FOCUS on FACES: Toni Watkins-Mardis, 7th grade teacher

Toni Watkins-Mardis, a former member of the NMJC rodeo team ('92-'94 who is currently a 7th grade Social Studies teacher at Travis Middle School in Amarillo, Texas, has adopted New Mexico Junior College to assist in her school's effort to help all students prepare for college.

Toni's school is 92% economically disadvantaged, with over 10 languages spoken on the highly diverse campus, which is made up of more than 300 students. In the past three years, thanks to a partnership with the "No Excuses" University network, Travis Middle School has made significant improvement in all areas.

New Mexico Junior College is proud to partner with Toni in her efforts, and we salute Travis Middle School for their exemplary commitment.

I chose NMJC because of its mild climate, small classes, and the fact that I was awarded a rodeo scholarship from Doug Sours when he was the rodeo coach in 1992. I attended NMJC from Fall 1992 - May 1994, where some of my favorite classes included English, biology, and agriculture. I then transferred to Eastern New Mexico University, where I earned a Bachelor's Degree in General Studies with an emphasis in Business. In 2003, I returned to the classroom at West Texas A&M University to obtain my Teacher Certification in Middle School Education.

NMJC served as the foundation for my education. I purposely chose NMJC to be the first step in my college education. From the minute I arrived, I was warmly greeted by professional staff and professors, who provided the perfect small-classroom environment. It was an excellent transition from high school to college. The small campus made it easy to get around, as well as to and from classes. Most importantly for me as a student, the staff and professors were friendly and always helpful. NMJC was my second home, and the memories from there will last a lifetime.

Go Thunderbirds!

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Friends of the Foundation: Frances Price Campbell

The staff of the NMJC Foundation have the privilege of working with donors whose generosity touches the lives of NMJC students. Recently we met alumni from the Lovington High School Class of 1957 who remained in close contact with their beloved high school English teacher, Mrs. Frances Price Campbell. In July of 2010, these alumni established The Frances Price Campbell & Lovington High School Class of 1957 Scholarship, and Mrs. Campbell, who passed away December 2010, donated an additional amount in excess of $10,000. Thank you, LHS class of 1957 and Mrs. Campbell, for making a difference in the lives of NMJC students.

The NMJC Foundation Scholarship Application for the 2011-2012 school year is currently available online at www.nmjc.edu.<http://www.nmjc.edu>. The deadline for the application is Friday, April 1st, 2011, and is due to the Foundation Office by 4:00 p.m.

Cash for College Saturday

FINANCIAL AID and SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOPS
Saturday, February 26, 2011 • 9:00 am - Noon
Training & Outreach Facility
For more information, please call (575) 392-5172

Competition & Car Show Rescheduled

According to the automotive professionals in the Don Whittaker Automotive Technology Center, the 2011 Competition & Car Show has been rescheduled for Thursday, March 3. The event was canceled due to inclement weather several weeks ago. For more information, please contact Pat Stutzman at (575) 492-2664, (408) 520-1065, or pstutzman@nmjc.edu, or fax (575) 492-2712.
NMJC Enrollment Snapshot
by Dr. Michele Clingran, Director of Enrollment Management

At the beginning of the Spring 2011 semester, 3289 students registered for classes. The following information provides some quick facts about our current NMJC students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>2,071</td>
<td>62.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>1,218</td>
<td>37.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,289</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>0.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>0.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African-American</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>5.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>1,323</td>
<td>40.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Pacific Island</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Response/Unknown</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>3.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-resident Alien</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>0.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>1.11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>1,518</td>
<td>46.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,289</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cosmetology Offering “Pay It Forward” Cut-a-Thon
by Melba Vickers, Professor/Coordinator of Cosmetology

As a reminder to “Pay It Forward” to help provide scholarships for students, our Cosmetology Department is holding a budget-friendly Cut-a-Thon on Saturday, March 12, from noon to 4 pm in the Cosmetology Department in Watson Hall.

Services provided that day are $5 each and include your choice of a haircut, manicure, pedicure, nail art on hands, or nail art on toes. Or if you’re interested, simply pay $25 for the total package.

