Archivist’s Book Makes List of New Mexico’s 100 Best

The book *The Whole Damned World: New Mexico Aggies at War 1941-1945* by the Library’s University Archivist Martha Shipman Andrews is among the titles listed as the 100 Best New Mexico Books.

The list was announced in January by the New Mexico Book Co-op in time for the New Mexico Centennial in 2012. Books were voted on by authors, librarians and the public. There are classic books on the list as well as relatively new books.

*The Whole Damned World* was edited by Andrews, with an introduction by Richard Melzer of the University of New Mexico-Valencia. It was published in 2008 by the NMSU Library in collaboration with Rio Grande Books.

It appears on the list with such classics as *Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya, *A Thief of Time* by Tony Hillerman and *Death Comes for the Archbishop* by Willa Cather. *The Whole Damned World* consists of approximately 250 letters written to NMSU Dean of Engineering Daniel B. Jett by former students serving in all branches of the services and every theater of World War II. The entire collection of 5,000 letters is held by the Archives and Special Collections Department of the NMSU Library. (100 Best, continued on page 15)

Check It Out Yourself

It’s fast and easy to check out your own library materials in Zuhl Library, as NMSU student Adrian Sanchez demonstrates.

He did it! For more information on the new SelfCheck System, see page 7. Photos, Norice Lee
Government Documents on the Move, Seeks Input

The NMSU Library’s Government Documents & Maps Unit has moved! Look for it on the far left-hand side of the first floor of the Branson Library in the former Periodicals area.

The unit will now provide comprehensive services for both federal and state documents. The state documents collection will be moved from the second floor of Zuhl Library to Branson Library during Spring Semester so that all the unit’s services will be in the same area.

The unit’s new location makes all of its services easier to find. Look for new government documents on the portable bookshelf near the Documents Reference Desk.

When tax time rolls around you’ll be able to find some basic tax forms on the same shelf. Please come to the Documents desk for any other tax forms that you are seeking.

The unit has five staff members to serve you: Government Documents & Maps Librarian Dotty Ormes, staff member Luci Ortiz and three students, Justine Lopez, Maggie Salas and Lexie Schwartz.

The Government Printing Office (GPO) has a new web interface, FDsys (Federal Digital System) up and running at http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/. The old site, GPO Access at http://www.gpoaccess.gov/, will be phasing out soon. FDsys has the advantage of federated searching, the ability to search across several databases at once for valuable government information. For more information, contact Ormes at (575) 646-4385 or the Documents desk at (575) 646-5791. —Dotty Ormes, Reference & Research Services

Library Sponsors Book Review Podcasts

The Library is sponsoring a series of book review podcasts recorded by members of the NMSU campus community starting February 15 and running throughout the spring. A new book review podcast will be released every two weeks.

The first podcast will feature NMSU President Barbara Couture reviewing The Mercy Papers: A Memoir of Three Weeks by NMSU faculty member Robin Romm.

Besides President Couture, reviewers in the series include Chris Erickson, Carrie Murphy, Susan Beck, Jeff Brown and Cindy Pierard.

Listen to the podcasts at http://lib.nmsu.edu/ecasts/. For more information, contact Humanities Librarian Mardi Mahaffy at (575) 646-6925 or mmahaffy@lib.nmsu.edu.

Help the GPO Help You

The Government Printing Office has created a national survey to determine how patrons make use of government resources and to understand what users want. Please go to http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HSLCRRB if you would like to participate.

The survey is available through February 28. The survey consists of sixteen questions, and it takes about 10-15 minutes to complete.

Help Government Documents serve you by responding to the survey.

For more information about the survey, stop by the Documents Reference Desk on the first floor of the Branson Library.
In, Out & About the Library

• Library faculty member Molly Molloy of Reference & Research Services was named a "Hometown Hero" on KGRT Radio 104 on January 20. The statement said, "NMSU professor and librarian Molly Molloy has made it her personal endeavor to track and document the day-to-day killings in Mexico's deadliest city, Juarez. To Molloy, the list she keeps signifies that someone is caring and making sure these victims have a voice that deserves to be heard." Read Molloy's Frontera List at http://groups.google.com/group/frontera-list/topics.

• The Library's Archives & Special Collections Department is proud to announce the completion of another collaborative project utilizing its photographic collections. The short film Utopia on the Rio Grande, directed and produced by former NMSU professor Robin Riley, was released on DVD in May 2010.

