

Welcome to the
Library's online
newsletter!

Assignment Raffle Announced

In order to encourage more New Mexico State University instructors to share their library and information research assignments, so that the Library can better help students, the Library announces its first Research Assignment Raffle.

Each instructor teaching courses on the University's main campus in Las Cruces may enter online by submitting a copy of his/her research assignment, or a URL at which the assignment can be located, to <http://lib.nmsu.edu/instruction/assignmentform.html>.

Instructors may enter multiple assignments for a single course (provided that they are different assignments) and for multiple courses. Entries must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 2, 2003.

Each assignment submitted earns one ticket in a drawing to be held at the end of Spring Semester 2003. The lucky winner will receive a \$50 gift certificate for the Double Eagle restaurant in Mesilla. All entrants will help the library provide better service to students. -- Kate Manuel, Reference & Research Services

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Campus Street Named for Barbara Lee Myers



Left to right: Barbara Lee Myers and
President Gogue celebrate street-naming.
Photo, Dennis Daily.

New Mexico State University Library donor Barbara Lee Myers of Las Cruces was honored for her generous support of the Library at a November 18, 2002, street-naming ceremony. University President G. Jay Gogue and Dean of the Library Elizabeth Titus presented Ms. Myers with a plaque at Barbara Lee Myers Street on campus. After accepting the award, Ms. Myers released a dove into the blue skies above her street.

At a reception at the Library, Ms. Myers presented Dean Titus with a donation for the Library's endowment for its children's literature collection. "The Library appreciates the longtime friendship and support of Barbara Lee Myers so much," said Dean Titus.

Ms. Myers established an endowment for acquiring Asian Studies materials as well as a fund for the purchase of Jewish Studies materials. In March 2002, Ms. Myers was honored by the New Mexico State University Foundation by attaining membership in the prestigious University giving club, Regents Associates.

Mark Medoff Donates Papers

Internationally acclaimed playwright Mark Medoff recently donated a collection of his papers to the Library. The materials include original play broadsides, personal correspondence, photo scrapbooks relating to his plays, typewritten scripts for his plays, photographs and framed posters and ephemera from his plays and plays made into movies such as *Children of a Lesser God* and *Clara's Heart*. "We are pleased to acquire such an important research collection," said Steve Hussman, head of Archives & Special Collections.

Medoff holds degrees from the University of Miami and Stanford University. He served on the English and Theatre Arts faculties at New Mexico State Uni-



Mark Medoff.
Photo,
University
Communications.

versity for twenty-seven years and co-founded the American Southwest Theatre Company. Medoff and his wife, Stephanie Thorne, a former Library staff member, have three (Medoff, continued on page 4)

Border Health Project Provides Easy Access to Health Info

The Library is a founding partner of the Border Health Information and Education Network (BIEN!), a partnership of seventeen academic and public libraries, hospitals, clinics and other public health service organizations in New Mexico's Dona Ana, Luna and Otero counties, as well as El Paso, Texas, and Palomas, Chihuahua, Mexico. The current lead agency of the project is the Border Epidemiology and Environmental Health Center.



BIEN!'s mission is to create opportunities to improve the health of residents of the borderland region by the provision of quality health information in all formats in English and Spanish.

Since its beginning in 2000, BIEN! has made much progress in accomplishing its goals:

- Installation of computers with Internet access at all seventeen partner locations.
- Creation of a project web site accessible at <http://www.bienhealth.org>. This site includes many links to quality consumer/patient health information web sites in Spanish and English, as well as links of interest to health care providers and health educators. Links allow web site visitors to provide feedback and post messages to the site's bulletin board.
- Purchase of web-based health and medical information database subscriptions, which are now available to project partners. Because the New Mexico State University Library is a BIEN! partner, faculty, students and staff have access to EBSCO Publishing's All Health Watch, a full-text alternative and complementary

health information database, and MDConsult, a health and medical information database geared to health care professionals.

- Conducting electronic health information access training sessions. A total of twenty sessions, attended by one hundred forty participants, have been conducted.

One of the goals of the project is to provide timely and quality health-related reference information to consumers, health care providers, health educators, allied health professionals, students, faculty and librarians. The project staff responds to numerous information requests via email and phone.

For more information about the Border Health Information and Education Network, please visit the BIEN! web site at <http://www.bienhealth.org> or contact Herman Martinez, Community Research Specialist at the Border Epidemiology and Environmental Health Center, at 505-646-7966. -- Jeanette Smith, Library Administration, and Dr. Hugo Vilchis-Licon, Director, Border Epidemiology and Environmental Health Center.

Catalogers Revise Rules

Larry Creider, Technical Services, was one of twenty-five invited participants in a conference held in New Haven, Connecticut, from March 10-13 to revise the cataloging rules used for rare books. The participants included the head of cataloging at the Folger Library and the head of Rare Books at the National Library of Scotland. Six working groups discussed topics such as expanding the rules to cover books produced by machine press, transcription of early letter forms and punctuation, and when to create a new cataloging record.

