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NEVADA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

July 12, 2003

By Linda Deacy

▪ **LAS VEGAS CLARK COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT – CLARK COUNTY, NV**

Voters soundly defeated a proposed property tax increase Tuesday from the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District. With all ballots counted, 62 percent of voters in Las Vegas and unincorporated Clark County voted against the measures. The library district expansion plan called for using higher property tax collections to pay for a \$51.6 million construction program and to boost by 29 percent the district's operating budget to hire staff for four new libraries.

Because the library district plan failed, property owners could expect to begin seeing decreases in their tax bills starting in 2012, when collections to pay for current construction debts are set to end, according to library district documents.

The library district faced criticism for its decision to spend as much as \$500,000 to promote passage of the two-part question and place it before voters. One of the reasons the library district's election-related costs were so high was because there were no other races or questions to bring voters to the polls in unincorporated Clark County. The library district had no other entity with which to share those election costs. Some voters said library officials should be held accountable for using library funds to inform voters in a way the Clark County district attorney's office said crossed the legal line into advocacy.

▪ **WASHOE COUNTY LIBRARY – RENO, NV**

Washoe County library hours are being cut nearly 17 percent starting June 30 because of budget cuts, and the largest library will close Saturdays, officials said Monday. "We tried to make sure at least two libraries were open somewhere in the community every day," said Nancy Cummings, library system director. "It's the best we can do. We have so many vacancies right now."

The main Reno library on South Center Street, home of the system's largest reference collection, will be open Sunday through Friday, under the new schedule, officials said. Countywide, the county is counting on keeping employee vacancies open longer during the next year to balance its budget. The library system has about 15 vacant positions, of which seven will be frozen for a full year starting in July. Others are being held open for as long as nine months.

▪ **LAKE TAHOE CHAUTAUQUA – LAKE TAHOE, NV**



Lake Tahoe Chautauqua 2003 will celebrate the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Our format involves the characters introducing themselves to the audience, sharing their life stories with anecdotes and quotations from their writing, and then answering audience questions. Answers come from the character and are based on the scholar's perspective and study.

Clay Jenkinson as Capt. Meriwether Lewis

▪ **VEGAS VALLEY BOOK FESTIVAL - LAS VEGAS, NV**

The first annual Vegas Valley Book Festival, held in November, was a great success. The festival featured a full program of readings, book signings, workshops, an outdoor book fair, food, music, children's activities and more than 50 prominent writers from across the United States. More than 8,500 people attended book festival events during the two-day period.

The festival's keynote addresses by John Irving and Tom Robbins were filled to capacity and the audience at the panel discussion on the adaptation of literature to film had a golden opportunity to meet both writers. Other festival programs included interactive discussion on action-adventure writing; comics as literature; mystery and fantasy writing; screen-writing; new works by young writers; books about Las Vegas; poetry programs and children's literature.



The outdoor poetry tent was a hub of activity all day, and there was standing-room only at the programs for writers, which included sessions of self-publishing and marketing.

The Vegas Valley Book Festival is a cooperative program of the Nevada Humanities Committee, the Henderson District Public Libraries and the City of Henderson. The festival was held in the newly-constructed Henderson Promenade at Liberty Point, the Paseo Verde Library in Henderson and Green Valley Ranch Station Resort.

• **NEVADA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

Nevada Library Association - James S. McPhee Memorial Scholarship recipients for 2003:

Tamaria Anderson (\$1250): works for the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District and is currently a student in the University of North Texas Nevada Program

Deanna Causey (\$1250): works for the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District and is currently a student in the University of North Texas Nevada Program

Rebecca Colbert (\$1250): works for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Law Library and is currently a student in the University of North Texas Nevada Program

Amy Johnson (\$2500): works for Henderson District Public Libraries and will pursue her graduate library education through the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Ann LaGumina (\$1250): works for the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District and is currently a student in the University of North Texas Nevada Program

Sidney Watson (\$1250): works for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Libraries and is currently a student in the University of North Texas Nevada Program

Andrea Wirth (\$1250): works for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Libraries and is currently a student in the University of North Texas Nevada Program

All scholarship recipients who are attending the University of North Texas Nevada Program will be awarded an additional \$500, due to our partnership with their School of Library and Information Sciences.

- **UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS – LAS VEGAS, NV**

The University of North Texas School of Library and Information Sciences offered the following courses in the Web Institute format in Las Vegas <http://www.unt.edu/slis/distance/>:

Spring 2003 SLIS 5200 Introduction to Information Organization
 SLIS 5300 Management of Information Agencies

The cohort met again at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas Libraries January 10-13, 2003 and received instruction in SLIS 5200. The instruction for SLIS 5300 and the remainder of the instruction for SLIS 5200 will be via the Web.

Summer 2003 SLIS 5711 Internet Applications for Information Professionals
 SLIS 5080 Research Methods

Both offered entirely via the Web.

Fall of 2003 through Summer of 2004

Students will take electives delivered via the Web by UNT and from approved local programs to total 36 semester credit hours.

- **UNR COLLEGE OF EXTENDED STUDIES – PUBLIC LIBRARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

As part of the seven course series offered by the University of Nevada, Reno's College of Extended Studies the following courses will be offered Fall 2003:

CI 481 Book Selection for Children
LSC 303 Bibliography and General Reference