An Afternoon of American Jazz
Sunday
February 27
3 p.m.
Watson Hall
(575) 492-2844
Dr. Yau-Sun Wong

Presented by:
New Mexico Junior College & Community Band

Outdoor Museum Icon Completed
by Colleen Smith, Executive Director, Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame

The other half of the newest exhibit at the Western Heritage Museum Complex is now in place. While the 1930’s Lufkin wooden walking beam pumping jack may not be as large as the 1930’s EMSCO derrick, it completes the interpretive package that is the last piece of the logo of the Western Heritage Museum and Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame.

The current addition joins the Brian Norwood sculpture, Full Loop, and the Eclipse Windmill in front of the museum, and we can now stake out the nature trails and begin to place the life-sized Curtis Fort bronze sculptures of the wildlife found on the Llano Estacado and the Quercoso Plains.

Both the derrick and the pumping jack are rare examples of the history of the petroleum industry in southeastern New Mexico. The last of these units were dismantled during the late 1940’s and early 1950’s, so the gift from ENMU-Roswell was a very significant contribution to the collections at the Complex.

We would have never been able to accomplish the relocation had it not been for the donation of the equipment, manpower and expertise provided by Wilbanks Trucking (in dismantling, transporting and re-erecting the derrick) and by Brunson Trucking (in getting the pumping unit here and getting ready and placing it where it had to be).

This becomes a lasting tribute to the county’s most important industry and a major landmark for Hobbs.

SAVE THE DATE
SLIDE IRELAND
In concert!
March 30 @ 7 pm
Watson Hall

For more information, visit “Events” at www.TheMuseum@nmjc.edu.

Enrollment for NMJC’s Second 8-weeks Session continues through March 13, with late registration March 14-16. Info: call (575) 492-2577
Riders on the Orphan Train by Mary Lyke, Education & Events Coordinator, Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame

Between 1854 and 1929, over 250,000 orphans and unwanted children were taken out of New York City and given away at train stations in every state in America. Until a PBS documentary in 1995, this subject was largely unknown.

On February 22, at 7 p.m., at the Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame, novelist and humanities scholar Alison Moore and musician/producer Phil Lancaster will present “Riders on the Orphan Train,” funded by The New Mexico Humanities Council. The presentation will combine storytelling, music, video with archival photographs and contemporary interviews of survivors, along with an informal discussion, to bring awareness to this little-known chapter of the largest child migration in history.

The subject of the Orphan Trains is an eleventh-hour situation as the last 150 survivors who were “placed out” are now reaching the ends of their lives. Of particular interest to the New Mexico audience will be the discovery of the part this state played in the “placing out” movement.

For more information, call the Museum at (575) 362-6730.

Spring Activities / HOMECOMING WEEK ACTIVITIES
PREHISTORIC BEASTS OF THE ICE AGE
FEBRUARY 1 - MAY 1, 2011
Western Heritage Museum Complex
& Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
On the campus of New Mexico Junior College
3377 Lovington Highway • Hobbs, New Mexico

KNOW SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO GET A GED?
by Jerry Hamm, GED Chief Examiner

If you didn’t complete high school, or you are at least 16 years old, and if you’re a New Mexico resident, then you should know that you can test at NMJC for your General Equivalency Diploma, better known as the GED. The GED costs $40 for the battery of 5 tests, and NMJC offers testing throughout the year. To find out more about getting your GED, contact GED Chief Examiner Jerry Hamm at (575) 492-2502 or jhamm@nmjc.edu, or come by the Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Room 147.

HATS ON FOR WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH!
by Dr. Patsy Elam, Professor of Government & History

Our Women’s History Month is coming up (March 1-31.) We hope to see all folks decked out in hats—male and female—for the month.

As part of that event, we plan to have our annual Tea, which is set for Thursday, March 10, in the Museum. We plan to have a speaker on the importance and significance of oral histories. We will have music provided by our NMJC music department, too.

There will be a morning session to noon for Taylor Elementary School’s 60 fourth-grade students—girls and boys this year. They will have some activities relating to oral history retention available to them to complete, as well as lunch served in the Museum.

The afternoon—from 2:00 – 4:00 pm—will be open to all male and female NMJC students, administrators, faculty, and staff, as well as the community at large. (Wear your hats—and you may be the winner of a prize.) The afternoon group will also be able to take advantage of being served a High Tea with the proper sandwiches and cakes by an English lady.

