Proposed $35,000,000 Bond for New Mexico Libraries

New Mexico Librarians are organizing a legislative effort to improve public, school and academic libraries. The New Mexico Library Bond Task Force is a group of public, school and academic librarians working together to have the Legislature support the Governor agree to allow a $35 million bond package on the November 2002 ballot to purchase books and other materials, such as periodicals and electronic databases. The last statewide library GO Bond initiative “Bonds for Books Plus” was passed in 1994. The New Mexico Library Association has endorsed this proposal.

This proposed 2002 Bond would break down as follows:

1. **$9 million for New Mexico public libraries**
   - To be distributed on a per capita basis to New Mexico public libraries as supplementary funding to purchase books, electronic information resources and the tools needed to share information. Statewide, this is about $5 per capita, or less than the cost of one paperback book. The New Mexico Municipal League has also supported this Bond concept.

2. **$18 million for publicly funded school libraries.**
   - To be distributed both with a minimum per school amount and a per student allocation. On average, this amount will purchase 3-4 new books per student. School libraries are woefully under funded and most science and other dated books are over 10 years-old. The NM Task Force for School Libraries wholeheartedly supports this effort.

3. **$8 million for academic libraries**
   - To be distributed on a formula basis to all academic libraries in the state. This amount will purchase approximately 2 library books, or other materials for each full time student in a New Mexico college or university. The New Mexico Consortium of Academic Libraries has also supported this Bond concept.

   This bond has the potential to make a huge difference to all New Mexico libraries, big and small.

For More information:

- Eileen B. Longsworth, Director
  Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library
  501 Copper Ave. NW, Albuquerque 87102
  505-768-5134, 505-768-5191 (fax)

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NM Library Foundation Awards Mini-grants

The New Mexico Library Foundation has again awarded two more mini-grants.

One was awarded to the Literacy Link-Leamos and Silver City Public Library for $900 to address literacy needs by present a morning of "Families Reading Together on Valentine's Day - Love Your Library!" The grant included funds for promotional items, prizes, and a storyteller.

The second was awarded to the "Carlsbad Public Library Historical Collection Preservation" project for $859 to preserve its rare books collection. The grant included funds for purchasing supplies and a locking glass bookcase.

The Foundation gives out mini-grants throughout the state for various projects. The deadlines are September 15 and January 31 of each year. The announcement of winners is about four to six weeks after the deadlines. For the forms, please go to www.nmla.org and look under NM Library Foundation or for more information contact Charlene Greenwood - gwgcharlene@qwest.net / 505-256-1379 (Albuquerque).

Submitted by Charlene Greenwood, Chair.
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New Mexico Library Association Newsletter

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From The President’s Desk

@ your library: where humor abounds. Humor of the gentle and respectful sort keeps us healthy and helps us cope. Congratulations to the organizing committee of the 2001 NMLA Mini-conference who came up with the idea of humor in libraries as the conference theme. In this program you will spend little time talking about upgrades, software, or licensing issues, and more time exploring humor and sharing good stories. After all in our libraries if we don’t deal with technology with humor, technology and changes in technology can be overwhelming.

NMLA board members at large serve as mini-conference organizers as well as board contacts for our 10 Special Interest Groups (SIGs). This year’s hard-working and creative members-at-large are Norice Lee, Kathy Matter, Olivia Newfield, and Barb Rosen who deserve a huge vote of thanks.


Kay Krehbiel.

The Advocacy for School Libraries Special Interest Group of NMLA

Have you been looking for a way to showcase something special about your library? Well, the Advocacy for School Libraries Special Interest Group of NMLA is sponsoring a new award that would do this. We would like to recognize outstanding NM school libraries. This award is open to all schools in NM. The basis for this award is the Standards for New Mexico School Libraries developed by the New Mexico Task Force for School Libraries, January 2001. It may be found at www.nmla.org and www.stlib.state.nm.us. The form is on the NMLA web page. More information may be obtained from Rogers Barde-rbarde@sisna.com:

By using this checklist, the positive side of school libraries will be showcased. It is a simple checklist that should not take much time to complete. For more information or clarification, refer to the Standards mentioned above. Please make colleagues aware of this opportunity. The deadline for submission is December 8, 2001 and is to be sent Toni Beatty, Awards Committee Chair, Rio Rancho Public Library, P.O. Box 15670, Rio Rancho, NM 87174. The committee may contact you for clarification.

Awards will be presented at the NMLA annual conference April 18, 2002 in Las Cruces.

The NM Library Foundation Raffle Includes Southwest Airline Tickets

The horrible events in New York City and Washington, D.C. have affected us all. We are personally drained by the contemplation of the vicious assault and the loss of life. Our efforts to assist NM libraries and to make sure that our people are better educated and therefore able to become better citizens is vital to a democracy.