Over a three-year period, Archives staff members Steve Hussman, Charles Stanford, Dean Wilkey, Lenny Silverman and Dennis Daily (formerly of NMSU), provided ninety-two images as well as research and documentation relating to John Newbrough and the formation of Shalam Colony. Shalam Colony was a Utopian community that existed near Las Cruces from 1884 to 1901. More background on the Shalam Colony can be found at http://archives.nmsu.edu/exhibits/shalam2/shalam1.html.

Library Provides Photos and Research for Film About Shalam Colony

The Library's Archives & Special Collections Department is proud to announce the completion of another collaborative project utilizing its photographic collections. The short film Utopia on the Rio Grande, directed and produced by former NMSU professor Robin Riley, was released on DVD in May 2010.

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The film features historical photographs and information from the Library's Archives & Special Collections

Shalam Colony and Faithist/Oahspe materials, including the papers of John Newbrough, were arranged and made available due to the dedicated work of Library Archivist Linda Blazer, NMSU associate professor emerita. Much of this material was heavily used during the initial research and creation of the film. Copies of the DVD have been acquired for both the Archives & Special Collections Department and the Library’s circulating collection.—Steve Hussman, Archives & Special Collections

• Rebecca Romero of Access Services recently received her master’s degree in English from NMSU.

• The Government Documents & Maps Unit is featuring displays in Branson Library that highlight a different government agency each month. The displays highlight publications and additional information about these agencies. Call (575) 646-5791.

• For listings of Library events, visit the Library News Web page at http://lib.nmsu.edu/index.shtml or the Library Events page at http://lib.nmsu.edu/events/.

Utopia on the Rio Grande was shot entirely in New Mexico. The film features historical photographs and information from the Library’s Archives & Special Collections.

It also features local actors and personalities including Bob Diven, John Smith, Russell and Crystal Schneider, Senator Mary Jane Garcia, Jon Hunner, LesLee Alexander, Linda Harris, Pat Beckett and George Lockhart.

For more information on the film, visit http://www.utopiantheriogrande.com.
Library Instruction Coordinator Theresa Westbrock provides instruction to a class of international students.

The Library’s Instruction Program is one function of the Reference & Research Services Department. The purpose of the program is to foster the development of NMSU students, faculty, and staff as information literate people who determine when information is needed, access information in all formats, evaluate information and its sources and use information effectively and ethically.

The Program’s goals are aligned with the Library’s mission, which includes a commitment to leadership in providing and sustaining teaching initiatives to support information literacy and lifelong learning and a commitment to providing high-quality services and tools to facilitate information access and use.

The first Instruction Coordinator was appointed in 1987-1988, essentially marking the beginning of the Instruction Program. Today, the Coordinator is Theresa Westbrock, who came to NMSU in 2006. Theresa’s career has always been a combination of teaching and librarianship. Before coming to New Mexico, she was a high school teacher, a librarian at the University of Michigan and the director of LOEX, a national organization focused on library instruction.

Instruction Program collaboration with major NMSU cornerstone courses ENGL 111 and UNIV 150 was established in 1987 and 1990, respectively. Since then, all students enrolled in ENGL 111, a required writing composition course, visit the library at

(Instruction, continued on page 5)
least once during the semester for an introduction to research that is aligned with their writing assignments. Well over 2,000 students each year receive introductory library instruction through the ENGL 111/Library partnership. In addition to this embedded instruction, discipline-specific instruction is offered throughout the academic year. Relationships with individual colleges, departments and programs on campus are built and maintained primarily by librarian subject specialists, who teach nearly 200 course-related library instruction sessions each year. Since 2006, the number of sessions has increased each year.

In 1994, the Instruction Program began offering a 3-credit course, LIB 311 Information Literacy, which has become a popular NMSU “Viewing a Wider World” course. In this course, students explore the vast world of information resources and develop processes with which to navigate it. This course is taught by librarians in the Reference & Research Services Department on a rotating basis.

The popularity of LIB 311 led the Instruction Program to add a 1-credit online introduction to research course, LIB 101. This course, piloted in Fall 2010, will become a regular mini-semester offering. Also, in Fall 2010, LIB 307 History of the Book in the West debuted, cross-listed with HIST 307.

Along with credit courses and course-specific instruction, the Instruction Program oversees the tool-based workshops, tours, drop-in sessions and online instruction tools that meet the needs of students, faculty, staff and members of the community who are looking to strengthen their library research skills. In order to best reach faculty, the Instruction Program has provided several workshops at the Teaching Academy, including Citation Management with EndNote Web, Designing and Managing Student Research Assignments and Bringing the Library to your Students.

