

## New Mexico State Librarian Announces Retirement

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Dr. Susan Oberlander, NM State Librarian, will retire April 1, after serving the state for 25 years as Director of Libraries at Northern New Mexico College, at the Public Regulation Commission and for four years at the New Mexico State Library. She received her Ph.D. from the School of Information at the University of California, Berkeley.

During her tenure at the State Library, Dr. Oberlander was the recipient of a \$1.5M grant from the US Department of Commerce for a project called *Fast Forward New Mexico*. This project offers small group training in using computers and the Internet at public and tribal libraries in 17 communities across the state in order to better prepare residents to participate in economic development and educational opportunities and to promote broadband adoption.



“I am honored to have served in this position and with this staff doing work that promotes statewide library development, funding and technology as well as provide services to state government and special programs such as the Talking Books program and three bookmobiles that provide library services to those without public libraries” stated Dr. Oberlander.

Details about this job posting can be found in this issue’s “Job Openings in NM” section.

To learn more about the history of Fast Forward NM, the State Library’s grant partners, training dates, the training curriculum, news releases, and FFNM libraries, please go to [www.fastforwardnm.org/](http://www.fastforwardnm.org/)



## BRIEFINGS

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### Fast Forward New Mexico on the Move

Here's a brief update on the libraries that are participating in Fast Forward New Mexico (FFNM), and providing a much-needed training resource to help people in their communities become more proficient users of computers and the Internet.

- Ⓢ During the summer of 2010, public and tribal libraries in Aztec, Gallup, Raton, Rio Rancho, Taos, Socorro, Silver City, Zuni, Ohkay Owingeh, Roswell, Clovis, Las Cruces, Carlsbad, Hobbs, Columbus and two branches in Albuquerque (Alamosa and South Broadway) signed up as training sites to offer free classes on Level I basic computer skills, how to use the Internet, how to select a computer, how to take online courses, etc.



- Ⓢ Level II courses are aimed at small businesses and entrepreneurs on how to grow their businesses using various Internet and social networking tools.

Another component to the FFNM program includes the State Library's outreach to the remaining 75+ public libraries in New Mexico (that are not FFNM libraries). These libraries will be encouraged to offer digital literacy programming to their communities. Invitations will go out this spring/summer, giving libraries an opportunity to participate in a "train-the-trainer" program. The State Library's Development Bureau will coordinate the curriculum, outreach efforts, and develop promotional materials for the interested libraries. More information on this program will be announced in the near future.

### FFNM Creates Community Connections

To date, "kick-off" events have been held at the Octavia Fellin Public Library (Gallup), Aztec Public Library, Thomas Branigan Public Library (Las Cruces), South Valley Branch of the Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library Systems, and the Rio Rancho Public Library.

In order to generate wide-scale community awareness, library directors reached out to their local governments, chambers of commerce, local businesses, civic and nonprofit organizations, and the media to encourage commitment to the future of their towns and well-being of their citizens by supporting the vital role of public libraries. As a result of each library director's outreach efforts, the kick-off events had local flavor and were successful. The following are some of the photos taken at recent kick-off events:

## FFNM PHOTO ALBUM

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In January 2011, State Librarian Susan Oberlander spoke at the Las Cruces kick-off. Seated left to right are Mayor Ken Miyagishima and Library Director Lynette Schurdevin



"Las Cruces 8," the Hispano Chamber of Commerce, provided a ribbon cutting ceremony for FFNM at the kick-off



Rio Rancho Public Library Director Bill Cicola welcomed participants at the February 2011 event



Bill Cicola chatted with FFNM Partners: (standing at the door) Alice Loy, Global Center for Cultural Entrepreneurship and Carla Rachkowski, FFNM Statewide Marketing Specialist



## FFNM PHOTO ALBUM (cont'd)

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In September 2010, the Aztec FFNM kick-off drew guests (from left to right): Jim Dumont (from Sen. Bingaman's office), Mayor of Aztec Sally Burbridge, State Librarian Susan Oberlander, Mayor Pro Tem of Aztec Jim Crowley, John Badal of Sacred Winds Communication, Josh Ray, Aztec City Manager, and Carla Rachkowski, FFNM Statewide Marketing Coordinator