We are at a critical time when we as the NM Library Foundation can make a difference in the lives of New Mexicans. To that end we believe that we should continue and recommit ourselves to our ultimate goals of freedom of expression; freedom to read; and freedom of access through improved libraries. Our work over the next few months is important to the success of what we know needs to happen with New Mexico’s libraries.

In support of our goals, we ask you to support our raffle of the Southwest Airline tickets. Please help support improved libraries in our state. Tickets have been mailed out and will also be sold at the Mini-Conference in Farmington on October 26. We will hold the drawing for the airline tickets during Book Week in November. There will be other items in the raffle for which we will be drawing at the Mini-Conference.

Submitted by Charlene Greenwood, Chair,
NMLF
New Library Certification Program Offered At Doña Ana Community College

The Library and Information Technology Program at Doña Ana Branch Community College is now offering a Certificate option in Library and Information Technology, consisting of 24 credit hours. This is in addition to the Associates Degree in Library and Information Technology and the Library Media Specialist Endorsement that have been offered since 1994. Students may also take individual courses on a continuing education basis without pursuing a degree or certificate. All courses in the Library and Information Technology Program are offered with a distance education option, to allow students throughout the state, and the nation, the opportunity for education in the area of library and information technology. Students enrolled in courses in the Library and Information Technology Program have come from 33 different cities besides Las Cruces, where the campus is located. The distance education classes use a web-based and/or videotaped format.

The current tuition at Doña Ana Branch Community College for a three-credit course is $105.00 for students in Doña Ana County and $120.00 for New Mexico residents outside Doña Ana County. Doña Ana Branch Community College is a two-year branch campus of New Mexico State University. Classes will be starting in January, so now is the time to get your paperwork in for admission!

For more information about the Library and Information Technology Program, or to receive a catalog or schedule of classes, contact Susan Pinkerton, Program Coordinator, at (505)527-7567 or (800)903-7503, ext. 7567 or spinkert@nmsu.edu.

Meeting Notes for Advocacy of School Libraries SIG
September 15, 2001

Rogers Barde brought the meeting to order shortly after 9:00.

- Task Force Update from yesterday - Charlene Greenwood
  The legislative issues were discussed with the Talking Points passed out. A discussion continued regarding the State School Board and being left off the agenda at their annual meeting
- Collection Development group - Ben Wakashige
  Sheet with goals, objectives, and activities passed out. Goal #1 is to bring NM school library collections to minimum standards in size and currency in 2006. Goal #2 is to ensure sufficient annual per pupil library materials allocations to maintain library collections at minimum standards—annually one book per student at that year's average book cost
- Facilities – Omar Durant
  Goal is to identify the appropriate person in each district to talk about this area and give them standards and examples
- Staffing – Barbara Vandongen
  First goal is to ensure that librarians are on salary schedules equal to teachers. Next is to build toward minimum standards through a library PR campaign aimed at school administrators, school board members, and parents.
- Curriculum – Dora Trudell
  Have done a survey of academic and public libraries. Have researched what other states are doing. Goal is to have curriculum shelf, K-12, completed by April 2002.
- Management – Maggie Reysen
  Will make a presentation @ NMLA to promote library education classes at colleges in New Mexico. The Dept. Of Education at UNM had offered the support of distance learning courses when developed.

Each of the six task force groups met for one hour to work on their goals.

- Programs Standards – An article will be run in the NMLA Newsletter, the Hitchhiker, and the NMLA website this month. All awards will be due December when other awards for the NMLA conference are due. The group worked on the wording of the article and the format of the award checklist. Once the awards are in, the group will meet on December 15th to review them.
- Staffing/PR
  Brochure - October 15
  Mailing - Nov. 9
  Display Panel - End of October
  Banner - Oct. 5

- Curriculum has decided to use the Utah Core Curriculum as a model
- Management - Will look to see what is available in Library Science in distance education
- Legislative Area - A General Session will be offered at the Mini-Conference in Farmington in October. A Train the Trainer Workshop has been tentatively scheduled for Nov. 3rd in the morning. Site and time to be announced. Those who had volunteered to meet with a state school board member and discuss the talking points were asked to let Ben know the outcome.
The Legislative districts that were decided from the June 9th meeting were reviewed. It was found that many of the contacts were not made. Alana McGrattan said she would work on contacting some of these people.

