

Library Commission Meeting

April 28, 2016

Public Services Report

- Letters About Literature 2016 – The awards ceremony is May 6 in Santa Fe. The contest went very well this year. Our entries were up slightly and 24 new teachers participated from 11 new schools. So, the word is getting out across the state. We also had 5 returning letter writers and some sibling entries. All good! You can read the three winning letters, see a list of the judges, and learn more about the New Mexico state competition this year, and the national contest which is coordinated by the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress and sponsored by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.
- Federal Depository Shared Regional – The agreement between NMSU, UNM and NMSL is out for signature by all institutions. Once the agreement is signed by all parties, the work with the actual collections and the revision of our Federal profiles begins. Lori Thornton was also appointed to the Federal Depository Library Council. Lori brings more than three decades of experience in government documents to the Council. She was the Regional Federal Library Depository Coordinator for the states of Washington and Alaska, and is now a member of the team working toward a shared Federal regional library for the state of New Mexico. As a member of the Depository Library Council, Lori will also be an advocate for tribal colleges with government depository library status. Last year, the Institute for American Indian Arts college library joined the FDLP and Dine College may join the program as well.
- Pulitzer (see handout)– Between May and December, Lori Thornton will be visiting the six New Mexico libraries (Marshall Memorial in Deming, Thomas Branigan in Las Cruces, Clovis Carver in Clovis, Octavia Fellin in Gallup, Thomas C. Donnelly in Las Vegas, and Albuquerque Bernalillo County South Broadway Branch) taking part in the 100th anniversary Pulitzer Prizes Reading Challenge. Lori was named as the program evaluator in the NM Humanities Council grant proposal. She will attend one discussion program at each library to evaluate the discussion, community engagement, and impact on the community. She will also evaluate the NM Humanities Council as the grant recipient and the blog which is open to all New Mexicans who wish to participate in the reading challenge discussion.
- Main Library hours reduced – On April 4, we reduced the hours that the main reading room is open to the public. We are now open from 1 to 5, Monday through Friday. The hours remain the same in the SW Room, 1 to 5, Wednesday and Friday only. The SW Room hours were reduced in February to just two days per week. We hope to hire a SW Librarian later this year and will add another day per week to those hours. With the addition of a SW Librarian, Public Services will still be 2 senior librarians short.