

Monthly Report

February 2026 Meeting Covering January Info

Personnel

- Selected candidate for Main's FT technician position turned down HR's offer. Another candidate has been selected and paperwork turned into HR.
- An opening for a part-time Librarian at Southside was advertised, and interviews were conducted.
- A new full-time Technician, Chris Strauss, started at Southside Library on Jan 31.
- Kudos to Joe Paisley for continuing to run the popular International Authors Book Club at La Farge.
- Kudos to Callie Stockman for continuing to run Stumbling Through Shakespeare program at La Farge.
- Something Queer at the Library, Samuel Buelow's popular program at Southside, was mentioned in the State Library's blog. Ada Negraru, Continuing Education Coordinator at the New Mexico State Library, attended the program on January 13: "Queer Germany 1860s-1930s: The Foundation of a Modern Movement." Ada wrote the following about the program: "The Something Queer at the Library talk series has gained reputation as one of the best prepared and attended events on the Santa Fe cultural scene."
- Aaron Oesting partnered with the State Library to be the first library to host *Cartonería Exhibit: Piñatas!* A Mexican Art of Paper and Paste, a partnership between the State Library and the New Mexico Museum of International Folk Art.

Budget

- A flat or "maintenance" budget was submitted to Community Services Admin for FY27. After several years of "maintenance" budgets, the library must begin to work on service and material reductions to ensure funding can cover essential expenses.
- Community Services as a department will be meeting with Mayor Garcia and City Manager Moya to discuss FY27 priorities on February 20.

Facilities

- Main's fire and burglar alarm fiasco continues with little progress from Facilities and no response from ATI Security.
- A trashcan fire was successfully dealt with by Main staff and the security guard on 1/10/26.
- The front doors at La Farge are still problematic to lock/unlock
- The weeds at La Farge have been cut and the outside of the building looks much tidier.
- The January food distribution at Southside Library went better than the December distribution. Food Depot volunteers directed traffic to reduce confusion, and Library staff parked at the Teen Center to free up the staff parking area for the public instead.

- On Jan 29-31, Meet with Mike: The Mayor's One-on-One Meetings took place at Southside Library. Constituents were able to meet with the new Mayor, by appointment, to discuss their concerns. Originally intended to be a two-day event, the available time slots filled so quickly that a third day was added.

Programs (New or Interesting Programs, Partnerships, Changes)

January Youth Program Highlights

LENA Start is off to a great start! The English class is currently full, with a waitlist. And the Spanish class has four registrants. Orientation for the ten-week program will happen at the end of February.

Main Library hosted the inaugural "Tween Book Club," for ages 9-12. This program was created by a ten-year-old, who submitted an online program proposal form and is helping to lead the club. We were thrilled to have seven kids attend and look forward to the next book club where they will vote on the club's name.

Tierra Encantada Charter School eighth graders and three eleventh grade Spanish classes from Capital High School toured the Southside Library in January. Approximately fifty students received library cards.

Seven youth outreaches and outside programs occurred, with 106 connections made at Chaparral Elementary, Many Mothers, Kaune Early Learning Center, and Amy Biehl Community School. At Amy Biehl, students from the gifted program were taught how to use library databases for history research.

Partners from the Randall Davey Audubon Center hosted a storytime at each location. We are also excited to have a new city volunteer, Megan Kite, a former school librarian, provide bilingual options for Pajama Storytime twice a month. And, Melissa Price, a former Children's Museum educator, is volunteering through the Friends as a program assistant during Southside storytimes and monthly craft programs. Fifty-seven folks attended the Valentine's craft program at the end of the month, and Melissa's help was needed and welcomed. Southside also hosted a special altered books workshop for kids led by Will Karp, whose Book Art exhibit was on display at Southside.

January Adult/Teen Program Highlights

Something Queer at the Library

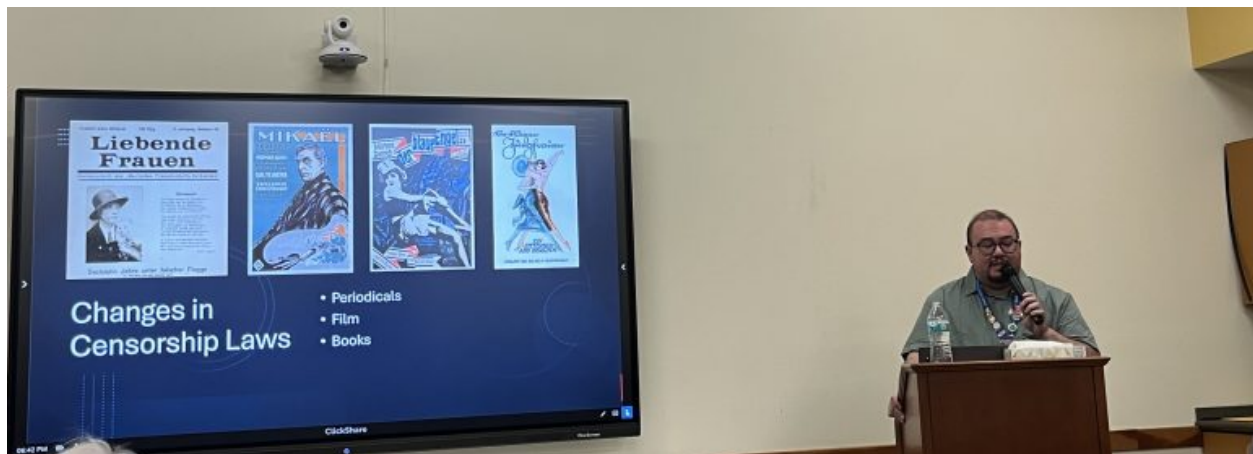
Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Southside Library

Queer Germany 1860s-1930s: The Foundation of a Modern Movement

While in the United States, LGBTQ+ politics are largely thought of as originating in the latter half of the 20th Century, much of the framework for the way LGBTQ+ people would be understood and campaign

for their rights was laid a century earlier in the German-speaking world. Southside Librarian Samuel Buelow presented his in-depth research, a look at the German Homosexual Emancipation Movement of the late 1800s and early 1900s, a thriving cultural, scientific, and political movement that had lasting impacts around the world before being violently suppressed by Nazi persecution.