The Instruction Program is central to the academic, intellectual, and service roles that the Library fulfills at NMSU. Information literacy instruction is generally not provided by content instructors or any other entity accessible to students, faculty, and staff. Because information literacy is an essential 21st century skill, the availability of instruction at the Library is crucial to the campus community. Not only will students benefit from the instruction provided by the program throughout their academic career, they will undoubtedly need these foundational skills to be successful members of the workforce and of society.—Theresa Westbrock, Reference & Research Services

Information Literacy Defined

- Determine the nature and extent of information needed
- Access the needed information effectively and efficiently
- Evaluate information and its sources critically
- Incorporate selected information into one’s knowledge base
- Use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- Understand the economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information, and access and use information ethically and legally

(Source: Association of College and Research Libraries)
Library Welcomes Three New Employees

John Sandstrom has joined the Library faculty as the Acquisitions Librarian in the Technical Services Department. John has been the Head of Technical Services and Acting Branch Manager at the El Paso Public Library, where he spent the last seven years. He has also worked at LSSI Inc., Baker & Taylor–Customized Library Services, Houston Public Library and Saginaw Valley State University.

John received his master’s degree in library and information science from the University of Oklahoma in 1987 and his master’s degree in public administration from UTEP in 2010. He serves as a part-time instructor in the library science program at Doña Ana Community College.

John is very active in regional and national library associations including the Border Regional Library Association. John was previously the Head of Technical Services and Acting Branch Manager at the El Paso Public Library, where he spent the last seven years. He has also worked at LSSI Inc., Baker & Taylor–Customized Library Services, Houston Public Library and Saginaw Valley State University.

John’s other interests include medieval reenactment, weaving, spinning and other fiber related activities. John can be reached in Branson Library, Technical Services, Room 147, by phone at (575) 646-8093 or by email at jsand713@nmsu.edu.

Suzanne Bramlett

Suzanne Bramlett is the new library assistant in the Cataloging Unit of the Technical Services Department. She catalogs monographs. Suzanne holds a master’s degree in library science from the University of Arizona.

Originally from Indiana, Suzanne has taught English as well as been a school librarian in public and private schools in both New Mexico and Texas. She has been a Las Cruces resident since 1988 when she became the children’s librarian at the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library.

Suzanne is married with one adult daughter and three grandchildren. Her hobbies include puzzles of all kinds, reading and caring for the family dogs and cats. Suzanne can be reached at (575) 646-7489 or at bramlett@lib.nmsu.edu.

Lindsey Stafford

Lindsey Stafford is the new library assistant in the Technical Services Department. She does repairs, labeling and quality control.

Lindsey earned her master’s degree in library and information science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2009. She was a library media specialist in Milwaukee before relocating to Las Cruces.

Lindsey likes cooking, tennis and Marx Brothers movies. Lindsey can be contacted at Branson Library at (575) 646-4542 or lstaffor@nmsu.edu.
After receiving her bachelor’s degree in business administration from New Mexico Highlands University, Grace Gonzales-Small held various jobs in the Denver area’s financial industry. She returned to New Mexico in 1981 to accept a position in NMSU’s Admissions Department, and found her niche in the Library later that year. Her December 31, 2010, retirement marked the end of twenty-nine years of service in the Library’s Technical Services Department.

Over the years, Grace’s job duties ranged from processing paper and electronic invoices to hiring and supervising student employees; however, her core financial skills were always in use.

She performed the full range of activities related to placement and control of serial orders, processed receipts for materials in multiple formats, worked with countless vendors and publishers on price verification and item availability and reconciled invoices against purchase orders. All the while, she patiently answered questions from staff and responded to vendor correspondence.

Grace’s notable accomplishments in the Library include participating in committees to migrate to a new online system and processing thousands of cancelled orders due to the insolvency of a serials vendor. She received a Bonus Award in 2008 for catching a billing error which resulted in a $4,000 savings.

Grace intends to spend more time with her husband Fred, daughter Erin and grandson Bruce. She will also take many well deserved naps and tend her vegetable garden. She would like to visit her sister in Panama and perhaps take a cruise. —Ellen Bosman, Technical Services

Sherry Ward Retires

Sherry Ward's dedication to NMSU began as an undergraduate student and member of the marching band, blossomed into a full-time employment commitment thirty-six years ago and concluded with her retirement on December 31, 2010. Sherry joined the Library staff in 1974 upon receiving a degree in music from NMSU.

