Meet English Adjunct Instructor Jan Dunlap

English adjunct instructor Jan Dunlap doesn’t have an office on campus. That’s because she lives in Minnesota, where she teaches an online technical writing course for NMJC and writes the Bob White Birder Murder Mystery novels, which combine bird watching, humor, mystery and conservation issues.

“Ttarily, we’re all writing, but when you have a full-time load of classes, it’s hard to give students enough personal attention and feedback to really improve their skills,” Jan explained. “I love teaching writing, but when you have that kind of feedback, which is the only way writing improves. Teaching online for NMJC gives me that opportunity.”

When she’s not teaching, Jan is researching, writing, or entertaining audiences at speaking engagements about her nature-based Birder Murder Mysteries. With her sixth book in the series due for publication in September 2014, Jan keeps busy with plotting future novels and ongoing marketing activities.

“I find I’m still in teacher-mode when I write or speak,” she noted. “My books educate about important conservation issues while they share my love of watching birds. I hope that every reader learns something new about our world and becomes more attentive to nature. I even give my audiences a quick and goofy pre-test about common bird identification when I talk about my books. I guess I can’t help myself from teaching!”

Jan’s books are available in select book and bird stores around the country, as well as online (ebooks and print) at Amazon and Barnes & Noble, or directly from her publisher North Star Press, Inc. She welcomes visitors to her website at www.jandunlap.com and frequently tweets notes on Twitter.

New Mexico Junior College is offering heavy equipment operator training in December. The program will provide hands-on training on a John Deere 310 SK backhoe, as well as classroom time. The class sessions run for eight days, eight hours each day, and are scheduled for Dec. 3-6 and Dec. 9-13, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

Financial assistance is available for the $1600 tuition for the course, on a first come, first-served basis. Those seeking assistance, which is being provided by the New Mexico Workforce Connection, must be unemployed and live in New Mexico. They must meet with staffers in the NMWC office and take with them documentation of residency. If NMWC determines they are eligible, then the course will be paid for.

“If we don’t meet the required enrollment of 12 we need to get the training underwritten, it will be open to everyone, but they will have to pay up front,” said Steve Saucedo. Students in the class will be required to pass a written examination as well as a demonstration of their ability to operate the equipment.

Registration for the course closes at 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 22. This is the second time that NMJC has offered this training, said Saucedo, after a pilot program introduced the training last year.

Other partners in this training are Four Rivers Equipment, which provided the backhoe, and Constructors Inc., which is providing the instructors. With local demand for workers in the construction industry running high, the training is being offered to both meet that demand and to improve the local unemployed persons’ chances of getting jobs, Saucedo said.

Enroll now for Wintermester through Dec 6 • Classes begin Dec 9 and end Jan 7. Also, register now for Spring 2014. Classes begin Jan 13. Get the classes you want. Enroll today! nmjc.edu | 1-800-657-6260 | 575-392-4510
Zumba!
A great workout for both men and women!
Hobbs or Lovington

Founded in 2001, Zumba Fitness is a global lifestyle brand that fuses fitness, entertainment and culture into an exhilarating dance-fitness sensation! Zumba exercise classes are “fitness-parties” that blend upbeat world rhythms and easy-to-follow choreography, for a total-body workout that feels like a celebration.

NMJC Caster Activity Center, Room 107
MWF, Jan 13-Mar 20 (32 sessions)
Cost: $62 | Instructor: Llivia Garcia

Lovington Jefferson Elementary Gym
MW | Jan 13 - May 7 (31 sessions)
Cost: $62 | Instructor: Marco Flores

New Mexico Junior College Music Department Presents

AN AFTERNOON OF CHRISTMAS FAVORITES
New Mexico Junior College and Community Band

Sunday, December 8, 2013 at 3 pm
NMJC Watson Hall Auditorium
Admission: $5 General, $3 Students
Free to Children and Students

CHRISTMAS IS COMING
HAPPY HOLIDAYS / WHITE CHRISTMAS
FELIZ NAVIDAD
JINGLE BELL
A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS
THE CHRISTMAS SONG - SOPRANO SOLO
SANTA, BAEY
O HOLY NIGHT - SATB
A JAZZY CHRISTMAS
LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH - NMJC Community Chorus

