



FRIENDS' FOCUS

Newsletter of the Friends of the Belen Public Library
333 Becker Avenue, Belen, NM 87002
www.belenfriends.org

Vol. 2007, Issue #1



LOCAL AUTHOR FEATURED AT ANNUAL MEETING

Location Is La Mirada Hotel's Event Center

Lisa Polisar, an Albuquerque author, will be the guest speaker at the annual meeting of the Friends of the Belen Library. The meeting will be held at 2 PM on Sunday, March 25, 2007, at the event center at La Mirada Hotel, 2200 Camino del Llano in Belen. This event is free and open to the public.

The meeting will begin with a brief business meeting and the election of officers for 2007-2008. (See the nominations box on page 2.) The second part of the meeting will feature a presentation by Lisa about her third mystery thriller, *The Ghost of Mary Prairie*. Lisa developed a love of mysteries through reading Nancy Drew, Sherlock Holmes, and other popular fictional detectives. In 1989 Lisa did graduate work in psychology at the University of Exeter in England where she developed a fascination with the psychology of crimes and criminals. She has published two other mystery thrillers: her first novel, *Blackwater Tango*, was published in 2002, and a New Mexico mystery, *Knee Deep*, followed in 2003. Lisa officially launches *The Ghost of Mary Prairie* in Albuquerque the day after the meeting.

After Lisa's talk and reading, copies of her latest book will be available for purchase and signing. To find out more about Lisa and to read interviews and reviews, visit her website at www.lisapolisar.com.

La Mirada Hotel is a luxury bed-and breakfast inn with a panoramic view of Belen, the Rio Grande valley, and the Manzano Mountains. Visit www.lamiradahotel.com or call 505-864-1900.

DIRECTOR PROVIDES CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Beverly McFarland, Director of the Belen Public Library, recently attended a renovation and progress meeting about the library. She says that the construction project is progressing well despite some weather and soil problems. The framing is finished as well as much of the electrical. A new roof, sprinkler system, and new light fixtures will be completed soon. Everyone's doing a great job!

Beverly also indicated that after water problems on the east side of the building were addressed, the soil there was stabilized and the grade is being raised. The



forms for the addition's foundation should be set within the next few weeks. The work is a little behind schedule, but John Pate, the project architect with Molzen-Corbin, believes some of the time lost will be made up during good weather. The building should be substantially complete by August 2007. A bit further along in the project, a time table will be set for the move back to the new facility.

Officers

President

Tami Wiggins
864-3700

Vice President

Pat Boyle
861-7067

Treasurer

Donna Hernandez
861-1285

Secretary

Bernice Boyle
861-2032

Book Sale Chair

Laura Hawes
861-1925

Refreshments Chair

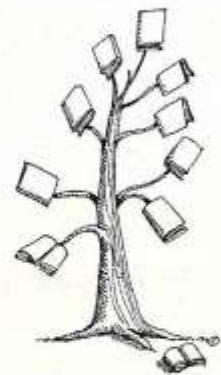
Barbara Guenley
861-2219

Readers' Group

June Romero
864-1825

Library Director

Beverly McFarland
864-7522



Our Mission

The Friends of the Library supports libraries, learning, and the promotion of reading.

March 2007

Friends of the Belen Public Library 2007 Annual Meeting



FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2007, 2PM

LA MIRADA HOTEL

2200 CAMINO DEL LLANO, BELEN

Lisa Polisar, an Albuquerque author, will be the guest speaker at the Friends annual meeting. After Lisa's talk and reading, copies of her latest book, "The Ghost of Mary Prairie," will be available for purchase and signing.

www.belenfriends.org

www.lisapolisar.com

NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

The Friends Nominating Committee has announced its list of nominations for the Friends Board for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. The following nominations will be presented at the Friends annual meeting on Sunday, March 25 (see page 1):

- Pat Boyle—President
- Karen O'Kain—Vice-President
- Bernice Boyle—Secretary
- Donna Hernandez—Treasurer

If you are a member of the Friends of the Library and would like to provide a nomination, you may do so at the meeting or prior to the meeting by calling Bernice Boyle at 861-2032.

BOOKS NEEDED

The Friends are already taking donations for the annual book sale to be held October 19 and 20. Almost any kind of book will be accepted, and children's books are especially needed. Call Laura Hawes, Book Sale Chairperson, at 861-1925 to arrange your donation.

LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES



At left, in January the east side of the library was the site for grade and foundation work for the addition. At right, the Friends future office is framed out. (See also the article on page 1 and additional photos on page 3.)