Sherry’s daily duties included authority control, bibliographic record clean-up and correction and weekly imports of bibliographic records for government publications. Over the years, she worked on many major projects including the music digitization project and multiple collection moves.

She is singlehandedly responsible for the successful completion of several special projects. Sherry extracted and uploaded serials holdings to the national online catalog. She imported thousands of bibliographic records for electronic books into the online catalog on behalf of the Las Cruces, Doña Ana and Alamogordo campuses, and loaded and corrected over 40,000 bibliographic records for Grants campus material to become integrated into the online catalog.

For these and many other efforts, Sherry won numerous Library awards including the Carl Faubion Award in 2009 and Bonus Awards in 2006, 2008 and 2010, and she was named an Amazing Aggie in 2008 for her work on the Grants project and the electronic dissertations project.

In her newfound leisure time Sherry will spend time with her sister Debra. She plans to enjoy ignoring the alarm clock and curating her extensive and ever expanding music collection.—Ellen Bosman, Technical Services
The Incunable That Wasn’t

When I first came to NMSU, I searched the catalog to find out what the earliest book in the Library was. I was pleased to see that we had a book published in 1489, the *Fortalitium Fidei* of Alfonso de Espina. This meant that the Library had an incunable, that is a book printed before January 1, 1501, in the first fifty years of printing from movable type. Books printed in those times show the gradual development from unique manuscripts to the modern printed book produced in multiple copies.

These early books usually lacked a title page, were unnumbered, had colored and often illuminated initials and employed many abbreviations. Like medieval manuscripts, the information on the author, the identity of the text and information about the printer, place of printing and date were often at the very end of the book in a colophon. I was excited to think that NMSU had such a book.

Last fall, I was teaching a class, *The History of the Book—From Scrolls to Scrolling*, and went to examine our incunable. I was puzzled by what I found. To begin with, there was a title page, together with folio numbers. Neither was impossible in the incunable period, but somewhat unlikely. Then I looked at the colophon and found the printing information. A translation of what the catalog record said was, “Printed in Lyons by Jean de Romoys, sold by Etienne Geynard, 26 Nov., 1489.” A translation of the publication information in the colophon reads: “Printed in Lyon by Jean de Romoys; in the 11th year of our salvation past (supra) the one thousand and five hundredth; at the cost of the famous man Master Etienne Gueynard, on the 26 day of the month of November.” As far as I could tell, this dating formula meant not November 26, 1489, but November 26, 1511.


Armed with this information, I searched in WorldCat and discovered several records for an edition of the *Fortalitium Fidei* published in Lyon in 1511. Only our record indicated Lyon in 1489. At the time our copy was cataloged in 1994, none of these records for the 1511 edition had been entered. All that I can think is that the cataloger thought that “supra” (“on top of, beyond”) meant eleven years before 1500 instead of eleven years after.

So, NMSU’s incunable is not an incunable. It is almost 500 years old, however, and remains the earliest printed book in the library (not counting reproductions). Further, the book is very interesting indeed.

Alfonso de Espina (or Alonso of Spina) was a Franciscan priest who would have a wonderful reputation to this day as a preacher, as a religious reformer and as a devout man, except that he was a very active proponent of the Inquisition and a vigorous anti-Semite. He was not merely against the Jewish religion but against the Jews, even converts. Although a chaplain of King Enrique IV (ruled 1454-1474), his death date is uncertain, with

*Fortalitium Fidei* (Fortress of Faith) of Alfonso de Espinas. At 500 years old, it’s the oldest book in the Library.
Incunable
(continued from page 8)
possible dates ranging from 1461 to as late as 1495. He preached against the Jews and, to a lesser extent, against Muslims in Spain.

The Fortalitium Fidei (Fortress of Faith), written somewhere between 1458 and 1461, is a handbook to be used in the defense of Christian faith and is divided into five books. The first contains a general discussion of the topic, Book 2 provides defense against heretics within the Christian church, Book 3 (the largest) against the Jews and Judaism, Book 4 against Islam and Book 5 against evil spirits.

The book was popular enough to go through editions in 1471, 1475, perhaps 1479 (Burgos?) 1484/1485, 1487, 1494, 1511 and 1525, and was translated in manuscript into French, German and Italian. Curiously, given the circumstances the book addresses, the Fortalitium Fidei appears to have been printed in Spain only once (or not at all) and it was not translated into Spanish.

NMSU’s copy was obtained by the donor, Ms. H.E. Smith, in Bolivia, although it is unclear when the book was brought to the New World. The book is bound in cheap leather, probably early and possibly contemporary with the production of the book. Pieces of manuscript waste were used in the binding.

