

- The proposed ordinance to create a Sandoval County Library Board was on the agenda at the March 13 Sandoval County Commission meeting. After receiving public feedback in the form of Resolutions from Jemez Springs and Placitas, discussion at the “Let’s Talk” informal pre-commission meeting, many public comments submitted online, and even more public comments in person at the Commission meeting with many libraries represented, the Commission voted unanimously not to adopt the ordinance as written. Thank you to the Village Council & Mayor’s support in signing the Resolution opposing the ordinance, to Cliff E. and Barb S. in creating appropriate resolution verbiage, and many for submitting public comments and encouraging others to do so. Thank you to Dave R., Mike N., Pam C., and Debi P. for making the journey to attend the pre-commission or commission meetings.
- Building updates: The remediation contract is complete and final payment has been made! The electrical work required prior to the continuation of the rebuild contract is complete; funds for this work are anticipated to come from FOL – thank you FOL! The reconstruction contracts are partially complete and awaiting funding for completion*. The Jemez Springs Community Presbyterian Church continues to be a generous partner in providing temporary space for the library – thank you! Financial, morale, service and storage issues are some of the continued impacts for the delays of financing for this project.
- Funding updates:
 - The Library Director worked with a grant writer, generously funded by MRCOG, to try and find funds to support library operations or repairs. This connection enabled a timely GRO funding request, as well as useful information for pursuing funds for sewer repairs, which will lift the entire Village up financially. A follow-up meeting irt grants will be scheduled soon to seek funding for goals below.
 - *Funds for most of item 1 are anticipated to arrive imminently from the county via 2019 library bond funds. Thank you to all the Sandoval County libraries for supporting our use of these funds!
 - Thanks to the generous support of Representative Christine Chandler, Senator Benny Shendo, and three other state legislators, the library Capital Outlay requests for improvements have been granted and will be received in FY25. Also GRO funds supported by Christine Chandler will be received to assist in operational costs for the library and other Village entities in the coming fiscal year.
 - One insurance claim has been addressed (awaiting final payment) and a second claim is awaiting review. Finalization of insurance will allow the pursuit of other funding for non-covered aspects of the repairs.
 - There are a lot of great people with many life experiences putting thought into how to bridge this large financial gap towards the expenses to repair and reopen the library. Thanks to all!
- Current overarching goals for the library, which will involve input from the community and decisions by the Library Board, as finances and time allow are:
 1. Complete the reconstruction of the library building and reoccupy it. This work may be phased so that we regain use of the conference room/restroom/kitchen area for programming first while the other portion is complete.
 2. Find a partner and funds to conduct and engineering study and engineering recommendations to address the presence of a more active hot spring underneath the building and other effects of severe weather.
 3. Find funds to follow the recommendations to mitigate the effects of the hot springs and severe weather. AND/OR
 4. Decide whether to move library operations to another location if conditions warrant a move.

- **New books and dvds** are slowly being added to the small collection at the library housed at the church. Ebooks & Eaudiobooks are also continuing to be added to the collection. And Kanopy streaming video has been continued as a service of local patrons. Take a look!
- **March – mid-April Special events**
 - “10 Early Signs and Symptoms of Alzheimer's and Dementia” on Saturday, March 2nd, presented by Joshua Fragua Jr. New Mexico Chapter Alzheimer’s Association was well attended and appreciated. If you missed it you can view the recording here: <https://jsplibrary.org/library-sponsored-videos/>
 - Portugal Travels by Debi Peterson is coming up 2pm Saturday March 30th at JSCPC
 - Open Mic Poetry hosted by Community as Poet is coming up 2pm Saturday April 13 at JSCPC
- **Regular programming currently includes** community as poet, aerobics, yoga, stretch & strengthen, storytime (ages 0-5), Friday fun, and book chat. Thank you to staff and volunteers for providing these opportunities to the area!
- **Staffing changes** –Nora Sutherland will be leaving March 23. Roz Coates has joined the library team to host Friday Fun and help out with the Summer Events, Storytime now has a team of six hosts so we can continue to provide weekly storytime. Annie Riley, Amanda Lewis and I will be taking on hours of desk coverage.
- The winter weather is here and has caused several days of library closures already. The sloped entry and parking at the temporary location at JSCPC gets less sun and can be an icy walk to the south side entrance. We are on the list for some plowing of the drive for future snowy days when library staff is able to get there and open the library. Please be careful!
- The Library Board is seeking another new member. Please visit <https://jsplibrary.org/library-board/> to learn more about the board and contact the library if you’re interested.
- In addition to in-person services the library also offers contact-free services such as curbside pickup, lockers for 24/7 hold pickups, laptops to use outside the library, and reference via phone/ email.
- The Friends of the Library continue to be a tremendous support to the library by contributing to operations costs as well as funding all of the programming expenses and some book purchases as well!! Thank you to all who contribute as volunteers and as donators of funds!!!