85 people attended, including Ada Negraru, the Continuing Education Coordinator with New Mexico State Library, who featured the program in a recently published article, saying “Something Queer at the Library talk series has gained reputation as one of the best prepared and attended events on the Santa Fe cultural scene.” (<https://nmstatelibrary.org/what-i-learned-this-month-by-attending-three-public-library-programs/>)



Forty Years in the New Mexico Roundhouse with David Abbey

Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Main Library

David Abbey was a finance and budget expert at the state capitol during the administrations of seven New Mexico governors, from Toney Anaya in 1983 to Michelle Lujan Grisham. He was known for his broad knowledge of New Mexico history and worked to find workable solutions in the face of partisan divides. 69 people attended the talk featuring David Abbey on his recently published book “Forty Years in the New Mexico Roundhouse”.

Invite Connection

Tuesday, January 20, 2026, La Farge Library

Feeling disconnected? Want to enhance your natural skills to better communicate and listen to others? Join long-time professional learning and people development strategist Jules Dresen for these monthly workshops focusing on practicing two skills everyone possesses: listening and curiosity. These workshops provide a safe opportunity to practice and improve these skills to better connect with others in our community. 21 people attended the first workshop gathering, and the program will continue monthly for people to connect at La Farge Library.

Santa Fe Senior Theater

Thursday, January 8, 2026, Southside Library

Do you love stories, drama, and a good laugh? Then join The Santa Fe Senior Theater workshops for a low-pressure way to enjoy acting and storytelling with others in our community ages 55 and up. Participants in this free weekly workshop usually read from scripts during performances, so there's no need to memorize lines. This free program is geared toward socializing for those with or without theater experience: story and literature lovers, actors, singers, musicians, writers, dancers, teachers, librarians, and all sorts who value inclusive fun and creative activities. The Santa Fe Senior Theater proudly works as a Special Project with Teatro Paraguas, a long-standing member of the Santa Fe theater community. Regular attendance of approximately 30 people have been joining the Senior Theater weekly workshops taking place at the Southside Library.

Santa Fe Flutes - Musical Performance

Saturday, January 31, 2026, Southside Library

58 people, including the Mayor Garcia attended and enjoyed a free concert of the enchanting sounds of our city's flute choir, including standard concert flutes, piccolo, alto flutes, and bass flutes, at the Southside Library. Performance by Santa Fe Flutes.

Statistics

	December	January	YTD
Physical Circulation	41,325	38,448	287,773
Digital Circulation	22,905	24,719	152,937
Total Circulation	64,230	63,167	440,710
New Library Cards	324	420	2,713
Adult and Gen. Interest Programs	34	51	308
Adult and Gen. Interest Program Attendance	1,509	1,460	13,704
Children's Programs	51	55	385
Children's Program Attendance	1,097	982	7,783
Young Adult Programs	9	11	89
Young Adult Program Attendance	163	178	1,156
Public Computer Sessions	6,238	7,265	46,378
Visits	37,028	38,433	265,754

Technical Services December Statistics

New Bibliographic Records: 572

New Item Records: 1,762

Items Withdrawn: 750

New Items Ordered: 839

Patron Requests Filled: 112

Total Items in Physical Collection: 245,920

Technology

- Reenabled purchase suggestions and interlibrary loan requests and there were no complaints. The ability to suspend submissions will be helpful to workflow and to provide clear communication to patrons.
- Cyber Mesa updated our ILL email address. It is now interlibraryloan@santafelibrary.org.
- Reached out to several New Mexico libraries to see what they use for public computing (in anticipation of replacing public computers this year), what setup was like, and if they are happy with the product. We received helpful responses from Los Alamos Public Library and the State Library.
- Added Small Business Help to our website as a library service
- Completed onboarding the public computing server replacement at La Farge. Authentication and printing is up and running.
- Did another wave of service suspensions for hotspots that were not returned, bringing that total up to 50/83 hotspots suspended.
- Issued a staff reminder to only use royalty-free or free-to-use photographs in their promotional materials
- Had a temporary and intermittent Library Market Calendar issue that prevented pages from loading which was resolved
- ITT needed to make an urgent change to our assigned IP address which meant Kristen worked as quickly as possible to update the allowlist with multiple vendors so we could regain access to the ILS, some staff permissions in the discovery layer, Ancestry, and Useful control center links. These services were not usable until this was fixed.
- Resolved the light printing problem on Southside's public printer
- Removed the "Sign Up for Newsletters" link at the bottom of the homepage of the website. The most reliable way to receive newsletters is being an active library cardholder.
- Affected staff (particularly management) have been meeting where they can to address the upcoming ADA accessibility compliance standards that will become mandatory for us come April. We are working on coming up with guidelines for staff.