The volume contains extensive indications of being read, particularly in Book 3 against the Jews. There are sections with inked sets of curves along the margin and a few strong comments in Spanish or Latin as well as a reference to Thomas Aquinas’s Commentary on the Sentences of Peter Lombard. More than one person seems to have been involved in making the annotations.

Unfortunately, the book is in fragile condition as the covers have become separated from the book block, and some of the leaves are quite worn. Still, further study, particularly the annotations and some of the selections of text, could provide useful information about the uses of this sort of manual.—Larry Creider, Archives & Special Collections

Honor With Books

The NMSU Library has successfully launched its Honor with Books program, creating a special way for people to honor friends and loved ones with a gift that gives back and lives on in perpetuity by funding a book purchase in the subject area of their choice.

Giving levels range from $100 to $10,000. The new book will be cataloged and added to the Library’s collection, and an electronic bookplate with customizable wording is added to the book’s online catalog record. This allows people all over the world to see and celebrate the memorial, accomplishment or special occasion.

The catalog is searchable by the honored person’s name, making the gift more recognizable and special.

If you are interested in honoring a special person in your life, whether it is a graduate, friend, professor, family member or colleague, please contact the Library’s Development Officer Kristina Martinez at krismart@nmsu.edu or (575) 646-3642 for more detail.—Kristina Martinez, Library Administration

Here I Come! Pastel by Lenny Silverman, Archives & Special Collections.
Community College Library News

Doña Ana Community College
Doña Ana Community College’s new librarians, Sara Finch, Yubao Li and Ken Keeton enjoy extending their reach to students at all DACC campuses. Keeton, as Virtual Services Librarian, made a positive impact with Web site changes and online assistance areas, which Finch and Li were able to highlight during class visits. Keeton has also created several project tutorials for faculty and staff use at http://dabcc.nmsu.edu/library/Tutorials/tutorials.shtm. Library division staff Ken Keeton, Dean Thompson, Tammy Welch and two of their Virtual Learning staff, Sonia White and Ricardo Montoya, have been heavily involved in a DACC task force that will provide Sharepoint for the College’s full-time faculty and staff. DACC also welcomed a new AV tech, Juan Martinez, who assists the East Mesa Campus, including the new DACC auditorium. Spring Semester will bring a renewed set of activities focusing on the Gadsden and Sunland Park satellite campuses.

NMSU—Alamogordo
The search is underway to replace Dan Kammer, former Director of Library Services at NMSU—Alamogordo. Although Kammer has relocated with his family to another state, he continues to maintain the college’s Web site part-time and stays involved with the New Mexico Library Association as the Immediate Past-President. In partnership with Information Delivery Services and Library Systems staff at the Las Cruces campus, NMSU—Alamo recently became the first LibSys5 ILLiad satellite. Once fully implemented, this software will streamline Request It! deliveries between campuses and other interlibrary loans.

NMSU—Carlsbad
Last semester, the NMSU—Carlsbad Library staff began offering Saturday hours from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This semester they have launched a series of walk-in orientations set for the first Saturday of each month at noon. The sessions include Opposing Viewpoints In Context, Literary Reference Center, NetLibrary E-Books and Tell Me More: The 24-hour Online Language Learning Center. Library work study students are being taught by library director Akilah Nosakhere to serve as facilitators to promote peer learning within the library. Special invitations are sent out to faculty and students to attend, and all instruction is monitored by Nosakhere.

NMSU—Grants
After almost thirty years of service to the NMSU—Grants community, Mary Heberling, Library Technician, retired at the end of December 2010. Her dedication to NMSU and her knowledge of the college’s history will be missed by the entire campus community.

The library at NMSU—Grants is temporarily closed to users due to construction in the first phase of a long-term, multi-phase renovation project, with a projected reopening date in early February. Library Director Cecilia Stafford and Library Specialist Nichol Martinez continue to work in the library staff office responding to service requests via telephone and email. They also staff the Student Success Center’s open computer lab in the morning hours to help ensure computer access to students until the library reopens.

The renovation project has three major goals: exterior window replacement, interior lighting upgrades and relocation of the public entryway along with installation of a new 3M detection system. During the project, relocation of the entrance will make it easier for users to locate and access the library. Altering the entry has also resulted in some changes to the service desk.