NMJC, EnergySolutions to Offer Essential Nuclear Industry Training
by Dr. Robert Rhodes, Vice President for Training & Outreach

NMJC, in collaboration with EnergySolutions, LLC, will offer NQA-1 Quality Assurance training programs beginning March 1. Three initial courses will be offered at NMJC, with additional courses and distance learning offered in the future.

EnergySolutions is an international company headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah. As a worldwide leader in the safe recycling, processing, and disposal of nuclear material, they provide innovations and technologies to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, commercial utilities, and medical and research facilities. In the United Kingdom, EnergySolutions operates and provides nuclear decommissioning services for 22 nuclear power plants. EnergySolutions is committed to reasserting America’s leadership in the global nuclear industry and helping the U.S. achieve energy security in a way that reduces carbon emissions and protects the environment.

Russ Reddinger, Vice President of Training & Development for EnergySolutions, said: “New Mexico Junior College is a diamond in the Southwest, providing superb academic leadership and facilities. We are excited to partner with New Mexico Junior College and are committed to sharing their vision of providing the best nuclear industry training available.”

NMJC is located in one of the leading areas for industrial development in the Southwest, particularly in the field of energy. Lea County and NMJC are at the center of a broad spectrum of the nuclear, renewable and petroleum industries, including the $3 billion Urenco USA facility, the nation’s most advanced uranium enrichment facility, which will provide a secure domestic enrichment fuel supply source to U.S. nuclear energy. In addition, Lea County will be home to a $93 million International Isotopes plant that will extract gases from depleted uranium tails, which can be used in various products.

It was a natural step forward for the nation’s epicenter of energy commerce to combine the significant nuclear industry growth in Lea County and the academic support provided to energy industries by NMJC with EnergySolutions’ expertise in nuclear safety and quality assurance.

For additional information, call Dr. Robert Rhodes at (575) 492-4708, (575) 602-9201, or rhodes@nmjc.edu.

Think Spring! Spring Break, that is!
March 21-25!
THUNDERBIRDS
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS (Fall 2011 / Spring 2012)
Through April 1 @ 4 pm • Go to www.nmjc.edu.
NMJC Foundation Office
Contact: Kim Latimer, (575) 492-2780, klatimer@nmjc.edu

PREHISTORIC BEASTS OF THE ICE AGE (Exhibit)
Through May 1
Western Heritage Museum & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu

BLOOD DRIVE
February 14 @ 12 noon - 7 pm; February 15 @ 9 am - 3 pm
Bob Moran Multipurpose Room
Contact: Selma Granado, (575) 492-4707, sgranado@nmjc.edu

GED TESTING DATES
Retakes: February 14 @ 10 am; February 15 @ 10 am
Official: February 17 @ 8:30 am
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Room 145
Contact: Jerry Hamm, (575) 492-2592, jhamm@nmjc.edu

CARLSBAD CAVERNS FIELD TRIP (Geology Class)
February 16 @ 8:15 am - 4 pm
Contact: Roene Neu, (575) 492-2813, rneu@nmjc.edu

COMEDY HYPNOSIS SHOW
February 16 @ 12 noon
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Cafeteria
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

SOLAR & WIND PRESENTATION (NMJC staff & families)
February 19 @ 8 am - noon
Training & Outreach Facility
Contact: Randy Cook, (575) 492-2651, rcok@nmjc.edu

IN-SERVICE (No day classes; evening classes meet)
February 21
Campuswide
Contact: Dr. John Grinston, (575) 492-2763, jgrinston@nmjc.edu

RIDERS ON THE ORPHAN TRAIN (Program)
February 22 @ 7 pm
Western Heritage Museum & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu

CASH FOR COLLEGE
Free FAFSA & financial aid workshop; open to public
February 26 @ 9 am - 12 noon
NMJC Training & Outreach Facility
Contact: Vanessa Olivas, (575) 392-5172, volivas@nmjc.edu

NMJC COMMUNITY BAND JAZZ CONCERT
February 27 @ 3 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, (575) 492-2844, yswong@nmjc.edu

NMJ & ENERGYSOLUTIONS TO BEGIN NUCLEAR INDUSTRY TRAINING
March 1
Contact: Dr. Robert Rhodes, (575) 492-4708, rhrodes@nmjc.edu

CHARGING & DISCHARGING A CAPACITOR (Physics lab)
March 1
TBD
Contact: Joel Keransen, (575) 492-2820, jkeransen@nmjc.edu

