



# Between Friends

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Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System

Winter 2006

## 1984 check-out resurfaces in Mayor's Book Round-Up

"How to Work in Stained Glass" was due to be returned to the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library in July 1984.

Thanks to Mayor Martin Chavez's Book Round-Up, it recently made it back where it belongs. The mayor announced a public awareness campaign in August to get Library customers to return their overdue books, music and movies.

### "Bring Those Books on Back!"

While some libraries host annual "Amnesty Weeks" during which overdue fees are waived, every day is "Amnesty Day" at all Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Public Library buildings. No fees are charged for materials returned in good condition, no matter how overdue they are.

Still, the Library does require that materials be returned. When an item is 28 days overdue—or one week overdue for videos and DVDs—a bill is issued for the full price of the material. Customers with overdue items are not able to use their Library cards to access any Library services. Returning the billed items, though, clears the accounts and allows customers to start using their cards again.

Books and other items can be dropped off at any branch. All agen-

### *Learning made easy with Library databases*

It's that time again. Kids are back in school and loaded with homework. They have questions about math, and you haven't solved an algebra problem in 20 years!

Where can you turn to help them out with their next -to-impossible homework? *The Library!*

The Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System offers free databases that can help students succeed in their academic careers. Live Homework Help connects students with a live tutor in an online classroom. It offers one-on-one homework help in math, science, social studies and English for students in grades four through 12.

LearnATest provides interactive online practice tests and tutorial courses designed to help students and adult learners do well on academic or licensing tests. LearnATest provides immediate scoring, complete answer explanations and an individualized analysis of your results. Online test and course resources include categories such as

math skills improvement, Spanish skills improvement and elementary school skills improvement.

Live Homework Help, LearnATest and any of the other online databases that the Library offers can be accessed through a computer at your local Library or via your home computer by logging onto the Library's web site: [www.cabq.gov/Library](http://www.cabq.gov/Library). When you use the Library's computers, you will need an Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library SmartCard. For information on how to apply for a SmartCard, visit your local branch or download an application from the web site.

For questions about the Library or any of the online databases, visit the web site or call 768-5141.

cies have secure book drops in case open hours are inconvenient.

Customers with questions about their accounts should call the Library's Customer Service Office at 768-5170.

***Don't forget  
to vote!***

**There are three issues  
on the November 7th  
ballot that will affect  
Library funding:  
Quality of Life Initiative  
County Bond Issue  
State Bond Issue**



Between Friends

## President's message: Getting to the next level

We are all "Friends for the Library" because we care about literacy and ensuring that *everyone* has access to books, reading and computers. We know that a community with a strong public library system has better-educated kids, a higher quality of life and the ability to spur economic development by recruiting better companies with higher-paying jobs. We know that reading and the ability to read affect everyone's life—whether one succeeds and flourishes or whether one struggles to live and make ends

### Take your friends to the polls!

meet. We work hard all year long with our book sales to raise money for the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System. We raise nearly \$100,000 every year to go towards the Summer Reading Program, staff training and other educational programs that make our libraries stronger.

We have one mission this fall, though, that can *really* take us to the next level! We must do everything we can to ensure that the Quality of Life Initiative passes in this November's election. This community investment in culture, history, art and science will benefit hundreds of organizations. The QOLI asks Bernalillo County voters to approve a 3/16 of 1 percent increase in the gross receipts tax to enhance and make arts, cultural, history and educational programs more accessible to the public. One of those organizations receiving a lion's share of the QOLI is the Al-

buquerque/Bernalillo County Library System.

If passed, the Library System could see \$3 to \$5 million in additional annual income! That means expanded hours—evenings, weekends, Mondays! It means more educational programs, after-school programs and bringing our Library System in line with national standards.

One of the key elements to making our Library System one of the best in the nation is simple: expand the hours to make it more accessible to the greater public. If this QOLI passes, we could go to the Library nearly anytime we wanted to! Our children could go after school; Mom or Dad could go after work; the whole family could go after dinner!