Participants at the Aztec Public Library FFNM kick-off



Congratulations to the first FFNM graduating class at the Octavia Fellin Public Library (Gallup)



A big turn out at the Octavia Fellin Public Library (Gallup) FFNM kick-off



## FFNM and Libraries Helping People

Provided here are the most recent stats on the number of people attending training sessions\*:

### Level I Basic Training

@ Aztec Public Library	135 participants
@ Albuquerque (Classes in Spanish)	48
@ Octavia Fellin Library (Gallup)	<u>159</u>
Total	342 participants

### Level II Training (Business/Entrepreneurs)

@ Aztec Public Library	135 participants
@ Albuquerque (Classes in Spanish)	22
@ Octavia Fellin Library	<u>142</u>
Total	235 participants

\*Classes in Las Cruces and Rio Rancho have just started. Therefore, final participant numbers will be reported at a later date.

## UPCOMING FFNM KICK-OFF EVENTS

Socorro Public Library, Saturday March 26  
(Paula Mertz, Library Director, 575-835-1114)

Columbus Village Library, Saturday, March 26  
(Linda Werner, Library Director, 575-531-2612)

The Public Library (Silver City), Saturday, July 30  
(Eileen Sullivan, Library Director, 575-538-3672)

If you're interested in attending one or all of these events or training sessions, please contact the library director for exact times and schedules, or check the FFNM website at [www.fastforwardnm.org/](http://www.fastforwardnm.org/)



## BRIEFINGS

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Ben Wakashige, Administrative Director of Libraries and Learning Resources at Central New Mexico Community College (CNM), reports on The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) workshop that was held on February 18, 2011, at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque. IMLS co-hosted the event with the National Hispanic Cultural Center, Explora, and CNM.

The national campaign, “*Making the Learning Connection*,” is intended to assist communities as they build their capacity for helping individuals of all ages acquire critical 21<sup>st</sup> century skills such as critical thinking and problem solving, creativity and innovation, communication and collaboration. Albuquerque is one of the national six-city workshops on the tour.



The “*Making the Learning Connection*” campaign is part of IMLS’s continuing initiative to engage libraries and museums, community stakeholders, and policymakers to meet the educational, economic, civic, and cultural needs of communities. This campaign builds upon the release

of *Museums, Libraries and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills*

(<http://www.imls.gov/pdf/21stCenturySkills.pdf>), which provides an online self-assessment for libraries and museums to encourage a strategic approach to 21<sup>st</sup> century learning, and a report for library and museum practitioners and policymakers.

The workshop was led by Marsha Semmel, IMLS Director of Strategic Partnerships. Librarians who participated in the workshop included: Paulita Aquilar and Martha Bedard, UNM; Rachel Altobelli, APS; Olivia Baca and Ben Wakashige, CNM; Natasha Castel, Riann Powell, and Kathy Hubbard, Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Library System; Bill Cicola, Rio Rancho Public Library; Heather Dahl, Eldorado High School; Janice Kowemy, Laguna Public Library; Tamara Sandia and Maureen Wacondo, Jemez Pueblo Community Library; Mildred Walters, Pueblo of Sandia Learning Resource Center; Cynthia Shetter, Los Lunas Community Library, and Nathan Lujan, Isleta Pueblo Public Library. The keynote talk was presented by Owen Lopez, Executive Director of the McCune Charitable Foundation.



### **CNM Libraries Offer “Storytime” to Local Kids.**

Patrons of the Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) Main Campus Library are looking much younger these days. In February, CNM Libraries began offering

“Storytime” programming for young children in the community at the Main Campus Library.

The Main Campus Library is housed in the new and spacious Student Resource Center (SRC). Just next to the SRC is Tres Manos Child Development Center. Through collaboration between the two organizations, preschoolers from the Tres Manos Center now visit the CNM Main Campus Library on a weekly basis. Pam Apodaca, Director at Tres Manos, is happy to see the blossoming partnership. “I think it is great we are collaborating to the benefit of the children,” she said. “It is working out really well, and the children definitely look forward to Storytime.”