READERS' GROUP NOW MEETS AT REC CENTER

Since the library is currently closed for renovation and expansion, the Friends of the Library Readers' Group is now meeting in the conference room at the Belen Recreation Center at 715 S. Main. While the Rec Center is a new venue for the group, June Romero continues to facilitate the meetings as she has done for almost 3 years! Once library construction is complete, the group will move back to the library.

At the March 26 meeting, the group will discuss *Stones from the River* by Ursula Hegi. For April 30, read anything by James Michener. The book selection for May 28 is Tony Hillerman's *The Shape Shifter*. For a list of upcoming selections, or to see a list of what the group has read since its inception, go to www.belenfriends.org.

The Readers' Group meets monthly, and everyone is welcome. Meetings are on the last Monday of each month at 10 AM. Meetings are informal, and membership in the Friends is not required. Call June, the group's facilitator, at 864-1825 for more information or directions.

FRIENDS PROVIDES GENTLE REMINDERS ABOUT . . .

. . . LIBRARY SERVICES AND TEMPORARY LOCATIONS

- "The Bookstop," at the Belen Recreation Center at 715 S. Main, contains a limited selection of books.
- The computer lab is at the Belen Community Center, 325 Multipurpose Rd.
- The library's mailing address is still 333 Becker Avenue, and the phone number remains 864-7522.
- Both locations operate Monday through Thursday from 9 AM to 6 PM, and Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM. The computer lab is open on Saturday from 9 AM to noon, but the Bookstop is closed.
- The book drop is located just outside the front door of the Recreation Center on South Main.
- You must bring your library card to the Bookstop since access to patrons' computer records is not available there. If you wish to renew a book without your card, call the number listed above or visit the computer lab at the Community Center.
- The cart with dollar books is at the Bookstop. The cart also holds Friends membership materials.

. . . THE ANNUAL BOOK SALE

- The next annual book sale is now planned for October 19 and 20, 2007. Proceeds of the sale fund children's reading programs at the library.
- BOOKS ARE NEEDED, especially children's books. Laura Hawes, Book Sale Chairperson, would be happy to coordinate with you either to pick up your books or to meet you at the book storage facility for a drop-off. Call Laura at 861-1925.
- A facility for book storage is also needed. Once library construction is complete, the Friends' arrangement with Belen Consolidated Schools for storage space expires. If you know of or can donate a ground-floor storage space of 200 to 300 square feet, please contact Laura Hawes at 861-1925.
- Folding tables for use at the book sale are an additional need. If you buy a table, your name will be prominently displayed on it to show your support of the Friends and the sale.
- There are many volunteer opportunities associated with the sale besides moving books and setting them up: pre-sale phoning, coordinating the book-moving effort, putting up and taking down sale signs, and more. Call Laura at 861-1925.

. . . FRIENDS DONATIONS AND MEMBERSHIP

- The Friends continues to accept donations for its library expansion fund, which will go toward furnishing the new library's children's wing and teen room. You can use the form on the back of the newsletter to make a donation, or call Donna Hernandez, Friends Treasurer, at 861-1285.
- Your Friends membership is good for one year. Check the address label on your newsletter. If the date shown on it has passed, please renew your membership.
- You can renew your membership by completing the membership form on the back of the newsletter and mailing it with your dues to the Friends of the Library, 333 Becker St., Belen. Or you can drop the form and your dues in the membership lockbox on your next trip to the Bookstop in the Rec Center. The box is located at the end of the dollar book cart. Or you can use the membership envelopes on the cart. Membership forms can also be found at www.belenfriends.org/membershipform.



(Photos continued from page 2.) At left is another view of the east side of the library. At right, the circulation desk area is beginning to take shape. (See also pages 1 and 2.)





Friends of the Belen Library
 333 Becker Avenue
 Belen, NM 87002
 505-864-7522
 www.belenfriends.org



To:

LOOK! →
 If the date on your address label has passed, please renew your membership using the form below.



87002+8125



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION FORM

If you believe in libraries, learning, and the promotion of reading, this multi-purpose form is for you! (1) Join the Friends of the Belen Public Library. Your membership entitles you to attend the preview of the annual Book Sale, receive the Friends' quarterly newsletter, and much more! (2) Are you a current member? Use this form to renew your membership. (3) Or donate to the building fund for the library's renovation and expansion!

New Member Renewal _____ Today's date

NAME _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Please check a Membership category and/or indicate the amount of your donation to the building fund:

Individual (\$5) Patron (\$25) _____ Amount of building fund donation
 Family (\$8) Lifetime (\$100)

We need you! Please volunteer some time and energy to serve on a committee!

Refreshments Program
 Book Sale Publicity

Mail your completed form along with a check made out to **Friends of the Library** to 333 Becker Avenue, Belen, NM, 87002. Or on your next visit to the Library, drop off your check and form at the front desk.