AN EVENING OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS
New Mexico Junior College and Community Chorale
Hobbs Community Orchestera

Sunday, December 8, 2013 at 6:30 pm
Hillcrest Baptist Church - 220, W. Ave. I, Lovington
Conductor: Dr. Wong, Yee-Sun
Pianist: Shawn Drakes
Free Admission

REJOICE! CHRIST IS BORN
GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING
DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR
LET THERE BE PEACE
AWAY IN A MANGER
SILENT NIGHT
JOYFUL, AND TRiumphant - O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL & JOY TO THE WORLD

Info: 575-492-2844

INTRAMURAL SPORTS
submitted by DeMond Thomas, Coordinator of Student Activities & Intramurals

DODGERBALL CHAMPIONS – “Average Joe” (l to r) A.J. Perez- Alton, TX; Dalton Bowers-Albuquerque, NM; Carlos Chavez-Albuquerque, NM; Lance Callum-Denton, TX; Braden Martin-Andrews, TX; Clark Kahawai-Plano, TX

RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONS - Women’s Division - Melissa Simmons- Hobbs, NM; Men’s Division - Alfredo Jara - Lovington, NM

B-BALL POOL CHAMPION
Beit Worther - Albuquerque, NM

BODY FOCUS YOGA
Taught in a slow vinyassa style, students will become familiar with basic yoga asanas (postures) and breathing techniques of Hatha (physical) yoga. For purposes of this class, yoga is a slow stretching and toning activity designed to help release stress while elongating muscles. The postures will help strengthen secondary and postural muscles not usually used in our day-to-day activities.

We will also focus on balance postures, as well as breathing practices and body awareness techniques designed to relax and revitalize the mind and body. Classes will be one-hour sessions wherein we will work through a 3-mountain concept (warm-up/work/wind-down) while enjoying music that is simultaneously stimulating and soothing. These classes are user-friendly for all body types and fitness levels. Required materials: yoga mat; Suggested materials: Yoga block(s), Yoga strap, soft blanket, small towel, water bottle
M-Th; 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. | January 13-May 8, 2014 (31 sessions)
Cost: $60 | Instructor: Mary Ann Cohen
To register, contact Selma Granada at 575-492-4707 or register online at www.mytrainingmadefit.com.

WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEE
KATHY / QUIROZ
custodian
NMJC Equine: A First for Our Region

Although community college programs come and go based on the needs of the people the college serves, few among the public have a notion about what goes in to building a program from the ground up. Ask Clay Hardin, director/professor of New Mexico Junior College Equine, the program launched at the start of the fall semester with 30 students, and he can give you a pretty good idea of the effort required from inspiration to final product.

Hardin, who has a Master's of Agricultural Education from Tarleton State in Stephenville, Texas, and a Bachelor's in Agricultural Economics from Texas Tech in Lubbock, had been a rodeo coach while finishing up his master's degree, and had taught online courses for NMJC after he finished grad school. During grad school, he researched the development of an equine program as the subject of his thesis. Hardin’s research was to figure large in NMJC’s effort to build a start-up equine program.

The idea for NMJC Equine began more than a decade ago. President Steve McCleery recalls visiting different community colleges around the country to get ideas for workforce programs. At Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, he, the NMJC board and other college officials saw something they thought would translate well to Hobbs. An equine program seemed a natural in a place where a fairly large segment of the local population has an interest in ranching, raising horses, rodeo, horse racing and other equine-related activities. Plus, the college already had in place agricultural classes as well as a rodeo program.

“We came back to the campus and by 2003 the idea was worked into the master plan and the strategic plan. There was a lot of participation — the board weighed in, along with the community and the state,” McCleery said. “My perception as a college president is that when you’re dealing with a rural community program, you look for ones that are different and don’t compete with others in your area.”

“We conducted focus groups with local ranchers and horse people, people in the horse industry, as well as people who had a secondary interest such as farriers and feed store merchants who make a living with horse-related products and services,” Hardin said. “Through these, we had a positive response and feedback. We jumped in with both feet.”