The renovation project along with exterior work on the other two campus buildings is being funded through the NMSU—Grants facilities budget and some remaining general obligations funds combined with a $500,000 federal stimulus grant to expand ‘green’ initiatives on campus. Upgrades to the three campus buildings are projected to reduce annual utility bills.—Norice Lee, Access Services
Library Honors Donor Barbara Lee Myers

October 27 marked a special day for a dear friend to the Library, Barbara Lee Myers. New Mexico State University has been most fortunate to call Barbara a friend.

As a firm believer in higher education, Barbara has supported areas all over NMSU, including the Teaching Academy, the Honors College, the University Museum, KRWG TV/Radio, the College of Health and Social Services, the YMCA Building Renovation Project and last but certainly not least, the Library.

From building our book collections to sponsoring an endowment for journals in Asian Studies and another to support a student assistant program in the Archives, Barbara has been a constant supporter of the Library. Barbara’s time is always spent honoring others. She has a generous heart and a true desire to help those less fortunate than herself and to leave this world in better condition than the way she found it.

New Mexico State University has been most fortunate to call Barbara a friend

A native of Ohio, Barbara followed her family to Las Cruces more than fourteen years ago, and she adopted the Las Cruces community like it was her own. As a supporter of Casa de Peregrinos Food Bank, Jardin de los Niños Homeless Child Care, Mesilla Valley Community of Hope Homeless Shelter and NMSU, just to name a few organizations, Barbara never ceases to spend her time and money helping others.

In honor of Barbara’s most generous contributions, the Library hosted a celebration for her eighty-third birthday, where, at her request, we collected over one hundred non-perishable food items to be donated to Casa de Peregrinos Food Bank. It was a wonderful celebration in honor of a truly philanthropic person. Barbara—we’re honored to have been able to celebrate with you!—Kristina Martinez, Library Administration

Pope of Peppers Featured on Martha Stewart Show

Dave DeWitt, world renowned chile expert, the “Pope of Peppers” and NMSU Library donor, was a featured guest on the Martha Stewart Show on January 17. “The Hot Show,” as it was titled, featured an hour full of all things hot, including a guide to growing your own chile peppers and a sneak preview of the new world’s hottest chile pepper by DeWitt. If you missed the show, visit http://www.marthastewart.com/affiliateinfo and click on “Show Archive.”

The NMSU Library holds the Dave DeWitt Chile Pepper Book Collection, which currently contains more than 550 unique titles including cookbooks from around the world, as well as those specializing in New Mexico chile. So if you get a craving for something hot, come visit the Library’s Special Collections Department. DeWitt’s book collection is sure to satisfy the cravings of every spicy food connoisseur!—Kristina Martinez, Library Administration

EBID (continued from page 8 )

This experience strengthened our resolve to offer as open access to our holdings as possible, even when it presents unusual challenges.

Littlefield’s research may also help move forward a project to digitize selected maps and other documents from the EBID records. The records housed in the RGHC extend to over two hundred linear feet and cover the operations of the district through most of the 20th century.

With the district taking part in stream adjudication and other recent developments relating to water rights and usage, we expect interest in and use of these records to expand. In addition to these two researchers, several students have also used the records since they have begun to be re-processed. —Charles Stanford, Archives & Special Collections

Chile expert Dave DeWitt made a guest appearance on “The Hot Show” episode of the Martha Stewart Show.
Beginning in late 2008 and concluding in Fall 2010, the Library made significant improvements to the public areas on the first floor of each library. Working closely with Dean Elizabeth Titus and interior designer Sheila Morgan, the Space Task Force gathered input from Library users and set about to improve public spaces based on that feedback.

In order to free space for the collaborative computer workspaces desired by users, the Library moved an index collection out of Zuhl Library and moved the extensive microform collection to one side of the Branson first floor area. These two areas were equipped with modular furniture which permitted quiet, private spaces as well as larger group study/work/computer spaces. Both libraries received new paint and carpeting in these spaces—vibrant colors in Branson and more earth tones in Zuhl. New monitors installed in both libraries help keep visitors informed, displaying not only national news but library-produced videos.

**Library users told us that they liked the new spaces**

Library users told us that they liked the new spaces. Individual study spaces and privacy were among the most cited improvements along with group spaces. Evidence that Library users like the improvements is that the number of users entering both libraries has increased. The number of persons using the two libraries increased by 19.2% over the previous year. Additional changes have included a ticket system for the public computers to improve accessibility and the addition of an interactive map that shows which computer workstations are available for use in each library and ICT labs.

