

RATON ~ NEW MEXICO NEWS



Photos by Tim Keller



Students, teachers, and superintendent participated in Raton High School's 3rd Annual Poetry Marathon, celebrating National Poetry Month. Top left to right: Audrey Rodriguez, Blanca Martinez, Daniel Phillabaum, Dave Willden, Erika Martinez, Jordan Sisneros. Bottom left to right: Justin Vigil and Margarita Saunders

RHS celebrates National Poetry Month with 3rd Annual Poetry Marathon

By Tim Keller
The Chronicle-News

Raton High School celebrated National Poetry Month with its 3rd Annual Poetry Marathon Friday. From 8:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., a podium and "open mike" was available as classes came and went, with students, teachers, and even the superintendent-of-schools taking the podium to share favorite poems.

The event was held in the school library the past two

years. This year the library is a construction zone so the poetry rang out in the large foyer outside the main offices of the school where several large comfortable couches were an added bonus. Some thought the new location an improvement, a place many more people would encounter the fun. Event organizer Margarita Saunders voiced her preference for the library, where she plans to return next year. "I prefer the library's close space. You don't have people walking in and out."

One of the people to walk in and out this year was Superintendent-of-Schools

Dave Willden. When he realized what he was witnessing, he ran back to his office across the street and returned with a favorite book of poetry, written by a 17-year-old girl in the late 1990's. He read "Problem After Problem", which he said perfectly described the nature of his own job. It was a poem Barack Obama would surely enjoy, too.

Saunders created the Poetry Marathon in her first year at RHS, having come from Oñate High School in Las Cruces where a similar event was co-sponsored by the English and Art Departments. "I want kids to realize that poetry is fun

and interesting," Saunders said. "It's all around us. It's not just for 'school boys'."

Saunders and other teachers offer class credit points to students who get up and share poems. Original work is encouraged, but students are welcome to share favorite poems by other authors, whether from their textbook or the pop charts. "We analyze pop songs in my class," Saunders said. "Students don't realize what goes into writing lyrics for a song - what are good lyrics, and what are not-so-good lyrics."

Justin Vigil read Tupac Shakur's "In the Event of My

Demise" Friday, one of several Shakur lyrics shared during the day. Other well-known authors included Pablo Neruda, Robert Frost, e.e. cummings, Shel Silverstein, Emily Dickinson, and William Shakespeare. Spanish teacher Ed Hockett read two poems in Spanish, including the well-known Jose Martí poem "Guantanamera". Several students, as well, read poems in Spanish. Saunders read a poem in French, along with poems by film director Tim Burton, among others.

Looking ahead to next year - the RHS Poetry Marathon is held each year on the last



Friday of April - Saunders said, "I'd like to offer prizes next year for best original poems, best dramatic interpretation, best Shakespeare reading, and other categories. I'll be out looking for prizes." While some students undoubtedly see the main advantage being a break from the routine of class, many look forward to the Poetry Marathon all year, excited about the chance to get up in front of other students and share their writing.



Photo by Laura L. Brewer

Dr. Julene Moore, MCMC pathologist, peers through the microscope searching for signs of abnormalities on a tissue sample.

Spotlight on Dr. Julene Moore

By LARURA BREWER
The Chronicle News

Miners' Colfax Medical Center spotlights the great job done by pathologists and lab technicians during National Laboratory Week April 20-25. Pathologist Dr. Julene Moore, a Raton High School graduate, Julene Moore, M.D., has returned to her hometown as a pathologist for Miners' Colfax Medical Center. Moore, who graduated from RHS in 1994, had always planned to return to Raton after receiving her medical degree and was pleased to be added to the medical staff at Miners' last fall.

Moore, graduated from the University of New Mexico, completed one year fellowship at the University of Colorado and four years residency in Seattle at the University of Washington.

Her duties at MCMC include examination of blood, urine, and organ tissues to test for liver function, thyroid function, cardiac enzymes, metabolic panel, and whatever else may be requested. She is responsible for all of the in-house tests

at the hospital, and also provides reports for samples that have been provided to her from local physicians.

Several physicians in Raton send specimens to MCMC, which has the capability of providing a full battery of lab tests, but many send their samples to an out of state company for testing. Dr. Moore explained that anyone can request their physicians to send their lab work to MCMC if allowed by their insurance. However, all miners may have their lab work completed at the hospital. At this time, because the number of tests needed for the hospital does not require a full-time pathologist, Dr. Moore augments her part-time MCMC schedule with work in Las Vegas. Dr. Moore hopes to eventually be able to work full-time at MCMC and would like to become involved in community outreach for the hospital.

