



# FRIENDS' FOCUS

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

Vol. 2006, Issue #3



## YOUR LIBRARY IS CHANGING!

You've been hearing about plans for renovation and expansion of the Belen Public Library for months, and now it's about to begin! Library staff is already hard at work preparing to close the library September 30 and move operations and materials from the existing building to temporary facilities. During October, the library will be closed while books and other materials will be moved or packed for long-term storage. Temporary quarters will open November 1:

- **Library books and deliveries:** Belen Recreation Center, 715 S. Main
- **Computer labs:** Belen Community Center, 325 Multipurpose Rd.

Construction should be complete in the spring of 2007, and the improved and expanded library will re-open at its original location at 333 Becker Ave. The library phone number will still be 864-7522, and the existing book drop behind the library will remain in use until the contractor starts work in that area. Here's the project schedule:

- Sept. 2006 - Project out for bid; library closes Sept. 30
- Oct. 2006 - Library closed; Friends book sale at City Hall Oct. 20&21
- Nov. 2006 - Nov. 1 library reopens in temporary quarters; Nov. 6 bid awarded; Nov. 28 notice to proceed
- April 2007 - Project completed; library reopens at 333 Becker Ave.



*The photo at left shows just some of the boxes waiting to be assembled and filled with books. The photo at right shows only one of the many stacks of packed boxes stored around the library until they can be moved to the temporary library locations or long-term storage.*

**THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED DURING OCTOBER, BUT THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY'S ANNUAL BOOK SALE WILL GO ON! SEE PAGE 2!**

### Officers of the Friends of the Library

#### 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

#### Library Director

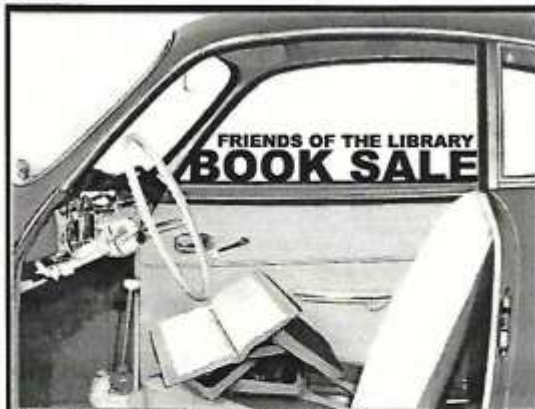
Beverly McFarland  
864-7522



### Our Mission

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

September 2006



**ALL BOOKS A BUCK A BAG!**

**Fri., Oct. 20 2pm to 6pm**  
FOR MEMBERS OF FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

**Sat., Oct. 21 9am to 2pm**  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

LOCATED AT CITY HALL  
DOWNTOWN BELEN (BECKER & MAIN)

## BOOK SALE IN OCTOBER

Thanks to Laura Hawes, Book Sale Chairperson, and her husband Don, the Friends annual book sale Oct. 20 and 21 will be bigger and better than ever. Since a sale of this size requires volunteers, call Laura at 861-1925 to sign up to assist, especially with sale preparation on Thursday, Oct. 19, or post-sale activities on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 21. On Thursday, boxes of books need to be moved from storage at the Belen Consolidated Schools Support Services area on North Main to City Hall downtown, where the boxes must be unpacked and books placed on the appropriate tables. Saturday afternoon, what books remain after the sale must be packed and moved back to storage.

The actual sale begins on Friday afternoon, Oct. 20, with a special preview sale for Friends members only. Books will be for sale for only \$1 per bag. This buck-a-bag sale opens to the public on Saturday, Oct. 21. You can become a member of the Friends of the Library at either sale.

Since the library will be closed in October, Sally Garley, Belen City Manager, and Mayor Ronnie Torres agreed to give the Friends use of City Hall for the sale and have gone "above and beyond" to accommodate us. Thank you!