- The SIG and the Task force had determined to man booths at various conferences. The upcoming ones were discussed regarding dates and groups involved. Kitty Sherlock mentioned three bilingual meetings in the future at which she will pass out brochures.
- The next meeting of the SIG group has been scheduled for Saturday, January 12, 2002 from 9-12 at Tirezor Library on the UNM campus.
- There is a scheduled time for the SIG to meet at the mini-conference in Farmington October 26.

Contact Judy for list of booths/dates
Here is a list of events and who to contact if you would like to volunteer;
- New Mexico Assoc of Nonpublic Schools -
  - Albuq Oct 5 – contact Judy Hulsey
  - Learning Conference (St Dept of Ed) -
  - Albuq. Nov 16-17 – contact Judy Hulsey
  - NM Assoc of Elem School Principals -
  - Farmington Nov 15-17 Contact Rogers Barde
  - NM Assoc of School Boards - Albuq Dec'7-

8 contact Judy Hulsey

If It’s Not Oprah’s, Is It A Book Club?
By Claire Odenheim

Despite being surrounded by books in my school library all day I realized that I wasn’t keeping up with new adult literature or even reading those oldies that were still on my “must read” list. Weary bones, family responsibilities, and especially that time buster – television were getting in my way. And even reading furiously at bedtime seemed to leave me with a dim memory of last week’s book. Such was my librarian’s guilt.

Years ago when my husband and I spent a year living in Medellín, Colombia I was invited to join a discussion group of 12 or so women. The idea was to read a book in Spanish or English and discuss it over lunch. Made up of American, Colombian, English, German and Peruvian women of varying ages, we agreed to hold our weekly discussions in English. With such a diverse group our discussions reflected values and viewpoints that enlarged all our worldviews. We read books on comparative religion; Vargas Llosa, García Márquez, self-help books, and articles from magazines and journals during the year. I participated. It was very stimulating, and also lots of fun.

When we moved back to the U.S. home and kids’ activities took up most of my time along with the League of Women Voters and local politics (Alexandria, VA). Years later and living in Las Cruces one of my friends from Medellín (living here because of Colombia’s problems), the daughter of another of that illustrious group, and I decided to form a book club. We invited a number of friends and acquaintances to join us. While less ethnically diverse than we would like, we are varying ages, interests, and professions. That was in 1997 and since then while the membership has changed due to people moving, having babies, and the inclusion of new members, we are still going strong and continue to enjoy reading and talking about books. We meet in our homes every 4 or 5 weeks and have read about 39 books, old and new.

Book clubs have existed for many years in this country and elsewhere: the Internet confirms that they are flourishing yet. A brief look at websites discloses an amazing variety – groups that focus on poetry, romance, mystery, classics, history, religion, new fiction, regional etc., mother/daughter and on. I’m not talking about book clubs that sell books, but reading and discussion groups. They are often sponsored by public libraries, bookstores, Oprah, groups of friends, some have been in existence for years, many are online, focus around a particular ethnic interest, and more. The subjects covered by books and the interests of readers are infinite. Reading addiction seems anachronistic in our times of short attention spans, but more books are published than ever before.

Here is a very small sampling of what Las Crucens are reading.

- The bean trees by Barbara Kingsolver
- Loving Pedro Infante and Face of an angel by Denise Chavez
- The Conquest of Mexico by Bernal Diaz del Castillo
- The red tent by Anita Diamant
- The color of water by James McBride
- Things fall apart by Chinua Achebe
- Dubliners by James Joyce
- Angle of repose by Wallace Stegner
- Angela’s ashes by Frank McCourt
- Paula and Daughter of fortune by Isabel Allende

... and the list goes on

The Web address for the Border Health Information & Education Network (BIEN) has changed. The new URL is: http://www.bienhealth.org
"READiculous/Leer el ridículo"

"READiculous/Leer el ridículo" is the theme for the 2002 New Mexico statewide Summer Reading Program. The annual workshops for all Youth Services librarians from participating libraries will be held in November.

- North: Special Collections Branch, Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System, Tuesday, November 13, 2000 1-5 pm. (Address: 423 Central Ave. NE)
- Southwest: Truth or Consequences Public Library, Wednesday, November 14, 2000. 1-5 pm. (Address: 325 Library Lane)
- Southeast: Clovis- Carver Public Library, Friday, November 16, 2000. 1-5 pm. (Address: 701 N. Main)

A no-host networking lunch (11:00-1:00) at a nearby restaurant is being planned before each workshop.