Tres Manos staff members are not the only stakeholders pleased with the results. Olivia Baca, Outreach Coordinator for CNM Libraries, says, “CNM Libraries are excited about Storytime, as we see this as an extension of the CNM vision to change lives and build community. We want to provide local families with more access to literacy programs.” A monthly Storytime is held on the fourth Saturday of each month. These events are open to the public, and all members of the CNM community are encouraged to attend. Storytime events last about 45 minutes, and include a combination of storybooks, songs, and crafts. For more information about Storytime programs at CNM, please email [storytime@cnm.edu](mailto:storytime@cnm.edu).



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**Van of Enchantment Taking Reservations.** Kimberly Mann, coordinator of the Van of Enchantment, is taking reservations to bring the “museum on wheels” to **New Mexico’s public libraries** this summer. Requests will be accepted only through April 4, so get your reservation booked now. Go to the State Library’s website [www.nmstatelibrary.org](http://www.nmstatelibrary.org) to download the request form.  
**SLA Rio Grande Chapter Event: Tour and talk at the National**



**Museum of Nuclear Science and History.** On the afternoon of **Thursday March 24th**, the Special Libraries Association Rio Grande Chapter (SLA-RGC) will hold the third program of its "*Make Your Future*" program series. Please join SLA-RGC members at the National Museum of Nuclear Science and History in Albuquerque as Museum Director Jim Walther will provide insights into how one builds a museum from the ground up, keeps it funded, and curates special collections. The visit will include a short tour of the library, which is currently hosting a special exhibit titled "Yesterdays Tomorrows: Past Visions of the American Future". Following the program (3-5PM), attendees will adjourn to the nearby Starbucks for socializing and networking. Please visit this link <http://tinyurl.com/4jzxngs> or the chapter website <http://units.sla.org/chapter/crio/> to find the registration information.



**Earth Hour Extravaganza.** The Museum of Natural History & Science in Albuquerque is hosting a free event (and free admission) on **Saturday, March 26 from 6:30 -9 pm** to celebrate a worldwide event – Earth Hour. They'll feature bilingual, hands-on family activities, Planetarium shows, and the opportunity to come together and construct a large-scale map of New Mexico that records pledges to the Earth. Visitors will be able to explore the Museum and experience the excitement and celebration as lights will be switched off for one hour while everyone heads outdoors to discover the night sky. Millions of people switch off their lights for one hour to raise awareness about global climate change. This event is in partnership with Community Science Connections, Bernalillo County Libraries, National Science Foundation, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

**DigIn II -- Digital Preservation Issues Conference, April 13-14, 2011.** It will be held at the University of New Mexico Continuing Education Conference Center, Albuquerque, NM. For registration information, go to <http://armariogrande.com/> and click on "Events." Or email [Andrew.bundy@pnmresources.com](mailto:Andrew.bundy@pnmresources.com). The \$200 registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch both days. The \$125 one-day registration fee includes continental breakfast and lunch. Parking is free.

Keynote speakers are Jason R. Baron, National Archives, Director of Litigation and Laura Campbell, Library of Congress, National Digital Stewardship Alliance. The conference is presented by: ARMA-Rio Grande Chapter, the NM State Library, University of New Mexico University Libraries, National Archives and Records Administration, New Mexico Archives and Historical Services Division, Special Library Association-Rio Grande Chapter, and the New Mexico Library Association.

Earlier this month the State Library offered LSTA Digital Project Grants for public library staff members to register for the Conference (\$200), spend up to \$200 for travel expenses,

or complete a digital preservation project in their library. March 11 was the deadline to apply for the grants.



**Happy Birthday, Alamogordo Public Library.** The *Alamogordo Daily News* recently reported that the residents of the Alamogordo and Otero communities celebrated the 111<sup>th</sup> birthday of the library on Saturday March 5. Back in 1899, ten women organized a “Woman’s Club with the mission to open and maintain a public library, to study the history of New Mexico and for self culture.” Best wishes for another century-plus service to the community!



**Tax Apps for Your Tech Savvy Library Patrons.** If library patrons want to know how to file their taxes (1040EZ only) using an iPhone or Android smart phone, tell them to check out [www.snapTax.com](http://www.snapTax.com). They can shoot a picture of their W-2, using optical character recognition (OCR) to transfer the data, answer a few more questions, tap “file now,” and they’re done. However, there is a downside – the cost to file (\$14.95) and need to double/triple-check the inputs.



