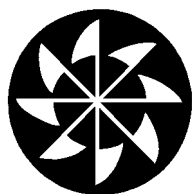


For
Librarians in
New Mexico



Hitchhiker

July 3, 2006

BOOK SUGGESTIONS NEEDED

Each year, the New Mexico State Library sends a small delegation to the National Book Festival held in Washington D.C. This year, it will be held on September 30. The National Center for the Book asks each state to choose a book to represent the state for that year. Because the focus of the National Book Festival is on young readers, the book should appeal to children and juvenal readers. Past choices for New Mexico have been: And Now Miguel by Joseph Krumgold, The Day It Snowed Tortillas by Joe Hayes, Roadrunner Dance by Rudolfo Anaya, and Arrow To the Sun by Gerald McDermott.

It's time to make a choice for 2006, and you can help out by nominating a title. Think about a title popular with young people that has a New Mexico author, setting, or tie-in, and send your nomination ASAP to Robert Upton, Hitchhiker editor ☎(505) 476-9764 or e-mail robert.upton@state.nm.us.

BRIEFINGS

Zimmerman partially reopened. Journals lost in the blaze that damaged the Zimmerman Library at the University of New Mexico on April 30 (see *HH* #1637) will not be easily replaced, reported the Daily Lobo in a story by Riley Bauling on June 15. Camila Alire, Dean of University Libraries at the University of New Mexico, reports that the fire destroyed some periodicals and damaged many more. Among the areas completely destroyed were history, Latin American studies, Native American studies, Hispanic studies and African-American studies. Other damaged areas were geography, anthropology, archaeology, religion, philosophy, and cultural studies. Many of the damaged journals can't be found in UNM's online journal database, she said. All the surviving periodicals and microforms were shipped out of state for cleaning and further assessment. Some of those materials may be so damaged that they cannot be restored; the exact losses will not be known until the materials are returned.

A taskforce has been appointed and is developing a database that will identify the titles and volumes that were lost. Some of these journals may be irreplaceable, but library staff is working to rebuild the collection. When a complete list of the lost materials is complete, the library will make it available from the web page.

The first floor of Zimmerman (including circulation), the Center for Southwest Research, and West Wing opened to the public on June 26. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday only. Reference services will be available, although Zimmerman Reference Area and Zimmerman Reference Collection will not be open. Alire expressed hope that the second and third floors of Zimmerman will be open later this summer, but does not know how long the restoration may take. An opening date for the heavily damaged basement level has not yet been determined. None of the journals or microforms sent for cleaning and restoration will be returned until the basement can be re-opened.

The Hitchhiker is available upon request on computer disc, cassette tape, in braille, or in large print. It may also be seen on the State Library WEB site: <http://www.stlib.state.nm.us>.

The **HITCHHIKER** is published weekly by the New Mexico State Library, a division of the Office of Cultural Affairs, 1209 Camino Carlos Rey, Santa Fe, NM 87505. Send news items to Robert Upton, EDITOR. ☎505-476-9764, FAX 505-476-9761.

The Centennial Science and Engineering Library, Fine Arts Library, and Parish Business and Economics Library continue to operate normally and are assisting and supporting Zimmerman services during this period. Updated information on library services is available online at <http://elibrary.unm.edu> by clicking the Zimmerman Services Update link.

Plumbing problems in Capitan. While the library was closed over the weekend of June 10, the Capitan Public Library had a water leak which flooded the basement of the building. There were no books in the basement, but a lot of supplies for the summer reading program and other projects for the year were in storage there. “This was a big blow to our small library,” library director Pat Garrett said. “Most of our funding is from fund raisers and donations as we are 501(c)(3) privately run library. It is going to cost us at least \$500 as that is the insurance deductible. We not only had to have a plumber but also a carpet restoration company with large fans and a dehumidifier. The smell has been hard to deal with!”

What the public thinks of libraries. An Americans for Libraries Council sponsored a study to learn what Americans think of libraries in the age of the Internet. It was conducted by Public Agenda and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. It shows that libraries are poised to lead the way to solutions to today’s pressing community problems, including providing a safe and engaging place for teens; building a strong and literate workforce; and extending access to technology. It also finds that taking on such challenges is the best bet for libraries to strengthen their communities and their own funding futures.

The final report, “Long Overdue: A Fresh Look at Public and Leadership Attitudes About Libraries in the 21st Century,” has been published and can be downloaded, along with commentary, at http://www.lff.org/long_overdue061306.html. A glimpse into the results shows that libraries top the list of public services receiving an “A” grade, ahead even of police and schools; more than half the public (52 percent) would rather raise taxes than cut library services or charge fees for them and nine in ten Americans believe that libraries will be needed in the future, regardless of technological developments.