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH ANNUAL TEA
March 10: Morning session for Taylor Elementary School 4th grade
March 10 @ 2 – 4 pm: Open to community
Western Heritage Museum & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Dr. Patty Emmerich, (575) 492-2814, pemmerich@nmjc.edu

COSMETOLOGY “PAY IT FORWARD” CUT-A-THON
March 12 @ 9 am - 4 pm
Cosmetology Department, Watson Hall
Contact: Maria Vick, (575) 492-2850, mvick@nmjc.edu

2ND EIGHT-WEEKS SESSION BEGINS
March 14
Contact: Dr. Michele Clinkman, (575) 492-2575, mclinking@nmjc.edu

GED TESTING DATES
Retakes: March 14 @ 10 am; March 15 @ 10 am
Official: March 17 @ 8:30 am
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Room 145
Contact: Jerry Hamm, (575) 492-2592, jhamm@nmjc.edu

MATH CARNIVAL / PI DAY (Albert Einstein’s birthday)
March 14 @ 12 noon - 2 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Mailroom Lobby
Contact: Shyla McGill, (575) 492-2819, smcgill@nmjc.edu

MU ALPHA THETA INDUCTION (Math Honor Society)
March 15 @ 6 pm
Heidel Hall, Room 203
Contact: Shyla McGill, (575) 492-2819, smcgill@nmjc.edu

SPRING BREAK (Campus closed)
March 21-25
Campuswide

SLIDE IN CONCERT
March 30 @ 7 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu

CARICATURES (Student activity)
March 30 @ 10 am - 2 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu
GLASS ETCHINGS (Student activity)
April 6 @ 10 am - 2 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

TIE-DYED T-SHIRTS (Student activity)
April 13 @ 10 am - 2 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

GED TESTING DATES
Retakes: April 18 @ 10 am; April 19 @ 10 am
Official: April 21 @ 8:30 am
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Room 145
Contact: Jerry Hamm, (575) 492-2592, jhamm@nmjc.edu

STUDENT AWARDS CEREMONY
April 19 @ 4:30 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Dr. John Gratton, (575) 492-2763, jgratton@nmjc.edu

CUSTOM STREET SIGNS (Student activity)
April 20 @ 10 am - 2 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

GOOD FRIDAY (Campus closed)
April 22

NMJC COMMUNITY BAND SHOW TUNES CONCERT
April 24 @ 3 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, (575) 492-2844, yswong@nmjc.edu

EXCEL ENERGY MADDOX GENERATING STATION FIELD TRIP
Late April
Contact: Joel Keranen, (575) 492-2820, jkeranen@nmjc.edu

ATHLETIC BANQUET
April 26 @ 6 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Cafeteria
Contact: Don Worth, (575) 492-2741, dworth@nmjc.edu

CASINO NIGHT (Student activity)
April 27 @ 7 pm - 10 pm
Caster Activity Center
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

COMMUNITY CHORALE CONCERT
April 28 @ 7 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, (575) 492-2844, yswong@nmjc.edu

COMMUNITY CHORALE CONCERT
May 1 @ 7 pm
TBA
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, (575) 492-2844, yswong@nmjc.edu

NMJC MUSIC STUDENTS’ RECITAL
May 2 @ 7 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, (575) 492-2844, yswong@nmjc.edu

MASSAGE, SPA, & RELAXATION DAY (Student activity)
May 4 @ 9 am - 9 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

MIDNIGHT OIL STUDY SESSIONS
May 4 & May 5 @ 7 pm - 12 am
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Cafeteria
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION
May 5 @ 12 noon
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Cafeteria
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

RN PINNING CEREMONY
May 12 @ 7 - 8:30 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Delores Thompson, (575) 492-2519, dthompson@nmjc.edu

COMMENCEMENT
May 13
Lea County Event Center
Contact: Dr. Michele Clingman, (575) 492-2575, mclingman@nmjc.edu

HOBBS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS ART EXHIBIT
May 14
Western Heritage Museum & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu

ANNUAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION & EXHIBIT
May 19
Western Heritage Museum & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu

BUILDINGS & FACILITIES DEDICATION
May 19
Caster Activity Center
Contact: Vicki Vardeman, (575) 492-2781, vvardeman@nmjc.edu