Dr. Creider moderated a working group on proposed additions and changes to the rules, was a member of another group that formulated a statement of principles for rare materials cataloging and also participated in conference planning. The conference was sponsored by Yale University Library and Yale's Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. The next step will be the incorporation of the decisions and work of the conference into a draft of the revised rules. A web site devoted to the conference is available at <http://www.library.yale.edu/~mtheroux/DCRM/DCRM.html>.

Library Staff News

Several Library staff members were honored at a recent Library Employee Service Award reception:

Sylvia Ortiz, 20 years

Diane Gilewitch, * 15 years

Debi Estrada, * 10 years

Molly Molloy, 10 years

Susan Beck, 5 years

Rose Sand, 5 years

JoAnne Vincenti, 5 years

* also attended the New Mexico State University Employee Service Awards Ceremony

The Library welcomes four employees:

Steve Hussman is the new head of Archives & Special Collections.

Norice Lee is the new head of the Access Services Department.

Mardi Mahaffy is the new Reference & Research Services Humanities Librarian.

Angela Murrell is the new Reference & Research Services Sciences Librarian.

In addition, Melissa Gottwald is the temporary archivist for the Clyde Tombaugh Papers Project, and Mary Bishop is working on a temporary basis in Reference & Research Services. Lenny Silverman is now working in the Archives & Special Collections Department.

Lila Foss 1920-2003

Lila May Foss, who served the Library for eleven years as Documents Librarian, passed away at Mountain View Regional Medical Center in Las Cruces on February 5, 2003.

Miss Foss retired from New Mexico State University in 1985. Prior to working at the Library, she also served as a librarian at Holloman Air Force Base and Brown University. An avid traveler, she enjoyed visits to many countries.

Library Faculty Publications

Manuel, Kate, "Discipline-specific Information Literacy Courses," *Academic Exchange Quarterly* 6 (2003):52-59.

Manuel, Kate, "Teaching Information Literacy to Generation Y," *Journal of Library Administration* 36 (2002):195-217.

L. Janderova, M. McNeil, Angela N. Murrell, R.L. Mynatt and S.R. Smith, "Human Mesenchymal Stem Cells as an In Vitro Model for Human Adipogenesis," *Obesity Research* (2003):65-74.

The chapter "Grey Literature and Extension Resources" by Tim McKimmie and Sheila Merrigan was singled out for praise in reviews in *Choice* and *E-Streams* of the volume in which it appears, *Using the Agricultural, Environmental and Food Literature*, edited by Barbara Hutchinson and Antoinette Greider (Dekker, 2002).



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The Martin Amador family, past and present. Photo above, Rio Grande Historical Collections; below, College of Arts & Sciences.



Artist Is Attuned to Joy



Untitled (acrylic on canvas), Joan Talty, 1992. Photo, Dennis Daily.

An untitled contemporary abstract painting by Las Cruces artist Joan Talty recently went on permanent display at Zuhl Library. It is hung near another of Talty's works, "9/11," on the third floor of Zuhl Library. Talty painted the 4' x 6' acrylic on canvas in 1992, two years after she and her husband, Herbert Zuhl, moved from Manhattan to Las Cruces. Talty stated that the work doesn't have a theme, but it reflects how she felt at the time she painted it. She quoted Leo Tolstoy's comment, "Art is not a handicraft; it is the transmission of feeling the artist has experienced."

The painting's vivid colors show the influence of one of Talty's favorite artists, Henri Matisse. Talty admires not only the color and form of the works of Matisse, but also his philosophy that art should make a positive statement, and should be joyful and uplifting. As a student at the Art Students League of New York, Talty learned that artists are the antennae of society and that they have a responsibility to the viewers of their art. She noted that "Untitled" needed to be a large painting, and was the strongest work that she had completed at that time in her career. For more information, contact the Library Administration at 505-646-1508.

-- Jeanette Smith, Library Administration

Exhibit Showcases Papers

Historical documents from the Library's Rio Grande Historical Collections are being shown in a major exhibit at the University Museum. The exhibit, entitled "Border Lives Once Lived, Vidas Fronterizas: Como Se Vivieron," will run through December 2003. "Border Lives Once Lived" focuses on the lives of Hispanic families in Las Cruces from 1880-1910. Items displayed in the exhibit include photographs, letters and school and travel memorabilia from homes and businesses. Featured are items from the Martin Amador and Jacinto Armijo families, both of which had social and economic ties in the United States and Mexico. These families were significant social, economic and political forces in the area during Victorian times and their influence continued well into the 20th century, said Ed Staski, director of the museum. In February 2003, descendants of the Amador family and members of the Library administration viewed the exhibit while attending a luncheon sponsored by the College of Arts & Sciences held at the museum (see photos at left).