But along with the good news comes a wake-up call to the library community:

- Engaged citizens who vote in local elections and care deeply about libraries are no more likely than others to support libraries financially, or to advocate for their well-being – they simply don’t know that library funding may be in jeopardy;
- Elected officials recognize that communities trust libraries, but they do not fully employ (or fund) libraries to solve pressing community problems – problems that libraries are uniquely positioned to help resolve.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for transformational stories. Leslie Burger, ALA President-Elect, is asking individual libraries to participate in an interactive project that will help transform libraries. “Libraries Transform Communities” is the theme she has chosen for her presidential initiative. When libraries are transformed either by new service programs, renovations, or new buildings, the communities they serve are in turn transformed. Part of the initiative is to create a Transformation Tool Kit, which will have tips and ideas for how to transform your library, and stories from libraries that have been transformed. She is calling for libraries to help by sending in transformation stories and photographs. Explain briefly how your library been changed and how your library users and community have been transformed. The stories and photographs will be featured on her website at <http://lb.princetonlibrary.org>. Please send all materials to Romina Gutierrez, e-mail rgutierrez@princetonlibrary.org as soon as possible.

PEOPLE NOTES

Susan Sheldon has recently resigned from the Vista Grande Public Library in Southeast Santa Fe County. Susan is planning to continue working with



library materials as a consultant with a strong interest in cataloging. After Labor Day, she'll be looking to get involved with any libraries in need of her public library and cataloging experience.

Toni-Lynn Hart has joined the staff of Rural Bookmobile West, the Los Lunas office of the New Mexico State Library's Bookmobile Program, as the new full-time permanent Library Technician. Toni has several years of library experience in North Carolina and New Mexico. She is also a dance instructor, gardener, traveler, and cat lover. She has a special interest in the Native American community and Native American issues.

WebJunction announced that the New Mexico State Library's **Cassandra Osterloh** was chosen to be the Member of the Year in WJ's first annual Member Choice Awards. Nominated by multiple members across all four categories, WJ praised Cassandra for her willingness to offer advice, helpful hints, and training. She is a great cheerleader and is usually one of the first people to respond to new folks. As Interim Team Leader for the tab editors, she is doing a spectacular job and is a dynamic advocate for WJ.

The selections were made by peers at WebJunction. The other winners are Bob Watson (IL) for consistent contributions to WJ's online discussions and demonstrating impact programming; Harry Pike (NH) and Douglas Lord (CT) for their careful cultivation of Getting Started and Library Services to Older Adults discussion areas; Linda Gens (OK) for promoting WebJunction and online learning in Oklahoma; and Mala Muralidharan (AZ) for her willingness to share ideas and collaborate across Community Partners to make WJ better for library and museum staff. Each of the winners will be recognized at the annual member reception (ALA Conference in New Orleans) and will receive a WebJunction gift.

JOBS

School librarian. Los Alamos Public Schools has posted a position for an Elementary School Librarian (Job # 2007-040). Operates and supervises the Aspen Elementary School library; assists students and staff in the utilization of library materials; supervises the work of assigned library clerks/aides; plans the acquisition of materials, prepares and maintains inventories and record keeping, and works with the public as necessary. Must possess a New Mexico Grade K-12 license with Library/Media endorsement. If you are interested in applying submit a completed employment application packet to Los Alamos Public Schools, Human Resources, Post Office Box 90, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544. The posting is listed at <http://laschools.net/for-community-members/employment/job-postings> and application directions are at <http://laschools.net/for-community-members/employment/applying-for-a-job>. You may pick up or drop off an employment application; the office is located at 751 Trinity Drive, Los Alamos.

Librarian. New Mexico Junior College is advertising for applicants for Coordinator of Technical Services. The position reports to the Director of Library Services. The duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to supervising the technical services staff; direction and assistance with problems in cataloging, serials, and government documents areas; evaluating and modification of cataloging procedures for most effective and complete catalog display and provide guidance in the usage of MARC holdings records; evaluating List of Classes to make annual item selections and deletions for government documents; monthly review of Choice Online issue and vendor orders; management of McNaughton program and regular placement of and running reports to identify unused items for return; establishing local and remote access for new databases and resolving problems relating to access and assist with installation, updates, and organization of new resources; providing relief at circulation/reference desk on week-

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ends and as needed; keeping apprised of current issues in library science by attending workshops and conferences, reading library literature and subscribing to online lists; collaboration with others in assessing technological needs; participating in a process of continual personal and professional improvement; actively participating in the institutional goals and objectives designed to support the mission of the college; and serving on college committees as assigned. Requires an accredited American Library Association Master's degree in Library/Information Sciences. Training and/or experience highly recommended in integrated library systems (Sirsi preferred), cataloging and classification, government documents, serials processing and staff supervision. Familiarity with trends and issues in computer and telecommunications technology and a demonstrable ability to apply this knowledge to the local situation required. Good computer skills and experience working in a networked environment required. Experience with Windows-XP highly recommended. This is a twelve-month position with a salary range of \$35,595 to \$44,493 commensurate with education and experience. Standard NMJC benefits apply. Note: NMJC does not participate in social security deductions. Open until filled. Submit an NMJC application form, letter of application (cover letter), résumé, unofficial transcripts and three or more letters of recommendation to Human Resources, New Mexico Junior College, 5317 Lovington Highway, Hobbs, NM 88240; or call toll free 1-800-657-6260.