## PEOPLE NOTES

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**Betty Palmer Retiring.** Betty Palmer, State Library Bookmobile Manager-Northeast Region, will drive her last mile at the wheel of a bookmobile on Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. She has served 26 years at the Cimarron headquarter bookmobile office/library. Betty and her husband, who also will be retiring after 40 years with the Boy Scouts of America Philmont Scout Ranch, will settle in Taos, NM. When asked what she will miss most, she replied, “the wonderful co-workers, all the friends that I’ve made over the years and, of course, traveling through the beautiful northeastern parts of New Mexico.” Her retirement plans include working on the house, volunteering at a bookstore or the local public library, and traveling. We thank Betty for her long and dedicated service to the State Library and the citizens of New Mexico and wish her the very best.



**Kudos to Library Director Beverly McFarland, Ruidoso Public Library.** Her team, comprised of staff and members of the Library Advisory Board, put together such an exceptional five-year plan for the library that not only was it praised by the Village Manager, it was also reported in the *Ruidoso News*. It's not often that libraries are publicly recognized for their strategic planning, but in this case it was well-deserved. For more information about the plan, contact Beverly McFarland at [beverlymcfarland@ruidoso-nm.gov](mailto:beverlymcfarland@ruidoso-nm.gov).



## JOB OPENINGS IN NEW MEXICO

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**New Mexico State Librarian**, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, Library Division, is seeking an energetic and experienced leader to serve as State Librarian. The agency has a \$5.7 million budget and a staff of 53 FTE. The State Librarian is responsible for overall administration of the State Library. The State Library, established in 1929, is committed to providing leadership that promotes effective library services and access to information to all citizens of New Mexico. The State Library provides services that support public & tribal libraries as well as delivers direct library services to rural populations, state agencies, the visually impaired and physically disabled, and students and citizens conducting research. **Minimum Qualifications:** A Master's Degree in Library or Information Science from an ALA-accredited library school and at least 5 years of progressively responsible experience in library administration. Experience with budget preparation & management, justification, personnel, the legislative process, innovative long range planning and strategic public/private partnership development is desired. Competitive salary & benefits offered.

Applicants must submit a letter of application and resume by **April 8, 2011** to: Veronica Gonzales, Secretary, Department of Cultural Affairs, PO Box 2087, Santa Fe, NM 87504-2087

**Adult Services Librarian.** The **Town of Silver City** is accepting applications for the position of Adult Services Librarian. Responsibilities include: planning, coordinating, implementing, and evaluating intergenerational/adult programs to meet the objectives identified in library planning documents, and community needs, expressed or perceived; providing general and in-depth reference assistance and reader advisory, using a variety of print and online resources; managing interlibrary loan operations. Requirements include: NM Class D driver's license; NM Librarian Certificate – Grade II, or ability to pass the next NM State Librarian Certification Grade II Exam within six months; Bachelor's degree required; Masters of Library Science Degree preferred (may be substituted with equivalent combination of education and experience); two years public library or research experience; two years of customer service experience. Ability to work in a team environment where consultation, flexibility, creativity, collaboration and cooperation are essential; knowledge of trends in library programming and services; proven ability to develop and promote programs and events; knowledge of library procedures; ability to organize tasks and meet deadlines; excellent customer service skills; good writing and report writing skills; extensive knowledge of reference resources, in both print and non-print formats; experience with troubleshooting computers, printers and other library equipment; working knowledge of common computer applications, automated library management systems, and subscription databases; working knowledge of social media and/or web design; experience with public speaking and making presentations; ability to lift 50 pounds and pass drug and alcohol tests. Application and copies of required driver's license, degree, and certification must be submitted by April 1, 2011, to the Town of Silver City, Personnel Office, 101 W. Broadway, Silver City, NM 88061. The Town of Silver City's application and hiring policy are available at City Hall or [www.townofsilvercity.org](http://www.townofsilvercity.org).

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**The next issue of Hitchhiker is scheduled to be published on Friday, April 8. Deadline for material is Wednesday, April 6.**

**Remember, the *Hitchhiker* is about you and your libraries. We depend on you to let us know what's going on at your libraries. Also, please help us by reminding others to send their email addresses so we can notify them each time a new issue is available. Send news and announcements, and new and/or corrected email addresses to [renee.payne@state.nm.us](mailto:renee.payne@state.nm.us).**