Steve Hussman, the head of the Library's Archives & Special Collections Department, credits Library staff member Dennis Daily for his active role in working with the museum staff. The exhibit is presented in two sections. One section focuses on the home life of prominent Hispanic families. The other section examines the contributions of these families to the building of the Las Cruces community, such as their businesses, professional pursuits and involvement with public institutions, including New Mexico State University. It also presents the families' regional, national and international activities. For more information on the exhibit, contact the University Museum at 505-646-3739. For more information on the Amador Papers, Amador Trade Catalog Collection, Armijo Papers and other historical family documents in the Rio Grande Historical Collections, contact the Archives & Special Collections staff at 505-646-3839.

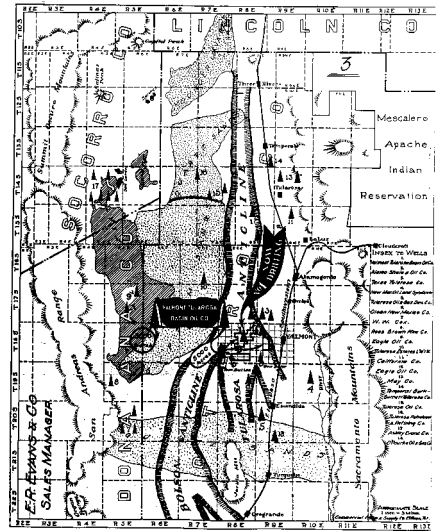
Oil Ventures History Presented

Bill Boehm of the Library's Archives & Special Collections Department presented a paper at the 12th Annual Mogollon Conference entitled "A Gusher Anytime Soon: Petroleum Exploration in the Tularosa Basin in the 1920s," that featured several of the department's collections. The conference was held on campus at Corbett Center on October 18-19, 2002.

A great deal of oil speculation took place in the largely unexplored desert terrain around Alamogordo and Tularosa (see map at right). Geologists gave glowing reports about the potential for oil exploration. Some prominent local figures, including W.W. Cox and Oliver Lee, were involved in some of the early oil ventures. Ultimately, few ventures succeeded.

Featuring material from a variety of collections, including the Herman Weisner Papers, the Skidmore Family Papers, and the Eylar Family Papers, the presentation highlighted the fact that Library materials contain a wealth of information concerning seemingly obscure subject matter. Within these collections and others, there is a great variety of maps, promotional materials, newsclippings, and other correspondence detailing this short-lived phenomenon.

The paper's publication is forthcoming in the conference journal. For more information, please contact Bill Boehm at wboehm@lib.nmsu.edu or 505-646-1551.
-- Bill Boehm, Archives & Special Collections



Drilling Map of the Valmont Tularosa Basin Oil Company, ca. 1925. Skidmore Family Papers, Rio Grande Historical Collections.

Display Your Faculty Research

The research of New Mexico State University faculty member Tara Gray is currently featured in the display cases at Branson Library. Formerly an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, Dr. Gray is now the Director of the Teaching Academy.

The Library's Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Service, which sponsors the displays, cordially invites all researchers who wish to have their work displayed to contact Deborah Parker at debparke@lib.nmsu.edu or 505-646-1854. -- Deborah Parker, Access Services

Rio Grande Friends to Meet

The 2003 meeting of the Rio Grande Historical Collections (RGHC) will take place at the Hilton de Las Cruces on Monday, May 19, 2003. The meeting will begin at 10:30 a.m. and conclude at 2:00 p.m.

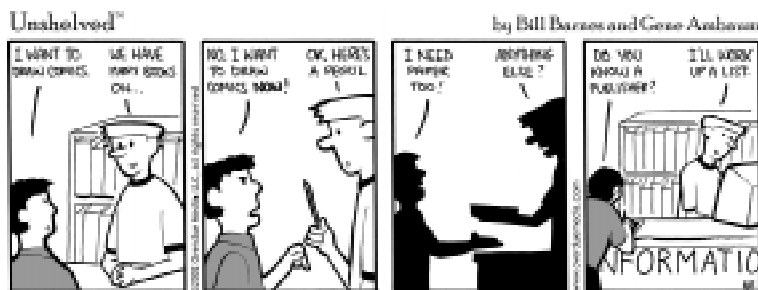
Dr. Gerald Thomas will make remarks, and the guest speaker is Steve Hussman, the head of Archives & Special Collections. Mr. Hussman will speak on "Diamonds in the Rough: A Presentation of Newly Processed Manuscripts and Photographic Collections." For more information, please contact the Library's Archives & Special Collections staff at 505-646-3839.

Medoff

(continued from page 1)

daughters. They have made their home in Las Cruces for thirty-five years.

Medoff is best known for his 1980 Tony award-winning play *Children of a Lesser God*, starring Phyllis Frelich. Medoff also won an Obie award for his 1973 play *When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder?* as well as many other awards. In 1999, he was inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Theatre. Medoff also directs, acts, and writes screenplays. He recently directed the film *Children on Their Birthdays*, based on a short story by Truman Capote. His opera *Sara McKinnon* premiered at New Mexico State University in 2001.



Marshmallow Peeps conduct library research at http://www.millikin.edu/staley/fluff/peep_research.html. Photo, Staley Library, Millikin University.