The changes in the public areas of Branson Library and Zuhl Library were made in response to user feedback, and the increased numbers of users have demonstrated that the changes have been well received. Space Task Force members Cindy Pierard, Norice Lee and Dave Baldwin gave a presentation at a national conference at Georgia Tech last fall on the strategy and procedures involved in improving spaces, including gathering input, repainting, recarpeting, reupholstering, recycling and reusing. Library faculty, staff, students and other users helped in many ways as these changes were implemented over the past two years.—David Baldwin, Associate Dean

Santa Fe Zubia, a student shelver at the Library, is the winner of the Library’s “Guess the Weight of the Pumpkin” contest announced in the Fall 2010 newsletter. She guessed twelve pounds, ten ounces, and the pumpkin weighed twelve pounds, nine ounces.

Zubia is an NMSU sophomore majoring in anthropology. Her prize includes a gift certificate for treats at a campus location plus the pumpkin. There were 118 entries in the contest.

She told Government Documents & Maps Librarian Dotty Ormes that she was attracted to the Library’s display of documents from the U.S. Department of Agriculture by the children’s books included in the display.

Zubia guessed the weight of the pumpkin in the display by comparing it with the weight of her five-month-old son, Ori. He weighs much more than that now, but she has carried him around so much that she has a pretty good sense of how much that size package weighs!

For more information about government documents, visit http://nmsu.libguides.com/governmentdocuments or contact Ormes at (575) 646-4385.
Southwest Book Awards Announced

The Border Regional Library Association is pleased to announce the fortieth annual Southwest Book Awards. Since 1971, the awards have been presented in recognition of outstanding books about the Southwest published each year in any genre (for example, fiction, nonfiction or reference) and directed toward any audience (scholarly, popular or children's). Original video and audio materials are also considered.

The winners of the fortieth annual Southwest Book Awards are:

- **Dreamland: The Way Out of Juarez**, by Charles Bowden (University of Texas Press, 2010).
- **Drug War Zone: Frontline Dispatches from the Streets of El Paso and Juarez**, by Howard Campbell (University of Texas Press, 2009).
- **In the Path of Falling Objects**, by Andrew Smith (Feiwel & Friends, 2009).
- **The Life and Writing of Fray Angelico Chavez: A New Mexico Renaissance Man**, by Ellen McCracken (University of New Mexico Press, 2009).

Eligibility for this year's Southwest Book Awards was based on five criteria:

1. About the Southwest, defined as West Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and northern Mexico.
2. Appearing in book or non-print format for the first time.
3. Published between August 1, 2009, and July 31, 2010.
4. Of high quality, both in the context of the current year's entries and in the existing body of Southwestern literature.
5. Books which reflect and interpret the Southwest. A scholarly work must make a well-documented contribution to scholarship in some aspect of Southwestern history or culture. Other nonfiction works should make reliable information accessible to the general reader. Poetry and fiction must reflect Southwestern culture and/or be set in the Southwest.

For more information please contact John Sandstrom at (575) 646-8093 or jsand713@nmsu.edu.

The Southwest Book Awards, as well as Border Regional Library Association (BRLA) awards for Librarian of the Year and Library Staff Person of the Year, will be presented at the BRLA Awards Banquet being held at Arroyo’s Desert Crossing on Saturday, February 26, beginning at 6 p.m. Several of the authors will be present to sell and sign copies of their books. The cost is $30, and reservations must be made and paid for by Monday, February 21. The public is welcome. Banquet information and registration forms are available at http://brla.info/banquetreg.htm.
Donor Highlight: Kathy Freas

As a proud graduate of New Mexico State University, a firm believer in the power of a great education and an advocate for scholarly resources for NMSU’s students and faculty, I was disturbed to see the recent articles in the Albuquerque Journal, Las Cruces Sun-News and the Chronicle of Higher Education describing the budget cuts that have hit academic libraries, including the NMSU Library, so hard over the last year.

After reading these articles, I contacted Kristina Martinez, the Library’s Development Officer, to discuss my concerns and how I might play a part in the goal to reclaim the scholarly journal subscriptions that were lost during the Fall 2010 budget cuts, keep the scholarly journals that the Library currently has and add additional scholarly journals that our students and faculty desperately need to provide an excellent education for our future generations.

Much of my success is attributed to the outstanding education I received at NMSU, and I know the importance of providing tomorrow’s leaders with the scholarly resources that are critical to a successful college career and a successful career after college. In my 20-plus years with a leading global engineering and science firm, I have had the privilege to interact with a number of amazingly talented graduates from NMSU and I know that NMSU continues to put out some of the best of the best professionals. But I also know that the quality of higher education and its graduates is directly related to the availability of scholarly resources.