Besides the direct impact to the Library System, the QOLI would benefit the Zoo and BioPark, the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra and many nonprofit arts and cultural organizations. This grassroots initiative began over five years ago with a group that studied several communities like Denver, Salt Lake and St. Louis where this type of initiative has succeeded and even been re-approved upon its sunset. This initiative would give us a better quality of life with better cultural and arts programs, which, in turn, helps recruit better companies and higher paying jobs—which, in turn, means our children don't have to leave our community to find their dream jobs! Albuquerque has recently made it to the top of many good lists; this initia-

tive will only take us to the top of more good lists.

Of course, no one likes more taxes. There are taxes *we have to do* like funding indigent care at the hospitals, paying for jail costs, etc. Then there are taxes that *we should do*, like the QOLI Initiative. We are good enough to be a community that can do this for ourselves and for future generations. We should be proud even to have this initiative before us as an option. We cannot let this opportunity pass us by!

I not only ask you to vote for the initiative, which has been endorsed by the Board of Directors of the Friends, but to take everyone you know to the polls with you. You need to call friends, family and neighbors and tell them how important this is. If you have some spare time, volunteer in these last few days before the election. You can learn more and volunteer by going to [www.qualityoflifennm.org](http://www.qualityoflifennm.org) or calling 818-3618.

And, of course, remember to support the bond issues on the ballot, which support the Library in purchasing much-needed books and materials!

—Brian Morris

**Save the date!**

**December 14, 2006  
for the annual  
Holiday Party for  
Volunteers**

The Friends  
Used Bookshop  
at the Main Library  
is now open!

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5th & Copper NW  
768-5123

**New hours:**  
**Tues. -Sat. 10:30 am-4 pm**  
**Closed Sunday & Monday**



*Between Friends* is published quarterly by the Friends for the Public Library, a non-profit corporation in support of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System.

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Friends with a current membership receive *Between Friends* by mail, free of charge.

## From the Acting Director: Ask a Librarian

Throughout city government, there's much reporting on staff productivity and accountability.

With pride, the Library System reported that, in the 12 months ending June 30, 2006, we checked out more than 4,300,000 items, answered more than 900,000 reference questions and welcomed two million Library customers through our doors.

These numbers alone speak to the hard work of the Library staff and volunteers. However, there's more to it than just the numbers. Our Library staff represent some of the most hard-working and interesting people you'll meet anywhere. They're excellent problem solvers, they've read lots of terrific books and they come to work because they like sharing the joy of the written and spoken word with others. And deep inside every reference librarian is the soul of a detective.

If you are curious about something, they will help you find the answer. Often customers will start off a conversation by saying, "I don't want to bother the staff, but I'm curious about...." One of the prime motivators for working in a Library is meeting and helping our customers. Librarians truly enjoy finding the answers. So, next time you're curious about something, *ask a librarian!* We love to help!

—Julia L. Clarke

## Two-day Holiday Book Sale

**Saturday, November 11, 10 am-4 pm**

Large selection of "like-new" and gift books including art, coffee table, Southwest, military history, religion, cooking, crafts and children's.  
Admission \$1; members and children free; free after 1 pm

**Sunday, November 12, noon-4 pm**

Sunday-only clearance: all items just \$2 a bag; free admission

Main Library \* 501 Copper NW



Between Friends

## Profile: Geologist Katherine Yuhas joins Friends Board

By profession, she is a geologist. As an Albuquerque resident, she is an advocate for the Public Library and the many ways in which it serves the community. She is Katherine Yuhas, new member of the Friends Board of Directors.

Katherine was born in Bar Harbor, ME, and lived there for the first seven years of her life. When her father's job was moved to Albuquerque, she lived her next

For the next three years, she was a hydrologist for Santa Fe County. Her duties included performing studies covering water services needed for new residential and business developments and the effect such additional water usage would have on the available supply of water for the county.

Katherine presently works for Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Water Utilities, managing the water conservation program.

She is married to a geologist who is on the staff of a private

consulting firm with offices in Albuquerque as well as in other regions. She has three children who keep her busy with soccer practice and outside school sports, as well as book group meetings with her daughter. They are members of a mother-daughter book group, and she is also an active member of an adult book discussion group. She enjoys traveling and camping with her family.

We welcome you, Katherine, to the Friends Board of Directors!