College officials then had to narrow the focus to two specific disciplines: horse training and equine business. Associate of Applied Science degrees were offered in Equine Management and Training and Equine Industry and Business. Along with these degrees, the college also developed four certificates: Basic Horsemanship, Advanced Horsemanship, Colt Starting and Equine Business.

Hardin has spent the last year (in addition to recruiting students) developing the programs, an intensive process that has included writing course descriptions and developing the curricula for the programs. But that wasn’t all. Simultaneous to building the program, he also has helped oversee the development of a brand new, state-of-the-art equine facility.

McCleery said the entire cost of developing the 15-plus-acre facilities, which include three outdoor and two indoor arenas, 10 outdoor and one indoor round pen, 80-plus outdoor stalls, classroom space (one classroom includes a glass window where students can observe demonstrations in an indoor round pen during lectures) and equipment, is about $1.7 million.

On a recent August day just prior to the start of the fall semester, dump trucks were busy dispensing one load after another of good red New Mexico dirt into the arenas – donated, said Hardin, by a local rancher – in preparation for the students’ arrival. The facilities will be used not only by the fledgling equine program students, but also the college’s rodeo team. And, since a majority of the students are not local, a number of them will be boarding their horses in the new stalls.

How do NMJC’s facilities and program stack up against others in the state and region? Hardin thinks they are “second to none.” Further, NMJC Equine is the only such program in this region among community colleges and even four-year institutions in this region do not offer the full emphasis on equine studies that NMJC does.

“What I've heard from students is, 'Oh, wow,'” said McCleery. “I took one high school senior recently to give a tour, and he could not say enough good things. Quality facilities make a statement to students and to the public about how we feel about the program.”

For more information on NMJC Equine, contact Clay Hardin at chardin@nmjc.edu, or call 575-492-4715.
THANKSGIVING (campus closed)
November 27-29

NMJC VOCAL MUSIC STUDENTS’ RECITAL
December 2 • 7:00 pm
Watson Hall 101
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong (575) 492-2844 or yswong@nmjc.edu

NMJC INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC STUDENTS’ RECITAL
December 4 • 7:00 pm
Watson Hall 101
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong (575) 492-2844 or yswong@nmjc.edu

WINTER PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW: Featuring NMJC Students
December 7-19
Contact: (575) 492-2678 or www.westernheritagemuseumcomplex.com

COMMUNITY BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT
December 8 • 3:00 pm
Watson Hall 101
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong (575) 492-2844 or yswong@nmjc.edu

COMMUNITY CHORALE CHRISTMAS CONCERT
December 8 • 6:30 pm
Hillcrest Baptist Church; Lovington, New Mexico
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong (575) 492-2844 or yswong@nmjc.edu

CHRISTMAS (campus closed)
December 23 - January 5

SPRING 2014 SEMESTER BEGINS
January 13

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY (campus closed)
January 20

COMMUNITY BAND JAZZ CONCERT
March 9 • 3:00 pm
Watson Hall 101
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong (575) 492-2844 or yswong@nmjc.edu

SPRING BREAK (campus closed)
April 7-11

GOOD FRIDAY (campus closed)
April 18

COMMUNITY BAND BROADWAY MUSIC CONCERT
April 27 • 3:00 pm
Watson Hall 101
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong (575) 492-2844 or yswong@nmjc.edu

NMJC MUSIC STUDENTS’ VOCAL RECITAL
April 28 • 7:00 pm
Watson Hall 101
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong (575) 492-2844 or yswong@nmjc.edu

Bigger Than T. Rex
Jan 23 - May 1

NMJC MUSIC STUDENTS’ INSTRUMENTAL RECITAL
April 30 • 7:00 pm
Watson Hall 101
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong (575) 492-2844 or yswong@nmjc.edu

COMMUNITY CHORALE CONCERT
May 4 • 7:00 pm
Watson Hall 101
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong (575) 492-2844 or yswong@nmjc.edu

GRADUATION
May 9 • 7:00 pm
Lea County Event Center

MEMORIAL DAY (campus closed)
May 26

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