I have been moved to get involved and give back to the NMSU Library because I fear that if budget cuts continue as expected for fiscal year 2012, increased private support becomes more and more imperative in order for NMSU to continue to produce the best graduates, which cannot be done without timely, scholarly resources like academic journals.

I have personally chosen to sponsor the cost of a subscription to a journal package that was cut this fall when the Library took its 27% decrease in its materials budget. I hope that my gift might inspire others to do the same, or to make a gift to help the Library create an endowment that will fund electronic resources, databases and academic journal subscriptions in perpetuity. I believe that together we can open the door of knowledge by providing the resources and services that inspire lifelong learning.—Kathy Freas, Ph. D., NMSU Class of ’79, ’87

Put Pete in Your Pocket

Calling all NMSU alumni, fans and friends! The Library and the NMSU Alumni Association have recently partnered on a fundraising initiative to help you keep Pistol Pete on your mind and in your pocket at all times.

We live in a computerized world, and who doesn’t have use for a USB memory stick? Well, now you can own this 4GB USB memory stick that features Pistol Pete for only $25! Keep all of your important business at hand while keeping NMSU on your mind. Proceeds from this project support the Library and the NMSU Alumni Association. Carry Pete in your pocket and show your proud Aggie support!

To purchase your own Pistol Pete USB, contact Kristina Martinez at (575) 646-3642 or krismart@nmsu.edu or Vicki Morgan at the NMSU Alumni Association (575) 646-3616. Thanks for your support! — Kristina Martinez, Library Administration

Two Million Volumes by 2012 Campaign Makes Progress

The Library is pleased to announce that as of January 2, 2011, our volume count has reached 1,819,725. Only 180,275 volumes to go!

Please contact Kristina Martinez, Library Development Officer, to learn how you can help us reach this goal to provide the best resources to our students, faculty and community patrons.

For more information, please email Martinez at krismart@nmsu.edu or call (575) 646-3642.
In Memoriam: John Ross

Author, journalist, poet and activist John Ross died on January 17, 2011, near Lake Patzcuaro in Mexico. Ross always came to Las Cruces to do a presentation or reading when he visited this area, and he last appeared at the NMSU Library in February 2010.

Ross, who spent almost all of his time in Mexico City since 1985, was the author of ten books, including *El Monstruo: True Tales of Dread & Redemption in Mexico City*.

He received the American Book Award in 1995 for *Rebellion in the Roots: Zapatista Uprising in Chiapas* and the Upton Sinclair Award in 2005 for *Murdered by Captalism: 150 Years of Life and Death on the American Left*.

A prolific journalist, Ross wrote many articles for San Francisco newspapers, *CounterPunch*, Pacific News Service and the Mexico City *La Jornada*. Also an early Beat poet, he published nine chapbooks of poetry. His many friends and fans know that he will live on through his writings.—Jeanette Smith, Library Administration

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I'm going to keep marching... I believe another world is possible—John Ross

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100 Best
(continued from page 1)

Andrews said, "I can't quite get my head around being on a list with Willa Cather and Tony Hillerman. My dad would be proud, and that gives me a lot of satisfaction. I wish I could let all the letter writers know they have a sort of immortality."

I wish I could let all the letter writers know they have a sort of immortality

More information about the 100 Best New Mexico Books is available at [http://nmbookcoop.com/Projects/Best-Books/Best-Books.html](http://nmbookcoop.com/Projects/Best-Books/Best-Books.html). *The Whole Damned World* is available at local bookstores and online at Amazon.com. For more information, contact Andrews at (575) 646-5028 or mandrews@lib.nmsu.edu.
Contest: Brevity is the Soul of Wit

What does the NMSU Library mean to you? Enter our contest and tell us in eight words or less. Remember, brevity is the soul of wit!

The three contestants submitting the most original and memorable entries will receive gift certificates for treats at an on-campus location.

Everyone is eligible to enter their few and wisely chosen words except NMSU Library employees. Please email your eight-word entries (a limit of five entries per person) to Jeanette Smith at jsmith@lib.nmsu.edu by March 15, 2011.

Librarians Do Gaga

Librarians sing! They dance! This newsletter issue’s featured YouTube video, a spoof of Lady Gaga’s song “Poker Face,” was made by the students and faculty of the University of Washington’s Information School.

Visit it at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a_uZUh1VT98&feature=related

Zuhl Library is pictured during a recent rolling blackout. Photo, Jeanette Smith