### Friends Website Active

The Friends of the Library has a Website! Check it out at [www.belenfriends.org](http://www.belenfriends.org). Two of the goals are to have timely information about library construction and renovation and updates on the Belen Readers' Group. You are encouraged to provide comments, suggestions, photos, or other input via the "Comments" link on the site. Thanks to Blue Skies Consulting (864-3700) for this service.

### NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK IN OCT.

by Tami Wiggins, Belen Friends President

Friends of Libraries U.S.A. is sponsoring the first annual national Friends of Libraries week October 22-28, 2006. I thought it would be a good time to thank the members of our Belen Library Friends group, especially those who serve on the Board, work at our annual book sale, volunteer at the library, or otherwise contribute time and expertise to enhance library services. I became president of the Belen Friends in March, inheriting a vibrant, active group of which I am very proud. The Friends is dedicated in its support of our local library and its hardworking staff. So if you want to "support libraries, learning, and the promotion of reading," I encourage you to join our group or renew your membership (see page 4).

### READERS' GROUP MEETS IN NEW LOCATION

The Friends of the Library Readers' Group will soon be holding its monthly meetings at June Romero's home at 1002 Don Felipe. Since the existing library will be closing for renovation and expansion, and its temporary quarters cannot accommodate the Readers Group, the Group found a temporary meeting place at June's beginning with the October 30 meeting. For now, plan to join the Group at the library on September 25 to discuss *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden. For the October 30 meeting at June's, read any book or essay by Mark Twain; *The World Is Flat* by Thomas Friedman is the selection for November 27. Everyone is welcome at the Group's meetings on the last Monday of each month at 10 AM. Meetings are informal, and membership in the Friends is not required. Not only has June offered to host the Group in her home, she is the Group's facilitator and can be reached at 864-1825 for more information or directions.

## BOOKS AND LIBRARY INFORMATION ABOUND AT FARMERS MARKET

The Friends of the Library was busy at the Belen Farmers Markets on July 21, August 11, and September 1. The Friends set up two tables loaded with a sampling of books from the upcoming annual book sale and lots of information about the book sale (see page 2) and the library, its renovation and expansion, and its temporary relocation (see page 1). And to raise a little money while they were at it, Board members also sold books and cold drinks. The Friends were successful in spreading the word about your library and made almost \$175 in the process.



*Above left, the Board of the Friends of the Library is shown at a Belen Farmers Market: Donna Hernandez, treasurer; Pat Boyle, vice-president; Tami Wiggins, president; and Bernice Boyle, secretary. Above right, Donna (back to camera) sells books and cold drinks.*

## BELEN LIBRARY OFFERS VARIETY OF PROGRAMS

Your library provides or hosts a variety of programs ranging from computer labs to a readers group, from cross stitchers to story hours, and some of these are supported in part by the Friends of the Library. For instance, read about the **Readers Group** on page 2. And the **summer reading program** again succeeded in drawing young people into the library and motivating them to read. Prizes at the end of the program included bicycles provided by the Belen Masonic Lodge No. 56. Also, the **Children's Programs** have just resumed. Story Hour on Tuesdays is a structured program, and children are required to attend regularly. Thursday's Tales for Tots gets back to story time basics and does not require registration, though children must be accompanied by an adult. For more information about



*Jamie O'Hara, the Magic Guy, provided the entertainment for the summer reading program on July 19.*

either program, call 864-7797 or visit the children's desk at the library. A new program began in August. The **Family History Hour** involves creating oral histories on video to form a chronicle of life in Belen and surrounding areas. Creating an oral history is an enriching way to experience and preserve images and memories for you and your family for the future. Participants have assistance and guidance from the library staff. Call Lily Bravo at 864-7522 for more information. And finally, **adult computer workshops** are being offered on Saturday mornings. These free and informal workshops cover topics such as basic computer skills, various Microsoft programs, and navigating the Internet. Class size is limited, so call Lily Bravo now at 864-7798 to register.



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



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

To:

87002+8123-02 R003



## 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.