s organizers ask state participants to choose one children’s or young adult book to represent them at their booth.

“Juan the Bear is an ideal choice,” said New Mexico State Library Publications Director Robert Upton. “It is a beautifully illustrated children’s book with bilingual text, a story representing important cultural values and history, and which is published by a New Mexico press.”

The tale, a unique retelling of the celebrated New Mexico legend of the stouthearted man who moved mountains and rivers to create La Acequia del Rito y la Sierra, the most famous traditional irrigation system in New Mexico, is just one of many stories featuring the exploits of

Juan the Bear (Juan del Oso) and his superhuman friends that folklorist Enrique Lamadrid and agriculturalist Juan Estevan Arellano grew up hearing.

“The power of Juan del Oso intrigues us all, even the youngest children,” says Lamadrid. “Estevan Arellano and I decided to link Juan’s story to the historic story of the acequias and the culture which they nourish.” Like Upton, Lamadrid also credits the eye-catching illustrations of New Mexico artist Amy Córdova that inevitably draw people to the story. “From the beginning we knew we were on to something everyone could appreciate.”

“I feel honored that Juan the Bear and the Water of Life will be recognized as the State Book at the 2009 National Book Festival,” says Arellano. “It’s not only an honor for the authors and the artist, but I feel it’s a recognition of what makes New Mexico so unique and wonderful.”

Juan the Bear and the Water of Life is the second UNM Press title to be chosen to represent New Mexico at the National Book Festival. In 2008 The Voyage of the Beetle: A Journey around the World with Charles Darwin and the Search for the Solution to the Mystery of Mysteries, as Narrated by Rosie, an Articulate Beetle by Anne Weaver and with illustrations by George Lawrence was featured at the New Mexico State Library booth.

For more information on Juan the Bear and the Water of Life, please contact Katherine MacGilvray, UNM Press publicity, at 505-272-7177 or [katm@unm.edu](mailto:katm@unm.edu) . Information on the National Book Festival is available at <http://www.loc.gov/bookfest> .

**HH notes.** The *Hitchhiker* is about you and your libraries. We depend on you to let us know what is going on at your libraries, and what you like or don’t like about the content of the newsletter. Please help by spreading the word that *Hitchhiker* is back, and by reminding others to send their email addresses so we can notify them each time a new issue is available. Send your news and announcements, and also new and corrected email addresses to [robert.upton@state.nm.us](mailto:robert.upton@state.nm.us)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Send event and training announcements for the library community to the HH editor, Robert Upton, at [robert.upton@state.nm.us](mailto:robert.upton@state.nm.us)*

**Great Stories.** The Great Stories CLUB is a reading and discussion program that targets underserved, troubled teen populations. The program reaches teens through books that are relevant to their lives, inviting them to read and keep the books, and encourages them to consider and discuss each title with a group of their peers. It seeks to show that reading can be a source of pleasure, a tool for self-exploration, and a meaningful way to connect to the wider world. Its ultimate goal is to inspire young adults who face difficult situations to take control of their lives by embracing the power of reading. You can read more about this initiative at the website: [www.ala.org/greatstories](http://www.ala.org/greatstories) .

Round III is just around the corner. Angie Manfredi, Head of Youth Services at Mesa Public Library in Los Alamos, is the current chair of the Great Stories CLUB and she would love to see some New Mexico libraries/groups get involved. The theme for this round is “New

Horizons.” YALSA's Outreach to Young Adults with Special Needs Committee has selected the following three titles for this round:

- One of Those Hideous Books Where The Mother Dies, by Sonya Sones (Simon & Schuster, 2005)
- The Afterlife by Gary Soto (Harcourt, 2005)
- The Rules of Survival by Nancy Werlin (Speak, 2008)

Applications for Round III will be accepted from September 1 through November 2. To get started, you can view guidelines, application instructions, and resources for projects directors. You may also like to contact Angie at (505) 662-8257 or [angelina.manfredi@lacnm.us](mailto:angelina.manfredi@lacnm.us) for any additional information. The Great Stories CLUB is organized by the American Library Association Public Programs Office (PPO), in cooperation with the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA). Major funding for the Great Stories CLUB has been provided by Oprah's Angel Network.

**Librarian Certification study session.** There will be a study session for anyone planning to take the Librarian Certification Exam on Thursday, September 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the New Mexico State Library. Pre-registration is required; class size is limited to the first 12 registrants. Registration closes at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15. To register online for the study session, please go to the New Mexico State Library's website ([http://www.nmstatelibrary.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=80&Itemid=135](http://www.nmstatelibrary.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=80&Itemid=135)).