—Rose Ricco

### Water conservation planner

seven years in the Duke City and attended the local elementary school. Her family moved next to Philadelphia, where she graduated from high school and then attended the University of Pennsylvania, earning both bachelor's and master's degrees in geology.

Katherine started her working career back in New Mexico as a geologist with the New Mexico Environment Department/Ground Water in Santa Fe. She performed tests on water from private and company wells for quality and compliance with state and/or federal standards. She also investigated and did tests on cases of soil contamination by industry, including New Mexico mining companies, for damage to ground water. She served in that position for five years.



EILEEN LONGSWORTH chats with her husband, Bruce, and former Friends president Patti Watson at the retirement party held in Eileen's honor in August. She retired after serving for over six years as director of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System, effective August 18.

## What! You haven't been to the new Used Bookshop yet?

All members of the Friends who have not yet visited the newly renovated and expanded Used Bookshop at the Main Library are invited to come by and take a look. In fact, bring a friend who loves books and bargains with you. Plan to stay a while and browse!

You'll be surprised at how a dim, small space with limited shelving has been turned into a light-filled room with more than double the shelf space and many more selections, both fiction and nonfiction.

All of our volunteers love to show it off, and they work hard to keep it stocked with the latest we have in all categories. So please stop by and give us your opinion about our new space. We would love both seeing you and hearing from you.

—Marilynn Motteler



The Friends for the Public Library is a volunteer organization that assists the Library through advocacy and fund-raising. Friends funds purchase equipment and supplies for Library programs, such as the Summer Reading Program, community outreach projects and workshops for day-care providers. Major fund-raising efforts include the monthly book sales and the Bookshop at the Main Library. To become a member, mail the form below with membership dues to Membership, Friends for the Public Library, P.O. Box 26657, Albuquerque, NM 87125-6657. Dues cover the calendar year from January 1 through December 31.

### Yes! I want to be a Friend for the Public Library. NEW RENEWAL

*Members receive a quarterly newsletter, free admission to our monthly book sales, and a 10% discount at any Friends bookshop.*

*Proceeds benefit the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System*

- \$10 Student/Teacher (1 card)  \$10 Senior (1 card)  \$15 Individual (1 card)  \$20 Family (2 cards)  \$50+ Patron (4 cards)  
 Corporate Membership:  \$50 Bronze (5 cards)  \$100 Silver (10 cards)  \$250 Gold (15 cards)

*Dues are for the calendar year, Jan. 1 - Dec. 31. Join after November 1 and receive membership good through the following calendar year.  
 Additional membership cards may be purchased for \$5 each.*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ # of additional cards (add \$5 per card): \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I AM INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING. PLEASE CONTACT ME.

Friends for the Public Library • PO Box 26657 • Albuquerque, NM 87125-6657  
 For information, call (505) 768-5167 • TTY users call (800) 659-8331

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## *Literacy preparedness program*

A new literacy preparedness program for youngsters was introduced at several Downtown Albuquerque events in October. The program involves librarians from the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Public Library System teaching parents and caregivers of preschoolers how to build a foundation for literacy proficiency in their children.

Events included a free Family Literacy Fiesta and a benefit reception at the Main Library, and a presentation and book signing by author James Bradley at the Kimo Theater.

Bradley is the New York Times best-selling author of "Flags of our Fathers" and "Flyboys." "Flags of our Fathers" chronicles the lives of the six soldiers who raised the American flag at Iwo Jima during World War II. Bradley's father was one of those men. A major motion picture produced by Clint Eastwood and Steven Spielberg based on "Flags of our Fathers" was released in October.

At the Family Literacy Fiesta, children participated in hands-on literacy activities, crafts and workshops. Parents were able to sign up their children for Library cards.

All of these events were sponsored by the Downtown Action Team, the Advisory Board of the Library System and the Friends.



**BETSY JAMES** is kept on the run by children offering their ideas for a story book during the Family Literacy Fiesta at the Main Library in October. Following their suggestions, the author/illustrator drew a story about a dinosaur, cheered on by a lion, who kicked a football into outer space to Mars, where it was rejected by an alien as being "not chocolate." The project was designed to show children how ideas become stories.