

Youth Services Newsletter

April/May 2011, #38

Community connections



Garden@your library

Sunland Park Community Library in southern New Mexico not only has become the go-to place for information on gardening, it's become the actual "Community Garden!"

Library Director **Luz Vargas** tell us that she never dreamed this project would blossom so quickly. The library shares the building with City Hall (pictured right), and is approximately 4,100 sq. ft. The garden, which is now the library's "outside classroom," adds another 3,000 square feet!



As you can see everyone is involved, from the smallest child to the bigger kids, too.



The YS newsletter is now published on a bi-monthly schedule. The **June/July issue will come out on July 15.**

Send your events, news, photos, or stories you'd like to share about what's going on at your library by **July 1** to:

Renee Payne at renee.payne@state.nm.us

Currently the garden has 12 different vegetables, 10 different herbs, and 12 different flowers. There is a core group of **50 children, ages 5-19 years old** who volunteer, with special help from Art Montero and Sierra Vista Growers nursery in La Union, NM.



What has the garden done for the community? It has attracted many children to the library and has generated new volunteers, including Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, UTEP Professors, and students. It also has generated other programs such as field trips and growing produce for the senior citizen center. The flowers have been used to decorate City Hall offices and the library. Another benefit -- it has helped with the childrens' social skills because they

also go to the local farmers market to sell the flowers and produce.

Another upcoming library-garden project will focus on science -- the library will obtain microscopes and coordinate volunteers to teach the children how to test the water and soil for different properties and conditions for growing.

Not only is this a great community activity and opportunity to promote the library, it's one place where you don't have to shush anyone!

Community connections (cont'd)

One World...Many Songs

This summer reading suggestion comes from a CLSP member:

If you're looking for specific songs from a foreign country (for example, Middle Eastern songs), this website comes highly recommended: **Mama Lisa's World -- International Music & Culture for Kids & Adults** at www.mamalisa.com.

You can search by continent or by country and see lists of songs from that culture in the native language and in English, with audios.



One World... Many Languages

When children participate in this year's summer reading program "**One World, Many Stories**," are you ready to say "welcome to the library" in different languages?

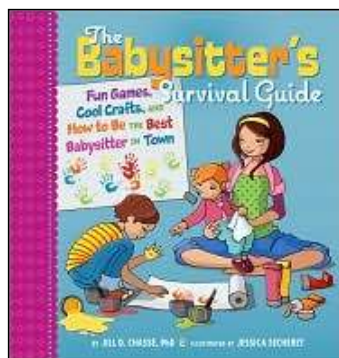
- Visită Biblioteca! (Romanian)
- Visitare la biblioteca! (Italian)
- Käydä Katsomassakirjasto! (Finnish)
- Visitez la bibliothèque! (French)
- Besøge biblioteker! (Danish)
- Besuchen Sie die Bibliothek! (German)
- Ziryaretkütüphamel! (Turkish)
- Bezoeken Zi de lesszaal! (Dutch)
- Wizytowac biblioteka! (Polish)

Wimpy Kid Do-It-Yourself Comics Contest Now Open

School Library Journal announces that children and students can now enter the "**Wimpy Kid**" Comics Contest for a chance to win \$500, plus \$1000 for a library of his or her choosing, and an autographed copy of the new "*Do-It-Yourself Book*."

Kids from 6-16 are encouraged to participate, but collaborative works are not eligible.

Contest ends at 11:59 PM Eastern Time on **June 10, 2011**. Visit: www.wimpykid.com/contest for rules.



Tina Huyge at Branigan Memorial Library (Las Cruces) submits a great programming idea:

The Young Adult Department is sponsoring the "**Babysitter Know-How Series**," for students in grades 6-12.

Participants will learn how to be the best babysitter in town. Topics covered: the interview, what to expect from children of different ages, comforting kids, meal time, bath time, fighting, activities and crafts, bedtime, and babysitting for children with special needs.

The program is based on the book, "*The Babysitters Survival Guide*" by Jill D. Chasse, Ph.D.

Funds for this program are provided by the Friends of the Library.



Spotlight on NM Libraries

What fun events and programs are happening at New Mexico's public libraries? Here are a few reports from the field:

Andrea Corvin from the **Edgewood Community Library** shares with us that the Library had some very **special** visitors at their Weekly Story Time program!

Kitty and Jim Montano, volunteers for the Torrance County Mounted Search and Rescue, dropped by with their

miniature horse, **Gal**, and German Shepherd, **Liz**. They talked to the children about what they should do if ever they became lost in the wilderness. There are posted pictures that have been tagged with more information on the library's website at <http://www.edgewoodlibrary.com/apps/photos/photo?photoid=119416325>.

Check out the little athletic shoes on Gal, the miniature horse!



"In every community there is work to be done...in every heart there is the power to do it."

Marianne Williamson

Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, Las Cruces

Tina Huyge reports on the results of their Video Trailer Contest. She says, "after much work on the part of the students entering our most recent contest --- a **video trailer for the 2011 Children's Summer Reading Program "One World, Many Stories"** -- the Young Adult Department is pleased to announce the results. The winning video was created by **Kameron Lozano and Amanda Gill - 8th graders at Sierra Middle School.**

Since we had so many entries, our four judges



chose several Honorable Mentions as well - those went to:

Sam Warner and Foster Gbo Gbo; Abigail Mathanis and Ximena Tapia; Rowan Baxa; Trianna Valigura and Zachary Weber.

Each member of the winning video received a \$40 gift card to Best Buy, a flash drive, a TBML CD case and a Certificate of Achievement.

Honorable Mention individuals received a flash drive, a TBML CD case and a Certificate of Achievement.

All others participating in the contest received a Certificate of Participation and a TBML CD case. **Special thanks to the Friends of Thomas Branigan Memorial Library** for funding this program's prizes."

El Portal, new web access to State Library e-resources

In case you haven't heard, **any New Mexico resident** now has **free 24/7** access to popular electronic resource tools using **"El Portal," the State Library's new one-stop web page portal.**

New Mexico library staff got a sneak peak during a well-attended workshop at the annual New Mexico Library Association (NMLA) conference in Albuquerque. They discovered that El Portal's user-friendly access is **available from any online connection - from home, work, school, the library, and portable devices such as smart phones.**



If you help younger library customers with reference searches, El Portal will take them to reliable Gale Resources: newspapers, magazine and journal articles, encyclopedias, and even full-text books.

Databases include **Academic OneFile**, General Reference Center Gold, and **Kids InfoBits**, and recent additions such as **Opposing Viewpoints** and ChiltonLibrary. Special InfoTrac Collections include: **Pop Culture**, **Student Edition K12**, **Vocations**, **Careers & Technical Information**.

How does El Portal recognize that a person is a New Mexico resident? Thanks to a technology called Geo-IP authentication, it checks the IP address of the device used to access the resources and compares it to a database of all IPs known to originate within New Mexico. Once an IP address is validated as an IP address within New Mexico, El Portal's online resources can be accessed without being asked for any logon or password.

If you or your library customers experience problems or need help with El Portal, please contact **Mark Adams** at the State Library. He can be reached at mark.adams@state.nm.us.

New Mexico State Library



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