New Mexico Certification for Public Librarians is intended to:

- Be administered to public library directors, but may be taken by anyone who works or is interested in working in a public library
- Improve library service in New Mexico by developing the skills of public library directors and staff
- Encourage public librarians to acquire and develop skills, through independent study and basic education
- Provide resources and tools that may be used for managing a library, in developing policies and plans for the library and in working with boards and Friends of the Library groups.

As a requirement to receive public funds under the New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC) 4.5.2, library director certification is required for librarians in communities over 3,000 as shown by the last federal decennial census. There may also be personal reasons for becoming certified, such as a commitment to the profession of librarianship, personal fulfillment, and career enhancement.

For more information, please contact Eleanor Bernau, New Mexico State Library, email [eleanor.bernau@state.nm.us](mailto:eleanor.bernau@state.nm.us) ; toll-free 1-800-340-3890 or (505) 476-7869.

## JOBS

*Send job announcements to the HH editor, Robert Upton, at [robert.upton@state.nm.us](mailto:robert.upton@state.nm.us) . There is no charge for this service to the library community.*

**Bookmobile tech.** The New Mexico State Library – Department of Cultural Affairs is advertising an opening for Library Technician (Job ID# 20447, pay band 45) for the Rural Bookmobile East Office in Tucumcari. Salary is \$9.79 min. - \$17.41 max. hourly. The person in this position provides library services to rural and underserved communities and patrons and drives the bookmobile. Requires an Associate's degree or two year college degree in any field. The State Library may accept State Personnel Office (SPO) authorized equivalencies for the required education and/or experience in fields listed for this position. Preferred experience is at least three years library and/or related experience (Public or Technical Services, i.e., shelving, cataloging, reference, circulation, customer service, clerical and/or data entry duties). Must possess and maintain a valid New Mexico driver's license. Offered salary is determined based on education and experience qualifications. Job environment includes sitting long hours during bookmobile trips; lifting and carrying luggage, laptops, and books; driving a bookmobile on narrow NM roads under adverse conditions; manual labor including lifting up to 50 lbs.; overnight travel ( bookmobile usually travels three out of four weeks per month). The application period has been extended to Friday, August 28. To apply for this position, go to the SPO website at <http://www.spo.state.nm.us> and click "Browse and apply for state government jobs" and then scroll to "LIBRARY TECH -Operational- CULTURAL AFFAIRS " and then click on job title to see full job description. To apply click on "Apply Now" button at bottom of page. State Library contact is Angela Soliz, (505) 476-9783 or [angela.soliz@state.nm.us](mailto:angela.soliz@state.nm.us) .

**Librarian.** Santa Fe Community College has an opening for Librarian (FTE .75 - 30 hours/week), Job no. 0080122. Duties consist of assisting the Library Director in the development of short and long-range plans/goals for the library; managing all circulation functions, including circulation, overdues, billing, and recall; managing all reserve functions; coordinating interlibrary loan services; contributing to collection development and acquisition; providing reference services to library patrons; developing and conducting bibliographic instruction sessions; assisting in managing the workflow of student workers; evaluating electronic resources and making recommendations for continuation, discontinuation, and additions; working as a contributing team member in developing and implementing all library policies and procedures; staffing the library on Saturdays; and performing other related duties as required. Although the above are typical of the duties and responsibilities normally performed, additional duties and responsibilities requiring the same or lesser skills, knowledge and dexterity may be required. Minimum qualifications include a Master's degree in Library Science (MLS) or Master's degree in Library and Information Science (MLIS) from an ALA accredited institution, and four years experience as a librarian required. Other requirements include the ability to work with a diverse population and strong interpersonal and organizational skills; experience using electronic information resources and technologies; a valid driver's

license and a good driving record. Librarian experience in an academic library setting; advanced, broad-based job specific knowledge generally recognized in the field; ability to apply complex/specialized knowledge to assignments; good computer skills; current experience in providing reference services using on-line and print resources, bibliographic instruction, and experience with an integrated library system (preferably Millennium III's innovative system); ability to work in a team environment; and supervisory skills are preferred. Effective verbal and written communication skills, ability to act independently, and make logical decisions based on policies and procedures are essential. Salary range is \$26,918 - \$39,770. Closing date is August 26. Application form must be complete and specifically address the posted minimum requirements (including # of hours worked per week for all employment history). Please read the entire job posting carefully and be sure your information is detailed and clearly addresses all education and experience requirements and preferences. Read "SFCC's Hiring Process" for a full description of the hiring process. Required applicant documents include a resume, cover letter, specific education and experience. See the full job description/application process at <https://jobs.sfccnm.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1250187066249> ; once you are on the jobs page at SFCC, scroll down and click on "Salary;" . It should be the first one that comes up.

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