Dr. Moore returned to Raton in August 2008, with husband Keith Grawe, who is a retired U.S. Marine. Parents, John and Billie Moore still reside in Raton.

Albuquerque police ID 7th body

HEATHER CLARK
Associated Press Writer

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A seventh woman with a troubled history whose remains were uncovered from an area razed for a housing development on Albuquerque's west side has been identified, Albuquerque police said Tuesday.

Police Chief Ray Schultz said Doreen Marquez of Albuquerque was 27 when she was last seen in October 2003.

Marquez was one of 11 adults and one fetus whose remains were found on a 92-acre site at the edge of the city that was being leveled in preparation for a residential subdivision. Four of the victims have yet to be identified.

A friend reported Marquez missing three days before Christmas 2004, Schultz said.

Marquez has been described by family members as an outgoing person, who loved to gather everyone for barbecues.

A MySpace page dedicated to her memory shows a photo of a beautiful young woman. Marquez, who was last seen walking in the Albuquerque neighborhood of Barelans in 2003, was a mother of two daughters and had two sisters and a brother, according to the Web site.

Marquez had been arrested on drug charges and was known by police as being a prostitute, although she had not been arrested for that crime, Schultz said.

Her past is similar to that of the other victims who have been identified. They were: Monica Candelaria, 21; Veronica Romero, 26; Cinnamon Elks, 31; Julie Nieto, 23; Victoria Chavez, 28; and Michelle Valdez, 22, whose remains were found with a fetus.

The women, who disappeared in 2003 and 2004, all had a history of prostitution. Many also struggled with

drug addiction. Several were mothers.

"She did match the profile," Schultz said of Marquez.

The state Office of the Medical Investigator used dental records to identify Marquez.

Marquez had a record of 17 cases dating back to 1994 that included charges of drug possession and shoplifting, according to Albuquerque Metro Court spokeswoman Janet Blair. In 2003, she was charged with heroin and cocaine possession, according to court records.

Schultz declined to say how Marquez or the other women died, saying that information would come from OMI.

Albuquerque police have sifted through 40,000 cubic yards of dirt in the area they say is one of the country's largest crime scenes.

Schultz said searchers found a bone fragment last week, but have uncovered nothing since then. He said he expects the search, which is entering its 12th week, to continue through the end of the week.

Schultz said investigators are following numerous leads and a telephone hot line dedicated to the case continues to generate tips.

Last week, the television show "America's Most Wanted" filmed a segment on the Albuquerque murders at the dig site. The show, which will air nationwide Saturday, already has generated tips that have been forwarded to Albuquerque investigators, Schultz said.



Photo by Laura L. Brewer

Volunteers spend time visiting with some of the residents during the Volunteer Thank You party at Raton Nursing & Rehabilitation. Shown are: Viola Rose, Ed Berkle, Mrs. Grussendorf, Rick Davis, and Joyce Steinberger.

Volunteers recognized at Raton Nursing & Rehabilitation

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Shadow whenever they see Tom and Peggy.

Volunteers Park and Rebecca Clark brighten the day for several residents by visiting with them and giving them a friendly face and an attentive ear. The Clarks also provide Christmas cheer every Christmas Eve by donning their Santa and Mrs. Claus' costumes and handing out presents. Mrs. Claus provides guitar music, and everyone has a grand time singing all of their favorite Christmas tunes, using music books with large-type print that Mrs. Claus put

together.

The latest effort in which volunteers will make a difference is the community garden that will grace the grounds of RNR this summer. Plans are already underway for tilling and fertilizing the soil in an enclosed area on the west side of the home. The Clarks will provide horse manure for the garden, and several Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts will provide helping hands throughout the summer to this worthwhile project. For more information, or to volunteer for this or any other project, call (575)445-2734.

COLEFAX COUNTY CALENDAR

April

■ April 29 - GED exam at New Mexico Highlands in Raton. — 130 Park Avenue

■ April 30 - 9:30 am "I Can Class," Call 445-8071 — Raton Income Support Office 1233 Whittier St.

■ April 30 - Substance Abuse Prevention Meeting, 10 a.m. in YES office. For more information call (575) 445-8191.

May

■ May 2 - 10:00 am to 5:00 pm The Raton Humane Society's Tenth Annual Spay/Neuter Certificate Sale will be Saturday at KMART. Cost: \$20.00 per certificate. Cash or money order only. NO PERSONAL CHECKS. Certificates are valid through April 30, 2010. Help prevent pet overpopulation.

■ May 9 - 10:00 am Simulcast of the Metropolitan Opera performance of "Cerentola" - a comic opera at