Contact Kathy Barco, Youth Services Coordinator, New Mexico State Library, for further information. kbarco@stlib.state.nm.us (505) 476-9755 There is no charge for the workshops, but registration is required. You may register with Jackie Dalmy, Office Manager, at 1-800-340-3890, FAX (505)476-9721 or online at http://www.stlib.state.nm.us/devserv/form.html

NASA Images Bring Planets, Weather, Geology To Your Library

Fit the giant planet Jupiter and its moons into your library. Explore the peaks and valleys of the ocean's floor without getting all wet. Travel to distance galaxies and back in one afternoon. Experience the excitement of a gravity-free environment by watching an astronaut eat floating M&Ms.

Nearly 100 images -- from Buzz Aldrin taking a walk on the moon to colliding galaxies to the volcano of Mt. Etna, Italy -- are available through NASA's educational Web site The Space Place (http://spaceplace.nasa.gov) for library use. The pictures feature help bring a number of topics alive, including the Solar System, weather, geology and geography.

Librarians can access these images through the "Goodies for Teachers" section by simply clicking on the schoolhouse icon on The Space Place home page. There, they can choose Earth- and space-related printable pictures in the following categories: Solar System; Earth (Geography and Mapping, Oceans, Volcanoes, Weather); Astronauts; Stars, Galaxies and Nebulæ; and Rockets, Space Shuttles, International Space Station, Rovers.

Within each category are several images from which to choose. Librarians can click on the small image to view it in a 'larger format.' To print a clean copy (without browser information on the page), save the .jpg file (File/Save As) to the hard drive or a disk, and open and print it using any paint program (Photoshop, Windows Paint, PowerPoint, MacPaint, etc.) The image file can also be placed into a word processor, such as Microsoft Word, document for printing.

The Space Place includes images and curriculum for use in the library, as well as discovery-based learning activities for students to do on their own. For more information about The Space Place, contact Nancy Leon at nancy.j.leon@jpl.nasa.gov.

ALA Q&A On The Confidentiality and Privacy Of Library Records

Key message:
America's libraries support President Bush and Congressional leaders in our nation's efforts to preserve and protect the many hard-fought freedoms we enjoy as Americans. Librarians are encouraged to study and understand state confidentiality laws and to cooperate with the authorities within the guidelines provided by these laws. Librarians have a responsibility to protect the privacy of our patrons while responding to legitimate national security concerns.

What guidance does the American Library Association (ALA) give libraries regarding privacy and confidentiality?
The American Library Association encourages all librarians, particularly those in public libraries, to work with their local legal counsel to ensure they understand state confidentiality laws so they may respond quickly to any requests from law enforcement. Forty-eight of 50 states have such laws on the books, but the language varies from state to state.

The ALA recommends that each library adopt a policy that specifically recognizes the confidentiality of information sought or received, and materials consulted borrowed or acquired by a library user. These materials may include database search records, circulation records, interlibrary loan records and other personally identifiable uses of library materials, facilities, programs or services, such as reference interviews. Libraries are advised to rely on existing laws to control behavior that involves public safety or criminal behavior.
Libraries should have in place procedures for working with law enforcement officers when a subpoena or other legal order for records is made. Libraries will cooperate expeditiously with law enforcement within the framework of state law.

**Don’t librarians have a responsibility to turn over all records to police immediately?**

If librarians do not follow state confidentiality laws and legal procedures, they run the risk of actually hurting ongoing police investigations. The American judicial system provides the mechanism for seeking release of confidential records: the issuance of a court order, showing good cause based on specific facts and in proper form.

States created these confidentiality laws to protect the privacy and freedoms Americans hold dear. These laws provide a clear framework for responding to national security concerns while safeguarding against random searches, fishing expeditions or invasions of privacy.

**What do confidentiality laws stipulate?**

Individual language varies from state to state, but these laws provide a legal framework for accessing confidential records, usually providing that records may be released following the issuance of a court order in proper form and showing good cause based on specific facts.

**Do all states have confidentiality laws?**

All states have a confidentiality statute of some kind, except Hawaii and Kentucky. Hawaii and Kentucky do not have statutes specifically protecting library records, but they do have Attorney General opinions recognizing the confidentiality of library records.

**Do public and academic librarians monitor library users?**

No. Librarians are aware of the behavior of library users and when faced with disruptions or clear violations of the law, they take appropriate action. If laws are broken - as with theft or other violations - the librarian reports this immediately.

On the other hand, librarians do not police what library users read or access in the library. Libraries ensure the freedom to read, to view, to speak and to participate. They are cornerstones of democracy.

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**New Mexico Library Foundation**

Your chance for contributing to the Foundation and winning two Southwest Airlines open time, open SW destination tickets good for a year has arrived! See your mailbox for the NMLF's fall fund raising effort. Proceeds of your generosity assist New Mexico's libraries.

Tickets will also be available in Farmington as well. Drawing of winning ticket will be in mid-November.
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